

Q-NOTES

Switchboard, Charlotte 704/525-6128
 AIDS Hotline, Charlotte 704/333-AIDS
 PFLAG Hotline, Charlotte 704/364-1474
 AIDS Hotline, Columbia 803/868-7257
 Call Line, Wilmington 919/675-9222

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 5 MAY 1988

PRIDE IN PRINT

TO ADVERTISE: 339-0679

BEST BETS

- May 7
Mature Gay Men
- May 8
Bingo at Stevens
- May 12
Gay Pride Planning Meeting at Stevens PFLAG meeting
- May 13, 14, 15
Tradesmen Anniversary
- May 16
GROW Wilmington
- May 22
MCC Charlotte MCC New Life
- May 25
Queen City Friends
- May 28
MCC Charlotte Potluck Supper
- May 31
CLOSER Asheville

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Congress Outlaws Phone Sex

By Patrick Church
 Q-Notes Staff

In 1934, the U.S. Senate passed a communications act, aptly titled The Communications Act of 1934. In this piece of legislation, it was decided that no phone messages of a pornographic nature could be disseminated over telephone lines between states.

However, this Act did allow those persons who were over the age of 18 and consenting to hear them.

On up the legislative road, December of 1987, Senator Jesse Helms, R-N.C., developed the Helms Amendment which calls for this clause to be deleted from the Act. Thus, if it were to pass it would make the dissemination, i.e., spreading, of pornographic material between states over telephone lines totally illegal.

The amendment was approved by the Senate in a 98-0 vote, but was later replaced in the House by a watered down version, came to the floor of House, it failed.

Approval for the Helms Amendment, in the house, came on April 19, 1988, winning passage by an overwhelming 272-131 vote.

The next day it passed through the Senate with no vote necessary due to its previous passage. Pornography across any state lines over telephone wires was prohibited for anyone.

Keep in mind, though, that the law applies only to calls made between states. As Barbara Lukin, in Sen. Helms' office stated, "the states will have to decide for themselves about what they will do within their own boundaries."

In North Carolina, as of 4/28/88, there has been no legislation passed on the matter.

School Board Candidates Non-Responsive

Only three of 14 persons running for school board in the May 3 election answered questionnaires developed and presented by First Tuesday, Charlotte's gay lobbying organization. None were completely positive.

The questionnaires used were developed to help First Tuesday decide which candidates to recommend in upcoming elections, but have so far not produced much response.

The problem, it may be, is that local politicians do not see the gay vote as necessary.

Morgan Crowned Miss Charlotte '88



Tracy Morgan, left, was crowned Miss Charlotte for 1988 at Scorpio. Blair Williams, also pictured, was awarded 1st Runner-up in the annual contest. Grand Prix earned 2nd Runner-up.

Perkins Benefit Raises Big \$\$

By Dean Gaskey
 Q-Notes Staff

With more than 300 people in attendance, the special benefit show, on April 27th at Scorpio, was off to a rousing start.

The star-studded evening was to benefit Frankie Perkins, one of the club dancers. Perkins, 19, was downed by a stroke on the evening of February 11, and was rushed to Charlotte Memorial Hospital, where it was also discovered that Perkins was experiencing heart problems originating from childhood.

Scott Higgs, Perkins' lifemate, said that Perkins has been in various intensive care units since the stroke and medical bills are piling up every day. Perkins, with no medi-

cal insurance, had only his friends in the Charlotte area to turn to for assistance, hence the idea for a benefit show.

Performers who gave of their time and talent to raise more than \$650 for Perkins included: Tracy Morgan, Kevin Scott, BoomBoom LaTour, and Tina Terrell.

Also appearing were: Jacqueline Boreau and Jamie Monroe.

Perkins, who is still at the Charlotte Rehab Hospital, is able to receive cards and flowers. If you wish to send gifts, address them to:

Frankie Perkins
 c/o Charlotte Rehab Hospital
 1100 Blyth Blvd.
 Charlotte, N.C.

Gay or Gay and Proud?

By Joel N. Smith
 Q-Notes Staff

June is Gay Pride Month. Is there any pride out there? Next year will mark the twentieth anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. If Charlotte is able to successfully celebrate Pride Month this year, the wheels could begin turning to make next year's celebration one worthy of twenty years of fighting for our rights.

In past years, picnics, awards, banquets, carnivals and newspaper advertising have comprised Charlotte's gay pride celebrations. These events have largely been sponsored by Queen City Quordinators. Again, this year, QCQ board members have offered to facilitate similar events. However, given the large number of organizations currently meeting in Charlotte, QCQ is asking for each organization to pull part of the load and give their support, input and person-power to make Gay Pride Month a success, an event worth our pride. Representatives of organizations and interested individuals are asked to meet on Thursday, May 12th, at 8:00 p.m.

at Steven's to begin planning this year's activities.

Celebrations, parades and speeches across the country have marked the month of June since 1969. In the summer of that year the first militant gay uprising in the United States happened at the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village when police tried - as they did often - to raid the bar and arrest the patrons. This time patrons fought back.

The homosexual civil rights movement in the United States actually began much earlier. An organization called the Society for Human Rights based in Chicago was founded in 1924, but was overcome by opposition from police and press. Soon after the Kinsey report of 1948, which revealed the extent of homosexuality in the United States several gay groups were formed, including the Mattachine Society; One, Inc.; and the Daughters of Bilitis. By 1969 there were about 50 gay organizations in the United States. After the Stonewall incident, the Gay Liberation Front and the Gay Activist Alliance were founded.

Register to Vote, It Counts

by Greg Winston
 Q-Notes Staff

There will no doubt be a lot of articles and press coverage concerning the reasons that every American who legally can, should vote. Most will be very valid points, such as: it is your civic duty and people around the world are fighting and dying for the right we take for granted.

The reasons people often give for not voting, however, are usually flimsy. "The people running don't interest me." "I don't really have time to go vote."

Voting is very simple, as is registering to vote. Let's take a hypothetical person and walk him/her through the registration process.

Bob, our hypothetical man, decides he wants to vote but he needs to register. He calls the Board of Elections to ask them how he does this. While on the phone with the Board, he finds out that there are 258,429 persons, at present, registered to vote in Mecklenburg County. He then

asks the person at the Board how he can join those great people who are already registered.

The lady explains to Bob that he can go to any public library branch, any Mechanics and Farmers Bank branch, or come to the Board of Elections office located at 741 Kenilworth Ave. near Outlet Square in the modern, black office building. The suite number is 202.

Bob elects to go to the Boards office. When he enters he tells the lady behind the desk that he needs to register to vote.

She asks Bob if he would like to put his hand on the Bible, though he doesn't have to. Then she asks him to raise his right hand and repeat after her. They went through the ritual and Bob, our hypothetical man, was registered.

While Bob was in the office, he picked up literature on how the voting booths work and a copy of a sample ballot.

The deadline to register is October 10, 1988, for the election on Nov. 4. It is a simple process and it does give you a voice in how your country is to be run. Remember: Silence=Death.