

LAMBDA

The Carolina Gay & Lesbian Association Newsletter

Volume 15, Number 3

March 1989

The Carolina Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Association??

Should the Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association become the Carolina Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Association? The question has come up at recent Management Board meetings. According to our By-laws, a name change would have to be approved by a majority at a Management Board meeting, then at two open membership meetings, and finally by the Student Congress. We're using this issue of LAMBDA to open a discussion on the subject; check the Lesbian and Gay Awareness Week schedule for discussions on Bisexuality. If there's continuing interest in a name change, we'll schedule votes for meetings in the fall semester.

Anti-CGLBA

Since 1972 CGLA has been the voice of Lesbians and Gay men on the UNC campus. Often CGLA has been the only voice which seeks to defend us from the discrimination we face as Gay men and women. Throughout our history many, many bisexuals have been active members who have both contributed to the goals of CGLA and received support from the organization. I believe that all of CGLA's membership and services should continue to involve bisexuals. However, I think CGLA's name should continue to reflect the fact that we exist to support students involved in Lesbian and Gay life and relationships.

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PRO-CGLBA

Should UNC-CH join the growing number of universities (such as UC-Berkeley and UM-Amherst) whose gay and lesbian organizations include "Bisexual" in their names? By changing the Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association to the Carolina Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Association, we would benefit not only those individuals who see themselves as Bisexuals, but the organization as well.

The addition of the word "Bisexual" would make the organization more inclusive: it would welcome more people, rather than leaving those who

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CGLA--Get With It!!

Hello. This is Keely, CGLA Publicity Chair, and Liz, CGLA Co-chair. We are very glad that you are reading this issue of LAMBDA. We'd like to take this opportunity to address the topic of membership involvement. Now, some things have gone very well this year: LAMBDA readership is up, CGLA membership is constant, the Romanovsky and Phillips concert and the Halloween Dance were both very successful, drawing big crowds. We are pleased about these things. But attendance at the General Body meetings and other dances is down, and at the Lesbian lunches is irregular. We'd like to know why some things are working really well and others aren't.

Thus, we are trying to open the lines of communication between readers and staff in the form of this questionnaire. Since you are reading LAMBDA, please take the time to fill out this questionnaire, so we can find new ways to serve you. Questionnaires can be dropped by the CGLA office--216B Student Union--or sent to us via campus mail. This is your organization--use it!!

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Get With It!!

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The Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association is an "officially recognized, semi-independent" student organization at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The CGLA is funded by the democratic vote of the Student Congress and through CGLA fundraising activities.

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We welcome your comments, criticisms, and information. If you would like to be part of the staff, call the CGLA office; if no Lambda staff member is available, then we'll return your call.

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1) What types of events interest you most?
a) Social (Lesbian lunches, dances, etc.)

b) Informational (Films such as The Sharon Kowlaski Story, The Life and Times of Harvey Milk, etc.)

c) Discussion (Gay politicians, Coming out to parents, etc.)

d) CGLA membership meetings

e) Other _____

2) How do you find out about CGLA events?

a) LAMBDA

b) Fliers

c) The CGLA office or answering machine

d) Word of mouth

e) Other _____

f) I don't--but I'd like to

3) Do you have any suggestions on how we can publicize events better?

4) What would you like to see us do that isn't now being done?

5) Do you plan to attend some Lesbian/Gay Awareness Week events (2nd week in April)? _____

6) Do you plan on taking part in the upcoming officers' elections? _____

7) Would you like to be on the management board? _____

Thanks for taking the time to fill this out! We want to hear from you!

--Liz Stiles & Keely Kolmes

AIDS: THE WOMEN

Edited by Ines Rider & Patricia Ruppelt

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LAM275

CGLA FUNDED FOR '89-90

Student Congress voted 18-6 to approve \$2131 in funding for the Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association for the 1989-90 academic year. An effort to defund CGLA was defeated by a 19-5 vote before Congress approved the funding--all in about ten minutes.

This year's funding process stood in sharp contrast to last year's, when the legitimacy of CGLA's funding was called into question in a campus-wide referendum. This year, like last year, the majority of the Congress opted to decide the issue on the merits of the CGLA budget rather than on some students' sense of the merits of the organization (or on the merits of homosexuality).

The approved budget deviated slightly from the budget request CGLA submitted. CGLA requested \$1000 in speakers' fees but was allocated only \$750, the amount it had this year. Student Congress, however, allocated \$30 above the amount CGLA requested for outreach.

STATE'S GAY & LESBIAN GROUP RECEIVES STUDENT FUNDING

N.C. State's Lesbian and Gay Student Union became the second campus gay and lesbian organization in the state to receive funding from student fees when it was allocated \$400 by the Student Senate earlier this semester.

The move followed a 45 minute discussion on the merits of the bill--not the merits of the organization--and an unsuccessful attempt to cut the funding to \$200. The fees will help to support the group's newsletter and office expenses. Members of the LGSU say the process went smoothly and, except for a couple of negative letters to the editor of the school paper, elicited little homophobic reaction.

"You asked me in to dine, and now just talk
Of Hegel, Mozart, a Picasso nude.
Your learning's splendid, but it's ten o'clock
You've lots of food for thought, now where's the food?"
-Timothy Steele

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Marine Officer Recommended for Dishonorable Discharge for Friendship with Lesbian

A Marine Corps Board of Inquiry recommended on February 26 that Captain Judy M. Meade be discharged under less than honorable conditions because of her friendship with a South Carolina woman she knew to be a Lesbian. The board said the captain's relationship with the woman, which both women insisted had not been sexual, was conduct unbecoming a Marine officer. The Navy secretary will make a final decision on the case after another Marine board in Washington reviews the case.

