

HAPPY
4th

TIMES OF
LOUISIANA
COMMUNITIES



from all the organizations in the state. All the organizations agreed to support the up-coming First Annual Gay Fest Acadiana to be held in Lafayette on July 5th and many will be taking part in the Fest. Cooperation and communication were the main words used in the first State-Wide Coalition meeting. Contact Le Beau Monde for membership for your organization.

*****1st ANNUAL GAY FEST ACADIANA*****

On July 5th at Lena's in Lafayette the 1st Annual Gay Fest Acadiana will be held. This festival is sponsored by Metropolitan Community Church of Acadiana and Dignity. Booths are planned by several organizations including Le Beau Monde of Alexandria and LAGPAC of New Orleans. There are going to be several games including Volleyball, tug-o-war, contests for individuals and groups, and races. There will be a kissing booth, auctions, raffles, and food. Free Beer will be served starting at 1:00 p.m. There will be live music and all musicians are encouraged to come out to jam with the band. People from all over the state are coming to Lafayette with Shreveport, New Orleans, and Alexandria confirmed at press time. Teams are welcome to participate in the games if you can get one together. Local businessmen and bars are supporting the Fest with prizes. Lenas can be seen from the Carencro exit off 167 north. Take I-10 to 167 and go north to the Carencro exit. Lenas is on the east side and can be identified by the large sign that says "Disco Nightly." Coming from Opelousas, take 167 south to the Carencro exit, cross under the hiway and take the access road to Lenas. Plans are in the process to have similar festivals in other cities across the state and Times of Louisiana Communities encourage other cities to begin by getting teams to Lafayette to play in the games in preparation for playing in their own cities in the future. These efforts are the first beginnings of state-wide cooperation and will be most beneficial and fun! What city will hold the next Gay Fest? Read TLC to find out!!!

With most of the bars in Shreveport, Lake Charles, and Baton Rouge closed on Sundays, it ought to be quite a party in Lafayette on July 5th. Get your volleyball teams to Lafayette!!

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*****GAYS DIVIDE LOUISIANA*****

Representatives from several gay organizations across Louisiana met in Pollock on June 13th and 14th in efforts to begin establishment of a state-wide coalition. Several proposals were made which were taken back to the different organizations for approval. This meeting of the "minds" was generally felt to have been most fruitful. Political lines were drawn and plans for future cooperation were discussed. LAGPAC drew up tentative plans for cooperation with other organizations to establish a communication system and districts for political actions. Metropolitan Community Church of Acadiana agreed to pull support from its congregation for political action for those able. Women members of LAGPAC agreed to help establish Lesbian organizations in outland cities in Louisiana and all the other organizations agreed to help establish chapters of LAGPAC. Le Beau Monde agreed to remain as a clearing house for state-wide communications and actions

ANTI-GAY TEACHERS BILL SHELVED

TLC has learned that the bill sponsored by Sen. Sevario has been shelved at this time. Our contacts in the legislature encourage that no action be taken on this bill at this time. Without any public uproar the bill will die of inaction. We are encouraged to let sleeping dogs.... Senator Sevario has been cooperative in not pushing with this bill. We do not need to push Sen. Sevario and TLC encourages no action on this matter until further notice. In the meantime it is best that Louisiana be prepared for any such future actions by supporting organizations such as Louisiana Gay Political Caucus (LAGPAC) and Le Beau Monde. Chapters of LAGPAC are planned for all major cities in the state and state-wide activities are being planned. With this bill shelved we have been very lucky. Louisiana has not been prepared for such actions and now is the best time to begin establishing a network of cooperation across the state to be prepared for future action. TLC encourages that you contact LAGPAC and Le Beau Monde to find out what you can do to establish an organization in your city and what actions are needed. Support those who support you and keep informed with TLC.

