March 18-31, 1972
bi-weekly newsletter of the
University of Rochester
Gay Liberation Front
VOLUME I

News At A Glance

WASHINGTON: ACLU files class action in behalf of federal workers dismissed for homosexuality, seeking injunction against investigation of sexual activities of federal workers or applicants.

MILWAUKEE, WISC. Two lesbians are suing the county clerk for refusing to issue them a marriage license. They were married without the license in an Eastern Orthodox Church.

SENECA FALLS, NY: A local man has been charged with extortion after he allegedly mailed two letters demanding $20,000 under threat of exposing the addressee's son as a homosexual.

HOUSTON, TEXAS: A postal clerk, fired for homosexuality, has been reinstated with back pay and seniority.

CHICAGO, ILL. Representatives of 50 of the 450 gay organizations in the US met 5 March to plan political activities for this election year.

GENEVA, N.Y.: Geneva Gay Lib recognized as on-campus organization by Wm. Smith and Hobart. Address: GGL, Box 359, Hobart College, Geneva, N.Y.

CHICAGO, ILL: Chicago Gays for Violent Non Action take violent action, and dye the Civic Center fountain lavender. Brilliant lavender sprays resulted to the delight of onlookers.

CHICAGO, ILL: Chicago Conspiracy Prosecutor Thomas Foran comments "We have lost our children to a freaking fag revolution."

The University of Rochester Gay Liberation Front is dedicated to the ongoing struggle for gay equality and freedom. We seek liberation from our own fears and the bigotry and discrimination of straight society. Meetings are held every Sunday at 7:30 pm on the University of Rochester Campus. OLF meetings are open to anyone who believes in basic civil rights and human dignity for all.

THE WORLD IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT. LET'S MAKE IT TOGETHER. COME OUT!
CIR START' a queer!” the loan officer shouted. “Did you have an affair with him??? No money to anyone doing business with queers!”

The incident was prompted when a client of a gay businessman applied for a business loan at Lincoln Rochester’s Four Corners office.

When contacted, the Senior Vice President of Lincoln Rochester stated that discrimination is not a bank policy, and that the matter would be discussed with the loan officer involved.

The senior bank official apologized for the incident, and offered to meet with a GLF group if desired.

We were assured that questions concerning personal sexual affairs were the loan officer’s idea, and were “not on the standard loan application form.”

GLF ISSUES LATEST VERSION OF ANTI-GAY LAWS

GLF’s Political/Legal Action Committee has revised and updated our pamphlet on “The Law and the Homosexual”. The pamphlet contains the federal, state and local laws and regulations which harass homosexuals throughout their life.

What can we do?

FIRST, consult or obtain a copy of the pamphlet at the GLF office.

SECOND, support State Assemblyman Passannanta’s reintroduced bill which prohibits employers from discriminating against homosexual employees. This bill, narrowly defeated last year, needs your support this year. THEN, write your senator or state assemblyman. Sign your name if you wish, or explain to them why you must leave it blank. Addresses of legislators are available from the GLF office. Good job, R. J.!

GAY WOMEN FORM C-R GROUP

Gay women have an opportunity to talk with a small group of gay women—getting to know them while they get to know you—help them while they help you—form a family of friends. Join a Women’s Consciousness group. For further information, contact Patti Evans, or the GLF office.

GLF STARTS FREE DETECTION PROGRAM

Syphillis and gonorrhea are becoming a serious problem among area gays. To help counteract this problem, GLF, with the assistance of an anonymous donation, is offering a free, confidential VO detection clinic before meetings.

The clinic, staffed by trained medical personnel will be open from 6:30 to 8 pm Sunday evenings in Frederick Douglass Building. In April, the clinic will move to Todd Union for the first two weeks, and then close.

If you prefer to go to the county Health Service (Westfall Road at Ft. Hope), you may wish to contact Mr. Lew Gracey, 442-2172, mentioning GLF. Mr. Gracey has met with GLF members, and is willing to assist gays with their VO problems.

NY state law permits treatment of minors without notification of parents, and the Health Department is pledged to strict secrecy. They will not reveal confidential health record information to anyone, including police, parents, and employers.

Symptoms of gonorrhea include a greenish pustular discharge from penis or anus, painful urination, a "tight" feeling in the ass, or a chronic sore throat. Symptoms of syphillis include an open, relatively painless crater-like sore, walnut-sized knots in the groin area, a rash, particularly on the palms of the hand. It is possible to have either disease in certain locations without being aware of it, however. Bloodtests and smears can detect infection. Treatment is simple and inexpensive (like frep). There are two ways to stamp out VO... chastity and blood tests. Which do you prefer?

JIM’S ANNIVERSARY BASH A SMASH!

Celebrating his first year in business, Jim’s Tavern treated patrons to a free smorgasbord, entertainment, and door prizes including a weekend in New York, liquor, theater tickets, and logically enough, a door.