Civil-liberties and Gay/Lesbian- rights advocates say the case against Meade is part of a "witch hunt" of Marines who are Lesbian or suspected of being Lesbian. The Naval Investigative Service began an investigation of Lesbianism at the Marine Corps Recruit Training Center at Parris Island, South Carolina, in September 1987. By the end of 1988, about 10% of the 120 female drill instructors at the recruit training center had been discharged or jailed for homosexual activities. Enlisted women in the Marine Corps are eight times more likely to be discharged for homosexuality than are enlisted men, said Sue Hyde of the Gay and Lesbian Task Force in Washington, DC.

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LGHP "Reduces Our Risks"

The AIDS Service Project of LGHP was recently awarded a \$35,000 grant from the state of North Carolina to do AIDS education in the Triangle Area. In addition to outreaches in gay bars and adult bookstores, LGHP will sponsor safe sex workshops for anyone requesting them. Readers interested in hosting a safe sex workshop can call LGHP at 286-4107.

Atlanta Hosts Lesbian Planning Conference

Pippa, Keely and I went to Atlanta a few weeks ago as representatives to the Southeastern Lesbian Agenda Conference. The conference is one of a series of regional conferences to plan for a National Conference which was held in Durham March 3-6. But that's not all--the meeting in Durham is yet another planning conference for a National Lesbian Conference to be held 8-18 months from now. The Atlanta meeting allowed lesbians from the southeastern states to meet each other, make organizational contacts, and enjoy Atlanta night life. Lyn Stoesen, president of Emory Lesbian and Gay Organization, should be praised for her work in hosting the conference.

Our main goal at the conference was to make decisions about the kind of national conference we wanted. The idea was conceived with the end of establishing a national lesbian voice. A conference, perhaps a permanent organization, may result which could articulate lesbian concerns. The conference could also be a show of lesbian unity and a lot of fun. Therefore we had to think of a fun place to have such an event. Some ideas were Chicago, St. Louis, New Orleans, and Atlanta. The two ideas were to have it either in the South (as a national show of support for our presumably downtrodden region) or in the middle of the country.

Another question addressed was who should come to the national conference. We agreed that special efforts would be made to reach minority, disabled, and economically disadvantaged lesbians.

Another feature of the Lesbian Agenda Conference is that it will be a lesbian-only event. This is a little hard for me to accept since I was raised in a decade (the '70s) when inclusion was the goal. Inclusion wasn't always perfect in practice, since it tended to assume conformity with middle-class, white, heterosexual-acting males. Nevertheless I accepted inclusion as a challenge to respect individual differences and to learn from them.

Now, 10% of the population is gay or lesbian and if we assume that 51% of that 10% are lesbian, then lesbians account for 5.1% of the population. Maybe a national conference should only target a small percentage of the population in order to keep it within a controllable scope. If we want our conference to be weak enough to be easily controlled, then excluding 95% of the population is logical. But we

should dispense with the rhetoric of empowerment and diversity and admit that we're a small group which chooses not to relate to the rest of the population.

I am committed to making a strong lesbian community within the reality of a diverse population. Our differences can either isolate us as a subgroup or strengthen us as part of a larger group. A conference dedicated to lesbian issues is a praiseworthy goal. But a conference which excludes most people blocks our strength.

--Liz Stiles

Alan Berman, Attorney at Law

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 - . Virginia Apuzzo - Vice Chair NY State AIDS Advisory Council
 - . Vic Basile - Executive Director, Human Rights Campaign Fund
 - . Jeff Levi - Executive Director, National Gay & Lesbian Task Force
 - . Tim Mains - An openly gay elected official from Rochester, New York.
 - . Renee McCoy - Executive Director, National Coalition Black Lesbians & Gays
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AIDS UPDATE

Transmission: There is some evidence that oral sex between men may be slightly less liable to transmit the HIV virus than oral or vaginal intercourse between men and women or anal sex between any set of partners. The general rule is that the receptive partner has a slightly lowered risk of infection.

However, health professionals stress that slightly lowered risk does not imply any reliable degree of safety. The safest sex is always with a condom. There is no conclusive evidence that unprotected oral sex is "safe"--open sores or cuts in the mouth are particular dangers. Since there is often no pain from such sores as slight scratches from toothbrushes, such sores are easily overlooked.

Take a "better safe than sorry" attitude!! Transferring emotional trust to risky sexual practices is dangerous! Just because your partner is a very nice person who has been in close, loving, monogamous relationships does not mean that she or he has not been exposed, perhaps unknowingly. Anxiety-free sex is much more enjoyable in any case.

Condoms: Condoms can be purchased at most drugstores, usually in those ugly, het-oriented packages. There are some commercially-available brands that are a little less offensive (my favorite package is a slate blue one with little black polka dots), but the package is relatively unimportant. The important things are: that the condom have no holes, that it have very low permeability, that it be strong and stretchy, and that it have a reservoir tip to keep it from bursting under stress.

There is a correct way to put on a condom, and a correct way to take it off. Pinch the air out of the reservoir tip, roll the condom all the way on, and hold onto the condom during withdrawal to prevent it from slipping off. If you need more graphic details, come by or call our office. Never use oil- or petroleum-based lubricants--these damage the rubber--and be aware that natural lamb condoms are more permeable--and thus less effective against HIV transmission--than are rubber condoms. Change condoms if switching from oral to anal to vaginal intercourse (or any combination thereof).

