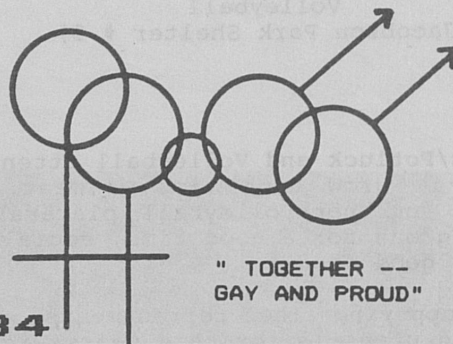


GSO NEWSLETTER

LEXINGTON GAY SERVICES ORGANIZATION
POST OFFICE BOX 11471
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40511

JULY, 1984



" TOGETHER --
GAY AND PROUD"

IN LEXINGTON: While appearing on WLEX-TV's "Your Government" the state chairperson of the Kentucky Republican Party said he did not welcome gays in party leadership and did not personally wish to associate with them. Leitchfield attorney Joe Whittle said he would not want the National Republican Party to form a political arm for gays as the National Democratic Party plans to do. Whittle said he would not discourage gays from joining the Kentucky GOP, provided "they had interests other than sex". His concern, Whittle said, was that gays would try to use their party membership only to further their own concerns about sexual freedom.

Several local gay Republicans expressed outrage at Whittle's statement but did not wish to be identified publicly. The Co-Chair of the Gay Lesbian Democrats of Kentucky, Keith Elston, in a letter to the Editor of the Lexington Herald Leader responded (in part): "These remarks show a clear insensitivity and ignorance of the issues raised by Gay Rights leaders such as the right to fair employment and housing practices and the opportunity to serve their country in the armed forces. Concerns about 'sexual freedom' have not been at issue. What is at issue is that gays and lesbians are citizens of the United States and therefore are entitled to the same rights, responsibilities and privileges that Chairman Whittle is entitled to, including political opportunities such as leadership positions within the Party. Whittle's remark that he would not discourage gays from joining the Kentucky GOP, provided 'they had interests other than sex', is one of the most disgusting statements I have ever heard. Gay people have no more or less interest in sex than anyone else. Gay and lesbian citizens should

join a political party because 1) they have interests in the policies and philosophies that party espouses, and 2) they are made to feel welcome and encouraged to participate in Party affairs. Apparently, the Republican Party is only interested in the gay voters as long as they keep quiet and do not try to get involved in the system."

GSO PRIDE PICNIC

The second annual GSO Pride Picnic was held on June 16th to celebrate the month of June as Gay Pride month. Despite the threat of bad weather, there was a great turn out. Everyone enjoyed themselves, and the following were winners!

EVENTS:	Rope Game	- Marshall Paul
	Balloon Toss	- Chuck Jim
	3 Legged Race	- Bernie Jim
	High Heel Race	- 1st place - Mac 2nd place - Greg
RAFFLE:	Champagne	- Rod
	Bar passes	- Curtis Sam

Thanks to all those who attended. Special thanks to 'The Bar' for the hot dogs, the 'ICBE' for the snacks, and Barry for the Champagne. Hope to see you again next year!

OFFICE SPACE NEEDED

GSO is in need of office space. The space would be used for the phoneline and GSO business/board meetings. If you have any information about a nice space, preferably free or at a nominal rent, please contact any board member or call Jim at 299-0352. Thanks.

Picnic in the Park
Volleyball
(Jacobson Park Shelter # 5)

The Picnic/Potluck and Volleyball attendance continues to grow each time we meet. Both Volleyball and non-Volleyball players have been coming out for a good time, socializing and eating good food.

GSO is supplying the refreshments, paper plates, and utensils for this years Picnics. For the Potluck, please use the following charts in choosing what to bring.

July 13

A-D Dessert
E-H Salad
I-L Snacks
M-P Entree
Q-S Bread/Buns
T-Z Vegetables

July 27

A-D Salad
E-H Snacks
I-L Entree
M-P Bread/Buns
Q-S Vegetables
T-Z Dessert

This Event is Free of charge! A small donation to help cover expenses and the cost of the shelter would be greatly appreciated. All of us in GSO would like to see you there!

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

IN OKLAHOMA: The United States Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit, in a major legal victory for the gay and lesbian community, has reversed the ruling of a lower court and struck down the main part of an Oklahoma law which permitted the firing of teachers for speaking in favor of gay and lesbian civil rights.

