

# Gay Political Caucus

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September 7, 1977

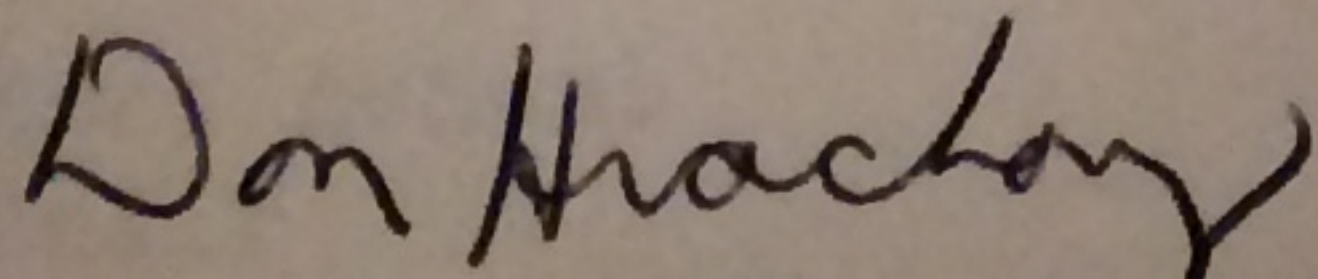
The Gay Political Caucus is two years old this month. During this period the GPC has taken on a multitude of positions, tasks, and responsibilities concerning the area of equal rights for all people--especially gay citizens. To attain the goals that we have set for ourselves requires strong leadership dedicated to our movement and believing in our cause. Such a leader is Mort Schwab, retiring Chair of the Gay Political Caucus.

Mort Schwab has been the Chair of the Gay Political Caucus' Board of Trustees since its inception. He brought with him many talented skills and abilities which were needed if we were to succeed and survive. And he gave these freely and unselfishly so that others could benefit. Mort's unique analytical and logical approach to problem solving has aided GPC while going thru what otherwise could have been difficult periods. His foresightedness has allowed us to plan for the future. He leaves behind a strong, financially solvent organization that will long remember his contribution during the important formative years.

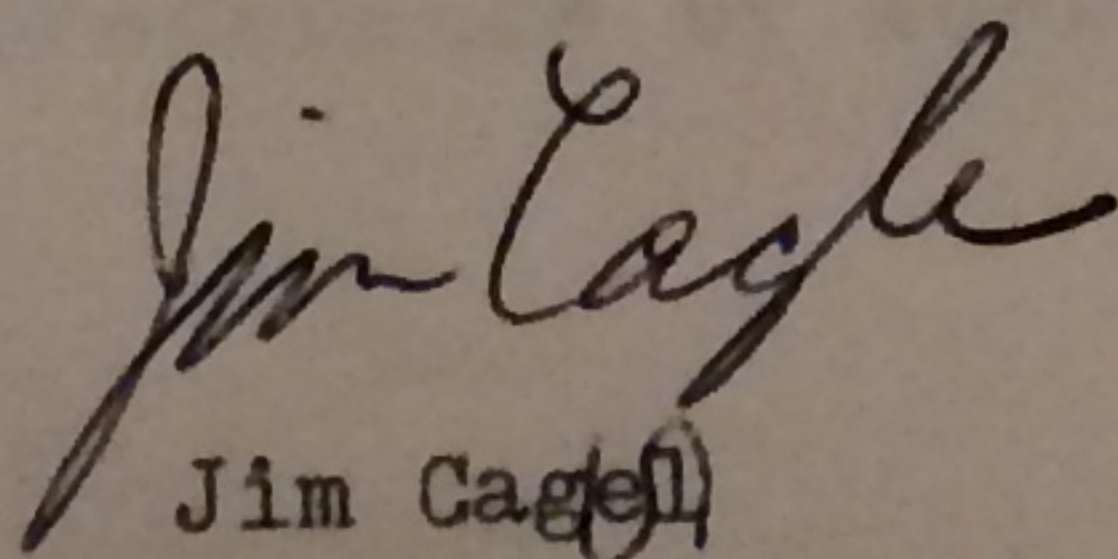
Mort Schwab is truly a leader among leaders. And the Gay Political Caucus wishes to express our gratitude to Mort for a job well done.

Thank you Mort Schwab.