The gay community extends its thanks to Jim and his co-workers, and wishes for many more happy anniversaries.

CHRISTOPHER STREET RALLY NYC JUNE 25
News At A Glance

ANN LANDERS: (D&C, 23 Feb.) Advice to admitted closet queen. "Why not put an end to the masquerade?...I say it's about time society stopped viewing all homosexuals as loathsome freaks...it's unfair to use girls as a cover."


UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS: GLF sues U of Texas administration for blocking their constitutional rights of free speech and assembly.

THE NEW REPUBLIC: (19 Feb. '72) Article entitled "The Gay Vote" reports presidential candidates McCarthy, Chisolm, McGovern, Spock, and McGovern have responded favorably to questions put to them by Gay Activist Alliance. Muskie is "unfamiliar with the issue, and has not made up his mind."

NEW YORK, NY: State legislature, city council, and US Congressman Koch complain of police brutality in their attack on gay demonstrators attempting to help Muskie make up his mind.

SYRACUSE, NY: Gay Weekend planned for April 7-9 at Syracuse University.

Happenings

SAT 4 MAR. DANCE: 9-12pm., Brockport Student Union Ballroom, featuring the music of the STATS admission--$1.00


GLF MEETING: MEDICAL PROBLEMS OF GAY MEN AND WOMEN. See details in article on back page.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY BASH: Jim's 123 North. 'Til closing.

SUN 12 MAR. INSTRUCTIONAL GLF MEETING "COUNSELING OTHERS ON THEIR RIGHTS" by the Political/Legal Action Comm.

SUN 26 MAR. SOCIAL GLF MEETING "COFFEE HOUSE NIGHT" featuring music, readings, painting, photos—see back page.

"AC-DC BISEXUALITY--FACT OR FICTION" (Sun. Feb. 20) was cancelled due to the snow. We apologize to those who battled the storm, and we promise to reschedule the topic in the near future.

HOMOSEXUALS AND THE MILITARY book by Williams & Weinberg reports that almost 3000 men are separated from the military yearly for homosexuality at a cost of $60 million to taxpayers. Stigma of less-than-honorable discharge seen to be lessening.
ANTI-VD DONATION RECEIVED BY GLF

Twenty-five dollars has been donated to GLF to assist in fighting VD among gays. Details of how the money is to be used will be given in the next issue of the CLOSET.

GAY HEALTH PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

The Sunday 5 Mar. GLF meeting will be devoted to a discussion of gay-related health problems, including, but not limited to, venereal diseases. The meeting will be lead by a physician familiar with such problems. Venereal disease is on the increase in Monroe County. The syphilis rate has doubled this year; gonorrhea is up 1000 cases to 3600 reported. Actual figures may be 10 times as great. Cases of anal syphilis, often undetectable in early stages, have been discovered. Sunday's meeting will give you a chance to ask everything you always wanted to know about sex, but were afraid to ask of your family physician. And the answers will be better than Dr. Ruben's.

COMMUNITY CENTER STUDIED

GLF is conducting a long-range study of the feasibility of a gay community center. Part of this study entails experimentation with various program ideas. "Coffee House Evening" on March 26 will be the first of a series of such programs. Everyone is invited. Come share your hopes for a future community center; come share the Good Times, entertainment, and refreshments of March 26.

Thanks to the anonymous donor whose contribution has made our first coffee house evening possible.

GLF ADDRESSES HIGH SCHOOL

Monday the "Queens" and "Lesbians" visited Greece Arcadia High School! We talked all day and after school to students who had heard of homosexuality from everybody but a homosexual. "What does Gay mean?" "Why do you act 'that way'?" "Do people pick on you--laugh at you?" and just about anything else imaginable were touched upon.

The invitation seems to be a step towards freeing gay and straight students, faculty and administrators from oppressive attitudes toward gays. There was much response from the Greece community over the engagement, however in the eyes of those involved, the people who oppose GLF's visit to the high school are those who never got to hear what was said. The people who participated in the various classes (students, faculty and gays) felt the program was very worthwhile.

FUTURE SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

The speakers bureau is scheduled for 14 engagements this month, including numerous Psych and Soc classes at the U of R, Canandaigua, Geneseo, Brockport, and Genesee Hospital. The speakers bureau also met with U of R residents of Tierman Hall, and will assist the Genesee Co-op in training their Hotline people to handle or refer callers with gay related problems.

Jim’s Bar + Restaurant

open 4pm to 2am daily

*Italian-American Cuisine served Tuesday-Sunday 5-10pm

*Banquet facilities large & small

JIM’S "RACK ROOM" OPENED FEB. 25TH!
FIRST ANNIVERSARY BASH MARCH 5th!

123 NORTH 546-6490