



THE WESTERN EXPRESS

FROM THE SOUTHWEST

VOLUME II ISSUE 20

AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 13, 1983

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NGTF assails congressional response on AIDS

Jointly proposes confidentiality legislation with Lambda Legal Defense

Washington D.C. — on August 1, before the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations and Human Resources, Virginia Apuzzo, Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force, condemned the federal government's "policy of gestures" in response to the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) epidemic. Apuzzo told Subcommittee Chairman Ted Weiss (D-N.Y.), "A detailed look at the federal government's response to the AIDS crisis leads unavoidably to the conclusion that in this Administration, there is a sharp contrast between the rhetoric of concern and the reality of response." She cited six areas of failure by the federal government — "the failure to expedite funding for AIDS research; the failure to provide proper methods of funding for AIDS research; the failure to educate the public to stem hysteria about AIDS; the failure to address the specific question of the safety of the blood supply; the failure to include affected groups in decision-making; and the failure to recognize rights of confidentiality and privacy."

To rectify the last of these shortcomings, Apuzzo announced that NGTF and Lambda Legal Defense and Educa-

tion Fund are proposing that Congress enact legislation which will extend privacy protection of medical, surveillance and research documents to all persons who are part of a federally funded research or surveillance program.

Addressing the question of funding methods, the NGTF Executive Director noted that the Administration was diverting funds from other important health care programs to work on AIDS that is inadequate at best. "There is no excuse," she asserted, "for the United States government, faced with medical emergencies, to force choices between groups who need help."

Citing an NGTF survey which showed that gay/lesbian community organizations had budgeted \$6.8 million for AIDS-related work in 1984, Apuzzo noted, "The tremendous outpouring of support for voluntary efforts within the gay/lesbian community has been in sharp contrast to the federal government's response... This administration claims to be committed to rekindling the volunteer spirit in America. Our community has responded to an unprecedented degree."

In her concluding remarks, Apuzzo predicted that the gay/lesbian community would emerge stronger from the AIDS crisis. "We will not forget what we have learned about health care in the United States," she warned. "We will use our growing strength to return to the halls of Congress and of the Executive Branch again and again, until the deficiencies revealed to us over the past few years are remedied — for all Americans."



Virginia Apuzzo, NGTF Executive Director

Photo by Leigh H. Mosley/WBNS

Gays and Feds lock horns at Weiss hearings

by John Hansen Philadelphia Gay News

Homophobia is blocking adequate money for AIDS research. That was the testimony of many witnesses at last week's House Committee hearings into the federal government's response to the AIDS crisis. But an administration official denied the charges, saying that over \$166 million was programmed for AIDS research this year and even more would be spent next year.

The hearings were called by Rep. Ted Weiss (D-N.Y.) before his Sub-committee on Intergovernmental Relations and Human Resources. Among the first witnesses were three men with AIDS who testified what the disease has done to their lives. "It's a matter of day-to-day waiting for something to happen," said Roger Lyon, 34, from San Francisco. "I came here with the hope that my epitaph will not be that I died from red tape."

Twenty-eight year old Michael Callen from New York City testified that he was diagnosed as having AIDS in 1981. "I called my parents and told them I'm going to die. A lot of people are simply waiting — waiting for a life-threatening disease, waiting to die... That's my story, waiting for infections."

Virginia Apuzzo, Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force, told the committee that "a detailed look at the federal government's response to the AIDS crisis leads unavoidably to the conclusion that in this Administration, there is a sharp contrast between the rhetoric of concern and the reality of response."

Steve Endean of the Washington-based Gay Rights National Lobby called the level of federal spending for AIDS research "a cruel joke."

This led Rep. Weiss to observe, "After

listening to the witnesses who testified before the subcommittee, I have grave concerns about the federal government's response to the AIDS emergency."

The role of defending the federal record fell to U.S. Public Health Service head and assistant secretary for health, Dr. Edward Brandt. "As long as these human beings are suffering from this illness," he told the committee, "we are going to solve this problem — and solve it as soon as we can."

He said that this year the government has budgeted \$166 million for AIDS research, although he conceded that only a fraction of that money is being spent directly on AIDS, about \$20 million. Most of it, he said, is going for research on the body's immune system. He also said that the Public Health Service budget next year will have \$9 million more for AIDS.

"We have approached this disease in the same way we have approached all others," he said. He also said that charges of discrimination were insulting and that furthermore "at no time have biases or prejudices influenced our decision making."

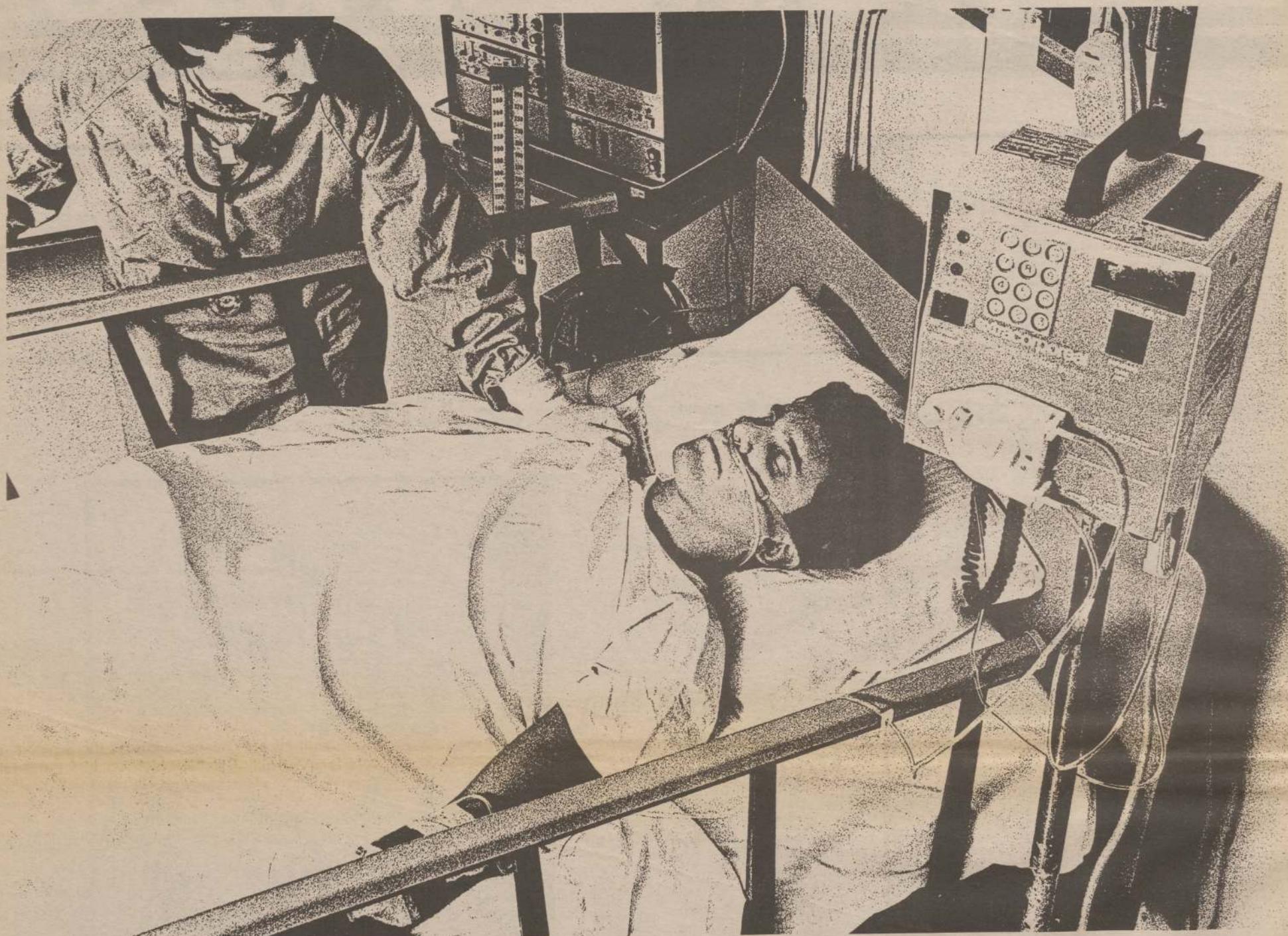
But promises for money didn't seem to halt criticism. San Francisco health director Mervyn Silverman said almost twice as much money should be spent directly on AIDS research. Brandt replied that what was needed was more ideas, not more money.