IN HOLLYWOOD: Showtime, the nations second largest pay cable television service, will have the premiere of "Brothers" on July 13th. This half-hour sitcom, produced by Paramount, will become the first original weekly series with a homosexual hero. Six additional episodes will run weekly starting on August 16th. "Brothers" is a comedy about three brother, two of whom are shocked when the third announces that he is gay. If you have Showtime, why not invite someone who doesn't over to see the premier?

IN WASHINGTON D.C.: A group of politically conservative homosexuals within the republican party have launched a national group, The Concerned Americans For Individual Rights, to offset the influence of the Party's New Right faction on the homosexual issue and to counter the dominant liberal leadership of The National Gay Movement. William Greener, spokesperson for the Republican National Committee, said, "the party will wait and see what it is that actually is proposed before we put ourselves in the position of reacting favorably or unfavorably, but there are not plans now to set up any special unit within the party to act as liaison with the Gay Community".

Participants say the group includes middle-and upper-income professionals as well as political activists and campaign workers for prominent Republican politicians. "There's a tremendous frustration out there of moderate-to-conservative gays who have had to sit on the sidelines and watch a more liberal element of the community being presented as their representative", said one GOP activist.

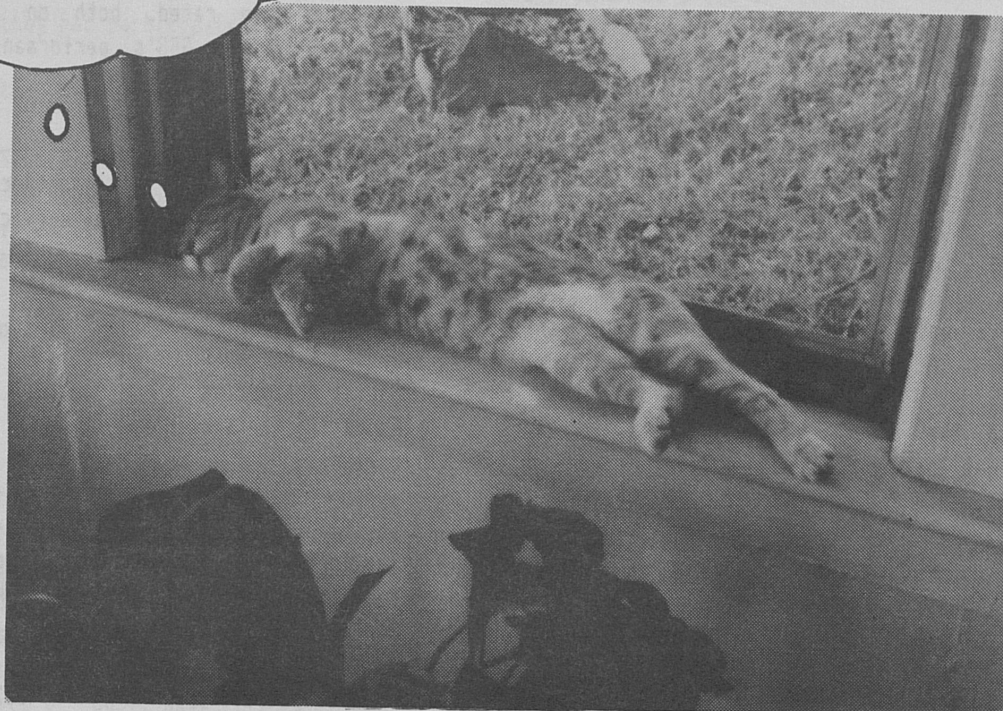
**Do Business
with the
Gay
Community**

IN NEW YORK: Archbishop John O'Connor told a gay group that the New York Archdiocese would rather lose millions of dollars in child-care contracts with the city than pledge not to discriminate against gays in hiring. "We would rather close our child-care agencies than violate church teaching," O'Connor told members of Courage, an organization of gays committed to celibacy, last week.

IN CINCINNATI: Well known radio personality and Gay Community activist John Zeh was arrested on charges stemming from alleged homosexual activities with 3 minors, ages 15 16. Additional complications set in when word got out that the kids are reportedly below normal intelligence levels. Zeh's bond has been set at \$20,000.00.



