

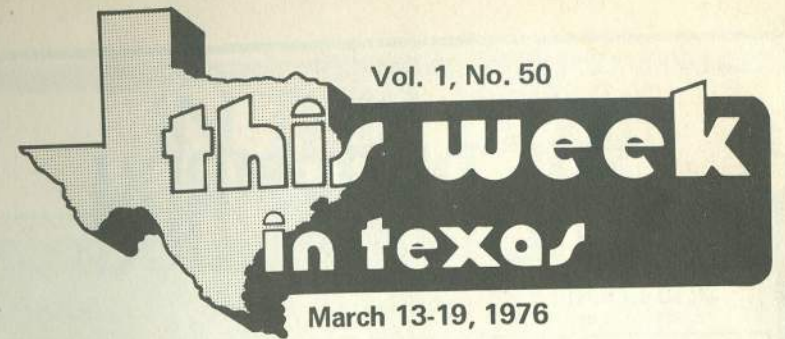
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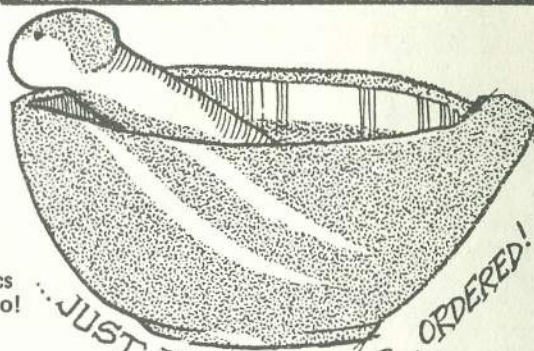


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IN THIS ISSUE



Above: a balcony view in the French Quarter of New Orleans as Torchy Lane and her slaves pass for review during Mardi Gras. The presentation was titled "Cleopatra Cometh" and was produced by Mary's and the Houston Motorcycle Club. On the front cover is Dan and Torchy showing their "Mardi Gras Grand Award" trophy. Photos by Algren. More information is on page 16.

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AROUND THE STATE THIS WEEK

Saturday, March 13, Dallas

Jugs grand opening. See ad in this issue. . . . Garage sale on parking lot of Terry's Ranch. Proceeds going to the Gay Hot Line of Dallas.

Saturday, March 13, San Antonio

Competition for Mr. and Ms. Sick Leprechan, Ms. Uncongeniality, Ms. Untalented, Ms. Unlikely to Succeed and Ms. Unpopular at the Sundown Saloon, 10pm. Comedy only.

Saturday, March 13, Houston

"Treasure Hunt" at the Metropolitan Community Church, 7:30pm.

Sunday, March 14, Ft. Worth

"Big David" will star at the Bailey Street Warehouse tonight. . . . The 500 Club is having guests from the Bayou Landing of Dallas at the Sunday Evening Show.

Sunday, March 14, Dallas

The Encore features a special drag show, "Dynamite" with Ivory Jo Turner, Alan Allyson, "The Lady" Vastai, Cheree', and Miss Gay Dallas 1974, Lisa Moya, at

10pm. \$1 cover. . . . Oldies but Goodies night (boogie) at T.J.'s. . . . Preliminaries for the finalist for Mr. Groovy Guy of Dallas Contest 1976 at the Sundance Kids, 9:30pm. . . . Garage sale on the parking lot of Terry's Ranch with proceeds going to the Gay Hot Line of Dallas.

Monday, March 15, Houston

V.D. health clinic at Studz News, noon-3pm.

