

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
 Switchboard, Wilmington (919) 675-9222

December 1990

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BEST BETS

- Dec. 1 World AIDS Activities:
 1 - MAP Open House
 1-6 pm
 1/2 - Mint Museum
 "Videos Against AIDS"
 3 pm
 2 - Women and AIDS
 candlelight vigil at
 Government Center
 6:30 pm
- Dec. 4 First Tuesday
 addresses substance
 abuse 7:30 pm
- Men Of All Colors
 Together at ART
 7:00 pm
- Dec. 8 QCF Christmas Party
 7:30 pm
- Dec. 11 Sports Alliance Mtg.
 7:30 pm
- Dec. 15 ONE VOICE
 Christmas Concert at
 Unitarian Church
 8:15 pm
- Dec. 19 WOW Christmas
 Party

INDEX

AIDS Vaccine	Page 6
Business Cards	Page 19
Calendar	Page 2
Gays and the Bible	Page 5
Have You Heard	Page 15
Hey, Helen	Page 15
It's My Opinion	Page 2
Letters	Page 8
Managing Your Doctor	Page 9
News In Brief	Page 14
Organizations	Page 17
Post-Election Info	Page 4
Reflections	Page 6
Social Highlights	Page 10
Soft Spot	Page 6
World AIDS Day	Page 3

MAP Moves To Larger Location

By David Stout
 Q-Notes Staff

Once again due to increased case load and community need, Metrolina AIDS Project is moving to a larger location. The current location on Euclid Avenue was outgrown in a relatively short period of time, thus precipitating the move to the new space in the Charlotte Venture complex at the corner of Church and Bland Streets.

In fact, the space problem had gotten so bad that even the Board of Directors could not meet at the MAP offices.

However, now with the new location, it appears that many of the growing pains that MAP had been feeling are going to be eradicated. The new office offers several large meeting rooms to accommodate the many support groups which are overseen by MAP and includes space for the Board to hold its sessions in-house now where they should be.

Also, one of the best features of the new space is its accessibility for handicapped persons, with all of the offices and meeting areas contained on the ground floor.

When contacted about the decision to move MAP's offices, John Conley, the Executive Director, said, "Unfortunately, we had outgrown our old space and needed something to grow into. We found that in the new location. Also, another factor in moving to the new space was the issue of handicap accessibility."

MAP had been offered the rest of the rental space in the building they were in but, because of the difficulty and cost of upgrading the space to make it handicap-accessible on other floors, the Board decided that a move would be in everyone's best interest.

Now everyone seems certain that they have found an ideal location in the new complex. "Upon moving to a new space we

have been cautious about signing long-term leases. But now for the first time we have signed a long-term lease on the property," Conley stated.

He further added that the reason the Euclid office was bursting at the seams was the tremendous surge in MAP's case load; last year at this time, there were 275 persons being served by MAP; now there are 425.

Another reason for the optimistic outlook on the move is that for the first time, a

property will be adapted to suit the needs of MAP instead of the other way around. And part of that adaptation involves getting some much needed new furniture and equipment, most of which is being donated by the community at large.

The move is expected to be concluded in time for MAP's Open House, which will be held on December 1, to coincide with World AIDS Day. The Open House will last from 1-6 pm.

New Miss NC-USA Crowned



Miss North Carolina USA 1991, Mahogany (center), stands with her court, first runner-up Tiffany Wellington (right) and second runner-up Akasha Pharrows (left).

By David Stout
 Q-Notes Staff

On November 25, 1990, North Carolina Pageantry, Inc., presented the Miss North Carolina USA 1991 pageant at Club Cabaret in Hickory, NC.

The contest turned out to be one of the best ever as Miss North Carolina USA 1990, Lauren LaMasters ended her reign by crowning as the new Miss North Carolina, Mahogany.

Sponsored by Bourbon Street of Winston-Salem, Mahogany finished first in both Interview and Talent. She displayed the best type of consistency that a contestant must possess in order to be Miss North Carolina.

Her court consisted of her first runner-up Tiffany Wellington, and her second runner-up Akasha Pharrows.

Tiffany Wellington showed that she has what it takes to become among the best in the state in female impersonation by once again improving on her finish from the previous year to come in second this time.

Newcomer Akasha Pharrows found herself to be the Belle of the Ball by placing third in only her third pageant. She also won the Evening Gown category. All three contestants will be going to the Miss Gay USA 1991 pageant to be held in April in Louisville, Kentucky.



Miss North Carolina USA 1990, Lauren LaMasters, performs her final number before the crowning of her successor.

Christmas Concert Dec. 15

After 15 weeks of rehearsal, ONE VOICE is ready to perform their first Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 15, at 8:15 p.m. at the Unitarian Church of Charlotte, 234 N. Sharon Amity Road.

This 60-member gay and lesbian chorus will be joined by a string quartet and other guests. The holiday season will be celebrated with music as diverse as "O Magnum Mysterium" and "Cum Sancto Spiritu" to such standards as "The First Nowell," "Away In The Manger," "Deck the Hall," "Jingle Bells" and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." Following the concert, the audience will be invited to join the chorus for some refreshments.

Tickets for the concert are now on sale and available from chorus members or by calling 704/536-1372. Tickets are \$5-10 on a sliding scale. The chorus believes the sliding scale policy allows a person to determine their level of ability to pay, thereby providing dignity and empowerment to persons of various economic backgrounds.

Twenty members of the Chorus recently sang for the North Carolina Theatre Conference which was held in Charlotte. In addition to preparing for the Christmas Concert, they have begun auditions for their planned cabaret show, and they will go caroling the week following their Christmas Concert.

For more information on Chorus activities, please call Dan Kirsch, President, at 704/536-1372.

Tis The Season

By Jim Fulton
 Special to Q-Notes

As we enter this festive season, remember that for some people the holidays are a source of stress and depression. Strained relations with families often become more apparent as we struggle over such issues as whether perhaps this is the year we refuse to leave our partners behind and go "home" for the holidays. Many people turn to alcohol and drugs to escape this pain.

Substance abuse is a deadly threat to our community. Do you or someone you love have a problem with alcohol or drugs? Where can you find help with a drug or alcohol problem? Does alcoholism really claim the lives of more of our Gay brothers and Lesbian sisters than AIDS?

While she has asked not to be billed as an "expert" on substance abuse, Katherine Townsend of Recovery Counseling and Consulting does work with people trying to recover from substance abuse problems and has agreed to speak on the subject of substance abuse at the December general meeting of First Tuesday Association for Gay and Lesbian Equality. Learn more about this important topic by attending this December 4th program at 7:30 p.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church (corner of 7th and Tryon Streets in Uptown Charlotte).

First Tuesday meets at this location on the First Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Ample free parking is available behind the church and across 7th Street from the church. Enter at the 7th Street entrance.

After the December 4th presentation, there will be time for socializing and committee meetings. If you'd like to "get involved," sitting in on a First Tuesday committee meeting is a great way to get your feet wet!

Call Jim Fulton at 531-8993 or Keith Bernard at 549-1421 with any questions about First Tuesday Association for Gay and Lesbian Equality.