**Tami-Ami, Covered
Litter Boxes, Kitty Litter,
Captin Cat Litter Deodorant,
Toys, Cosmic Catnip and
DOG CAGES**



**Make Your Pets
Dreams Come True
AT
Fur 'N Feathers
Lakeview Plaza
2909 Richmond Rd.
Phone: 266-0226**

RESULTS OF GSD'S SURVEY

The results of GSD's recent telephone survey are in. Approximately 10% of the local names on the newsletter mailing list were called. Participation was excellent and none of the people contacted refused to take the survey. A summary of the results are as follows:

1. AGE 18-25 10%
26-35 65%
36-45 8%
56-65 8%
2. 39% have attended at least one general business meeting (11% said they attend regularly). 61% have never attended a general business meeting.
3. 54% said they thought general business meetings would get better attendance if they were well structured and included social time following the meeting. 46% thought they would not.
4. 40% said they are paid voting members. 39% said they are "friends of GSD". 21% said they are neither.
5. Discounts for voting members:
Voting Members
55% said they should receive a discount at GSD social events.
45% did not.
"Friends of GSD":
30% said paid GSD voting members should receive a discount at social events.
70% did not.
Of the total respondents:
42% felt paid voting members should receive a discount.
58% did not.
6. 89% said they would be willing to pay a small fee for the newsletter. 11% said they would not. (of the respondents who said they would pay, the average amount they suggested was \$1.05 per month)

7. 79% prefer the newsletter to have national coverage. 21% said they get this information from other sources.
8. On a scale of 1-10 (10 being highest) the following services were rated, both on their overall importance and on GSD's performance in providing the service.

Service Provided	Importance of service	GSD's performance
Newsletter	9.0	7.7
Gayline	8.2	5.6
Speakers Bureau	6.8	6.8
Social Activities	8.1	7.3
Educating the straight community	7.6	4.4

9. The following activities were suggested as possible benefits for GSD (also shown, % who said they would participate).

Quiet socials	85%
Dances	70%
Talent Show	67%
Banquet	56%
Casino Night	56%
Raffle	44%

Other suggested benefits:

Wienie Roast	Competitive Sports
Scavenger Hunt	Pool Party/Tea Dance
Lectures	Roller Skating

10. Social activities suggested (also shown, percentage who were interested in participating)

Potlucks	74%
Field Trips	70%
Volleyball	44%
Banquet	33%
Camping	30%
Bridge	26%
Softball	19%

GSO SURVEY RESULTS (continued)

- 11. 41% said they would volunteer for community service.
59% said they would not.
- 12. 89% said they had participated in at least one GSO activity.
11% said they had not.

Suggested ways to include more of the gay and lesbian community in GSO activities included:

- advertise at The Bar
- increase visibility within the community
- word of mouth
- media coverage

A LESSON IN HISTORY

The Bar...how long has it been around? Of course, the location has had several names, but has it always been a meeting place for Lexington's Gay population? What did it look like before it acquired its neons, tivolis and "surprise pink" floodlights?

If you have ever wondered about the history of 224 East Main, you'll only have one more month of wondering. (And if you've never wondered - start now.)

Watch for "A Rendezvous With Our Past" in August's newsletter!

IN NEW YORK: Archbishop John O'Connor told a gay group that the New York Archdiocese would rather lose millions of dollars in child-care contracts with the city than pledge not to discriminate against gays in hiring. "We would rather close our child-care agencies than violate church teaching," O'Connor told members of Courage, an organization of gays committed to celibacy, last week.

IMPERIAL COURT OF THE BLUEGRASS NEWS

The court would like to congratulate John, winner of the PEEK-A-BOO COOKIES contest and to say "Thanks" to all those who attended the event. We hope everyone had a lot of fun.

And speaking of fun, we'd also like to show our appreciation to GSO for inviting us to their Gay Pride Picnic on June 16th. It was indeed a lot of fun!

Remember, the 3rd annual closet ball is going to be on July 1st. Contestants have been preparing for some time already to ensure an entertaining evening for you. Tickets are on sale now for \$3.00 each by calling 268-2328. The event will be held at the Sheraton Inn and everyone is welcome!

WATCH FOR DETAILS of the "Drag Queen Roller Derby" upcoming in August!

IN HOLLYWOOD: Showtime, the nations second largest pay cable television service, will have the premiere of "Brothers" on July 13th. This half-hour sitcom, produced by Paramount, will become the first original weekly series with a homosexual hero. Six additional episodes will run weekly starting on August 16th. "Brothers" is a comedy about three brother, two of whom are shocked when the third announces that he is gay. If you have Showtime, why not invite someone who doesn't over to see the premier?

