

Interact  
Newsletters

only have

1984

~~1984~~

oct

nov

---

1985

"winter"

---

others unknown



I/H Inc.

The BUMBERSHOJOT



ISSUE I

OCTOBER 1984

## EDITORIAL EDICTS

I/H is alive and well! It has to be, with such active persons in the community serving as your officers, and most member organizations attending, voting and caring at the meetings. "Like attracts like," so we're looking for a growth spurt in the "Umbrella Business," raining non-profit organizations that contribute to making the community prosper and flower culturally and promote the principles of tolerance and understanding both in and outside the community.

What an effort it takes to become a non-profit organization individually! And money too, don't forget. All that effort, time and money can be saved by coming before our board and applying to become a member organization of I/H Inc. — and if you qualify, being accepted and expected to do your part for the community and for I/H.

## BRAINSTORMS

We need your ideas for fundraising events that will acquaint prospective groups and other outsiders with I/H and bring some immediate monies into our treasury. Weekly bingo has been suggested . . . and a covered-dish supper for member organizations. How about a concert by our performing artists . . . a sale of artwork donated by member visual artists to

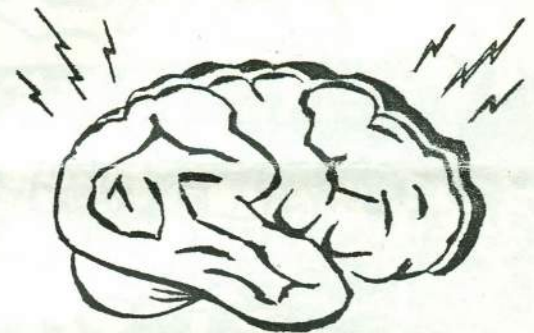
### Member organizations:

A Place in the Sun  
Choices Unlimited  
Cross-Cultural Development Organization  
Gay and Lesbian Archives of Texas  
Interact  
Montrose Art Alliance  
Montrose Symphonic Band

### Your officers are:

President: Lew Hondros  
Vice-President: Roz Vecchio  
Secretary: Rev. Gracie Lee  
Treasurer: Denise Tennil

Recognition means growth. And I/H can give you that recognition and status that would take you a year or more to obtain on your own. "Jet-age progress!"



benefit I/H . . . even the old reliable bake sale? Please submit your brainstorm.

Editor-in-Chief: Rev. Gracie Lee  
Copy Editor: Lynn Herrick  
Art Director: Ed Downes  
Production Manager: Jerel Shaw  
Contributors: You

Deadline for each issue is the 20th of the preceding month.

Send your contributions to:

I/H, Inc. Newsletter  
c/o A Place in the Sun  
704 Fairview  
Houston, Texas 77006  
(713) 522-7695

I/H mailing address:

P.O. Box 16041  
Houston, Texas 77222

# THUNDER-N-LIGHTENments

## The Montrose Symphonic Band

The Montrose Symphonic Band is one of the few groups that bothered to toot its own horn for us this month. They're still trumpeting their exciting Hollywood Bowl triumph, and under the new leadership of Elroy Forbes, the energetic 80-some-piece group still hasn't wound down. Last Saturday, September 29th, they appeared in concert downtown for St. Joseph's Food 'N Fun Fest in the old Sixth Ward. This Sunday, October 7th, you'll find them hitting the Heights -- parading at 3:00 p.m. and giving a concert at 4:00. In November they'll be giving three performances for the TGRA Rodeo in Simonton. Then it's back in Houston on December 8 for their annual Christmas concert ... and the following Sunday they'll play for the lighting of the Montrose Christmas Tree, across from the Tower Theatre, and lead a thousand carolers or more around Montrose. In the spring, a real biggie is coming up that we'll leave as a "cliffhanger" for next month. The Band rehearses every Thursday night at Bering Memorial Church and needs baton twirlers and flagbearers.



