

COMMUNITY NEWS

Number 8 — June 1975



GAU MEETS IN AUSTIN

TEXAS GAY CONFERENCE II

Page Five



Page Ten

DRAG IS ALIVE & WELL IN FORT WORTH

SUPPORT FOR GAY MINISTER

Page Nine



Page Three

CYR SUIT SAILS ON!

Effort To Repeal Homosexual Conduct Law Fails this Session

END OF ROUND ONE OF LEGISLATIVE BATTLE:

Ft. Worth's Rep. Joe Spurlock, 1 — Gay People, 0
... But Gays Vow, "We will be back!"

(Austin) Rep. Joe Spurlock of Fort Worth has succeeded in keeping Gay People *de facto* criminals in Texas for at least the next two years.

House Bill 759, the original bill which would have repealed Section 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code, never got out of committee as a new Senate-backed bill was introduced which had wide penal code reform including the repeal of Section 21.06.

Section 21.06 is the law which makes it illegal for two consenting adults of the same sex to have sex in private.

In a surprise move to the Texas Gay Task Force, which lead the repeal effort of 21.06, the new bill was debated on the floor of the House. Rep. Spurlock moved to delete the section of the bill which would have repealed 21.06. Rep. Craig Washington (Houston), who sponsored H. B. 759, lead the opposition to Spurlock's motion but was unsuccessful.

The Texas Gay Task Force and the Gay People of Texas lost. One of the TGTF's leaders expressed confidence, however, in the fact that the Legislature was forced to address itself to the Gay issue and is now aware that TGTF will be at the Capitol during every session.

At the House Criminal Jurisprudence

Committee hearings on H.B. 759, the Texas Gay Task Force presented a group of people who supported the bill. Testifying on behalf of the bill were Darrell Blakeway, executive director of the Texas County and District Attorneys Association, who testified that 21.06 was not needed by law enforcement agencies; Rev. Sanford Coon of the Austin University United Methodist Church, who emphasized the support of various church groups; Randy Beitel, co-chairperson of the TGTF legal committee, who testified about various legal ramifications of 21.06 and presented a petition signed by 16 faculty members of the UT Health Science Center in Dallas and a statement by Dr. Robert Dain, president of the Dallas Association of Psychologists, urging passage of H.B. 759; Dr. Janie Eleoseff, a psychologist with the University of Texas, who emphasized the American Psychological Association's support of the bill; Aola Alexander, who submitted a written statement emphasizing the Lesbian/Feminist support of the bill; and Neal Parker, co-chairperson of the TGTF legal committee, who summarized the testimony. There were no speakers who sposed H.B. 759. Rep. Spurlock was not present at these hearings, although he is a member of the committee.

AURA Adopts New Guidelines

(Fort Worth) The membership of AURA, Fort Worth Gay organization, has adopted a new shorter and simplified constitution which was written and submitted by the organization's Constitutional Revision Committee.

The new document kept only Articles I and II from the original 12 articles. Article I names the organization "AURA," and Article II outlines the "Objectives and Purposes of AURA," which were established at its founding, April 6, 1973.

The new constitution then has three articles which deal with membership, meetings and officers.

Major change in the new document is that absolute control of the organization is given to the active members. The active members annually elect two coordinators who then appoint a director. The two coordinators will "conduct meetings, handle business, and handle finances" with approval of the membership. The duties of the director are to "be responsible for public relations" and to "serve as the representative of the membership in all external activities of the organization."

The annual dues system and associate memberships were abolished by the new constitution. To become an active member of AURA, a person need only attend three consecutive meetings and remain active by not missing more than three consecutive meetings. A new classification, Friends of AURA, has replaced the associate memberships. Friends of AURA

are defined as "those persons who shall contribute a minimum of \$5 per year to the organization."

The new constitution specifies that the election of the coordinators take place at the first meeting of May. However, after much discussion, the membership decided that there were too many new members to hold a meaningful election. In order to remain within the constitution the following solution was devised and accepted: Interim coordinators Wayne Ribble and Charles Gillis were elected with the understanding that they would both resign at the July 21 meeting. At that time the membership, better informed and better acquainted with one another, could then elect two persons to fill the unexpired terms.

Ken Cyr is the present director.

GAY SWITCHBOARD PLANNED FOR FORT WORTH

(Fort Worth) Training sessions have begun for a crisis, counseling and information telephone line to serve the Fort Worth Gay Community. The Fort Worth Gay Switchboard hopes to be in operation by the end of May or early June and will be operational seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

The Gay Switchboard is being sponsored by AURA in cooperation with Agape Metropolitan Community Church. Information about the Switchboard may be obtained by calling AURA at 338-0128.



Fun and Games accompanied a spring picnic hosted by Dallas Daughters of Bilitis and attended by members of AURA, G.O.O.D., MCC and D.O.B.

COMMUNITY



NEWS

Richard van Cleve	Communications Director
Allen Reid	Managing Editor
Scott Stebelman	Dallas Editor

Staff: Arlo, Randy Beitel, Rip Corley, Ken Cyr, Mark Elgin, Sue Harris, Mike Merrill, Alexander Langham, Wayne Ribble, Kay Wilson and others.

