

Thunder GAY.

Shake the blues

Got the sneezes, the freezes, the lonely winter bejezus? Got the whites, the frights, the lonely winter nights? Oh mama, you got the blues so bad?

Boogie your blues away at the February GTB Social. The organizing is being handled by two women in our community and the event should be truly spectacular! They inform us the theme is, naturally, *Mid-Winter Blues*. Maybe we should wear something blue...but don't wear your blues. Shake'em off with a friend at the Ukrainian Labor Temple, 203 Ogden Street - FEBRUARY 20TH - Remember: members get in cheaper!

It took a while to get the bugs out, but GTB's Printing Service is off and *running*! Bought in early December '81, it has taken a few weeks to dust off the cobwebs, ink it up and roll the presses. It is hoped that GTB will get considerable use out of the machinery. The potential for the equipment to be used for fundraising is great.

Save money

Hey, have we got a deal for you! GTB memberships, now available, are only \$11 in February. If purchased at or before the Mid-Winter Blues Social, you can start saving money instantly!

Membership is now pro-rated for each month of 1982, at \$1 per month. All memberships expire with the calendar year, Decembre 31st. You SAVE money only if you take out a membership quickly. You LOSE money the longer you wait (...if you like our socials, like gathering weekly at our office, like getting our wild and wonderful newsletter regularly...). We must announce that the famous newsletter must be cut back only to current, paid up members. Saves us postage, time, energy. Saves GTB all around. We'd rather send you all the news that fits though, so *get your red hot membership card now!* The newsletter you are holding in your hands now will be the final one mailed out to non-members.....going.....going.....

EDITORIAL

BIZARRE JUSTICE

A year ago, the gay community across Canada was outraged by the massive raids of bath houses in Toronto. It was the largest single police action in the country since the War Measures Act in Quebec a few years before.

GTB responded with donations to the Right To Privacy Committee. And it seems justice is being done.

Refusing to cow to the brutality, most of the found-ins have pleaded not guilty forcing lengthy trials and clogging the courts in Toronto. One whole year later, thirty-two have come to trial. Of the 30 who have pleaded not guilty 14 have had their charges withdrawn, 8 have been acquitted, 4 have been remanded, 1 has received a conditional discharge, 2 have received absolute discharges and only 3 have been found guilty.

Media people in Toronto have begun to notice the folly of the entire affair. As the cases drag on and on in the overworked system it may come to pass that officials will think twice before making so massive and hienous a raid ag-

ain. Attempts to open up lines of communication between the police and the gay community have been tenuous at best. There is massive resistance on the part of city officials to recognize gays as a legitimate minority. But the pressure remains.

To celebrate the solidarity created by the raids, gays in Toronto held a demonstration on the weekend of the fourth where 800 showed up. There were no reports of queerbashing, it was peaceful and no arrests were made.

We can support the people of Toronto and encourage those in Edmonton with letters, consistent pressure on politicians, and donations.

Though we pride ourselves on the relations we seem to have with local police it wouldn't be out of the ordinary for us to take a lesson from this. It is something GTB could consider.

In the meantime, donations to the defense fund can be sent to RTPC, 730 Bathurst Street, Toronto.

Hope for celluloid gays(?)

Hollywood waits with angst as two films make their way to theatres across Canada and the U.S. Personal Best which opened last weekend in Toronto as touted by Jay Scott in the Globe and Mail as "exceptionally well crafted, thoroughly accurate, emotionally galvanizing piece of film making." And Making Love which opened February 12

may seal the fate of future films dealing with homosexuality - at least those made in Hollywood.

By the standards established in Personal Best, the homophobic moguls may not have had that much to worry about. Reviews indicate overall that Personal Best is a

great picture which deals with the love relationship between two Olympic hopefuls. The two women played by Mariel Hemingway and Patrice Donnelly meet during Olympic trials and fall in love.

According to the Scott review Personal Best is first and foremost a *film* - "a film with a story in which the sexual proclivity of the characters figure but do not predominate.

In Making Love, a doctor leaves his wife when he discovers his homosexuality. Written by an openly gay screenwriter, Barry Sandler, it is being hyped as "not the definitive gay movie but at least it attempts honest reporting." A response to the stereotyping and viscious dishonesty in the depiction of gays on the screen Sandler is the the only openly gay person associated with the film. Michael Ontkcan, Harry Hamelin and Kate Jackson are straight.

The opening dates for the pair of films in Thunder Bay have yet to be released. With the success of Personal Best it is hoped local theatre managers get the message and book them soon. It will be worthwhile looking for them.

Harry Hamlin: his doctor makes housecalls.

