

Bridge Club, Women's Chorale Start

By MARK DRUM
Associate Editor

Got the winter blahs? Nothing to do? Bored?

There is no excuse in Charlotte. In addition to some of the most beautiful men and women in the South, we have bowling, singing, theatrical productions, bridge clubs, television productions, a Valentine's ball, spiritual fellowship, beach party socials, guest speakers, dinner clubs, women's music festivals — special interest groups for every persuasion. Even levi-leather sleaze camp drag shows (not recommended for the weak at heart).

Al Carwile, active with the new bridge club, says things are going very well for the group. But it has no name. Let me hear from you punsters out there and NAME THAT CLUB!

Interested? Contact Al at 376-1490. He especially invites women and friends of gays and lesbians to join. Hosts are needed for these friendly contract bridge rounds. (All bridge players say their games are friendly ... until you make a mistake!)

Al says he will provide "special" tutoring for novice players. Can you believe that line? Members pay the host \$2 to take care of wine and snacks for the meeting and take turns hosting. They try to meet at least every other week (usually on a weekend) about 7 p.m.

According to Lambda Chorale director Art Fletcher, a women's chorale is being started. Tentative plans call for rehearsals on Saturdays at 10 a.m. Call Art at 373-1817 for details. I understand that the men's chorale is continuing to do very well and has plans for a number of events this year. They still need baritones and a bass or two.

Mature Gay Men will meet Feb. 7 — that's a Saturday — at Clarence's in Gastonia. Time: 7:30 p.m. Believe me, the food'll be incredible.

I had the opportunity to speak at PFLAG (Parent's and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) last month. Of course I almost missed it, as I put the wrong date in the Q-Notes calendar! The group meetings, at Christ Episcopal Church, are open to the public for the initial part of the meeting with a guest speaker or topic; then the closed session gives families a chance to talk privately. They are a wonderful group and I have had the

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 11 a.m. MCC/Charlotte worship 7 p.m. New Life MCC worship	2 9 p.m. Bowling	3 8 p.m. Acceptance	4 7 p.m. PWA group 7:30 p.m. Lambda Chorale Switchboard group	5 7 p.m. Test-pos. group 7:30 p.m. New Life MCC supper 7:30 p.m. QCQ board meeting (open)	6 8 p.m. Tradesmen's "Queen of Hearts" pageant. Brass Rail 8 p.m. Acceptance AA	7 10 a.m. Women's chorale 7:30 p.m. MGM at Clarence's in Gastonia
8 11 a.m. MCC/Charlotte worship 5 p.m. Tradesmen's meeting. Brass Rail 7 p.m. New Life MCC worship	9 9 p.m. Bowling	10 8 p.m. Acceptance	11 7 p.m. PWA group 7:30 p.m. Queen City Friends 7:30 p.m. Lambda Chorale Switchboard group	12 Lincoln's Birthday 7 p.m. Test-pos. group 7:30 p.m. New Life MCC supper 7:30 p.m. PFLAG 9 p.m. QCQ Valentine's party at Charades	13 8 p.m. Acceptance AA	14 Valentine's Day 10 a.m. Women's chorale 6:30 MCC/Charlotte Coffee House "Beach Social"
15 11 a.m. MCC/Charlotte worship 3 p.m. New Life MCC polluck and congregational meeting 7 p.m. New Life MCC worship 7 p.m. Gay Parents	16 Washington's Birthday Observed 9 p.m. Bowling	17 8 p.m. Acceptance	18 7 p.m. PWA group 7:30 p.m. Lambda Chorale Switchboard group	19 7 p.m. Test-pos. group 7:30 p.m. New Life MCC supper 9 p.m. Switchboard skate party	20 8 p.m. Acceptance AA	21 10 a.m. Women's chorale
22 11 a.m. MCC/Charlotte worship 7 p.m. New Life MCC worship	23 7:30 p.m. One Nation Indivisible 9 p.m. Bowling	24 8 p.m. Acceptance	25 7 p.m. PWA group 7:30 p.m. Queen City Friends Switchboard group	26 7 p.m. Test-pos. group 7:30 p.m. New Life MCC supper	27 8 p.m. Winter Womyn-Music at UNCC 8 p.m. Acceptance AA	28 10 a.m. Women's chorale 2 p.m. WWM at UNCC 6:30 p.m. MCC/Charlotte polluck 8 p.m. WWM at UNCC

FEBRUARY, 1987

Birth Signs: Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 ■ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Birthstone: Amethyst

opportunity to get to know two very special parents (see story elsewhere). February's meeting will feature author/educator Bryan Robinson who has written three books for classrooms dealing with childhood development. Watch April's *Psychology Today* for publication of a study concerning parents of gays and lesbians that Bryan assisted with.