Free condoms are available from the Orange County Health Department's "Family Planning" (sorry) clinic on Wednesdays. Call their Carr Mill Mall

office to make an appointment. You will be poked and prodded and asked to fill out forms in triplicate. If you're willing to pay a small price to maintain your privacy and/or dignity, or just save some time, condoms are easily available at drug stores, the Student Stores, and Student Health.

HIV Testing: Confidential HIV tests, which determine whether you've been exposed to the virus, are available at the Orange County Health Department and at Student Health. Getting the test done and waiting for (and receiving) results can be stressful--we advise that you line up some friends for moral support, or if you're concerned about your privacy, you might want to contact CGLA. Do not allow fear to dissuade you from getting the test done if you feel you may have been exposed to the virus! The last thing anyone wants to do is infect a loved one.

At-risk populations: The World Health Organization reports that new cases are down in some major gay communities and up among minority drug users. Treating the drug addiction problem is thus central to fighting AIDS. Kenneth Mann of WHO advocates a "neutral, multi-lateral, non-political" and culture-sensitive worldwide approach to the AIDS epidemic, including worldwide cooperation in upholding anti-discriminatory laws.

Research: Researchers at Johns Hopkins have found a protein that may trigger dormant HIV into activity. A blocker to this protein would not prevent HIV transmission, but it could partially suppress the development of AIDS.

Researchers have found that HIV replication may be enhanced by the presence of an anti-malarial drug called Chloroquine. These tentative results could affect AIDS strategies in areas where malaria is frequent.

A Swedish drug, FLT, may be as much as five times as effective as AZT in keeping the AIDS virus from spreading to new cells. FLT may cause slight damage to bone marrow. FLT has not yet been approved by the FDA.

Other sources of information: LAMBDA tries to keep you up to date, but since we're a quarterly publication with limited space, we can not guarantee that we can supply you with all the information you need--don't let your AIDS education stop here! More information can be obtained through Student Health, the Sexuality Hotline, the Lesbian and Gay Health Project in Durham (see ad, this issue), and the CGLA office.

--C.E.

KOWALSKI VISITS THOMPSON

It was not Karen Thompson's face but the sound of her voice that jogged Sharon Kowalski's memory when the two women were allowed to see each other for the first time in more than three years.

Thompson, who has been fighting a nationally publicized legal battle to get proper care for her severely disabled lover, visited Kowalski in an open lounge at the Miller Dwan Medical Center in Duluth, accompanied by Kowalski's psychologist as her court-mandated escort. For the past three and a half years, Thompson has been legally barred from visiting Kowalski because of a court-order won by Kowalski's father, Donald, who denies his daughter is Lesbian.

"I walked up to her, I don't think she-I have curly hair now and it wasn't before, I had on glasses and I used to always wear contacts--but as soon as she heard my voice, her eyes, they really did light up."

Thompson said Kowalski's eyes filled with tears and she started moving her mouth. "I don't know if she was trying to made words or just getting ready to cry," Thompson recalled. "Nothing came out. She just kept watching me, then I cried."

The emotional reunion was a major victory for Thompson, who has changed not just physically but politically since 1983 when a drunk driver plowed into the car Kowalski was driving and left her severely disabled. Prior to the accident, Thompson and Kowalski bought a house together and lived as a "very closeted" couple, according to Thompson.

Since they have seen each other again, Thompson has told Kowalski that she has become a Lesbian activist, traveling the country and speaking about the need for Gay couples to secure some kind of legal protection for their relationships. She has not told Kowalski about her father preventing Thompson from visiting her in a nursing home these past three years.

After Sharon's accident, Donald Kowalski had her placed in a nursing home, which did not provide rehabilitation therapy, and forbade Thompson or any of Sharon's friends from visiting her there. Thompson's present caution in raising the subject comes from the knowledge that after 60 days in the rehabilitation unit of Miller Dwan, Kowalski will be re-evaluated to determine whether she can make decisions for herself about where

to live and who can visit her. "My goal is to bring Sharon home if that's what Sharon wants," said Thompson. In late December, a Minnesota court issued a temporary order to have Kowalski undergo therapy and be able to decide who can visit her.

Thompson said that Kowalski's short-term memory has been damaged and that each time she leaves Kowalski's side and returns, Kowalski takes a while to recognize her again. The lack of rehabilitation therapy, said Thompson, a physical education teacher at the state university, has taken a harsh physical toll on Kowalski. She said Kowalski's left leg was so badly contracted that she feels "there's no way she'll ever stand again."

Thompson says that she can currently visit Kowalski as much as she and Kowalski want. "She wants to hold my hand the entire time," Thompson said after several visits. Although visiting hours were over at 8:30 on the evening of her first visit, she stayed with Kowalski until 10 because "she wouldn't let me go--she got scared I wasn't coming back."

--Adapted from *The Washington Blade*
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Anti-CGLBA

continued from page 1

Lesbians and Gay men are constant victims of discrimination from our society. Many employers, including our own federal government, can refuse to hire us because of our sexual orientation. We are often physically and verbally threatened because we are Gay--in 1988, North Carolina reported more instances of anti-Gay violence than any other state in the US. Because we are Gay, we cannot adopt children, buy joint life insurance with our partner, or receive other benefits given to heterosexual couples.