Monday, March 15, Dallas

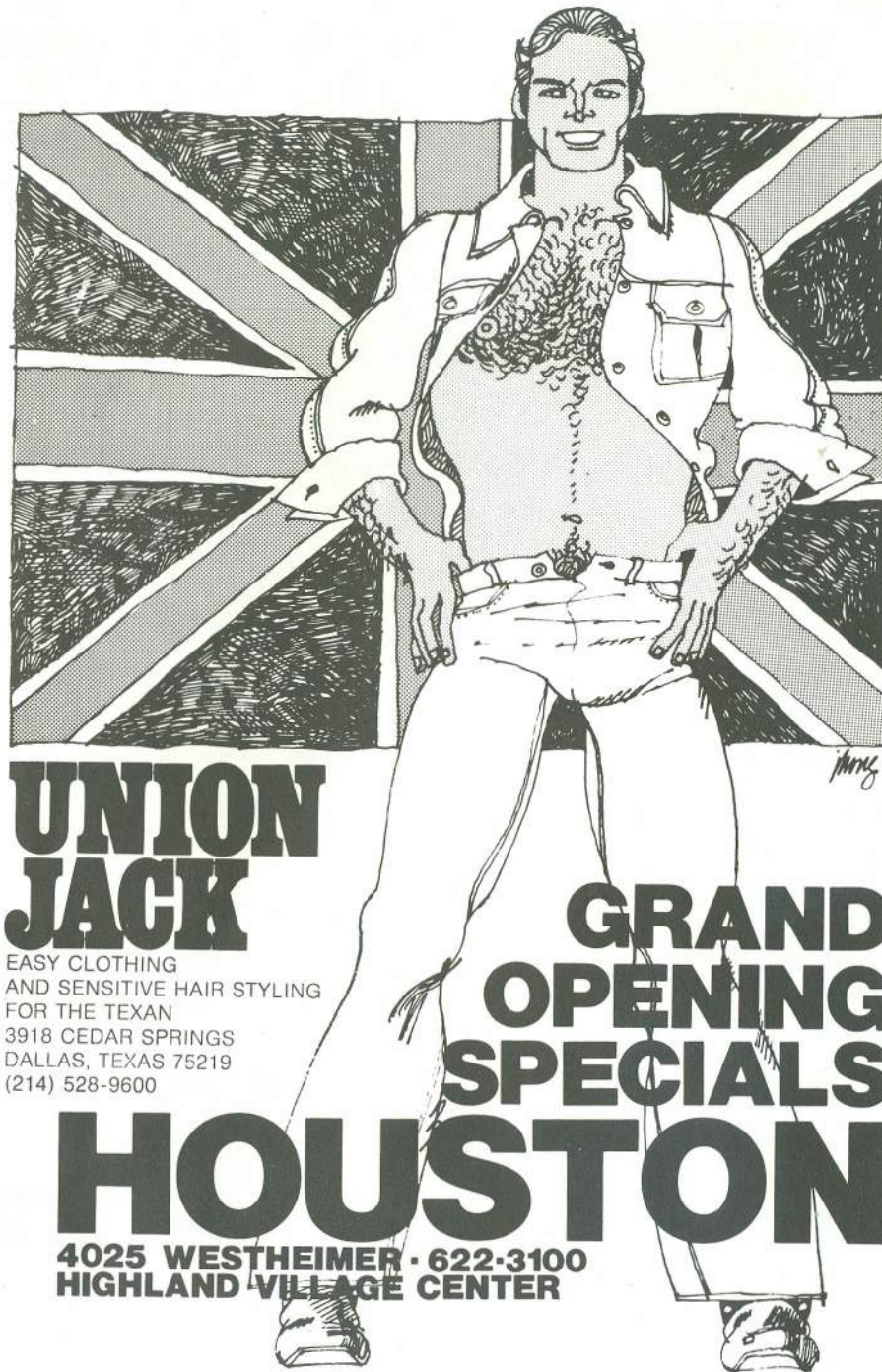
Terry's Ranch special slave auction, 10pm.

Tuesday, March 16, Galveston

Pinball tournament at the Fruit Jar, 10pm, with cash prize to the winner.

Tuesday, March 16, Ft. Worth

Bar owners in Ft. Worth and Dallas are hosting a benefit drag show at the Bailey Street Warehouse. \$2 cover. Proceeds will be divided between Dallas and Ft. Worth's M.C.C.



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HIGHLAND VILLAGE CENTER**

Wednesday, March 17, Houston

St. Patrick's Gay-La, 7:30pm, Metropolitan Community Church. Buffet, entertainment, and drawing for a raffle CB radio. . . . Half price drinks with club hats, club colors, or those wearing green, on the Locker's patio, 7pm-2am.

Wednesday, March 17, Galveston

St. Patrick's Day party at Mary's II, 8pm. Also celebrating Billy and Walter's 17th anniversary.

