

*Personally*

JUNE-1984

Volume II: Issue III

*Yours*

**T**o seek out a Bluebird  
to carry a message of love

is no stranger than

the belief that dreams lend power  
to bring about results.

*of Kelly*

*Amulio*



# Azulão

## HOME OFFICE

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CIRCULATION 700

This is a womyns community newspaper. The spelling of womyn or wimmin does not indicate an anti male attitude. Our intention is to claim our identity, independent of, not as a subgroup of, our male dominated society. Anyone submitting material for use in this newspaper may request the use of the traditional spelling in their article, if printed. All materials submitted will be kept on file for use as needed. Copy deadline is the 10th of each month. Ad deadline is the 20th of each month. Inclusion of womyns names within this publication does not reflect the affectional preference of those mentioned. Opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of this organization. No one is associated with this newspaper who is not listed on the credits column. If any questions arise about this, please call the editor. Mail all articles, photographs, cartoons, ads and other materials to our address.

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## Azulão

At the open forum, we found ourselves (the Board of Directors, volunteers and friends) in a run-off needing to choose between two very worthwhile names, Llangollen and Azulão. The vote was in favor of Llangollen by two votes. Due to the narrow margin and the final decision being left up to the Board, we decided to rule in favor of Azulão. The name was submitted by GA. Azulão was taken

from Chris Williamson's album, "Live Dreams." The song "Azulão" was written by Jayme Ovalle Bandeira. We feel that the definition (as shown in the logo) appropriately represents the beliefs of our organization. GA (our Membership Director/Production Supervisor) donated the \$50.00 prize to our organization. Our beautiful logo/cover was created by our Art Director, Linda Kelly.



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 \*\*\*\*\*

We are a womyns support group, located at 615 Fargo. We encourage womyn to drop by, have coffee, get acquainted with other womyn and check out the feminist library we are developing here. On a very limited basis, we provide temporary shelter for womyn in various states of crisis. We do not discriminate and encourage the participation of our hearing Impaired and Handicapped sisters. We hope to support a community center/crisis center with the proceeds of this publication. Our operation is based on a very democratic policy - if you are present and participating when a decision needs to be made, your vote counts. This policy is designed to encourage your participation in your organization. Our aspirations: To make a difference, to encourage networking in our community, to give womyn a place to go to find love and support, to help womyn in crisis situations, to help womyn recreate their lives and become productive and valuable within our community. Our membership dues are \$20.00 a year. However, we would rather have you than your money. The option of doing volunteer work to pay your dues is not only available but encouraged! We've got a dream, with your support we will achieve results. TOGETHER WE CAN!

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Things have changed. I believe in the ideals and goals of this organization. Many rumors have been spread which have affected me as a reporter. Each to their own, but I personally am not a part of such rumors. I do not consider this place a "cat house." Rumors say otherwise. I have met many nice womyn at 615 Fargo which I have come to consider close friends. I go to Azulão to support the womyn and the work that is being accomplished there. I believe this to be a respectable newsletter or I would not put forth so much of my precious energy into this publication.

TK

Dear TK,  
Where womyn gather in numbers participating in creativity and productivity it is hard to stop the energies from mounting and continuing on in more personal directions. Who would want to stop this natural process? We get to know each other on a soul to soul level in the at-

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mosphere at Azulão  
The warmth and love expressed here is something we've all missed at times in our lives. It is stimulating to help womyn recreate their lives and become involved and caring about themselves, our sisters and our community. With love and support of sisterhood womyn do find and become lovers. We do not guarantee that you will find a lover by dropping by but, you will find lots of love and support!



## Herstory

This month we want to share with you some of the strong womyn, in Herstory, who have dared to create change. Womyn who, in spite of controversy, have had the courage to keep doing what they believed in. Amelia Earhart was such a womyn. She was the first to not only cross the Atlantic Ocean but the first to fly solo across it. She vanished in 1937 during an around-the-world flight in the South Pacific. Another womyn who dared to be first was Jeannett Rankin. She was the first womyn to serve in Congress. She was a feminist as well as a Pacifist. When the House of Representatives voted to declare war on Japan, the day after Pearl Harbor, her's was the only dissenting vote. Talking about womyn of spirit who dare to be first, Belva Lockwood had to fight every step of the way, to be able to enter and attend law school.

When the university withheld her diploma, she petitioned the honorary president who was U.S. President Ulysses S. Grant. Later when she tried to bring a case to court, she had to persuade Congress to pass a bill that would guarantee the right of womyn lawyers to plead a case before the Supreme Court of the United States. A womyn who just wouldn't take "NO" for an answer! Talking about law brings us to politics which brings to mind Clare Boothe Luce. She was the first womyn to deliver the keynote speech at a national political convention in 1944 and served as Ambassador to Italy under President Eisenhower. "If I fail" she said, "they will say womyn don't have what it takes. Success by a womyn makes it easier for other womyn." Now that's a statement I can believe in. Lets



talk about Lillian Hellman. She was blacklisted and forced to testify at the UnAmerican Activities Committee in 1952. When questioned about any communist friends she had, Lillian said, "Go to hell, to hurt innocent people whom I knew many years ago in order to save myself is, to me, inhuman, indecent and dishonorable. I will not cut my conscience to fit this years fashion." This womyn's courage and conviction was as well known as her most famous drama called "The Knife of Truth." Courage? Yes that's courage. Did you think womyn lacked courage? I don't think so, what about Harriet Tubman. This dynamic womyn had a motto, "Keep going." She was born into slavery on a Maryland farm, yet made her escape in 1849. But this womyn was so filled with compassion for her people that she returned to the South 19 times to free more than 300 slaves. That took courage!

In the Civil War she served as a spy behind rebel lines and as a military scout. Some womyn had courage to just be different, like Calamity Jane. Born in Missouri in 1852 she wore men's clothes, cussed, chewed tobacco and drank. Finally to represent a different kind of spirit is Sarah Caldwell. She was another first. The first womyn to conduct the Met. She founded the Opera Company of Boston. "Once in awhile," says Sarah, "when everything is just right there is a moment of magic. People can live on moments of magic." Womyn with courage, spirit, wisdom...reach out, make magic.

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Options...we have so many. Isn't it great? Nine years ago I became a single woman with needs that I did not know how to meet. I like being a part of a family. I no longer had a primary family of my own. I enjoy being with friends when I choose to be with others. The rest of the time I prefer my own company. I like the feeling of a friendly neighborhood rather than living in an isolated apartment. An isolated apartment makes me feel lonely and unsafe.