As Gay people, this discrimination will follow us the rest of our lives (unless we have a revolution, which, unfortunately, looks unlikely). This is what makes us very different from bisexual people. Bisexuals can be discriminated against because they are participating in Gay relationships or in the Gay life, but bisexuals have the option to become involved in a heterosexual relationship and suddenly all this discrimination vanishes. At any time, a bisexual can say, "I can't take all this hatred and discrimination any more. I want to have a heterosexual relationship. I want to get married and make my grandparents happy, have 2.35 children and live a normal married life." A friend of mine said the other day that all the bisexuals he knew in college are now married. Lesbians and Gay men will never be able to pass for heterosexual and avoid discrimination. I will never be able to walk down the street holding hands with my lover without being harassed. It is because of this discrimination against Gay people that CGLA exists.

I am very proud of the role CGLA has played and will continue to play here at UNC. I think that our single most important function is to make Lesbians and Gay men visible. I will never forget that as a first year student I was able to see what other Gay people look like--that they were not ugly losers, but smart, funny and damn cute. Adding bisexual to our name would weaken that message. We would no longer be the queers of Carolina. We could, possibly, have two co-chairs who were involved in heterosexual relationships. That would present a very different face to the UNC campus.

I'm sure bisexual students have their own set of problems I know nothing about. There are plenty of ways to address these problems other than adding "bisexual" to the name of an organization formed for the support of Lesbian and Gay students. Lesbians and

Gays have won the rights and support we have now because of hard work. If bisexuals are really in need of support, why don't they do something about it? A panel on bisexuality at Awareness Week (join our Awareness Week Committee--all applicants accepted), discussions at meetings, and perhaps separate meetings of bisexuals (akin to the now-famous Lesbian Lunch)(perhaps a Bisexuality Breakfast???) come to my mind immediately. Last year, a man came to CGLA who said he and several bisexual friends wanted to start a regular meeting/support group. We offered him the use of our name for reserving meeting rooms and some assistance with advertising costs. Unfortunately he never came back. However, I think that an individual with similar, but more persistent, initiative would again receive the support of CGLA.

Adding bisexual to our name would mean that as an organization we would work to address the specific needs of bisexual students. I love my bisexual friends dearly, but I have no desire to fight for their rights to have heterosexual relationships. The support that bisexual students seek and receive from CGLA is needed because those students are involved in or are seeking homosexual relationships. We should remain the Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association and continue to work to make UNC a better place.

--Pippa Holloway

NEW ORGANIZATION FOR EDUCATORS CONCERNED WITH GAY AND LESBIAN YOUTH

The Gay and Lesbian Equity in Academia Network (GLEAN), a leadership project for gay, lesbian, and bisexual youth, was launched in Washington DC late in 1988. The project will create a continuous national clearinghouse for the equity and access work being done by educators and other professionals, theorists, and groups on the community and national levels. The goal is to foster the sharing of information and experience in policy and service delivery regarding high school and college-aged youth who are or are perceived to be lesbian, gay, or bisexual. GLEAN will also maintain open lines of communication between leaders of the Gay and Lesbian movement, educational workers, and youth. For more information, contact: National Student Educational Fund/1012 14th St. NW, Suite 207/Washington DC 20005/ (202) 347-USSA.



Pro-CGLBA

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do not identify with the germs "Gay" or "Lesbian" out in the cold. There have been instances in which individuals did not feel comfortable coming to the CGLA because they didn't think they were "eligible." In fact, there are active Bisexuals in the CGLA--but they often keep quiet about their bisexuality in meetings. For a truly open atmosphere, Bisexuals must feel welcome. If the CGLA became the CGLBA, some feelings of exclusion would be eliminated.

Now, if more people felt comfortable about coming to the CGL(B)A office or beoming members, it could only help the organization. CGL(B)A would become much stronger--not only in terms of numbers, but perhaps even in terms of gaining more acceptance from those who aren't Gay/Lesbian. If one function of our organization is to serve as an information source for AIDS and homosexuality, the we can better serve our purpose if more people feel at ease approaching us. And if some of those people are--dare I say it--heterosexual--then we are doing a good job!

There is some concern about the possibility of having Bisexual spokespeople at outreaches and as cochairs--perhaps they will not represent us adequately or appropriately if they are dating someone of the opposite sex. But a Lesbian or gay man who isn't dating anyone at all is still lesbian or gay, and can still voice the concerns of our organization. CGLA asserts that its purpose is to provide information, support, and tolerance. It is not necessary to be gay or lesbian to promote these goals. And, in fact, both our membership and our offices are open to all. Even at present, there is nothing to prevent a straight person from being co-chair, and we have many straight members.

Ideally, our organization should welcome all, regardless of sexual orientation. If we are trying to eradicate unfair judgement on Gays and Lesbians, then we should also provide support and acceptance for Bisexuals. If we include Bisexuals by changing our name to CGLBA, we will take one more step away from exclusive labels.

--Keely Kolmes

APPLICATIONS NOW

BEING ACCEPTED

*for Co-Chair and other
Management Board positions.*

Co-Chairs will be elected at the General Membership meeting on Thursday, April 6 at 7:30 PM (call CGLA office for location).

Other positions (Treasurer, Publicity Co-ordinator, AIDS Education Co-ordinator, LAMBDA Editor, Outreach Co-ordinator, Awareness Week Committee, Office Manager, Social Co-ordinator) are appointed by the new Co-chairs.

