

the Alliance bulletin

Newsletter of the North Shore
Gay and Lesbian Alliance

Number 1 February 27, 1981

WELCOME TO US ! ! ! !

This is the first issue of the new NSGLA newsletter, The Alliance Bulletin. We hope to publish a Bulletin about every six weeks. It will contain news, poems, reviews, features, advertisements, and the NSGLA program schedule. We eagerly solicit contributions from anyone. Please send your articles to The Bulletin, Box 806, Marblehead, MA 01945.

TOWN MEETING: MARCH 10

The First Annual Town Meeting of the North Shore Gay and Lesbian Alliance will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 1981, at 7:00 p.m. at Old Town Hall, Salem. This is the first general meeting of the Alliance in over two years. All members of the organization and other interested lesbians and gay men are strongly urged to attend.

The first hour of the meeting will be devoted to a review and evaluation of the Alliance's activities since its founding in November, 1978. The last part of the meeting will consist of a preview of possible goals and activities for NSGLA in the next 12 months. The Steering Committee has prepared a Tentative Agenda for discussion. That Agenda is outlined below. Participants in the Town Meeting will be asked to comment on these goals and programs and to offer suggestions of their own. To a large extent, the short-term future of your organization will be discussed and decided at this session. Please attend!

TENTATIVE AGENDA for 1981-82

- I. The Steering Committee proposes that the Alliance give serious attention to the following questions in the next year:
 1. In what ways should lesbians & gay men confront issues of violence in the community?
 2. How can we best begin to deal with racism in our own community?
 3. What are the connections between feminism and NSGLA?
 4. How can lesbians and gay men work better together?
 5. In what ways should NSGLA deal with issues of money and background that separate us?
 6. How can NSGLA reach out to gay men and lesbians of all ages?
 7. How can NSGLA address issues of lesbian and gay parents?
 8. To what extent should NSGLA be concerned with women's issues, such as reproductive rights and economic inequality?
 9. To what extent should NSGLA be concerned with men's issues, such as social expectations for macho images?
 10. How can we survive in an increasingly hostile political environment?
 11. Is alcoholism and addiction an issue with which NSGLA should be concerned?
 12. What types of social programs should NSGLA promote?
 13. What cultural activities and programs should NSGLA sponsor?

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TOWN MEETING (cont.)

14. To what extent should NSGLA reach out beyond the North Shore?
15. What should be the role of the Steering Committee?

II. In order to work effectively on these questions, the Steering Committee proposes that we plan meetings and activities on the following topics:

1. Abortion and reform of the U.S. Constitution
2. Rape
3. Violence
4. The family in the U.S.
5. Consciousness-raising groups on racism
6. Sex role stereotyping
7. A vigorous program of information programs, and personal contacts on alcoholism and addiction
8. Establishment of a Gay Community Center in Lynn
9. Dialogues with police and other city officials
10. Self-defense classes
11. Coalitions with other groups, such as:
 - a. Project RAP
 - b. Boston Anti-Racist Violence Committee
 - c. North Shore Community Action Board
 - d. North Shore Women's School
 - e. National Abortion Rights League
 - f. National Gay Task Force
12. Joint meetings with senior citizens
13. Guest speaker: Bob Wheatley (Unitarian-Universalist Caucus)
14. Program on gay and lesbian parents
15. Film programs
16. Lesbian and gay poets
17. Gay History Week repeat
18. Display of art by gay and lesbian artists
19. Gay theater group
20. CPR course
21. Volunteer clean-up hike at Forest River Conservation Area

TOWN MEETING (cont.)

22. Social events that would include:
 - a. Dances
 - b. Boat cruises
 - c. Whale-watching; deep-sea fishing
 - d. spring cocktail parties
 - e. canoeing, beach parties, hikes
 - f. North Shore day on the South Shore (Randolph C.C.)
 - g. raffle
 - h. bicycle trip
 - i. WGBH volunteering
 - j. Gay May Day

ANNOUNCEMENTS

--- Numerology Readings: Readings plus Natal Chart plus Projections for the year ahead. Fee: \$25 for 1 to 1 1/2 hour readings. \$15 for members of NSGLA (bring card). Sliding scale when absolutely necessary. Appointment only. Call Gloria, 745-9381 (evenings and weekend mornings).

--- Medical contacts in Boston:

Robert Tayler, M.D., M.P.H.
Ron Vachon, Physician Assistant
Liz Volz, Physician Assistant

1755 Beacon Street, Brookline
232-1459

--- BWMT (Black and White Men Together)

A new support group for gay men & their friends. For information: BWMT, 279 Collingwood, San Francisco, CA 94114.

--- Lesbian Mother's Support Group:

Meets every Thursday night, 8 - 10 p.m., Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge. Call: 354-8807.

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\$3M anti-gay drive in San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Calling San Francisco the "Sodom and Gomorrah" of the nation, a coalition of fundamentalist groups says it will spend \$3 million on a media campaign attacking homosexuals.

The coalition said it will buy advertisements to build anti-gay feeling in the community and attempt to persuade homosexuals to give up their life style.

"I agree with capital punishment, and I believe homosexuality is one of those that could be coupled with murder and other sins," said Dean Wycoff, a spokesman for the Santa Clara Moral Majority, one of the groups involved in the campaign.