Wednesday, March 17, Dallas

Bill and Ray's 11th anniversary party with free mixed drinks and beer from 10pm to 11pm at the Villa Fontana. . . . St. Patrick's party at the Service Station. Call for more information. . . . St. Patrick's party at the Old Plantation. Call for more information. . . . Green draw beer for 25¢ at T.J.'s at 7pm. . . . Sundance Kids presents a Saint Patty's beer bust 9-11pm with free draft and 50¢ can beer. . . . The Ranch has 10¢ green draw beer from 8pm to 2am.

Thursday, March 18, Dallas

Miss Gay Dallas Contest at the Encore. Look for the ad in this issue. . . . Special St. Patrick's Party and drag show at 9:30pm at Chez Leslie.

Thursday, March 18, Houston

Free V.D. Health Clinic at Club Houston from 8-10pm.

Friday, March 19, Galveston

GCS benefit show at the Kon Tiki, 10:30pm. \$1 donation.

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SHOP**

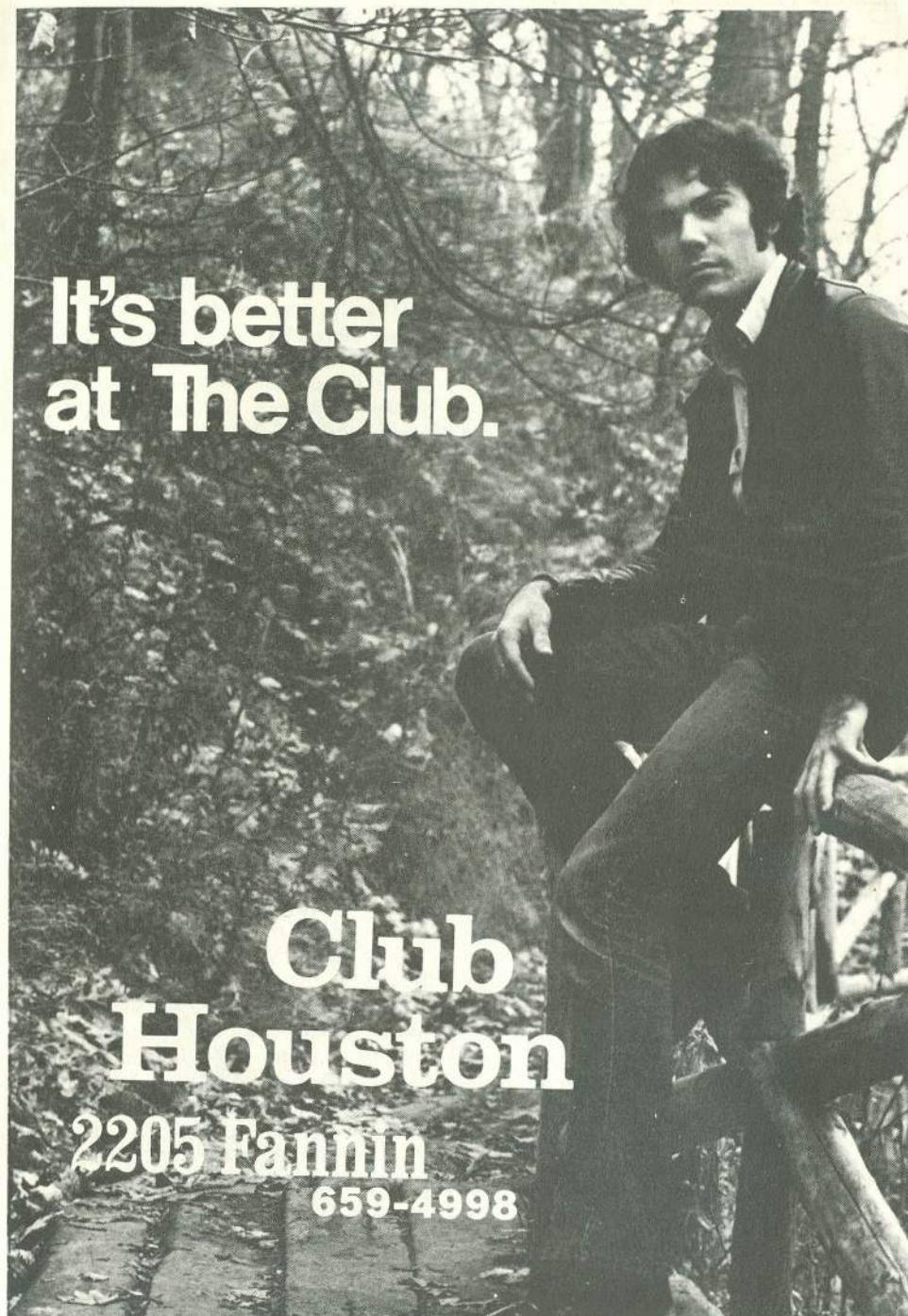
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Sampling Texas