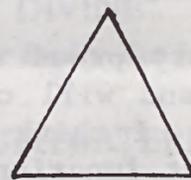
If you would like information about any of these positions, come by or call the CGLA office or come to the April 6 meeting.

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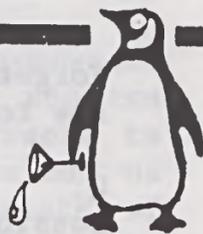
Obituary: Joseph Beam

On December 27, 1988, Joseph Beam was found dead in his apartment. One month later the Philadelphia medical examiner issued a report stating that Beam had died of heart failure, a result of AIDS. Beam, only thirty-three years old, was one of the most eloquent and thought-provoking gay authors of his generation. He continually challenged the assumptions of race and gender that pervade both straight and gay communities. He had been the first editor of journal Black/Out, an advocate for gay prisoners, and more recently edited a collection of writings by Black gay men entitled In the Life: A Black Gay Anthology. In the introduction to that work he wrote, "The bottom line is this: We are Black men who are proudly gay. What we offer is our lives, our visions. We are risin' to the love we all need." Although the passing of such an outstanding figure in our community is to be mourned, it is perhaps best to remember him through these words and take the example of his vision and his life.

--Mike McClellan

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ASK DOCTOR D

Forget the Candlelight, Sweetheart or How to Find a Partner-- by Demian, Ed.D.

Q: I'm looking for a sweetheart, possibly a life-partner. All the good ones seem to be taken already. I'd like someone to be my dreamboat. Where do I start?

A: I suggest being very pragmatic. Leaving such an important and vital part of your life to chance, or allowing romantic feelings to get in the way is a big mistake. Relationships take work and perseverance. Start with someone who will not make the job a nightmare.

First, make a list of all you want in a partner.

Second, make a concentrated effort to find that person. Be logical here. If you want a spiritual person, look for him or her at a meditation group or gay church. If you want a professional, go to your local Gay Business Association.

Third, do not--DO NOT--compromise on the ingredients your are looking for. It is only a matter of time before you

find a very good fit for you. Don't let loneliness lead you into a less than desirable union.

If you are currently in an unsatisfactory relationship, assess why it isn't working. If it is because that person does not adequately match your list, consider starting over. You can't fill your relationship cup until it's been emptied.

Hint: The quaint notion that opposites attract is total junk. Most long-term couples started with a lot in common. The main relationship glue is *shared* interests and beliefs.

Oh yes, the "good" ones are not all taken. Sometimes they have been made "good" by being part of an ongoing, mutually supportive relationship. You and your future partner will help each other become one of the good ones.

Demian is co-publisher/co-editor of PARTNERS: The Newsletter for Gay and Lesbian Couples. Send your questions about gay and lesbian relationships, for possible use in future columns, to PARTNERS, Box 9685, Seattle, WA 98109.



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REVIEW: Weiermair, Peter. The Hidden Image: Photographs of the Male Nude in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries. Translated by Claus Nielander. Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press, 1988.

The Hidden Image is Peter Weiermair's attempt to sketch the history of the male nude in photography. Choosing photographs for such a collection not only requires a thorough knowledge of the medium's history, but also of the debates, aesthetic and moral, surrounding the photographic depiction of the male nude. Mr. Weiermair, director of the Frankfurter Kunstverein and author of several studies on photography, is unquestionably qualified for the task.

In his collection, Weiermair focuses attention on the work of artists devoted to this particular theme, and by doing so, is able to trace the stylistic and iconographic development of the male nude from 1848 to the present. Of course, with any study of the nude in photography, male or female, the question of pornography is inevitable, and as many of the works reproduced make clear, the trappings of "art" have been used frequently in order to make the male nude respectable. Certainly, a large number of these photographs possess erotic content, although that content may be disguised as a scientific study, an academic pose, or even an abstracted form. However Weiermair avoids distinguishing what is pornographic from what is not, allowing the photographs to comment upon one another, perhaps more eloquently than any text could. The juxtaposition of photographic styles allows one to see how such boundaries become blurred.

The presence of erotic content and the nature of the pornographic gaze are not the only issues raised by this volume. The photographs included here mirror other debates as well. This history depicts changing aesthetics as the idealized, academic poses that dominated the second half of the nineteenth century give way, first to the more abstracted images favored in the early twentieth century and then to the more personal expressions found in the sixties and seventies. The theme remains the same but the treatment and meaning of that theme continues to develop.

Weiermair's title is well-chosen, for as you strip these images of their respective camouflages what you are left with is the image of a man, a metaphor of the male self. Not all these images are comfortable; indeed some are quite disturbing. Yet the

questions they raise are important ones, especially for gay men, who too often find it necessary to resort to similar camouflaging. It reminds us that we are the image we create of ourselves. As this collection makes abundantly clear, that image can involve elaborate abstractions and objectifications, as well as representing the honest attempt to discover who we are and want to be, an attempt to see ourselves naked.

The text which introduces these photographs, is unfortunately, not as successful as the photography itself. This is due in part to the occasionally awkward translation by Claus Nielander, but also has to do with the amount of material Weiermair attempts to cover. One hundred and forty years of the history of photography, an examination of pertinent aesthetic and moral debates, and information about the photographers represented as well as their styles, is all crowded into this brief introduction. The result is a hodge-podge text that seesaws uncomfortably between a number of important issues. However, what the text does make clear is the need for more such studies, perhaps less ambitious in scope than this one. Despite its shortcomings the text is useful, and in addition Weiermair has provided a bibliography of photographic catalogs and studies for those curious about the lacunae in the text.