Many years before I had been introduced to a lifestyle that provided me with the freedom not to wear clothing if I chose--clothing optional. It provides a unique atmosphere of trust and respect that granted me the opportunity to be natural...to be myself. Years later, when I was single, I really began to understand the extent of that freedom.

The first four years

of my singleness I traveled in my work and found I was playing the expected games by men's rules. I still wasn't meeting my needs. I took a look at my options and chose to create a balance in my life of work, family and friends and to stop the game playing.

I moved into the clothing optional living community of my experience many years after. What a change in my life!

First, when I am socializing with my friends, sans clothing, I find that the sexual games with men have ceased. I am accepted as the intelligent woman that I am rather than a female they need to impress.

I'm sure you're very aware that our society equates nudity and sexuality or harassment of women, or men for that matter, as not acceptable. It is a family atmosphere and our sexuality is considered a private matter. Not that we are asexual but it is behavior that is appropriate in a family

atmosphere.

Second, it has been so great to find a way of life within a caring community of friends from newborns to eighty year olds. A marvelous extended family. On some occasions one in which I feel I can be myself more than I do with my biological family.

Raising children within this atmosphere is a beautiful experience. Children are respected as persons and respond in kind. Have you noticed how many young children have to be taught to keep their clothes on? Then we do such a good job of it that many children are hesitant to join us by removing their clothing. I've found that giving children the option not to remove their clothing takes away the negative feeling. As they sit by the pool and watch the kids laughing and playing in the pool, the desire to join the fun becomes too great. Suddenly par-

ents look around and find their children have joined the kids in the water.

Children grow up observing bodies of babies, children, teens, adults and "old" people. They do not have to wonder what the different stages of their development will be. They just know and accept it as a part of life.

Many adults feel that their bodies are not in perfect shape so they wouldn't feel comfortable being nude. My experience has been that each person's body is unique. When we remove our clothing we are accepted for ourselves rather than the image that our clothing portrays. We may be skinny, heavy, have scars, missing appendages, think our stomach sticks out too much or our breasts aren't the "right" size or shape. What I've found is that differences become very unimportant. It is the person that counts.



## Paid Advertisement

According to a Gallup poll in 1983, 15% of the U.S. population has tried social nudity. It has been my experience that people who enjoy social nudity are generally inner directed people, those who do not need other people's approval. The average ages are 20-40 years old, usually have more than a high school degree and are experiential, willing to take risks. I find that the feeling of community and caring among my friends and neighbors within my clothing optional environment provides a feeling of security that I did not feel in other apartments that I have lived. The friendliness is dramatically different. Without clothes, barriers of communication simply fall away. Thus, we tend to look out for one another and would not hesitate to get in touch with management if we questioned anyone on the premises. If you would like to explore this lifestyle, the opportunity exists here in Houston. See

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the offer extended to you by Club Fieldstone on 59 south and Hillcroft. (See our ad). Please feel free to call me at 713-789-0780 if you have questions you would like me to answer prior to your visit.

Diane McCurdy

### THE 9<sup>TH</sup> MICHIGAN WOMYN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL AUGUST 9-12, 1984

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## Review A LATE SNOW

May 26th the Gay community witnessed the opening night of the play "A LATE SNOW." This is a delightful play written by Jane Chambers. It is being presented by the Diversity Theatre Co. It is being performed at the Pink Elephant, (reputed to be the oldest gay bar in the USA) at 1218 Leeland. Jane Chambers is a very talented writer. She has taken every love story ever told, to intricately weave them into one poignant, many faceted play. She brings us to the verge of tears only to pull you back up in a light-hearted manner. Her humor is well placed and entertaining. Sara Lindley, plays Quincey a gay libber who, reluctantly lives in the closet for her lover. Quincey's enthusiastic introduction to Margo (Cindy Goatley) is very convincing. Sara's portrayal of Quincey made the audience identify with her. Ellis is portrayed by Maggie Taylor, as the owner of the cabin in

which the five womyn are caught during a snow storm. Ellie is an English Professor who is still in the closet. Surrounded by four womyn, (one lover, two ex's and one potential) this womyn is searching for answers. Will her sense of commitment help her stay and work at her present relationship or will the need to tremble overcome her good intentions? Billie Duncan as Pat, is a heavy drinking, conniving, seductress and Ellie's ex. Billie's versatility gave this character depth, passion, and sensitivity that a less talented actress would have lost. Margo is played by Cindy Goatley. She is a straight (?) writer who met Ellie at a convention and came home with her. Perfect Peggy portrayed by Deborah H. Boily, Ellie's first love, rounds out the cast of characters. The characters are portrayed by five energetic and impressively talented womyn. The set design crew are to be congratulated on their

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attention to details. The audience response to this well written and performed play was positive and deafening. I challenge anyone in the community to attend this play and not be able to relate to at least one portion of the story. Performances will be Monday, Tuesday, and Friday night through June 12th at 8:00 p.m., attend! Support the arts in our community and treat yourself to a night of great entertainment. You won't be dissapointed.

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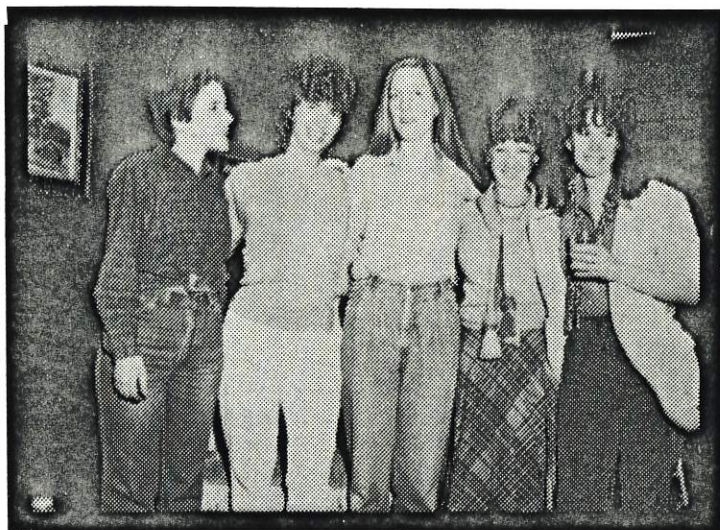
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SARA LINDLEY, MAGGIE TAYLOR, CINDY GOATLEY,  
DEBORAH H. BOILY, BILLIE DUNCAN

## THE TWO PEOPLE I ADMIRE THE MOST.

### Part one:

There are many men and womyn within the community who put forth undying energy in many different areas of support. Many of these people we hear alot about through various publications or the diferant businesses and organizations in which they work.

