

Cris Williamson/Tret Fure Concert a Success

Commentary by Beth Betze

A standing ovation before the performance even started set the tone for an evening of good music and good feeling. The Chris Williamson and Tret Fure performance provided what was an example of a nearly perfect concert experience.

The opportunity for SALGA to produce the concert came in the midst of Pride '92 preparations when our community's energies and resources were drained. Yet a handful of people came up with the funds to privately back the concert, allowing it to happen. This sort of community support continued throughout the preparation for and production of the event. Many volunteers came forward to offer help with the infinite number of details involved in such an undertaking, and without fail each one of those people fulfilled their pledge and completed whatever tasks they were responsible for.

Ellen Hines, the Production Coordinator, said this was the smoothest production she had ever been involved with. Chris and Tret were very impressed by

how the community rallied around the event. They were particularly pleased with the sound department. This was for Cris and Tret one of the rare instances when they did not have to take the responsibility of sound and lighting into their own hands and so were especially grateful to our quality sound, lighting and stage technicians.

Chris and Tret displayed their gratitude by entertaining the audience for over three hours. The evening was chock-full of humorous anecdotes, information, conversation and wonderful music. Judging from the comments and high energy of performers and audience alike, we may be treated to another such event in the future.

SALGA would like to express gratitude to all of the people who contributed in time, energy and money to the production of the concert. They are too many to list, but you know who you are. Thank you!

A special thanks goes to Ellen Hines, Production Coordinator, without whom the concert would not have happened. ▽

Lesbian and Gay Community Center Questioned

Commentary by Bill Allen

I reference an article in *Community Connections* Vol. IV, No. 9 November 1992 Issue, article on page 5, "Asheville Gay and Lesbian Community Council Update" by Ron Lambe. Also, I reference the pledge form on page 6 of the same issue. Additionally, at a recent C.L.O.S.E.R., Inc. meeting, there were pamphlets handed out for A.G.L.C.C., which made certain claims, statements and requests for money pledges, all of which I contest.

I support the theory that we could use a Community Center, and would rally to its cause if I felt that our community could support such an organization.

I am certainly glad the A.G.L.C.C. article referred to its accomplishments as "Major Activities." I do not understand what is meant by "restoring the information phone line." Was this an electrical problem with the answering machine, or was the telephone service disconnected? I also do not understand "distributing funds from the State Pride March." Did you have to physically distribute the money in person by rented vehicles, or are you talking about writers' cramp from so many checks being written? I will personally be happy to buy you a book of postage stamps, and

I am on disability (SSD). I would also like to know from where the "(about \$4,000)" matching funds came.

I was personally involved early-on with A.G.L.C.C. The only thing it accomplished as I recall was to involve persons already involved up to their necks in other community organizations. Oh! One other thing, they managed to solicit money from those other organizations to initially start the phone line.

Mr. Lambe stated at the C.L.O.S.E.R., Inc. meeting (Oct. 27) that A.G.L.C.C. had on several occasions been the spokesperson for the Asheville Gay and Lesbian Community. I would personally like to know what form of consensus gathering techniques are used by A.G.L.C.C. when speaking for me and our community. I don't believe I am on the A.G.L.C.C. phone tree.

In the article, A.G.L.C.C. stated, "The council wants to be careful to not get overextended in its financial commitment." I suggest that A.G.L.C.C. do that very thing, as you are asking a financially overextended community to pledge to A.G.L.C.C. \$7,500 from already overextended incomes.

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ASHEVILLE GAY MEN'S COMMUNITY CHORUS

in

CONCERT

December 6th
7:30
at All Souls Church, Asheville
Tickets, \$5.00

December 15th
7:30
at All Souls Church
(CLOSER annual Christmas Party)

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INFORMATION??

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SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN LESBIAN AND GAY ALLIANCE
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AS WE BREAK NEW GROUND FOR
LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS IN WNC,
THE STATE, AND THE NATION.**

HELP CLEAN HIGHWAY
Join us to clean our 2-mile stretch
Sunday, December 13
Meet at 9:30 a.m. at McDonalds, Enka-Carder exit, I-40
For more information, call 626-2271

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