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MONTROSE STAR

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"Gay" alcoholics: a contradiction?

by Ed Martinez

Why do you drink? Because I'm low, because I'm high, or any other reason why. Sound familiar? With the holidays so immediately behind us, many of us may be taking a hard look at our own drinking patterns, and wondering whether or not we have a drinking problem.



First off, it should be so stated clearly that only one person in about thirteen has a serious drinking problem, although that statistic is not completely accurate for gays. Among gays it is somewhat higher. But it should be made abundantly clear that most people have no problem handling booze. It's only that small percentage of the population that cannot handle it that must face the decision of what to do about their drinking problem. And the numbers are growing.

Recent studies on alcoholism reveal startling and shocking statistics on the incidence of alcoholism among the population at large and certain groups in particular. Some of them are surprising. For example, one of the professions with the highest incidences of alcoholism is the legal profession. No surprise there to most people. But another profession with a high incidence of problem drinkers is the medical profession. Yes, our highly, and properly so, regarded doctors. That is a surprise to most.

Another facet of alcoholism that should be mentioned is that alcohol is a drug, and it is the most widely abused drug in our society. Many reasons advance themselves for this, but perhaps the most compelling one is that alcohol is legal. This fact alone accounts for its widespread abuse. All one has to do to get booze is to have the money and be of age, and not always the latter. Not only that, but in our highly drug oriented society, drinking is considered not only socially acceptable, but almost compulsory at times. At birth, at graduation, at betrothals, at weddings, even, among many ethnic groups, at funerals, the grape is definitely in evidence. This is not meant critically, merely factually. We're a pretty hard drinking society. All of the sociological rationalizations in the world cannot change the fact that Americans drink a lot.

Just to take one item, a very recent study in Great Britain disclosed that more time is lost from the job in England from alcoholism than from strikes. That is a sobering thought, if you'll pardon the pun, and proves, of course, that Americans do not have a monopoly on drinking problems.

In view of the magnitude of the problem, one may well ask what steps are being taken to prevent the increase in alcoholism and to help those suffering from the disease. There are many, including federal programs designed to study the problem and to fund programs designed to help alcoholics to recover. Encouraging also is the recent trend in industry toward recognizing that alcoholism is truly a desease, not a moral weakness. More and more truly socially conscious companies are striving to establish meaningful, effective alcoholism treatment programs. An article in The Wall Street Journal last year described the work of one company that specializes in setting up such programs for different companies that are concerned about the problem and are determined to do something about it.

But what about the average Joe or Jane who may suspect that he or she has a drinking problem?

And even more particularly, what about the gay who has, or suspects that he has, a drinking problem?

A recent article in Advocate discussed drinking among the gay population, and reached appalling conclusions about the amount of drinking that goes on in the gay world. First of all, it should be mentioned that one of the main meeting places for gay is, of course, the bars. And what do you do in bars? You drink, of course. What you drink is usually booze, and therein lies the problem.

As long as the gay culture is so heavily bar oriented, drinking will undoubtedly continue to be a greater problem for gays than other

continued on page 16

DALLAS HOUSTON

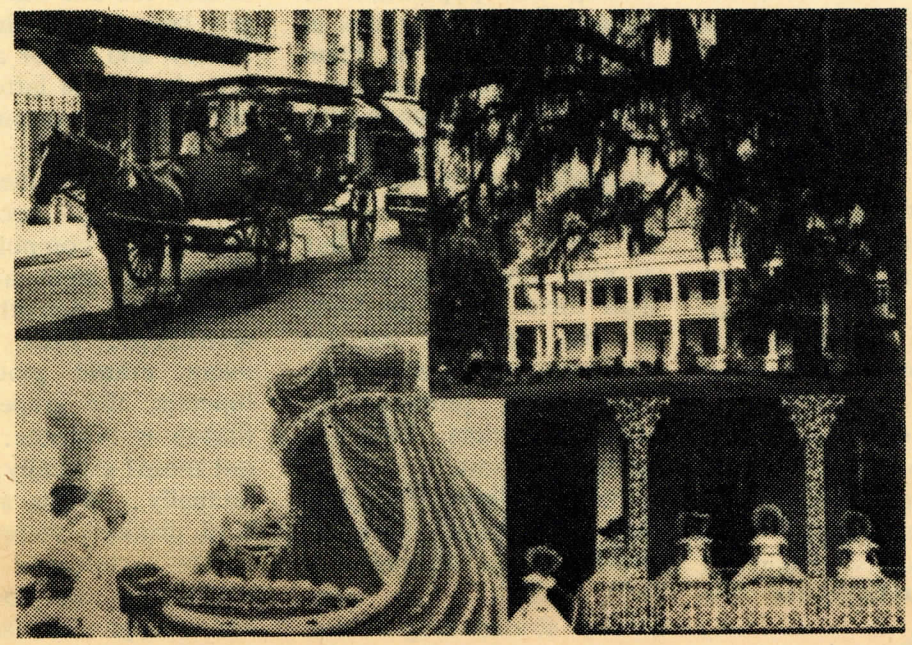
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Jeannie's Lamp

Jeannie inspired by a 'gift of hope'

Because of the following letter, I'm going to depart briefly from the usual question and-answer-advice-giving-problem-solving format of "Jeannie's Lamp."

When I first read the letter, I was both surprised and pleased to hear from someone who'd rather dropped out of sight for a while, and even more delighted by his sharing. Several days later the real meaning of the letter hit me: as the letter from Chris was a birthday present to Van, so was the letter from, Van a Christmas present to me. And as he shared with me, so shall I share with you a most important gift . . . the gift of hope.

Dear Jeanne:

Late last June I received a birthday present in the form of a letter from a very sweet, though perhaps occasionally misguided, friend. He mailed it from a state mental facility in New Mexico, where he had been sent by the court to determine his sanity – a ploy on his part to avoid being sent to the state prison for robbery. He preferred an indefinite residence in a repressive mental insititution, feigning insanity, to the fate of a very pretty gay in a state prison, a choice which I believe most of us can understand.

His letter has been a source of inspiration to me, and I know his words will always be there to guide me when I face the choice between what is socially acceptable or expedient and what I believe to be right. I would like to share his present with as many people as possible, in hope that it will have meaning for them also. His letter follows:

Let me tell you a story. In this prison called a hospital, there is a scruffy black drag queen but 15 years old. After being locked in her room for weeks, she was allowed out on the hospital grounds. She headed directly for the "Thrift Shop." The "Thrift Shop" is a place that the local "Christians" bring all their trash. This fills their needed quota of "doing good," cheaply. So the shop is aptly named. Ms. (she insists on it) Carson picked out the best patent leather shoes with French heels and some pearl earrings. As she entered the ward, the L.P.N. and the attendant ran after her screaming "Steven Carson" in utter horror. Now if you want an answer and not a slap, never call Ms. (as I said, she insists on it) Carson "Steven."

After they had locked her up, not before a scuffle, I whispered under her door: "Ms. Carson, are you all right?" "Of course," she replied, "What do you think I am? A sissy? Child, give me some cigarettes." I slid a pack of Kools under her door, one by one.

Later that evening, the next day's activities were posted. Under the heading Electro Shock, Steven Carson was typed in neat black letters. I took my pencil and scratched out Steven and put Ms. on the left of it. She would have insisted on it.

At a few minutes after 9:00 a.m., I saw Ms. Carson wheeled back into her room. As her eyes touched mine, dazed as hers were, I saw a laughing sparkle and she winked. She was subjected to the inhumanities of shock treatments every other day. On the day of her fourth treatment, she didn't wink. On that day her treatments stopped. It took two days for Ms. Carson to regain her memory. It took another three to get her an outdoor pass.

It was a Saturday morning when she was allowed outside. I saw her just as the attendant was unlocking the door. "Where are you going, Ms. Carson?" I called. She waved and replied with a smile, "Shoppin', Child, shoppin'!"

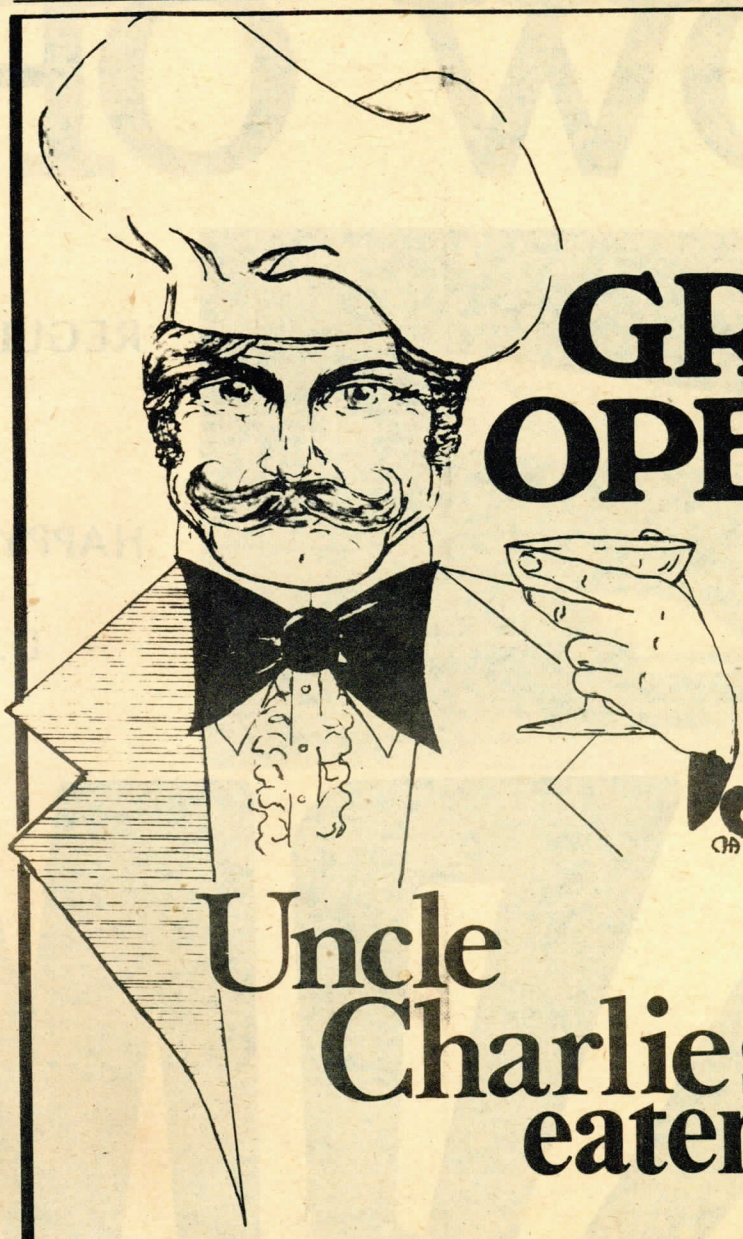
Now, I'm not into drag, but I'm definitely into courage. I hope this story reminds you to live you life how you want to. The relentless Ms. Carson insists on it. This is the only present I can give you on your birthday, but I give it and wish it with all my heart. Happy Birthday!

I Love You
Christopher

To make a long story short, Chris' plans were to no avail. He was sent to the state prison soon after sending the above letter, and we have been unable to get letters to him or get any reports as to his condition since. I have changed the name of the drag for obvious reasons, but all else is as I received it. Thanks for your time, Jeanne. I wish you peace and joy.

Van Voast

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Mother's Column

Mother steps out with some really sick people



A new bar opened in the bowels of Westheimer Saturday night, and bowels or not, it was a smashing party!

Actually, it's the latest transformation of that infamous watering spot that is almost too close to "Standing Room Only" Stanford Street for its own good. The latest reincarnation sounds like the bizarre and ageless place this bar can be – the **"Midnite Sun."**

Scientifically speaking, the sun actually shines at midnight in the coldest reaches of our screwy planet, which is exactly what it felt like here Saturday – I was just plain frigid! But that didn't keep well over a thousand young and old lovelies from pouring in and out of the place as if the faucets hadn't frozen already. And speaking of flowing, the booze was free part of the time – you can just imagine!

It was all so cute, and I can't wait to go back, especially once they get the backroom finished. Hanging out on Westheimer is coming back in style!

WHAT I DID FOR LOVE

It was a strange night for Mothers. It started out as a rather large movie party – **Donna Jean Donatelo, Ruby Tuesday, Willa Catheter, Mack Truck, Domininque Sondra** and I went to see that show about Jackie Kennedy's realtives (and I'll have more to say about that tired broad later). I promised all these whores I'd change their names for the column, because lately they've been too popular for their own good (a la "The Wild Bunch").

Anyway, Mack Truck suddenly fell ill shortly after the final credits rolled, and went home, leaving us girls to defend for ourselves. Ruby Tuesday became sick on the way out of the Midnite Sun so we took her home, and later at the **Old Plantation,** where we had to go meet five other people (each), Dominique said that she had caught it, too.

