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Fifth Freedom, 1982-09-01

The Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier

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BUFFALO-FAITH SUPPORT GROUPS

By Hanford Searl, Jr.
BUFFALO --- Gay-orientated, faith support groups—Dignity/Buffalo, Metropolitan Community Church and Affirmation Mormons -- continue to survive here despite minimal media exposure, membership growth and Gay Community participation.

All three organizations, the newest entry is Affirmation set to-be-formed this Fall, maintain informational/educational goals are the most important especially in despelling rumors of heavy-handed religious overtones to each group.

"Spokespersons from the outreach efforts agreed a "live and let live" attitude prevails in the still basically, bluecollar city of Buffalo with it's 1.2 million metro population.

But the greatest anxiety concerns open-dialogue with mainstream, parent religious organizations -- namely the Roman Catholic Church and Buffalo Diocese for Dignity/Buffalo's Gay Catholics and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS Mormon) for Affirmation members.

Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) locally reported concern in dealing with traditional, insctionalized faiths,Mt. Sinai Hospital, Blue Cross and the stigma that MCC is a Gay Church.

"Our purpose is to allow Gay Men and Lesbians to worship in a Catholic setting, provide social and educational programs for the Gay Community and have a dialogue with the Church on issues of sexuality and morality as it refers to Gay people," says Ann-Marie, Dignity/Buffalo President.

According to Ann-Marie, the most recent dialogue dealing with church officials regarding homosexual faithful, supported the policy of celibacy and refraining from sexual relationships, similar to but not as stringent as the LDS policy towards it's Gay Membership.

While excommunication is nearly extinct for the Gay Catholic, LDS policy, originating from Salt Lake City, carries a greater chance of immediate severance depending on individual cases, the social-economic-educational makeup of each Stake (Diocese) and enlightenment of Bishops in the smaller wards.

"We're a Christian Church serving the Gay Community but open to all," claims Rev. H. 'Buff' Fisher of MCC. "Buffalo was the last of the major cities in New York state to have an MCC."

Ken Rasmussen, Assoc. Professor of Modern Languages at the State Univ. of New York, Buffalo Campus, is helping spearhead the formation of an Affirmation chapter in Western New York where the Mormon faith first began in 1830.

"We're striving to provide fellowship and support to active, inactive and former Mormons as well as non-LDS gay," reports Rasmussen. "It would be a spiritual, social and cultural fulfillment."

Both Dignity/Buffalo and Affirmation have similar organizational makeup, containing officers elected to positions, regional representatives for respective national groups and annual conventions.

MCC is headed by a District-approved minister with supporting officers. Regional and national meetings of MCC also are held annually with rules, practices and regulations constantly up-dated.

Formed in 1976, Dignity/Buffalo, with its 25 voting members -- of which are active is the oldest Gay faith support group on the Niagara Frontier and celebrates two Liturgies each month at a city church location.

Pot luck suppers are served after each Liturgy while one social function-a-month is scheduled, says Ann-Marie. Dues are $20 yearly, $11 of which goes to the 12 year old national Dignity. A monthly newsletter is $2.50 a year.

Part of Region 2 of 11 countrywide, the local Dignity group sends two volunteer delegate's to regional meetings. The Buffalo chapter has President, Vice Pres., Secretary and Treasury posts.

Elected for one year, Ann-Marie is a Teacher-Aid with the Buffalo Public School System. She reports 10 priests are involved with Dignity, five celebrating the Liturgy and the others serving in counseling capacities.

"Some will only do counseling. We sent a selective questionnaire to priests about working with Dignity. It's all done on a voluntary, anonymous basis," says Ann-Marie.

The Liturgy, all-English now, is open to all as is the taking of the Sacrament. A unique 'Dialogue Homily' session allows all participants to respond individually after a scripture reading.

Social events have included excursions to Artpark, Buffalo Stallion games, visits to gay discos, movie nights, seasonal parties and an annual "Weekend of Recollections" retreat.

"It's another atmosphere for Gays to meet, a support for Gay Christians. That doesn't have to be at odds with each other. It's an alternative to one-night stands," adds Ann-Marie.

According to Ann-Marie, the biggest disappointment for Dignity/Buffalo is not being able to talk with Bishop Edward Head, spiritual leader of the Buffalo Diocese. The group would be recognized by church leaders if a signed statement existed and they were no overt-sexual activity by members, she says.

Continued on page 4

SELECTIONS BY SAM

"An After-Effects Fantasy"
By Jan A. Lottig

When lesbian and gay people make the statement that we represent between 10 and 20 percent of the population we offer that fact pridefully. It is the extension of the poster that declares "We are everywhere!" And all reliable data supports our claim.

The only time the "We are everywhere" slogan might be used inappropriately is during the summer weeks when it seems like everyone has migrated temporarily to any city like my partner and I did again this Summer. All colors, sizes, and shapes of lesbians and gay men inhabit the resort town for a summer hiatus, and their lives are changed forevermore. The students, the nurses, the ministers and priests, the teachers, the photographers, the laborers, the bartenders, the doctors, the truck drivers, the librarians, all of the others—they all return to their homes across the land determined to do their part in countering the work of the religious right and ultra-conservative political groups.

The students returned to their colleges and universities and became actively involved in local gay student groups. They worked for the same kind of recognition and campus monetary support that other groups enjoy. They determined to make the academic community accountable for the openness it espouses, and they didn't let a place like Harvard turn down a gift statue because it was "Controversial."

The nurses supported the patients' right to have their lovers visit them in health care facilities. In both cases of smiles and polite little bits of conversation they let the gay and lesbian couples know that they were affirmed. If the specific institution's rules did not permit room visitation, the nurse made it a point to talk with the unhospitalized

Continued on page 3
A LETTER FROM
THE PUBLISHER

As chairman of Mattachine’s Publication Committee it is with great pride and yet excitement that I announce the following changes in the Fifth Freedom.