Community News is published by the Northern Region of the Texas Gay Task Force (Communications Committee) and by AURA (Awareness, Unity and Research Association), not for profit but as a service to the Gay Community.

Opinions expressed in *Community News* are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of this publication, AURA, the Northern Region of the TGTF, or of their members.

Mailing Addresses:

P.O. Box 7367
Fort Worth, TX 76111

Telephone:

Fort Worth (817) 338-0128

SUBSCRIPTION RATE is \$4 (1st Class) and \$3 (3rd Class) for 12 issues mailed in plain envelope.

LETTERS to the editor of *Community News* should be signed. However, name will be withheld upon request. All letters are subject to editing to meet space requirements and to remove potentially libelous statements.

Publication of the name of any person, business or group in *Community News* should not be construed as any indication of the sexual preference of that person, business or group, or of their employees or members.

AD RATES available upon request.

WANTADS: See Wantads section of this paper.

FT. WORTH CITY ELECTION

(Fort Worth) Of the 19 candidates who ran for the nine places on the Fort Worth City Council earlier this year, only four responded to a question posed to them by AURA concerning their opinion of a Gay civil rights ordinance.

Five of the City Council candidates were endorsed by the new "Gay Committee for Fair Representation." A spokesperson for GCFR stated that the sole purpose of the Committee was to endorse political candidates and campaign in Fort Worth for those that they endorse. The spokesperson said that the GCFR is comprised of Gay people who are interested in protecting the rights of Gays and is aligned with no organization but does have support of individual members of AURA and the Agape Metropolitan Community Church.

"Our methods for selecting a candidate that we feel will be beneficial for Gay People will improve with time and rigid standards will be applied in the future," the spokesperson said.

The GCFR passed out leaflets at area Gay bars prior to the election urging Gays to vote for the Committee's slate.

In doing preliminary groundwork for the eventual introduction of a civil rights ordinance for Fort Worth, AURA sent the following question to each of the candidates:

"More than 20 American cities have now passed civil rights ordinances banning discrimination in employment and public accommodations on the basis of sexual orientation. What are your feelings concerning such an ordinance for Fort Worth?"

Here are the results of the election, answers to AURA's question, and the GCFR endorsements:

Place One (Mayor). Cliff Overcash defeated J.C. Pace, Jr., Robert Haas and Gordon J. McKenna.

AURA: None of the four responded to the question.

GCFR: Endorsed Gordon McKenna. The Committee reached its decision after evaluating the "overall philosophy" of the candidates.

Place Two. Joe Bruce Cunningham defeated Robert J. Carpenter.

AURA: Cunningham did not respond;

(Continued on Page 12)

Motion To Dismiss Denied In Cyr's Police Harassment Suit

(Fort Worth) A Motion to Dismiss the class-action lawsuit filed by Ken Cyr against Fort Worth Police Chief T.S. Walls, Deputy Chief H.F. Hopkins, Capt. C.E. Hogue and two unnamed officers has been denied by Federal Judge Eldon Mahon.

The motion for dismissal was filed by City Attorney S.G. Johndroe, Jr.

The suit, filed February 26 by Cyr, director of AURA (Awareness, Unity and Research Association), centers around a controversy that arose after the recording of license numbers by police at the Texas Gay Conference last June.

In his motion to dismiss, Johndroe argued that Cyr had no "right to bring this suit pursuant to . . . the Federal Rules of Civil procedure."

Johndroe noted that he does not believe gay people or homosexuals are a "class" of people and therefore could not bring a class-action suit.

He said that the police "deny that they have ever subjected plaintiff or any so-called 'gay groups' to any illegal surveillance and harassment." The brief went on to say that Cyr "seeks to insulate himself, his friends and associates, from the enforcement of valid criminal laws . . ."

Johndroe indicated that police admit recording license numbers at the June 22 conference, but said the reason behind the action was that there was fear among police that the conference "might be invaded by outsiders."

In a formal answer to the Johndroe motion, Cyr's attorney, James Barber of Dallas, called the explanation for taking the numbers "a flimsy, merely plausible excuse."

Judge Mahon, in his ruling against the motion, said that "the Court is of the opinion that plaintiff's complaint does allege a cause of action and that dismissal or summary judgement would not be a proper disposition."

DALLAS CITY ELECTION

(Dallas) Recent city elections in Dallas saw Gays confronting the mayoral candidates for the first time.

Representatives Scott Stebelman and Michael Merrill of the Gay Organization of Dallas appeared on WFAA's public affairs program, "At Issue," which hosted the candidates for mayor. In a question period in which the candidates took questions from the audience, G.O.O.D. representatives asked the candidates if they would support city legislation banning discrimination against Gay People in city employment.

Mayor Wes Wise, claiming that he had never heard of anti-Gay discrimination, said that he would support an ordinance protecting Gays if G.O.O.D. could produce evidence that discrimination against Gays exists.

