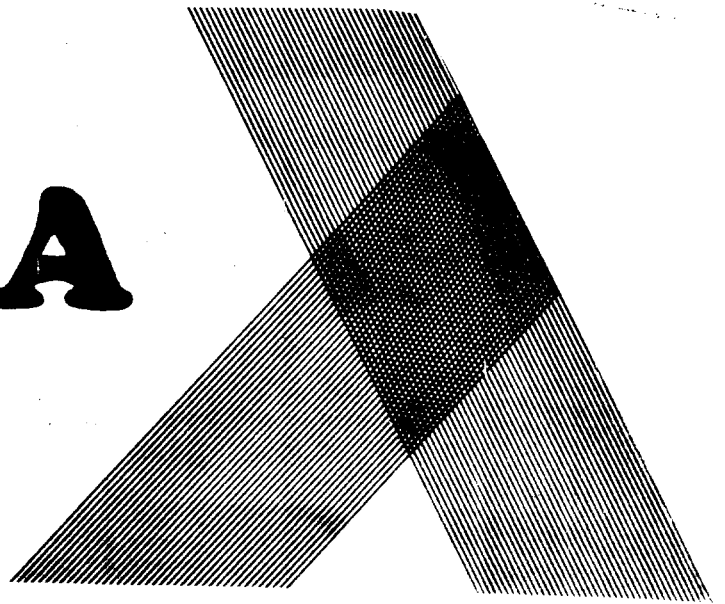


# LAMBDA

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE  
CAROLINA GAY ASSOCIATION



VOLUME TWO NUMBER TWO

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1977

## UP TO 500 EXPECTED FOR GAY CONFERENCE

A crowd of 400-500 is expected for the upcoming 2nd Annual Southeastern Gay Conference. "As of March 20, over twice as many people have registered as compared to the same time last year," reports Karen Peterson, Conference coordinator. "Every thing indicates that the weekend will be an overwhelming success." The symposium, called "a celebration of the gay lifestyle," is set for the first weekend in April at the UNC-Chapel Hill campus.

The Conference will have an impressive list of speakers and more than 50 workshop/discussion sections, and, in response to comments made last year, the scope of the social events has been greatly expanded. On Friday evening, performers will entertain you with a gay cabaret. In the limelight will be Loretta Lotman's brilliant satire, "The Trans-Lesbianic Follies."

On Saturday, there'll be continuous showings of some very provocative films, and when the moon is full, a dance. A special disco show will be provided by the Southeastern Disco DJ's Association. For those who prefer a quieter atmosphere, a Coffee House is planned. The weekend celebration concludes on Sunday with a picnic in the pastoral splendor of Battle Park:

"There's strength in numbers." Karen Peterson stated that bringing gays together is one of the weekend's goals. "Outside of places like Atlanta or Miami, gays in the Southeast are more or less isolated. The size of the Conference may be a revelation. We all have talents and interests to share, and this may be the chance to find someone who fulfills your needs. There'll be something for everyone. Anyone who comes to Chapel Hill for the weekend can expect a thoroughly enjoyable and stimulating time."

Peterson urged everyone to save a dollar and register in advance by mail. She also stated that the list of registrants is being kept strictly confidential.

A drive is now underway to accommodate the anticipated 100 persons who will register at the door. The Conference planners are making an urgent appeal to the local gay community to extend their hospitality to the visiting out-of-towners.

PRESIDENTIAL NOTES

It's almost here! It seems like we've been planning for months and months, but soon the 2nd Annual Southeastern Gay Conference will convene for three days of non-stop gayness like Chapel Hill has never experienced! If you haven't registered, do so today and join over 200 people who have already registered!!

If you can provide housing, please let us know immediately. And most importantly, we are going to need a lot of help at the Conference itself. There has been a small group that has done most of the work so far; now I'm asking you, the masses, to volunteer when we need you most! Please contact Karen, Dan, John or Howard if you can help.

The Tea Dances at Blueberry Hill have been going really slow. I have been quite disappointed at the lack of support shown by most local gays. Hank Morgan, owner of Blueberry, has lost \$ to promote these dances for our benefit and for the benefit of the National Gay Task Force. Please, show Hank your appreciation by supporting both the Tea Dances held every other Sunday and Blueberry Hill! Hank has given CGA more support than any bar owner in the area ever has, and we truly appreciate his generosity.