Patrice Donnelly, Jodi Anderson and Mariel Hemingway:



"a well crafted and emotionally galvanizing film."

La Cage Aux Folles II, the sequel to La Cage Aux Folles which played in Thunder Bay some time ago, will be shown at Lakehead University on March 20 and 21. Folles II did not live up to the brilliance of its forerunner but is nevertheless entertaining. A group from GTB will likely get together for one of the showings. Shown in Room RB1042 at LU is sponsored by LUSU Movies with students charged \$1.50 and non-students \$2. Keep in touch for the time of our invasion.



Michael Ontkcan, Harry Hamelin and Kate Jackson: the three stars are straight.

WARNING:
CONTROVERSIAL LIFE STYLE
Theatres Branch Ontario

FLAUNTING IT

WHY NOT NOW. At first glance the phrase is simple, possibly deceptive: it might be mistaken for a question.

The phrase came out of a slow brewing think-tank, a gathering of friends one pre-Christmas afternoon. We'd come together to 'share the spirit', indulge in some rich, home-made grog and as the afternoon wore on, we slipped into more comfortable postures on the floor and began dreaming out loud about the possibilities for a conference, for making contact with other like spirits through-out the region. The north. Our own turf. Come together. Men and women. Gather, make: contact. *Why not now.*

The phrase, when attached to our conference theme, jumps out boldly, no longer shy, it demands. *Why not now.* I read it and it makes me feel good, positive, challenged. I have been thinking of the phrase, and using it, often since that meeting.

GTB, in Decembre 81, approved a modest new membership fee. One that I think is progressive and

Michael Sobota

fair to most everyone. Given the increased social calendar GTB is sponsoring, the new fee SAVES you money (if you're a sociable type). The new fee costs you only one dollar a month. If you purchase it now, it only costs you \$11. If you pick up your card in March it will be \$10. I guess the hardest thing to get across is *it does not save you money to wait!* Honestly. If you like to boogie and make contact at our socials (now every month) *it costs you more money not to be a member. Every month, you lose by not becoming a paid-up member.* So, be good to yourself. Buy a GTB membership. You're being good to alot of other people too, when you do. *Why not now.*

The big northern conference we're hosting in April is gonna be one helluva fine event! Films, workshops, dancing, cabaret, friends, friends and more new friends. It can be hosted well only with your

help. We'll need places for out-of town guests to stay, crews to help with the cabaret, the Saturday night social, setting up rooms, preparing a brunch. Maybe you could volunteer in one of those areas. Just come to a regular meeting, or phone the GTB gayline on Wednesday or Friday night. Give us a hand. *Why not now.*

How many of us, really, are there in our region? We get asked this alot, and probably wonder the thought even more often. If you projected from our regular meetings, you might think there are 30 or 40 gay people in Thunder Bay...and they're almost all men. If you judged by our socials, from the variety of faces that turn up over three or four events you might say we are about 150-200 in number. If you guessed from our phone line calls, we could leap over a thousand. But, unless you make contact with us and other members of the gay community, we'll never know. If you're not visible, you're invisible. Strange. Gee, it'd be nice to see you...maybe make some contact. *Why not now.*

Why not now.

Guess who's coming to town? Northerners from all over the region and even a few friends from south of the border. The drawing card is "CONTACT - WHY NOT NOW" A Northern Conference for Lesbians and Gay Men. GTB is the host, right here in Thunder Bay. Easter week-end: April 9th, 10th and 11th. Bring along your best bunny.

Grays Tof Thunder Bay

GAYS OF THUNDER BAY is an organization of lesbians and gay men from the Thunder Bay region.

OUR MAILING ADDRESS is:

G.T.B.

P. O. Box 2155

Thunder Bay P, Ontario

OUR PHONELINE is open every Wednesday and Friday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. At other times a recording advises callers of activities. Reach the phoneline by dialing:

345-8011

All persons interested in the gay movement in this area are welcome to contact us with offers of help, donations and so on!

GTB

A recent "epidemic" finally caused the Swedish State Health Board to reverse its longstanding classification of homosexuality as an illness. A large group of gay men and lesbians protested the classification by calling in "sick with homosexuality." according to their employers. Apparently, the action also motivated the board to destroy all records of individuals classified as having the "disease."

A handshake instead of hugs and kisses? The International Football Federation describes the demonstrative jubilation that soccer players display after scoring a goal as "unmanly behavior" that should be stopped. "The exultant outbursts of several players at once jumping on top of each other, kissing and embracing is really excessive and inappropriate" reads the federation's recent bulletin. The organization believes that proper behavior after a successful goal should be limited to congratulations from the team captain.



ANDY CAPP