But in my opinion, not as a writer for a newsletter, but as a person, there is a man within our community who is well worth acknowledge-ment and praise within the community.

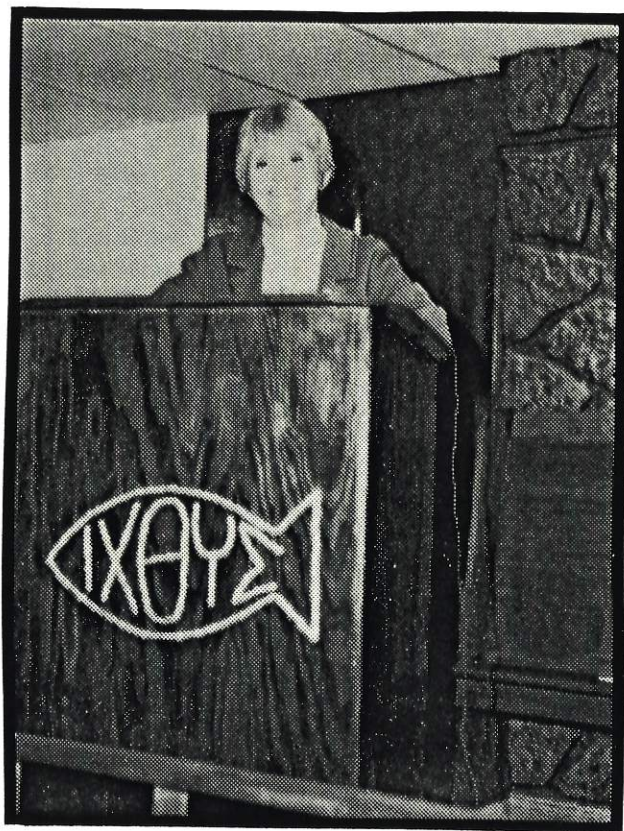
He is Charles Gillis, owner of Wilde N' Stein Bookstore. Located on 802 Westheimer. When I met Charles, I was 18 years old, on drugs, and walking the streets of Montrose. He never passed judgement on me, or treated me with anything but love or friendship.

One thing I have always admired about Charles is the way in which he has helped people. He never lent me money or gave me a place to crash, but he did so much more. He respected me, listened to me, and just helped me feel better about myself.

I'm not going to go into all the community organizations that Charles has supported because I feel like the real Charles Gillis is the gentle, compassionate man who has helped me and so many others that I know of in ways in which people may feel are insignificant. Charles did one thing for me that is something I may never be able to repay and you can learn what it was by reading "part two" of "The Two People I Admire The Most." (continued next month)



## Rev. Leggett



Nancy: "First I would like to know a little about you and how you got in the ministry?"

Jeanne: "I grew up in a small town in Oklahoma. I married young and later became addicted to drugs and alcohol. It was while struggling with these things and two kids (as well as homosexuality) that I

felt I needed something more, so I jumped on a bus with nothing but my kids and a cardboard box. I ended up in Fort Worth, Texas, where after 7 yrs I began attending MCC. It was there that we founded the MCC-New Freedom Evangelistic Team and traveled for 1 1/2 yrs. Later I settled in Houston and studied at MCCR for

awhile. I still owe MCC a great deal and have much love for the people. After I left, I joined a small group of people where I found our idea to differ dramatically on a theological level, so I left that church and started a Bible study group with 12 others; which later formed into CCF. We went on growing and rented a warehouse on 34th street, soon to out-grow it and moved to 413 Westheimer, until last June when we realized we would need a building we could grow into. We are now at 217 Fairview. We just celebrated our 6th charter year on May 19th and we hope to be here many more.

Nancy: "Tell me what is the church's schedule and what sort of classes do you teach?"

Jeanne: "We have regularly scheduled service which is Sunday at 10:45 a.m. and starting June 10th the church will be open all day. On the 1st Sunday of every month I will be doing a special workshop on womyn in the Bible and homosexuality and the Bible. It will

be announced. On the last Sunday of each month we hope to have a music fest; both of those will be at 3:00 p.m. Our Wednesday night service is conducted by lay people or staff and starts at 7:15 p.m. and at 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. We will have two Bible studies going on. We'll have a class being conducted at the same time upstairs. Our staff will be teaching one of the two.

Nancy: How is CCF doing in the community?

Jeanne: I think we have a lot of validity as a Christian Church. It has taken us a long time to obtain that.

Nancy: What needs does CCF have?

Jeanne: As all churches do we have a financial struggle. We manage to pay our bills and keep things going, but we have a struggle doing that.

Nancy: How often do you have staff programs?

Jeanne: Every six months.

Nancy: What is your



average active membership?

Jeanne: Our attendance is between 40 and 50.

Nancy: How do you classify your church denominationally?

Jeanne: I think that our church is a Protestant Church. We probably would lean more, in our quorum of worship, toward Methodist; but that does not mean our doctrine is Methodist merely that our order of worship would lean more toward that of a Methodist service. We do celebrate communion.

Nancy: Do you feel this to be a Gay church?

Jeanne: No, it's a Christian church.

Nancy: What are your views on the womyn's community?

Jeanne: I think the womyn's community in Houston is polarized. I think they are polarized into class and social groups or by some mistaken idea of intellect, by interests and are probably very

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fearful of each other. The Church of Christian Faith probably has the largest percentage in Houston of womyn that are of one mind and one purpose.

Nancy: What do you feel we could do to strengthen the womyn's community in Houston?

Jeanne: Bring them to CCF. It would help a great deal if womyn would learn to trust each other.

Nancy: We've been asking all that we've interviewed about their feelings on the KKK march?

Jeanne: I think that any credence that we give them is what they want. We, as a church, are going to ignore them and strongly encourage everyone to do the same.

Nancy: Do you have any kind of personal communication you would like to share with our readers?

Jeanne: As a community the biggest needs we have are spiritual and those are the ones most often neglected.



