

Catch the **BUS** to the

1989 Gay Pride March on Raleigh

See Page 4 for Details

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

June 1989

PRIDE IN PRINT

BEST BETS

- June 8 PFLAG
- June 9 Gay/Lesbian Forum
Charlotte Cable Ch.33
- June 10 Mature Gay Men
- June 18 Charlotte Pride Picnic
Bryant Park 1:00 P.M.
- June 24 Bus Trip to Raleigh
for the 15th Annual
Pride March
- June 25 Integrity
8:00 P.M.
- June 25 Queen City Friends

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State Of The GAY Union Prior to Stonewall

By P. Scott Ferguson
Q-Notes Staff

Documentation of the homosexual subculture and its oppression in American Society exists for at least four hundred years prior to the Stonewall riot incident of June 1969.

Unlike heterosexuals, gay people have been burdened by a pernicious myth equating homosexuality per se with its most negative manifestations. Team this negative public image with ignorance and a general lack of understanding and the result is the homosexual who has been oppressed not only by the church and state, but he has also been turned away by friends and family. Thus, working, living, and loving; the homosexual has historically been condemned to secrecy and invisibility.

Oppression resulting from a homosexual orientation has been overwhelming. Following is a summary of only a small percentage of the incidents recorded in our history books, starting with the first documented execution of a homosexual.

...1566...a homosexual french interpreter was murdered by Spanish military authorities in St. Augustine, Florida; a victim of religious and political rivalry between Spain and France.

...1636...John Cotton proposes to the Massachusetts Bay Colony that homosexual relations between women be placed on a par with male homosexuality as a capital offense punishable by death.

...1656...New Haven Colony enacted legislation prescribing the death penalty for lesbianism as well as male homosexuality

...1777-1779...Thomas Jefferson in arms with a group of liberal reformers suggested a revision of Virginia law eliminating the death penalty for sodomy—they proposed, instead, castration.

...1778...a lieutenant in George Washington's army was dishonorably discharged for attempting sodomy with another soldier. Later he was kidnapped and castrated by members of his battalion.

...1810...Maryland, a Mr. Davis was found guilty of assault and attempted sodomy upon a nineteen year old male. He was sentenced to four months in jail, fifteen minutes in the pillory, and fined \$500 (1810 dollars).

Mr. Davis appealed and lost. However, this was the first recorded legal appeal involving an American sodomy trial.

...1846...Edward McCosker, an Irish New York City policeman was charged with making improper advances to other males while on duty. He was discharged from his civil service position because of alleged homosexuality. The case was never tried.

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Lutherans Concerned Hosts Benefit

By Chris Barclay

Lutherans Concerned, a support group for lesbian and gay Christians, held a benefit skate party on May 17 at the Roll-Around Skate Center on Delta Road. An estimated 40-50 people were in attendance to raise approximately \$400 for the organization.

The group which has been in existence for about two years, serves the gay people who have had problems with churches. According to Tim Eudy, co-chair of the group, Lutherans Concerned is a, "bridge between gay and lesbian people and the church...so they can ease back into the church." The money raised at the event will go to help the group with such programs as "adopting" a person with AIDS, acting as a secondary care giver.

Lutherans Concerned has monthly meetings with average attendance of 20 to 25



Tim Eudy with Lutherans Concerned

people. Although affiliated with the Lutheran Church, the organization is available to everyone.

Mayoral Candidate Welcomes Gay/Lesbian Input

By Bill Allen Goad

Charlotte mayoral candidate Craig Madans spoke for two and half hours with some of the leaders of Charlotte's Gay and Lesbian community on May 23, 1989.

The meeting was held at the home of Don King, who organized the forum at Madans' request. During the exchange, Madans talked about issues important to him in the campaign, and listened as gay men and lesbians spoke of their concerns. Madans expressed surprise when told that Charlotte has no civil rights ordinance and listened attentively to statements about the need for job protection for gay men and lesbians and concerns about

Gay/Lesbian relationships with police.

According to King, "We made no commitments to Craig's campaign, and he made no commitments to us." Madans said that he would welcome input on issues he feels important to the city from anyone, including gay men and lesbians.

Madans and Rousso are both democratic candidates and will face off in the Democratic Primary. The Primary winner will challenge republican Myrick in the November general election.

Don King said that he hopes to be able to arrange meetings with Al Rousso and Mayor Myrick also.

*In paths untrodden,
In the growth by margins of pond
waters,
Escaped from the life that exhibits
itself,
From all the standards hitherto
publish'd, from the pleasures,
profits, conformities,
Which too long I was offering to
feed my soul,
Clear to me now the standards
not yet publish'd clear to me
that my soul,
That the soul of the man I speak
for rejoices in comrades,
Here by myself away from the
clank of the world,
Tallying and talk'd to here by
tongues aromatic,
No longer abash'd, (for in this
secluded spot I can respond
as I would not dare else-
where,)
Strong upon me the life that does
not exhibit itself, yet contains
all the rest,
Resolv'd to sing no songs to-day
but those of manly attachment,
Projecting them along that sub-
stantial life,
Bequeathing hence types of
athletic love,
Afternoon this delicious Ninth-
month in my forty-first year,
I proceed for all who are or have
been young men,
To tell the secret of my nights
and days,
To celebrate the need of Com-
rades.*

Walt Whitman
Calamus, Leaves of Grass