Stanley Matek, former president of the American Public Health Association, said the government has no organized plan for dealing with the disease. He suggested that outside scientists be called in to write one.

Continued on page 13



HE TOOK THE CHANCE OF GETTING HEPATITIS B— AND LOST.



NOW THE CONSEQUENCES ARE JUST BEGINNING. CHRONIC ACTIVE HEPATITIS, CIRRHOSIS ... OR DEATH.

You undoubtedly know someone who's had it. The "bad hepatitis" that can keep you in bed for weeks and out of a job for months—that can cause lifelong disability and even death from cirrhosis or cancer of the liver. Where do you get it? From people who have become carriers of the virus. Today, it is estimated that at least 100,000 gay men are carriers of the hepatitis B virus and spread the infection through intimate contact. That's the main reason

why more than half of all gay men will sooner or later become infected.

How can you tell who's a carrier? You probably can't. Most carriers seem to be perfectly healthy, and many are themselves unaware that they harbor the virus.

Once you get hepatitis B, there's no specific treatment for it. But now there's something you can do to help protect yourself.

DON'T TAKE A CHANCE— CONTACT YOUR DOCTOR OR CLINIC AND ASK ABOUT THE HEPATITIS B VACCINE.

It is highly effective in those who receive all three shots. Do it today because you never know where or when you'll make contact with a carrier.

If you'd like more information about hepatitis B and the vaccine, call The American Liver Foundation at (201) 857-2626.

**This message is brought to you as a public service by
The American Liver Foundation.**

Studies showed that the vaccine protected against infection caused by hepatitis B virus in 85% to 96% of those who received the required three shots.

Hepatitis B virus is an important cause of viral hepatitis, a disease mainly of the liver. Even mild forms of this disease may lead to serious complications and aftereffects, including liver cancer. There is no specific treatment for viral hepatitis.

Vaccination is recommended for persons who have a higher risk of becoming infected with hepatitis B virus because of frequent, close contact with infected people or exposure to body fluids from such people. It will not protect against hepatitis caused by viruses other than hepatitis B virus.

Because of the long incubation period for hepatitis B, it is possible for unrecognized infection to be present at the time the vaccine is given. The vaccine may not prevent hepatitis B in such patients.

In three studies involving 3,350 persons, the overall rate of adverse reactions did not differ significantly in those given vaccine and those given placebo (an inactive substance). As with any vaccine, broad use often reveals rare adverse reactions not observed during clinical trials.

Over 200,000 people are estimated to have received the vaccine since its release, and the vaccine continues to be generally well tolerated. Hepatitis B has a long incubation period, and unrecognized infection may already be present at the time the vaccine is given. Thus, reported cases of hepatitis are to be expected and do not appear to be caused by the vaccine. Reactions such as fever, nausea, vomiting, headache, and local pain have occurred. Joint pain has been reported; rash has been reported rarely. Serious illnesses affecting the nervous system—including Guillain-Barré syndrome—have been reported rarely, but no cause and effect relationship has been established.

THE WESTERN EXPRESS

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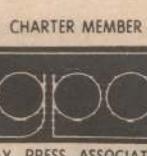
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International Report

Gay Atheists attend world meet

Helsinki (IGNA) — For the first time in history there was an openly gay presence at the World Atheist Meet, held in late June in Helsinki, Finland.

According to Jeffrey Vowles, president of the Gay Atheist League of America, writing in GALA REVIEW, the gay delegates did not have to "beg for admission" the way the Universal Fellowship of the Metropolitan Community Church has been forced to do to obtain its not yet granted membership in the National Council of Churches.

One of the resolutions passed by the world meet members was that religious repression of human sexuality should come to an end. Two others were secular education at public expense and fair access by atheists to news media.

Media coverage of the event consisted of spots aired on the national television evening news, with the Russian delegate speaking in his native language and Madalyn Murray O'Hair speaking in English.

Vowles said that a major difficulty at the convention was the "lack of a common language or a professional translation/interpretation service." Speeches sometimes had to be translated several times and often inadequately.

Vowles said that his experience with the Russian atheists convinced him that "unbelievers from countries with established monotheistic religion can expect little or no help from the bureaucratic atheists of the Soviet Union." He was far from impressed with Victor Garadja, the Russian delegate who heads the government-financed Atheist Institute in Moscow. Vowles' complaint was about Soviet reticence and passivity, especially considered in the light of Ms. O'Hair's verbal attacks on the sanity of President Ronald Reagan.

One of the highlights of the meet was a demonstration by the Indian atheists to expose the fraud of holy men.

Vowles said that the next Atheist World meet would be held in the United States.

It is expected that gays will continue to demand and receive acceptance in the atheist movement "while still maintaining a separate identity and contribution."

National Report

NGTF urges people with AIDS to apply for Social Security benefits

The Social Security Administration announced on July 15 that it had made permanent its temporary April 26 directive authorizing people with AIDS to collect social security disability benefits.

People with AIDS may qualify for a variety of government benefits. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a needs-based grant program available to people with limited income and resources. Title II "early retirement income" grants, on the other hand, are available to FICA contributors who are no longer able to work because they have AIDS.

Because the great majority of people with AIDS who are no longer employed are eligible for SSI or Title II grants, NGTF urges people with AIDS to apply for benefits. To find out if they qualify financially, people with AIDS should contact the nearest Social Security Administration office. Applicants who meet the SSA's economic criteria must then contact a state Disability Determination Office, where they or their health care provider will be asked to provide objective medical verification of an AIDS-related opportunistic infection (including, but not limited to, Kaposi Sarcoma and pneumocystis carinii pneumonia) before they can receive benefits.

Despite the widespread availability of social security benefits, the number of people with AIDS who have applied to date is surprisingly low. Although approximately 2,000 cases of AIDS have been confirmed by the Center for Disease Control, the Social Security Administration reports only 230 applications for benefits as of August 5. SSA officials add that fully 96 percent of these applications have been accepted.

"We are extremely concerned that so few people with AIDS are applying for benefits to which they are clearly entitled," stresses NGTF Executive Director Virginia Apuzzo. "Once again we see a critical need for a government-funded public education campaign about AIDS." NGTF encourages people with AIDS who have questions about benefits to call its crisisline at 1-800-221-7044 (212-807-6016 in New York State), and further urges AIDS service organizations and the gay media to continue their efforts to inform people with AIDS about available benefits.

Dan White parole can't be halted

Sacramento, CA (IGNA) — The governor cannot legally delay the January, 1984 release of convicted assassin Dan White, the state's attorney general has decided.

Responding to a formal inquiry from George Deukmejian, Attorney General John Van de Kamp said that White must be released from prison next January 6 because he was sentenced under California's determinate, or fixed-term, sentencing law.

Van de Kamp drew a distinction between White and murderer Archie Fain, whose prison release was blocked by the governor. Fain had been sentenced under the older indeterminate sentencing law and thus the governor could revoke his parole.

The distinction between the cases is that Fain's parole is discretionary and thus can be cancelled by the governor if the public outcry warrants it, but White's parole is mandatory.

Deukmejian may ignore the attorney general's legal opinion, but usually officials follow such advice.

The opinion drew a protest from John Wahl, the lawyer representing the estate of the late Harvey Milk. "Dan White has received special treatment from the beginning," Wahl said.

He added: "There is no basis for making a distinction between Fain and White. Basically this is a tortured opinion; the logic is tortured."

Wahl is also pursuing a campaign to have the U.S. Justice Department file charges against White in federal court under Title 18, United States Code, Section 245, which allows the government to prosecute anyone who "by force injures any person who is or has been engaged in campaigning or qualifying for elective public office."