This is the last issue of our paper in which John Faulding Jr.’s name will appear listed as Editor. John has resigned the position and he will be greatly missed. During his tenure as editor, he brought new life to this publication. He upgraded the paper’s writing style, increased ad revenues, completely re-designed our format and gave our readers a lively publication to look forward to each month. His countless hours of dedicated work, often at his own personal, financial, and emotional expense, add up to a debt we cannot begin to repay. We can only wish him the very best.

We must also sadly note that this newspaper has hit extremely difficult financial hard times which have caused us to make some temporary cutbacks. Starting with this issue, and for as long as necessary, we are suspending typesetting operations for our editorial content. Current economic conditions have created hard times for our advertisers - to the degree that we had to seriously consider suspending publication. We decided however, that it was better to roll up our sleeves, make some sacrifices, and appeal to you, The Gay Community of Buffalo, to help us to continue publishing this paper for you.

Leading this effort will be Rick Hilliard, who becomes Editor, effective immediately, and Vickie Hinkle, who becomes Business Editor. We are especially excited about Rick’s determination and effort to save the newspaper, and join with him in appealing to you for your help. How can you help us survive?

1. If you have a management position in a business, consider letting us help you by becoming one of our advertisers.

2. If you are an advertiser, please hold faith with us and continue to advertise. If you are a former advertiser, call us and we’ll work out a plan to take care of your back payments and keep your ads running.

3. If you know of another advertiser, please ask them to call us, and we’ll work out a plan to handle their payments.

In conclusion, let me frankly admit that we made some mistakes in the past. If you have been angered by the way we have handled things, we ask you now to join with us in learning from those mistakes to prevent them from happening again.

Let us all work together, individually and in groups, to put out a newspaper that everyone in the Buffalo Gay Community can be proud of and look forward to each month. Beginning now, let The Fifth Freedom be our forum and one of the means by which we as Gay Men and Lesbian Women can achieve our goals.

Rod Slusher
Chairman of Publishing Committee M.S.N.F.

THE FIFTH FREEDOM INSIDE Vol. 12 No. 9 SEPTEMBER 1982
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The presence of the name, picture or other representation of a business or organization or person(s) in this newspaper is not an indication of the sexual preference of such person(s), organization or business.

The Fifth Freedom welcomes the submission of news items, articles, letters, drawings, photographs, poetry and short fiction from the gay community. Announcements and releases from gay organizations are placed free of charge. Materials submitted should be typewritten and double-spaced. We cannot return any materials submitted unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope, and all materials are subject to editorial revision.

Deadline for the submission of all materials and advertising copy is the 20th of each month. The Fifth Freedom reserves the right to reject any materials or copy judged to be in poor taste.

Staff members of the Fifth Freedom are un-paid volunteers and additional volunteers are welcome. Advertising rates are available upon request. Address all correspondence to: THE FIFTH FREEDOM, P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205. Telephone: (716) 881-5335.

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JOHN A. FALURING JR., EDITOR

M.S.N.F. SPONSORS

FLEA MARKET

The Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier will sponsor a combination Flea Market, and Rummage Sale on September 19, 1982 at 3:00p.m. in the Unitarian Universalist Church on the corner of Elmwood Ave. and West Ferry St.

Tables can be rented for the Flea Market at $8.00 each. Admission of 75c will be charged at the door. There will also be food on sale during the day. A baked-good table will also be set up.

Anyone wishing to rent a table or donate goods or food to the event should call 883-6641 and ask for the Market Chairman.

Here is your chance to do turn those unwanted treasures into cash, or to locate sought-after collectors items. Students, need something for that tacky dorm? How about something to brighten your day, maybe someone to brighten the day.

Any individuals, groups or organizations who want to make a few bucks, now is the chance. Rent a table for $8, and fill it with anything that you can beg, borrow or steal from your members or friends. There are people that make a very good living off the Flea market scene.

We hope to see you Sunday afternoon.

YES, I want to help the Fifth Freedom keep publishing. Contact me personally on how I can help.

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GAY PRESS ASSOCIATION
dead along a Cape Cod highway earlier in the summer. I was only in P'town for the first of these two benefit performances. It was advertised by mimeograph-ed slingers passed out by hand while other notices were posted. It was a most entertaining evening show with a definite serious side as well that was apparently enjoyed by all. Now was "all" from among the thousands of lesbians and gay men we had seen on the street and in the restaurants, specialty shops, and bars? Probably only about a hundred persons! FANTASY: (1) imagination, especially wild; (2) an unreal mental image; (3) a daydream, usually pleasant and with some vague continuity. (Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language, College Edition, 1966)
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Buffalo also, to offset a $125 monthly rent.

Still identified as a bar ministry to Gays, MCC views this as merely continuity hetero-oriented. The fear about losing jobs and families as a major obstacle to growth. Plus being unwilling to be open to change, relying on old traditions and faiths although Rev. Fisher says he enjoys having his work with his people and religion. To remain and change. MCC aims to focus an ecumenical approach to encompass all faiths in the hour-long service, which can and does involve Gospel music. Rev. Fisher's monthly reports of MCC being Pentecostal.

With 170 churches worldwide, MCC was founded in 1968 by Rev. Troy Perry who penned the nation-wide best-selling book "God Says I'm Gay." The Los Angeles-based church grew to include foreign nationals.

Recently, Rev. Fisher and the Universal Fellowship of MCC announced a media-fueled "Hour-long TV special "God, Gays and the Gospel" to dispel misconceptions of mainstream religions about homosexuality.

