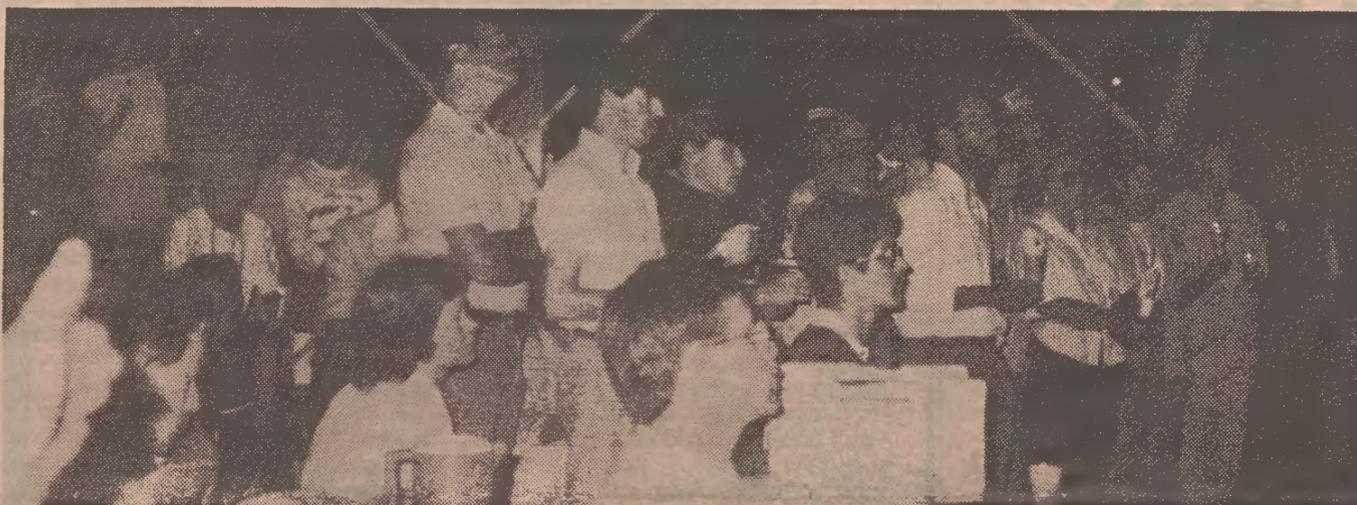


# Q-NOTES

AUGUST, 1986 □ Vol. 1, No. 3

TO ADVERTISE, CALL 704/332-3834

## Unrestricted, Media Cover Vigil For Truth & Decency



Vigil Audience Holds Candles While Listening To Speakers

Related story, Page 2.

On Friday night, July 25, for the first time, a Charlotte event involving gay men and lesbian women was held with no restrictions on media coverage.

A camera crew from WSOC-TV wandered through the crowd roughly numbering 105 as Rev. Art Fleschner of One Nation Indivisible sadly sang the *Star-Spangled Banner*, then trained the lens on former N.O.W. president Marjorie Storch as she assailed the way the religious right stigmatizes gay men and lesbian women. A Charlotte Observer photographer took pictures and a reporter made notes.

Earlier, before "An American Vigil For Truth & Decency" started in an Independence Park shelter near children's swings and slides, a crew from WBTV interviewed Fleschner.

The vigil was One Nation Indivisible's response to the appearance in Charlotte of Dr. Paul Cameron, a discredited psychologist invited to speak on "AIDS, homosexuality and pornography" by the antigay group Concerned Charlotteans.

"Cameron has found a way to make money from the Christian right," thundered Charlotte activist Don King, emcee for the vigil. "This man, who has repeatedly been repudiated by his colleagues, mouths the distortions about gay men and lesbians that the bigots want to hear."

"It just burns me up that a so-called Christian group would invite such a man to Charlotte."

