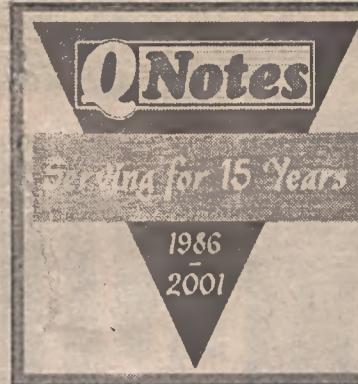




Notes

SINCE 1986

The Carolinas' Most Comprehensive Gay & Lesbian Newspaper
www.q-notes.com



• 1991: Tenth National PFLAG Convention in Charlotte
• 1994: Team NC goes to Gay Games
details of these & other archive articles on page 3

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Celebrate celluloid!
OutCharlotte presents the
2002 Charlotte GLBT Film Series
starting January 23 . pg 4

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Oral Roberts University looking for alumni who were lost to AIDS 27

Take the latest Q-Poll

In the season of giving, what did you donate?

select all that apply:

- time: volunteer
- cash: to LGBT
- goods: to LGBT
- cash: non-LGBT
- goods: non-LGBT
- nothing yet

Q-Poll is online at:

www.q-notes.com
12-22 Poll results: pg 24

Q-Poll sponsored by:

Williamsburg
on Commonwealth

Townhome Style
Condominiums

His mission complete, Father Gene McCreesh leaves a legacy for us all

by Laine Millen
Special to Q-Notes

A wise, soft-spoken man, generous beyond normal limits, Fr. Gene McCreesh, SJ, died in Baltimore, MD, December 15, 2001, after a two-year battle with cancer. He was 78.

A compassionate Catholic priest, he was well-known in the Charlotte area for his work with the homeless and the hungry.

Cold nights found Fr. McCreesh searching the underpasses, looking for those who needed transportation to shelters or blankets to warm them. He provided food for those who would arrive at St. Peter's Church, spending many nights making sandwiches.

This was not something that was foreign to him. As a child during the Depression, he watched his mother do the same for those who were out of work and hungry.

He was singular in his devotion and determination to help them. He spearheaded the effort which established the first permanent shelter for homeless men in Uptown Charlotte, working

with the city government and other benefactors.

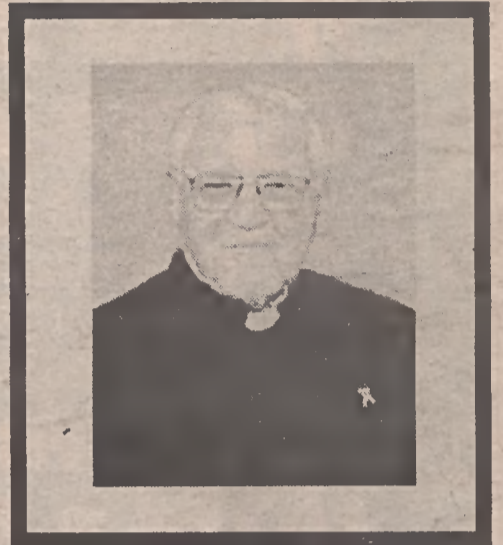
Fr. McCreesh had a long and global history of helping the displaced. He spent nearly ten years in Burma working with orphanage children, playing games with them, distributing cards and toys from US contributors. His service ended when the socialist government expelled all foreign nationals.

Upon his return to the US, Fr. McCreesh taught at Jesuit universities. He later became a pastor to an inner-city Philadelphia black church.

When the cold weather of the north became too much for him after he had a heart attack, Fr. McCreesh relocated to Charlotte.

He was selected as vicar of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Charlotte — which was to be the beginning of his retirement. But the venerable Fr. McCreesh did not retire.

Driven by human compassion, he embraced all those in need, including those "not covered" by religious precept. He worked passionately and tirelessly within the GLBT community. He ministered to those afflicted and affected by AIDS.