## A Place in The Sun FOR HOUSTON ARTS AND ARTISTS

The big news at A Place in the Sun is a citywide telephone fund drive by Nevus Corp. from the Washington DC area . . . culminating in a benefit concert by Tom Chapin (brother of the "late great" Harry) in which Gracie and Lynn have also been asked to perform. It's Sunday, November 18 at 6:00 at the Rainbow Pavillion. Harry Chapin was deeply involved in world hunger relief, and Tom is following in his footsteps, which is one reason why he was chosen, since APS stands for relief of houston hunger. With new sources of donated food, the shelter is now distributing fresh produce to needy families on weekends (volunteers needed) in addition to the sit-down meals in its Soup Kitchen. The Gracielynn duo continues to share its cathartic "life music" with the community "at the drop of a hat" and recently entertained the women prisoners up in Gatesville. A Place in the Sun II now exists in Iowa, working with recovering alcoholics, and two more places here in Houston are in the works: A women's shelter in the Fifth Ward and a men's shelter in Montrose.



As Ed Downes reported, the Cross-Cultural-Development Organization's second Cross-Cultural Celebration, scheduled for June in the Magnolia Ballroom, was postponed for economic reasons: It's been re-scheduled for early spring. The first Celebration, last January at Hermann Park Garden Center, featured free food and some of the finest entertainment in Hosuton ... jazz and folk musicians, dancers, poets, and Councilwoman Eleanor Tinsley as keynoter. People from all walks of life were able to experience an exciting environment of cross-cultural socializing. CCDO has got wind of a national organization dedicated to the same purpose of bringing people of different cultures together for mutual education and networking, and they're considering affiliating with it. Meanwhile, CCDO Director Jerel Shaw says they're "looking for members and supporters to really make this experience work ... volunteers of our next Celebration and also people who are interested in serving on our Board." Call 522-7695 if you're interested in furthering this exciting work.



"Pacific Street Fantasy was hot and fun," report Montrose Art Alliance members, who had a ball painting customers' face and showing their works at the August street fair. They sold several pieces there and gained several new members exhibited at the fourth annual "Men and Women Together: An Evening at the Arts," this time at Baja's. Several sold their wares there too, and the exhibit stayed on view throughout the month. This Sunday, October 7, they'll be sharing two booths with the Montrose Symphonic Band at the Heights Festival ... a great example of a joint venture by two I/H groups! Plans are being made for an early holiday show and sale and a couple of exciting events with a Western theme. All producing artists are welcome to join the MAA ... and they only charge a dollar a month or \$12.00 a year for art classes.



DEADLINE IS THE  
20TH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH.

Any complaints ... and the next issue will be called BULLSHOOT!



I/H, INC.  
P.O. BOX 16041  
Houston, Texas 77222

BECAUSE WE CARE



Carl Hays / Richard Burkhardt  
~~77~~ 744 Dorchester  
Houston TX 77000



I/H Inc.

The BUMBERSHOOT



ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER 1984

## EDITORIAL EDICTS

Your Bumbershoot is a network of promotion and support for one another. It's a fun affair, letting you "blow your own horn" legitimately because you're invited and encouraged to. It's an educational forum, a vehicle for commentary and solidarity for our community. Express yourself!

Each helping organization, especially an umbrella like this, benefits the community as a whole. Many helping hands hold up this umbrella, so take yours and write us a letter, write us a comment, write us.

And thank you all for submitting news about your group. Pat yourselves on the back for doing a good work: Building you builds the whole community.