So off we went, but returning to the OP was a must – it was jam-packed!! It was like the "between-Farmhouses" days of the old Bayou Landing. **Candy Delight** came in under a trashy Loretta Haggers wig – she was stunning!

Someone offered me $50 to drive to Galveston nude with the top down, but I said, no thanks, honey, it's colder than a witch's tit in a cast-iron brassiere and I did'nt intend to freeze [illegible] off for nobody nohow. [illegible] pinched his.

Anyway, we dropped Dominique off and returned to the OP but Willa soon announced that she was sick, so we left again and dropped Donna Jean off on the deserted road of her choice, then returned to the fireplaces of Fort Vermont.

But it was too late – as much as I wanted to go out again, I had caught it, too. So the closest thing I had to an orgasm that night was a sneeze!

Curses! Now I understand why the more intelligent forms of life hibernate during the winter.

And remember: revenge is the dish which people of taste prefer to eat cold.

DIALING FOR DARLINGS

I guess everyone knows by now that the telephone company is charging for directory assistance – well, I am incensed! I mean, who can use that tacky, nasty, *heavy* telephone book, and I'm sure many of you feel the same way.

But an alternative is available – it's called "Numbers" and it's a private information service that only costs $6 a year, and that gets you all the directory assistance you could possibly need with no extra charges!

They work out of the phone book itself, poor things, and sometimes they won't have a newer listing unless someone provides them with it. But it sure beats the rigmarole of searching through that senseless book. Call 691-7474 for more info, and then some.

continued on page 6



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Mother's Column

continued from page 5

JACKIE: THEY CALL HER SECOND HAND O

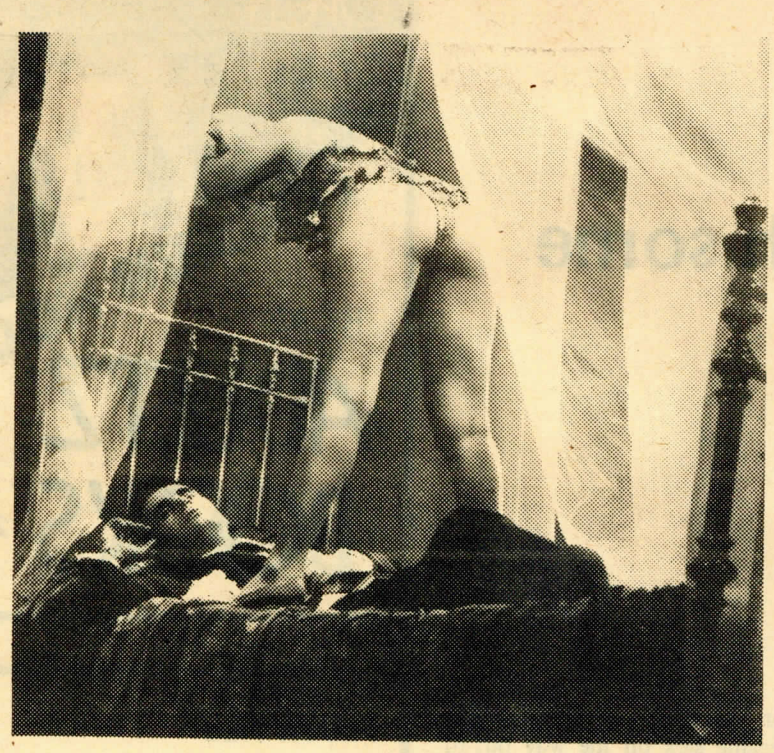
Before flying to Russia to check out a new book on Soviet fashions, infamous book editor **Jackie K.O.** hit the thrift shop circuit in New York for some second-hand duds for herself, and ended up buying back one of her old dresses. When she later realized this atrocity, she stormed back to the store.

"You sold me back the same dopey dress I sold you," she screamed. "I won't take it."

The owner advised her to call Consumer Affairs while she rang up a few television stations and a newspaper or two.

That really got to Madame K. O., whose privacy is more important to her than a dopey dress. She stormed back out. Meanwhile, her daughter **Caroline** was quoted as saying, "My mother is an old fashioned blank! She just doesn't have a grasp on what today's world is all about."

All this is brought to mind by the recent showing of "Grey Gardens" at Rice, a documentary inside look at the crumbling lives of Jackie's aunt and cousin, "Little Edith" and "Big Edie" Beale. They live in an old, decaying mansion with a slew of cats, racoons in the attic and garbage all over.



Gesundheit!

Little Edith Bouvier Beale, who is about 80, is still sunning and singing, and Big Edie, her 56 year old daughter, is still practicing her crazy dance steps. They are both completely whack-o, never go out (except for Big Edie's occasional swim in the nearby ocean) and love to bitch at each other. "Grey Gardens" is a wild and all-too-real look at what eventually will happen to all of us, if we're so lucky.

The only other movie of interest last week was "Mutter Kusters Fart Xum Himmel" (at the Museum.) It was slightly in German but here's part of a song sung by the factory-murderer's daughter:

"A woman is a woman one hundred per cent,
But I know many men who are slightly bent."

Needless to say, it was delightful.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

John Denver: "I epitomize America."

Sophia Loren: "Going to the dentist is the nearest thing to rape that I have ever experienced. With a rapist, at least you have a choice. You may submit and I suppose – never having been raped – that you can select to have fun. With a dentist there is no choice. It is only agony, there is nothing more! The minute I see that drill coming toward me, I begin to panic. I often wonder why God gave us teeth in the first place if those teeth aren't going to function for our lifetime."

Well, darlings, all you have to do is eat the right things – if you know what I mean. Happy hunting!

Mother



Here we are waiting to get into the Old Plantation

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Cinema

Clint Eastwood is a badass good guy

THE ENFORCER

Clint Eastwood is not your average big star who is constantly striving to become a great actor. He is simply striving to remain the wealthiest and most influential member of his profession. It is unlikely that he will ever win an Academy Award, but I doubt if this bothers him to any great extent.

He won the admiration of the industry years ago when his ingenious sense of film marketability brought subjects like sex and violence to the screen and made them respectable. He produced, directed and stared in his own films which up until this time was unheard of. As a result back in the mid-sixties and to the best of my knowledge, continuing to the present day he is the number one world box office attraction.

Practically nothing has changed from his series of violent westerns (The Good, The Bad and The Ugly, A Fist Full of Dollars, A Few Dollars More) to his present series of Dirty Harry violent cops and robbers flicks of which The Enforcer is the latest.

None of these movies are really good and none are really bad, they simply exist so that huge numbers of people can flock to see how the good guy will eventually whip the bad guy. The city is San Francisco and Harry (Clint Eastwood) is a homicide inspector who is noted for his unorthadox style in apprehending criminals.

In one instance he is called to the scene of a liquor store heist where customers have been taken hostage. The assailants demand a car for their escape and Harry complies by driving his police car right through the front of the store and killing all the bandits but nearly running over all the captives and causing $14,000 dollars in property damage.

Harry is mainly concerned in The Enforcer with several so called revolutionary groups which seem to be attracted to the Golden Gate city like fleas to a dog these days.

Harry's partner stumbles on one of the groups while they are attempting to steal some weapons and he is murdered. Thats right, you guessed it, Harry then goes on a renlentless search to find and eliminate these people who are really only using the revolutionary slogan as a ploy to get what they really want and that's money.

To complicate matters his new partner (due to ERA type pressure in the bay area) is a woman. Needless to say Harry (in his own words) doesn't think this is very "marvelous". But of course she proves herself and a good partnership is developed as well as a new romance.

Unfortunitly it is rather short lived since when they finally track down the group, who has in the meantime kidnapped the mayor and holed up on Alcatraz, she is gunned down trying to get the mayor to safety. Naturally Harry gets the rest and thats the end.

The best thing about it was the scenes of San Francisco which in my eyes is still the countries most beautiful city even if it has the nations highest crime rate. Unless your into this type of violence (you know if you are) I wouldn't recommend The Enforcer because thats all it is.

The acting is drab (with the execption of Tyne Daly who occasionally sparks as Harry's female partner) the dialogue is corny and the rest of the production is generally messy from one end to another. But to be objective you can't fault Eastwood for his unique appeal both from the personality he has developed for himslef and the manner in which he deals out his subject matter. Both are as rich in gold it seems as Fort Knox.

Craig Thistleton

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TWT GRAPHIC STUDIO

Calendar

ARCADIA, a new fun and game room opens Sunday

AUSTIN

Club Austin is open, complete with gym, whirlpool, steamroom, private rooms, showers, and stereo sound system. Gene Saxon, former manager of Club Houston, is the Austin manager. The Club Bath Chain club is open around the clock, at 308 West 16th. Check the Star's Austin map in the centerfold for a better idea of how to get there.

The Gay Community Services men's rap session is held each Friday at 7:45pm. Call 477-6699 for more info.

NEW ORLEANS

Club owners: Call the Star in Houston to have your events listed here in the Calendar. Dial 1-713-527-8961. Support the Star and we'll support you. Bob Castle and Mike Penton represent the Star in New Orleans. One of them will be calling on you shortly to find out your club's plans for Mardi Gras.

Fri. & Sat. nights, Jan. 21 & 22
Disco dancing at the Parade above the Bourbon Pub till 6am or later.

Sun. night, Jan 23
Ms. Kitty is featuring a live band between 5-10pm.

Mon. afternoon, Jan. 24
Happy hour 3-5pm at the Golden Lantern and 5-7pm at the Chopping Block.

Tues. afternoon, Jan. 25
Lockers are just $1 at Club New Orleans all afternoon. Happy hour 3-5pm at the Golden Lantern and 5-7pm at the Chopping Block.

Tues. night, Jan. 25
Lockers continue until midnight for just $1 at Club New Orleans.

Wed. afternoon, Jan. 26
Happy hour 3-5pm at the Golden Lantern and 5-7pm at the Chopping Block.

Wed. night. Jan. 26
Buddy night at Club New Orleans, where you and a friend can share a locker at a 2-for-1 price.

Thurs. afternoon, Jan. 27
Lockers only $1 at Club New Orleans 6:30-7:30pm.

Fri. afternoon, Jan. 28
Hot hors d'oeuvres and free champagne 5:30pm at the Chopping Block. Happy hour at the Golden Lantern 3-5pm.

Fri. night, Jan. 28
Disco dancing till 6am or later at the Parade above the Bourbon Pub.

Coming up later
The new super disco opens in a few weeks at Pete's old location. Watch the Star for the official announcement.

Mardi Gras is getting closer. The Star will have complete coverage starting shortly, including a list of the parades and a list of the balls being put on by gay krewes.

DALLAS

Club managers: Ken Amburn represents the Star in the Metroplex. To reach Ken, dial us direct in Houston at 1-713-527-8961. One phone call can get your club's events listed here in the Calendar and get you a place on the Star's map in the centerfold.

Fri. night, Jan. 21
After-hours disco dancing at the Old Plantation.

Sat. night, Jan. 22
After-hours disco dancing at the Old Plantation.

Sun. morning, Jan. 23
11am worship services at MCC.

Sun. afternoon, Jan. 23
50¢ bloody marys noon-2pm at Swamptrash. Bloody marys and screwdrivers 75¢ 1-8pm at the Bon Soir, along with happy hour 3-8pm. Cook out 2-5pm at Club Dallas. 10¢ draft beer 4-7pm at the Villa Fontana. Bring your own meat and come for brunch at Crews Inn II.

Sun. night, Jan 23
Pool tourney 7pm at Crews Inn II. Buffet and beer bust 7-9pm at the Old Plantation, followed by Jann Russell and the other O.P. entertainers on stage. Worship services 7:30pm at the MCC.

Mon-Fri. mornings, Jan. 24-28
Happy hour 10am-noon at Crews Inn II.

Mon. afternoon, Jan. 24
Happy hour at Crews Inn II 5-7pm and the Bon Soir 5-8pm.

Mon. night, Jan 24
Dart tourney 7:30pm at Crews Inn II. 15¢ draft beer with no cover at the Old Plantation.

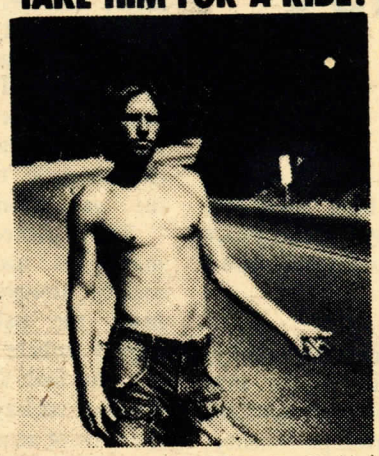
Tues. afternoon, Jan. 25
Admission is only $1 all day at Bachelor Quarters Baths. Happy hour 5-7pm at Crews Inn II and 5-8pm at the Bon Soir.