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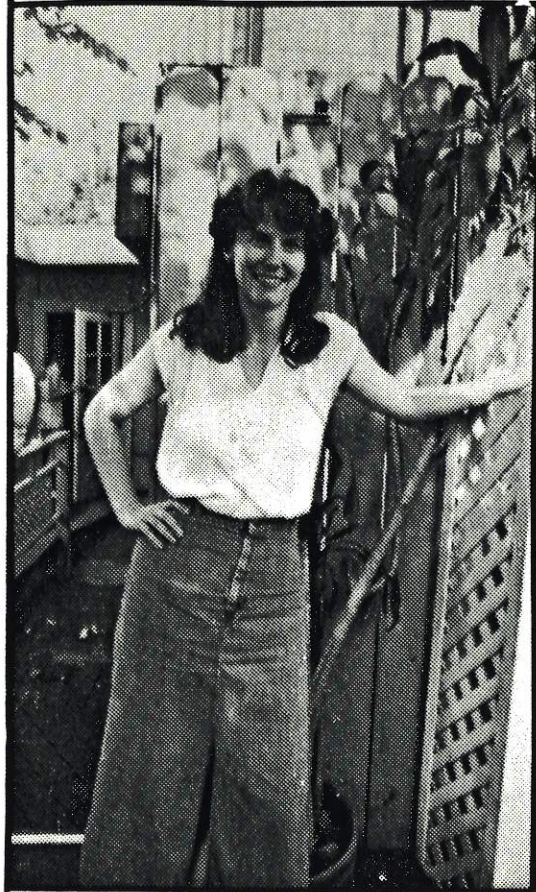
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## Billie Duncan



Nancy: What in your opinion would be an ideal womyn's community?

Billie: The ideal womyn's community, I think would be the ideal people's community. A community in which each person, no matter what his or her background, should be able to develop into everything that is substantial for that human being. Womyn stop talking about a womyn's community, and a gay community, and a black community, and a hispanic community and start talking about people individually. That to me is ideal.

Nancy: Do you have any suggestions as to how to achieve this ideal?

Billie: Yeah, real definite suggestion. Each person has to make a choice sometime in life to be a force for good, to live her life in such a way that you affect other people. Each person here makes a difference. It is because of individuals that anything happens. I made a choice some years ago to become

some sort of a force in other peoples lives. When I affect someone, I want them to go on and affect somebody else in that way it becomes a more positive movement in history. It's a bigger picture than of just today. It is like the whole concept of forward movement in History. The womyns movement is just a part of that. It's a very important part of that. It's a very important part because we're like over half the population of the world. There is diversity in womyn and we all have different needs.

Nancy: What changes have you witnessed in our community?

Billie: Oh my goodness! I've seen a lot of changes. When I first started being politically active, it was at a time that it was totally unacceptable in the late 60's, early 70's. My family just threw up their hands at me and felt that I was unacceptable. Now



they all admire me and insist that they all admired me then. The changes I've made personally have been small changes. But they've been part of greater change. I've seen more acceptance of the female way of thought, which is one of the things that is wrong with the womyns movement for so long. Womyn were conditioned to think that to be acceptable you had to be a man, so we produced a whole bunch a man clones. Womyn who tried to act like men in order to be successful. changes I've seen are womyn realizing their own strength and coming to grips with it. There are a lot of things that are still probably backwards or unacceptable entirely. For one thing there is a big difference between what womyn make in a position and what men make in it, as far as dollars and cents. The womyn have all the sense, men have all the dollars. It's still true. We still need to fight this. We have to fight it in

a womyns way. Womyn are realizing they are womyn. They have womyns strengths and that's beautiful. As for as the gay movement is concerned. I'm seeing a lot of young people I know now that are totally comfortable being gay, now that's something I couldn't see many years ago. Some people were frightened, some were closeted. The older gay people are still very closeted. We've a whole generation of young people coming up and in one way it's healthy to say I am what I am. In another way it's bad because kids don't realize that it's dangerous to be different they don't go out, fight for their freedoms and they don't go out and vote, they don't go out and march, they don't make their preference felt. You have to if you are going to be part of what is considered a minority you have to fight every day of your adult life or someday you'll be locked up.

Nancy: What in the community have you participated in personally?

Billie: Being on staff at the Montrose Voice, is one way in which I make my own personal velocity. But as a support person I go back a long way doing benefits, meetings, organizing marches. In San Francisco, in the 70's, I organized many different things including a Patti Hurst look alike contest, which was won by a drag queen named Bobby, wearing chiffon camouflage and court- ing a machine gun. I feel like humor is healthy. It's good to be able to laugh at yourself and the world. I'm not a joiner. I don't join organizations. I support them, in my own way. Quietly or sometimes not so quietly.

Nancy: Do you have a personal message you would like to share with our readers?

Billie: Love each other and love the people you don't agree with. If everybody in the world could accept everybody else we'd be all right! As a minority you can not go out and exploit other people and still expect your own rights.

What we have to do is love each other!

Nancy: Do you know of other womyn who are involved in the community that you would like to see interviewed?

Billie: I know a lot of womyn that are involved that I would like to see. We all know the people who are out there all the time, like Marion Coleman, who's loveable. But I would like to see the type of womyn that people don't realize what the hell they do. What about Cherrie Wolf. She's getting more and more acknowledgment. She's out there working hard and there are some people who work for her who are always there supporting everything. They never expect any sort of recognition. Yes, I would like to see some of these womyn acknowledged. The womyns, womyn out there whose doing, working, and trying to support everybody.

Nancy: How do you feel about the KKK being allowed to march on our streets?



Billie: Ah those boys! It's a free country. If I can march down the street, they can. The difference between them and me is the fact that they don't want me to march down the street, they would rather see me locked up. I would fight to protect their freedoms.

Nancy: Are you aware that the permit fee of \$275.00 dollars was waived?

Billie: No because a lot of times you don't know what the background material is. I haven't researched the question. I haven't gone down and talked to the people until I know for sure I'm not going to say anything about it. If there's something going on that is something that I don't agree with I will definitely say something about it in the future.

Nancy: Are you aware of the KKK history for violence against people

who protest or the danger of just physically observing their march?

Billie: Right! That's why I feel that the people who don't agree with the philosophys and hatred that support things like the KKK should wear a sky blue ribbon and go to an alternate party site. We're trying to set that up this week.

Nancy: Do you think our magazine could get that information?

Billie: Oh yes, it will be a love and brotherhood party and will probably be at Herman Park.

Nancy: We were asked to include these two following questions in our interview. Do you feel there is a need in this community for a non-alcoholic bar?

Billie: A coffee house situation?

Nancy: More like a regular bar but no alcohol.

Billie: I think it would have to be supported by someone who personally could afford it. Because of the fact that I've seen these organizations in New York, San Francisco, particularly, and they were always supported by owners who did it for the love of it. And if you can find someone who can do that, that's the question not whether we need it, of course we need it!

Nancy: Do you feel many people in the community would support such an endeavor?

Billie: No, I think what would happen is that you would have a small group of strong people who would want to be there. If you're going to have a non-alcoholic bar you're still going to have to have something there for entertainment.

Nancy: Would you support a non-alcoholic bar?

Billie: Absolutely! I'd go, pull my guitar in and do everything I could.