*****TLC ON THE ROAD*****

If you have been keeping up with each issue of TLC you will note that we have had articles about the people and places in New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Lake Charles, Lafayette, Shreveport, Monroe, Alexandria and Beaumont, Tx. In the future we will be doing more in depth reports on each city. TLC has been able to locate Gay bars and businesses in each of these cities. Read TLC to learn about Louisiana and what is going on in your state. Write TLC and keep us informed about you.

Morgan City: This is a most unusual small town in the most southern part of Louisiana. When I was trying to find out about Morgan City I was told that there were three bars in this town that cater to gay people. Traveling into Morgan City and talking to the local gay community most told me that the majority of local gays do not go out to any of the local establishments. This city has a bad reputation for violence and has received no recommendations from anyone that I talked to. I did locate one of the bars that is supposed to cater to the gay community called Charlie's. But, when I got to Charlies it was closed due to the death of Andrew. Apparently he was a well liked person of that city that did quite a bit for the gay community. We at TLC send out prayers for Andrew and hope that Morgan City does not forget his contribution to us.

Houma: On my southern Louisiana swing I stopped in Houma to visit Studio One. Open from 8p.m. to 2a.m., Studio One is located on Bayou Black. Sidney and John (the bartenders) were nice to look at and very pleasant to talk to. Nathan (the owner) has been very active for the gay community and is to be thanked for his efforts on a state-wide basis. Studio One is a very nice bar especially considering the size of Houma. People from all around Houma and Morgan City run over to have a little fun in Studio One. The Imperial Court had its elections there some time ago but the elections were voided due to a discovery of the elections being rigged. The people of southern Louisiana were very friendly and some really nice looking men too! I definitely encourage visiting Studio One! Hope to see them at the 1st Annual Gay Fest Acadiana.

Lafayette: Cest La Guerre is holding a drag show on the 4th of July and the rest of Lafayette is frantically preparing for the 1st Annual Gay Fest Acadiana. Franks and Lenas have donated prizes and drinks. Reservations for booths in the Fest have been made from Shreveport, New Orleans, and Alexandria already. All others are welcome. Volleyball teams are forming and everyone is excited about the first such event to be held outside of New Orleans. Lafayette has been declared the Party City by TLC for the month of July. There are plans to make this an annual event and we hope that each city will declare a month of its own. Who will take on August?

Baton Rouge: On Sunday most of the bars in Baton Rouge are closed. One exception is the Cock N Bull. The new bartender there-Randy-is an attractive and friendly man. There is a \$1 cover charge and free chili on Sundays. They are having parties there on July 1,3, and 4th. They hope to have a dinner theater going by July 10th. The Cock N Bull is the place to go on Sundays in Baton Rouge. Don't forget Bayou Landing, The Barn, and Georges for the rest of the week. The Bayou Landing is great on week-ends and Wednesdays!

Monroe: The Emporium in Monroe has been working on their bar with more improvements in the plans to come. They have added another bar and the sound and light show are great! North Louisiana should be proud of The Emporium! They have excellant drag shows and a good time can be had in Monroe at The Emporium but remember they close at 12 midnight so go early. Say Hi to manager, Gary. He is a cutie!

Shreveport: This has been a busy little city! The Snoot Fox is as busy as ever and everyone there is friendly. Sorry to hear that they are losing Stretch. Stop in and wish him luck. Say Hi to the Korner Bar crowd for me. The My Way Club is supposed to be open by the time you receive this issue of TLC. They have been having managerial problems and a time getting reopened. Glad to see them back in business. It seems that the people of Shreveport are excited about the Gay Fest in Lafayette and are planning to cum by the car loads. It seems also that The Florentine has won the award for being the only bar outside New Orleans that is not distributing TLC. They are denying their customers the opportunity to get to know Louisiana and we hope that our differences can be worked out soon. The Florentine has a fine bar and we send them our best, in the meantime get a TLC subscription or stop in the other bars to pick up TLC on the first Friday of the Month.