MCC, the bi-annual general conferences with the next world meeting and meeting next year in Toronto. The Northeast District of MCC, of which the Buffalo group is a part, meets quarterly for conferences.

The 10% in monthly fees, which MCC charged annually the last few years has been dropped last May to retain Rev. Fisher as the Buffalo/MCC worship coordinator after a leadership issue arose involving Rev. Fisher who held a number of informal meetings meeting last Jone in laying groundwork for an MCC chapter here.

The only consideration was that Rev. Fisher first consult with the District and was qualified for the position," reports Rev. George McComber, MCC NE District Coordinator in Providence, R.I.

Kennedy, who pulled out of MCC, claims the District has been unresponsive about possibly endorsing a second MCC effort here, so she may start a separate group after numerous support requests surfaced.

Kennedy admitted that the leadership issue boil ed down to qualifications, first contact with the District and personality clashes, while Rev. Fisher refused to comment about the past rift.

One move away from a dip into the pastoral Ministries from the Southern Baptist Seminary, Kennedy's studied eight years, founding the MCC branch in Morgantown, W. Va. and also studying via the Great works Banks School of Ministry in Pittsburg, A.A. Rev. Fisher took humanities at Tucson's Pima Community College and L.A.'s Samaritan Theological Seminary where she completed two thirds of her studies.

"What we most concerned about is the one Bible-belt type mind set here among straight and the traditional view among Gays to come out. With the help of God and stick-to-it-ness, we'll succeed here," said Rev. Fisher.

Looking ahead, Rev. Fisher envisions more programs and social activities, outreachs, a new facility to meet in and joint worship services in Rochester and Buffalo.

Albany and New York City have MCC outlets, one each in Harlem and Manhattan, which three are found in Massachusetts, two in Connecticut, one in Maine and Rhode Island and all consisting the Northeast District.

And Affirmation/Gay and Lesbian Mormons plans to form a Great Lakes chapter to reach into nearby Toronto and Rochester by late October.

"Based on the Kinsey's figures alone, there would be a half million Gay Mormons, the majority living in the U.S. ." says Ken Rasmussen, a fifth generation Mormon born in Utah. "There's a need for dialogue with the church, but more as an outreach to those struggling Gay members."

A Brigham Young Univ. graduate, who served a two years in the Mission in Brazil in 1977, he says five and excommunicated from the church. He's been active in Gay civil rights activities, locally with Muttachine Society and Gay Professionals.

Formerly a Mormon in 1977, same Salt Lake City and Los Angeles, Affirmation now has eight chapters, including San Diego, Salt Lake, San Francisco, San Jose, L.A., Orange County, Idaho Falls and London, England.

Most chapters have incorporated traditional Family Home Evenings, held on Monday nights in the church to bring together the family, into monthly meeting schedule. Special guest speakers are invited to talk about various subjects.

Socials, from beach parties to talent nights, also are included in the Affirmation programs where Gays with similar interests and backgrounds meet.
An annual General Conference of chapters is scheduled annually. Hopes are to hold such an event in conjunction with the yearly Hill Cumorah Pageant near Palmyra, N.Y., where the church's genesis was formed.

Rasmussen reports the first of a two volume anthology on Gay Mormon History and issues is being prepared by Gay LDS professors at BYU, the Univ. of Utah, Southern Utah, and in San Francisco.

"We'll be the second chapter formed east of the Mississippi although the Washington, D.C. group disbanded several years ago. A Denver chapter recently closed too. But we've got enthusiastic support here from general Gay LDS members," says Rasmussen.

So, as of September 1982, the Buffalo Gay Community has three Gay faith support groups from which to choose to attend and participate with in a time when many once-alienated Gay religious persons are fighting for their rights and respect.

**Out and About -**

Rivers' Riotous, Liberace Lively, Rocky Rambunctious

By Hapford Scat Jr.

Reviews based on 1-5 Freedom Bells with 1 or less, poor, to perfection at 5.

**REVIEW:**

Joan Rivers & David Brenner
Melody Fair/August 16
Tickets $12.50
Harvey, Corby & Tice Productions
Rating: Five Bells

The usual, sure-fire show formula is to match a comedy act with a musical star in Anywhere's, U.S.A. at anytime. But, not so the last two years for Ms. Rivers and Mr. Brenner, who've proven two, distinctive styles of comedy routines, delivery and impact can succeed.

Having overdone on both during the Las Vegas years with two newspapers and Billboard Magazine, it was a welcome change to enjoy Brenner's semi-cerebral approach after years of repeatedly dull, boring crap via the Strip's casino showroom.

Of course Brenner's hungry now, not that so-called, in-demand superstar headline attraction anymore, what with only three major hotels in Southern Nevada booking main acts. Thus, he's finely retouching his outdated act, which is now 952 new, refreshingly hip stuff.

His 43-minute set, preceded Rivers, running the gamut of topical news bars about the Midwest, the $175 billion Defense budget and OPEC. Anthropological jokes, put-downs about saving killer sharks and diets also were laughable.

"The Beak" dispatched ringside newsmen from WCW TV 2 and WKBW TV 7 in hilarious manner, blasted weathermen (with super-ego Danny Neverather nearby), joked fun at ethnic foods and TV commercials.

Brenner's shot about Gays concerned the long-past era of Western bar trends across the nation, with his localizing it to L.A., claiming the mechanical bull at a Gay Western Bar was a mechanical lamb. Real funny, David.

Then Ms. Rivers, fresh from her highly-touted week-long stint hostessing Carsons' sinking "Tonight Show," unleashed her frantic barrage of goosy-minded stories about celebrities, stars and the famous and culled an unusually flurry of swearing, cursing and near gross-outness.