CCA candidate John Schoellkopf said that he had no position on the question. Candidates Emory and Steakley took the position that all people should have equal opportunity in employment, although Steakley erroneously believed that Gays were protected under the Civil Rights Act of 1964.



In Austin for hearings on H.B. 759 were co-chairpersons of the legal committee of the Texas Gay Task Force, Neal Parker of Austin and Randy Beitel of Dallas.

mens clothing and haircutting

UNION JACK

3918 cedar springs tel. 528-9600

Sundance

Kids

526-9173

Open Daily 2 p.m. - 2 a.m.

HAPPY HOUR: 5-8 Mon.-Fri.

Wednesday Night Keg Party
& Free Draft, 9-11 p.m.

Sunday Beer Bust: 7-9 p.m.

4025 Maple Avenue

MIXED DRINKS

2308 W. 7th Street
335-0586
Fort Worth

BEER BUST - Tuesday, 10 to 11 p.m.
2 to 2 - Seven Days a Week

**FORT WORTH
EXOTIC SHOP**

907 HOUSTON STREET
268-0541

Exotic Patches & Posters and
Sensuous Body Oils, Lubricants and
Perfumes

MON - THU - 9 a.m. - midnight
FRI - SAT - 9 a.m. - 2:30 a.m. - - - SUN - 12 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

EXOTIC LINGERIE

Adult Books - Magazines
Novelties - 8 MM Film

ARCADE

Best Selection in Town
Cover Priced - Unwrapped

PURPOSE

GAYS - Loving, Living, Learning - **TOGETHER** is the theme for the Texas Gay Task Force Conference II. Of course, loosely paraphrasing one of our sisters, a theme is a theme is a theme. It's convenient to have one around as a tidy slogan or a neat cheer, but - hopefully - **GAYS** - Loving, Living, Learning - **TOGETHER** will be all that a much more. It's not only our theme; it is who we are! At the least, it is who we hope to be!

Liberation has no meaning unless we can see it, feel it, taste it and **BE IT** whenever and wherever we get together!

Last June under the leadership of the Fort Worth/Dallas Metroplex Gay Council, the first statewide Texas Gay Conference was held with approximately 200 brothers and sisters present. Our theme was "Together We Can" and **WE BELIEVED IT!** We heard fine speakers; attended to the point workshops; witnessed the birth of the Texas Gay Task Force; and, best of all, began to build supportive, personal and loving relationships.

Well, it is **THAT TIME** again. The Gay People of San Antonio welcomes all of our sisters and brothers to come be with us - **GAYS** - Loving, Living, Learning - **TOGETHER**.

SCHEDULE

We hope the conference will move as freely as is needed to accomplish our purpose in coming together. Thus, we ask all of you to be sensitive to the mood and movement of our time together. Our schedule will not govern us; rather it will serve us. If it doesn't meet our needs, we can change it, rearrange it, dress it up or just **FORGET IT!**

Friday, June 20

- 6:00 p.m. - Registration begins.
- 10:00 p.m. - Reception and Creative Exchange.
- 12:00 p.m. - It's up to you.

Saturday, June 21

- 8:00 a.m. - Registration continues.
- 9:00 a.m. - Coffee and Early Morning Chit Chat.
- 9:30 a.m. - Address by Gene Leggett.
- 10:30 a.m. - Personal Growth Workshops.
- 1:00 p.m. - Lunch.
- 2:00 p.m. - Address by E. Carolyn Innis.
- 3:00 p.m. - "How To" Workshops.
- 6:00 p.m. - River Barge Ride and Dinner Break.
- 8:30 p.m. - Performance by The Festival Ballet of San Antonio.
- 9:15 p.m. - General Assembly.

Sunday, June 22

- 10:30 a.m. - Coffee, for those up to it.
- 11:00 a.m. - Celebration of Gays Together.
- 12:30 p.m. - Lunch.
- 1:30 p.m. - General Assembly, with whatever workshops and business is necessary for TGTF.

We have built the schedule around our theme - **GAYS** - Loving, Living, Learning - **TOGETHER**.

Friday night is our **Loving Time**, and that's exactly what we want it to be! "Hey, you don't know me that well" may be one of your initial responses, and, we are sure, there will be many other responses or interpretations to this part of our theme. Our plans, however, will be focused around the Reception and Creative Exchange. Whatever your talents are (painting, poetry, singing, playing, etc.), be prepared to share them Friday night.

Saturday morning is our **Living Time**. The address and workshops will be built around **What it means for Gay People to LIVE TOGETHER**. This will be an intensely personal time; we hope all of us will be able to give ourselves freely to it.

Saturday afternoon is our **Learning Time**. The address and workshops will be built around **Sharing Organizational Skills** that will give supportive structures to Gay People and bring society to a more open and trusting understanding of us.

Sunday is our **Together Time**. This period will include a communal celebration of our being together and will then focus on the concerns for the coming year with the Texas Gay Task Force.