Tues. night, Jan. 25
Buddy night at Club Dallas 6pm-2am when 2 get in for the price of 1. Chili cookout at 7pm at Crews Inn II. Special low price on margaritas tonight at the Old Plantation.

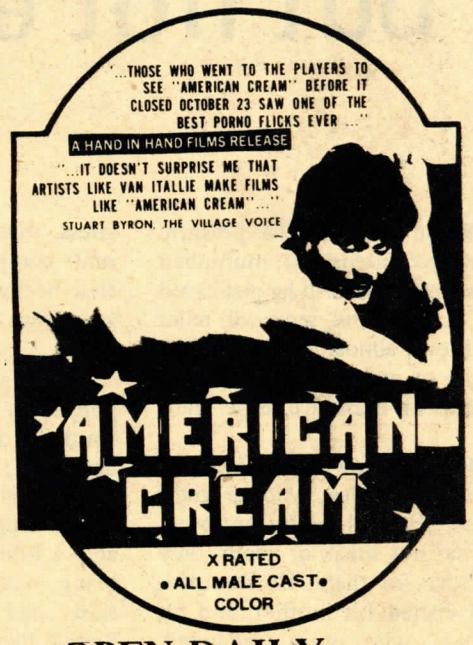
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Parables from the Cave

Gay good but not easy

Rubin's dead. The pressure increased, intensified, multiplied and pushed in until he just caved in. A profound sense of relief took over almost at once, and he began to make the preparations to end his existence as he knew it.

First he flew to Mexico City to visit relatives, who he knew loved him and whom he loved. He did not speak of death, only his love for them. He returned, and visited his mother, and his father, who were separated.

Finally he prepared a number of envelopes and, not trusting the vagaries of the U.S. Postal system, he delivered them himself, to friends and others in the city.

He then took a shotgun and blew his brains out. I can only guess that he then knew the only complete relief and peace that he had ever known since I knew him.

Ruben was gay. How cruelly, poignantly ironic to use that word to describe that pitifully deformed, distorted personality. But that is what he was. He was also a drug addict, an alcoholic, and a brilliant, sensitive human being, witty, wise, a marvelous host and wonderfully kind. Sound like anyone you know? I'll bet it does. Many gays possess some, and occasionally all, of these qualities.

Why then, do so many wind up like Ruben? Whay are the statistics so heavily weighted against gays, in almost any psychological study of mental aberration? Is society really to blame? Early potty training, momism, or what?

The answers to the question we are addressing are myriad and unknowable at this time. But there are a few conclusions we can draw from, the high incidence of emotional problems and their symptoms suffered by gays.

First off, it's not easy being gay. The societal stereotype of gays as frivolous, superficial, empty-headed butterflies does, unfortunately, apply to a lot of people who are gay. More and more, however, that sketch is changing, and is tending to resemble increasingly its straight counterpart. The primary difference of same sex preference is frequently almost the only characteristic that distinguishes the gay from the straight.

The protective coloration that gays assume in straight society, however, can in no way mask the pain that straight society inflicts on gays. Whether it is the fault of gays for letting straight society poop all over them or of straights for doing it is of little consequence in the long run, the end result is the same: strained, often deformed personalities in many gays, who turn into alcoholics (the statistics on gay alcoholics are frightening), drug addicts, or simply vicious queens that are a travesty of healthy, mature individuals.

What is inescapable is that for all the vaunted strides that gay liberation has made in the past few years, and they are many, being gay in the seventies in America is still a hassle. Let's get away from all the formal achievements that have resulted from the struggles of gay activists and think of the look on our parents' faces when we told them we were gay, if indeed we had the guts to do it. Hardly one of the finer moments in human development, was it? Or the reaction when we told that person who we were positive would understand that we had a new lover, only he was not understanding, only shocked. Not exactly calculated to advance our emotional stability by many notches, was it?

These and countless other examples to trite to repeat bring home the fact that gay may be good, but it sure as hell ain't easy. To quote the line from the play of a few years back, The Boys in the Band, "Show me a happy homosexual and I'll show you a smiling corpse." That may be an exaggeration, but the point is well made.

If we grant that the gay lifestyle isn't the easiest row in the world to hoe, what conclusions follow? Several, among which are that this difficulty springing from acceptance of one's own sexuality produces traits in persons that are fairly predictable. Like all minorities, gays tend to band together at times to be some what radicalized in their beliefs about the establishment that permits gay suppression, and to be somewhat aggressive, if not downright hostile at times, about their gayness. There is a difference between gays and other minorities, however. Blacks, Chicanos, even the elderly have certain visual or racial similarities in addition, usually, to economic or sociological ones. Gays have only their preference for the same sex in common. The differences between Gay lifestyles widely separated by economic or social distinctions often obscure the fact that Gays have the same sex preference in common.

This is one of the greatest drawbacks to the gay liberation movement, and one that has been isolated and addressed by mant leaders of the movement.

Withal, gays of the seventies are emerging as though, highly individual persons, aware of their rights, and conscious of the problems they face in the America of the seventies. People like Charles Reich and David Kopay, in emerging into straight society as openly gay, do immense good in helping other gays feel good about themselves and straights to be more aware of what gay really means. Reich has stated that the "revolution", if indeed there really ever was one, sexual, political, or otherwise, is a gradual thing. The evolution of gay awareness seems to bear that thesis out completely.

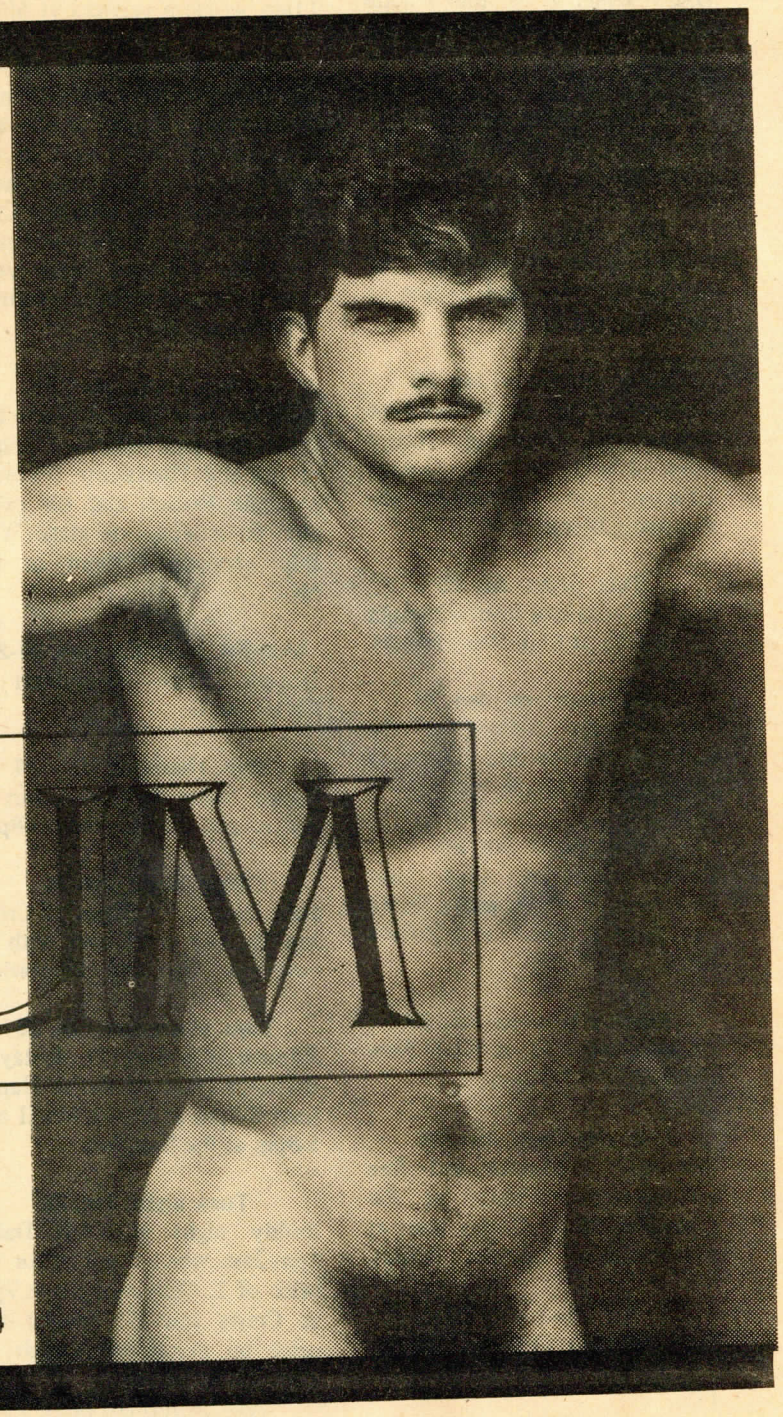
At any rate, none of this changes the fact of Ruben's death. Dead is a long time, and only the quick know life. Maybe some other Ruben will endure, will be able to bear the pain that made Ruben reach for the eternal panacea.

Al Hofstedter

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JIM FRENCH

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Interview

Gene Howle of Farmhouse may open a new bar

How do you get started in the bar business? Well, if your name is Gene Howle, you do it by default. Gene was singing at a club on West Gray in Houston in 1966 and the owner of the bar was going broke. The owner offered the club to Howle at a very good price, and before he knew it, Gene was in the bar business. He tried running it as a straight bar for six months and realized that he, too, was going broke. He closed it for three days, reopened it as Houston's largest gay bar, and started making money. It stayed open until February of 1970 under the name of the Plantation, and established Gene Howle as the premier gay bar operator in Houston.

We talked with Gene Howle in his elegantly appointed townhouse in the Montrose section of Houston, recently, where he lives with his lover of some years, Lynn Ganey. Lynn has been associated with Gene in all his ventures since they have been together, which covers about the last eight years.

Gene returned to the subject of his first bar, the Plantation, and remarked proudly that his was the first gay bar to stay open in Houston for more than one year. Actually, it was more like four years, when, in 1970, a fire started under mysterious circumstances and closed that bar permanently.

In 1971 Gene opened another gay bar, the Farmhouse, at 3500 Westheimer, larger than the Plantation, as a gay dance bar, with live bands at first, changing in 1973 to Houston's first disco, with a large dance floor and the first disc jockey for the area. Gene's first DJ was Wayne Barton, who was followed by Ram Rocha, currently working as a DJ at the Old Plantation, and one of the best known jocks in the country.

At the "old" Farmhouse, disco became popular in Houston, and thrived until March 1974, when another mysterious fire closed that bar. Arson was suspected, but no proof was ever found for the charge.

In June 1974 Howle opened what would be his last gay bar in Houston for awhile, also called the Farmhouse, and he continued to operate this until February of 1976, when legal difficulties with the lease forced the closing of the place.

The "new" Farmhouse boasted such standout distinctions as being the largest disco in America at the time, and of bringing for the first time to Houston a nationally known entertainer, Gloria Gaynor, for a live performance.



The old Farmhouse, c. 1973



Gene and Lynn, 1968

The Farmhouse was immensely popular, with several bars, a huge dance floor, and an attraction for not only gays but straights as well. The Farmhouse had a policy that straights could come into the bar if they were accompanied by a gay. In the process, on some weekends, as many as one hundred straight people would be turned away some requiring an escort by the police before they would leave.

"I can remember several occasions when young gays would come to the club and talk to me, often about their parents, and the hassle their parents gave them. I would tell them to let me know in advance, and to bring their folks to the bar. I took great pains to see that they were made welcome and had fun, and the kids really appreciated that. I got a bang out of doing that." Gene took pleasure in recounting this incident from the past.

In June of 1975, Gene Howle opened a straight disco in Huntsville, Texas, home of Sam Houston State University, with an enrollment of about 12,000. The college plus the town makes his bar in Huntsville a fun and profitable venture, and Gene works at a comfortable pace, living in Houston and traveling up to Huntsville periodically to review the operation. The disco is called the Sound Machine, and according to Howle it continues to do very well.