The next Tea Dance is March 27th. Hope to see you there! From 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Free drinks are provided all night too!

CGA elections are coming up in April. Please be thinking about who you would like to have take over the leadership of CGA. We've made a lot of progress this year, and I'm looking forward to seeing CGA continue to grow next year. It is most important for good people to step forward now. It's hard work, but it is truly rewarding. How about you? Remember, we elect three officers: president, vice president and treasurer. Men and women who are students are eligible to run.

My special thanks to all the people who attended the outreach workshops. There was a tremendous spirit generated, and a heck of a lot of productive work was accomplished! We still have a number of outreaches in the offing for this semester. See the calendar for more information or talk to Allan Brown.

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KOCH BILL: HR 2998

Rep. Edward I. Koch has introduced the national gay civil rights bill. The New York City Democrat introduced the bill, which is identical to the one Rep. Bella Abzug had introduced in the last Congress, on the first day of the 95th Congress.

The bill would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by adding the words "affectional or sexual preference" to each list of human conditions for which people can not be discriminated against. The bill goes to the Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights of the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee. Hopefully, Rep. Don Edwards of California, chair of the subcommittee, can be convinced to hold hearings on the bill this year.

It is imperative that people write to their Congresspeople, urging them to cosponsor H.R. 2998.

-from "Gays on the Hill", newsletter of the Washington Office of MCC

Allen B - copy  
966-3366

ON GAYS AND HEALTH

"Gays and Health" was the topic at the February CGA meeting. An internist, a nurse, and a psychologist talked about various aspects of physical and mental health.

Dr. Henry Lesesne, a liver specialist at North Carolina Memorial Hospital, talked in general about hepatitis, with a special emphasis on its possible transmission as a sexually transmissible disease. There are several kinds of infectious hepatitis, but there is only a laboratory test specific for hepatitis B, formerly known as serum hepatitis. In general all kinds can be transmitted to varying degrees by exposure to contaminated food, water, feces, and blood. The incidence is higher in gay men than in female prostitutes.

Mr. Allen Gray, an instructor at UNC School of Nursing and a volunteer counselor at Human Sexuality Information and Counseling Service, discussed syphilis and gonorrhea. He spoke of the symptoms, laboratory tests, and treatment of both. He pointed out that there is almost an epidemic of GC today, while cases of syphilis remain at a rather constant lower rate. The incidence of both of these diseases is higher in gay men for several reasons, including lack of prophylaxis (using rubbers) and ignorance and anxiety on the part of patients and health care providers. He made available at the end of his presentation two booklets from Human Sexuality Information and Counseling Service, Gay V.D. and The V.D. Handbook.

Dr. William Anderson, assistant professor of Clinical Psychology at UNC, spoke about gays and mental health. He emphasized that some persons, regardless of their sexual orientation, may need professional help in dealing with their problems. One may need to "shop around" for a therapist who does not view one's sexual "deviation" as the root cause of all problems.

Dr. Anderson also pointed out that the originator and main proponent of aversion therapy to "treat" homosexuality has in the past few years re-examined his goals and methods for the treatment of gays. This re-examination has stemmed mainly from the pressure brought to bear by outside "radical" gays and inside established gay psychologists. This therapist has now announced that he no longer advocates this modality of therapy for gay persons.

-Dan Leonard

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TALF - CGA OUTREACHES

TALF and CGA have scheduled lots of Outreaches for March and April, which means a lot of opportunities to help contact gays and straights at the University and throughout the Triangle area and the state.

If you want to do Outreaches, you are encouraged to attend one or two as a participant-observer first. There is no pressure to jump in and do panels right at the beginning. Anyone is invited to come along, whether simply out of personal curiosity or a desire to answer questions or give critique to panel members.

If you want to answer questions, suggested background readings are: Society and the Healthy Homosexual by George Weinberg, and Sappho Was a Right-On Woman by Sidney Abbott and Barbara Love.

Contact Susan Johnston (942-7098) or Allan Brown (967-6791) or Howard Fradkin (942-2039) if you are interested in participating or need a ride to observe.