SPEAKERS

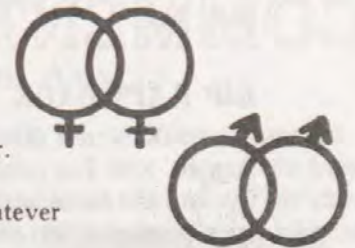
To date, we have two definite speakers highlighting the Conference:

Carolyn Innis, one of the founders of Gay Nurses Alliance and a leader in the Women's Movement in Philadelphia (now residing in San Diego), was the first recommendation Barbara Gittings sent to us. Since we have talked to her, she has become our first choice, too. She is a real "How To" woman and will help us bring it all together!

Gene Leggett, suspended Methodist minister, actor and tube swallower, replied yes to the invitation just as soon as he had asked himself! (Gene lives in San Antonio now, still stirs up The United Methodist Church and is also coordinator for our conference).

We had also invited **Morris Kight** to be with us, and he had given us an initial yes. However, we hear that Morris is no longer with the Los Angeles Gay Community Center, and that he left no

(Continued on center insert)



TEXAS GAY CONFERENCE II

JUNE 20 - 22  **SAN ANTONIO**

COMMENT

RIP RAPS BACK

In response to the letters directed toward the Rappin' with Rip column from both Mr. Cyr and the name withheld, I would pointedly suggest that these two individuals reread the column, but this time with their eyes open.

I have asked no one to assume the position of second-class citizen or to stay in his place, but rather to be responsible for one's own actions and behavior.

I would also like to relate to Mr. Cyr that the nature of the column is not to condemn the queens, or gay guys, nor has it; but rather pointing out those areas of behavior that have in the past been unhealthy pitfalls and problem etiologies for members of the community.

My reason for not including material about women is because I would not want to be so presumptuous as to assume I have enough knowledge about our Gay sisters to adequately speak about or for them. I would hope that a female would step forward as a contributor, for, as Mr.



PALACE BOOKS
 1111 W. MAGNOLIA FORT WORTH 927-9231
 MON - SAT 10 'til 8 P.M. - CLOSED SUN
 "The Littlest, Biggest Store in Fort Worth"
 • SWINGERS INFORMATION CENTER • GAY MAGAZINES
 • ARCADE • NOVELTIES • MAGAZINES • FILMS
 • EXOTIC PATCHES & POSTERS • SENSUOUS BODY OILS
 • LUBRICANTS & PERFUMES
 ☐ DISCOUNTS ON BOOKS AND MAGAZINES WITH THIS ADD

Cyr observes, they are part of the community, too.
 — Rip Corley

(All three letters — Ken Cyr's, Rip Corley's and the one from name withheld — were edited for space requirements. The editor hopes that each still adequately expressed the idea of the writer.)

CRUISING IS COOL, FELLAS . . . BUT PLEASE COOL IT.

Dear people of the gay community,

We, the folks on Welborn St., Gillespie, Hood and others who live on the cruise, are having trouble getting a good night's rest. Starting from 10 p.m. or so until the sky is pink with dawn — there's a lot of noise out there. There's revving of the engines, occasional knocking of the garbage cans, flashing lights as cars turn into the

driveway, and lately there's been screaming as late as 2 or 3 a.m.

A lot of us have bedrooms on the street; there are others who have little children who cannot sleep. Some don't have air conditioners, so they can't shut their windows. Everyone I know along here works during the day, and desperately needs some peaceful sleep.

So what we're asking is for a quiet cruise so that we will *all* be satisfied. Please tone it down, Folks.

Yours in Everyone's Liberation,
 The residents on the cruise

HAPPY HOUR:
 Monday thru Saturday
 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Sunday Happy Hour
 2:30 - 5:00 p.m.

The RAMROD

3224 N. Fitzhugh
 526-9110

Open 2 p.m. to 2 a.m.
 Seven Days a Week

WANTADS

WANTADS are \$.50 per line, minimum of \$1. (Each line of regular copy is limited to 35 units, including letters, spaces and punctuation. Boldface caps are limited to 22 units per line.) Payment should accompany your copy. Discount 10% for 6 or more insertions of the same copy, paid at the same time.

POINTBLANK TIMES

*A New Publication for
 Lesbian/Feminists*

Subscribe: Only \$3 for 12 issues
 Pointblank Times, 1241 W. Bell,
 No. 4, Houston, Texas 77019

OLIVE BRANCH SALOON

Happy Hour
 5 - 7

OLIVE BRANCH SALOON

Monday - Wednesday
 5-12 p.m.

Thursday - Sunday
 5 p.m. - 2 a.m.

2822 McKinney
 Dallas

823-0921

824-2770

Gay Academics Organize in Austin

by Charles Weis

Over 60 members of the Gay Academic Union and other interested persons met Saturday, April 12, for the first regional conference of the South Central Region. The day-long workshop was hosted by Gay People of Austin and Austin Lesbian Organization. Art Addington served as coordinator for the event.

The day's activities provided a first opportunity for gay persons to meet others who are also involved in some way with the academic world — as administrators, teachers, librarians, and students — or the professional world — doctors, lawyers, nurses, etc. Discussion groups explored social, legal, and employment problems affecting gay educators, professionals, and students. Several participants related their personal experiences, both positive and negative, in coming out with straight colleagues and in their institutions.