Does Gene Howle have any plans to open a new Farmhouse? "Probably not called the Farmhouse. I'd rather that remain a

continued on page 19

THE PLEASURE CHEST

HOUSTON'S MOST ELEGANT AND EXTENSIVE EROTIC BOUTIQUE CARRYING SEXUAL HARDWARE ADULT LEATHER, RUBBER

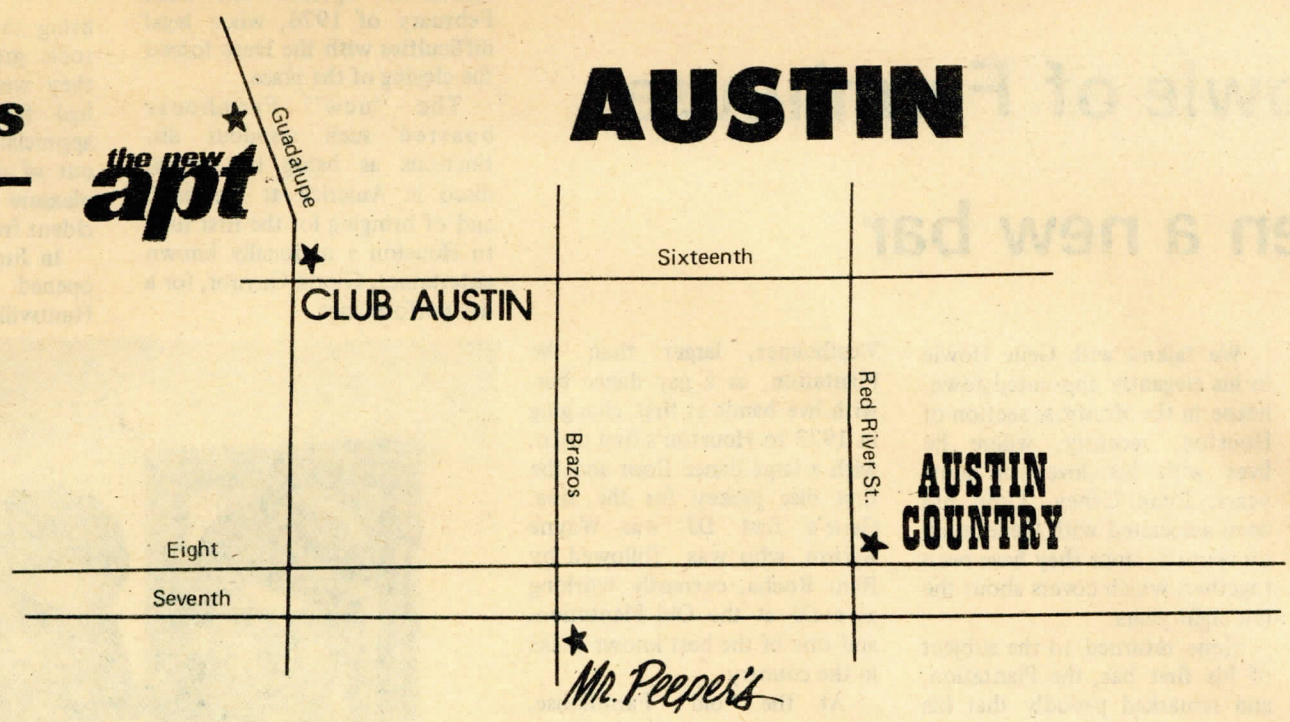


3205 MONTROSE at Westheimer

526-9084 11 AM – 11 PM SUN. 2 – 8 PM

HOUSTON LOS ANGELES MIAMI NEW YORK PHILADELPHIA

The Maps

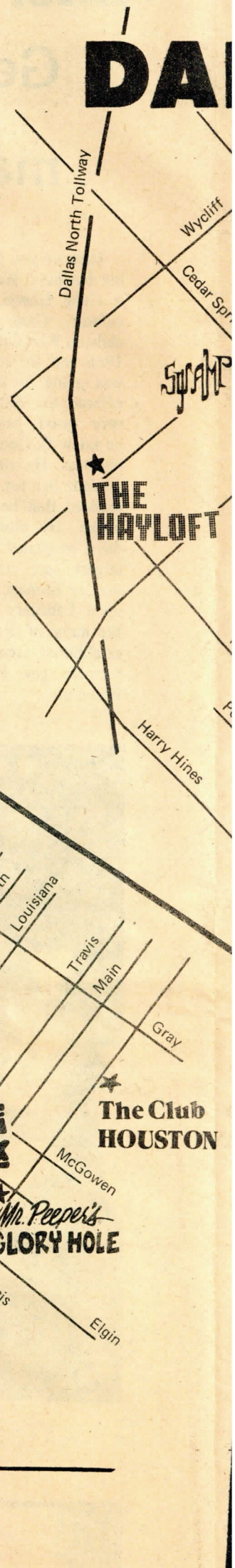


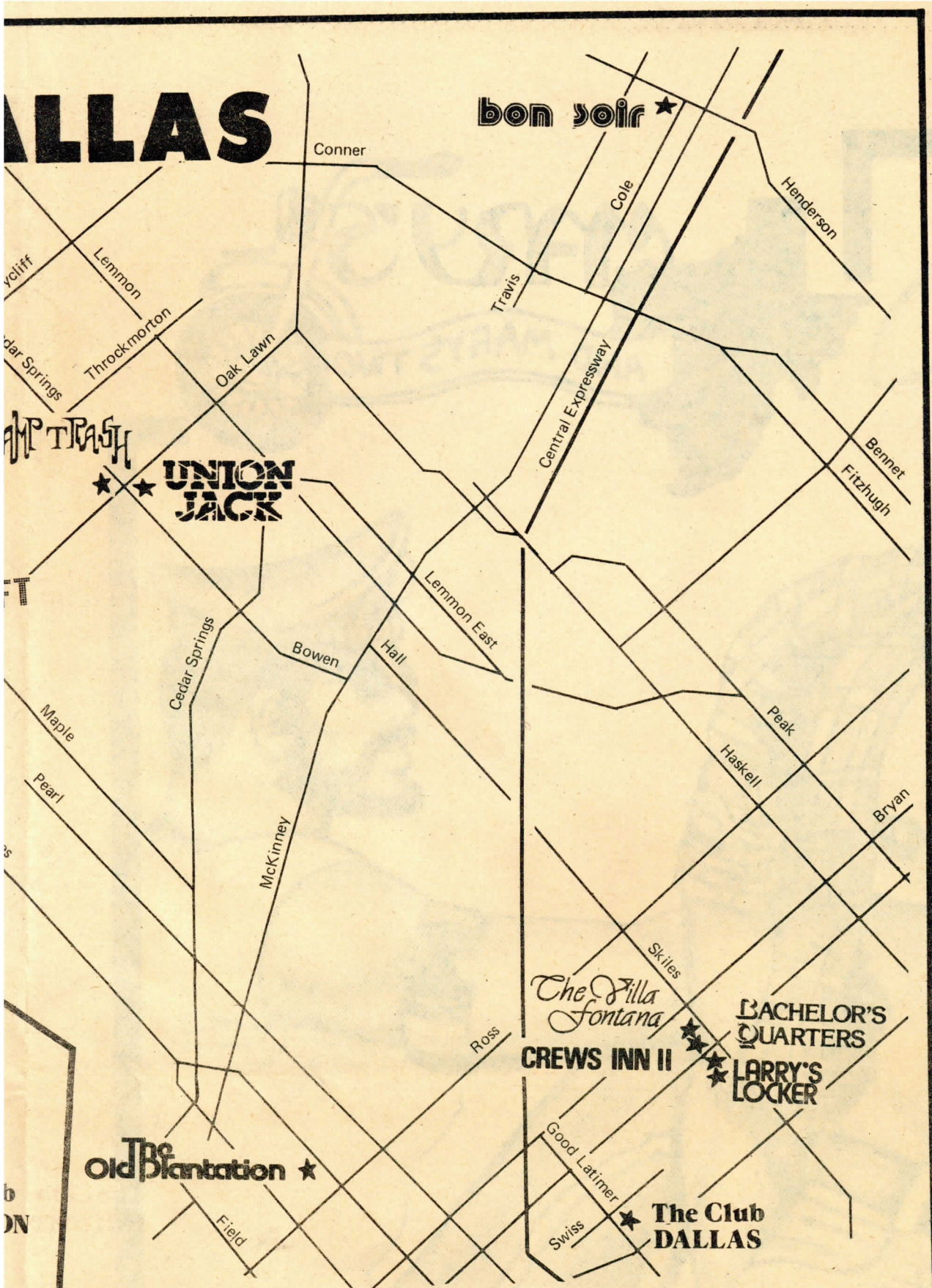
There's only one way for a club to get on these maps. Advertise! And any club can afford it, even the smallest, since advertising rates in the Star start as low as $15. That one $15 ad will get a club a "place on the map," listings in the Star Calendar, and coverage by the Star of the club's special events. It's the best advertising bargain in Gay America.

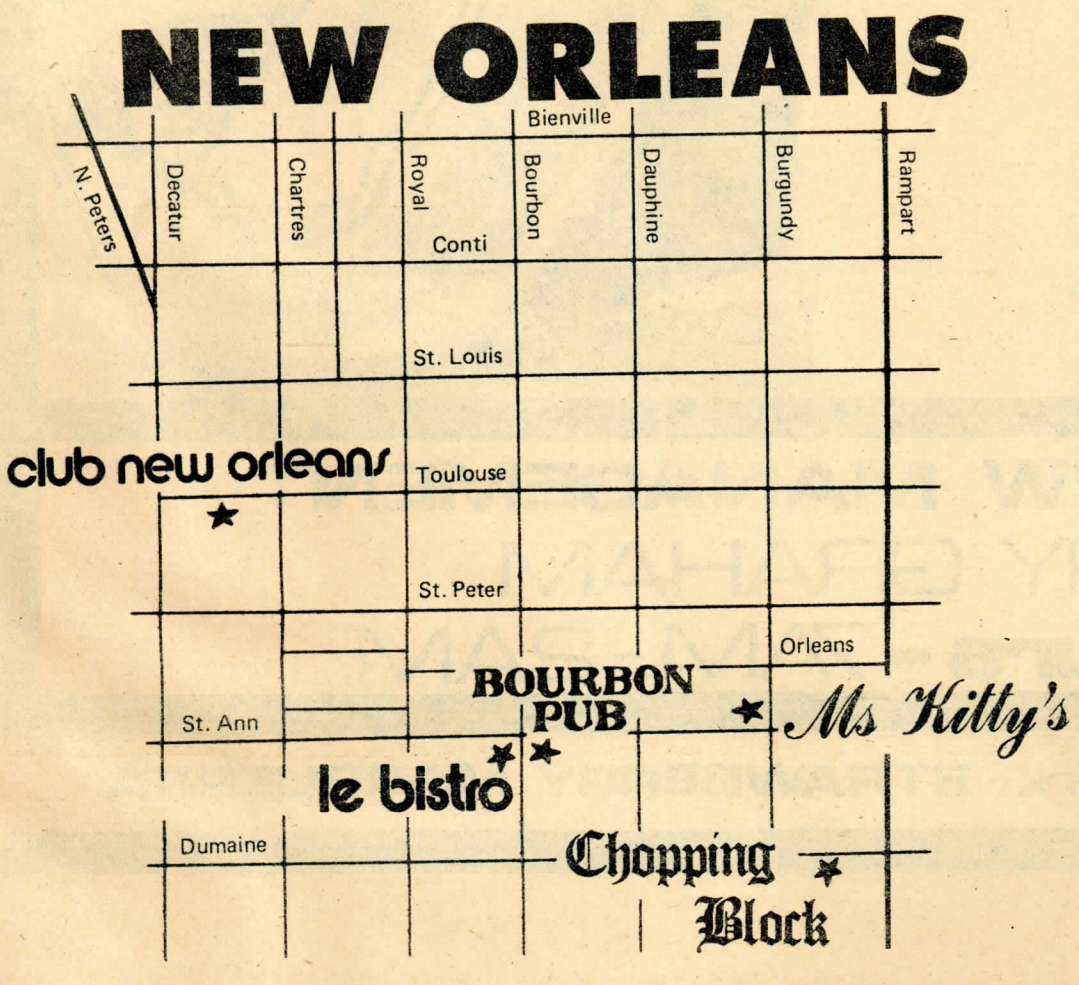
Of course, ad prices range up to several hundred dollars. And our art department is one of the best equipped art departments of any gay publication in the country. Most of the ads you see in the Star were drawn up by our artists. Even some of the ads you see in other publications were produced by the Star.

Advertising is our only source of income, since the papers are furnished to clubs and readers free.

If you're a club owner or manager that's not on the map, call us in Houston at (713) 527-8961. We really DO want you on the map and in the Star's Calendar.