### Member organizations:

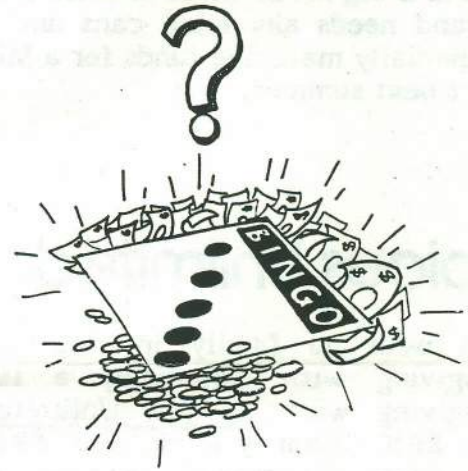
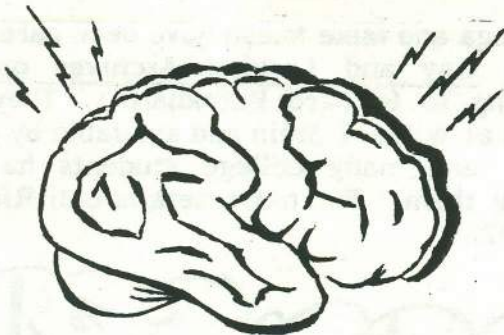
A Place in the Sun  
Choices Unlimited  
Cross-Cultural Development Organization  
Gay and Lesbian Archives of Texas  
Interact  
Montrose Art Alliance  
Montrose Symphonic Band

### Your officers are:

President: ~~Lew Hondros~~  
Vice-President: Roz Vecchio  
Secretary: Rev. Gracie Lee  
Treasurer: Denise Tennil

*Wyle Barrett*

## BRAINSTORMS



DO WE WANT BINGO AS AN I/H FUNDRAISER? Come to the November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting at Lew Hondros' house, 2039 West Main, to learn the details and help us decide.

Editor-in-Chief: Rev. Gracie Lee  
Copy Editor: Lynn Herrick  
Art Director: Ed Downes  
Production Manager: Jerel Shaw  
Contributors: You

Deadline for each issue is the 20th of the preceding month.

Send your contributions to:

I/H, Inc. Newsletter  
c/o A Place in the Sun  
704 Fairview  
Houston, Texas 77006  
(713) 522-7695

I/H mailing address:

P.O. Box 16041  
Houston, Texas 77222

# THUNDER-N-LIGHTENments

The  
Montrose Symphonic  
Band

We promised you a Band Biggie last time, and here it is: In February, our Montrose Symphonic Band will play in one of New Orleans' fabulous Mardi Gras parades! Meanwhile, the New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus will join the Band here for the December 8 Montrose Christmas Tree Lighting and Caroling, and an ensemble from the Band will probably go to New Orleans to join these fine singers in their Christmas Concert. The Band's own Christmas Concert will take place here in Montrose at Sidney Lanier Junior High, Westheimer and Woodhead, and there'll probably be others . . . with so many invitations at press-time, it's hard to list them all. Denise Tennill is the Band's new treasurer. Their "tasteful" Band cookbook, Cultured Cuisine and Favorite Recipes, only costs \$1 and is a big hit at Wilde & Stein and elsewhere. The Band needs aluminum cans and newspapers, and especially matching funds for a Miller Theatre concert next summer.

A Place in The SUN  
FOR HOUSTON ARTS AND ARTISTS

Mayor Kathy Whitmire has declared November 18, the day of A Place in the Sun's Tom Chapin concert, "A Place in the Sun Day." Councilmember Eleanor Tinsley will be there at the Rainbow Pavillion to represent the Mayor, read her proclamation and accept a very special gift on her behalf: An original piece by Montrose sculptor Mara Smith. Also on hand to be honored will be Rep. Debra Danburg, Carolyn Day Hobson, Sheila Jackson Lee and other dignitaries. The first issue of APS newsletter, Good News Under the Sun, came out in October. The Burning Bed has brought a rush of women into the shelter — in fact, Gracie and Lynn didn't get to see the end of the TV special because they got an emergency call to pick up a real-life battered woman. Outgrowing their present space, they're negotiating for a larger, studier house at lower rent, still in Montrose, and are still looking for donated houses for a Montrose men's shelter and Fifth Ward women's shelter.

