

PRIDE - from page 1

gay and lesbian organization, the Triangle Gay Alliance in Raleigh, was founded in 1971. It only lasted a couple of years, but it was not too long after that a whole blossoming of organizations occurred. There was an organization in Greensboro, one in Charlotte; and one in Durham began the year after that.

"It's also real important to remember that this year marks the 10th anniversary of the first march for gay and lesbian rights that we ever had in North Carolina, in 1981, in Durham. This was in response to the murder of someone who was thought to be gay. We're going to mark that during the rally."

Regarding the march in Durham, Duley said, "Durham's really happy to have us. That always is nice, to feel welcome, as opposed to feeling like you're an adversary. We feel strongly supported by the community."

South Carolina will hold its Second Annual Gay and Lesbian Pride March on Saturday, June 22, in Columbia. (See Calendar, pages 11-14, for time and place.) A rally at the State House will immediately follow. Speakers will include Karen Thompson, the lesbian who has fought for five years for guardianship of her disabled lover, Sharon Kowalski; Tim McFeely, Executive Director of The Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's largest gay and lesbian rights and AIDS lobbying organization; Mandy Carter, who chaired NC Senate Vote '90 in the fight against Jesse Helms' re-election; Jim Sears, author of the recently published *Growing Up Gay in the South*; and Dale McCormick, openly lesbian state legislator from Maine. One Voice, Charlotte's lesbian and gay chorus, will entertain.

Several other fundraising events are planned in conjunction with South Carolina Pride. La Cage aux Folles will be presented on June 2 at 3 PM at Workshop Theater in Columbia. A \$20 donation is requested, and includes the reception afterwards. On June 8 at 7:30 PM, there will be a cookout at Spanky's, a Columbia nightclub. On June 13 at 8

PM, a play, *Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*, will be presented at Trustus Theater. This is a joint fundraiser for Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement (GLPM) and Virago. An all-day event will be held at Lake Murray near Columbia, and will include lake cruises and hot air ballooning. A major fundraiser will be held on June 21 at Matrix Nightclub in Columbia.

In Asheville, the Third Annual WNC Lesbian/Gay Pride Festival will be held the weekend of June 14-16. The Festival kicks off on Friday evening with a dance sponsored by the Southern Appalachian Lesbian and Gay Alliance (SALGA). (See Calendar, pages 11-14, for details.) Saturday this year has been left open with no events scheduled. Organizers decided that anyone visiting Asheville for the weekend should have a day to shop in the downtown area where many gay and lesbian owned businesses are located, and to have an evening free to explore the area. Many gay friendly businesses are located downtown, as well. Visitors who do not want to shop should take advantage of the day to drive along the Blue Ridge Parkway and enjoy the mountains. The Carnival portion of the festival is on Sunday at Memorial Field in Asheville. Carnival activities include the WNC Pride Cup Volleyball Tournament with teams from both Carolinas; softball; an exhibition by the newly formed dance troupe, Southern Country Asheville; and many vendors selling food, beer, soft drinks, jewelry, t-shirts, and much, much more. An exhibition by Lambda Amateur Radio Club will connect festival-goers with gays and lesbians all over the nation.

Closing out the weekend is a cabaret performance of music and songs from *South Pacific* performed by the Asheville Gay Men's Community Chorus. The show is being performed at Scandals Nightclub.

SALGA is sponsoring many events for Gay Pride Month. Please see the special pullout calendar in this issue for a complete list of events, when they are happening and where. Keep it handy throughout the month! There is something for everyone to enjoy for Pride '91. ▼

WNCAP Auction Site Changed

Dear Friends and Donors:

It truly took much soul searching for me to come to the decision that O. Henry's Auction has outgrown itself. Having raised over \$10,000 for Western North Carolina AIDS Project (WNCAP) in just one night in our basement last year was a wonderful feeling. But, what could be done for them with a broader base, more resources, and more volunteered time from all those connected with the Project... A hell of a lot, we hope!

It is for these reasons that O. Henry's is handing over the reins of direct responsibilities of the auction to WNCAP. We are confident they can build on the base that we so proudly achieved over the last three and one-half years. Please wish them your best, give them your most, and, as always, search your home and your heart for donations to help make this year the best auction ever!!

This by no means implies that I or O. Henry's will cease to be an important fundraiser for WNCAP. We have several new fundraising projects pending.... (You can bet there is always something up our sleeve to help raise monies for this project.)

On a personal note I would like to thank all of those individuals who so kindly gave so generously of themselves. You know who you are; and I take my hat off to each of you. Though each auction became more stressful, the results were more and more pleasing. I do not believe I could have made it from auction to auction without the strong support you lent me. I think we started something worth keeping, something very special and very important; and I know that you who backed it so lovingly will continue to help it grow.

Sincerely,
Bob Rodney



♪ A CHORUS LINE ♪
by Jerry Conner

Well, it is almost time again. The Asheville Gay Men's Chorus has come up with a wonderful Cabaret performance in honor of Gay Pride. The theme is a tale from South Pacific with all music from the musical, *South Pacific*, and, of course, the plot is gender reversed. To add to the evening, a Luau will be served with lots of vegetarian specialties for our vegetarian friends. This promises to be one of our best, and those of you that attended the last Cabaret know how much fun they are.

The date is Sunday, June 16 at 7:30 PM, and the place is Scandals Club on Grove Street. Tickets are \$10.00 and may be purchased from any Chorus member, Scandals, or Malaprop's Book Store.

We have limited seating, so tickets for the performance will be advanced sales only.

Special guest appearances by Cookie LaRue and Cruella Deville as well as the dance of "Honey Bun" will add to a don't-miss evening. What better way to end a day of Gay Pride festivities. See you there! ▼

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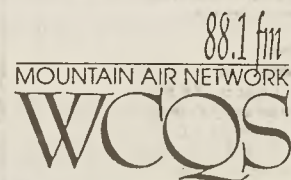
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