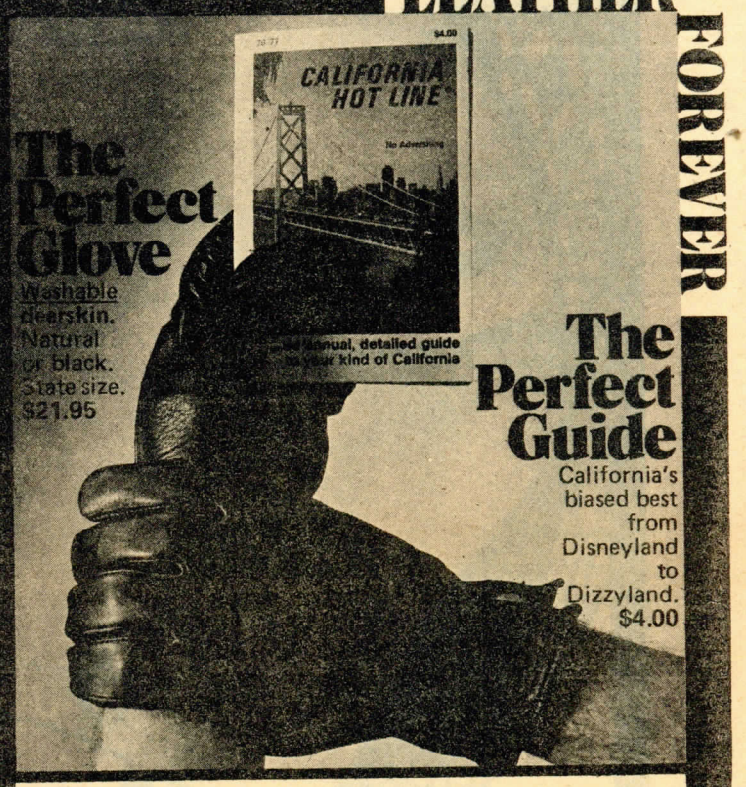






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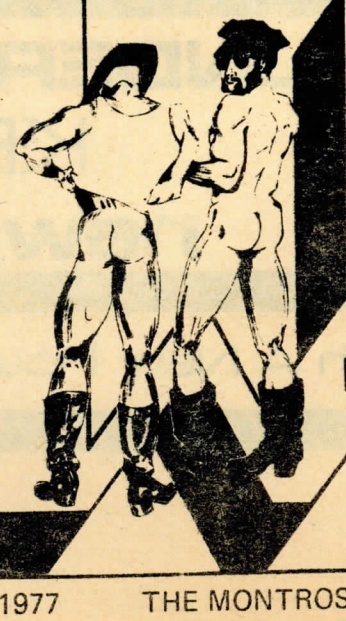
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HOUSTON



MOVIE ARCADE
BOOKS
NOVELTIES
MAGAZINES

Calendar

continued from page 9

Wed. afternoon, Jan. 26
Discount card day at Club Dallas where you get a free locker with the purchase of a discount card. Happy hour at Crews Inn II 5-7pm and Bon Soir 5-8pm.

Wed. night, Jan. 26
Half price drinks at the Old Plantation.

Thurs. afternoon, Jan. 27
Happy hour at Crews Inn II 5-7pm and Bon Soir 5-8pm.

Thurs. night, Jan. 27
Free movie at Swamptrash. 75¢ tequila sunrises at the Old Plantation.

Fri. afternoon, Jan. 28
Happy hour 5-7pm at Crews Inn II and 5-8pm at the Bon Soir.

Fri. night, Jan. 28
After-hours disco dancing at the Old Plantation.

HOUSTON

Club managers: call 527-8961 to place items in the Calendar.

Thurs. night, Jan. 20
Dinner is served at Levi's 6-10pm. Happy hour continues all night at Sally's. $1 cover at both the Depository and the Old Plantation with 35¢ drinks at each. Shiner's beer 40¢ 11pm-2am at Zither's.

Fri. morning, Jan 21
Happy hour 7am-noon at the Inside Outside and Sally's. Lockers are half price at Club Houston starting 8am. Happy hour starts 10am at the Barn. Happy hour begins at the Midnite Sun, 7am-7pm.

Fri. afternoon, Jan 21
Lockers continue half price at Club Houston thru 4pm. Happy hour continues thru 7pm at the Barn, noon-7pm at Levi's, 4-6pm at Zither's, 4-7pm at the Briar Patch and Inside Outside, 5-7pm at Mary's, 5-8pm at Sally's.

Fri. night, Jan 21
Levi's serves breakfast mid-night-3:30am. After-hours disco dancing to 4am at the Old Plantation and Depository.

Sat. morning, Jan. 22
Happy hour 7am-noon at Sally's.

Sat. afternoon, Jan. 22
Rap session at MCCR noon-2pm. Sprcial prices on bloody marys and screwdrivers noon-7pm at the Inside Outside. Beer bust at Levi's 3-6pm. Happy hour at Sally's 5-8pm.

Sat. night, Jan. 22
The Depository presents Tiffany Jones, Donna Day, Jerry Vanover and Eartha Kitt starting 11pm, followed by after-hours disco to 4am. After-hours dancing also at the Old Plantation. Levi's serves breakfast mid-night-3:30am.

Sun. morning, Jan. 23
Lockers $2 starting 8am at Club Houston. Worship services 11am at MCCR.

Sun. afternoon, Jan. 23
Dave's Arcadia opens at 12-noon, with a free beer bash. See ad elsewhere in this issue. Lockers continue at $2 till 4pm at Club Houston. Jambalaya is served at the Barn starting at noon. 50¢ bloody marys, screwdrivers and beer 2-7pm at the Briar Patch. Beer bust starting at Zither's. 25¢ bar drinks and draft beer 4-7pm at the Inside Outside with $2 cover.

Sun. night, Jan. 23
The Old Plantation opens 6pm with a beer bust and free buffet, followed at 9:30 by the Sunday Night Follies with Jennifer George, Jessica, Carmelita and Ernestine. Worship services at MCCR 7:30pm. Randy Walls' survivors party is 9pm-midnight at Sally's with happy hour prices. Tiffany & Co. are on stage at 10pm at the Depository, along with 5¢ draft beer and disco dancing downstairs.

Mon.-Fri. mornings, Jan. 24-28
Happy hour 7am-noon at the Inside Outside and Sally's. The Midnite Sun begins their happy hours from 7am-7pm. Lockers are half price at Club Houston starting 8am. Happy hour starts 10am at the Barn. The Depository will be closed for a couple of days so they can do some house cleaning. See their ad elsewhere in the Star for more info.

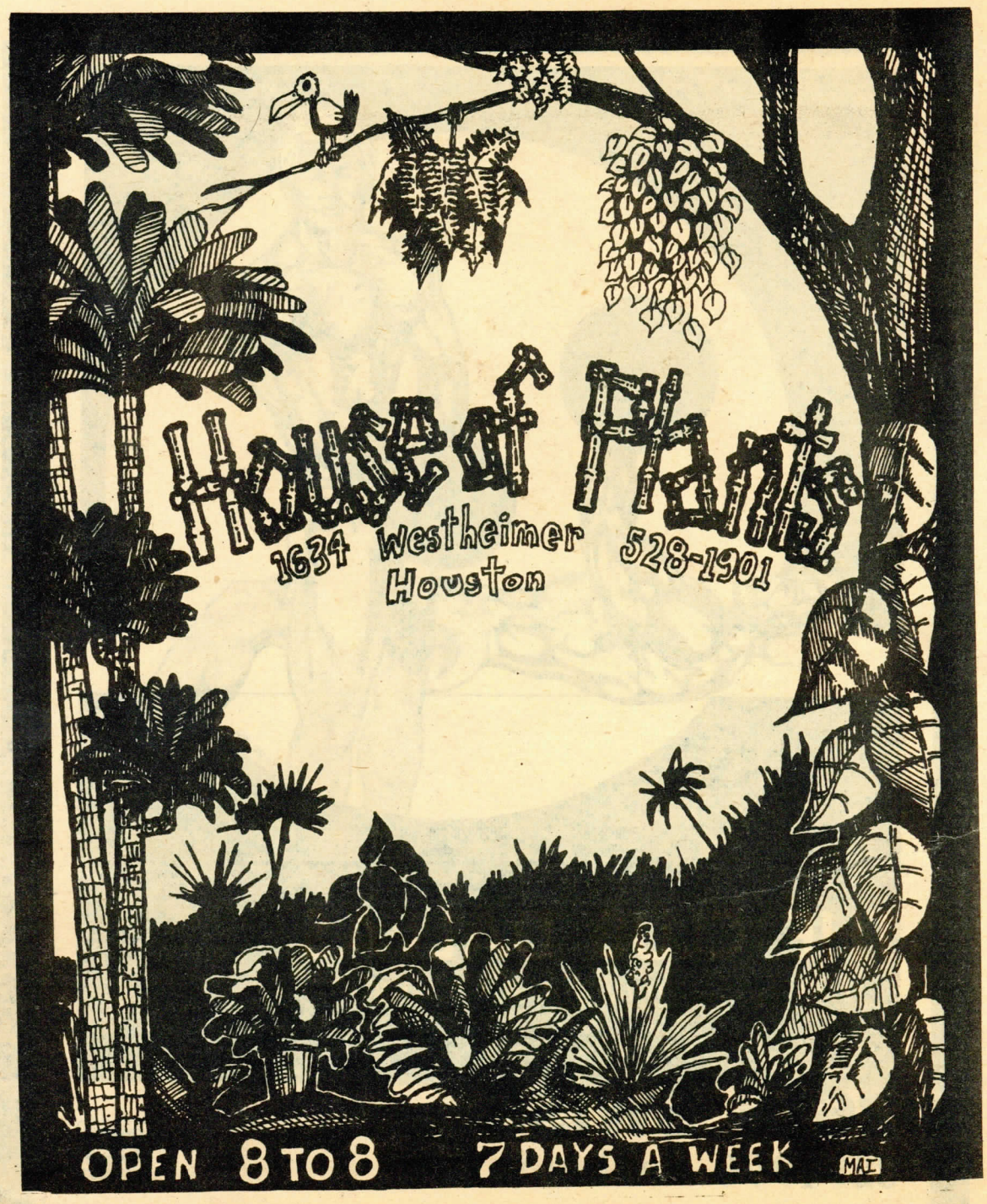
Mon. afternoon, Jan. 24
Lockers are half price thru 4pm at Club Houston. Happy hour continues thru 7pm at the Barn, noon-7pm at Levi's, 4-6pm at Zither's, 4-7pm at the Inside Outside and Briar Patch, 5-7pm at Mary's, 5-8pm at Sally's. Beer bust at Our Place 5-7pm.

Mon. night. Jan. 24
Our Place presents "The Other Side," a country-western band starring Trisha, Lana and Lorie, 8:30pm-midnight. No cover and 50¢ drinks at the Depository. $1 cover and 35¢ drinks at the Old Plantation. Shiner's beer 40¢ 11pm-2am at Zither's.

Tues. afternoon, Jan. 25
Lockers half price through 4pm at Club Houston, but buy a discount card anytime today and get a free locker. Happy hour continues non-stop at Sally's, thru 7pm at the Barn, 4-6pm at Zither's, 4-7pm at the Briar Patch and Inside Outside, 5-7pm at Mary's. Beer bust 5-7pm at Our Place.

Tues. night, Jan. 25
Happy hour continues all night at Sally's. Dinner is served at Levi's 6-10pm. Pool tourney 8pm at the Inside Outside. Houston Area Dart Association league play starting 8pm at Zither's, followed by Shiner's beer special 11am-2am, just 40¢. Depository skate night at the Carousel Roller Rink on Katy Fwy. 9-11pm, plus, at the Depository itself, $1 cover and 35¢ drinks and $1 cover also at the Old Plantation.

continued on page 21



TWO GREEK BROTHERS
3215 Main at Elgin, Houston 528-7173
CLOSED ON SUNDAYS
Dinner Menu

1. SEAFOOD PLATTER	3.75
1 Frog Leg 1 Stuffed Crab 3 Shrimp 3 Oysters 1 Fish Filet with Greek Salad or Plain Salad	
2. JUMBO FRIED SHRIMP (6)	3.45
BROILED SHRIMP (9)	4.75
3. FROG LEGS (Fried)	3.75
4. WHOLE FLOUNDER (Broiled)	3.25
5. FRIED OYSTERS (1 Doz.)	3.25
(½ Doz.)	2.45
6. STUFFED CRABS	2.25
7. SCALLOPS (Fried)	3.75
8. SNAPPER FILET (Fried or Broiled)	2.95
9. SNAPPER STEAK (Fried or Broiled)	3.50
10. FLOUNDER FILET (Fried or Broiled)	2.95
11. WHOLE CATFISH (Fried)	3.25
12. FRESH WATER CATFISH FILET (Fried)	3.25