Nancy: Well alright! I'd go to that bar. I'd like to thank you for your time and for answering all my questions.



Sunday, June 17th  
Cherryhurst Park  
2:00 P.M.  
DISTANCE: ONLY 5 MILES

For further information,

call The

Gay Switchboard at 529-3211

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## Bacchus Benefit

If you like good music and off-beat humor then Bacchus was the place to be on Sunday May 27. In my opinion the real story is not so much that it was a terrific jam session but, that so many talented performers such as; Mary Ann Mahoney and Mati Hari, Billie Duncan, Brook McDonald, Gala Susan, the list could go on... volunteered their time and it seemed, undying energy, to raise money for Gay Pride Week. This event was scheduled to run from 2pm to 4pm but, to my pleasure it ran until 8:00pm. To the performers I salute you for your dedication and talent. To Bacchus I say congrats, the patio looked charming and helped make this wonderful event complete.



Billie Duncan and  
Mary Ann Mahoney



Billie Duncan, Mary Ann Mahoney, and Mati Hari  
PAGE 25



Julie Hollingsworth  
Photography  
669-9182



# Sapphist

You'll never know  
what you mean to me  
when a smile would  
come over your face  
or  
hear your laughter  
in a room

You'll never know  
what feelings I had inside  
when you would call  
or

being with you, just having fun or nothing at all

You'll never know  
the respect and appreciation I had  
or  
how I would take up and fight for you

You'll never know  
the hurt, pain, and sadness I went through  
or  
the meanness, madness and jealousy I had inside of me

You'll never know  
the dreams I had planned  
or  
the places I wanted to take you

You'll never know  
a friend the way I was  
or  
the love I had

You'll never know  
another me  
or  
one like me

TODAY

Come dream with me-  
Pick a purple rose  
From a late season.  
Hear the Bees  
Punch honeycomb timeclocks  
To make butter  
For some fat man's bread.  
We'll wait together.

Kathryn Saupp

# Erotica

WELCOME HOME!

It starts with a glance  
It starts with a look,  
Then you find it's time  
to take that chance.

It takes so long to  
finally belong,  
To a heart atuned with  
yours,  
It's a meaningful meeting  
through all strife,  
Of hopes you share that  
lingers.

Then troubles and woes fly,  
Bringing smiles and glowes  
And the warmth you can feel,  
down to your toes,  
Now that you are home again.

TO DEBBIE FROM AUDREY

I long to kiss your  
womyn lips.  
And rock you on my  
womyn hips.  
To give of myself so  
we might be one.  
To wipe away the wrong  
I've done.  
Oh, let me see  
womyn smile.  
The one that says  
you'll stay awhile.  
So I may whisper,  
once again,  
I love you sister,  
womyn, friend.

Nancy L. Harty

Touch of Diane

Such is the touch of heaven that enters  
in my life, a "Love Song" that excites me.  
Bouique ever inch of my body that moves  
me like the wind.  
Truth that fills my ear with love which  
never will end.

A love that's so great it seeds and blooms  
in my Blood, to warm my body each day & night  
that never ends.

Sincerely LONLEY

JMCRANE



Julie Hollingsworth  
Photography  
669-9182



## HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE KKK MARCH

With the news of the KKK march hitting our community, we decided to see how you felt about it. Our staff took a questionnaire to the womyn's bars to ask you how you felt. We found the general consensus to be that of anger and dislike. We did come across a surprising number of womyn who were unaware of the march. Womyn expressed concern over the past and possibility of future violence. Because of this, womyn said they would support the GPC in non-involvement. However, they felt an alternative form of protest would be appropriate, such as a peaceful demonstration in Herman Park. The following letters are typical of womyns reactions.

We all are very aware that freedom of speech and fair play mean nothing to the KKK. They would take away our right to free speech in a minute while defending theirs. They use intimidations and threats against innocent people of various minorities, while screaming "foul" if someone manages to step on their toes. They twist the Constitution, to make it defend their right to threaten life, limb, and property. As much as we may hate them, we are no better than they are. However, if we are smart, we won't dignify their march with our attendance. Stay away, and let the KKK know who the real Christians and fine Jewish people are!



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Elsie Albert - Manager  
(in business for 27 years)

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I personally feel the KKK is an organization composed of individuals that have nothing better to occupy their time, than "forcibly" impose their opinions and prejudices on people outside of their group. I emphasize "forcibly" in regard to their well known exploits of violence; and I also emphasize "forcibly" in regard to the public having to be exposed to the KKK's prejudices via marches, media, etc, in total disregard to the public's feelings of being exposed to the KKK's opinions.

We are a country that prides ourselves on freedom of speech, choice, etc, and I am supportive of such. After all, isn't that how blacks, homosexuals, womyn, etc., have been able to build from their past to present status? Yet in comparison to the KKK's activities, these groups have tried to base their efforts on non-violent and positive means of obtaining their goals. If I was to personally be asked to choose a mascot for the KKK, I

would definitely not choose "God" and would probably choose "Hitler." Compare the prejudices and how those prejudices are dealt with; this would be an appropriate mascot, wouldn't it?

Did you know that the upcoming KKK march against our community apparently involves some prejudice aside from the KKK group? The KKK have a permit to march, which more or less gives them "official" permission to expose the public to their prejudices; yet, did you know there are two additional factors involved which were options on the part of the people who had the final approval for this march in our city? One of those factors, is that the KKK did not have to pay for their "official" permit; and the other factor is that the march did not have to take place in the area designated, right in our community! Our decisive city officials may be able to come back to us and say, "They can march, we are a democracy, it's

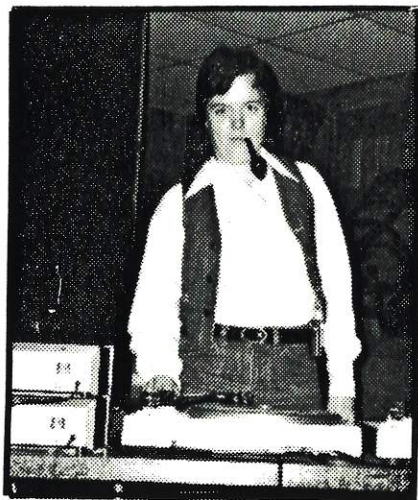
their right"; but they can't come back to us and say "It's their right not to pay for the permit and to march in your community"! What outright injustice and apparent prejudice, not from the KKK, but from our city officials. Do we get a free permit for Gay Pride week? Could we march in the KKK's territory with absolute protection? Can somebody tell me how this doesn't take away our rights?