Okay, don't go pooping out on me now! I know a lot of you are tired and exhausted from Mardi Gras — but you're just going to have to get over yourself. This is no time to slow down. This is the week of St. Patrick's Day and a lot of places have gone out of their way to make it a most festive occasion. Check the Around the State specials. You won't be sorry! Go, go, go.

Word from Ft. Worth is that the Regency is now closed. Whoever would have thought? Also in that town, you people should take quick notice that the deadline to enter the Miss Gay 500 Pageant is March 19. Let's get crackin'! Miss 500 will be sponsored in the Miss Gay Texas Pageant. Entry fee for the Miss 500 is \$5. Grab those handbags.

In Dallas, the Act III has now magically turned into the Crew's Inn II. Actually, the transition is not completed yet, but renovations to produce the new Crew's Inn II are well underway. In other Dallas notes, the Super Happy Hour at the Bon Soir is now featuring 2-for-1 from 3 to 7pm. While over at Mike's Things in Chelsea Square, a 1922 French bronze panther is among a recently arrived shipment of art deco pieces and antiques. Who'll be the first one to grab that jewel up?

And finally, there's a new number for the Gay Hot Line of Dallas. Get a pencil. It's (214) 748-6790. Got it?

There's a lot going on in Houston, so listen up. First, the Locker, famous for slave auctions, is going to have a "master" sale, next month. Don't know exactly how that's going to work, but I'm going. In chains.

Secondly, Mary's is moving to a new location, for the time being, anyway. Because of a ten-day closure of the bar by the Texas Alcohol Beverage Commis-

sion, the bar staff and atmosphere is moving over to 2400 Brazos. They'll have all the usual, plus the usual hours of 9am to 2am. (Moving day is March 15.)

Thirdly, and don't say we didn't tell you, "Cleopatra Cometh" walked away with all the awards worth winning at Mardi Gras, with the trophies now on display at Mary's (wherever Mary's is). Among those prizes is the much-coveted Bourbon Street Award. "Cleopatra Cometh" will be re-staged in Houston this month at Mary's. Don't miss it.

Fourthly, the Briar Patch has a new manager, Ralphie, and a new night bartender, Paul Taylor. Welcome aboard. Choo-choo!

Fifthly, there's been some remodeling at the Detour — and rumor has it the place is getting super-hot. There's a new patio with a wet bar — and a big bar-b-que on tap. Mmmmm-mmm good.

And Sixthly, the Filling Station now features a leather boutique called, appropriately enough, the Grease Rack. Also, the Filling Station now has after-hours, from 2 to 4am with coffee and donut holes. (What?) Donut holes, dummy. They're to eat.

And that's your number lesson for the day.

Finally, This Week in Texas joins hundreds of fans and friends in expressing sincere regret concerning the death of Gilbert M. Callis. Gilbert, the owner of the El Jardin in San Antonio, used to play the organ at the old Majestic Theater during the vaudeville days. He also appeared as a chorus boy during the only personal appearance tour and show by Mae West in San Antonio. His sparkling wit and performance will be missed by the El Jardin crowd.

All for now.