Wahl claims that White's murders "intimidated others . . . from attempting to run for office," and adds: "Under the circumstances of these killings and the absurdly light sentence, a prosecution under Section 245 is clearly necessary to secure substantial justice."

Fain's "indeterminate" sentence was life in prison, while White's "determinate" sentence was for seven years and eight months.

Sheriff endorses Gay Rights

San Francisco (IGNA) — The sheriff of the city and county of San Francisco has sent a letter to the members of the California Senate who will soon be voting on a proposed gay rights law.

Sheriff Michael Hennessey urged the Senators to vote for Assembly Bill #1, which would prevent job discrimination against gays and lesbians.

Hennessey's letter said in part: "As a professional in law enforcement I know all too well how much actual discrimination goes on in the hiring and employment of gays in this field."

Hennessey further clarified his knowledge of actual discrimination: "I go to a lot of statewide and national law enforcement meetings and seminars. I know the comments and the behind-the-scenes activity which surrounds the hiring of gays and lesbians. Personally I find this to be extremely distasteful and highly unprofessional. Unfortunately, these attitudes and actions have their base in ignorance and in a fear of the unknown."

The sheriff pointed out the openly gay deputy sheriffs in the San Francisco Sheriff's Department. "These individuals have proven themselves to be able deputy sheriffs in the same fashion as all other employees in the department."

Hennessey did not feel compelled to overstate gay performance, but said, "True we have had some gay and lesbian deputy sheriffs not perform up to standards and they have been treated just like other employees who have not performed up to standards."

The sheriff took the trouble to write the Senators because he does "not feel that time alone will erode the discrimination that takes place in the hiring and treatment of gays and lesbians and that is why I feel the passage of legislation is necessary."

The sheriff invited the legislators to meet with the gay and lesbian sheriffs in his department — "Democrat and Republican, black and white, liberal and conservative, excellent employees and marginal employees."

Lawyer referral for gay people

Los Angeles (IGNA) — A grant of funds from Los Angeles county has allowed the establishment of a Lawyer Referral Service at the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center.

In addition to the Lawyer Referral Service, the center operates a free legal clinic with volunteer attorneys daily from 5-6 P.M.

The grant of \$25,000 was made possible from Supervisor Ed Edelman's Third District Community Development Block Grant.

Attorney Susan Sholley has been hired to direct the program. "By establishing this referral service, we are making it easier for those in need to protect their legal rights," said Edelman.

Continued on page 4

ARIZONA'S LARGEST LADIES CLUB

**SOLID
COLD**

1730 E. McDowell
252-9815

Open Daily 6 PM to 1 AM
Sunday's at 2 PM
After Hours Every Friday & Saturday
until 3 AM Cover \$2.00 after 9 PM
Sunday Brunch 2 - 5 - \$2.00 All You Can Eat
Pool Tournament 4 PM, \$50.00 Prize

Monday, September 5
Thanking All Of You For
Your Past Support
A Special Night Just For You
Labor Day Booze Bash
6 - 11 PM

No Cover - All Well Drinks \$1.00

Sunday, September 4,
Linda & Carmella & Phase III 8 - 11:30 PM

No Reserved Seats - Come Early

Coming -

Mike Reed & Company, Alice Tatum,
Big Pete Pierson, The Weather Girls
(formerly Two Tons Of Fun)

Tuesday - Dancers Denise & Tia, 10:30 & 11:30 PM
\$1.00 Cover

Wednesday - Beer Bust 9 - Mid. \$2.00 Cover

Thursday - Wet T-Shirt Contest 10:30 PM, 12 - 1 Drink

Specials, Cash Prize, No Cover

Every Thursday, Friday & Saturday, Bert,
Phoenix' Hottest Female DJ

Continued from page 3

Planning for the service began in 1982 through the work of Attorney Richard Eckhardt, chair of the Los Angeles Center's Legal Advisory Committee, and Don Kihfner, deputy director of the Center.

All attorneys available through the referral system have been screened to insure that they meet or exceed levels of advanced training and professional experience required by the California State Bar.

The 24-hour number of the Lawyer Referral Service is: (213) 467-4141.

Desert Overture back yard sale

by Steve Freutel

Phoenix — To all drag queens, bag ladies, collectors, browsers, and other bargain seekers: Mark your calendars now for the huge garage sale, to be held on Sept. 17th and 18th, to benefit DESERT OVERTURE. The location of this merchandise frenzy is 720 W. Missouri, and the starting time is 6AM both days. Large crowds are anticipated.

DESERT OVERTURE, the gay and lesbian band of Phoenix, is making preparations for its trip to L.A. for the national gay and lesbian band festival, next June. According to a spokesperson for the group, "The push is on, for more members, money, and performances." After one year of existence, the talented group of 20 musicians is somewhat light in several areas of instrumentation, such as percussion, and low brass. With the limited people they have, a full sound is still produced. "We will take anyone, who plays anything, and is willing to grow with the band, as a performing organization," says this author.

Many people are aware that Phoenix has a men's chorus, but have not heard anything about a gay band. Those uninformed persons are about to see posters, flyers, and verbal contact splashed from one end of the gay community, to the other. "We have committed ourselves to this national festival, and we intend to do it in grand style."

Interested persons are urged to attend a rehearsal on Thursday nights, from 7-9PM, at Sammies, 2125 E. McDowell. Come down and listen to the group, get excited, and dig that old band instrument out of the closet, and get ready for new friendships and a great learning opportunity. Arrangements can also be made for you to rent whatever you used to play, if you're interested.

Do you have something you would like to have picked up, for the back yard sale? Do you want to join this fun loving group? Do you want the band to play for your function, whatever it may be? Do you have an old instrument that you would like to donate as a tax deduction? Do you just want to find out more information? CALL 247-5996. Keep trying, we're busy people these days!!

MCC Tucson hotline

Tucson — When you're new in town, it can be a little difficult trying to find out what's happening in the gay and lesbian community. When you're just coming out and you need to know where to find support and friendship, it can be real difficult. In Tucson, one phone call can put you in touch with the gay and lesbian community. Gay Christian Outreach Services (G.C.O.S.) is a telephone information and referral service operated by Metropolitan Community Church of Tucson. By calling our hotline, our trained volunteers can direct you to commercial establishments, organizations and agencies that serve the Tucson community. If you just want someone to talk with, that's OK, too. Our volunteers are there to listen and care about you.

The hotline is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week by both men and women. G.C.O.S. volunteers care about their clients. They want to help. All information is confidential. Call the hotline and discover your community. The hotline number is 792-3772.

Organizations wishing to be listed with the hotline should call the M.C.C. office Monday through Thursday afternoon and talk with Rev. Dave Gunton about your listing. There are no fees charged, but contributions are accepted and are tax deductible.

L.A.D.S. Sponsors ADARA Benefit

Phoenix — For the second consecutive year, Los Amigos del Sol (L.A.D.S.) is sponsoring a talent show to benefit ADARA, a community organization working with the hearing-impaired.

Talent will include mimes, singers and sign language performers, among others. First performance is set for Sept. 18, 7:15 p.m. at Bronco's. Site of the second performance, one week later on Sept. 25, is Solid Gold, with a 7:30 p.m. curtain.

Tickets will be available at the door, with proceeds from the \$3 donation earmarked for ADARA's deaf telephone relay service in Phoenix. The service, largely funded by donations and manned by volunteers, operates around the clock, seven days a week to help keep the deaf in touch with the hearing world.

"Because we have several hearing-impaired members as well as members who work with the deaf, this cause is especially close to us" said a L.A.D.S. spokesman. "Last year's benefit enriched ADARA by well over \$800.00. We hope to top that figure with the two upcoming performances."

B.A.B.E.S.

Phoenix — Arizona's fastest growing organization, B.A.B.E.S. (Bar And Business Employees Society), elected its first slate of permanent officers in its monthly meeting at *Cruisin' Central*, Tuesday, August 23.