All above served with Greek Salad and French Fries

13. SPECIAL SEAFOOD PLATE
4 Shrimp, 4 Oysters, 4 Scallops and Baked Potato
$ 3.95

14. RAW OYSTERS
$ 2.95 Doz. $ 1.95 ½ Doz.

15. SHISHKABOB with RICE + French Fries
$ 4.50

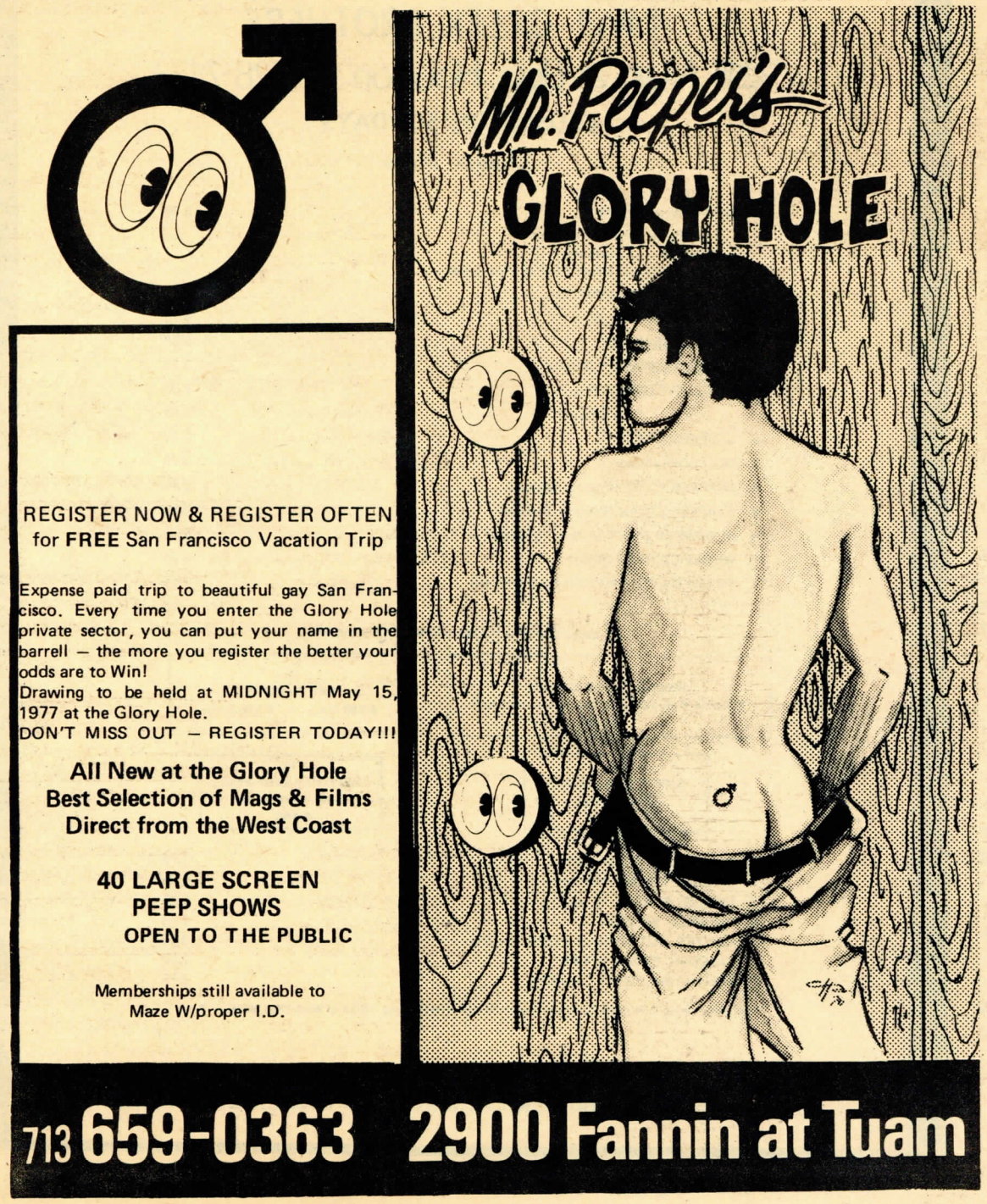
16. BEEF TIPS (Greek Style)
Greek Salad or Plain
$ 4.50

1. SIRLOIN STRIP (11 oz.)	4.75
2. CHOICE T BONE (13 oz.)	5.95
3. CHOICE T BONE (8 oz.)	5.25
4. CHOPPED SIRLOIN	2.45
5. CENTER CUT CHOICE PORK CHOPS	3.25
6. CHICKEN FRIED STEAK	2.50
7. SOUTHERN FRIED CHICKEN	2.75

All above served with Greek Salad and French Fries or Baked Potato + Glass of Wine. (Red, White or Rose)

Dorothy Invites All of Her Friends from Tooter's to Come See Her,
Serving All Her Old and New Friends at TWO GREEK BROTHERS!!





"Gay" alcoholics

continued from page 1

groups in our society. Still, there is help. Until recently, the gay had little choice for help with a drinking problem. But now, the one organization that has helped more people than any other to get sober and stay sober, Alcoholics Anonymous, has reached out to the gay world. While AA has no official stance on gayness as such, it is basically, and has always been, non-judgmental. There have always been gays in AA, and there have been gay AA groups in many cities for years. AA is concerned with helping people with their drinking problem, not their sex lives.

Recently, however, AA has modified some of its policies and permitted gay groups to be listed in its World Directory, a listing of all Alcoholics Anonymous groups, as gay groups *per se*, a change in policy that tacitly condones the existence of such groups.

And there are gay groups in the southwest also. In Houston, Dallas, Austin, and New Orleans, there are gay AA groups, meeting at least weekly. These gay AA groups are first of all groups of Alcoholics Anonymous, fully recognized as such. Their first interest, as will all such groups, is to help people who have a drinking problem. At the same time, however, they recognize that it is extremely, incredibly difficult to stay sober if you are alcoholic. The existence of gay groups merely goes one step further to help the struggling alcoholic to get sober and stay sober, one day at a time.

In Houston, Dick G., a longtime member of AA, saw the need for gay AA and was instrumental in getting the first gay AA group going. There are now three such groups, all meeting at the same location on different nights, and attendance ranges from as few as thirteen to as many as fifty people at a meeting. This proves conclusively that gay AA groups fill a definite need in the community.

The same holds true for Dallas, with one such group, New Orleans, with a group that has been meeting for over a year now, and a recently started group in Austin.

How does a person go about getting in touch with these groups? In Houston, merely call (713) 528-5107 to contact a member of gay AA. In the other cities, call the main number of Alcoholics Anonymous for referral to the group in that area.

"In Houston, Dallas, Austin and New Orleans there are gay AA groups . . ."

The main thing that should be remembered about alcoholism is that it is a disease, and, like most diseases, it does not discriminate among socio-economic groups, but strikes into every class and profession. The encouraging thing about the disease, though, is that while incurable, it is certainly and definitely capable of being arrested by the miraculously simple expedient of not drinking and getting help from others who have the same problem. Not only that, but in the case of Alcoholics Anonymous, there is absolutely no cost involved. As one member of AA put it, "AA doesn't promise to solve your problems. It merely gives you the opportunity to face them, sober, and find your own solutions." That's a pretty good start to a solution to a problem that has become serious in America today.



DEPOSITORY

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WEDNESDAY 26TH

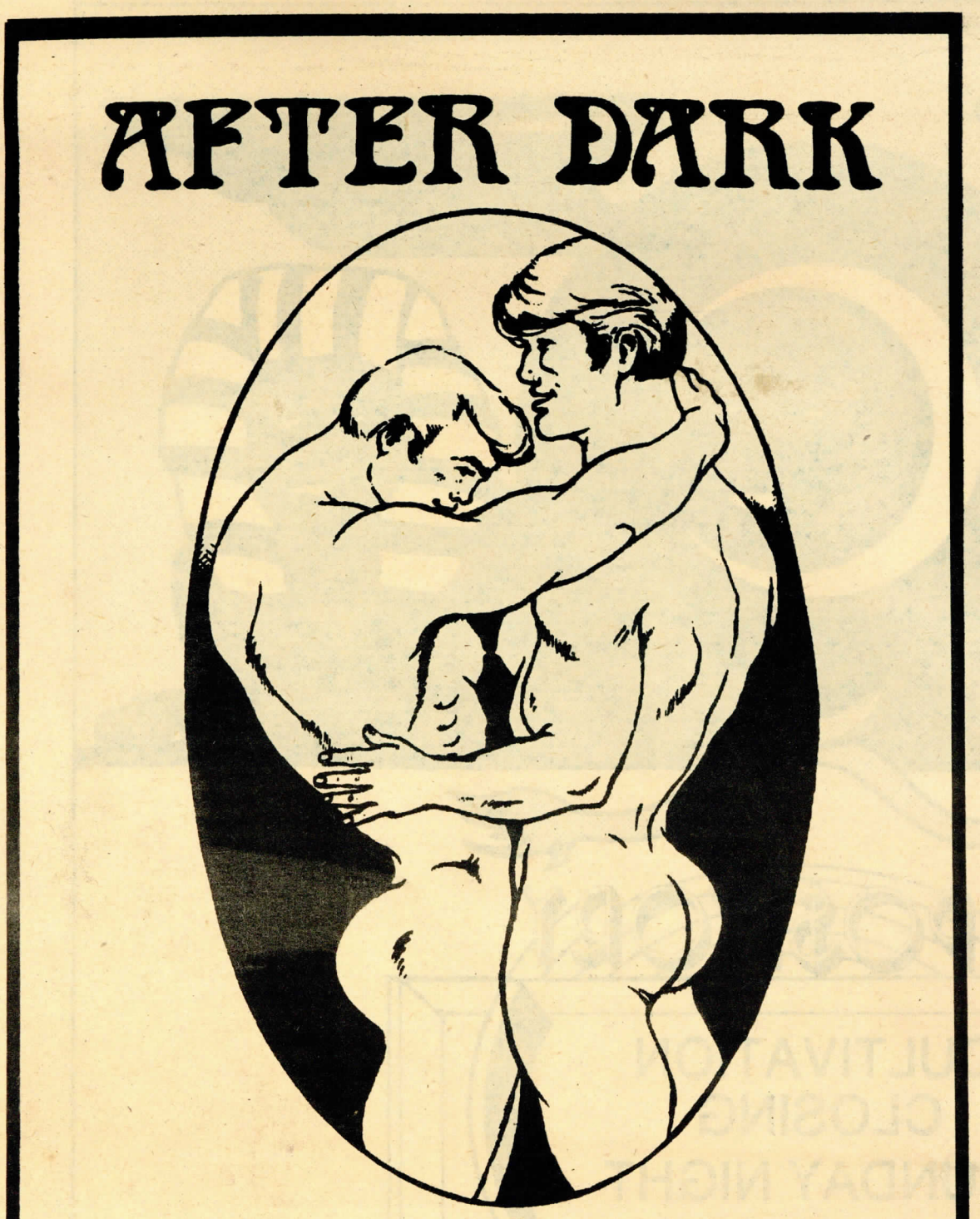
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OPEN SOON IN SAN FRANCISCO!

Male Movies

American Cream:

Satire, Sex and Patriotism

Hi there, all you movie mavens. Well, this week brings only one new entry in the movie scene. You will recall that at the Mini Park, on Main, they are still showing 12 at Noon, a series of vignettes that range all the way from motel sex to woodsy doings that would make Smokie the Bear blush, with intimations of high kamp in the kitchen with the kantaloupe thrown in. We covered all that last week, but don't miss it this week if you haven't already seen it.

The French Quarter, at Elgin and Louisiana, changes fare this week, continuing Star Trick, the story of how a young boy from the Panhandle found gay stardom, sex, and yes, Clorissa, even love in the hills of Hollywood.



Their second feature, however, changes to American Cream, a series of three shorts (referring to the length of the stories *only*) by Hand in Hand Films, gathered together to make the feature length film. This one is also in color, and features stories without dialogue but with the most interesting background music. I remember from my youth (I know it seems impossible, but I *can* remember back that far) hearing my parents talk about the piano player at the silent movies.

It seems that the sound for the silents was always very torrid, or flowery, but always pertinent to the movie being shown. Not so with American Cream. It is hard to describe the feeling sitting there watching what can only be described as flaming sex to the background music of either Bach or Scarlatti, I never could tell them apart without a program. It is at once both culturally uplifting and highly erotic, which was maybe what the producer had in mind anyway.

Whatever, American Cream concerns itself with Country Days, a sequence in which four dudes frolic in the snow, proceeding to take off all their clothes to traipse and cavort about in the deep snow. As a southern gent who never even saw snow more than maybe three or four times in his life, the thought of freezing the old wazoo off in all that snow was far from erotic, to say the least. Nevertheless, these cats seemed to really get off on it, finally winding up in a barn, in the hay, doing things even Kraft-Ebbing never heard of, and Havelock Ellis only hinted at.

Roles is the second sequence, involving two guys, one in tails and a Mercedes, the other in leather forever and cowboy boots. Needless to say, the contrast between the two, and the excessive use of flashbacks to zero in on the really dirty stuff provided plenty of sexy scenes. They, too, seemed intent on advancing the state of the art of sex, and seemed well on the way to success.