Would I like to have some means of retaliation in regard to this KKK march? You better believe it! Yet, here again my rights seem to be unimportant. You see, with the KKK's history of violence, one would have to be self-destructive to protest by physically being present at this march. Yet, I feel for my own self-esteem and for the community, that I should not just keep my mouth shut. There had to be a middle ground between "hand-to-hand" combat (which could entail physical harm and/or death) and

"rolling over and playing dead." They have the right to protest, to speak. So do I! So do we all! One of those areas in the "middle ground" could be to write out how you feel, which is what I am attempting. Another is to become stronger politically, so we can have the clout to "give as good as we get." Unless we bring ourselves down to the KKK's level, at this point in time the best way I personally see us retaliating is via speeches, written articles, continued growth, support, and unification in the political arenas. How else would you retaliate without resorting to KKK type tactics? Do you know of other means we can accomplish our goal without losing our self-esteem and/or destroying our community, without possible physical harm?

Barbara Freeman





Debbie Couvillion  
DJ's the 50's dance



Sara Lindley and GA  
dance the night away.

## 50's Dance Review



If you missed the 50's dance you really didn't miss alot. Oh it was fun but, unorganized. I'm sure a large part of this was due to bad promotion because of the restructuring of our organization. On the lighter side Debbie Couvillion and Gayla Susan supported each other professionally, combining their talents for an evening of enjoyable music. We gave away prizes. A Cut Above Engravers donated two twenty inch trophies for best costume and also the Jitterbug contest. Best costume was won by Jan Armania, Barbie-Del-Brown, and Jerry Kilgore. Runners-up were Stevi and Kari. Nancy and G.A. won corsages by The Plant House. The best Jitterbuggers, Jo Sellitto and Rody Speake with Becke and Pamela were rewarded with dinners at Baja's.



Double RR crew did their thing for  
the 50's dance.





## Marion Coleman



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Jo: What do you think about the KKK March?

Marion: I think we need to totally ignore the march. They certainly have their right to feel and do as they want. They have the right to march like anyone else does. I've begged everyone I know to stay away. I'd like to see some of us go to Herman Park and just celebrate over there. It is very political. They (KKK) want us to show up at the march. The media will focus in on what we do, not what the KKK does.

Jo: What is your idea of an ideal womyns community?

Marion: Well, I've been in the community and the gay womyns community. One thing that I've tried to achieve in what little I've done, is to establish a strong network. We've never seemed to be able to do that. I was

in the very original N.O.W. chapter with Poppy Northcutt and Nikki Vanhightower. They had such a strong group of womyn. It was gay womyn, straight womyn, and professional womyn. It was a whole arena of people. Then personalities and egos got involved. They started splintering. We had this group here and that group there. Now we're doing that within the womyns community. We all care, and love each other. We all need to support each other. Some of us can take the stuff out there by ourselves. Some of us can't and these people need our support. The support just isn't there. Everytime someone comes through and they say, "We're going to do this or that," I think, oh God, I hope you're able to. I don't think that we've come of age yet for whatever reasons, to support each other.

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We get jealous of each other and other people's success. I've tried to help and support other womyn, but when it comes down to doing their turn to support you, it just isn't there.

Jo: What changes have you witnessed in the community?

Marion: I've noticed a lot of support among the men and the womyn. I love it. I notice more womyn getting on boards and participating more. I remember when I use to look around and see a handful of the same womyn all the time. Now we're talking and getting involved. I see other womyn getting on board and being a part of the community. Instead of just being loquacious, they're now in action and saying, "Hey, I'm a womyn, not an ant, I'm a male, not an ant, straight world and I want to get involved in the community and this

is the way I can do it. Those are some of the changes I see happening and it's wonderful.

Jo: What changes would you like to see occur in the community?

Marion: I want to see the community become one. I want the men and womyn being together, supporting each other, and our lifestyles. I'm a womyn and I'm gay. I have a lot of men friends and it's a separate world and we're never going to succeed unless we're together. Then we ought to have to bring in the straight world. We don't have to be angry. It's just like Kindred Spirits. I call it the womyns alternative. It's a club for womyn and their friends, who ever that may be. Straight womyn - straight men. They need to see us as we are. That we're not a disease. That we put on our clothes the same way. We

probably eat the same way they do. We make our living the same way they make it. There is nothing wrong with us. The only way we can share that is to show them how we live and not be so negative about them. You have to be positive. You have to be positive and caring. Just because you run a different lifestyle doesn't mean that you're any better or any less. But if we're going to be negative and be anti about them, then we aren't going to accomplish anything. If there are changes to be made you make them as you go and you stand by your principals and your philosophies. You don't change them unless you discover that you're no longer right. That's what it's all about.

Jo: Do you have any suggestions about how to bring about those changes?

Marion: I wish I did. I've tried to

do it with Kindred Spirits as a community place and not so much as a bar. It is a bar and I guess I'll be classified as a bar owner. I don't feel I have made money here. I never knew there was a community. I'm going to give them (womyn) the right to know. That's how we're going to grow. By learning what's going on in our community and supporting the community as a whole. Many times when I'm interviewed they ask me why is it that Kindred Spirits gets along with all the mens bars and all the mens bars get along with Kindred Spirits. But the womyns bars don't get along. I don't answer that because it's negative. I just say I think it's great that the men and womyn are finally getting together. Accepting each other or having a good time. But it hurts me because I'm not in competition with anybody.



Everybody has their space. Everybody has their place and womyn need that. If they like C/W, then they have a place to go. If they want a private bar, they have a place to go. We should support each other.

Jo: If we as a community can't control our problems and conflicts within ourselves, how can we expect the straight world to view gays as being responsible?

Marion: It's just like Choices, for instances. It's sad. I don't see any reason for this. From what I've read and heard from some of the womyn involved, those goals, purposes were worthwhile, sincere and honest. But personalities took over. That's wrong. Womyn get emotional. They don't put what's first. The main purpose and goals of an organization come first. They have a right to disagree about how

things should be done. But, once a decision is made get in there and pitch. If it does not work, then change. You don't change it by demeaning your forces, strengths, cares and loves. You don't strengthen yourself when you lessen all. You become weak. You don't become strong.

Jo: What have you participated in personally?

Marion: I belong to N.O.W. I'm on the board of Human Council on Human Relations. I'm on the board of Family Connection for Run-away Children. I was the former Vice President of G.P.C. I'm on the board of Gay Switchboard. I'm the chair of the Montrose Counseling Center. The governor appointed me to the Womyn's Commission. I'm also on the G.P.C. Gop ring. There are a couple of other things I'm involved with.