With attendance of over 60 employees from Phoenix as well as Tucson, John Goldschmid was elected president of this social outlet for employees of gay owned or gay oriented businesses. Other officers elected included: Dan Butler - Vice President; Garry Mangum -Secretary; Max Sutherland - Treasurer; Clint Stadig - Assistant Secretary; and, Sal Mattolla - Assistant Treasurer.

Continued on page 6

SHAMOO'S

Second Annual

Turnabout Show

Starring

Shamoo's Bountiful Bevy of Bxom Beauties



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

9:00 PM

\$2.00 Cover

Including

* Consuelo Mercedes * Jayme McVixon * Johnny Bono *
'Skippy' Funicello * Sister Dragona Louise *
Serena LaRouche * 'Twinkle Toes' Vreeman *
Shamoo & Shamette

Special Guest MC JoAnne

No Reservations — First Come First Seated

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Member of AGBA

ENTER The MEN of The FINELINE 1984
Calendar
Contest

Contestants will be judged Sept. 14 (10:00)
With voting for Centerfold Sept. 21 (10:00)

101 W. Drachman Tucson 882-4953

JACK STURDY INTERVIEWS:

by Jack Sturdy

Sturdy Meets Divine!



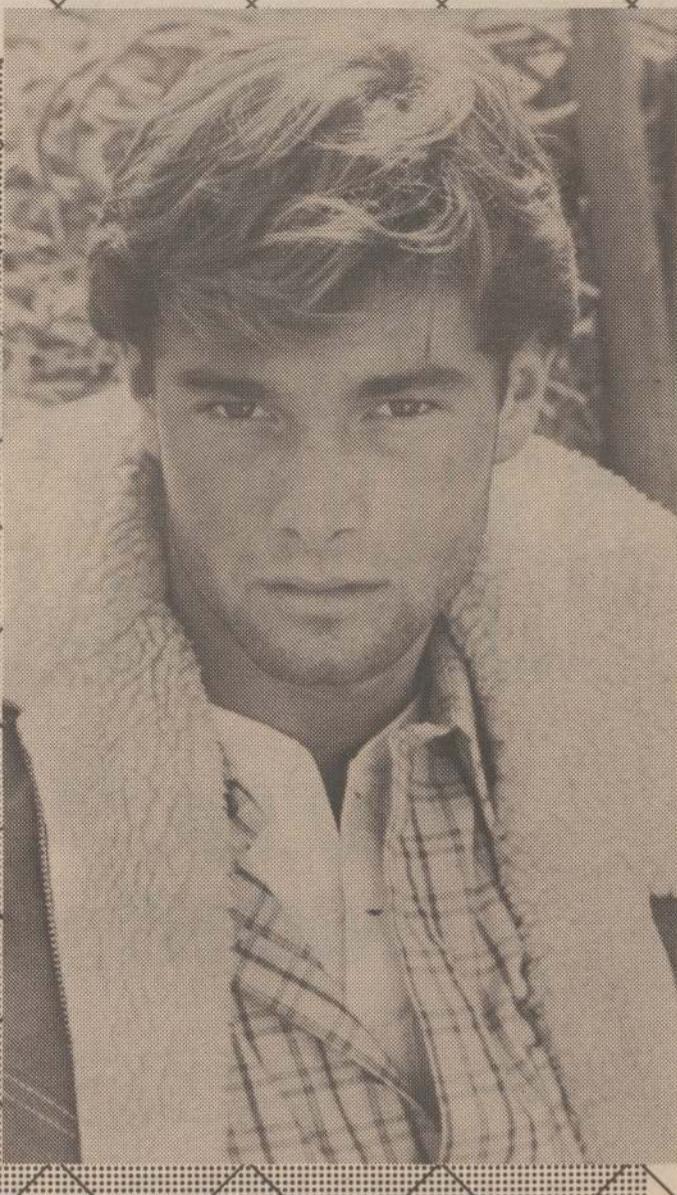
Divine and Jack Sturdy

"Fuck me, fuck me, fuck me, fuck me, fuck me, fuck me — I was born to be cheap!" The lyrics reverberate throughout the Club as a flash of red races on stage. The movement stops momentarily and Divine materializes, her white Dynel hair standing straight up, the obscene red-spangled dress screaming for relief at every skin-tight seam. "I was born to be cheap! Cheap! Cheap! Cheap! CHEAP!" she continues singing as the crowd screams approval. Divine, the John Waters film legend, is again wowing

American audiences after her successful European tour, where her records "Shake It Up!" "Native Love," and "Shoot Your Shot" are chart toppers. The last has just gone gold and platinum in Holland.

The song ends. "Turn off those cookers," Divine hollers, pointing to the stage lights while makeup runs down her face. A catcall from the crowd rings out: "Turn 'em all off!" Divine looks at the heckler and smiles that you-know-what-

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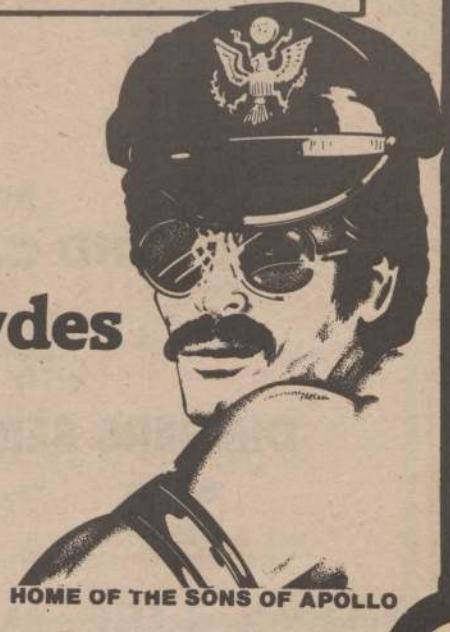
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**BEST COCKTAIL HOUR
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HOME OF THE SONS OF APOLLO



V.I.P. NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

V.I.P. COCKTAIL PARTY 9:00 PM
Featuring the . . .
G.C. REVIEW



with

THE GRAND CAMEL SISTERS



DINNERS SERVED NIGHTLY

5105 n. 43rd ave.

841-6306

Continued from page 4

First items on the agenda for the newly elected executive committee are the upcoming Great American Spaghetti Feast and Variety Extravaganza scheduled for September 18, 6:30 PM at Sammy's, and the co-production with *Regal Productions* of the 4th Annual "Empire Ball" at the Phoenix Hilton on October 30, which will be a statewide benefit for The Arizona AIDS Fund and Janus Theatre with proceeds going to these organizations.

The Spaghetti Feast and Variety Extravaganza will be B.A.B.E.S. first money making venture. Tickets are on sale with any B.A.B.E.S. member at \$6 each or at Sammy's. For information you may phone 231-0168 between Noon and 7 PM daily.

The dinner will feature three traditional Italian sauces and pasta, with salad, bread and complimentary wine. The show will feature the largest selection of Arizona's finest talents. During the evening, door prizes and raffles will be offered for those in attendance.

There will be no reservations for dinner or the show — first come, first served.

Desert Adventures Fall calendar

Sept. 6 The monthly general meeting open to the public. It is held at Taylor's at 7 p.m. Members will be nominating officers for the 1984 season.

Sept. 18 A day hike to Fish Creek Hill which is located in the Superstition Mountains will be led by Mike at 936-1278.

Sept. 24-25 A car camping trip to the Verde Hot Springs in the upper Verde Valley area. This is a work out of your car trip which means you can park next to your tent. Convenient for bringers of kitchen sinks. There will be swimming in the Verde River or soaking in the hot waters of the springs. Call Tom at 257-9290.

Oct. 4 The general meeting at which members will be voting for new officers. However, the meeting will still be open for all and some presentation will be made for your pleasure.

Oct. 7-10 The great houseboating adventure will include two 12 man boats on Lake Powell. The Tucson chapter of the Great Outdoors will be with us. The trip is filling fast but there are openings and a waiting list, too. Call Jack at 957-3297.

Oct. 21-23 The Great Outdoors Conference and Jamboree will be held in San Diego. All are welcome to attend, members and non-members. The wonders of San Diego await. Call Tom at 257-9290.