The finale, however, the *really* big shew, came in the final third of this trilogy, called, appropriately enough, the Office. In this one, we open on a scene with a big executive in his office looking out of a window. Through said window comes the sounds of a parade and martial music. The dude seems incapable of keeping his clothes on for even the merest part of the reel, and partially disrobes to the tune of the Stars and Stripes Forever, a rather patriotic gesture on his part, I thought.

Well, before you could say John Philip Sousa, we zoomed in on Sincere Young Man, complete with slogans on the wall and everything. Well *you* know what's coming (excuse it, please!) before I do. Soon Sincere Young Man and Executive are *getting it on!* The interplay between the patriotic music, the slogans of patriotic fervor, and the cuts to various Washington scenes (I mean, *sitting* on the Washington Monument itself? *It's* really too much) provide much of the humor and satire in this film. Probably much more was intended by the writer and producer of this flick than came across on the screen, but it was enjoyable nevertheless. Good bodies throughout on this one. Give it a one and a half on the cockmeter.

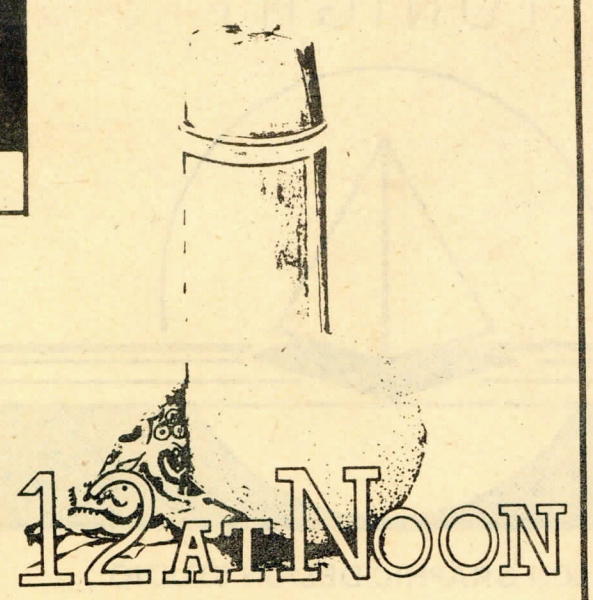
Theo Thunderthighs

MINI PARK
2907 MAIN ST. 528-5881

ALL MALE THEATRE

Now Showing
[19th — 25th]

LIFE OF A SALESMAN



Interview

continued from page 11

fond memory." But he does definitely plan to open another gay disco in Houston, very possibly this year. Gene states that he is definitely looking for a location that is large enough in the right part of town, and if he finds it, he'll be back in the gay bar business in Houston.

Gene feels that the gay bar scene is changing rapidly. "Within five to ten years, large gay discos will be very mixed. Straights want to go out and boogie too, and they don't find fun and a friendly atmosphere in the straight clubs as they do in the gay ones. Gay people are taking their straight brothers, sisters, and friends more and more to gay discos, and the trend will continue."

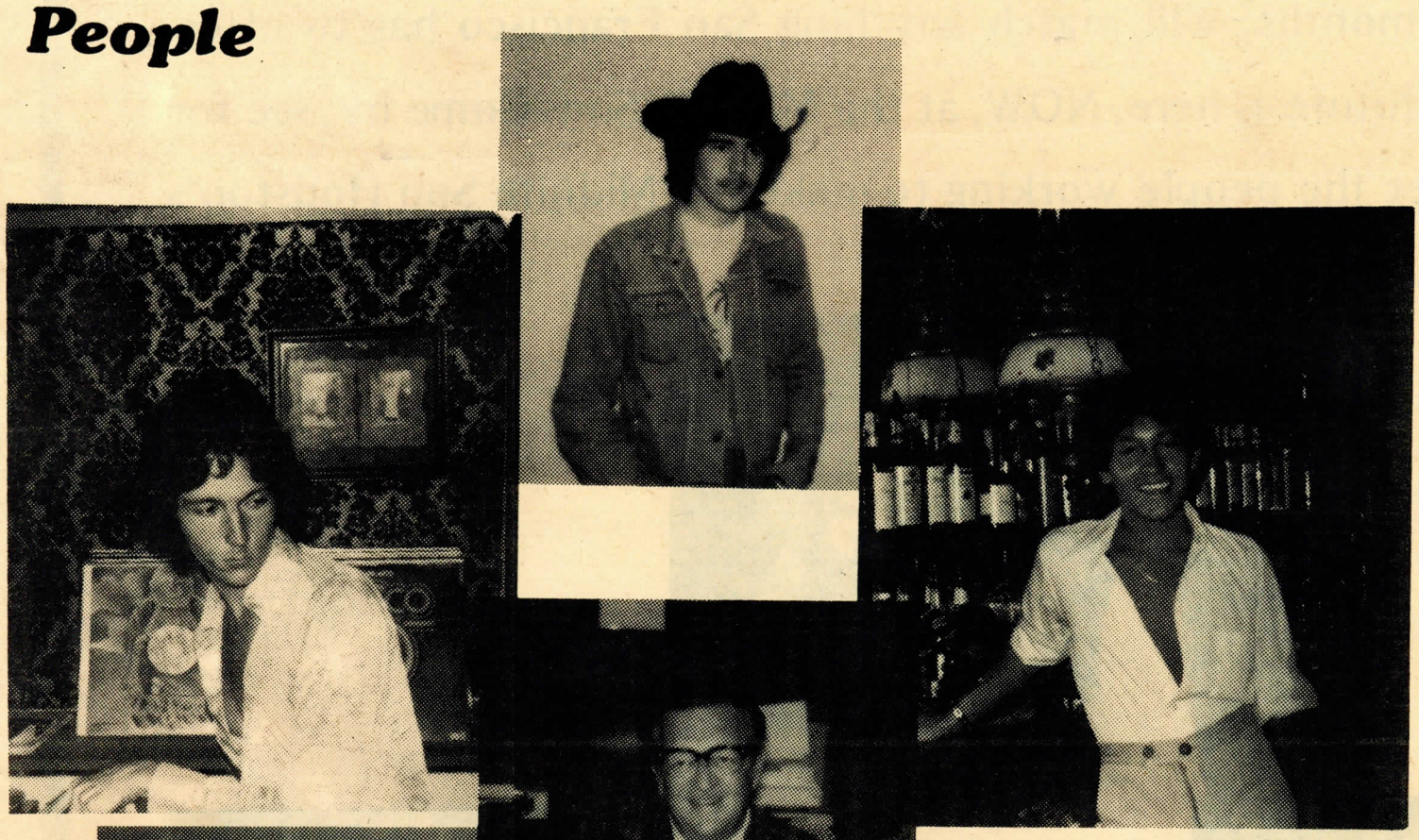
Regardless of what form discos take, it's a pretty good bet that there'll be a Gene Howle running one of them, at least in Houston. He's that kind of a guy, and he's become an integral part of the Houston scene.

Ed Martinez



"Within five to ten years, large gay discos will be very mixed."

People

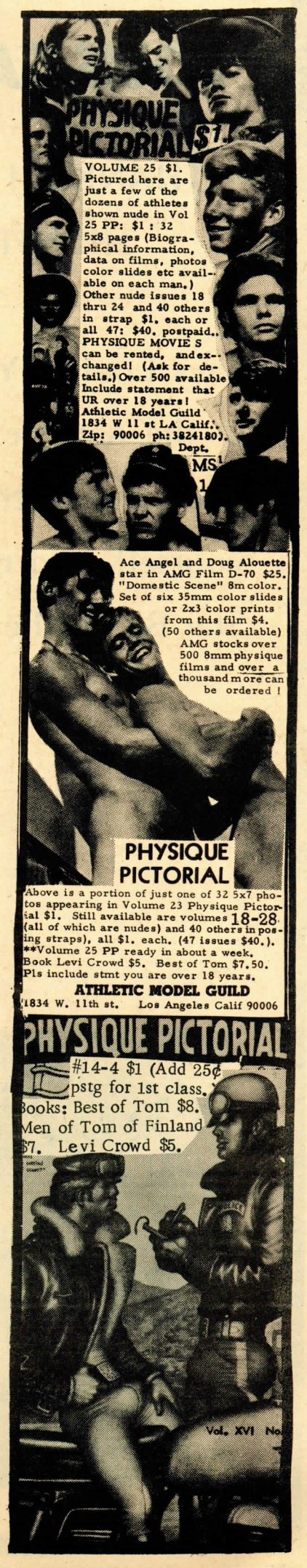








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HOUSTON



MIDNITE SUN

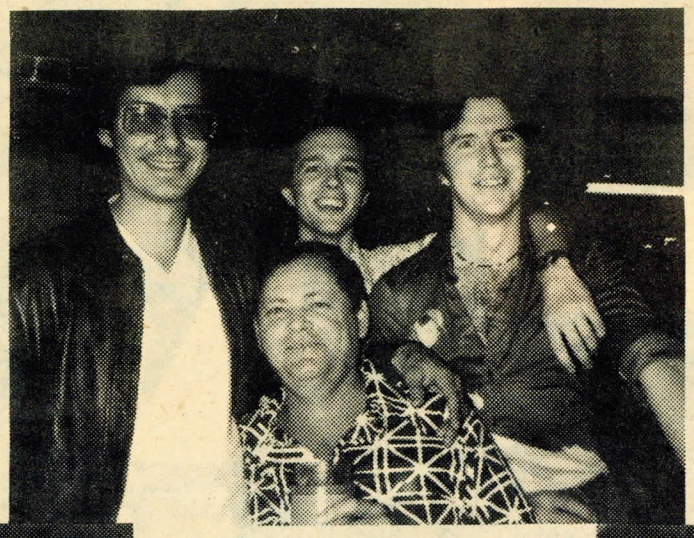
534 Westheimer



LOUIS GARCIA PEACHES, GARY, CHET & BILLY

THANKS!!! TO EVERYONE FOR MAKING THE OPENING OF THE MIDNITE SUN AND THE DAYS SINCE A HUGE SUCCESS.

Says Louis, "You ain't seen nothing yet!" The new back bar, to be opened in the next few months, will match anything San Francisco has to offer. The wave of the future is here, NOW, at the Midnite Sun. Come by, see for yourself, and meet the people working to make the Midnite Sun Houston's Star Bar of the Future, right now!







Calendar

continued from page 15

Wed. afternoon, Jan. 26
Lockers are half price at Club Houston till 4pm, when it switches to buddy night where 2 get lockers for the price of 1. Happy hour continues thru 7pm at the Barn, 4-6pm at Zither's, 4-7pm at the Inside Outside and Briar Patch, 5-7pm at Mary's, 5-8pm at Sally's. Beer bust 5-7pm at Our Place.

Wed. night, Jan. 26
Buddy night continues at Club Houston to midnite with 2 lockers for the price of 1. Steak night at Levi's starting 7pm. Pot Luck dinner starts 8pm at the Barn. 10¢ drinks with $2 cover at the Depository plus Amateur Night upstairs at 10:30pm. $1 cover at the Old Plantation with 35¢ drinks. "Wilde 'n Stein airs 9pm-midnight on KPFT, FM-90. Shiner's beer is 40¢ at Zither's 11pm-2am.

Thurs. afternoon, Jan. 27
Happy hour continues non-stop at Sally's, thru 7pm at the Barn, noon-7pm at Levi's, 4-6pm at Zither's, 4-7pm at the Inside Outside and Briar Patch, 5-7pm at Mary's. Lockers are half price at Club Houston to 4pm. Beer bust at Our Place 5-7pm.

Thurs. night. Jan. 27
Happy hour continues all night at Sally's. Dinner is served at Levi's 6-10pm. Dart tourney for cast 8pm at Zither's, followed by Shiner's beer 40¢ 11pm-2am. $1 cover at the Old Plantation and at the Depository, each with 35¢ drinks.

Coming up later

The next meeting of the Gay Political Caucus is Feb. 2, 7:30pm, at the Inside Outside.

Typhoon Tessie's opens shortly. The Star will have the date printed in this section shortly.

Uncle Charlie's, a disco-restaurant, opens Jan. 28. See ad in this issue for more info.

The Silver Bullet will open in the next few weeks in the Montrose section. It's being built by the same people who put out Bullet poppers. Watch the Star for an announcement soon.

Auntie Mame's Eatery opens in a few weeks next door to the Briar Patch. Watch for their ad in the Star.

A giant birthday party will be held at the Barn, February 5th. The Star will have more info at a later date.

M.C. NEWS

Milt Snow assumed command as the new president of the Texas Riders January 19 at the Locker.

Fred Price, new owner of the Locker, hosted the occasion with a case of champagne for all the bikers present. The Locker is home bar for the Texas Riders and it was an event fit for the celebration.