Two papers were also presented. One, entitled "Psychological Investigations in Androgyny in Males and Females," was given by Robert Helmreich and Steven Ward of UT Austin. This paper, quoting a large scale research project, notes that persons possessing both "feminine" and "masculine" traits are happier and rate higher in self-esteem than people having only one trait. B. Jaye Miller, of the University of Houston at Clear Lake City, presented "Homosexuality and Decadence in Western Literature," in which he recommended a redefinition of "decadence"; he illustrated that so called periods of decadence can be "exceptionally ripe, not just in terms of artistic experimentation and creativity, . . . but also in terms of great political, moral, psychological, and religious growth."

After meeting in separate caucuses, the men and women pooled their suggestions for the formation of a steering committee and submitted their resolutions. It was decided by the conference participants to form a steering committee of 6 women and 5 men with the goals of increasing membership in GAU, publicizing our existence, mailing a newsletter, and planning the next conference to be held within a year. There was also some interest in the publication of an academic journal of Gay men and Lesbian studies, and the committee plans to investigate such an undertaking.

Anyone interested in the goals of the GAU and in communication with other gays in the academic and professional world is cordially invited to join GAU and receive the national newsletter. Write Gay Academic Union, Box 1479, Hunter College, New York City, N.Y. 10021. Membership is confidential. We also invite you to join the South Central Region, GAU, 900 West Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701.



Among the women present at the conference were representatives of Austin Lesbian Organization and Houston NOW chapter's Task Force on Sexuality and Lesbianism. Center is Pokey Anderson of Houston.



Art Addington
GAU conference coordinator



forwarding address. If he shows, we will work him in; if he doesn't, we'll manage.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Creative Exchange - Friday night we will entertain each other! Be prepared to share whatever talents you have. We plan to have art exhibits set up, poetry reading, singing, dancing and on, and on and on. Jewelry makers, photographers, writers and artists are urged to bring their work for show and tell!

River Barge Ride - If we pull this one off and we think we will, an extra \$2.00 attached to your application fee, will set afloat all of us Gay Folks on the San Antonio River with a light refreshment of beer and tamales. Let's all get in on this one; it should be a real hoot and definitely a first for San Antonio!

Festival Ballet of San Antonio is highly respected in San Antonio artistic circles. We will get to see free their final dress rehearsal for their current show. This is a real coup for us to get in on.

Celebration of Gays Together - We Don't know what this is yet, but we promise that **IT WILL BE SOMETHING!** Some are calling it a worship service, others a drama and heaven only knows what else it is being called! It may be up to **YOU** to get it together!

HOUSING

We are offering you three alternatives for housing, depending on your individual tastes. Of course, you are free to find your own housing, but if you need a place to stay, this is what we have available:

The Rio Lado Motel is located close to downtown and is **immediately adjacent** to one of our largest gay bars. If you plant to boogie a lot, it will be ideal.

The San Antonio Free Clinic offers free communal housing for the first fifty that sign up. Sleeping bags

BAILEY STREET WHEREHOUSE OPENS IN FT. WORTH

(Fort Worth) One of the finest clubs in the state opened in Fort Worth May 30. The new business at 259 Bailey features live entertainment with a talented lineup scheduled for Grand Opening Weekend, June 6-8: the Carrol Smith Band, vocalists Tom Davis and Allen Tripp and the Wherehouse Dancing Ensemble.

The 6,000-foot showcase features the Red Room, a piano bar, the outdoor Beer Garden and a restaurant featuring delicious sandwiches.

Owners Bill Chenoweth and Charles Presley have assured CN that they plan to entertain the Gay metropolplex in style.

The modest weekend cover charge of \$2 includes your first bar drink. For information about show times, call (817) 335-0232.

and a willingness to work with a large group concerning a very basic concern are essential.

Individual Personal Homes are also available for those who prefer smaller, quieter and more intimate housing. Beds may be available, but you best bring a sleeping bag and sheets, blanket and pillow.

REGISTRATION

Along with your registration blank and check, send us a self-addressed, stamped envelope, and we will use it to send you confirmation with whatever further information we might have concerning final Conference arrangements. Should you register too late (or otherwise fail to receive confirmation) you may call either of these 24-hour numbers upon your arrival in San Antonio: 733-7300 or 733-0335.

If you cannot afford the registration fee of \$10 per person, let us know. A few scholarships are available.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

We have two primary sites for TGC II. Friday evening, Saturday evening and Sunday activities will take place in the **International Theater at HemisFair**. It is located on the corner of South Alamo and Durango. This is where you will report for registration.

Saturday morning and afternoon we will be using the San Antonio Country, 1122 North St. Marys. If you don't know already how to get there, we'll give you instructions Friday night.

ONE LAST WORD



To use the language of the times, working on this conference has been pretty freaky for all of us. Being a **gay activist** (whatever that means) is not easy. Given the monumental tasks that are always before us, we frequently find our energies scattered, demoralized or just plain **Burned Out**. I imagine most of you know what we are talking about, and this reminder is just our way of saying that it hasn't been easy. And it isn't over yet! On the other hand, we feel like this conference is an important time for the entire state. We are glad that we are doing it; we eagerly look forward to spending this time with **YOU**.