Coaching a womyn's softball team. I have two businesses. I own the House of Coleman, which is a printing company. Then, I own Kindred Spirits, which I'd like to think of as a community center.

Jo: Are you currently involved with any groups, organizations, projects or activities in the community now?

Marion: Yes, I'm public relations person for Walk For Unity, which benefit the Counseling Center and Gay Switchboard. Also I'm Chairman Director for the womyns class here in Houston. It's going to be here in August. I'm involved in lots of Committees.

Jo: Do you know any womyn in our community that are creating change that you would like to see interviewed by this paper?

Marion: Marion Panseur of Marion & Lynns. Poppa Bear of Double R.

Dee Lamb of MCCR Church. Belinda Landry, of MSA womyn softball. She is a very astute womyn. I also think Vickie Lindsey who is an all time bartender. She happens to be one of my bartenders. She's been in this community for quite sometime. She's seen changes in this community. Whether their good or bad in her eyes. Vickie's an average person who works in the community. She's a bartender in a gay bar. Those are some of the people you might look for. It is sad because I can't tell you of any womyn that really get involved. There is just not a lot. Anneatte Beal of MCCR is a very warm, caring, intelligent, sensitive womyn that also need's to be heard. I'm a very religious person. I belong to the Episcopal Church. There are womyn who are Christians, who are caring and sharing. I think that needs to be expressed. You should also meet Alice Schreader and



Rev. Leggett. They are just delightful and warm people.

Jo: What are your ideas concerning G.P.C. and the womyns community?

Marion: I was Vice-President of G.P.C. last year. I had the pleasure of working with one of the greatest men I have ever had the opportunity of working with. Larry Bagneris is one. Together I think we brought more womyn into G.P.C. than ever had been before. Of course, Barbara Sequinrow had established a lot for G.P.C. In fact, she's probably the one womyn that did a lot to bring men and womyn together. Then I came on board and I'm republican. We developed some republican footage with G.P.C. I saw G.P.C. making an outreach into the community as a whole. Letting people know what this community needed to do to become a very political force. I think

we have. There are now, more womyn on the board than there has ever been. I hear that the membership for womyn has increased alot. I know that we've signed up many, many registered voters. We never fail to register anywhere from five to seven hundred in our registration drive each year. The system is very political and we need to be aware of whats going on politically, so that we can support our community and support the right candidates. Then we have a fair shake in our lifestyle. Barbara Sequinrow probably had the best influence on G.P.C. in focusing it in on womyns issues and that womyn were necessary on the board. She's a truly talented and beautiful womyn. She's in Austin now. We suffered a great loss when she left us. She was astute, sensitive, knowledgeable and she managed to put that all together.

Jo: How is your float coming?

Marion: Oh, I'm also Co-chair of the Gay Pride Committee. I forgot to tell you that. I'm very active in that right now. They look real nice. We've gotten a tremendous amount of response from the community in working with them. There are a lot of things going on with the businesses in the gay community. Like the Walkathon. I think the Walk for Unity that we're doing is a wonderful thing. We are coming along, with MSA womyn and men softball. I've got a float this year. I can't say what it is right now. But, it's really going to be very significant.

Jo: I see you're a co-sponsor of the Walk for Unity. I wanted to ask you if you wanted to sponsor one of the girls in this Walk?

Marian: Okay, I'd be more than happy to do that.

Jo: I notice you have different types of music to go along with different types of crowds here.

Marion: We swing to whatever is going on.

Jo: Could you tell me why you charge a \$2.00 cover?

Marion: Because my rent went up. I'm barely making anything and what little I do make I give back to the Counseling center and other organizations. You'd be amazed at the womyn that are raped and beaten by their lovers etc. I'm always getting attorneys. There are probably six times a month that I'm not involved in a crisis that a womyns had, whether they come to this bar or not. I'm out there working in this en-



vironment. Sometimes I put the money up myself. Sometimes I get it back and sometimes I don't. When I loan it out, I never expect it back. I hate the fact that I have to charge a cover. To me that's discrimination. If a womyn can't afford but one beer or a glass of water a night, I want them here. I don't care if they don't drink at all or only drink water. I think this is the safest place for them to be. When the hardship cases come, I let them in. I've written, no cover. I will tell you why I'm here at Kindred Spirits. I had a very dear friend of mine get in trouble. There was no one in this community that owned a business that supported her. We went to these places and asked for their support, when we spent the kind of monies we spent and then came out with \$25.00 or no money at all, I said some-

thing is wrong in this community. We couldn't get benefits. We raised over \$20,000 to help this womyn. It took the jury maybe 15 minutes to find her not guilty. Her own mother testified against her. That hurts the community. That very day, we had two straight womyn give us \$500.00 each. A lot of womyn robbed their piggy banks. We nickled and dimed our friends to death. We had bingo nights, poker nights, garage sales, Las Vegas nights, to pay that debt back. But, we didn't have a place, a community place, where we could say, "Hey, this womyn needs help." Where are you when we need your support.

Jo: We really need a place like that.

Marion: Right! We didn't have it. That's why Kindred Spirits is here. The only reason I am charging cover is to stay here.

Jo: Do you have any personal messages you would like to share with our readers?

Marion: There are many messages I guess. I've tried hard to relate to womyn in our community and to men too. We need to be positive about ourselves, and our lifestyles. We need to share with each other and we need to give what we can give. We shouldn't automatically expect just because a womyn is in business and is successful that they automatically are going to owe somebody something. So many times I have had womyn come up to me and ask me for something. Womyn who feel that just because you're successful you owe them something. Or if they owe you money they will let you wait because they think you will understand. I have found that to be very discouraging and very unprofes-

sional and it's hurt me a great deal. I think what we need to do is become more professional and not take advantage of each other. It is changing some. I need to let you know that. There are womyn now in the professions that are very professional. When they come to me for things they want to pay for it. It's just been that way recently. I don't consider myself a leader in this community. I don't want to be. I just work in it and support the community. I just want to be someone involved. I want to be able to do whatever I can do whenever I can do it. I just want to be a part of - not apart from. I owe this community, it's a lifestyle. There were existing bars in the beginning when there was no one else that was there. Those places had a chance to do what we're doing. But they didn't do



it, and they are hurting now. That hurts me. Believe me, it hurts. I think there's a space for everybody. I just want us to see that protesting and being angry doesn't accomplish anything. The hatred that's out there, that exist from jealousies and egos and personalities is asinine. It's ridiculous. It doesn't do anything but hurt us. When you fight among your own, you're not going to grow. You can't foster any good feelings or any sensitivities if you are fighting and being angry at each other. What does that accomplish? It doesn't accomplish anything.