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by Steve Freutel

Phoenix — To all drag queens, bag ladies, collectors, browsers, and other bargain seekers: Mark your calendars now for the huge garage sale, to be held on Sept. 17th and 18th, to benefit DESERT OVERTURE. The location of this merchandise frenzy is 720 W. Missouri, and the starting time is 6AM both days. Large crowds are anticipated.

DESERT OVERTURE, the gay and lesbian band of Phoenix, is making preparations for its trip to L.A. for the national gay and lesbian band festival, next June. According to a spokesperson for the group, "The push is on, for more members, money, and performances." After one year of existence, the talented group of 20 musicians is somewhat light in several areas of instrumentation, such as percussion, and low brass. With the limited people they have, a full sound is still produced. "We will take anyone, who plays anything, and is willing to grow with the band, as a performing organization," says this author.

Many people are aware that Phoenix has a men's chorus, but have not heard anything about a gay band. Those uninformed persons are about to see posters, flyers, and verbal contact splashed from one end of the gay community, to the other. "We have committed ourselves to this national festival, and we intend to do it in grand style."

Interested persons are urged to attend a rehearsal on Thursday nights, from 7:30PM, at Sammies, 2125 E. McDowell. Come down and listen to the group, get excited, and dig that old band instrument out of the closet, and get ready for new friendships and a great learning opportunity. Arrangements can also be made for you to rent whatever you used to play, if you're interested.

Do you have something you would like to have picked up, for the back yard sale? Do you want to join this fun loving group? Do you want the band to play for your function, whatever it may be? Do you have an old instrument that you would like to donate as a tax deduction? Do you just want to find out more information? CALL 247-5996. Keep trying, we're busy people these days!!

Harriet Leider at Taylor's

Phoenix — *New York City News* called her a "... brave and powerful performer." Leslie Irons in *The Connection*, a New York City publication, said, "I saw the Diva! She is great! She is all that I have been told. A wonderful singer and a very funny lady." Now Leider with her accompanist Ed Linderman, who carries his own strong reviews and has a solid reputation in Provincetown for his performing, are bringing their "very au courant" material to Taylor's for one week starting September 11 and continuing through the 14th.

"She opened with "I'm Excited," followed by "Just the Way You Are." Her material includes a very funny number, "I'm not in the Market for a Boy." She states her sexual preference at the top of the show and then goes on from there, and how she goes!", said Irons. Dale Williams and his staff at the club are eagerly awaiting this next performer in their continuing series of top rate, live cabaret shows.

Letter to the Editor

To the attention of persons attending the 1983 Reno Rodeo:

I would like to clarify some rumors that have been brought to my attention regarding the 1983 Reno Rodeo. *21st Century Travel, Inc.* was involved only, and I repeat only, in arranging the air transportation for this event. Originally the agency agreed to make all the arrangements, including ground transportation and hotel accommodations, but because we did not receive deposits on time we were forced to relinquish all the blocked hotel rooms that we originally contracted for.

Apparently monies were collected many weeks prior to this travel agency receiving same. The "application for reservation" that *21st Century Travel* printed and was available at most of the bars in Phoenix contained the following information in bold type:

MAIL YOUR DEPOSIT TO:

**21ST
CENTURY
TRAVEL, INC.**
R & B CORPORATE PARK / 2432 WEST PEORIA, SUITE 1082
PHOENIX, AZ 85029

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
CALL DAVID AT:**
(602) 234-0542

There was no other method by which deposits could be made. Apparently a number of participants gave their money or check for deposit to other places or other people, assuming it would be turned over to this agency for immediate credit. These funds were not turned over to us by the stated deadline time and therefore hotel room blocks and other services were necessarily released by those establishments and persons suffered financially by an increase of \$10 in the air fare by P.S.A.

21st Century Travel, Inc. has always, and will always, serve the community in a fair and professional manner. We regret any inconvenience suffered by any of our friends and customers due to this situation.

Sincerely,
David Starkman
President, *21st Century Travel, Inc.*

Connection's GAY DAY at BIG SURF

Sunday, September 11

Noon — 10:00pm

Play Volleyball

Raft the waves

Dance to DJs
Ron & Randy

HOT BODY SWIMSUIT CONTEST

Prizes for Best Male
and Female

SWIM & FUN all day!
Tickets \$5.00

Tickets available at
CONNECTION
and TAYLOR'S

No host bar and food.

Buses from CONNECTION to
Big Surf all day!

—4211 N. 7th STREET— PHOENIX— 248-9730—

PLEASE NO Alcohol, Food, or Drink from outside the park. NO bottles, cans, or glass containers of any kind allowed in park. Lotions, oils, etc. must be in plastic containers.



COME PARTY WITH US LABOR DAY WEEKEND **Posters for Sale at the Bar**
1724 E. McDowell - 254-O231

Taylor's
a Gentleman's Bar

Live entertainment
Sunday thru Wednesday Nights.

Harriet Leider &
accompanist Ed Linderman



September 11 - 14
Continuing September 4 - 7
Jim & Shelley
All performances 9:30 & 11:00 PM
\$2.00 Cover at the door

4223 N. 7th Street Phx., AZ. 265-0851

Arizona gay bar Owners meet

Phoenix — *The Fineline* in Tucson hosted the A.G.B.A. last week at their monthly meeting. The meeting started with "passing out" tickets and posters for the October Fest the Association is sponsoring. The Festival tickets are a \$3 donation to the *Arizona AIDS Fund* and may be obtained only through bars that are members of the A.G.B.A. These include:

Phoenix

Bronco's
Cattlemen's Exchange
Farrah's
Little Jim's 307
Sammy's
Buddies
Cruisin' Central

The Grand Camel
Shamoo's
Tommy & Clyde's
Trax
Incognito Lounge
Nu-Towne Saloon
Hotbod's

Tucson

The Fineline
The Graduate

Octoberfest is to be held Sunday, October 23 from 4 to 11 PM, at South Mountain Park. Tickets, tax deductible, include unlimited beer, wine and soft drinks and free food, music with various popular DJ's and possibly live entertainment. Volleyball, horseshoes and a dunk tank are being planned with the latter featuring various bar owners. All this for \$3!

The A.G.B.A. voted to loan \$1,500 to B.A.B.E.S. (Bar and Business Employees Society) for assistance in producing the Halloween Ball this year. The ball is planned for Sunday, October 30 at the Phoenix Hilton Hotel Ballroom. The event is being co-produced with *Regal Productions* and will benefit the *Arizona AIDS Fund* and *Janus Theatre Co.* Forty members of B.A.B.E.S. have volunteered to assist the A.G.B.A. with its Octoberfest. Thanks are extended to these people.

The A.G.B.A. is funding the Pool League banquet and purchase of trophies. The banquet is planned for October with time and place to be announced later.

Hotbod's will host a Liquor Seminar on September 21 at 2 PM, open to the public. Anyone interested in knowing what the laws are and why barowners and employees dictate them the way they do is urged to attend. It should be a real education.

Til next month.

Cheryl Emery, Secretary, A.G.B.A.

OUT AND ABOUT

by Garry Mangum

The fall season is about to take off with a BANG!! The next month will see a truck load of activities and events unfolding for you "on-the-go" Phoenicians!

Many of these events are just for pure F-U-N, while some of them have a two-fold purpose.

You have probably heard or read about the Bar and Business Employees Society — or B.A.B.E.S. I'm very proud to be a part of this group of devoted individuals.

B.A.B.E.S. was the idea of about ten Phoenix bar employees, who decided back in February to form an organization for other bar employees to act as a social group. Since that time B.A.B.E.S. has grown to eight times that original 10 and has spread to include not just Phoenix but Tucson as well. It has grown to include any employee of a gay owned or gay oriented business, not just bar employees.

With its upcoming Great American Spaghetti Feast and Variety Extravaganza on September 18 at *Sammy's* as a money making venture, B.A.B.E.S. and *Regal Productions* will co-produce the annual Empire Ball at the Phoenix Hilton as a statewide benefit for AIDS and Arizona's *Janus Theatre Company*.