For sure her self-put-downs are still there about her body and that's getting tiresome. God knows she's had enough tucks here and there, bought enough designer clothes and teased her-hair-to-death-enough. Ms. Rivers is an attractive, fun person, so cut the shit Joan! Her hyper-kinetic, hour-long set was 78 rpm, machine-gun firing of gags about Liz's pig-ouls, Marie Osmond's free-basing on Hawaiian Punch and Billie Jean King's Lesbianism selling hardware tools.

Nancy Reagan's bullet-proof hair was mentioned, Richard Simmons' supposedly pregnant via Rex Reed and poor Bo Derek is as dumb as ever via Joans scathing insight truth telling. All of this speed-ahead under the guise of National Enquirer told-us-so origines, but Bo isn't biting the bate. She's reportedly suing la Rivers for $5 million for this bash on Carsons show:

"Bo Derek was walking down the hospital hallways and saw a sign that read 'wet floor.' So she did!" Love it but still dangerous suit wise.

Joan still lampoons politics, dating, the Royal Family, diets and hookers while continuing to advise homemakers to "work on yourselves." After all, married tunas are up against the mortal enemy of stewardesses and nurses.

After nearly an hour of running hysterically from a stage end to stage end, Rivers is joined by Brenner for a question/answer segment from the standing room only audience of 3,100.

There's no doubt she's 'hot property' right now, telling the wildly appreciative crowd she might share half of the 'Tonight Show' responsibilities with often-absent Carsons. Hopefully she'll forget the Yenta-marriage overkill seen during that one week stint recently.

And may she return to her one-time, intellectually creative material rather than diving head-first into more goosy, semi-vulgar material. That may be the got her where she is today could be her undoing. After all, Edgar tapes every closing night just to keep it in check, Move over Don Rickles.

**REVIEW:**

Liberace
Melody Fair/August 7
Tickets $16
Harvey, Corby & Tice Productions
Rating: Four Bells

"Oke, fellow "Out & Abouters." I know what you're thinking out there in Readerland. That moj's giving a good reasonably, Mr. Showmanship," as he's been so accurately accorded in the past, since we've been friends during my six torturous years covering Show Biz in the cultureless Southern Nevada, namely Las Vegas.

But it ain't so! Liberace, with all the superficial hype, outrageous outfits and rings, is simply an entertainer. You laugh at his self-portrayals and marvel at his piano stylings while savoring his perfected, witty stage-side manner. Showgoers become instant friends, even the most skeptical of ring-siders, at the four, SRO nights under the dome.

It's true Lee, as he's known to his friends, can't ride his amazing autos onto the theatre-in-the-round like he does at the MGM Grand, having the Dancing Waters flowing to his every counterpoint or fly at his shows' finale like the impish Peter Pan.
AN INTERVIEW WITH DENNIS KULCZYK

By JOE SCHUDEII

Dennis Kulczyk is no stranger to the Buffalo Gay Bar Business. He has been at it for sixteen years. His name has been practically synonymous with The Villa Capri in recent years. Early this summer that association was broken. He will soon be opening a new Gay Bar in Buffalo. The Fifth Freedom interviewed Dennis in July at his home in Orchard Park. Here is his story.

Fifth Freedom: Let's begin by clearing the record. Just what happened between you and the Villa Capri?

Dennis: "I wasn't getting along with the owner too well, I decided to go into business on my own. When I found out that I had applied for my license, he let me go. We're purchasing Sebastian's at 884 Main Street in Buffalo, and changing the name to The Heritage House."

M.S.N.F.

Counselor Training Update

The counselor Training Program has worked well since its inception in 1973 after the first training given by the Erie County Suicide Prevention Center (as it was then known) to the original eight people who took their program and then originated ours. We adapted the Erie Co. model to better address the specific problems of the Gay man and woman, and have been using essentially the same format since that time. Many people since then have learned more about themselves as well as how to deal with the troubled person by taking our program.

The question has arisen during the past year in the Health Committee of the M.S.N.F. whether or not there should be any sort of revision of our program. It is the view of the Health Committee that any of its programs can be improved by review; therefore, one of our major projects for the Fall is to spend some time going through our program.

Subgroups of the Health Committee will take two of the present session outlines and serve as facilitators for the rest of the committee during one evening session. Because each of the Health Committee members has been through the training program, and most of them have had considerable experience on the Hotline, we believe that they will be able to organize the session and suggest appropriate changes to our existing program.

After the review is completed, it is the anticipation that we will be prepared to offer an updated Training Program to anyone who wishes to participate. We hope, also to increase our outreach to other self-help organizations both Gay and Straight.

F.P.: Tell me a little about The Heritage House.

Dennis: "It's going to be a quieter type bar, with the disco-type thing upstairs on the second floor. There's another room downstairs, and we plan to keep that separate. There's a fireplace there where we will burn wood in the winter. We will have tables around, which I think will be nice for this city. Something different. Then on the third floor, maybe next year, we're going to put a Country Western Bar with all its own music."

F.P.: When will you open?

Dennis: "We're hoping for late September. We wanted sooner than that, but things came up that delayed that."


Dennis: "The Alcohol Beverage Control Board denied my license application because ten years ago a bar that I owned was closed for 'letting homosexuals and or degenerates congregate on the premises.' I fought it then and won in New York City. That law is no longer in existence, so there shouldn't be any more problems with that."

F.P.: What are your plans for security?

Dennis: "There's a small well-lit lot in back, and we plan to try to light the big parking lot across the street. Plus the doorman and other security all through the place. When problems have come up in the past, I've usually gotten the police right away."

F.P.: Will any of your possessions from the Villa be used at Heritage House?

