

Q-NOTES

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

March 1990

PRIDE IN PRINT

(704) 364-1467

BEST BETS

- Mar. 2 9PM Tradesmen Club Night
- Mar. 3 Mature Gay Men 7:30 PM
- Mar. 6 8PM Q-Notes Mtg. 8 PM First Tuesday new location!
- Mar. 8 8 PM ONE VOICE Preview Concert 7:30 PM PFLAG/ Gay Parents
- Mar. 9 10PM Watch Closetbusters on Cablevision Ch. 33
- Mar. 14 7:30 PM Queen City Friends
- Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day
- Mar. 23-25 Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men (in Raleigh)
- Mar. 24 7PM MCC Charlotte Pot Luck Supper

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Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men To Meet In Raleigh

By Don King
Special To Q-Notes

Talk to Raleigh's Willie Pilkington for more than two minutes, and you'll know that the 15th annual Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men will appeal to gay/lesbian yuppies, transvestites, butches, disco bunnies, leatherfolk — in short, anyone with a smidgen of concern about the status of gay men and lesbians in the Southeast.

First, the bare facts: the conference will be held March 22-25 in Raleigh at the Radisson Plaza Hotel and the Raleigh Civic Center, but you miss little if you make Friday, March 23, your first day.

Now, a bit of surprise: not only did the tourism branch of Raleigh city government help North Carolinians bring the conference to the Triangle, the city also donated \$3,000 to help bring parts of the national Names Project quilt to the conference, a financial

figure also matched for the same purpose by the Wake County Health Department.

And for the first time, parts of a Southeastern Conference will be open to all members of the general public, not just gay men and women.

The public at no charge will be admitted to the part of the Civic Center containing the quilt panels, and will be admitted for a small charge to the vendor area in the Civic Center where gay and lesbian people will be displaying and selling crafts, music, hand-made goods, artwork and other merchandise.

Those are just small parts of the 1990 conference planned to appeal to all gay men and lesbians rather than just activists.

"This is an everybody conference," said Pilkington, who helped plan it and was instrumental in convincing Raleigh's gay/lesbian community to apply for it in the first place.

"You don't have to have done anything activist in the gay/lesbian community to be

interested. The conference is here to improve the quality of life. It's more about enjoying our lives and being with people.

"We owe it to the entire community to improve what goes on for lesbians and gay men in the Southeast."

Since the first one in Chapel Hill, the Southeastern Conference has been held in New Orleans, Atlanta, Dallas and other southeastern cities, and has been the networking, idea-exchanging place to be for people in the Carolinas, the Virginias, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida, Texas, Tennessee, Georgia, Arkansas, Kentucky, Maryland and D.C.

It was the first-ever regional conference in the nation when a bunch of students and activists, mainly in Chapel Hill and Durham, put together the first one in 1976 with a keynote speaker, an entertainer and about two dozen workshops.

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Gay Bashing — A Reality

By Don King
Special To Q-Notes

Until The Charlotte Observer last November published the article excerpted here, violence against gay men in North Carolina's largest city was a rare, sometime thing.

Since then at least two men have been viciously attacked and a group of muggers has struck twice outside Oleen's bar.

There have been no deaths.

The two most serious attacks occurred in Chantilly, a residential neighborhood that runs two and three blocks deep for almost a mile on the south side of Independence Boulevard, the meandering thoroughfare on the east side of Charlotte that is one of the state's most traveled six-lane streets.

On the western edge of Chantilly in a building at the corner of Independence and Pecan is Joy Bookstore, Charlotte's only remaining retailer of sex magazines and videos since Cinema Blue on the northeast side of the city closed a year ago when a Superior Court jury found its owners guilty of disseminating obscene materials.

Men cruising for other men made Joy their focal point even though the store removed most of its gay material and softened



A slash on the shoulder was just one wound inflicted on a 21-year-old man who was attacked Jan. 30 in the Chantilly neighborhood of Charlotte. Cuts on his lower abdomen required 17 staples. "I could look inside and see my appendix," he said.

Chantilly Losing Patience With Cruising Homosexuals

When the Joy Adult Bookstore began closing at 10 p.m. — instead of staying open all night — Chantilly residents thought they'd taken a giant step toward cleaning up their neighborhood.

They were wrong.

Eight months later, a growing number of gay men who used to meet at the bookstore now cruise Chantilly's tree-lined streets after closing. Looking for pickups, some circle the quiet residential blocks 20, 30, even 40 times until the early hours of the morning.

Residents are losing their patience...

—The Charlotte Observer

Nov. 26, 1989

its nongay inventory, successfully avoiding the vigorous prosecution that finished Cinema Blue.

In the most serious Chantilly attack, a 21-year-old man was slashed on the stomach, thigh, chest, shoulder and face with a box cutter at 2 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 30, on Westover between Shenandoah and Independence. The victim said a man who jumped out of bushes pinned his arms from behind as another man began cutting him.

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N.C. Royal Court Coronation Held In Hickory

By Raymond Ward
Special to Q-Notes

Probably your question at this moment is: What is a Royal Court? And this is a legitimate question. With special thanks to Q-Notes, it is our aim to enlighten you with our article.

The Royal Court Organization was conceived many years ago in California and still remains a top-billed affair of gay communities there. Why a Royal Family structure? During the period in which the Court had its inception, pageantry was a big and important part of the gay community. The original promoters of the court realized they must present their ideas and ideals using a medium familiar to the gay community as it existed during that period. Thus, the Royal Family Structure which permitted the ultimate in pageantry presentation.

The Royal Court was introduced in North Carolina five years ago by P.M. Brendle, owner and operator of Club Cabaret, Hickory, NC. He was not long removed from California where he had resided for several years. At the time he operated a bar in Asheville, NC. The first NC Royal Court was crowned by members of the Georgia Court of

Atlanta. The first year of the organization was graced by Empress I de North Carolina — Brandy Alexander and Emperor I de North Carolina, the late Freddie Gammon. Successive years have utilized the talents and leadership of Melissa Montgomery/Jeffrey Reeves, Charlie Brown/David Wright, and Darlene Duncan/Kevin Scott.

Friday night, February 23, 1990, the Royal Court V de North Carolina Coronation was presented at Club Cabaret in Hickory, NC. The attendance was great and was appreciated as all proceeds went to the Court's PWA fund. Although this was a serious event, a light-hearted and fun atmosphere was created.

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Remember Their Names

With application in hand, two representatives from Charlotte went February 16, 17, and 18 to attend "The Names Project" National Chapter Conference in San Francisco. Charlotte was awarded a chapter to conduct "The Names Project" activities throughout the Charlotte/Metrolina area.

Established in June 1987, in the heart of San Francisco's Castro district, the Quilt began as a response by lesbians and gay men and their friends to the devastation of their community by AIDS. From this beginning, the NAMES Project has sought to reach out to everyone affected by the epidemic.

The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt serves a unique role in the battle against

AIDS. By organizing and displaying the Quilt, the Names Project strives to:

- Confront individuals and governments with the urgency and enormity of the AIDS pandemic and the needs for an immediate and compassionate response, by revealing the names and the lives behind the global statistics.

- Build a powerful, positive, creative symbol of remembrance and hope, linking diverse people worldwide in the shared expression of our common grief, pain and rage in response to AIDS.

- Encourage donations in every community where the Quilt is displayed, thereby raising the desperately needed funds for

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