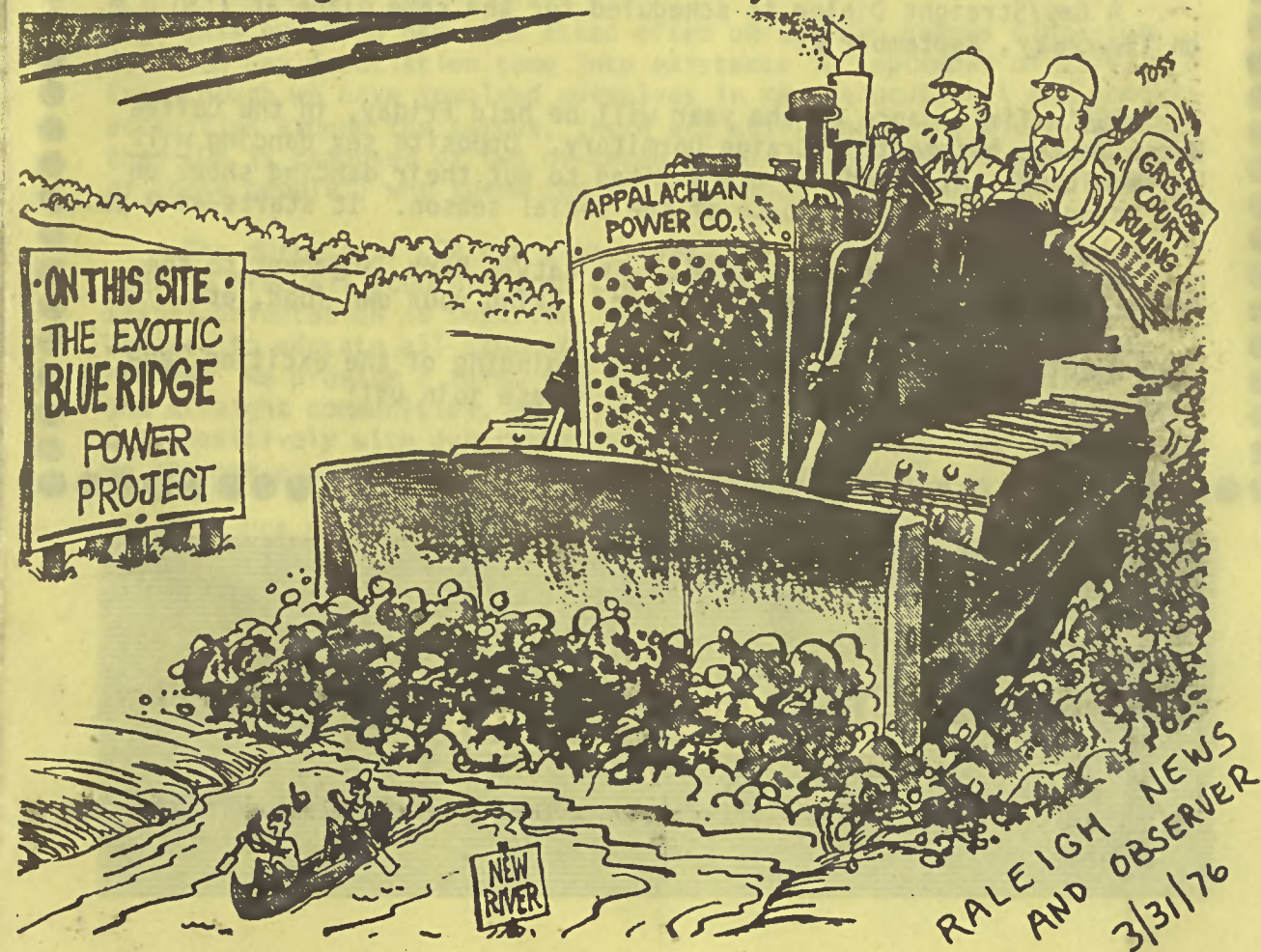


LAMBDA

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
CAROLINA GAY ASSOCIATION

Vol. I, No. 1 Special Orientation Edition

*"You gotta credit the Supreme Court — they know a crime
against nature when they see it!"*



RALEIGH NEWS
AND OBSERVER
3/31/76

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gay orientation week

August 30 - September 5 is Gay Orientation Week on the UNC-CH campus. CGA invites you to get acquainted with us, to join our group, have fun, and help us work on our many social and education projects.

Monday night CGA will hold an open house at its first meeting of the new semester in Room 207 of the Student Union, 7:30 p.m.

C-R groups will be organized on Tuesday night at 7:30 in Room 207 of the Student Union.

A Gay/Straight Dialog is scheduled for the same place at 7:30 p.m. on **Thursday**, September 2.