Alexandria: I have been unable to visit my favorite city and people at Silly Sallies and The Truck Stop and hope they will be traveling down to visit Lafayette for the Gay Fest. Let us hear from you! It is nice to know there are many active people from the Alexandria area trying to get our gay coalition going! Stop in and say Hi to Gary at the Truck Stop and dance away at Silly Sallies! Hats off to Alexandria!

Lake Charles: Love to party at Loose Ends! See you at the Gay Fest and let us hear from you. Some really fine people at Loose Ends and in Lake Charles!

New Orleans: The Gay Pride Parade was a grand success and lots of Fun! Gay Pride is really visible in New Orleans! Travis's "Liza" was great on June 19th. Lafittes in Exile and Jewels are great as ever! Thanks Blaine! The police problems have been solved. Good to see you again Jimmy, Dennis, and Randy! Mike, your as beautiful as ever and I hope the next show you do is not so much of a disaster! They are trying to establish a Bartenders Association and TLC will keep you Bartenders informed on the progress. All of you are encouraged to come to Lafayette for our Gay Fest!!!

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH of ACADIANA

Formed in Lafayette in January of 1981. Meets every Sunday at Lena's in the upstairs bar at 3:00 p.m. Call 873-4484 or 896-8444 or write P.O. Box 91443 in Lafayette, LA 70501. Join your brothers and sisters in fellowship.

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On Monday, May 25th, which was Memorial Day, Mama(Inez) and Papa(Meus) celebrated their 1st year with Frank's Bar at it's new location on Jefferson St. As usual, when they celebrate, everyone was invited to a free Bar-B-Q. Frank's is the quieter of the three bars in Lafayette, but, by no means does that make it dead.- Some very fine people can be met there, and no hassles. All the bartenders, Ron, Percy, Pearl, Bobby, and Mama May(who does the graveyard shift from 12 midnight to 7 a.m.) will treat you right all the time. Mama and Papa are usually there in the earlier part of the day and always have a smile and a good word. Although Franks is frequented by straight people as well as gays, a good time can be had by all. Old and young alike go to Franks. I am not an employee of this paper but rather a free lancer. I support all three bars and I support this paper and I feel that the entire gay community should. This paper can put out some very much needed information to the people. Put some ads in TLC.

BH/ TLC Guest Reporter

FITTING IN

I stepped inside of the banquet hall and looked around the dim smokefilled room. There were several long tables lined up side by side adorned with white ruffled tablecloths. In the far corner of the room was a lovely woman in a black lowcut formal standing behind a small bar serving drinks. People stood in line at the bar laughing and talking. Some just sat at tables smoking and listening to the jazz piano sounds. As a rule I hate formal occasions. Dressing up and putting on sophisticated airs always seemed phone to me. At that moment I recalled my Senior High Prom. I chuckled as I thought of teenage girls in long sexy gowns and high heel pumps standing arm in arm with their dates praying nobody else would show up in the same dress. I had long since left the "straight life," and those horribly uncomfortable times of having to force myself to fit it. As I sat watching, I realized the atmosphere at this gathering

continued page 5.

SHREVEPORT'S FINEST

MY WAY

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July 5th Fest

*Free Beer
From 1:00 - 2:00
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for rest of Sunday*

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Mon. - Sat. 2 for 1 Bar Drinks
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Downstairs Disco....Upstairs Lounge

**P.O. Box 90193
Lafayette, LA 70509**

Continued from page 4.

was different from what I had expected. The guests were dressed in everything from bluejeans to tuxedos and nobody cared. There was a variety of people from different socioeconomic, ethnocultural and religious backgrounds. There were Blacks, Whites, Spanish Americans, Catholics, Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians, gay, bisexual, and straight intermingled into one loving, happy, crazy group. I suddenly felt free to be myself because I knew no one would question whether I was right or wrong. It was real and occurred during the MCC District Conference in Joplin, Missouri, May 23, 1981. The conference also included services and workshops that were equally enjoyable. Belonging is important to human existence and society often excludes people different. Wouldn't it be nice if we could all feel a sense of belonging and acceptance just because we are all one in the human race?