Dennis: "That big leather picture is going over the fireplace. It is a picture of a customer that comes into the Villa. It was painted about fifteen years ago, when he was a little thinner. I couldn't leave that behind. The owner didn't want to give anything, but I insisted on that. There's still a lot of things that I put in, but what you see there now is all theirs. No choice."

F.P.: Are there any other things holding up the opening?

Dennis: "No, all of the inspectors have been through, and the music license is all set. The Sebaton's people have a week to move out once we close the deal. Then we've got to do some painting, and the whole second floor has to be changed around with the sound system and the lighting, which I've been building on for the past year and a half. I've been putting things aside. We looked at different places, my partner, Darwin McKinney and I. We get along great and I think we will be great partners."

F.P.: Is The Heritage House the first bar that you have been involved with that is Gay owned?

Dennis: "No, my own, ten years ago, Denny's Place."

F.P.: With the high mortality rate of this business in Buffalo, why do you think now is the best time to go on your own?

Dennis: "Because I've been in this business for so long, sixteen years, that I know the business inside out. I know so many people. Some from sixteen years ago are still coming to see me, and the new kids today. I'm very well known in the Gay Community, and it has been very fortunate. The Gay Community has been very good to me barwise.

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Every bar I've touched has turned to gold. Knock on wood."

F.F.: Why do you think the other bars have been unsuccessful?

Dennis: "I think management has a lot to do with it. People know if they're being treated right. If there's a problem, or if somebody is bothering somebody, I'll get rid of the person. If a good customer sees you letting some dingaling in that was bothering him the night before, you lose the good customer and get a bad reputation. People have to tell you, but when that happens, there's no second chances. I don't let him come back for six months. He's finished. That's the attitude you have to take with them. It's the same with drugs and poppers. What people do is their business, but I don't think that people who don't want to be bothered with it should suffer."

F.F.: How should people complain?

Dennis: "If someone has a problem of any kind, all they have to do is tell the bartender or tell the owner. If a customer feels threatened, I don't think that he should go through that. See, I know the customers. I am there the majority of the time. You can only help somebody if they let you know of the problem, you can't be in all places at all times.

F.F.: Any other magic ingredients for a success?

Dennis: "Well if somebody comes in, has a couple of drinks and leaves, some owners used to go up to him and ask, 'isn't this place good enough for you? You gotta go down the street to spend your dollars?' I mean you can't do that to people. I try to say hello, and if I am at the door, I say 'Hello' and 'Goodbye' and 'Have a nice night'. I feel like a politician sometimes, and I think that means slot. It makes you feel wanted. You are not just sitting there for your money to be taken. If I see somebody new come in– maybe just starting to come out–I try to go over and say 'Hi' and make him feel comfortable. Maybe buy him a drink. I mean, there's a lot of things I could have done at the Villa, but the owner didn't want to spend the money. He wanted to take– take– take, and you can't do that. but you will see the difference in the new place in atmosphere and cleanliness and things like that. My place on William St. was so clean that you could walk in and eat off the floor, that's how clean it was. I insisted on it."

F.F.: What are some other things that will be different at The Heritage House?

Dennis: "For one thing we are going to serve sandwiches and fries and things like that. More waiters; the two floor atmosphere; better lighting and sound system, and when the third floor is finished, hopefully next year, that will be nice too. What ever you are in the mood for, you can go from floor to floor. The front is going to be landscaped. Next year, we are going to have an outdoor patio where the yard is now. Eventually the whole building is going to be sandblasted back to the natural brick. It's really going to be the sharpest looking place in the city, but I can't do it over night."

F.F.: Why are there so few Gay bars in Buffalo compared to other cities?

Dennis: "Buffalo has always been a two or three bar town. If people would move around more, I think there would be more bars. The crowds try to pack into one popular place where everybody's going, and that hurts the bar business. Then they complain that there's no place to go. People get sick of going to the same place, they just don't float around enough, and then people stop going out. I don't know what it is, but it seems that when the city goes over three bars, somebody closes."

Because of space limitations, the balance of this interview with Dennis will be continued in the October issue.

The Buffalo Chapter of the National Organization for Women will hold it's September meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 15th, at 8:00 Pm. in the Alliance Room at the Unitarian Church, at Elmwood Ave. and West Ferry St. Linda Cleveland will speak on "Women's Rights in Collecting Child Support Payments." The public is invited.

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Continued from page 3

But here, in the simplicity and directness of Melody Fair, the essence of Liberace's talent is readily apparent. His image, that of the flamboyant, self-effacing pianist-comedians who is now considering buying that bank he used to laugh all-the-way-to.

His cohesive, two and a half hour show opens with an Oscar's salute to nominated Best Songs, which he played at last years ceromilies. It's a bright, upbeat introduction to a smooth program.

Ventriloquist/comedain Stu Scott, fresh from a much-deserved two and a half year engagement in the Flamingo Hilton's "Razzle Dazzle," unleashed his usual brand of humor via his frog and crow characters. Scott's most impressive moment still comes during an amazing duit of his two loveable dummies, preceded by some spicy, hip material. Scott gives them additional depth through movements, human qualities, and little nuances.

Returning to the stage in the first of five costume changes, Lee adroitly handles the mellow and dramatic music of Chopin a-la-the-famous candleabra logo. Eddie Duchan and Duke Ellington melodies weave a magical spell prior to intermission.

Decked out in a bluish Viennese military outfit, Liberace continued with a Strauss salute which delights the mostly over 50's crowd closing night. Then latest protege Dominque Allen, a 24 yr. old whirling dervish of Canadian energy, delivered a frantic 30 minute set. There's no arguing the kid's got talent, but does the world need another Wayne Newton? Singing "Tomorrow" and "Over the Rainbow" are the kiss-of-death in my book. His Broadway salute was admirable just for his sheer determination to get through it.