CGA's first dance of the year will be held Friday, in the Coffee House in the basement of Craige Dormitory. Opposite sex dancing will be permitted! All students are invited to put their dancing shoes on and attend this first big bash of the social season. It starts at 9 pm.

And on Sunday afternoon at 2 pm in Battle Park, adjacent to the Forest Theatre, CGA will hold a picnic. Bring your own food, etc.

Needless to say, this is only the beginning of the exciting, active, progressive year CGA will have. Please join us!!

GAY PRIDE

HAVE YOU WRITTEN TO YOUR CONGRESSMAN ABOUT H.R. 5452 YET?

Twenty-four sponsors introduced a gay rights bill into Congress on March 25, and the National Gay Task Force simultaneously launched the first nationally coordinated gay lobbying effort in history.

The bill, HR 5452, would amend the 1964 and 1968 Civil Rights Acts to prohibit discrimination, based on a person's "affectional or sexual preference," in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodations and facilities, education, and federally funded programs.

First introduced as HR 166 in January by Rep. Bella Abzug (D-NY) and four cosponsors, the bill was circulated by Abzug among her colleagues in the House of Representatives for additional support.

Working closely with the Abzug office, NGTF contacted potential sponsors directly and relayed information to and from gay groups in several states. Key roles were played by lesbians and gay men in Northern California, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Denver, Washington DC, Philadelphia, and New York City. The result is a geographically diverse list of sponsors (see box).

(REPRINTED
FROM
THE
N.G.T.F.
NEWSLETTER)

Honor Roll

The 24 Representatives cosponsoring HR 5452 are:

Bella Abzug (D-NY), Herman Badillo (D-NY), Jonathan Bingham (D-NY), George Brown (D-Cal), John Burton (D-Cal), Shirley Chisholm (D-NY), Ronald Dellums (D-Cal), Walter Fauntroy (D-Wash DC), Donald Fraser (D-Minn), Michael Harrington (D-Mass), Elizabeth Holtzman (D-NY), Edward Koch (D-NY), Paul McCloskey, Jr (R-Cal), Norman Mineta (D-Cal), Parren Mitchell (D-Md), Robert Nix (D-Pa), Charles Rangel (D-NY), Fred Richmond (D-NY), Benjamin Rosenthal (D-NY), Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo), Steve Solarz (D-NY), Pete Stark (D-Cal), Gerry Studds (D-Mass), H. A. Waxman (D-Cal).

WHAT YOU CAN DO

To help secure passage of the federal bill:

Write to your Representative and urge her/his support for HR 5452. Write to Rep. Don Edwards (D-Cal), chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights and ask him to hold public hearings on the bill.

Write to your Senators and ask them to sponsor and support Senate legislation paralleling HR 5452.

Send us copies of the replies you get. With feedback from you, we can get a picture of how we stand nationally and construct a strategy accordingly.

If you are involved in electoral politics or in the gay or feminist movements and can work on the bill in your city or state, contact Nath Rockhill at NGTF with details. We guarantee absolute discretion to people who can provide us with firsthand insight into Congress.

Since these groups are not intended to be therapeutic, perhaps a good combination is for the client to continue seeing the counselor regularly while he takes part in a C-R group.

In conclusion, we strongly believe that we can serve many gays with problems, except perhaps those persons who are severely anxious and depressed and may need medications and intensive therapy or hospitalization.

-Dan Leonard



resources

Many UNC students have need from time to time of accurate information and/or personal narrative on being gay today. Where do they turn? Family? Friends? The church? There can be pitfalls and misinformation, even from well-meaning people whose only knowledge is based on hearsay or flimsy impressions. Well, they can always go to the library . . . or can they? Only recently have entries been listed under the subject heading Gay. Usually there is a cross-reference from Homosexuality to Sexual Perversion (hardly a neutral heading). The bulk of literature in the UNC libraries is pre-Stonewall, "cure"-oriented at best, and homophobic at worst. Most of the pro-gay writing has been generated by the wave of Gay Pride stemming from the successful Stonewall Riots in New York City in 1969. Some of this new literature is in the University library system, but not enough. This is partly due to the lack of gay studies on campus, since library books are bought (for the most part) on faculty request. To balance this inequity, CGA is building a pro-gay library of resources for personal information, debates, term papers, etc. This library includes books, pamphlets, magazines, newspapers, and cassette tapes. We are small due to the amount of student funds allocated for literature, but we are growing, and we have bibliographies which can yield further information. These resources can be found in Room 256-B, Suite B, Student Union. If you know of resources we should have, please drop a note to Box 39, Student Union.



where the money goes

"What are all those faggots doing with our money?"

This question has been asked often on the UNC campus since the Carolina Gay Association came into existence in September of 1974. Even though we have involved ourselves in many educational and social activities around the campus, there are still those who would believe that CGA is composed of two or three people ("there can't be very many of those people") who spend the entire budget partying.