TRAVIS



CREWS INN



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SPECIAL

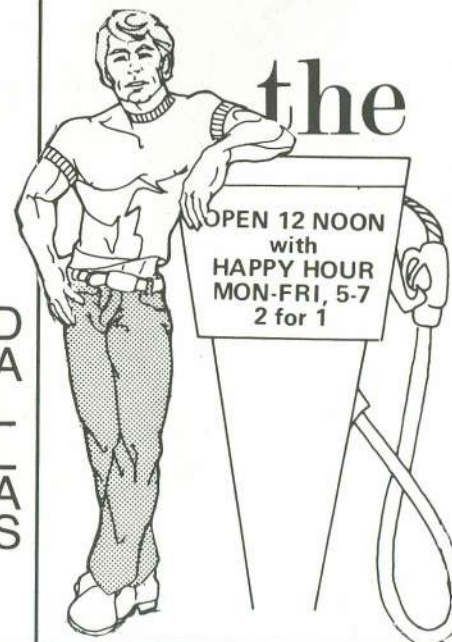
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DOUBLES POOL TOURNAMENT — 7:30 — WEDNESDAY

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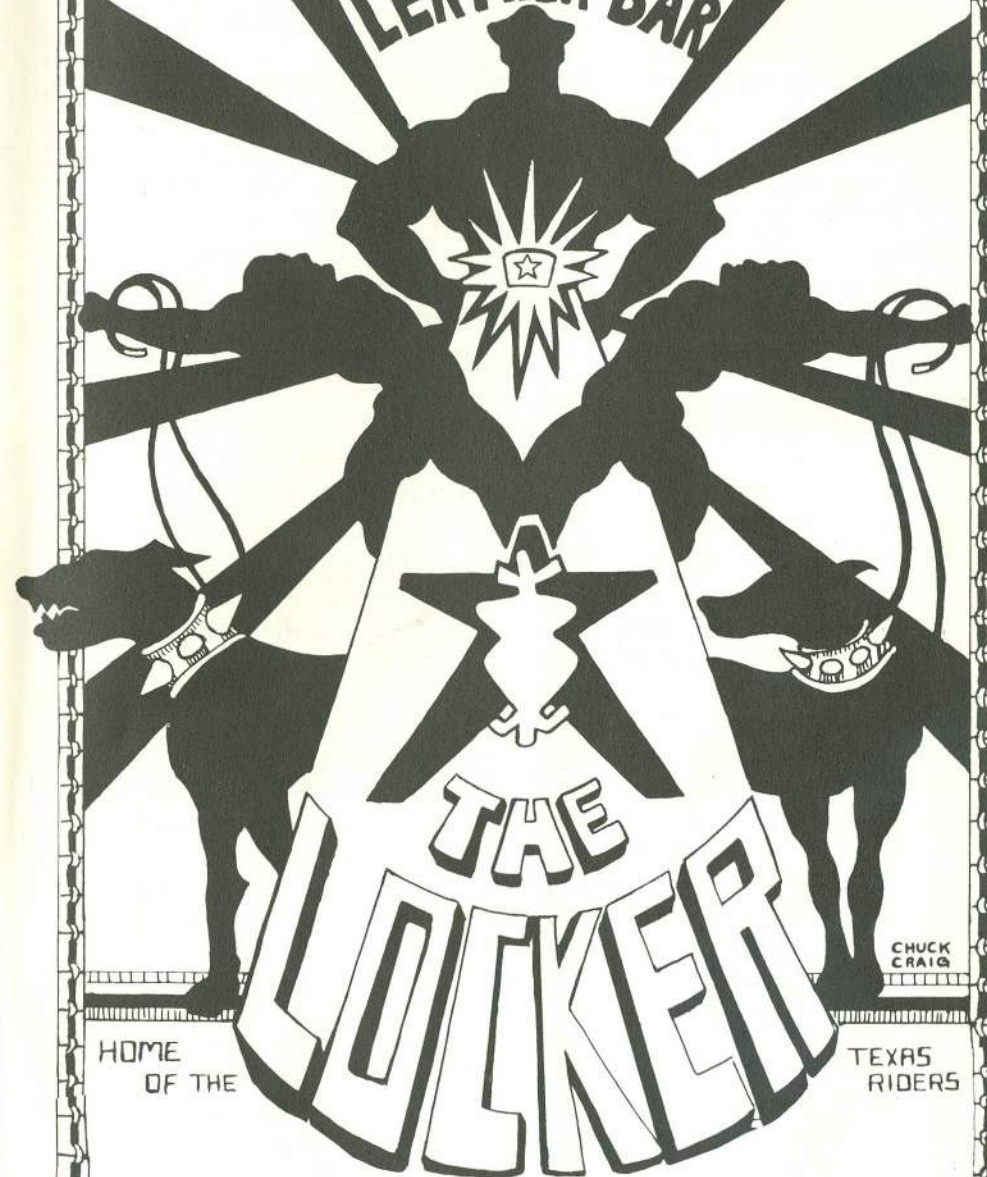
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Fifty cent Beer Mondays. Movies every Tuesday. Free beer
bust every Sunday 7pm. Wednesday is color and hat night.