CGA CALENDAR FOR MARCH, APRIL 1977... including Outreaches

- March 21           Next CGA meeting. Student Union 217. Topic:  
"Gay Couples: Monogamy versus Open Relationships, Pros and Cons"
- March 22 (and every Tuesday)  
"Gay Awareness Rap Session." 9 to 11 pm. Friends Meeting House,  
Raleigh Road, just past the Institute of Government.  
(Baked goods are welcomed.) (So are people.)
- March 23           Outreach. For students and faculty of Pfeiffer College in  
Misenheimer, NC, as part of their "Human Sexuality Week."  
10 am to Noon on the campus in Misenheimer. 200-300 in audience  
for panel; smaller group for Q&A afterwards. NEEDED: one female.  
Lunch and transportation money provided. Overnight accommodations  
available for Tuesday evening. Necessary to leave Chapel Hill  
by 7 am.
- March 25           Folk Dancing/Country-Folk Dance. Student Union. Professional  
teacher; no experience necessary. 9 pm to 1 am.
- March 31           Outreach. For participants in a "Human Sexuality Workshop" at  
Caswell Center, Kinston, NC. 10 am to 3 pm in Kinston.  
NEEDED: two females. Lunch and transportation money provided.  
Overnight accommodations may be available for Wednesday evening.  
Necessary to leave Chapel Hill by 7 am.
- April 1-2-3       2ND ANNUAL SOUTHEASTERN GAY CONFERENCE. Chapel Hill
- April 4            Outreach. For undergraduates in UNC Human Sexuality Class.  
Approximately 200 students in Rosenau (Public Health) Auditorium.  
7:30 to 9 pm. Panel will present 20 minutes of material after  
two films are shown. Questions will be written and handed in.  
Discussion sessions to be arranged beginning April 4.  
NEEDED: four persons, plus more for discussions the week  
following.
- April ???         Outreach. Inservice training for volunteers at Chapel Hill  
Switchboard. NEEDED: two males, one female.
- April 11-15       Outreach. For undergraduates in UNC Crime and Delinquency  
Class. Approximately 500 students in class. Monday or Wednesday  
from 10 to 11 am plus up to 24 discussion groups at various times  
on Thursday and Friday. NEEDED: as many as possible for  
discussions; for panel, four to six persons.
- April 18          CGA Elections. Student Union 217.

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WANT TO HAVE LAMBDA MAILED TO YOUR HOME OR OFFICE???  
WANT TO CONTRIBUTE ARTICLES OR CALENDAR EVENTS TO LAMBDA???  
You can!!! (It is not necessary to sign articles.)  
Also, if you or your friends would like to receive LAMBDA  
regularly, please let us know by writing to us at:  
LAMBDA, BOX 39, CAROLINA STUDENT UNION, CHAPEL HILL, NC 27514.  
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## A SOUTHERN BOY REVISITS EUROPE

(continued from last issue)

--by John Carroll

I met Wolfgang on a Russian ship on the Black Sea in 1971. He was 16 and very confused about his sexual identity. It was an exciting, stormy relationship that we had for two weeks while on holiday. I returned to Germany a year later and visited him at his parent's house. He was very mature for 17 and had worked out most of his confusion concerning his sexual identity. Two years later he visited me for a month here in Chapel Hill. I felt really good about the growth I had seen in him. And now I was spending two weekends with him in Frankfurt.

He still lives with his parents in a small city in Germany and is very unhappy. The only male friend he has has been on "speed" for two years, so Wolfgang is now on speed, but only on weekends; otherwise he could not keep his job. When I met him at the train station on Friday, he looked really good. He had a nice pink, healthy look in his cheeks. This changed to a pale, hollow look in his face and eyes by Saturday evening. It made me so sad to look at him. I cried. He said he thought he could quit speed, and I believe it's possible because I know he has strong will power. The next weekend was Christmas, and we spent it together. Nice.

Another reason to go to Germany was to see Karl, my first lover. We met in 1969 and were lovers for a year. It was difficult at first, but I was happy for him when he announced in 1970 that he was marrying his childhood sweetheart, Jirinia. She knew about our relationship before the marriage and accepted that as had Karl's parents previously. I was best man in the wedding, and Karl and I slept together the night before his wedding for the last time. I asked Karl then if he was sure of what he was doing. He replied, "No."