## Choices Unlimited

Women with no family in Houston to spend Thanksgiving with can enjoy a fun pot-luck Thanksgiving with Choices Unlimited at Joey Flyer's, 8950 Chimney Rock, Apt. #81. It'll start around noon, and there'll be food, records and "what you like." To be included, call Joey before Tuesday, November 20 for details and what to bring. No kids — the apartment's too small. Meanwhile, on Tuesday, November 2nd at 7:30, Joey will host an "eat 'n' meet" pot luck social mixer and discussion, topic to be announced — call her the night before, at the latest.



Tony Vega and Mike Miesh have been hard at work on the Gay and Lesbian Archives of Texas, according to Richard Burckhardt. They're still located at Wilde & Stein and available by appointment, and many college students have been utilizing them. For more details call Richard at 694-1732.



The Cross-Cultural Development Organization is looking for essays for a special first edition of Cultural Observations, a publication of scholarly and lay presentation of subjects affecting our society in its cultural diversity. Any topic in economics, government, science, arts, religion, etc. will be considered. How far have we come in becoming "planetary citizens," or learning to live together as brothers and sisters? Any creative suggestions on how to become a part of a golf tour, or how to play soul music? According to CCDO Director Jerel Shaw, Cultural Observations will be published quarterly beginning March '85 and the search is on for grant money. Send your writings (300-700 words) to P.O. Box 66973, Suite 173, Houston, Texas 77006. Include SASE if you want them returned. Anyone interested in working on this project, contact Jerel, 522-7695.

## Interact

Interact has always changed with the times to become what the community currently needs. Right now it's a social club for gay men and women over 40 and their friends, complete with special interest groups. The largest and most active of these at the moment is the Bridge Group, whose next meetings are November 9th and 30th. On Monday night, November 5, Interact will host an intriguing discussion called "Is There More to Being Over 40 Than a Covered Dish Dinner?" For times, places and other details, call Carl Hays, 694-1732.



The Montrose Art Alliance proudly boasts an "enthusiastic" new Board, chaired by Lyle Barrett. Other new officers include Dale Adams, Assistant Chair and Membership Director; Bill Wooten, Secretary-Treasurer; Joey MacKay, Director of Communications; and Advisors Roz Vecchio and Carl Hays. The MAA also has a lively new newsletter out, enjoyed by all on their mailing list. With recent triumphs at Baja's (Gay Pride Week), the Pacific Street Fantasy and the Westheimer Colony Art Festival under their belts, their calendar is full through the rest of 1984 and well into '85. Meetings are held the second Monday of each month in members' homes -- the next one will be a pot-luck dinner at Norman Guttman's on November 12 at 6:30 p.m. A Holiday Show and Sale and "a very special members-only party" during the holidays are also in the works for the exuberant Alliance.





BECAUSE WE CARE

I/H, INC.  
P.O. BOX 16041  
Houston, Texas 77222



PLEASE MAIL  
EARLY FOR



Season's Greetings

Carl Hays  
744 Dorchester  
Houston TX 77022

1985

---



I/H Inc.

The BUMBERSHOOT

ISSUE 3

WINTER 1985

**I/H honors  
its founder  
Carl Hays  
... and urges  
Her Honor to!**

## Carl Hays Nominated for Mayor's Volunteer Award

By Linda Wyche

Carl Hays, retired Houston school teacher and co-founder of the Montrose Art Alliance, has been nominated by the group to be one of 14 recipients of the Mayor's Volunteer Service Award.

Hays, who is active in many community organizations, also founded I/H Inc., an umbrella organization for non-profit groups in the area. Rev. Gracie Lee of A Place in The Sun, a group that is included under I/H, says about Hays' involvement with her efforts, "It's a hard fight but when people like Carl come forward to encourage, you know you can make it."

According to a letter of nomination from the Lyle Barrett, chair of the Alliance, "It

is an honor long overdue Mr. Hays for the inspiration, time and talent he has contributed to Houston and the cultural community."

Hays co-founded the Alliance in 1982 as a support group for active visual artists in the Montrose area. The group now includes those interested in the literary arts as well.