Life With Vera

a serial by John Gardner

Shrouded in dread, Burt knocked on the door to his parent's hotel room. A muffled voice from inside indicated that it was okay for him to enter. He turned the knob. And walked in.

The smell was the first surprise. Even before Burt noticed that his mother was sitting on the floor playing with a tray of hamburgers delivered by room service, he noticed the smell. And even before he noticed that his father was watching "The Waltons" on TV — from the back of the set, he noticed the smell. That smell? What the hell was that smell?

Marijuana! Damn! That's Marijuana!! (Even in a crisis, the lightening quick preceptions and superior intelligence of our hero shows through.) "My parents have been smokin' dope," Burt shrewdly reasoned. And just by the smell, Burt knew his parents had not only been smoking marijuana, but they had been smoking "good" marijuana . . . the kind that rolls itself, is grown only on the sides of active volcanos — and cost the lives of five men to pick.

"Mom? Mom?" Burt asked with uncertainty.

"Don't talk so loud, Sonny," his mother replied. "Can't you see that I'm busy. Been tryin' to balance this damned onion ring on the end of my finger all night. An' you come bustin' in

here, shoutin' n' raisin' hell. Shame, Burt. For shame."

It was obvious, even to Burt, that his mother was certainly not in any state of mind to talk to intelligently. Not that she had ever been any kind of whiz kid, but until tonight Burt had never thought of his mother as the kind to fret over balancing onion rings. Maybe Dad knew what-the-hell was going on.

"Can I talk to you, Dad?" Burt inquired.

"Sure Son, what is it?" his dad replied, sounding a lot like Ward Cleaver, except stoned.

"Has mom been smoking grass?"

"Yep, I think she has. And quite a lot of it, too. Every time I'd pass the joint, she was always there to take it. In fact, if I recall, she was always there waitin' with puckered lips — even when I wasn't ready to pass it. Yeah, she's stoned. Can't even balance that onion ring, and she's been tryin' all night."

"I don't believe it! How could you! My Mom and my Pop, sitting around stark stoned. You've always said that if . . ."

"Oh, cool down, turkey!" Burt's father injected. "Think you're the only one that's allowed to have any fun. I'm going to tell you something now — something important — and I want you to remember it, okay?"

"Sure Dad," Burt responded, sound-



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ing for the world like Ricky Nelson answering Ozzie.

"Son, I want you to take my advice. Father to son. Here it is: Don't ever take off the back of a TV set without unplugging it first."

"Is that all?" Burt asked.

"I think that pretty much sums it up." Dad reasoned.

"Well, that's good dad, real good," Burt acknowledged. Or pretended to acknowledge. "Dad?"

"Yes, Burt?"

"Did mom say anything about anything she might have seen anywhere tonight?" Burt asked fearfully.

"No, can't say that she did. She said she went by your apartment tonight."

"And?" said Burt, fearing the worst.

"That's all. Just came by. Oh, there was one other thing. The poor woman said she'd had too much to smoke because she had this hallucination that she saw you dressed up liked Judy Garland."

"What did you tell her, dad?"

"Well, I took her in my arms. She was cryin', and I said, 'Martha, honey, you gonna have to lay off the weed for awhile. It'd done broke some of the spokes in the windmill of your mind.'"

"And what did she say?"

"What else could she say. She knew I was right. So we decided that we wouldn't smoke any more dope. Until supertime. We ate supper at 3:30 this afternoon. And hamburgers since then. 'Course your mother isn't eating her burgers — said she'd rather just play with them. They last longer that way. Right, son?"

"Right, Dad."

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Cleopatra Captures Carnival

by Ron Wells, Houston Motorcycle Club

Elizabeth Taylor chose to travel by barge, but Houston's own Cleopatra, Torchy Lane, turned Bourbon Street into the Nile in one of the most spectacular processions ever to be witnessed in New Orleans.