TRIPLE X NEWS

3816 E. Belknap
FT. WORTH - 834-9238

"FANTASTIC SELECTION"
ADULT BOOKS - MAGAZINES - NOVELTIES

MON - SAT - 9:00 A.M. - MIDNIGHT - - - SUN - 12:00 - 6:00 P.M.



Two Bars in One:
SPEAKEASY &
COUNTRY WESTERN

HAPPY HOUR
EVERY DAY
4 to 7

A TOUCH OF THE OLD
& A TOUCH OF THE NEW



WELCOME TO

THE OLD PLANTATION

WHERE FRIENDLY PEOPLE MEET

3717 Rawlins • Dallas, Texas • (214) 528-6550

MONDAY
10c Draft

TUESDAY
60c Glass

WEDNESDAY
½ Price Drinks

THURSDAY
Champagne Night
50c Glass

SUNDAY
½ Price Drinks
Margaritas 90¢

When in El Paso, visit

THE PET SHOP

800 E. San Antonio Street

BILL CHENOWETH and CHARLES PRESLEY present:

BAILEY ST. WHEREHOUSE



11 a.m. to 2 a.m.
Monday-Thursday
Friday-Saturday
After Hours 2-4

FOOD & DRINK

335-0232

259 Bailey..... Ft. Worth

GRAND OPENING WEEKEND

June 6, 7, 8

Friday, Saturday & Sunday nights

FEATURING

the Carrol Smith Band

*Tom Davis
& Allen Tripp,
vocalists*

*Wherehouse
Dancing Ensemble*

at the
**BAILEY STREET
WHEREHOUSE**

*\$2 cover includes
one bar drink*

Mail to: TEXAS GAY CONFERENCE II, P. O. Box 2541, San Antonio, Texas 78299.

Please register me for the TEXAS GAY CONFERENCE II to be held in San Antonio, June 20 - 22, 1975. I am enclosing a check payable to Texas Gay Conference II.

\$10 per person \$2 per person for the River Barge Ride

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

HOUSING

I will secure my own housing.

I wish to stay at the Rio Lado Motel. (Make check out to Rio Lado Motel and mail to us with your registration check. It must be in as soon as possible. The rooms hold one to four people, so check which you prefer:

single \$8.50 double \$5.30 triple \$4.43 quadruple \$4.08

I wish to stay at the San Antonio Free Clinic (first fifty to apply). I understand that it is coed. I plan to bring my bed roll.

I wish to stay in an individual personal home. I plan to bring my bed roll.

SCHOLARSHIPS

I am financially unable to pay the registration fee. Please let me know if I can secure one of the "scholarship-registrations."
(Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for registration confirmation.)

LOCAL CHURCH
BACKS
GAY METHODIST
MINISTER

(San Antonio) The congregation of St. Stephen's United Methodist Church in San Antonio, Texas, has voted to support former Methodist minister Gene Leggett in his attempt to have his ministerial credentials restored.

It was in 1971 that the Southwest Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church suspended Leggett's ministerial orders upon his public announcement that he was a homosexual and involved in a ministry to gay people through his Dallas based organization, House of the Covenant. Since that time, Leggett has made an annual appeal to the conference's Board of the Ministry for reinstatement. Each time his appeal has been rejected. At this year's meeting in Dallas, the Board claimed that there was a lack of sufficient new data to warrant a change in the 1971 action suspending Leggett.

In 1973 the Judicial Council of The United Methodist Church ruled that there was another avenue by which Leggett might seek restoration of his credentials. If a local congregation would attest to his character and recommend restoration, the question would have to be voted upon by the entire ministerial delegation at their annual conference. The action taken by the St. Stephen's congregation on April 13 makes this avenue a reality for Leggett.

"This will be the first time since 1971 that the entire conference delegation has had to deal with my request for restoration," Leggett reported. "The action taken by St. Stephen's congregation is very significant for the life of our church. A local Methodist church has placed the qualifications for ministry on a basis other than sexual orientation. St. Stephen's knows that I am gay. However, they are not interested in labels of hetero or homo."

Since becoming a member of St. Stephen's, Leggett has taught both youth and adult Sunday School classes, served on committees and assisted in worship services. He has been hired by the congregation as church janitor.

Lakeview Country Estates

18004 Saddlehorn Lane
Mansfield, Texas 76063

477-2022
473-4900

18004 SADDLE HORN LANE MANSFIELD TEXAS
HORSES, RENTAL, BOARD, TRAINED, INSTRUCTION
ENGLISH, WESTERN OR WHATEVER.
HAYRIDES, STAGECOACH RIDES, PICNIC AREA.
GRADUATE HORSESHOER OR PREMISES NORTH TEXAS
HORSESHOEING INST.
WASHINGTON STATE UNIV.
★ CALL ANYTIME ★
GROUP RATES FOR ADULT ORGANIZATIONS, CHURCH
CITY, COUNTY 4-H OR ANY OTHERS.
PHONE: 477-2022
HOURS: SUNRISE TO SUNSET.
EXPERT YOUTH SUPERVISOR
STABLE FOREMAN: DAVE ROSEN

Leggett enjoys his role as janitor at St. Stephen's. He reports satisfaction in "keeping clean the House of the Lord." He is also quick to point out that the Church must come to terms with its unstated policy that a gay person is fit to clean out toilet bowls but not fit to proclaim the Word of God. "At our 1972 quadrennial General Conference in Atlanta, our church affirmed the civil and human rights of homosexuals. Now the Church has the responsibility to spell out these rights. Do our rights go beyond sweeping and mopping?"