Wycoff called San Francisco, where homosexuals are estimated at 15 percent of a population of 675,000, "the Sodom and Gomorrah of the United States and the armpit of this perverted movement."

The Rev. Charles McIlhenny of San Francisco's First Orthodox Presbyterian Church joined Wycoff in denouncing homosexuality, saying "according to the Scriptures, it is against the law."

"We want to minister to homosexuals and win them to Christ and stop their sinning," he said Monday in a television interview.

Homosexuals here have complained in recent months of an increase in violence against them, including beating by people gay activists refer to as "Homophobics," and some expressed concern that the planned crusade will heighten tensions.

"It certainly is a situation of grave concern," said Richard McQueen, editor of the gay newspaper *The Advocate*.

"It sounds like things could get pretty ugly," added the editor, who said the Moral Majority apparently had mailed leaflets to the newspaper's advertisers.

According to the Rev. Richard Zone, whose In God We Trust Inc. group is spearheading the campaign, some \$3 million will be spent, beginning with a mail and media blitz.

"We're going to march through this territory from one end to the other . . ." said Zone.

. . . just to let you know
what your friends are
up to . . .

The group has announced no legislative program, either to make homosexual acts illegal or to repeal existing anti-discrimination laws. But organizers say they will watch lawmakers in Sacramento for any legislation they feel favors homosexuals.

In nearby San Jose, a gay rights ordinance was removed from the books by a lopsided vote last November.

In Lynchburg, Va., a spokesman for Moral Majority Inc. denied knowledge of the San Francisco movement, but said the national organization, led by evangelist Jerry Falwell, is against protecting homosexuals as a minority group.

"We love homosexuals as persons," said Vice President Cal Thomas. "What we resist is the at-

tempt to incorporate their chosen lifestyle under the heading of a minority group."

Thomas said each chapter of the Moral Majority "sets its own agenda, raises its own funds and fights its own battles."

Another Moral Majority vice president, Dr. Ron Godwin, said the national organization might endorse the San Francisco campaign, but added, "I would like to know more details" about it.

San Francisco was picked for the drive, said Zone, because if the Moral Majority succeeds here, "that will change every major city in the country that has a problem."

But Harry Britt, a city supervisor who is an avowed homosexual, said, "If they think they have a chance in San Francisco, they don't know this town."

The Gay Rights Issue

The gay rights movement, from the days of Stonewall to the present, has been met with many tough challenges. Lesbian mothers have been humiliated through the court systems, as well as gay military personnel, and gay teachers have often been in the limelight. Our lost history is being uncovered somewhat, giving us a heritage with pride in those lesbians and gay men that lived before. And now, in 1981, we see the new right becoming more visible and clearly locating us, as well as other minority & special interest groups, as destructive to society.

Which leads us to some very important questions -- What are the important issues for the gay rights movement? What kind of action should we take? Will we be leading open lives as lesbians and gay men in fifteen years?

In this capitalist society, white male heterosexuals are at the top of the power structure. The new right is working very hard with an organized effort to protect this structure. Racism, sexism, and homophobia are some of the tactics used to carry this plan out. If oppressed people are kept divided and fighting among themselves, then the true oppressor goes unnoticed. In this light, if we are considering the politics and future of the gay rights issue in true seriousness, then we must gain an understanding of the systematic oppression in our lives. As an organized community, we must recognize that the exploitation of any group whether political, minority, or special interest, means the ultimate silencing of our own sisters and brothers.

Submitted by Chris Snow

TREASURER'S REPORT

Since taking over as treasurer, the following has been the status of the NSGLA treasury:

Balance, 1 November 1980	<u>\$690.00</u>
<u>Income</u>	
Memberships	<u>\$1175.00</u>
<u>Expenses</u>	
Mailings and stationery	\$130.00
Programs	\$180.00
Donations	\$50.00
Social events	\$70.00
Total	<u>\$430.00</u>
Balance, 20 February 1981	<u><u>\$1435.00</u></u>

COMING NSGLA PROGRAMS

March 10: Gay Town Meeting
 Old Town Hall, Salem

7:00: Coffee and cookies
 7:30: Retrospect: Looking back over two years
 8:30: Prospect: Looking forward to the next year

March 24: Gay and Lesbian Youth

Presented by Boston Area Gay and Lesbian Youth group.
 Madeline Abbot Hall, Grace Episcopal Church, 385 Essex St Salem; 7:30 p.m.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

We solicit your advertisements for the Bulletin. Rates are as follows:

Full page	\$40.00
Half page	\$20.00
Quarter page	\$10.00
Eighth page or less	\$5.00

We hope to cover the cost of the Bulletin by means of advertisements. Let us help you, as you help us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont. from p. 2)

--- North Shore International Women's Day Event:

A special day to "recognize both the accomplishments and struggles in their fight for full equality" will be held on Sunday, March 8 from 1 - 5 p.m. in Lynn. NSGLA is a sponsor of the day and will have a booth there. For further information, including location, call Chris Snow at 745-3457 or Marilyn Humphries at 744-9141.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Your Name _____

Mailing Address _____

ZIP!!! _____

In which town are you registered to vote? _____

Dues

Regular: \$20.00

Unemployed: \$10.00 or what you can

Household: \$30.00

Contribution for mailing: \$5.00