

# Q-NOTES

Switchboard, Charlotte (704) 525-6128  
AIDS Hotline, Charlotte (704) 333-AIDS  
PFLAG Hotline, Charlotte (704) 364-1474  
AIDS Hotline, Columbia (803) 779-PALS  
Call Line, Wilmington (919) 675-9222

May 1990

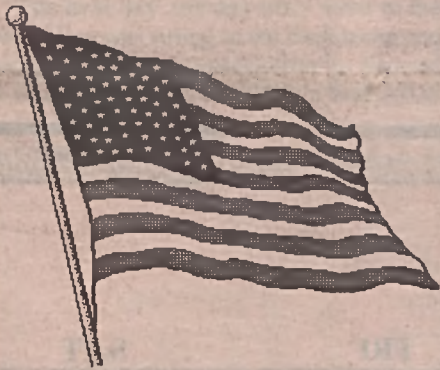
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## First Tuesday Pickets Banquet

### BEST BETS

- May 4 Names Project Benefit  
ONE VOICE Performs
- May 6 AIDS Benefit at  
Snuffy's
- May 9 Queen City Friends
- May 10 PFLAG
- May 13 Mother's Day
- May 19 MCC Trip To The Zoo  
Oleen's 20th Anniversary
- May 28 MCC Charlotte  
Potluck Supper
- May 31 Memorial Day



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Sixty-five people picketed the Concerned Charlotteans banquet April 20 at the Charlotte Convention Center, according to First Tuesday co-chair Sandra Bailey.

"This is amazing," Bailey said toward the end of the 1 1/2 hours of picketing. "I've counted 65 who have marched with us at one time or another, more than twice the number who have picketed before. We don't have enough signs for all of them."

First Tuesday organized the demonstration that included representatives of several gay/lesbian groups, the Charlotte chapter of the National Organization of Women, and the Charlotte chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

The numbers were just one of the differences from demonstrations at the banquet the past two years. Marchers for the first time also chanted and handed out flyers about First Tuesday and the reason for the picketing.

At least one television station, WSOC-TV, led off its 11 o'clock newscast with footage about the picket, which was also covered the next day with a photograph and an article in The Charlotte Observer.



### One Voice To Sing At Benefit Performances

ONE VOICE will be very active in May and June with several planned benefit performances that will support the gay and lesbian community. On Friday, May 4, ONE VOICE will entertain at The Names Project Benefit at the Van Landingham Estate in Charlotte. Tickets for the event are available by calling Sheila Lockhart at 704/541-6679.

On Saturday, May 5, the chorus will make their second road trip, this time to Atlanta to sing in the "Hollywood Hots" benefit, with monies going to several AIDS-related groups in the Atlanta community. And on Sunday, May 20, ONE VOICE will participate in the 7th International AIDS Candlelight Memorial Service, being organized by the Metro-lina AIDS Project.

The chorus is maturing very quickly, according to Dan Kirsch, President of the group. In order to outline a strong future for the chorus, the provisional council will hold a planning retreat in mid-May. From the retreat, the chorus hopes to determine how they will best serve themselves and the gay and lesbian community through the next one to two years.

The 43-member group continues to rehearse on Thursday nights. A new rehearsal space has been secured for the month of May: they will meet at the PC Land Building, 4037 E. Independence on the 7th floor.

Upcoming plans include another chorus preview concert in mid-to-late June. Then the chorus will participate in both North and South Carolina Pride Days: Saturday, June 23, in Columbia, SC, and Saturday, June 30, in Chapel Hill. They plan to sing a couple of numbers with the Common Womyn's Chorus of Durham at the June 30 rally.

New members are welcome to join the chorus at any time. Just show up at rehearsal or call Dan Kirsch at 536-1372 for more information.



Picketing was scheduled during the time that people attending the banquet would arrive. All had to pass through the picket lines to attend the banquet, which featured a Concerned Charlotteans award for Jesse Helms, one of Congress' most vocal anti-gay senators.

Keynote speaker for the banquet was another anti-gay congressman, Rep. William Dannemeyer of California, author of an anti-gay book.

Picketers praised the courtesy, concern and advice of Charlotte police captain Walt Hilderman, chief of the police department's intelligence division, which monitors activist groups and advises about lawful picketing.

"I was standing just on the Convention Center's sidewalk handing out flyers when three really big sheriff's deputies came out and said they thought people who are picketing have to keep moving," said Don King, a former member of First Tuesday.

"Instead of arguing about it, I just went over to Captain Hilderman and asked him about it. He said not to worry, he'd take care of it; and he did. And I went back to keep handing out flyers (to people attending the banquet).

"About 15 minutes later, a short man in a dress suit came out and said I was blocking the sidewalk and that I'd have to move. I told him I had permission to do it right there from a law enforcement officer, and he said he was a law enforcement officer, a member of the sheriff's department, and opened his coat to show me a badge.

"Captain Hilderman was standing right next to me, so I just pointed him out and said I was following his orders and would be happy to move if Captain Hilderman told me to. So Captain Hilderman talked to him, I moved over about a foot to my right, and kept right on."

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## Senate Election Meeting Scheduled for Gay Men, Lesbians

On Tuesday, May 15, gay men and lesbians in the Charlotte area will find out how to help defeat Jesse Helms when two political action committees hold a 7:30 p.m. meeting at the Unitarian Church of Charlotte.

During the meeting, a representative of the Human Rights Campaign Fund will introduce a vote-generating technique adapted from the National Abortion Rights Action League; and Charlotte representatives of N.C. Senate Vote '90 will announce plans to swing votes away from Helms to the Democratic Party's candidate in the U.S. Senate election on Nov. 6.

The May 15 meeting is open only to gay men and lesbians, and friends who accompany them.

"The anger against Helms has produced a lot of energy," said Don King, one of the meeting's organizers. "People are eager to get started, asking what they can do to beat Helms. We plan to provide some direction on May 15."

"Gay men and lesbians aren't the only people mad at Jesse. He voted against the Clean Air Bill and environmentalists are upset about that. Pro-choice activists want him beaten because of his stance against any decision to have an abortion. Artists and authors want him out because he plans to

monitor their work to make sure no federal arts money goes to them.

"Helms won very narrowly in 1984. This year, with no really noticeable Democratic candidate running against him, he'll be as complacent as he's ever been.

"He has alienated more people than ever, and if we work hard to get people to the polls, we have a good chance of beating him."

The Human Rights Campaign Fund was organized four years ago as a national political action committee to take contributions and funnel funds to candidates concerned about gay and lesbian issues.

N.C. Senate Vote '90 was formed in February by North Carolina gay men and lesbians to affect this year's senatorial election. The group expects thousands of dollars in contributions from gay men and lesbians outside North Carolina. It plans to promote campaign activity across the state and to buy statewide advertising.

Meetings have already been held in Asheville and Durham.

For a second Charlotte meeting scheduled for June 7, N.C. Senate Vote '90 workers plan to invite environmentalists, pro-choice activists, members of peace-and-justice groups, African-Americans, artists and authors, and other progressive individuals.