And now six years later I was visiting them. Their 4-year-old son, Marcus John is named after me. I fell in love with Marcus John instantly, and he liked me. He asked me to spend the night with him. (Not unlike his father.) It was a beautiful reunion. They are both very happy. Karl still has male sexual relationships sometimes, which doesn't upset Jirinia. If he had relationships with another woman, it might be a problem for her. Karl is studying acting, Jirinia is flying for Luthansia, and yes, Karl said that he is sure now that he had made the right decision to get married.

Three days before I left Frankfurt, I met a nice young man who is a stockbroker in Frankfurt. Such energy. His work is his "speed." He loves the game of making (and losing) money with commodities. He telephones now frequently, which makes me feel good.

A self-oppressed friend in college; an unhappy friend on speed; an old lover now happily married and a father; a physician friend who is a masochist; and a young stockbroker who runs with all stops out. Are all gay people really alike?

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## NGTF DIRECTORS COMMENT ON ANITA BRYANT AND CIVIL RIGHTS

"...We wish to make clear. . .that we think Ms. Bryant's attempt to spread false and defamatory statements about the gay community and to deny us full equality under the law is just as reprehensible as similar attempts have been to defame and deny equality to other minority groups in our society..."

A REVIEW OF MARY RENAULT'S THE CHARIOTEER

Mary Renault is one of the better second-order novelists writing today, and her writing in The Charioteer shows a careful, reasonable command of classic style and themes. The core of The Charioteer is the contrast of Platonic and physical love in Plato's Phaedo--the setting is Gay and the treatment refreshingly reserved and non-sensationalistic, and for these reasons the novel can be enjoyable, even thought-provoking, reading--totally without bed-scenes, though; that two of the main characters were sleeping together I noticed only after it had been going on, so to speak, for weeks.

But the novel's ending has left me and others unsatisfied, missing the feeling of liberation which accompanies Renault's open, enlightened treatment in the rest of the story. Laurie Odell, the novel's main character, has two prospective lovers during his convalescence from war injuries after Dunkirk. One is Andrew, a sensitive, radical, strong Quaker C.O. who works at the hospital where he is recuperating, who is in love with Laurie, although without any concept of gayness--a Platonic lover in other words. Laurie's other prospect is Ralph, a school friend for whom Laurie has pined since adolescence, whom Laurie encounters at a gay party. Renault's sympathies seem to lie with Andrew--Ralph is something of a queer chauvinist pig, whose self-reliance and worldly wisdom borders on domineering--yet when Laurie finally opts for friendship with Ralph in order to avoid violating Andrew's innocence, his choice is represented as somehow heroic, admirable and manly.

I am not aware of any other attempts in fiction to create a Model Queer. Faced with this version of Gayness, I see rather the futile self-limitation and ultimately insulting patronization which such attempts entail. Above all, the conviction that love untainted by sexuality should be an untouchable ideal, that the refusal to admit that one (and the one onemay love) is a body--and not pure Platonic soul--should be considered not dokey or even sick but rather beautiful--that conviction represents a stumbling block to liberation not only of Gays but of everybody. Women, Blacks, Queers, workers--all have been characterized as mean but necessary body which pure and noble mind must dominate and hold in check. This prejudice lies at the root of Laurie's silly reluctance to admit his love to his friend and--well, he deserves what he gets.

One particularly interesting facet of Renault's Model Queer is his acceptance of the fallacy that "Gay is Gay and straight is straight and ne'er the twain shall meet." This sort of thinking is an invention of heterosexual sublimation and has no backing in modern sexual theory since Freud, which takes general bisexuality as its cornerstone. The promise to tolerate queers, as long as they keep to themselves, is a defense maneuver to keep the unnatural one-sided heterosexual identity--especially male identity--unquestioned and unchallenged, on which the structure of sexist discrimination rests.

In assenting to this you/us compromise (as is done for example in some CGA Outreach panels) we, like Laurie, deserve what we get--as much as we might have deserved what we surrender.