So you still can't think of a thing to do? Try writing a letter! Priority No. 1 for our community is to write Jeff King, General

Manager, Cablevision of Charlotte, 316 E. Morehead, Charlotte, NC 28204. Thank him for allowing Closet Buster Productions to produce *Gay/Lesbian Forum* on cable channel three. Ask friends to write as well. These letters are of critical importance to keep this show on the air and to counter negative mail/calls the station receives. Just as in voting, one letter can make the difference.

New Life MCC is sponsoring a Valentine's Day Ball on Feb. 14. Call 373-1817

for details. More Valentine's special events are being sponsored by the Coffee House for MCC/Charlotte on Saturday with a Beach Party Social. Beach Bunnies may come wearing any appropriate beach attire. B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Blanket). You may want to contribute traditional picnic foods, and be prepared for dancing. Who knows ... Annette and Frankie may show up! Call 563-5810 for more information.

Did you know that PFLAG is looking for contributions to keep the phone line and newsletter going? With a budget of only \$75 per month, we can surely find a way to help them help us. Make checks payable to PFLAG. Mail to P.O. Box 13021, Charlotte, NC 28226. Let's show them how much we appreciate them!

No Valentine's Day would be complete without a Queen of Hearts Pageant. Of course, when it is presented by Charlotte's own Tradesmen group ... watch out! Entertainment will be provided by CHEAP TRADE (a bonafide levi-leather sleaze drag act of dubious origin). Show time is 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, at the Brass Rail for the Tradesmen's monthly club night. Bill Pursell, club president, says they will offer another pot night in addition to crowning the Queen of Hearts. The group plans to present a check for \$300 to Hospice for care of AIDS patients that evening ... and is gearing up plans for the first anniversary in May. Busy as usual. Good going!

This month's quote: "The break (for equal rights for gays and lesbians) will come from middle America ... when they realize that the joke they hear about gays is not about some abstract person ... but about their sons and daughters. Then we will see changes made." That was Dean Gaskey, new president of Queen City Quordinators, speaking to the Leadership Council on Jan. 13.

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WARNING: Publication of a person's picture or name is no indication of his or her sexual orientation.
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SUBSCRIPTIONS for 12 months are available for \$12, payable in advance. Mailed in unmarked envelopes.
ADVERTISING: Display advertising may be rejected for any reason. Rates available on request. March issue deadline: Friday, Feb. 20.

NCHRF Seeks Volunteers

The N.C. Human Rights Fund wants volunteers who enjoy snooping around, but can hold their tongue when needed. The purpose: to provide people who lobby legislators for equal rights with the informational ammunition they need to prove that harassment and unequal treatment exist.

The Fund needs at least one individual in every area of the state who can document violence, harassment or dis-

crimination in which the victim's gayness was a factor. Retirees are particularly suited to this work because there will be days when a lot of time will be required, yet weeks when there is little to do. It's a matter of soliciting testimony from people you hear or read about, and can involve time in the library, the court files and on the telephone.

To volunteer, call the Fund at 919/829-0181.

ORGANIZATIONS

All phone numbers in 704 area code unless otherwise indicated.

**Means memberships or contributions are tax-deductible.

NATIONAL

**Gay Men's Health Crisis. 132 W. 24th St., New York, NY 10011. One of the nation's foremost organizations in information about AIDS and services for persons with AIDS.

Human Rights Campaign Fund. P.O. Box 1396, Washington, D.C. 20077-4462. Lobbies congress for funds to fight AIDS through the AIDS Campaign Trust.

**Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund. 132 W. 43rd St., New York, NY 10036. Fights in the courts for equal treatment of gay men and lesbians in employment, housing and custody; and against AIDS discrimination and archaic sodomy laws. Membership: \$30/year. 212/944-9488.