Former District Court judge Larry Black; Jim Gronquist, former presi-

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### Switchboard Classes Set

Persons interested in contributing time in service to their peers may participate as a peer counselor by taking the Gay & Lesbian Switchboard training sessions scheduled to begin Thursday, Aug. 14.

Sessions will be held two other Thursdays, Aug. 21 and 28, and two Sundays, Aug. 17 and 24. All Thursday sessions will start at 7:30 p.m. sharp and end at 9:45. Meeting time for the two-hour Sunday sessions will be decided by the class at its first meeting.

"Even if people don't want to work the Switchboard, they are welcome to take this class," said John Q., president. "These sessions are an excellent course in good communication skills."

After the classes are over, those

who decide to work the Switchboard will set their own schedule, working as little as once monthly from 7 to 11 p.m.

The Switchboard handles numerous calls for information about bars and organizations, often receiving inquiries from visitors to Charlotte or persons who recently located to the city. Other callers talk to the counselors about personal problems, most often involving how to handle the ending of a relationship or how to come out to parents or other persons in close relationship.

■■■

To inform the Switchboard that you will participate in the August class, call the Switchboard, 525-6128, or John Q. at 333-1428.

### Figuring AIDS

N.C. cases through June 15: ..... 232  
Residents ..... 119  
Nonresidents ..... 113

N.C. deaths through June 15: .... 145  
Residents ..... 81  
Nonresidents ..... 64

Mecklenburg to date: ..... 15

#### N.C. history:

Before 1984	1984	1985	1986
9	17	63	30

Nonresidents are people who were diagnosed with AIDS elsewhere, then moved to North Carolina.

NOTE: In each case, the figure is the number of cases confirmed according to the U.S. Center for Disease Control's stringent definitions. Doctors double the figures to calculate the actual number of AIDS cases.

## Boom Boom's Roast Cooks Aug. 13

Miss Piggy, Waylon Flowers and Madame declined, politely saying that such a porky event was beneath them; but the dais will be loaded with wicked wit on Wednesday, Aug. 13, when The Boom Boom Roast takes place at the Scorpio.

Cooking time is 11 p.m. and a host of wags will be on hand to dish Lady Latour like she's never been done before.

Among the cooks will be these:

■ Tina Terrell, the terror from Oleen's, a long-time colleague of Boom Boom's.

■ David Wright who worked at the Scorpio back in the 19th Century when Latour was already a veteran impersonator. Wright manages Greensboro's Encore.

■ Tags owner/operator Danny Follis, who in his impersonation days suffered the trials and tribulations of

appearing with Boom Boom on stage.

■ Butch Stevenson, Mr. Carolina Drummer '86, who had to put up with LaBoom who emceed the leather contest back in May.

■ Dean Gaskey, who has had the immense task of keeping the spotlight on the immense Latour during Scorpio performances.

■ Ed Depasquale of Acceptance, the only man in Charlotte's gay/lesbian community who has been around longer than Latour.

Ron Lowe of Metrolina AIDS Project and Rev. Art Fleschner of One Nation Indivisible and New Life MCC will also have a few words for Charlotte's Queen Bee.

"Expect a few surprises," said Robert Sheets, president of QCQ which is sponsoring the roast. "This is the chance for all those who have

suffered Boom Boom's barbs to break a few of his beads."

Sheets warned, however, that Boom Boom will have the final say. After all the others do their dirtiest, Latour will have the chance to get even.

Scorpio owner Marion Tyson has agreed to donate cover charges of \$2 (members) and \$3 (guests) to QCQ.

"It'll be our final major fundraiser for a couple of months," Sheets said. "And it will come just after we allocate funds to a number of community organizations on Aug. 7. The money will also help QCQ with seed money for future events."

He said that QCQ's budget and requests from other organizations for assistance are now in the thousands of dollars after years in the hundreds.



Lady Latour doing her "I'm just a blind little piglet" number during May's Carolina Drummer '86. North Carolina's National Drummer Contest entries — Butch Stevenson and Chuck Lance — didn't finish in the top three, but had a great time anyway.