--Allan Brown

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LETTERS TO "LAMBDA"

Dear Lambda,

At the present time I am enrolled in a course entitled, "Marriage and the Family." My research project is to study and evaluate reactions which families have when they discover that one of the children in the family is gay. If possible I would like you to publish this information so that those who wish to communicate with me and offer their experiences with this situation may do so.

All replies will be confidential and will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
E. P. Opphile  
Box M-384  
Methodist College  
Fayetteville, NC 28301

# # # # #

Dear Larry,

I just received your name from a mutual friend and decided to write you these few lines of introduction.

But before doing so, let me first apologize for such an informal introduction. Presently a more formal one is not possible due to my incarceration. I'm sure you can understand my situation.

I'm 26 years old, 5'11" tall, and weigh around 160 pounds. I have brown hair and blue-green eyes, and little body hair, if that's of any relevance.

Being that your name and group's name were given to me, I assume that you're as liberal and open minded as I am. There are many things I could say about myself, but at this point I'm only seeking acceptance and trying to spark up a little bit of curiosity!

If anyone would like to correspond and exchange a few ideas, I'd be most pleased! If and when anyone does, tell me all about yourself, such as your likes, dislikes, where you like to go, things you enjoy most out of life, your sexual preferences.

I'd also like a picture of you if that is possible. If there are any questions you'd like to ask, be for real. O.K.?

With that I will close for now. I look forward to someone's reply, positive or negative.

Love & Peace,  
Melvin Embley  
835 West Morgan Street  
Raleigh, NC 27603

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Dear Friend:

The National Membership Committee of Lambda International has proposed your name for membership. Lambda is a totally new concept in private clubs for the discriminating man, as it is a non-profit association chartered in Washington, DC. Its aims are simple. First, to offer a brotherhood to those males, like you and me, who choose to live an alternate and exciting lifestyle through discounted travel programs, restaurant and drink prices, adult-oriented books and movies, informative newsletters. . .and this is only the beginning.

Each member is issued his own distinctive embossed membership card and 14 karat gold plated Lambda insignia and chain, the sign of recognition of our liberation.

Why are we doing all of this? Our founders believe that it is about time

(continued on next page)

(continued letter)

that we band together, as a group, to obtain the economic and social benefits that such organizations as the Lions Club and American Legion have been getting for years. Our corporate cha-ter does not permit us to make a profit from your membership and only reasonable salaries are paid to our staff. Our membership rolls are growing at the rate of almost 1500 per month, and we are succeeding because of the support we are getting from people such as you.

Send your check or money order for \$14 for your annual dues. Your name will be kept strictly confidential and never sold to any mailing house. The only correspondence you will receive will be from Lambda offering you savings on entertainment and merchandise.

Fraternally,  
Gregg Carroll  
National Membership Chairman  
Lambda International Association, Ltd.  
735 Eleventh Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

# # # # #

#### THE GREEK LETTER

The Greek letter Lambda, equivalent to the Roman letter L, was adopted by the Gay Activists Alliance of New York early in 1970 as a gay liberation symbol. It was adopted in an effort to create an easily-recognized symbol, one which would be useful for fostering group identity and unity. Thus it serves a function similar to the "peace symbol", the Star of David or the cross.

The symbol was selected by GAA artist-member Tom Doerr as an aesthetically pleasing one. Subsequently, two lines of argument were added to justify the choice. The first was that "lambda is a scientific symbol for activism." (In actuality, its most common usage is as a symbol for wavelength photophysics.) This early rationale is generally attributed to GAA leader, Arthur Evans.

The second argument, developed later by GAA President Dr. Bruce Voeller is that lambda stands for the first letter of love, Lesbos, and Lacadaemon. Lesbos is the Greek island where the famous poet Sappho lived. She was a lesbian, a name derived from that of the island. Lacadaemon was the Greek province whose capital was Sparta, famed for its warriors and the homosexual relationship between them.

"An army of lovers cannot be defeated."

The symbol became increasingly popular and has been borrowed by other gay groups around the United States and the world. In December, 1974, it was adopted as the international gay rights symbol by the First International Gay Rights Congress, held in Edinburgh, Scotland.

--from the National Gay Task Force