GMR/Guest Reporter
TLC

LE BEAU MONDE

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Coordinating Communication and
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Hattisburg - Le Bistre

New Orleans - Le Bistre

On The Beach

Boiler Room

800 Bourbon

I support TLC and encourage others to take ads of support so that we may keep our community informed. Take a \$5.00 ad such as this. Don R.

Ad space is available now in TLC for room-mates, dates, for sale, or any other topic requested. TLC reserves the right to refuse ads deemed inappropriate or illegal.

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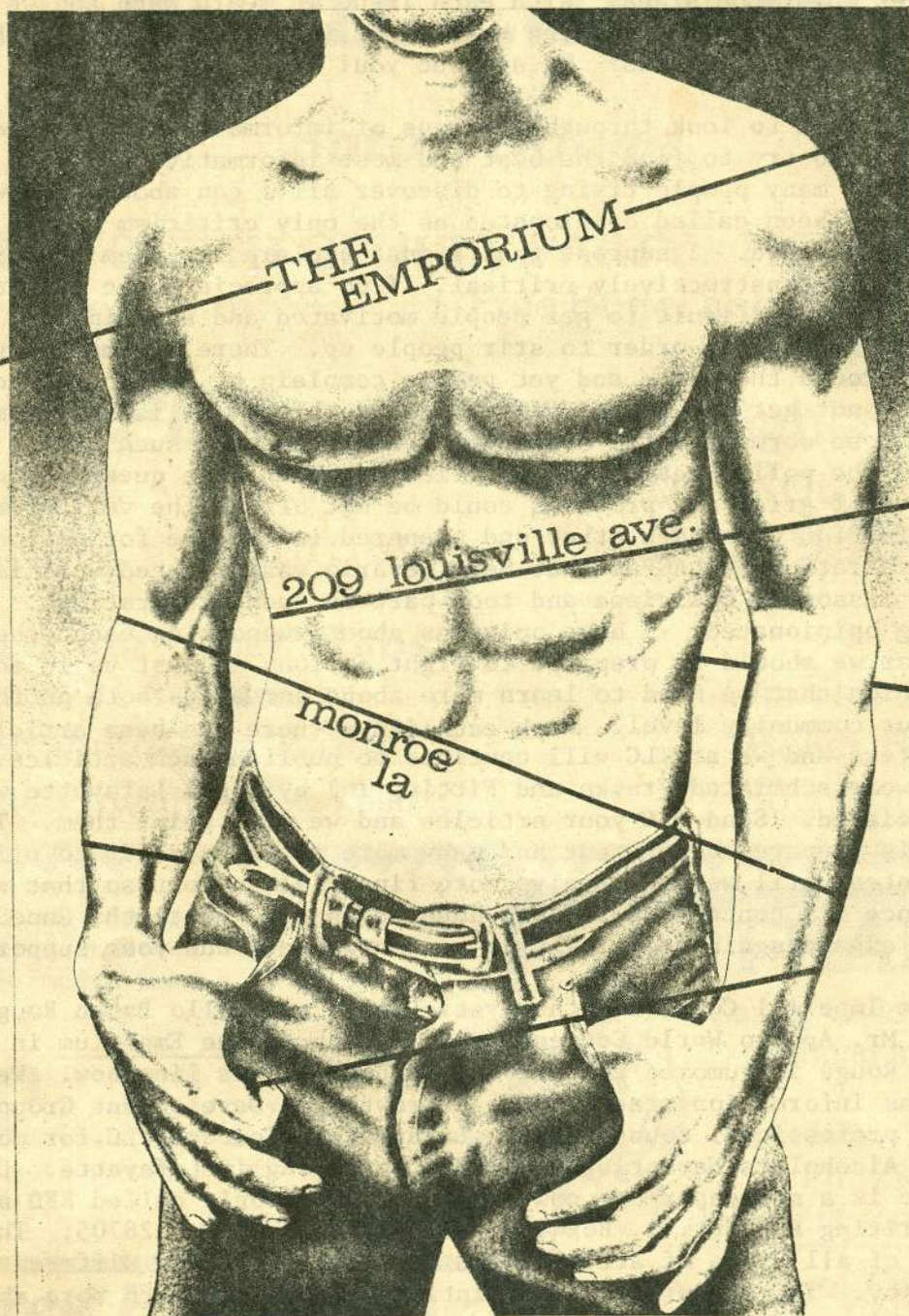
Starting Sunday, June 28 until the end of
summer, we will be having a **FREE Bar-B-Q.**
every other Sunday at 3:00 p.m.

