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Calendar

MONDAYS

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FRIDAYS

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Trident Knights of Charleston
November 19
Jerry Halliday Show
November 26
Tiffany Cartier Show
December 3
Hollywood Hunks

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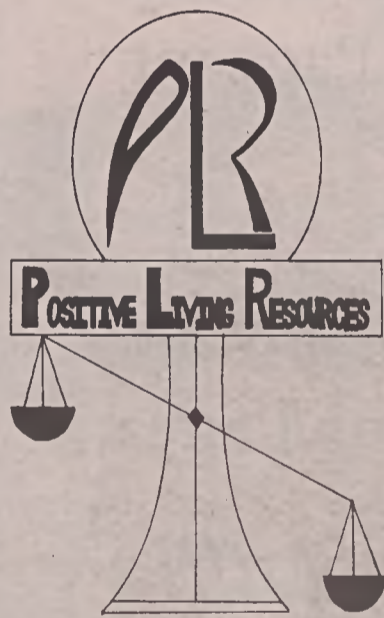
Every

Saturday Super Saturday Shows	Sunday Karaoke at 11:30	Tuesday Karaoke at 11:30	Wednesday Black Out Night with Male Dancers	Thursday Disco Divas 12:00 Midnight
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Leader positions filled at Gay Games board meeting

by Charlie Carson
Special to Q-Notes

BERLIN, GERMANY—Susan Emerson and Bill Wassmer were elected co-presidents of The Federation of Gay Games last month during the group's annual meeting. In addition, a gay and lesbian athletes' association in Paris, France and organizations representing ice hockey players and figure skaters were elected to the Federation board of directors.

Wassmer, of Team Seattle, announced ambitious marketing plans to raise the Federation's profile.

"People still don't have a clear idea who the Federation is apart from the Games themselves," said Wassmer. "We're somewhat like the International Olympic Committee. Our mission is to guarantee that the Gay Games happens every four years. As the Gay Games becomes more well-known, sponsors who are interested in the gay and lesbian community will seek us out in greater numbers and it's the

Member. Cracovia led the successful bid to bring Gay Games IV to New York City in 1994.

During the meeting, Sydney 2002 unveiled its new slogan, "Dreams Do Come True," and announced that plans for Gay Games VI are ahead of schedule compared to previous Games host cities. After their encouraging reception, the Sydney 2002 delegation left the Berlin meeting on a promotional tour to London, Paris, New York, Philadelphia and San Francisco.

Modifications were made to the bid process for the 2006 Gay Games and representatives of potential bidding groups from Atlanta, Chicago and New Orleans were in attendance to learn about the Federation and meet the directors. Three finalists will be chosen from among all bidding cities and selection of the 2006 host will take place in late 2001.

Continuing work initiated at the Montreal, Canada meeting in April, the Federation decided to explore restructuring the board. Currently the board is comprised of both individual directors, representing

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Federation's responsibility to ensure continuity from Games to Games."

Emerson, of the British Gay & Lesbian Sports Federation, is the first European woman to be elected co-president of The Federation of Gay Games. "Berlin was a fitting site for our last meeting of the millennium as it represents new contacts between east and west," she said. "About 50 observers joined the 44 Federation directors, including many Eastern Europeans who've never had a chance to attend the Gay Games, or even to get involved with the gay and lesbian movement."

Outreach was a major theme of this year's board meeting. Croatia, Slovenia, Poland, Russia, Latvia and the Czech Republic were among countries represented for the first time. The Federation also established a scholarship program to help people from previously underrepresented countries attend the quadrennial Gay Games, next scheduled for Sydney, Australia in November 2002.

Fédération Sportive Gaie & Lesbienne (CGPIF) of Paris, the International Gay & Lesbian Ice Hockey Association and the International Gay Figure Skating Union joined the Federation board after the requisite two-year application period. Tom Cracovia, a director since the Federation's founding in 1989, retired from the board to become an Honorary Life

ing their own background and experience, and organization directors, representing gay and lesbian groups ranging in size from several dozen members up to 3000. The Federation will examine possible ways to function more effectively and efficiently.

In other elections, Gene Dermody (Wrestlers WithOut Borders) became vice president, former treasurer Pam Duys (individual director from Denver) was re-elected after a one-year hiatus, Charlie Carson (International Gay & Lesbian Aquatics) was elected secretary, and Joseph E. Pasquarella Smith (Team Seattle) was elected recorder.

Team Berlin hosted the week-long board meeting, held at the Rathaus Schöneberg, site of the West Berlin city government prior to the fall of the Berlin Wall. Early in the week, Mrs. Ingrid Stahmer, the Senator for Education, Youth and Sport, welcomed the Federation directors and guests to the city at a reception in the Berliner Rathaus, site of the former East Berlin city government.

Next year's board meeting will be held in Sydney to give Federation directors an opportunity to assess the progress of plans for the 2002 Gay Games, much of which will be held in the Sydney Olympic Park at Homebush Bay.

For more information on the Federation and the 2002 Games, go to www.gaygames.org. ▼

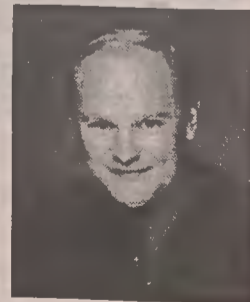
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