**National Gay Rights Advocates. 540 Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Fights in the legal system for gay/lesbian civil rights in insurance and other fields. 415/863-3624.

CAROLINAS

**N.C. Human Rights Fund. P.O. Box 10782, Raleigh, NC 27605. Works in the courts to seek justice for gay men and lesbians; and provides educational programs to reduce prejudice. Membership: \$10/year. 919/828-2077.

Triangle Lesbian & Gay Alliance. Umbrella planning and political activist group in Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill area. Contact Joe Herzenberg, 919/929-4053.

CHARLOTTE AREA

Acceptance. 8 p.m. Tuesdays. Park Road Baptist Church, 3900 Park Rd. Nonreligious social, educational group. Rap session on first Tuesdays; film, second Tuesdays; 7:30 covered dish, third Tuesdays; program, fourth Tuesdays; profiles, fifth Tuesdays. 525-6128.

Acceptance AA/Al-Anon. 8 p.m. Fridays, Holy Comforter Church, 2701 Park Rd. Open meetings for alcoholics and their loved ones. 332-4387.

AIDS Support Group. Weekly meetings. Professional support for persons with AIDS and others. 375-1156.

Closet Buster Productions. Produces "Gay/Lesbian Forum" television show for Charlotte public access cable. 3001 Central Ave., Box 156, Charlotte, 28205. Call Al Carwile, 376-1490.

Gay/Lesbian Switchboard. Information, peer counseling, referrals. Staffed 7-11 p.m. daily. Volunteers always welcome for training. 525-6128.

Gay Parents Coalition. Social, educational group for gay men and lesbian women who have children. Monthly meetings. Inquiries: Ken Hedrick, 373-0173, or P.O. Box 221841, Charlotte, NC 28222.

Lutherans Concerned of the Carolinas. Group for gay/lesbian Lutherans. Call or write Jim Smith, 4013 Shamrock Dr., Charlotte, NC 28215; 536-4168.

Mature Gay Men. Social group meeting first Saturdays with 7:30 p.m. social hour, 8:30 covered dish supper. Inquiries to Q-Notes, P.O. Box 221841, Charlotte, NC 28222. Include phone number for quick response.

**Metrolina AIDS Project (MAP). Information, education, safe-sex instructional parties, support groups. Hotline Mon.-Fri. 6-9 p.m. 333-AIDS. Write P.O. Box 32662, Charlotte, NC 28232.

**Metropolitan Community Church of Charlotte. Worship 11 a.m. Sun. and 7:30 p.m. Wed. at 4037 E. Independence Blvd. Promptness requested because of building security rules. Pastor Lynn Guerra, 3001 Central Ave., Box 156, Charlotte 28205. 563-5810.

**New Life Metropolitan Community Church. Worship 7 p.m. Sundays and church dinners 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at 2121 Commonwealth Ave., Suite 215. Pastor Art Fleschner, 373-1817.

One Nation Indivisible. Political activist and human rights advocacy group for gay and lesbian people. Write P.O. Box 221404, Charlotte 28222; or call 373-1817.

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG). 7:30 p.m. second Thursdays at Christ Church, 1214 Providence Rd. 364-1474 (strict confidentiality). Inquiries: P.O. Box 13021, Charlotte, NC 28226.

Queen City Friends. Lesbian social group. 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Wednesdays upstairs at Pantera's Pizza, Park Road Shopping Center.

Queen City Quordinators, P.O. Box 221841, Charlotte, NC 28222. Assists gay/lesbian groups with funding; coordinates events for the gay/lesbian community. Public board meetings first Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Carolina Community Project, 2300 E. Seventh St. Call Robert Sheets, 542-8177.

Students at UNC-Charlotte. Call Susan Furr, 597-2140.

Switchboard Support Group for persons attracted to people of the same sex. Wednesdays 7:30 p.m. Information: call Jim, 375-5038, after 6 p.m. \$5 donation requested.

The Tradesmen. Levi-leather social club. 5 p.m. first Sundays at Brass Rail. 399-8413.

List your group for free. Send information to Don King, 331 East Blvd. #3, Charlotte 28203.

Q-Notes

c/o Don King, 331 East Blvd. #3,
Charlotte, N.C. 28203
Phone 704/332-3834