What began as an idea for a few interested parties to relax and unwind socially has grown into one of Arizona's fastest growing and best organized social and service support groups.

I guess I sound a wee bit pushy. Seems we gays are always doing benefits, but I think it is time for us to all realize that these benefits are what help us, as only we can help ourselves. The very dollar you or I contribute to AIDS research may be the dollar that finds the cause or cure. It might also be the dollar that helps bring the best in theatre to our community or helps Arizona become the first state with its own gay Cultural and Performing Arts Center.

All of this is foreseeable — it is possible but only if we support each other and the events that will in the long range benefit each and every one of us.

R **RAMROD**

**THE BEST LITTLE
BEER HOUSE
IN PHOENIX**

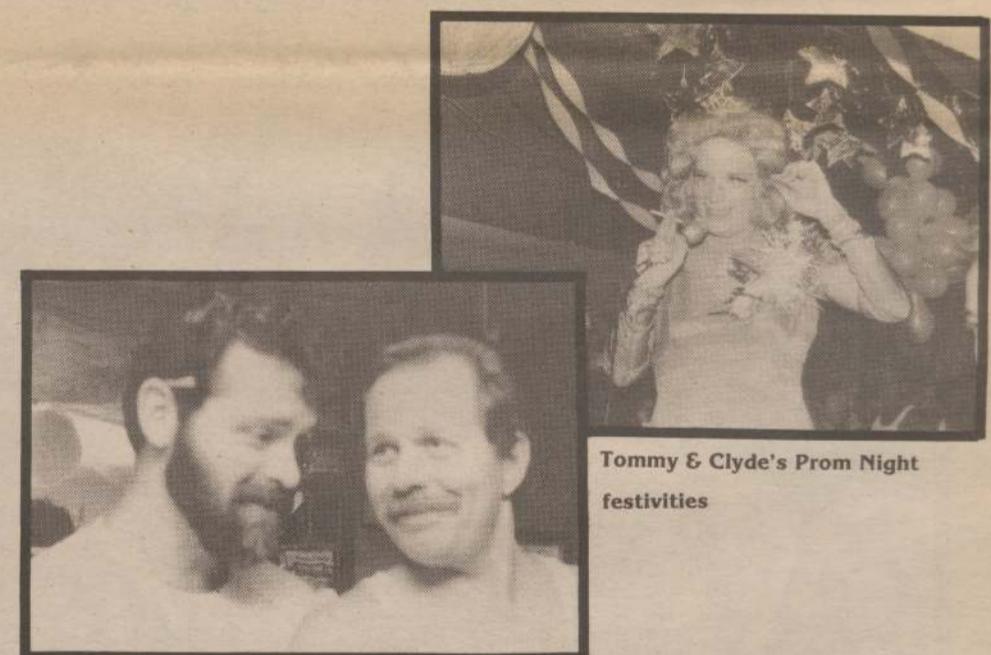


**WHERE A MAN
BELONGS**

**THE FUN BAR
IN TOWN**

DAILY SPECIALS

395 N. Black Canyon - 253-0119



Buddies 'employees' enjoying the recent 'Poodle Skirt Party'

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31 -

Sammy's Italian Buffet. \$2, 7 to 8 PM.
Grand Camel - "Hot Buns Contest", 10 PM. \$100 first prize!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 - Shamoo's
"Backstage Revue" - 9:30 PM.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 - The Connection "Labor Day Luau" Buffet at 2 PM.

The 307 Labor Day Show at 8 PM with *Ginger Peaches* and *The Ginger Snaps*. **Sammy's** "Labor Pains", a special holiday revue at 9 PM with K.C. Starr, Goldie O'Brien, Tamara, special guest stars Lady Casondra, Penelope Poope and your Hostess Tish Tanner. Reservations suggested, 231-0168.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 -

Shamoo's Talent Search Finals, "New Faces of '83" talent show winners of the past eight weeks compete for \$100 first prize, \$50 second and \$25 third. Your hostess will be Cinnamon. For info, call 956-9937. No Cover.

Bronco's "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" Turnabout Show. The same show with an all-new cast!! 9 PM.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 -
Bronco's "Whorehouse" Turnabout again at 9 PM. **Shamoo's** "Backstage Revue" at 9:30 PM. \$2 cover.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 -

Shamoo's "Turnabout" at 9:30 PM starring a cast of somewhat notorious individuals including the Darth Vader of Journalism, Dragon Lady.

Sammy's "Showtime" at 9 PM with All-Star Talent featuring Tish Tanner, K.C. Starr, Goldie O'Brien and special guest Lily White.

Connection "Gay Day at Big Surf" from Noon til 10 PM!!! \$5 cover plus buses from The Connection to Big Surf all day included. For more info, 248-9730.

Taylor's opens the outstanding Harriet Leider with her accompanist Ed Linderman, shows at 9 PM and continuing through Wednesday, Sept. 14.

Coming Events

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 -

B.A.B.E.S. "Great American Spaghetti Feast and Variety Extravaganza" at **Sammy's**. Dinner at 6:30 to 8:30 PM with the show starting at 9 PM. Tickets on sale with any **B.A.B.E.S.** member or at **Sammy's**. First Come - First Served! No reservations. Info. 231-0168.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 -
B.A.B.E.S. meeting at Noon at **Shamoo's**.

CONNECTION'S LABOR DAY LUAU BUFFET

— Sunday, Sept. 4th —

— Noon until 1AM —



Get ready for
Gay Day at Big Surf!

FREE TICKETS BEING GIVEN AWAY
FOR GAY DAY AT BIG SURF.

CONNECTION 4211 N. 7th Street Phoenix 248-9730

SAMMY'S

Presents

A Special Holiday Revue

"LABOR PAINS"

Sunday, September 4, 1983
Showtime 9 PM

\$3.00 Cover

featuring

*Tamara
Casey Starr
Goldie O'Brien
Penelope Poope
Landy Casondra
& Your Hostess*

Tish Tanner

Reservations & Information
231-0168

END OF SUMMER SALE !

**20% to 50% off
all merchandise**

An additional 5% off with your Hot Duds button

10:30 - 7 Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri.
10:30 - 9 Thurs.
10:30 - 6 Sat.

4745 N. Central
Phoenix, 265-6411



2125 E. McDowell Rd. — Phoenix

Continued from page 5

eating grin and snarls, "Fuck you! Fuck me later!" The crowd roars.

"I just got back from England," she rubs the mike under her armpit, "and I wanna tell you about the royal family. There's Princess Margaret, the dyke; I know, I had her last week, and the newest and most hated member of the family, Princess Di — the royal nit-wit. She's the one that fucked Charles and had the baby, right? Now, they're so afraid the baby will fall out of the crib and one of the Queen's Coky dogs would come along and think it was a dog yummy and eat it up. And they'd be looking everywhere for the Crown Prince, and where is he? Out in back in a pile of dog shit, and they're gonna call me up to come and find him." Deafening applause from the crowd is greeted by the toothy grin and another song.

Backstage, Divine steps out of makeup and wardrobe and becomes Glenn. He grew up in the suburbs of Maryland, the only child in an upper-middle-class family. John Waters, his cult-status film director friend, was a neighbor. "We grew up together. And went to high school — not the same high school, but we went to high school at the same time together. Every day I used to have a different hair color, and John told me that when he made movies, he would make me a star." Pipe dreams for some, perhaps, but not for Divine.

"John was at NYU taking filmmaking courses when the college kids kicked him out for marijuana. It was a very big deal then. I think they caught him with a half of a roach on him, and they all freaked out and kicked him out."

"So his parents bought him a movie camera and told him to make little movies and be a good boy. We all got together on Sundays because it was the only day of the week that we didn't have school or work or whatever. So, we made movies!"

Those movies were Waters classics like *Eat Your Make-up* (1968), *Roman Candles* (1968), *Mondo Trasho* (1969), *Multiple Maniacs* (1970), and *The Diane Linkletter Story* (1971). Divine and Waters made it to the big time with *Pink Flamingos* (1973).