Elroy Forbes, chairman of the board for the Montrose Symphonic Band, also cites Hays' involvement with Houston's only community band as further justification for his nomination. Forbes calls Hays "a positive, dedicated resource open to any new ideas or proposals. His own ideas were often sacrificed to insure the future outcome to benefit the most in every group." Hays instructed MSBand members in silk screen printing for the production of concert posters.

Members of the clergy are also endorsing Hays for the annual award. Ronald D. Pogue, pastor of Bering Memorial United Methodist Church, credits Hays for lending his services to a program which enables homebound individuals to produce finished sellable goods. Hays has also been instrumental in the Houston Metropolitan Ministries Cottage Industries program.

Hays' work often takes him out of the immediate Montrose area. A member of the Advisory Board of the Junior Red Cross, Hays spent several days working at Red Cross Headquarters during the Hurricane Carla disaster. He instigated, and for several years, supervised the making and installation of Christmas decorations for the Texas Institute for Rehabilitation and Research and the Veterans Administration Hospital.

The Mayor's Volunteer Service Awards are presented in the areas of Health, Education, Civic, Social Service, Cultural and Performing Arts, and Recreation. According to Mayor Kathy Whitmire, "Whether it be a natural disaster, a family experiencing economic setbacks or children in need of education or recreation programs, Houston's volunteers are there."

Criteria for the awards include actual hands-on volunteer service, a unique approach to volunteer activity, and making a difference to the individual, organization or population being served.

The awards will be presented in a special ceremony in February.

FEBRUARY 1, 1985 / MONTROSE VOICE 7



Carl Hayes, Nominated by Montrose Art Alliance

# THUNDER - N - LIGHTENments



The Montrose Art Alliance is an organization with a Heart! Monday, February 11 marks the opening of "Hearts," a "mixed medium exhibition of members' current work." It's at the Mother Lode, where the members honored their founders (Carl Hays and Roz Vecchio) in November with a big champagne reception and exhibit of their work. An even more ambitious project is set for March 18: A multi-location, juried show at the Mother Lode, 611, the Ripcord, Marion & Lynn's, Hooter, and Ray's Five and Dime. Each of these businesses has also given a generous grant for the MAA's annual Men and Women Together show in June. MAA and MSB member Dale Adams designed the Band's Christmas poster and program cover; the Alliance pitched in to produce it and was there at the concert with a mini-art show and promo literature. The MAA is open to all active visual or literary artists and arts supporters; members include sculptors, watercolorists, poets, cartoonists, photographers and copywriters. In mid-February it's moving into new headquarters, sharing space with I/H at 719 W. Gray. New phone number: 524-0409.

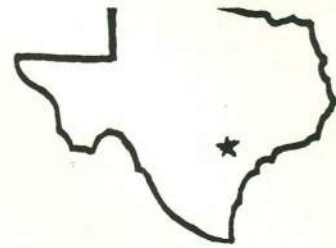
## Member organizations

A Place in the Sun  
Choices Unlimited  
Cross-Cultural Development Organization  
Gay and Lesbian Archives of Texas  
Interact  
Montrose Art Alliance  
Montrose Symphonic Band

## Your officers are:

President: Lyle Barrett  
Vice-President: Richard Burckhardt  
Secretary: Rev. Gracie Lee  
Treasurer: Denise Tennil

## Choices Unlimited



Choices' Thanksgiving dinner was a warm, loving success: "We had 25 women," says Joey Flyer, "and we ate a turkey and acted like family." This triumph was followed by a Sagittarian party in December, complete with joyful singing and dancing - Joey just happens to be a "Sadge"! February 23 they're having a pot-luck game party - bring food, music, table games - anything from Trivial Pursuit to Monopoly. No kids, no chemicals. Other fun women-only events planned for the future include a series of Sunday brunches (late enough to let everyone attend the women's Group and services at the ever-popular First Unitarian Church) and a series of Friday evening mixers every other week at which you set the agenda if you host it. A recent influx of 25 new members shows the group's getting mighty popular! To find out locations, volunteer to host an event, offer suggestions, get involved or just have fun, call Joey late at night or on weekends - you can get her number from the Gay Switchboard, 529-3211. "If you call at a civilized hour," she says, "you won't get me."