Finally, with a book like this one, it is the photographs themselves which should convey the strongest message. These photographs certainly do that.

--Mike McClellan

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Review--AIDS: The Women

Why are women who have AIDS and women who are fighting AIDS in various ways almost always excluded from media coverage? Sure, there's the old story about women's invisibility in the media, but why? After reading AIDS: The Women I have concluded that media is scared to portray women as strong and loving as they really are in the face of this epidemic.

AIDS: The Women (edited by Ines Rider and Patricia Ruppelt, Cleis Press, 1988) is divided into eight sections, each about different groups of women and the AIDS epidemic: prostitutes; family, lovers, and friends of People With AIDS (PWAs); lesbians; women with AIDS/ARC; caregivers; educators; and AIDS prevention workers. Each section has essays, interviews, journal entries and poems by these women. This format really lets the reader get a feel for both the individuality and the common experiences among these women. I feel like I can remember so many individual here: the woman in New York whose nineteen-year-old son died of AIDS, the single, professional woman in Denmark who has tested positive, the ex-prostitute who works with hookers in Atlanta.

I admit, the first thing I did when I saw this book was to read the section on the specific concerns of Lesbians. The first chapter is about lesbian transmission of AIDS. Yes, transmission is possible; yes, it's probably happened; and yes, there are lesbians with AIDS. I think it's important for lesbians as a community to understand that we should be concerned not only with safer sex, but also with the fact that lesbians with AIDS exist and need to be recognized and supported as a group. There is a discussion of safer sex practices for lesbians, but no patronizing admonition to "do this or you'll get AIDS and die"--we all know that's pretty unlikely. My personal conclusion is that it's probably wise to discuss AIDS with a new lover because there's no one out there doing a detailed study of lesbian transmission of AIDS (surprise! Our lives have never been valued by society--why study lesbians with AIDS when there are so many other people to worry about...) and we really don't know how likely transmission actually is.

The editors of the book make a good effort to be international, although the bulk of the writing is by North American women. Chapters on international women are mixed in throughout the book and include a very moving account by a woman in Brazil

who cared for her gay brother with AIDS, a woman in London who, with her husband, tests positive, and other women in the Philippines, Germany, Vienna, Zimbabwe, Haiti and Denmark. These accounts are interesting but barely scratch the surface. I hope someone is doing more work on women with AIDS internationally.

One chapter that amazed me was written by a San Francisco nurse on AIDS prevention in Nicaragua. As of 1988, there were five reported cases of AIDS in Nicaragua. Despite the small number of cases, this country, in the midst of a huge economic depression (caused by US aggression), has put together an AIDS education program that puts ours to shame. The ministry of health (MINSA) has met with lesbian and gay groups around the country and, at their suggestion, organized a national Center for Sexual Education and Information, and is developing a hotline, a resource library and a training center for AIDS volunteers. MINSA has addressed problems of high risk practices, rather than high risk groups (ever so much more sensitive than the US approach to AIDS as a "gay disease") and the Minister of Health opened a recent press conference by passing out condoms. I found this section particularly interesting because it was so hopeful: it is possible for a government, even in a heavily Catholic country like Nicaragua, to work with the People and successfully fight this epidemic in a sensitive way.

AIDS: The Women is a book which I think many people have a right to be proud of. It is published by Cleis Press, a nine year-old women's publishing company which is "committed to publishing progressive books by women." This is not a book to sit home and passively read. It makes you think and will probably make you act. The editors include a resource guide and a bibliography in the back of the book; they obviously care about the women reading this book and the effect this book will have on their lives.

--Pippa E. Holloway

Editor's Note: LAMBDA has included an ad for AIDS: The Women in this issue. Every time someone uses this order card to buy the book CGLA gets a percentage of the profit. Please do this: it's a good way to help CGLA, support a women's press, and get a great book. Thanks.

**Texas Judge Goes Light
on Sentencing of
Killer of Gays**

District Judge Jack Hampton rejected a prosecution request to sentence an 18-year-old killer to life imprisonment because the victims--two homosexual men--were not blameless. "These two guys that got killed wouldn't have been killed if they hadn't been cruising the streets picking up teenage boys," Judge Hampton said. "These homosexuals, by running around on weekends picking up teenage boys, they're asking for trouble...I put prostitutes and gays at about the same level, and I'd be hard put to give somebody life for killing a prostitute."

Testimony in Richard Lee Bednarski's trial indicated that he and a group of high school students drove to a Dallas neighborhood for the purpose of harassing homosexuals on the night of May 15, 1988. Bednarski, a college student, persuaded another youth to join him in robbing the two victims, who had invited the young men into their car. After the four left the car, Bednarski ordered the two Gay men to disrobe at gunpoint. When they refused, Bednarski shot them.

Judge Hampton said that, in sentencing Bednarski, he also took into account the defendant's lack of a criminal record, his college attendance, and the fact that he was raised in a good home with a police officer as a father.

But the victims' homosexuality seemed to have been the focus of the sentencing. "I don't much care for queers cruising the streets picking up teenage boys," Hampton said. The sentence would have been much stiffer, he said, if the victims had been "a couple of housewives out shopping, not hurting anybody."

Gay and Lesbian rights organizations in Texas are pressing for a review of Hampton's actions. Hampton has since stated that he did not intend to offend homosexuals.