A quiet number with Lee was more palatable but the Newtonesque "Don't mean a thing" rampage, showcasing every known musical instrument to man, can be cut from the show. He's on far too long!

Then prancing about with his 136 pound black mink coat, lined with Austrian rhinestones, Lee concludes his act with the usual audience participation polkas, a comical "Where Are You?" ditty about aging and his trademark "I'll Be Seeing You." For once show-goers received their money's worth and then some.

Hunky valet Terry, ever-so-broodingly macho, still demonstratively assists Lee with his outlandish costumes, catching capses, throwing coats over his arms and briskly whisking them safely away until the next show.

But it's Liberace himself, now worth a reported $50 million, who's left an indelible imprint on the entertainment world, the durable star. If you've never seen him, you owe yourself a fun night out!

REVIEW:

Richie Lee Jones
Shea's Buffalo Theatre/July 30
Tickets $12.50
Festival East
Rating: Five Bells

It was easily a perfect display of unique musicianship by Ms. Jones and her super 10-piece band conduct-ed by hot musical director Michael Ricks. Three hours and 24 selections later, there was no doubt that she's an accomplished musical force to-be-reckoned with ranging the gamut of blues, rock, pop and jazz to be-bop, New Orleans Dixieland rags and semi-classical.

The animated, handsome Ruff guided the band through-out, the first numbers all upbeat, rock and calypso styles from opening instrumental "Blues For Your Shoes" to "Youngblood" with Jones wearing her familiar black pants outfit and fedora.

At the keyboards, Jones imparted quiet ballad "My Funny Valentine" in her breathy, esoteric vocals after a soft rock version of Van Morrison's "Am'n Nothin But A Heartache. "Shopin' For Clothes" included a costume change during this Coaster's classic.

The solo stint at the 88 keys continued with a melodic "Long Distance Love," "Saturday Afternoon in '63" and the Left Bank's familiar 60's hit "Just Walk Away Rene." Ever responsive to the talkative, enthusiastic near SKO crowd, Jones scored with "Cool" from "West Side Story," rocker "Kissell & The Blue Boys" and sax number "Harlem Nocturn" featuring Jerry Jumonville.

"Easy Money" found the entire band beating drumsticks about the stage prior to Western-flavored "Last Chance Texaco" with Jones still on guitar. Hit sound "Chuckie's In Love" and "Danny's All-Star Joint" rounded out a series of encores.

Jones' current beau, Sal Bernadi, played harmonica, guitar and vibes while Jumonville nearly stole the show with his impressive sax stylings. The brass section was incredible while Jeff Pevar tackled lead guitar licks. If she can survive her image of another Janis Joplin self-destruct type (she recently swerved into Shea's orchestra pit a bit high from Vodka and ) Rickie Lee Jones may well become a national treasure.

And keep an eye on Michael Ruff, who at 22 seems well on his way as an accomplished musical director, and keyboard artist in the same mold of The Doobies Michael MacDonald. His looks and personality won't hurt him either! And once he performed at the nearby Belle Star with a rooster group several years ago.

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DIANE'S DANCING
## September

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**U.U. Church** = Unitarian Universalist Church  
**M.C.C.** = Metropolitan Community Church  
**GLCC** = Gay and Lesbian Center  
**MGNF** = Mattachine Soc. of N.Y. & N.J.

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San Mateo, CA.— The ADVOCATE has announced plans to celebrate its 15th anniversary of publication with a nationwide gay sweepstakes. The sweepstakes will be launched in its 353rd issue which goes on sale Sept. 24. Prizes in the sweepstakes drawing include a Datums 200EX Deluxe Hatchback, two all-expense-paid vacations for two at Island House in Key West, Florida and your place in the Sun in Palm Springs. A Cartier Tank Watch will be an early entry prize.

In announcing the plans for the gay sweepstakes, which carries the theme the "You Deserve the Best" Anniversary Sweepstakes, ADVOCATE publisher Peter Frisch notes that "Fifteen years of continuous publication is certainly a major milestone for us. We feel not only fortunate to have been around that long, but also pleased to have been able to constantly improve the publication. We wanted to create a way to share our celebration with the thousands of gay people who have been a part of our success."

Adds ADVOCATE marketing director John Knebel, "This is surely the most ambitious sweepstakes ever mounted in the gay community and we are hopeful that the enthusiastic support we have received marks the beginning of a broader spirit of unity across the country."

In addition to the ads and entry forms appearing in the ADVOCATE'S September and October Issues, entry forms are being distributed as inserts in twelve local gay publications. Flyer/entry forms will also be distributed in take-one display units in participating gay bars, baths, hotels, theaters and retail stores nationwide.

Anyone can enter the sweepstakes by sending in an official entry form or by printing their name and address on a 3" x 5" card and sending it to "You Deserve the Best" Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 5847, San Mateo, CA 94402. One entry per person. No purchase necessary. Persons must be 18 years of age or older to enter and win. Sweepstakes open to residents of the United States. ADVOCATE employees and their families, dealers, distributors and advertising agencies are not eligible.

Winners will be determined in a random drawing conducted under the auspices of Ventura Associates, an independent judging organization.
How Does Your Garden Grow

AFRICAN VIOLETS and the GERMAN BARON

By BILL HARDY

Hello, and a satirically saturated September to you all. So how was your summer? As an amateur geologist, I picked up some fine specimens in the field during August. Oh my yes! And the minerals I found weren’t so bad either. When I set my nepheline syenite on the hood of my friend’s car, he yelled “Get your rocks off!” and I said, “I already did!” Well, it wasn’t always that kind of summer. Darn it!