TLC wishes to express its gratitude for all the calls, letters, and wishes of support from all over the country. We have tried hard to bring you the news, education and various articles about Louisiana. With each issue we learn much and we will continue to grow and work hard to bring you the best paper in the state. Keep those articles and news reports coming. Thanks! We applaud you!

Each month I sit down to look through the tons of information I have received and articles written and try to find the best and most informative. I read tons of other papers and talk to many people trying to discover all I can about the people around the state. I have been called opinionated as the only criticism of TLC. Most everyone has been very supportive. I suppose that I must explain why I am so opinionated to those who have been constructively critical. I do appreciate the criticism. But, I feel that it is very difficult to get people motivated and sometimes it is necessary to be overly opinionated in order to stir people up. There are many organizations and activities around the state and yet people complain of nothing to do. It is simply they will not get off there duffs to do anything. It is very common for organizations to be dormant until something drastic happens such as the bill from Sen. Sevario or the police action in New Orleans. Then, the queers come out of the woodwork. A lot of grief and problems could be cut off at the very source if we were in communication with each other and prepared in advance for action. It was due to such preparation by LAGPAC that Sen. Sevario was silenced. It is time that we learned our lesson in Louisiana and took part in such preparations. Yes, I plead guilty to being opinionated! I have opinions about supporting each other, I have the opinion that we should be prepared to fight actions against us in advance, and I have the opinion that we need to learn more about ourselves both on the individual level and on our community level. With each issue there has been articles contributed from other writers and we at TLC will continue to publish such articles. The articles in this issue were submitted (Franks and Fitting In) by local Lafayette writers and are much appreciated. Send TLC your articles and we will print them. There is much more that TLC is prepared to present and many more articles ready to print but, they can not be printed until we can receive more financial support so that we may expand TLC again. Since its conception TLC has doubled in size up to the June issue. We are looking to expand again soon. TLC is your newspaper and your support is needed.

OTHER NEWS: The Imperial Court and the Mystic Krewe of Apollo Baton Rouge are sponsoring the Mr. Apollo World Contest on July 11th at The Emporium in Baton Rouge. LAMDA of Baton Rouge is rumored to have a telephone crisis line now. We will report more about it as information reaches us. A Growth and Development Group is being developed with professional counselors in Lafayette. Contact TLC for more information. There is a Gay Alcoholics/Narcotics Abuse Group forming in Lafayette. Contact Bob O. at Lenas. There is a newspaper out now for rural gay people called RFD and it can be contacted by writing RFD, Rt. 1. Box 127, Bakersville, N. C. 28705. This newspaper is packed full of all kinds of articles and represents a whole different style of the gay community. TLC encourages subscriptions to RFD to learn more about our community. Within our minority of being gay are many different types of groups. Not only do we cross the lines of race, economic barriers, religious barriers, and sexual barriers, we also have gay communes, rural and city gays, bankers and hippies, gay witches and occult worshipers and numerous other types of people in our gay community. RFD reports on many of these other types of gay people and TLC will be covering them as we discover them in Louisiana. If you know of them write TLC and report to us. Thank you all again for your support and spread TLC to all the people of Louisiana!

Times of Louisiana Communities 318/873-4484
P.O. Box 91442
Lafayette, La. 70501



C A P T I V A T I N G

THE EMPORIUM 209 Louisville Ave. Monroe, LA (318)322-9396