

CONNECTIONS

COMMUNITY LIAISON ORGANIZATION FOR SUPPORT, EDUCATION AND REFORM

Asheville, NC

September, 1989

A Message from Our President, Bill A.

First I would like to thank each of you for your vote of confidence in electing me your new president for the 1989-90 season. It is a privilege to represent our gay and lesbian community. I will do my best to serve our community to the best of my ability.

CLOSER membership represents a very wide spectrum of lesbians and gays. As with any group or organization, it is really a bringing together of people with different ideas, different backgrounds and different lifestyles. CLOSER represents much more than the common ground of simply being a lesbian or gay man. We are doing what we can to inform, communicate, socialize, and belong. We are here and a part of society and we each do our own part, large and small, to stand up and be counted.

If there is one goal I would like to accomplish for this season it is to make every person who walks through our door welcomed in such a way that they will want to be a part of our "what's happening," a part of CLOSER. I can only accomplish this if I have your support and involvement. It is only human nature to want to be involved in something that is positive and nurturing, and CLOSER is just that.

No one gets paid for any job that we do to make CLOSER work on every Tuesday night. All that goes into CLOSER is volunteers, volunteers that want to make CLOSER work. We did not survive the last ten years by begging the membership to do the work that they have done. It was people who wanted to be part of what was happening.

An hour of volunteer help is not much to ask for anyone in a nine-month period, yet that hour can make you feel like you are a part of CLOSER, and it would be so much appreciated. If every member of our group volunteered one hour this season, wow! You could see the pride in people's faces when they walk in the door. Please commit one hour of your time this season, and reap the benefits of a very smoothly operating CLOSER.

CLOSER is ours. With each of your help we can have a wonderful and exciting year, and a year that will help to ensure the future of CLOSER for the next ten years.