IN CINCINNATI: Well known radio personality and Gay Community activist John Zeh was arrested on charges stemming from alleged homosexual activities with 3 minors, ages 15-16. Additional complications set in when word got out that the kids are reportedly below normal intelligence levels. Zeh's bond has been set at \$20,000.

CINCINNATI SWITCHBOARD

Monday thru Friday
7:00 PM to 11:00 PM
221-7800

GAY & LESBIAN HOTLINE
(502) 637-4342

8pm-1am 7 Days A Week
Referrals, Local Information, or Just Someone To Talk To
Sponsored by Gays & Lesbians United for Equality (GLUE)



CRISISLINE

TO REPORT:
ANTI-GAY VIOLENCE

TO OBTAIN:
A.I.D.S. REFERRALS

Call toll-free
(800) 221-7044

In N.Y. State
(212) 807-6016

DIRECTORY

GSO Gayline	231-0335
GSO Newsletter/Mailing List	269-8766
GSO Recreational Events	299-0352
GSO Calendar/Advertising	223-4598
Gay and Lesbian Democrats	266-3934
Dignity/Lexington	269-8500
Louisville Crisis Hotline	502-637-4342
Cincinnati Gay Switchboard	513-221-7800
National Gay Task Force CrisisLine	800-221-7044
NGTF AIDS CrisisLine	800-221-7044

GSO BUSINESS MEETINGS

On the first Monday of every month, GSO holds its general business meeting. The meetings provide a chance for the Board to inform GSO's membership about actions it has taken and proposes to take. Non-members are also welcome. This month's business will include the continuing discussion on obtaining office space, staffing for the newsletter, future fund raisers and special events. The floor will also be open for any topic of concern that you may wish to bring up (the floor is open to anyone, membership is not required). If you are interested in being more involved with GSO, we urge you to attend the business meetings and get in on what is happening. We hope to be seeing you soon.

GSO Sponsors GSO

- * The Stylists, 1641 Nicholasville Rd. 278-7481
The Bar, 224 E. Main St. 255-1551
- * Lady Diana Hair Design, 508 E. Main St. 252-4595
Joe Bologna's, 103 W. Maxwell St. 252-4933
Kentucky Theater, 214 E. Main St. 254-6010
Brett Johnson Gallery, 144 Harrison Ave. 255-2124
Movieola, 1759 Alexandria Dr. 278-1451
Reflections in Hair Design, 835 Winchester Rd. 255-3325
- * Fur'N Feathers, 2909 Richmond Rd. 266-0226
Flowers By Don, 200 Southland Dr. 278-0555
- * Mark Cross Productions, PO Box 25601, Lex. Ky. 40524

* Ask about DISCOUNTS for GSO Members!!

ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME

*What you know about it
may save your life.*

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF AIDS?

Many of the AIDS symptoms are subtle and may only indicate simple, everyday ailments; therefore, you should be alerted but not alarmed if you have one or more of the following symptoms:

- Weight loss of more than ten pounds during a period of less than two months that is not related to diet or increased activity; prolonged loss of appetite
- Unexplained, persistent or recurrent fevers or night sweats
- Swollen glands (lymph nodes found in the neck, armpits, and groin) which persist and are unexplained by other illness
- Profound fatigue that is not transient or explainable by physical activity, substance abuse, or a psychological disorder
- Persistent and unexplained diarrhea or bloody stools
- A persistent, whitish coating (or spotting) on the tongue or in the throat which may be accompanied by soreness or difficulty in swallowing
- A heavy, persistent, dry cough that is not due to smoking and has lasted too long to be explained by a cold or flu
- Easy bruising or unexplained bleeding from any orifice
- Skin rashes or discolorations of the skin
- Blurred vision and/or persistent, severe headaches.

Kaposi's sarcoma patients may have any of the above symptoms and/or might develop slowly enlarging purplish or discolored nodules, plaques, lumps, or other new growths on top of or beneath the skin or on the mucous membranes (inside the mouth, nasal passages, anus, or underneath the eyelids). These lesions do not disappear and may get larger, and cannot be attributed to explanations such as bruises, blood blisters, insect bites, or pimples.



BEING GAY IS MORE THAN A PREFERENCE

From "Pieces of Eight" by Sydney J. Harris.

Penmanship is the only skill I can perform with my right hand. For everything else--cutting, throwing a ball, dealing cards, swinging a tennis racquet--I use my left hand. That is just the way I am.