Here we are, heading into the fall once again so enjoy what’s left of the warmth and sun. And while you do, why not try your hand at African Violets. Yes, these little ditties are one of the most popular houseplants in the country for good reason, as they are quite easy to grow. First, a little history.

African violets haven’t really been around for a long time. They were discovered toward the end of the last century by a German military officer and colonial administrator in German East Africa. This gentle name was Baron Walter von St. Paul-Illaire, and not only did he have a vested interest in military doings, but also a great interest in botany. The botanical name for African Violets is Saintpaulia, named after, yes, you guessed it. Our military regalia.

One reason why African Violets are so popular is that they grow between 15 and 65oF or about the same temperature we like to keep our houses at in the winter. 65 to 75 in the day and about 10 cooler at night. They do like a higher humidity that we keep our houses at, but this is no problem. I keep them in a tray or saucer of gravel or sand, or grow them, if the light is favorable, in the kitchen or bathroom, near sinks and/or tubs. This is one plant that does not like being misted, as leaf rot from accumulation on the hairy surfaces can occur. They need bright light, but not burning sun, and do well under fluorescent, and as for watering, they can be watered from top or bottom. When applying liquid fertilizer, do that from the top. African Violet experts advise really soaking the plants thoroughly, three times a day about once a month, as this washes out fertilizer residues and salts which can burn the roots. They also agree that the plants benefit greatly from a gentle, upsie down bath in lukewarm water to remove dust from the foliage.

Propagation of new plants is simple. In fact, many African Violet enthusiasts trade leaves from favorite plants by sending them in ordinary envelopes, through the mail.

To grow new plants, make a clean cut, leaving about 1 to 1 1/2 inches of stem, and insert almost up to the base of the leaf in a plastic pot filled with dampened mixed perlite. Water thoroughly and keep damp. Set in a bright sunny window and they should root in about 3 weeks. In a few more weeks, new plants should begin showing, and when they are about 3 to 4 inches high, 4 to 6 inches long, and about 1 inch in diameter, they may be potted each one in a small pot until they begin to bloom, then pot to a 3" pot.

There are a myriad of different varieties and colors, variegated leaves, variegated flowers, huge crinkled flowers, and trailing varieties.

So if you’ve not tried this treasure, give it a whirl. The violets will thank you and the Baron will too till next month, think green.

---

The Puzzle Page

By R.E.B.

**WORDS YOU MIGHT HEAR IN A GAY - BAR**

FDIAPERSQUEENSJRDRUG
JILEVISCAMPYRATILMN
OPSTREDDIRTCFOOTI
CICCTEESSPEEDOSCATM
KEOSFHTFUCKINGCDFAGM
SRCHFUUSHORTSNKOTITI
TCKIRNNUDEPIRGMRAN
RINREIQKJKOCXITMBV
ANOTNPIRSTWCTNOSOWE
PGILCPASSNBYYUGRHNLM
CSTSHLRAKGBCHSTCEA
RPAAECEDTBURLAUUTYS
UAIMUSEIBOATECRIIHOT
INTEMRLBASKETÒTEBIVU
SKINGTDILDOESCUNTTER
EINESGAYBONDAGEAMYLUB
NNIEGENITORTURETOYSA
OGRFRIENDSHITTLEIOTT
IWATERSPORTSBIKINISI
TSALAVECHAPSVTEKCAJO
AYSWISHORIESPOPPERN
IKPISSTLEATHERSMOKEO
LEFATOTHABSHAVINGHEI
IBYEGRAMYDOOLBBEERL
MEFGTATTOOMOUSTACHES
UGAMIRRORHATETIHAIR
HFHISPENSATIONMUSCLE
PHOTOGRAPHYDRINKTWAT

Puzzle is solved by finding all the hidden words in the diagram. The words are always in a straight line and may read up, down, forward, backwards or diagonally. Cross a word off your list once you have circled it. Many words will overlap. Good luck

**********

**SAMPLE**

AISORCRED
IBCLLLOVEIF
NSUHATATO
KNWIFICOEM
VEEPZAKIR
LEMPUENT
TIULASCATGI
OCHICKENT

**Masturbation**
**Military**
**Shorts**
**Mirror**
**Shit**
**Money**
**Slave**
**Smoke**
**Muscle**
**Spanking**
**Speed**
**Suspension**
**Swish**
**Tattoo**
**Tie**
**Tit**
**Toilet**
**Torture**
**Toys**
**Twat**
**Vest**
**Watersports**
**Wrestling**
Fifth Freedom's

GAY DIRECTORY OF BUFFALO

INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE
THE GAY HOTLINE: Tel. 881-5335. Counseling help with gay life, information on the gay community, staffed bytrained volunteers of The Massachusetts Society. Hours: 6 to 10 Daily; all day on Friday.

PUBLICATIONS
THE FIFTH FREEDOM, P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, N.Y. 14205. Tel. 881-5335. Volunteers needed to work on the paper, including writers, artists, graphics people and photographers.

ORGANIZATIONS
MATTACHINE SOCIETY OF THE NIAGARA FRONTIER, INC., P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, N.Y. 14205. Tel. 881-5335. Meetings held the first and third Sunday of each month, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, Elmwood at West Ferry. Potluck supper at 6:30 p.m. Everyone welcome. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Meetings open to everyone. Membership open to gay men and women, non-gay men and women, young and old, and all races, creeds, and colors.

GAY PROFESSIONALS, (GP), P.O. Box 261, Buffalo, N.Y. 14205. Tel. Tom Hammond, 842-2750. An organization to provide support for gay people in the professions and those who seek a confidential place to meet new friends. Open to all gay men and women.