Lesbian TV Character Threatened

The positive portrayal of a lesbian in the ABC series Heart/Beat has prompted Christian fundamentalist groups to organize a negative form-letter-writing campaign, demanding that ABC either cancel Marilyn, the lesbian character, or the series. The network has been receiving between 1000 and 1500 negative letters a week.

The series is set in a women's health clinic, and several early episodes portrayed Marilyn's lesbian relationship in a positive light and explored the problems she encountered with her daughter's failure to accept her mother's sexuality.

Lesbian and Gay organizations encourage those interested in the continuation of the series to write to Aaron Spellin Productions/ Warner-Hollywood Studios/ 1041 N. Formosa Ave./ Los Angeles, CA 90046.

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**AIDS FIGHT FEAR
WITH FACTS**

REVIEW--DEIDRE MCCALLA:
WITH A LITTLE LUCK

There's a lot about Deidre McCalla that I really like. Her second album, "With a Little Luck," is not one of them. Well, there's nothing really bad on this album, but it lacks the amazing music and lyrics that I have come to expect from Deidre McCalla. Her first album, "Don't Doubt It," was great and she is wonderful as a live performer. Face it, Lesbians are better than most people, so I expect consistent genius.

The music is what really messes up this album for me. Almost every song sounds the same, only faster or slower. Each has vocals, bass, drums, guitar and keyboard. Together the four instruments, with an occasional violin, create a plastic pop sound with a heavy bass beat and a lot of harmony that echoes throughout the album. Where are the contrasting sounds that marked her first album? It doesn't help that nearly all the backup players are men. We all know there are plenty of great female musicians around who can do this. (Violin here is done by some chap named Darol Anger. Where is the great Novi Novagog?) I don't care who these guys are, if Olivia Records is going to be "the voice in celebration of women" they can make sure that women are getting jobs playing on their albums.

Vocals are another story entirely. McCalla has a great voice. It's deep, flexible, smooth, and sounds really comforting. Backup vocals are by Durham-native Teresa Trull (who also produced the album), Linda Tillery and Annie Stocking. They all do an excellent job.

The lyrics on this album are variable. The opening song "All Day Always" is a good affirmation of revolutionary energy. The anthemic chorus says, "All day always/ We celebrate/ Each day always/ All day all night," while the body of the song celebrates unity and diversity: "Widen the circle we must be sure/ there's room for every one," and "Give thanks to the ground beneath us/ Honor the water from which all life begins."

"The Cat Song" is fun the first few times, but the chorus of "meow-eow-eowing" started to irritate me. The song is about a war between the singer and her lover's cats. The line "[he] throws a temper tantrum/ when he's not fed/ and gets to acting funny/ when we're in bed" probably strikes true for many of us. "Mamma's Little Baby Girl" is a good idea--reminiscing about Mom's strength and comfort through our childhood--but it feels like

something's missing. Maybe it lacks a little passion.

Sometimes the lyrics sound really perceptive at first but cease to make sense or cease to be interesting in the larger context. For example, "Too Few and Far Between" says, "The sacrifice offered by each generation/ Are those who will rise up and answer the call./ Change happens slowly and our revolution/ Still questions the price of each warrior who falls." Sounds neat, right? Alas, the context is really vague. Something about good things only happening occasionally, but that's life. I'm still trying to figure out where the price of the warrior fits into this.

The good news about Deidre McCalla is that she's wonderful when you see her live. And she's coming to Eno River Unitarian Church on April 15 (call CGLA for time and ticket info). She leaves all those backup musicians at home and travels only with her guitar. She's really funny on stage and a great actress (she studied theater at Vassar). McCalla should be congratulated for her heavy emphasis on touring--she told Hot Wire that she tries to do 100 shows a year--and her determination to win an audience in our community.

--Pippa Holloway



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CALENDAR

Thursday, March 22, 6:30 PM. CGLA Management Board meeting. Union 216B.

Friday, March 31, 4:00-7:00 PM. Celebration in honor of Women's History Month cosponsored by Orange County Commission for Women and Weaver Street Market. Lawn of University United Methodist Church, 150 E. Franklin.

Sunday-Tuesday, April 2-4. Interdisciplinary Conference on *The Construction of Sexualities* at Duke. Call Duke Women's Studies (684-5683) for details.

Thursday, April 6, 6:30 PM. CGLA Management Board meeting. Union 216B.

Thursday, April 6, 7:30 PM. CGLA General Membership meeting. On the agenda: election of co-chairs for 1989-90 academic year. Call the office for location.

Interested in co-chairing CGLA or holding another office? We are accepting applications for all positions--call or come by the office for details.

Sunday, April 9. Potluck picnic at Co-Chair Patrick's place in Durham. Call for location and information, 493-0443.

Sunday, April 9. March for Women's Equality & Women's Lives, Washington DC. Assemble 10 AM on the Mall, March 12 noon, Rally 1:30 Capitol West Side. For bus information, call UNC Women's Forum at the Campus Y (962-2333) or Durham NOW (693-1794).

Sunday-Saturday, April 9-15. CGLA's annual Lesbian and Gay Awareness Week. Check fliers or call the office for details!

Friday, April 14, 9:00 PM. CGLA Party. Call office for location.

Wednesday, April 12. Orange County Human Relations Commission public hearing on discrimination against Gay men and Lesbians. This is the first in a series of hearings to decide whether to recommend that Orange County adopt an anti-discrimination ordinance. If you wish to report incidences of discrimination, write Orange County Human Relations Committee/ PO Box 16127/ Chapel Hill, NC 27516.