The purpose of CGA has always been to liberate and educate. We seek to free all students from the stifling notion that one form of sexual orientation is superior, and therefore preferable, to any other. We seek to educate all students on the many facets of the gay alternative. We provide a forum for the exchange of ideas between the gay and straight communities, and thus help one another to understand and deal positively with our respective lifestyles. To accomplish this, we sponsor a wide variety of informational and social activities.

The CGA Speaker's Bureau frequently provides speakers for classes in the departments of psychology, sociology, health education, and others requesting that we come.

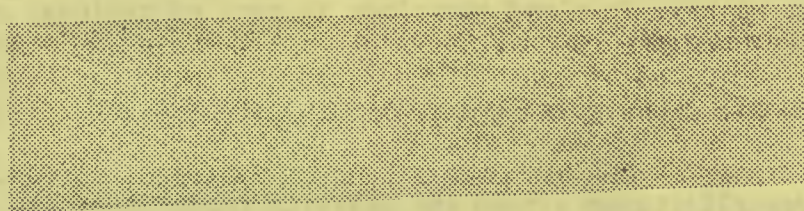
The CGA maintains a research library for students who wish positive, reliable information on the gay lifestyle. We periodically have literature tables in the Student Union with informational pamphlets, magazines, and books.

In consciousness-raising groups, a small number of people meet regularly to explore their feelings about sexuality, and become more in touch with themselves.

CGA also feels the need for opportunities for people to socialize in a non-oppressive atmosphere. To meet that need, we sponsor dances or coffeehouses each month, and smaller "social hours" on a weekly basis. These are completely open to anyone who wishes to attend, as are all CGA events, and provide a more informal opportunity for exchange and interaction between the gay and straight communities.

CGA also sponsored the first Southeastern Gay Conference, held at UNC-CH in April. Hundreds attended a weekend of workshops, panel discussions, and lectures from well-known speakers. And plans are already underway for the second Southeastern Gay Conference, scheduled for the spring of 1977.

This is who, what, and where CGA is. We are working many long, hard hours in hopes of bringing about a better understanding of and between the students of UNC, and our work has not been without reward.



peer counseling

Peer counseling is available for male homosexual problems at the Human Sexuality Information and Counseling Service in the Student Union. Our service is a general sex counseling service, and we have dealt with problems of male homosexuals since February of 1972.

A client may be seen by a counselor who is identified as gay or non-gay, depending on the client's desires and/or the counselor's comfort with counseling in this area.

In either case one first needs to get a thorough picture of the immediate problem including situations and reactions to situations. Next it may be useful to get a social and sexual history -- a client's ability to deal constructively with problems in the sexual area is most often related to the rigidity, both of family and religion, experienced during his formative years.

A common problem for college age males is the question, "Am I gay, or homosexual?" A client may have come to label himself as such, based on inaccurate or totally false information: "I must be homosexual because I've never made it with a girl." "Three years ago when I was a freshman, my roommate and I were drunk and got it on." After one has eliminated outright mislabelings such as these, it is most important to explore a detailed sex history in order to lead the client through a comparison of the quality and quantity of his relationships with men. Once these areas have been explored it is often possible for the client to come to a better understanding of his current situation.

Another common problem is seen in couple relationships -- fidelity, infidelity, "open marriage," etc. Many of these problem areas are no different than those of heterosexual couples. Often the desire for a permanent "home base" relationship is in direct conflict with a desire to "trick out." This conflict may exist in the same person or separately in a couple. Although some authors maintain society pushes gay couples apart, I maintain that there are few social pressures to keep the couple together. It appears that the key to a successful open relationship is a positive self-concept for each partner that is not dependent on the relationship.

Self-acceptance and socialization are probably the most common and difficult problems for gays. Unfortunately the counselor alone can do little in these areas. The client may in time feel accepted by the counselor and perhaps on a few isolated occasions have opportunity to socialize with the counselor. He may be told of gay bars and even introduced to gay friends of the counselor. However, these efforts are likely to have minimal positive input for the client.

In order for a gay to have the greatest opportunity for personal growth and socialization in a setting in which he can have most control, he should be encouraged to become involved in the activities of a gay organization, whose prime focus is not political activism. Such an organization should sponsor consciousness-raising groups, social occasions, and special interest groups such as politics, art, or gourmet cooking. The C-R group of six to ten people meeting weekly for a semester with a qualified facilitator is the best chance for a gay, especially one who has just "come out," to become more accepting of self and more sharing with others.

to regularly
receive your
copy of LAMBDA,

WRITE TO CGA, STUDENT UNION BOX 39,
UNC-CH, CHAPEL HILL, N. C. 27514.

LAMBDA is sent in a sealed envelope,
and the mailing list is strictly
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printing + postage costs are welcome!