

# 8 City Council Candidates Draw 50 To Lambda Caucus's Forum

Eight city council candidates attended the Lambda Political Caucus candidates' forum at the Oct. 4 Acceptance meeting and seven of them either expressed warm support for ending job discrimination against gay men and lesbians or eagerness to learn more about the problem.

It was the first time such a large contingent of local politicians had met face-to-face with a Charlotte gay organization. More than 50 people were in the audience.

The forum was one of the prime ingredients in the caucus's program to involve more Charlotte gay men and lesbians in the political process leading to the Tuesday, Nov. 8 elections.

The caucus also published and distributed a pre-election position sheet — **still avail-**

**able in gay/lesbian establishments** — detailing candidates' stance on passing an ordinance making it illegal for the city to discriminate against gay men and lesbians in housing, hiring and promotions.

The position sheet was the second distributed within a month by the caucus. Before the Sept. 27 party primaries, a position sheet based on a NOW questionnaire was distributed.

The latest position sheet was based on candidates' statements during the forum, on the NOW questionnaire, and from other appearances before Acceptance.

The caucus sheet listed favorable candidates in bold type: Democrat Harvey Gantt for mayor, and these city council candidates — Democrat Pam Patterson (District 1),

Democrat Charlie Dannelly (District 2), both Democrat Ron Leeper and Republican Jim Soukup in District 3, Democrat Evan Webster (District 6), Democrat Nell Fisher (District 7), and at-large candidates Republican Minette Trosch and Democrats Willie Stratford, Ed Harris and Bob Davis. Four at-large candidates will be elected.

Republican Ann Hammond, unopposed in District 5, attended the Acceptance forum and was favorable. Democrat Laura Frech, unopposed in District 4, did not attend but said on the NOW questionnaire that she supported asking the Community Relations Council to "look into it" if discrimination is a problem.

The caucus position sheet did not list Republican at-large council candidate Richard Vinroot in bold type even though he attended the forum.

Mayoral candidate Gantt, appearing before Acceptance in June, not only promised support for antidiscrimination legislation, but also promised at least one gay/lesbian appointment to the Community Relations Council. Gantt's opponent, Ed Peacock, addressed an Acceptance meeting in late May, but flatly refused to back antidiscrimination legislation.

A nonpolitical part of the caucus agenda for 1983-84 is completion of a survey of Charlotte gay/lesbian grocery shopping habits. Information in the survey will be used in polling grocery stores on their policies and practices in hiring/promoting/firing gay men and lesbians.

The grocery survey and poll is part of a long-range program to encourage businesses to adopt antidiscrimination clauses in written personnel policies.

*The next caucus meeting will be Monday, Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m. For directions to location, call Henry Raines at 527-8217, or the Gay/Lesbian Switchboard, 525-6128. The caucus plans to launch a membership drive early in 1984.*

## Gagner, 2 Others Form Fund For AIDS Victims

Charlotte has a new organization for helping AIDS victims.

Chris Lemmond, former Tags bartender, former Tags manager Hugh Gagner, and Kevin Jochems, friend of Charlotte AIDS victim Nat Strickland, formed the Charlotte AIDS Relief Fund in October, concerned that practically no funds were available to help AIDS victims with expenses.

The group has already received the support of the Scorpio, which will give one third of proceeds from an AIDS benefit on Wednesday, Nov. 16, to CARF (when Q-Notes deadline, the Scorpio planned to send two thirds to the Gay Men's Health

Crisis in New York, the recipient of more than \$2,500 the Scorpio raised during a summer benefit), and from the Brass Rail, which has pledged all proceeds from its AIDS Auction on Sunday, Nov. 13, to CARF.

QCQ has also given tacit support by welcoming CARF's request to use the QCQ mailing address: P.O. Box 221841, Charlotte 28222.

Lemmond, Jochems and Gagner, who is acting secretary-treasurer, are now interviewing persons to serve on the board of directors that will manage CARF and have talked with an attorney about applying for nonprofit, tax-exempt status. They are also assisting in publicizing the Scorpio and Brass Rail events, and have pledged their willingness to assist other clubs with benefits.

They learned from Strickland and Dr. David Durack, head of the AIDS unit at Duke University Hospital, that AIDS victims often need help paying for laboratory tests and for travel/lodging expenses. In many cases, treatment otherwise is free; in some cases, AIDS patients become eligible for funds for the permanently disabled.

But before eligibility is determined, AIDS patients and men who feel they may have AIDS live in jeopardy of not receiving diagnosis or treatment because of the high cost.

Durack said that research at Duke is focusing on a possible monocyte connection in AIDS and that 12 AIDS patients are under treatment at Duke out of a total of 20 North Carolina cases.

Duke accepts donations for its AIDS research. Checks should be payable to Duke University Medical Center with "Attention Dr. Durack: to be used for AIDS" written in the bottom left corner. Send to Dr. William A. Ilyan, Chancellor for Health Affairs, Duke University Medical Center, Durham 27710.

*Interested in working with or making a donation to CARF? Call Gagner at 535-6660.*

Q-Notes is a monthly news/feature/advertising periodical published by Queen City Quordinators primarily to disseminate information about Charlotte gay/lesbian organizations, particularly groups affiliated with QCQ. Articles in Q-Notes do not necessarily reflect the QCQ Board of Directors editorial stance.

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Prepaid classified liner ads: \$1 per line. Allow 45 characters per line (count each number, punctuation mark and space between words or numbers as a character). Partial lines count as a full line. No advertising with sexual overtones accepted.

Q-NOTES  
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Monday, Nov. 28  
Call Don King, 332-8893

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Do you have a room to rent? Would you like to advertise your business (pet grooming, hair design, electrical repair, home clean-up, medical services, etc.) to gay men and lesbians? Are you looking for a place to live?

Now you have a timely, inexpensive place to do it: the Q-Notes classifieds.

Beginning with the December issue, Q-Notes will accept classified liner ads that have no sexual overtones. The cost: \$1 per line.

Ads must be prepaid. To figure your cost, write your ad, count 45 characters (each letter, number, punctuation mark and space is a character) per line, multiply \$1 by the number of lines (count a partial line as a whole line), and send your ad and check or money order to Q-Notes, P.O. Box 221841, Charlotte 28222.