The action of the St. Stephen's congregation does not deal with the issue of the appointability of a gay minister to a local congregation. The restoration of Leggett's credentials would give him the right to call himself a minister and allow him the right to perform such ministerial functions as the celebration of holy communion, baptism and marriage within the boundaries of the St. Stephen's Church.

It would not restore his membership in the Southwest Texas Conference or give him the right to an appointment by that conference.

The outcome of Leggett's action, however, will play a significant role in the upcoming 1976 United Methodist Conference in Portland, Oregon, where the ordination of homosexuals is expected to be a major issue.

"Regardless of the action taken concerning my ministerial orders," Leggett concluded, "I shall continue to work with other gay Methodists in sensitizing the Church to the oppression of gay people by the Church and society at large and the need for an open ministry for all our Methodists concerning homosexuality."

Texas Methodists wishing to be a part of a petition to the Southwest Texas Conference urging the restoration of Gene Leggett's credentials may send their requests in care of Post Office Box 1064, San Antonio, Texas 78294.

All about "Daddy's Girls"

by Pat Gilliam

(Fort Worth) It was November 1969 when a cast of 11 impersonators led by Joseph Muñoz and Jack Guthrie set out to entertain the Gay Community of Ft. Worth. The "Drag Shows" had started a three-year run as "The Magical Garden Review."

Although the original troupe of performers was forced into retirement in 1972 by the closing of Little Elvira's and El Toga in Fort Worth, the cast got together again with the reopening of the old Toga as T.J.'s Back Door and began playing to packed houses.

On July 4, 1974, T.J. opened his new show bar at the club and the performers, along with some new faces began performing as "Daddy's Girls," with new songs, old songs, show tunes, sad songs, happy songs and even some wild numbers to entertain their audiences.

The shows were immediately successful, and calls came to perform in other areas. Recently the crew went to Austin for a show at the Austin Country, and a repeat performance is scheduled there for June 20. Plans are also underway for a one-year anniversary show on July 4.

Don't miss "Daddy's Girls." Performances are every Sunday at 10 p.m. at T.J.'s Back Door, 5536 Jacksboro Hwy. The bar opens at 7, and there is free beer and hot dogs from 8 til 10. Cover charge is \$1.50. For reservations call (817) 624-0630



Dionne



Marlena Dee



Chi Clayton



Sylvia Sans



Peanuts



Barbra Joan



Willma Faye



Lizz Bian

EVENTS & HAPPENINGS . . .

June 20-21 - TEXAS GAY CONFERENCE II, San Antonio (see this issue for more information).

June 1 - AURA "Gayfest" picnic, Noon, Oakland Lake Park, Ft. Worth, \$1

June 6-8 - Grand Opening, Bailey Street Warehouse, 259 Bailey, Ft. Worth, live entertainment, \$2 cover

June 17 - Agape MCC "Gay Sway" skating party, Silver Wheel Roller Rink in White Settlement, 7:30-9:30, \$1.50. Call church for information.

June 28 - Agape MCC Fellowship Dinner, Lake Benbrook, 4 p.m. (Potluck). Call church for information.

THE DIRECTORY OF BARS & BUSINESSES WILL RETURN NEXT MONTH.



You Haven't Seen Anything . . . Until You've Seen Ours!

Adult Magazines, Paperbacks,
8mm Films—Danish Imports,
and Novelties

Mon-Thurs (9 a.m. - Midnight)
Fri-Sat (9 a.m. - 2:30 a.m.)
Sun (12 noon - 9:30 p.m.)
4934 Maple - 526-9469

Organizations

Agape Metropolitan Community Church, P.O. Box 4589, Ft. Worth, TX 76106, Services at 2800 Purington, office (817) 534-9406

AURA (Awareness, Unity & Research Association, P.O. Box 7318, Fort Worth, TX 76111, (817) 338-0128, meetings every other Monday, 7:30 p.m., at 5536 Jacksboro Hwy (T.J.'s Back Door)

Daughters of Bilitis, P.O. Box 1242, Dallas, TX 75221, (214) 241-4118, meetings first & third Fridays

G.O.O.D. (Gay Organization of Dallas), 3834 Ross Ave., Dallas, TX 75204, (214) 827-2798, meetings second and fourth Fridays

Dignity, P.O. Box 70, Euless, TX 76039, (metro) 469-6669, meetings first and third Friday evenings (including Mass)

Metropolitan Community Church of Dallas, 3834 Ross Avenue, Dallas, TX 75204, (214) 826-0291

Hobos, a motor cycle social group for women. For more information contact T.J.'s of Dallas

Wranglers, a motor cycle social group for men. For more information contact The Sundance Kids bar, Dallas, or write The Wrangler Motorcycle Club, P.O. Box 35853, Dallas, TX 75235

Dallas Crisis Line, (214) 241-4116



T.J.'s BACK DOOR

presents

DADDY'S GIRLS

Every Sunday
Night

For Reservations,
call (817) 624-0630

DRINK OF THE WEEK
Free Beer & Hot Dogs
FREE Every Sunday
8-10 p.m.