★  
Marion,

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Thanks!


*F.zulão*

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.....

## WOMYN'S

### numbers

#### SWITCHBOARDS/CRISIS NUMBERS

Crisis Hotline (24 hr. #)..... 228-1505  
Gay Switchboard..... 529-3211  
Rape Crisis Coalition (24 hr. #).... 528-RAPE  
WIRES (Women's Info, Ref. & Exch.). 528-2121

#### POLITICAL, LEGAL

Aid to Victims of Domestic Violence 650-1412  
Amer. Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). 524-5925  
Citizens Assistance Office of Mayor 222-4005  
Gay Political Caucus (GPC)..... 521-1000  
Gulf Coast Legal Foundation..... 651-9080  
Harris Co. Women's Political Caucus 723-7416  
Houston Voter Registration..... 224-1919  
League of Women Voters..... 529-3171  
TARAL(Tx. Abortion Rights Act. Lea) 520-0850  
Women's Lobby Alliance..... 521-0439

#### ORGANIZATIONS

Azulão (Lesbian Social Network)... 529-4975  
CRIS (Children's Res. & Info. Ser.) 790-9500  
Family and Friends of Gays..... 464-6663  
Frontrunners (gay runners)..... 529-1288  
Gay Hispanic Caucus..... 521-0037  
Houston Area NOW..... 664-4282  
Houston Area Women's Center..... 528-6798  
Lambda Center(gay alcoholics prog.) 521-9772  
Lesbian & Gay People in Medicine... 880-9486  
Montrose Clinic..... 528-5531  
Montrose Counseling Center..... 529-0037  
Montrose Sports Association..... 622-3304  
Rice Gay/Lesbian Support Group..... 432-0785  
Shelter for Abused Women..... 528-2121  
UH(Main Campus) NOW..... 521-2824  
UH(Main Campus) Gay Resource Serv... 749-3489  
UH(Clear Lake) Women's Resource Ctr 488-9216  
UH(Clear Lake) Gay Resource Serv... 488-9466  
Women's Rugby: Heathen Hearts..... 665-6422  
YWCA..... 868-9922

#### BOOKSTORES

Wilde 'N' Stein..... 529-7014

#### RELIGIOUS GROUPS

Congreg. Aytz Chayim (gay Jewish)... 956-2503  
Church of Christ(gay Protestant)... 529-8005  
Dignity (gay Catholic)..... 528-7644  
1st Unitarian Women's Grp (feminist) 526-1571  
Gay Atheist League of America..... 524-2222  
Integrity (gay Episcopalian)..... 526-0555  
Lutherans Concerned for Gay People. 453-1143  
MCCR (Metro. Comm. Church of Resur) 861-9149  
St. Joan's In'nat Alliance(fem. Cath) 667-2830

#### MUSIC AND CULTURE

KPFT Radio Station, 90.1 FM..... 526-4000  
Tues. 8 p.m. A Woman's Place  
Wed. 9 p.m. Al Nisa  
Thurs. 7:30 p.m. Wilde 'N' Stein  
Fri. 8 a.m. Breakthrough  
Place In the Sun (Coffee shp/books) 522-7695  
Hazelwitch Production Co.(concerts) 864-4534



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## MICHIGAN WOMYN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL

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Our organization plans to charter a bus to the festival. We will accomodate 35 womyn at a cost of \$90.00 per womyn. Tickets for the festival would be another \$100.00. This price includes Concerts, Food, Workshops and Camp-ing. The festival has a work exchange program available for anyone who cannot afford a ticket. Azulao, also feels that womyn shouldn't be denied the right to participate because of poor financial situations. We plan to have garage sales and various benifits so we can offer members of Azulao reduced rates on the bus fare. If you are interested in helping to organize this, call us. You must make your reservations for the bus no later than JULY 15. We will need a deposit of \$50.00 at the time you make your reservations.

## Calendar

Thursday June 14th  
Gay Pride kick-off  
8 p.m. Kindred Spirits  
(cover)

Saturday June 16th  
MSA softball & picnic  
Lovey Field 3:00 p.m.  
Salute to Parents and  
Friends of Gays.

Sunday June 17th  
Walk For Unity 2 p.m.  
Cherryhurst Park  
( 5 mile walk )

Wednesday June 20th  
" Alive " Rockefellers  
8:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

Friday June 22nd  
Rita Mae Brown, Houston  
Center Club \$25.00 (semi-formal) and Hispanic  
Caucus Dance.

Saturday june 23rd GPC  
Celebration Hofheinz  
Pavillon U of H campus.

Sunday June 24th  
Gay Pride Parade!  
2:30 p.m.

**DON'T JUST  
WATCH  
US GROW  
JOIN US!**

DO YOU HAVE A NEW  
ADDRESS?

If the address is not correct on your mailing label, fill out the membership form on the reverse side and mail it to our address. We will make sure you don't miss your issue of our publication. You may also give us that information by calling:  
529-4975

IS THIS YOUR LAST  
NEWSLETTER?

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If there is a colored dot affixed to the box above, you are NOT scheduled to recieve future mailings from us. If you would like to continue with our publication, complete the form on the reverse side and mail it to:

Carol Beverage  
615 Fargo  
Houston, Texas 77006

**THERE CAN BE NO  
FREE MEN, UNTIL  
THERE ARE FREE  
WOMYN.**

**we need  
your  
support**



Azulão

615 FARGO

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Azulão

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ APT. # \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_  
TRANSPORTATION \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

HOBBIES & OTHER INTERESTS:

☐ PHOTOGRAPHY

☐ ART GALLERIES

☐ ROLLER SKATE

☐ READING

☐ BOWLING

☐ CAMPING

☐ THEATRE

☐ BILLIARDS

☐ GOLF

☐ POETRY

☐ SOFTBALL

☐ FISHING

☐ CARDS

☐ SOCCER

☐ HORSES

☐ OPERA

☐ TENNIS

☐ ICE SKATE

☐ MOVIES

☐ JOGGING

☐ MOTORCYCLE

☐ DINING OUT

☐ RACQUETBALL

☐ CRAFTS

☐ SYMPHONY

☐ VOLLEYBALL

☐ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

☐ DANCES

☐ HIKING

☐ BALLET

☐ SWIMMING

FULL YEAR MEMBERSHIP DUES (20.00) \_\_\_\_\_ 1/2 YEAR (10.00) \_\_\_\_\_ QUARTER (5.00) \_\_\_\_\_

I WOULD LIKE TO DO VOLUNTEER WORK \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU WISH TO NETWORK WITHIN THE COMMUNITY? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_