Saturday, April 15, 8:00 PM. CGLA cosponsors Deidre McCalla in concert. Tickets \$7 in advance, \$9 at door; available at CGLA office, Internationalist Books (CH), Regulator Bookshop (D), Crickets (R), White Rabbit Books (G). Eno River Unitarian Fellowship, 3907 Garrett Road, Durham.

Thursday, April 20. ACTUP/Atlanta protest at State Capitol in Columbia, SC, to protest SC's AIDS law. For more information call (404)522-8535.

Sunday, April 23, 1-3 PM. Booksigning with Leslea Newman, author of A Letter to Harvey Milk, Good Enough to Eat, Love Me Like You Mean It. Southern Sisters Bookstore, 411 Morris St., Durham.

Friday, April 28, 7:00. Rescheduling of Betty Jean Steinshouer's snowed-out one woman show on Willa Cather. Sliding scale \$4-6. Southern Sisters Bookstore, 411 Morris St., Durham.

Saturday, April 29, 9:00-3:00. Peer Counselor Training program begins at Orange County Women's Center. Deadline for submitting applications is April 7. For more information, drop by OCWC (210 Henderson St., CH) or call Alice Carlton, 942-3494.

Thursday-Monday May 25-29. Southern Women's Music and Comedy Festival in the NE Georgia mountains. For more info SWMCF/ 15842 Chast St./ Sepulveda, CA 91343/ (818)893-4075.

Saturday, June 24. Fourth annual Lesbian/Gay Pride March, Raleigh. For more information or to help call 942-3858 (CH) or 682-3741 (D).

For further information about any of these events contact the CGLA office, Carolina Union 216B, 962-4401.

If you or your organization would like to list items in our calendar, please mail them to: CGLA, CB#5210, Carolina Union Box 39, UNC-CH, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; or phone: 962-4401.

Notes From the Co-Chairs

Thanks for your input about my problem last issue. Most people agreed that, if I don't want to resume a friendship with my ex-lover, I shouldn't. I think I've rid myself of that problem now--I've just let it go. Now my life is going quite well and--even better--I'm in love. I must confess that I'd worried a bit about exposing my private life to y'all, but no one seemed to mind.

My next question is about coming out in the job world. Now, if you're gay, lesbian or bisexual and you feel uncomfortable in your job when everyone assumes you're heterosexual, what do you do? I came out on my job application, but everyone knows about me anyway. Certainly one's sexual orientation should not be an issue in your workplace, but let's face reality. If you have a desk and you want your sweetie's face on it, or if you and your coworkers talk about your families during breaks, then your sexuality becomes an issue. It seems that there are several ways to handle the situation:

a) Avoidance: "My homelife? Gosh, break's over already. Busy, busy, busy. Well, I'd better get back to work. Bye!"

b) Exclusion: "Yes, I talk with my mother and my friends. A significant other really isn't part of my definition of home life. But I love my dog. A lot."

c) Gender change: "Oh yes, I have a wonderful lover. She--um--he is very considerate and lots of fun. In fact, we went out to The Power Company--um, WFUN--last night and she--um, he paid."

d) Frankness: "Well, I live at home with my lover (insert lover's name). We live in an apartment now, but maybe we'll get a house some day. Pretty yuppie, huh?"

Of course there are consequences to any of these responses. You can be interpreted as either a workaholic, aloof, ineloquent, or blatantly gay/lesbian. I have, at one time or another, used all of these techniques. I prefer the position I'm in now--everyone knows and any problem is theirs. I realize I'm in a different job situation than others, though--I work for liberal employers in a city with a nondiscrimination clause. Write Lambda c/o CGLA if you think of other techniques or have thoughts on mine.

--Liz Stiles

Most people know of the services the CGLA provides for the University: publishing Lambda, performing outreaches, providing AIDS information, and giving support to students dealing with their own homosexuality. However, we are not utilizing the most significant contribution we are capable of performing. The CGLA can be a nucleus for a lesbian and gay community on campus. A community that would reduce 22,000 students as well as faculty and staff to a small group of men and women with common experiences, problems, and dreams.

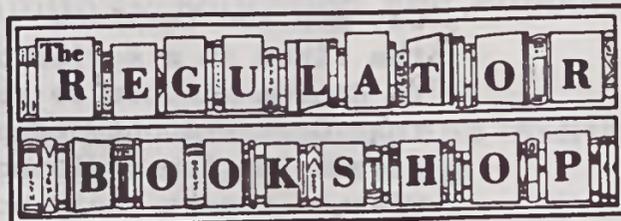
A few dedicated individuals are performing many CGLA duties, but we are not fulfilling our potential as a base for a lesbian and gay community on campus. This is partially our fault. The CGLA is not primarily a "fun" organization--we don't have time to provide too much more than the services we now perform. Much of the problem lies beyond our control. Many people are not prepared to be out, but this note is not directed at those individuals. Instead, it is directed at the students, faculty, and staff who are out without being involved in the CGLA. You may not be able to contribute much time, but we would love for you to attend some of our functions. We hold monthly meetings, biweekly Lesbian Lunches, dances, and Awareness Week. Your input is needed and desired. You are a source of new ideas, support, and experience.

UNC's anti-discrimination clause does not prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. We would like to remedy this by the end of next year. But our power would be greatly increased with the support of faculty and staff.

The CGLA exists for the entire university. Please help build a family, a community at UNC. We would like to meet you.

--Patrick Lamerson

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