

GTB NEWSLETTER

THUNDER GAY, the GTB newsletter is back again for the first time in a couple of years. We plan to make this a regular part of the GTB scene, but we will need your help to make this work.

First we need ideas, suggestions, information, articles, and help to put the newsletter together. The more you contribute, the better the newsletter can become.

Secondly, we need readers. If you become a member of GTB, you will automatically become a subscriber. This is the best way to become a regular reader. We will also respect your wishes, and we send the newsletter out in a plain envelope.

If you are not yet a member of GTB, but still wish to subscribe to THUNDER GAY, please let a member of the executive know, or better yet, fill in the coupon below.

Name:

Address:

City: Prov.:

Postal Code:

Phone Number:

I wish to subscribe to THUNDER GAY: YES/NO

I wish to become a member of GTB: YES/NO

All information is confidential.

GAYS OF THUNDER BAY

#7-214 Red River Road,
Thunder Bay, Ontario

807-345-8011

Gays of Thunder Bay is a registered, non-profit corporation serving lesbians and gay men of the Thunder Bay region.

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

Thunder
GAY

Back on the street!

Social
ditties

THE NEWSLETTER OF
GAYS OF THUNDER BAY

DECEMBER, 1985

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1(Sunday)	General Meeting 2:30pm. Office #7-214 Red River Rd.
December 15(Sunday)	General Meeting 2:30pm. Office
December 21(Saturday)	Christmas Social Ukrainian Labor Temple
December 31(Tuesday)	New Year's Social Ukrainian Labor Temple

GTB needs more volunteers to help with socials. If you are interested and have some spare time, please come to a general meeting to find out how a social is put together. Any help or contribution will bring our community a step closer to having a place of our own, where we can meet and socialize.

EDUCATION

GTB, through its Education Committee, continues to reach out to mainstream Thunder Bay. In October, Michael Sobota was a guest on the Rick Smith Show, a local phone-in television half-hour. Fielding questions about AIDS, Michael had to respond to the threat of isolating "known risk groups". Said he, "Gays don't cause AIDS, a virus does."

In the same month Michael Sobota, David Belrose, Doug Broman, and Lawrence answered questions from a class of over one hundred Sociology students at Lakehead University. The probing and intelligent exchange was a "real high" for the group.

The Rick Smith interview, as well as a television drama about AIDS "An Early Frost", a moving and poignant documentary "The Times of Harvey Milk", and "Silent Pioneers" about aging lesbians and gay men, are available in VHS format for viewing. Contact GTB's phoneline for further information.

BENEFIT FOR AIDS RESEARCH

On September 20, over one hundred people attended a special GTB social to raise money for AIDS research. It had been decided at a meeting just prior to the Friday night dance to send all the profits to the AIDS Committee of Toronto. A total of \$411.69 has been sent on behalf of members of the gay and lesbian community of Thunder Bay.

GTB EXECUTIVE 1985-1986

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President	Tom
Vice-President	Teresa
Secretary	Derek
Treasurer	Mauno
Members-At-Large	Danny
	Jan
	Kavin
	Mari
	Mark
	Rob
Phoneline Co-ordinator	Danny

EDITORIAL

Since its inception in the spring of 1980, Gays of Thunder Bay has struggled with both its identity and purpose. Attempting to balance the social needs and the educational aspects of a gay and lesbian sub-culture has indeed been hard work. Many people have passed through the group's doors, all of them touched in some way by its activities.

After the somewhat lower profile of the last couple of years, the recent election of a new executive for 1985-86 brings with it a chance to revive the spirit begun half a decade

ago. These are bright, caring, and responsible people with plenty of ideas. They inherit one of the healthiest bank accounts ever - over six thousand dollars. As gay and lesbian leaders in Thunder Bay, they are committed to a permanent home for GTB, expanding the phoneline to three days a week from two, reinstating THUNDER GAY on a bi-monthly basis, as well as providing alternate activities for the gay and lesbian population of the region.

GTB has a history to remember, and a future well worth looking forward to. We can only give this group of men and women our encouragement and co-operation.

MEMBERSHIPS FOR 1986

The beginning of the new year also brings with it the beginning of the new GTB Membership Drive. The cost of \$15.00 will be the same as last year, however the form will be somewhat different. Rather than have the cost decrease proportionately each month, the new memberships will last a full twelve months. Whether you buy your membership in January or June, it will still cost \$15.00, and will be valid for one year from the date of purchase.

Why buy a membership? GTB needs your membership support to ensure its survival as a non-profit corporation. Besides the satisfaction you will get knowing you are supporting your organization, the membership also entitles you to get into socials at half the door price. You will also receive a subscription to the newsletter. As well, the membership is good for a \$10.00 discount on the annual GTB bus trip. The membership ends up paying for itself in a very short time.

If you wish to purchase a membership, they will be sold at the socials, or you can drop by the office during the regular meetings. In short, buying a GTB membership is not only economical, it is also a good way to support GTB.

FIRST ANNUAL BUS TRIP

Those who missed the weekend getaway package to Winnipeg on October 5th and 6th passed up a good time. The package included one night's accommodation, return bus fare, and one free dinner for fifty-five dollars or less. Space was limited, but it was unfortunate that lack of participation kept the number who went down to seven.

Travelling is always time-consuming, but it was a terrific way to meet people you never had the chance to before. The hotel we stayed at was a bit run-down, but that's Winnipeg. There was not enough time for shopping, although the selection was better.

Giovanni's Room (the Winnipeg Gay Community Centre) was the place we had the free dinner. It was great food at an affordable price, and dining by candlelight made the meal even more delicious. Afterwards, we went to Happenings, a nearby dance club, and enjoyed the nightlife. It was a great bar with good music.

The trip was a success for those who went. More advanced planning will make the next trip that much better. Overall - A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL - WELL WORTH THE PRICE.