5536 JACKSBORO HWY.
Fort Worth, Texas

THURSDAY - SUNDAY
8:00 - 2:00

SUBSCRIBE Subscribe SUBSCRIBE Subscribe

COMMUNITY NEWS

Subscribe only \$3 - 3rd Class,
\$4 - 1st Class
\$10 - Supporting

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Make check payable to COMMUNITY NEWS
P.O. Box 7367, Fort Worth TX 76111

SUBSCRIBE subscribe SUBSCRIBE Subscribe



T.J.'s of Dallas



3307 McKinney
526-9368

(Continued from Page 3)

Carpenter stated in full: "I have not been subject to a discussion concerning this subject. So I do not know on what basis you and your associates base your concept of sexual orientation. As of now based on Christian principles and biblical knowledge, I would be opposed to any ordinance which would legalize the joining together of any persons other than a man and woman."

GCFR: Did not endorse any candidate.

Place Three. Jim Bradshaw defeated Jack Williams in a runoff after elimination of Richard Hyde in the initial voting.

AURA: Hyde and Bradshaw did not respond. Jack Williams sent the following statement to AURA: "I believe Fort Worth should comply with all anti-discrimination decisions of the Supreme

Court. I believe Gay People are entitled to all the rights given all other citizens — no more and no less."

GCFR: Endorsed Jack Williams

Place Four: John J. O'Neill was unopposed. He did not respond and there was no endorsement.

Place Five: Hugh Parmer ran unopposed.

AURA: Parmer did not respond.

GCFR: Endorsed Parmer (The Committee did not explain why they endorsed Parmer.)

Place Six: Woodie Woods defeated the incumbent, Leonard Briscoe.

AURA: Briscoe did not respond.

Woods sent the following statement: "It is not my nature to discriminate against any human being for any reason. As a public servant, I would be even more aware of this trait. If discrimination existed and could only be controlled by ordinance, then I would support such an ordinance. Thank you for your concern."

GCFR: Endorsed Woodie Woods.

Place Seven: Richard Newkirk defeated Bill Turner in a run-off after elimination of Joe R. Keeton in the initial voting. No response and no endorsement.

Place Eight: Henry A. Meadows ran unopposed. He did not respond and there was no endorsement.

Place Nine: Margaret Rimmer defeated Bill Smith.

AURA: Rimmer did not respond. Bill Smith's reply started with "... some of the best friends I have in this world are Gay People ..." and ended with "but you and your people have my word on one thing: I will never introduce an ordinance such as you have mentioned."

Commenting on Smith's reply, AURA

Director Ken Cyr said, "It seems like he was trying to imply that Gay People are interfering with straight peoples' rights by our fight to be protected against discrimination."

GCFR: Endorsed Smith with reservations. The Committee explained that, as in most of the other places, it was a choice of the lesser of two evils.

SEX REFORM PASSES IN CALIFORNIA

(Sacramento, CA) California lawmakers have approved a bill to repeal the state's harsh laws against oral copulation, sodomy and adultery which previously carried penalties of up to 15 years in prison for oral copulation and life in prison for (rectal) sodomy.

The bill, introduced by Assemblyman Willie Brown, passed the Assembly on a 45-26 vote and then squeaked through a more conservative Senate on a tie-breaker vote cast by the state's Lt. governor.

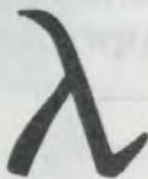
The measure, which has been signed into law by Governor Ed Brown, will be effective January 1, 1975. The governor had previously expressed privately to Gay leaders his willingness to sign such a bill.

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES ENDORSES GAY RIGHTS

(Chicago) The Governing Board of the National Council of Churches has endorsed equal rights for Gay People. The Board, representing 30 Protestant and Orthodox denominations, passed a resolution March 6 calling for legislation to ensure "full civil rights" for anyone facing bias "because of their affectional or sexual preference."

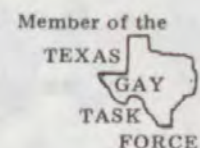
The action followed a year and a half of effort by the National Gay Task Force on Gay People in the Church.

AURA Fort Worth's only Gay Organization



Meetings are held every other Monday at 7:30 p.m.
at 5536 Jacksboro Hwy. (T.J.'s Back Door)

Social / Political / Service / Educational



For more information call (817) 338-0128, or write AURA, P.O. Box 7318, Ft. Worth TX 76111