In loving tribute
Father Gene McCreesh

He met AIDS head-on with Rick Carswell, a well-known community leader, at home, awaiting death. The RAIN team and Hospice were doing all they could to keep Carswell comforted and comfortable.

see McCREESH page 13

the newly-designed Q-Notes will debut next issue: 1-19-02

National Q-Review of the Year 2001

Compiled by GLAAD, Edited by Q-Notes

News & Politics January

• Gay and straight Republicans form the Republican Unity Coalition, to make sexual orientation a "non-issue" for the party.

February

• The FBI says 1999 statistics undercount anti-gay hate crime by 38 percent. Citing under-reporting by local law enforcement, the National Coalition of Anti-violence Programs wants law ensuring police report all hate crimes to the FBI.

April

• Bush is the first Republican president to appoint openly gay official, Scott Evertz to head the Office of National AIDS Policy.

• By a 9-2 board of supervisors vote, San Francisco is the first US city to institute a benefits package for city/country employees which includes healthcare for transgenders and transsexuals.

May

• Human Rights Watch releases a comprehensive study: as many as 2 million gay teens are harassed and bullied, while school officials often refuse to address and actively encourage the abuse.

• A *Washington Post* investigation reveals the Salvation Army has secretly thrown its support behind Bush's "faith-based initiative" in exchange for a policy allowing the Army to discriminate against g/l in violation of local civil rights laws.

• Sen. Jesse Helms introduces an amendment to the Senate education bill that could result in withholding federal funds from schools refusing to sponsor Boy Scout troops. The final House-Senate compromise bill passed in November still retains language mandating equal access.

• Columbia University researcher Robert Spitzer releases a study: "some highly-motivated" gays and lesbians can go straight. Academics and LGBT organizations found fatal methodological flaws: non-representative sample, biased hypothe-

sis, unreliable information-gathering and soliciting subjects from known anti-gay organizations.

June

• Openly gay, transgender, Two-Spirit youth



Fred Martinez, Jr., is brutally murdered in Cortez, Colorado. The trial of Shaun Murphy — accused of Martinez's murder and who bragged to friends about how he had "beat up a fag" — is for February 2002.

• The one-year anniversary of the US Supreme Court's decision in *Boy Scouts of America v. Dale* Former Eagle Scout James Dale said, "The Scouts may have won at the Supreme Court, but their victory is being overturned in the court of public opinion."

• A Gallup poll reveals increasing acceptance of gay and lesbian Americans, including 80 percent

agreement that gays and lesbians should be protected by employment anti-discrimination.

• The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA votes 317-208: to allow the ordination of lesbian and gay ministers, elders and deacons. Majority ratification by local churches is necessary, with the vote expected in 2002.

• US Surgeon General David Satcher calls for a "mature and thoughtful discussion about sexuality" in his Call to Action to Promote Sexual Health and Responsible Behavior. The groundbreaking report directly addresses a number of issues related to the gay community, including the inefficacy of "reparative therapy" and harassment's damaging impact on LGBT's mental health.

• International G/L Human Rights Commission director Karyn Kaplan addresses the UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS over the objections of a largely Islamic bloc of delegates. However, those delegates successfully remove the reference, "particularly vulnerable groups" from the final conference declaration.

July

• Rhode Island becomes the second state (after Minnesota) in the US to protect transgender people from discrimination.

• Sharon Smith may proceed with her wrongful death lawsuit on behalf of her partner, Diane Whipple killed in January after being attacked by dogs. The San Francisco judge rules that denying Smith the right to sue violates the Equal Protection Clause of the California Constitution.

• A coalition of anti-gay religious leaders calling itself the "Alliance for Marriage" attempts to amend the US Constitution to ban equal marriage rights for gays and lesbians.

• A bi-partisan coalition of congressional leaders introduces the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would prohibit job discrimination based on sexual orientation. In the aftermath of September 11, consideration of the bill is postponed until early 2002.

see Q-NEWS page 6