Her entourage consisted of 90 costumed attendants preceding her as she was carried on a black and gold lift moving toward the judging stand in front of Lafitte's.

The group began with the gold-hooded gods of Egypt, followed by Mary's own Jim Farmer elaborately costumed as the High Priest of Egypt.

Behind him were musicians, dancers and maidens throwing flowers.

Cleopatra's offering to the judges was a human sacrifice . . . a hunky dude whose body glistened in silver. He was of course carried on a silver tray by six slaves as he fed grapes to the crowd.

Mark Anthony came next, followed by Cleopatra herself!

Thousands of New Orleans visitors begged for pictures of the

magnificent headdress, gown and the goddess of Egypt. Words cannot describe the splendor and beauty of it all.

Costumes will be seen again in Houston at Mary's Lounge on March 26. (Check in a week or two here in This Week in Texas for late information about which location of Mary's.)

There were many months of work and money by all involved but it paid off greatly in being awarded five trophies: first prize group, second prize original female costume, third prize original female costume, first place group participation award from the Knights of New Orleans, and the Mardi Gras Grand Award.

There were film crews from some leading news organizations (including CBS) that caught Cleopatra and her group for their audiences.

Among those individuals responsible for making the event a success were Jim Farmer and the staff of Mary's Lounge, the Houston Motorcycle Club, and (most of all) Tom Liddell.

Shhh . . .

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1972 MISS GAY DALLAS
Cindy Birdsong

1974 MISS GAY DALLAS
Lisa Moya

1976 MISS GAY METROPLEX
Ereka Lane



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March 18 at 9:30pm
\$2.50 admission
\$10.00 entry fee

APPLICATION

stage name

given name

address

age telephone zodiac sign

talent consists of (song, artist, etc.)

choice of numbers

Signature, agreeing to abide by all rules of the
Miss Gay Dallas Pageant and all rules set up
by the Miss Gay Dallas Pageant Committee.

QUESTIONNAIRE

stage name

age height weight hair eyes

list any titles you now hold

hobbies

Complete Pageant Application and return to
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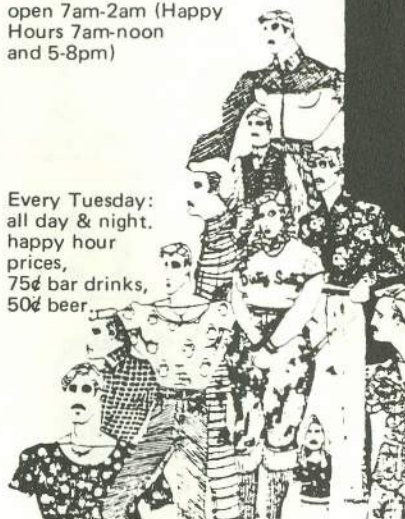
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MARCH SCHEDULE

- Sunday Worship — 11am & 7:30pm
- Mondays — Lambda AA & Transactional Analysis, 8pm
- Tuesdays — Bible Study & Holy Communion, 7:30pm
- Wednesdays — Gay Political Caucus*, 7:30pm
- Thursdays — Integrity/Houston*, 7:15pm
- Fridays — Lenten Services, 7:30pm
- Saturday, March 13 — "Treasure Hunt," 7:30pm
- Wednesday, March 17 — St. Patrick's Gay-La, buffet, entertainment, drawing for raffle (citizens band radio), 7:30pm
- Saturday, March 20 — Movie Night, "My Little Chickadee" starring W.C. Fields & Mae West, 7:30pm. Adm. \$1.25
- Saturday, March 27 — Potluck Supper & Gestalt Workshop, 7:30pm
- Sunday, March 28 — Special Movie, "Gospel Road," starring Johnny Cash & June Carter, 7:30pm

*meets at but is not affiliated with M.C.C.R.



The Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection

1214 Joe Annie † P.O. Box 13731 † Houston, Texas 77019
Sunday Services 11am & 7:30pm † Rev. Robert M. Falls, Pastor
Phone (713) 526-8233



this week
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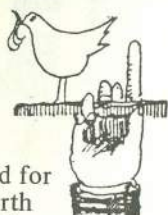
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