It is not a preference of mine. In fact, this anomaly is often uncomfortable in a right-handed world. But there is nothing I can do about it, and I must conform to the world more than it caters to me.

I mention these dull facts by way of drawing an analogy with the current controversy about homosexual rights. There has lately been, as we know, an intense backlash in many cities relating to the rights of homosexuals to teach and engage in other public activities.

What has happened, I think, is that the gay liberation movement and its affiliates have begun to claim too much for their anomaly. They are right in insisting that their condition is neither a vice nor an illness. But they are wrong, in my opinion, in designating it as merely a "sexual preference."

Homosexuality, in almost all cases, is no more a matter of sexual preference than my left-handedness is a matter of manual preference. I have little choice in the matter, and they have little choice. Ours is a condition or a state, not a preference.

People who would punish or penalize them for this condition have no more justification than to punish me for left-handedness. Society has a high and severe obligation to assure all minorities--whether they be racial, religious, sexual, manual, or what have you--all their rights as human beings.

Beyond this, there is little we can do to eliminate the disadvantages of "lefts" in a largely right-handed world. I have as much right to play the violin as the next man, but on the other hand (to make a bad pun), a symphony orchestra would scarcely hire me to play in the violin section. My handedness is a disability in a manually dexterous society, and I must live with it.

Certainly, in my view, gays are no more "immoral" nor "sicker" than anyone else simply by virtue of their condition; but just as certainly, their condition is bound to have specific disadvantages in a heterosexual society. They should demand, and receive, equal treatment; but equal treatment, after all, does not mean identical treatment.

If we opt to be different, or even if we can't help it, we have to pay the price of that difference; and part of that price is to be looked upon slightly askance by the others. Since it costs a premium to declare and live by a difference, it becomes even more important that moralities of any kind be protected from added discrimination.

The following poem appeared in the December 1979 Gayzette (the GSO Newsletter in a prior incarnation). It was written by Joe Lincoln.

Only three hours to be ready before
I have to go out.
Hope I can make it in time.
My nails are clipped, I've shaved,
my beard is trimmed.
Oh, God, didn't I use the last of
the conditioner this morning!
No, I think there's enough left.
Let's see, guess I'll get my shower. . .
maybe think of what I'm going to wear
while I'm in there.
This humidity! My hair will never
dry. . . well, what's left of it
anyway.
At least I did the laundry this
week.
Should I go butch or queen or butch/
queen?
Are these jeans too tight?
Impossible.
Probably not tight enough.
Hmmm. If I wear this shirt, it will
make me look tanner. I need all
the help I can get.
Which earring? The sapphire should
do.
How in the hell do you fold this
handkerchief anyway? That's not
right; it looks like I've got a
sheet stuffed back there.
There, that's better.
Where did I put that necklace?
Right in front of me.
If it had been Anita, it would have
prayed for me.
Cigarettes, lighter, bracelet, keys,
wallet, rings, change, watch,
comb, sunglasses.
Don't tell me I'm ready.
God, I hate going to the grocery.

JULY 1984

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 GSD Potluck 1:30pm, Castleton Park (231-0100). Imperial Court Closet Ball. 4:00 Gay Al-Anon.</p>	<p>2 GSD Business meeting, 8:00pm Comp Care Center. Call 299-0352.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 8:00 Gay AA Room 186 St. Joseph's Hospital. Independence Day.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 Cards and Games. Call 231-0100 for time and place.</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 4:00 Gay Al-Anon Rm 186, St. Joe</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 8:00 Gay AA Room 186 St. Joseph's Hospital.</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 6:30 Volleyball and Potluck in Jacobson Park, Shelter #5. Call 231-0100</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 Tentative date for GSD Pool Party. Call 299-0352. 4:00 Gay Al-Anon Rm 186, St. Joe</p>	<p>16 Last day to submit items to appear in August Newsletter.</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 8:00 Gay AA Room 186, St. Joseph's Hospital 7:30 Dignity program/meeting. Call 266-2046.</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 Cards and Games. Call 231-0100 for time and place.</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 4:00 Gay Al-Anon Rm 186, St. Joe</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 8:00 Gay AA Room 186 St. Joseph's Hospital. Happy Birthday to Jim H.</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 6:30 Volleyball and Potluck in Jacobson Park, Shelter #5. Call 231-0100</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 Tentative date for Field trip to Natural Bridge. Come to the Business Meeting.</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				