## kinko's copies

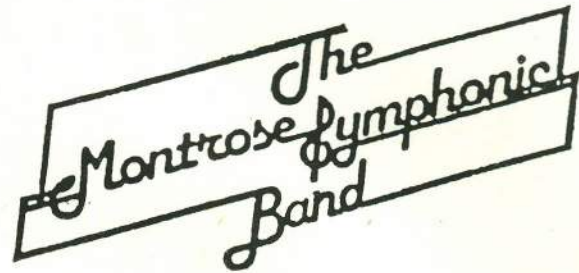
2811 Main Street Houston (713) 654-8161

## The Bumbershoot

Editor-in-Chief: Rev. Gracie Lee  
Managing Editor: Lynn Herrick  
Co-Founders: Ed Downes, Jerel Shaw  
Contributors: You



A Place in the Sun lets nothing rain on its parade! The day before "A Place in the Sun Day" in November, the firm bringing in Tom Chapin called, saying there would be no concert because they couldn't pay Chapin or the Rainbow Pavilion. But the Rainbow Pavilion generously let APS use the space free and they put on a great show, emceed by CCDO's Jerel Shaw and starring Gracielynn, Clara Kern, Adym Feithe, Abraham Davidson and his Children of Creation (Davidson, Feithe and Barbara Taft), and Windsong. Eleanor Tinsley read the Mayor's "APS Day" proclamation and accepted the shelter's gift to Her Honor: a fine salt-glazed platter by Montrose brick sculptor Mara Smith. Other wheels from Chief Lee Brown (represented by Beverly McLendon) on down were honored with personalized buttons and warm hugs. APS now has a roomier, sturdier new home where it's building a rock star to make a resident's dream come true, and putting two more bands together: country and latin. To get involved or help, contact Rev. Gracie Lee, 522-7695.



The Montrose Symphonic Band, Houston's only community band, is starting off an exciting 1985 season with a new conductor, Bob Morgan, and a new Board: Kelly Martino (chair), Debbie Holmes (vice chair), Tom Moore (secretary), David Christianson (artistic director), and Elroy Forbes (past chair). The "biggies" of the year - their Spring Concert (April 13), Gay Pride Week Concert (June 22), Fall Concert (September 21) and Christmas Concert (December 14) - are all scheduled to be held at Sidney Lanier Middle School. Plans are also in the works for participation in Galveston's Mardi Gras Parade, the Houston Festival, the Heights Festival, St. Josephs' Fun and Food Fest, Dickens on the Strand (Galveston) and the San Francisco Gay Games of 1986. The Band rehearses every Tuesday night at 7:30 at the Houston Heights Women's Club. They need musicians, baton twirlers, a flag corps, a color guard, a drill team and Band Aids. To toot, twirl, guard, drill, or aid, or just to find out more about it, contact Elroy Forbes at 524-0409.

## CCDO

The Cross-Cultural Development Organization is still developing its Literary Forum to "emphasize education, brother- and sisterhood, peace and human rights, according to president Jerel Shaw. Jerel considers the recent Referendum fiasco "a classic example of why cultural awareness needs to be enhanced in Houston." They're accepting essays, short stories, documentary pieces, biographies and "all forms of writing," dealing with "your own cultural/ethnic experience" (in politics, entertainment, family life or any area of "real life"), "inter-racial/cross-cultural experiences," or "anything that is happening in today's society, particularly Houston." To submit material,