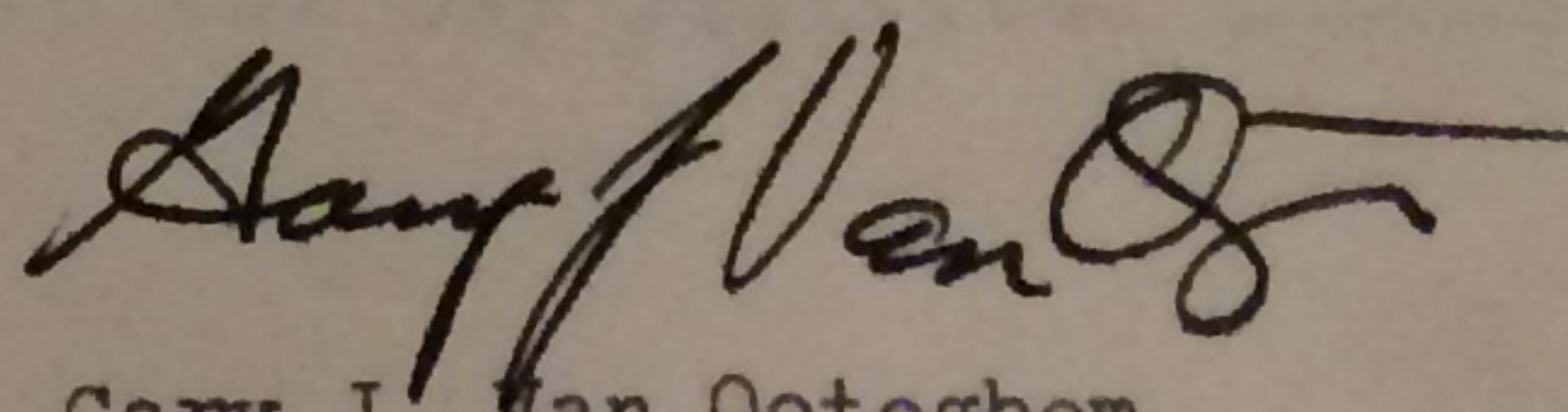
For and on behalf of the officers,  
trustees, and members of the Caucus,



Don Hrachovy  
President



Jim Cagell  
Chair



Gary J. van Ooteghem  
Founding President



# COMMENTARY

I am entering the final days of my term as Chair of the Gay Political Caucus. I will not seek nor will I accept another term as trustee nor hold another elective office in the organization. Another familiar face will be absent at the GPC board meetings. Gary Van Ooteghem has also chosen to retire from the organization. Our retirement is not the result of any policy or personality conflict. It is rather a statement of faith in the ability and strength of GPC and the community.

GPC has become a broad based effective credible force in the community. In order for it to continue to be successful it is necessary to have fresh ideas and energy. Organizations must be wider than the energies and personalities of one or two leaders. The organization should not become identified in the minds of others as the reflection of the ideas and personality of its leadership. One of the key operating principles underlying our involvement in GPC from the very start was that we would help lay the foundation of the structure of GPC, and then allow others to carry on the work as they saw fit. GPC has many eager volunteers, seasoned workers, a solvent treasury with good cash flow, well developed procedures and a huge number of supporters in the community. Don Hrachovy has shown himself to be an effective president, and I am sure that our officers and board members will continue their excellent performance.

Your help is needed now as always. There is strength in numbers. The fall election is almost upon us. We will again have a massive voter registration drive, screen candidates and distribute over 10,000 endorsement pamphlets. We are attempting to raise thousands of dollars to help candidates with broad based community support who endorse gay rights. There will be much more to do than energy to do it. You can make the difference. We need your money and your ideas. We do not require public exposure, and will respect the limits you impose on how open your involvement with the gay rights cause can be. Those of you that know me have all heard these familiar themes. However, these are the principles that I have attempted to follow in my work with GPC.

Notice that I have used the word "we" in referring to work that remains to be done. Gary Van Ooteghem and I will continue to assist GPC in raising money and recruiting members. We will be available to offer counsel when called upon. But persons other than us will be chairing the meetings, recommending key policy decisions and speaking on behalf of the organization.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for having made these last two years the most important growth period of my life. I have learned much from GPC and have derived great satisfaction from my work with the organization. I hope that I have given as much as I have taken. Gary and I wish to thank all of you for your help over the last two years. Please continue to support the cause of full civil rights for all persons regardless of sexual or affectional preference by working with the Gay Political Caucus.

Mort Schwab  
Chair  
Gay Political Caucus

Gary Political Caucus

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