We make *Pink Flamingos* for \$12,000. It was our first color talking film, and we were so proud of it. It has grossed over several million dollars at last count, and is still a favorite on the Midnight Movie circuit. John wanted the film to be a trip through decadence, and we promoted it as the most disgusting film of all time."

Did Divine mind eating dog excrement? "Well, I thought about it a lot, but I checked with doctors and they said it wouldn't hurt me or do anything to me. It was done strictly for shock value. I threw up afterwards, and then I used mouth-wash and brushed my teeth. There wasn't any taste, or should I say after-taste. I just didn't think about it. It made me a star."

"Our next big budget film at \$27,000, was *Female Trouble* (1974). That was blown up to 16mm. Then I went to London to do a play, *The Moon Behind Bars* at the Whitehall Theatre in the West End. That ran for six months and helped me grow as an actor. I think that shows in *Polyester* (1981). My Francine Fishpaw is a real person with depth and character. I loved that part."

There is a new John Waters script that Divine is reading. Glenn would not divulge any information about it, including the name. "John is in Cannes right now, trying to raise money for it. It will be a big budget, compared with *Polyester*, which cost about \$300,000. This one will be about a million."

"It looks like I'm going to make a new movie in Hollywood called *Beverly Hills*. I'm not the star of it, but it's a Hollywood production and has some big names in it. For me, it's a big break and a good one. One that I've looked forward to."

Divine has been up for Hollywood films before, met with producers, directors, and gone through the process of screen tests and readings. "I haven't gotten parts, but I was quite flattered that they thought of me and called me up."

"I was just made up for male role and lost the part to Orson Welles. That was about a month ago. I was flattered that it was between Orson Welles and

Continued on page 15

LITTLE JIM'S 307

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Zuice Dies-4

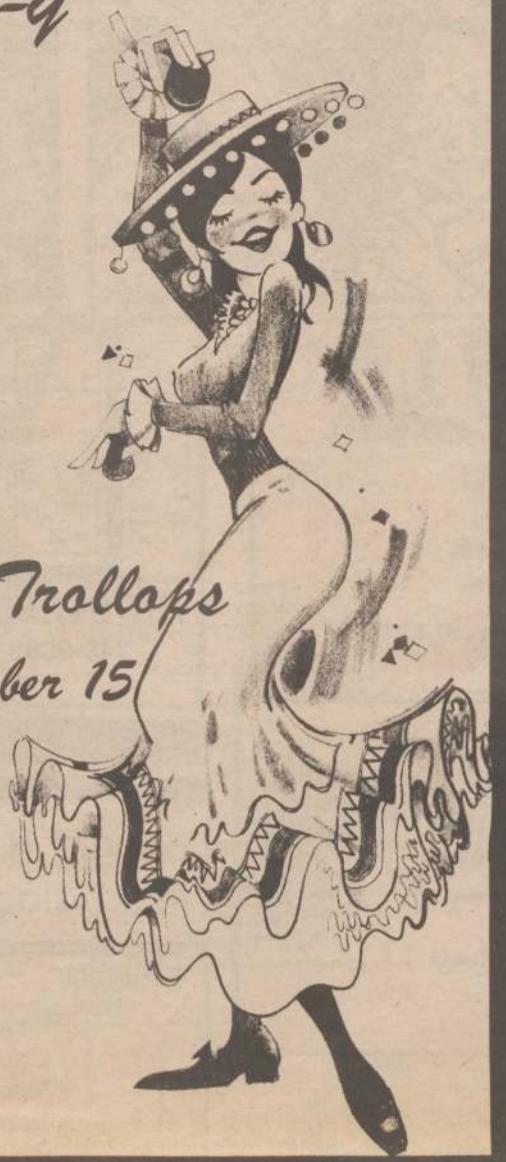
de

Septiembre
Show

with

Magnolia &
The Mexican Trollops

Thursday, September 15
8:00 p.m.



262-9293

TUCSON SEEN

by Jim Shafer

Since by my deadline no one had given me any birthdays, we'll forgoe that bit.

Plans are brewing for all kinds of doings here in the Old Pueblo. The Mr. Gay Tucson Contest will bust upon us on September 18, and we're all looking forward to a parade of prime beef (chicken and veal need not apply). All you hunks out there see Rita's bartenders for an application and preliminary judging — that's if you apply through Bill, Mr. T or JoJo. Miss Piggy is contracted to host this extravaganza of beef-cake so we'd all best be practicing our hog-calling.

"On Broadway, a Live Musical Revue" will be produced at the Joshua Tree under the auspices of Mr. Bob Bishop on September 22, 23 and 24. The performance of the 22nd will be a special invitational dinner theatre presentation. All three performances will be entirely live except for occasional pre-recorded orchestral backups. This will definitely not be a typical Tucson bar show. All proceeds are being donated to local Tucson charities: 1/3 to Womyn's Health Services, 1/3 to benefit the Gay Men's Health Clinic run by T.A.L.H.A. and 1/3 to the U. of A. Hospital for AIDS research and treatment.

Some changes in town: owner Ron will be tending bar at The Graduate 11 AM

to 6 PM Monday through Friday. Lunches continue there 11 - 2 Monday through Friday. Bill Neal, late of The Graduate now tends bar at the Back Pocket 11 AM to 6 PM Wednesday through Friday and at the Joshua Tree 4 to 9 PM Saturday and Sunday. Merde! my dears!! I know there's more going on in this city but no one tells me anything. Talk to you all in two weeks.

P.S. I almost forgot: Tucson Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee meets again on September 12, 6:30 PM at The Fineline upstairs. Officers and members of the seven person steering committee will be selected and on-going projects will be discussed and voted upon.

The Tucson Gay and Lesbian Political Activists group will meet Wednesday, September 7 at 6:30 PM at 1927 E. Speedway. The official name of the group will be decided upon and the by-laws and purposes and goals will be voted upon.

Great Outdoors of Tucson holds its business meeting on September 1 at 1927 E. Speedway at 7:30 PM. New chapter officers will be elected. A G.O. Labor Day Weekend outing is planned from September 3 through 5 including a hike in Sycamore Canyon and a trip to Nogales. Call David at 795-7615 for information. The G.O. Dayhikers will meet the heartier souls who have over-nited in Sycamore Canyon on the 5th at Pena Blanca Lake and then join in on the Nogales adventure. Call Wayne at 792-1586 for information.

and lesbian community has been in sharp contrast to the federal government's response. This administration claims to be committed to rekindling the volunteer spirit in America. Our community has responded to an unprecedented degree."

The claims of homophobia rang true during the hearings. One congressman suggested that the best way to halt the disease would be for gay males to change the lifestyle which seems to have spread the disease. His idea was rejected by a doctor who told the congressman that doing that would force people to deny their sexuality and would be too great a cost even to slow AIDS.

Continued from page 1

Apuzzo was critical of the way some of the federal AIDS research money was obtained — by cutting back other programs. This practice, she said, forces choices between various groups who need help.

She also took the Administration to task for not recognizing the large amounts of money for AIDS raised from within the gay and lesbian community — \$6.8 million has been budgeted by gay and lesbian community organizations for next year.

"The tremendous outpouring of support for voluntary efforts within the gay

Rita's Rendezvous

Presents

The Second Annual Mr. Gay Tucson Contest
Sunday, September 18, 8:30 PM

Cash Prizes:
First \$75.00
Second \$50.00
Third \$25.00

Mistress of Ceremonies
Miss Piggy

Entry Information Available From the
Bartenders at Rita's Rendezvous
3455 E. Grant Rd., Tucson • 327-3390

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2505 N. Stone Ave.
Tucson, 622-9158
Movie Arcade
Cards
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Video Tape Sale: \$24.95 Each

B.A.B.E.S.

Presents



"The Great American Spaghetti Feast and Variety Extravaganza"
A fundraising event for beginning production costs of The Fourth Empire Ball, co-produced by B.A.B.E.S. and Regal Productions and benefiting the Arizona AIDS Fund and Janus Theatre Company.