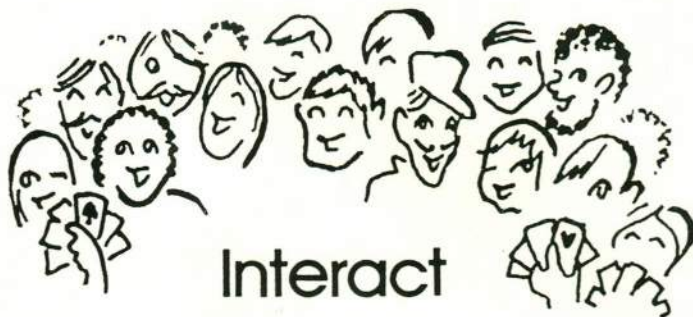
## BRAINSTORMS welcome



or work with the CCDO's literary committee, please contact Jerel by writing P.O. Box 66973, Suite 173, Houston TX 77006. "Unity is the only way," says Jerel. Formerly editor of the Houston Star Monthly, Jerel graciously gave its unexpired membership in the Greater Montrose Business Guild to A Place in the Sun, for which APS is most grateful.



Richard Burckhardt, Mike Miesch, Charles Gillis and Tony Vega have been working hard on the Gay and Lesbian Archives of Texas. The first two days in December they had a very special garage sale in Wilde & Stein's parking lot. In addition to the usual garage sale fare they offered many "gay treasures": books, periodicals and posters that they could spare from the Archives because they had duplicates. And while they were at it, they registered voters for the Referendum. The purpose of this big sale, according to Tony, was to buy supplies, including specially treated boxes for storing periodicals. The Archives can still use your donations to help preserve gay history. For an appointment, or to donate or help out, contact Charles at Wilde & Stein, 529-7014.



Interact, now a social group for over-40s and their friends, is growing so fast, they're planning on electing officers and setting up a formal structure, possibly with annual dues. This big decision will be made at their next dinner-and-business meeting, upstairs at Ginny's Hideaway. Their last dinner meeting (they're having them quarterly now) had an unexpectedly big turnout at the Boulevard Café. The bridge group is still going strong - in fact, it too is thinking of going formal and electing "officials." It meets twice a month on Friday nights. For more information on the bridge group or any aspect of burgeoning Interact, contact Carl Hays at 694-1732.



BECAUSE WE CARE

I/H, INC.  
P.O. BOX 16041  
Houston, Texas 77222

Oct. 29, 1985

Dear Members,

Our last meeting was held Oct. 19 at our house (Phil and George's). As always, the food was excellent. There were several meat entrees, salads, and many cakes and other goodies. No one left in an emaciated condition. We thank all the good cooks who participated.

Those who have never attended one of our functions are really missing the boat. Good eatin', good folks, stimulating ideas, and lots of laughs. And for the quiet types who enjoy a good repast and just listening, there's always plenty of room.

There was some discussion as to which directions our club should take. It seems that the consensus is to keep it as a social club, light, pleasant, and not the typical structured group.

As you may know, interact is the oldest organization of our genre in Houston. We are proud not only of interacts tradition, but also the caliber of our members. To prevent all this from faltering, please make an extra effort to attend the next meeting. Feel free to bring a friend, and if you have none, bring someone else's. The next conclave will be at 7:00P.M., Nov. 16 at the home of Paul Van Order and Domingo Stewert, 1710 Fourcade, phone 923-2438. Map enclosed. Art work by Coe.

Since we, Phil and George, will be dispatching your newsletter, please keep us informed so that we may pass pertinent info along. You can always reach one of us at 923-6748. We will be delighted to hear from you.

Our thanks to Richard, Elliot, and Charlie for their excellent informative and entertaining newsletters. We shall try to retain their quality level.

On Oct. 21 four of us attended a most informative meeting to establish a Gay/Lesbian Coalition. Representatives of key organizations were there, and they made very effective presentations. The need for confronting the issues that truly concern us, and the practical way to approach them were clearly shown in a no-nonsense manner. It opened a lot of eyes even wider. The response was heartening. Definite action, yes, radicalism, no! If you will pardon the cliché, where there is unity, there is strength, this was evident. Indeed, we have come a long way since Stonewall. At our next meeting we shall report on the coalition's latest efforts.

DO NOT FORGET TO VOTE! IT IS IMPORTANT!

See you Nov. 16

Phil and George

*Phil Batten*  
*George*