GAY PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE (GPA). 207 Talbot Hall, Amherst Campus, State University of New York at Buffalo, 14260. Tel.: 636-3636. Hours 12-5 p.m. Coffeehouse each Friday at 9 p.m. in 107 Townsend Hall, Main St. Campus.

GAY RIGHTS FOR OLDER WOMEN (GROW). Tel. 836-8970. Contact EMMA Bookstore at the number above for further information.

GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER, 97 Rhode Island, Buffalo 14213. Tel. 886-1274. Call for information about the Center.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF BUFFALO (MCC), P.O. Box 4183, Kenmore. Branch, Buffalo, N.Y. 14217. Tel. 875-1099. Rev. H. "Buff" Fisher. Worship services every Sunday 3 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, Elmwood and West Ferry Streets. A Christian Ecumenical Church for the Lesbian and gay community.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS FOR GAY MEN AND WOMEN. Meets twice each week. Wednesday at 8:30 p.m., Columbus Hospital, second floor Board Room; Friday at 8:30 p.m., Ascension Church at the corner of Linwood at North Street. Both meetings for alcoholics or anyone with a drinking problem.

GAY UNITY NIAGARA (GUN), P.O. Box 692, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada L2E 6V5. Canadian Gay organization for the Niagara Peninsula.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION FOR GAY EXPRESSION (SAGE), 718 Casseney Hall, State University College at Buffalo, 1300 Elmwood Ave. Tel. 876-6316. Organization for gay men and lesbians at Buffalo State College. Office hours Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Business meetings Friday 3 to 4 p.m. Social hour, Tuesday 12:15 to 1:30 p.m.

DIGNITY/BUFFALO, P.O. Box 75, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, N.Y. 14205. Tel.: 674-4139. An organization for gay Catholics and Christians.

TRANSCURRENT SUPPORT GROUP (ANDRO-GYN), P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, N.Y. 14205. Attn.: Tina. Social and counseling group for gay and non-gay cross-dressers. Send self-addressed envelope for personal reply. Phone number will get confidential return call.

NICKEL CITY LEATHER/LEVI CLUB, P.O. Box 897, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, N.Y. 14205. Write for more information.

UNITED CHURCH COALITION FOR LESBIAN/GAY CONCERNS. Sharing, caring support for persons committed to Lesbian and Gay concerns within a mainline Protestant Church. Call 836-7303 for information.

RAINBOW DEAF SOCIETY OF WESTERN NEW YORK, Midtown Plaza, P.O. Box 9356, Rochester, N.Y. 14604. Support group for Gays with hearing impairments and friends.

NEW YOUR STATE GAY/LESBIAN CONFERENCE, SYRACUSE CHAPTER. Meeting second Thursday of every month. Visitors welcome. For further information: Tel. (315) 475-6866 (8 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays) or write: P.O. Box 92, Syracuse, N.Y. 13201.

COUNTRY FRIENDS, P.O. Box 106, Clarence Center, N.Y. 14032. Gay women's social group which meets outside the city. Women of all ages welcome.

BARS

CITY LIGHTS, 729 Main St., Buffalo, N.Y. Tel. 856-5630.

DIANE DUFF'S LITTLE CLUB, 750 Main St., Buffalo, N.Y. Tel.: 855-8586.

DOMINIQUE'S, 20 Allen St., Buffalo, N.Y. Tel. 886-8649.

M.C. COMPTON'S, 1239 Niagara St. near Breckendridge. Buffalo, N.Y. Tel. 886-8751.

VILLA CAPRI, 926 Main St., Buffalo, N.Y. Tel. 856-9469.

BOOKSTORES

EMMA, BUFFALO WOMEN'S BOOKSTORE, 168 Elmwood Ave., Near North St. Tel. 885-2285. Feminist and Gay books and other items.

VILLAGE BOOK AND NEWS, 3102 Delaware Ave., Kenmore, N.Y. Tel. 877-5227. Large Selection of Gay Magazines, Paperbacks & Tabloids. One (1) FREE! 25¢ Movie On Us With This Ad!

TALKING LEAVES, 3144 Main St., Buffalo, N.Y. Tel. 837-8554. Gay periodicals, Gay novels, books of general interest.

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RESERVE SUPPORT!


A HOP, skip and Jump Around The World. (Books One at A Time) By W. Robert Marshall Available at: Talking Leaves Bookstore, Buffalo; The Budget Bookstore, D & L Plaza, Depew; The Book Corner, 1909 Main St., Niagara Falls, N.Y.

GAY FEMALE Wanted To Share My Home And Expenses And Life If Possible. For More Information Write N.W., Box 405, Wilson, 14172.

25 Year Old Prison Inmate Seeks Correspondence With Sincere People Who Know The Force Of Loneliness. Christopher Harris. 162099, Box 69, London, Ohio 43060.

FREE PERSONAL AD In Western New York's Newest Correspondence Club. For Ad Form And More Information Write: Club 201, P.O. Box 201, Buffalo, N.Y. 14203.


MORGAN BATHS Is Now Accepting Applications For Part-Time Help. Please Apply In Person. No Phone Calls. Please! 655 Main St.


PSYCHOTHERAPIST: General Practice With Specialization In Alcoholism, Relationships, Marital Problems, Depressions, Eating Disorders And Self-Acceptance. Call Nicole L. Urgand, M.S., 839-2158.

WOMEN'S BATHS is NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS. Call 692-Rebel, To Meet Women Of The Same Sex. Call Supervisor To Set Up Meetings. 55 Main St.

GAY MALE Seeks Men For Love Interest. Early 30's. Into TLC. Have Much To Offer Right Person. Phone Me! Write TLC c/o The Paper.