Sunday, September 18 at Sammy's Spaghetti Feast with entertainment at 6:30 PM

Variety Extravaganza at 9:00 PM
\$6 per person, full evening
\$3 per person, show only



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Small efficiency apt. in quiet neighborhood near downtown Phoenix. \$175/mo. inc. utilities and use of pool. Call 274-0327.

by Kurt Erichsen

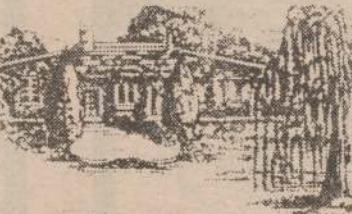
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7:30 PM

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Pastor

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noon sundays

Your Hosts, Ron & Joe

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WANTED: Experienced bartenders and waiters. Call 265-0851 between 8 AM and 11 AM for appointment and interview. Phoenix.

RESORTS

Provincetown FREE DIRECTORY, write: Business Guild, Box 421 E, Provincetown, MA 02657.

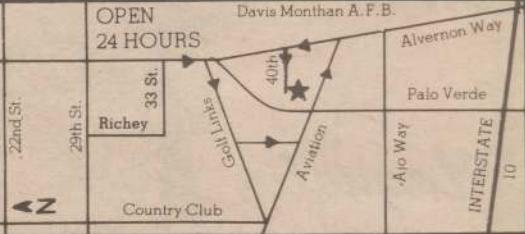
SERVICES

"THE MEN'S ROOM" at Sweetest Charity — resale and vintage clothing of quality. Buying, selling, trading. Monday-Saturday, 10 AM to 6 PM, Sunday Noon to 5 PM. 137 W. McDowell. 256-6620. Phoenix.

GAY ROOMMATE SERVICE. Looking for a place to live? Have gays with homes and apartments wanting to share with you. All ages. Rent range \$100.00 - \$200.00. Phoenix & all nearby cities. First, oldest and best service. Call 938-3932, 9 AM to 6 PM daily. Low fee.

THE OLYMPICS ARE COMING! ARE YOU? Let us help you plan the gay vacation of a lifetime - 1984 Olympics, Los Angeles, July 28 - August 12, 1984. Hotels are booked solid, but **OLYMPIC GAY HOUSING** can arrange quality private accommodations for you. Call for brochure & information. (213) 938-1984. Or write: O.G.H., 1314 S. Tremaine, Los Angeles, CA 90019.

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NOTICES

OASIS METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday service 6 PM, Danforth Chapel, ASU Campus, Tempe. Bible study, growth groups, social activities. All welcome. Call 268-5183 for information.

Transvestites and transexuals are invited to join "Spectrum", the total TV/TS group. Write: "Spectrum", P.O. Box 14671, Phoenix, AZ 85063.

Metro Phoenix Lesbian and Gay Youth (under 22) meets every Tuesday at 7:30 PM in Phoenix for discussion, socializing and special events. Call Jim at 957-2798 or Debbie at 839-7989 for location. The September program includes: Bar-b-que party 9/6; Discussion: relationship breakups 9/13.

Tucson Lesbian/Gay Support Rap Group meets twice weekly. For further information call 882-4180. Tucson.

Arizona Front Runners meet 7 PM every Tuesday at Himmel Branch Library for "Sunset Fun Run". Tucson.

Tucson Gay and Lesbian Political Activists meet the first Wednesday of every month 6:30 PM, 1927 E. Speedway, Tucson.

Gay 40+ meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. For information call Russ at 795-7180. Tucson.

First Puzzle Contest winner collects \$20 gift certificate at Hotdud's

The first winner of *The Western Express* Puzzle Contest, C.F., has \$20 worth of merchandise coming to him courtesy of Hotdud's clothing store and *The Western Express*. The award was made based on the first properly completed puzzle being received through the mail by the newspaper. Congratulations to C.F. and we hope you continue to participate.

This issue's puzzle contest award will be dinner for two at *The Grand Camel*, maximum value \$20 and not including liquor or gratuities. The award is courtesy of Pat Olivo of *The Grand Camel* and *The Western Express*. The first postmark on a properly completed puzzle wins. In case of same postmarks, a winner will be drawn at random. Send your entries to *The Western Express*, P.O. Box 32575, Phoenix, Az. 85064.



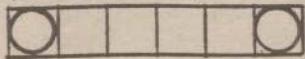
shuffle

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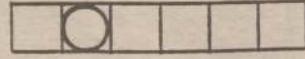
Gay zipper?

Shuffle the six letters in each line to form a word. Then take the circled letters to make the final answer.

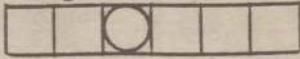
STRAFE



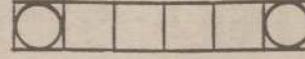
DRUGIT



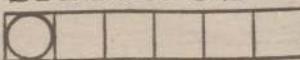
INJOTS



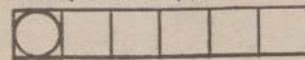
YYPIFT



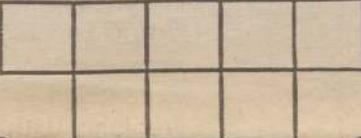
SMOAFUS



VEROLS



ANSWER HERE:



Sons of Apollo MC hold double bike christening



'Just a drop' to christen Bill Leybourne's new cycle

Tommy & Clyde's was the location on Saturday, August 13, for a lot of revelry surrounding the double christening being held in honor of two new motorcycles belonging to members of Sons of Apollo Motorcycle Club. Bill Laybourne, Road Captain, and Eddie Davis, Treasurer, both presented their new cycles to the members and guests and they in turn presented Bill and Eddie with some 'toasts'. You can be sure that

compared to these christenings a ship has it easy! A ship could have maneuvered T&C's parking lot based on the amount of liquid used in the ceremony. The crowd of over fifty took turns pouring their drinks over the heads of the new owners and their cycles. Add to that many buckets of ice water to make sure they stayed cool.

Tommy & Clyde's is the official 'home' of the Sons of Apollo.

Continued from page 12

me. You don't mind losing to people like that."

Between filmmaking and promotional tours, Divine's schedule is crammed. "I like the music recording business and wrote one song that I would like to see on my next album. My record producer didn't use it this time because he didn't write it."

Screenwriting isn't in the stars. "I don't have a mind for that sort of thing like John does. He's brilliant. I think his wit and humor are unbelievable. Mine... well, I sat down and tried to write a book once, and ended up throwing that aside

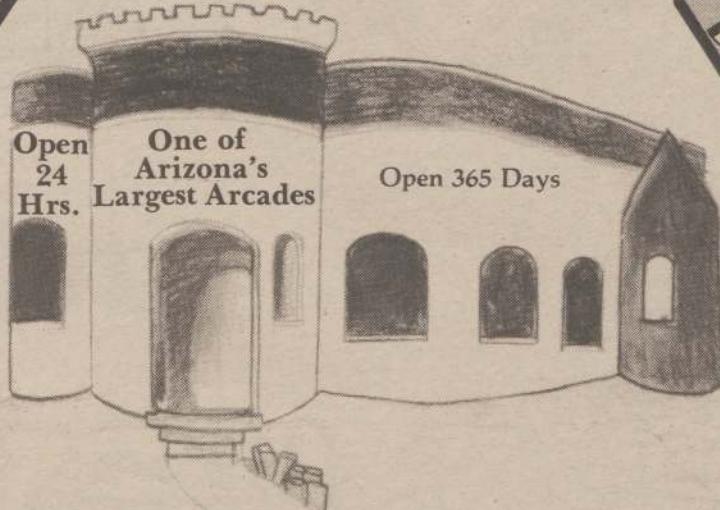
and coming out with 'The Divine Paper Doll Cut-Out Book.' That didn't take too much writing. I'm better expressing myself by just being myself."

With two films on tap, a hit album, and a couple of new cards in her "Exposed Cards" line, Divine maintains a busy schedule. "Let's see — we are going all over Germany for three weeks, then it's France for two weeks, that's all between June 15 and July 25, then back to the States for a while, then back to Europe in September, filming here in October, Africa in November..." He throws his hands in the air as if in exasperation, then looks at me and winks. He has it all under control.

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