* * * * *

Yes, Virginia, there *is* a Tejas Motorcycle Club, and they hung their colors at the Locker Sunday January 16. Champagne flowed freely, and everyone welcomed Tejas MC to the Locker as its home bar.

The Locker now boasts three clubs, the Texas Riders, American Leathermen, and now the Tejas MC as claiming it as their home bar..

M.A.C. NEWS

The theatrical division of the Montrose Activity Center would like to announce our next production: **"El Grande de Coca Cola".** Open auditions are to be held at the Buffalo Underground theater, 711 Franklin, (Franklin at Milam), on Sunday, January 23 at 2:00 p.m., and on Monday, January 24 at 7:30 p.m. Anyone interested in either performing or joining the support/technical staff are cordially invited to attend.

Those auditioning should have their musical number prepared. Accompaniment is provided.

The director will be **Jack Lampert.** Rehearsals will begin on January 31, 1977. Scheduled performance dates are March 25, 26, 27, April 1, 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10, 1977.

YES, TEJAS
THERE *is*
A VIRGINIA

The Montrose Star is published weekly by Montrose Star Publishing Co., Inc., 900 Lovett Blvd., Houston, TX 77006. Application pending at Houston, Texas for 2nd class mail permit. Telephone: (713) 527-8961.

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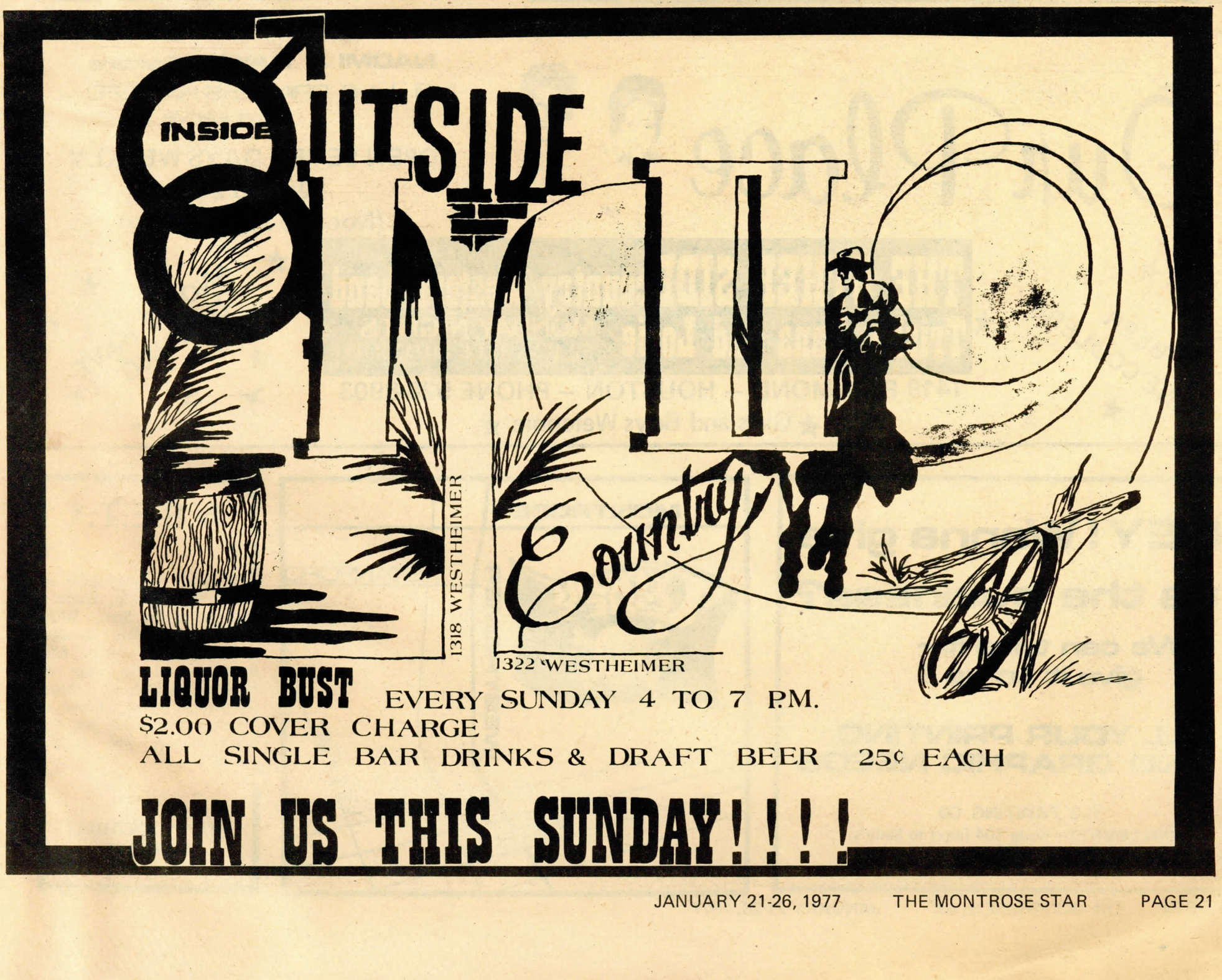
Contributors: Jeanne Barney, David Danglo, Roy Hall, Ray Hill, Al Hofstedter, Ram Rocha, Craig Thistleton.

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Display advertising rates furnished on request.

Subscription rate via 2nd or 3rd class mail in U.S.: $4.75 for 3 months (13 issues), $15.75 for 1 year (52 issues).

More readers and advertisers are switching to the Star! Why? One reason is because the Star has the most to read each week — nearly three times as much to read as the other publication. Come, join the switch to the Star.



Early Bird Clearance



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(713) 527-0553

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8 Performances Weekly



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Any Day After 10:00 A.M.

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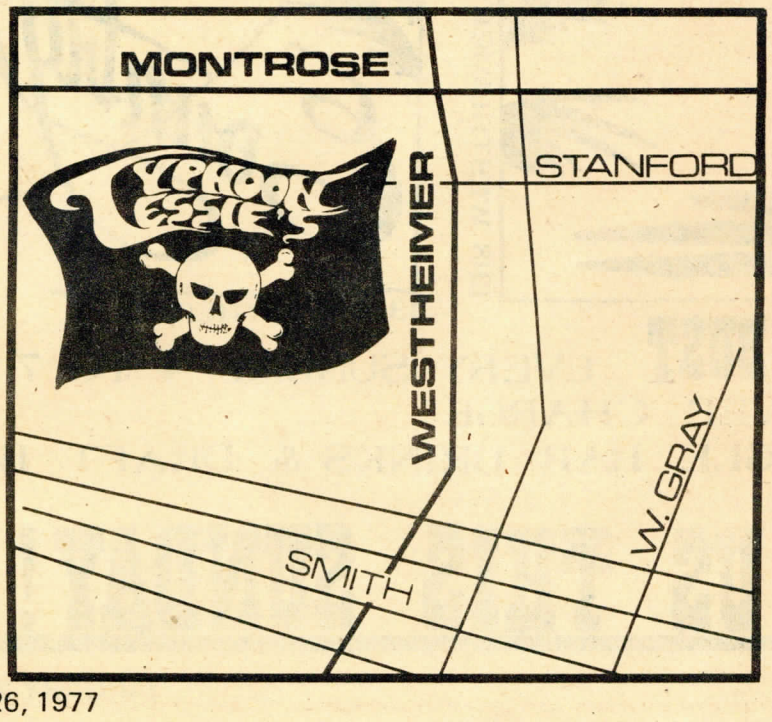
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★ Girls and Boys Welcome ★

HEY! Wanna give us the business?

We can take it - give it to us !

ALL YOUR PRINTING AND GRAPHIC NEEDS

G G PRINTING CO.
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H.B.E.T.*

Ed Trast, popular figure on the Westheimer strip, reports a birthday to the Star. While refusing to disclose his age, he did give out that it falls somewhere in the range of between 30 and 32. Soon to become better known as Typhoon Tessie, Ed gets the Star's birthday wish of the month!

*HAPPY BIRTHDAY
ED TRAST

Mr. Classified

All classified advertising in the Montrose Star is 10¢ a word with a $2 minimum per ad, except ROOMMATE WANTED and FRIENDS categories, which, for a limited time, are free.

Call your Classified in to the Star anytime 9am-6pm Monday through Friday or noon to 6pm Saturday to:

(713) 527-8961

PHOTOS can be run along with your Classified for an additional charge of only $5. We'll run the photo as large as space will permit.

You can also mail Classifieds to the Star. Our Address is:

Montrose Star
900 Lovett
Houston, TX 77006

BLIND BOX CODES can be used when you wish not to put your address or phone number in print. We'll forward all replies immediately, or you can arrange to pick them up at the Star's office.

TO ANSWER A BLIND BOX AD: Seal your message inside an envelope, write the blind box number on the outside of the envelope, put the envelope and $1 to cover handling and postage inside a larger envelope and mail to the Star. You may include as many responses to blind box ads as desired in one larger envelope.

HELP WANTED

Houston: House boy wanted. Will provide room, board and salary to young man willing to accept responsibility of running large townhouse in Galleria area. 782-3115, after 6pm.

Houston: Help wanted, for apt. painting and other light work. 78-4771.

COMMERCIAL SERVICES

Houston: Experienced masculine bartender available for private partys. References. You name it, I can make it. Call 527-8833.

Houston: Bartender (Professional), reliable, references, dependable. Any occasion, private parties. Call for bookings, 527-8929.

Houston: New! The Montrose Maid. References, bonded, reasonable rates. See Mike, 613 Marshal in rear.

MASSAGE

Houston: Massage, muscular correction, body alignment. The best in Houston. 523-1167 for appointment. Evenings.

FOR SALE

Houston: 1967 Classic Cadillac Coupe de Ville. Bred with 1976 Yellow Cab. License KHG-713. Can be seen in Sally's parking lot.

FOR RENT

Houston: In the Heights. One bedroom, carpeted, air, bills paid. $215 mo. 861-1184. Leave message.

Houston: Efficiency in the Heights. Partially furnished. Bills paid. $110. 851-1184. Leave message.

Houston: Near Sally's, 1 bedroom, carpeted, redecorated, pool side. $190 a mo., plus electricity. Security deposit required. No pets. 729-6321.

WANTED TO RENT

Houston: Female 26, new in town looking to rent room in apt. or home. Honest, reliable and can supply references. 522-0020. Serious callers only.

FRIENDS

Houston: Hot, hung, hunk gives expert deep throat French service to well endowed studs. Also into glory hole scenes and other anonymous encounters. Size important-nothing else. Write details to Ray P.O. Box 3645, Houston, TX 77001.

Houston: Don Hrachovy: I think you're the cutest fAggie in Houston! Keep on strokin'! Theo Thunderthighs.

Houston: 2 attractive well-built guys, both with blond hair, blue eyes, look for roommate to share completely furnished 3-bdrm. apt. Includes washer, dryer, dishwasher, covered parking, no deposit, no utility bills. $150. 965-0554 after 6pm.

More readers and advertisers are switching to the Star! Why? One reason is because the Star already has the most readers according to our research and the momentum is building.

Watch out for inflated figures. The Star estimates its readership using a conservative formula. We honestly have an estimated 14,000 readers each week.

Come, join the switch to the Star.

Houston: 40 yr. old w/m needs roommate for my apt. Prefer male between 20-30. Call 528-8559.

Dallas: Male, 38, good looking, very versatile in bed. Professional man, more interested in your mind than your body. Social meeting first. Must be masculine under 60, no fats, fems, drunks, dopers. Charlie 327-1851 only. I answer my telephone only. I hear any recorded message.

Houston: Hot Latin lover, young dude looking for fun & games in exchange for residence in New Orleans during Mardi Gras. 6'1", 150 lbs, 26 yrs. of age, Latin lover. Reply to blind box 506.

Galveston Bay: Need someone 18-35 to share life. Will make right person very happy. Write John, box 5255, San Leon, TX 77539.

Houston: Magnolia Thunderpussy hangs out at the Locker's Loft. Watch out!

Houston: Intelligent & sincere w/professional guy would like to meet someone who would enjoy swappers body, rubs and good times, etc. I am appearing, 33, 5'10", 165 lbs., moderate build, clean cut. If you are an ordinary guy under 30 (not fats, fems, dopers) who would enjoy some good times like yourself. Dave Scott. Box 90676, Houston, TX 77090.

New Orleans: Place to stay Feb. 22-24th, in New Orleans. 22 yrs. old, 6'0", wants to spend time with. TV or TS. Call Jim: 817-753-8215 or write Jim, 2115 Sanger, Waco, Texas, 76708.

Houston: W/m, 21, blond hair, blue eyes, 5'5", 115 lbs., well built, athletic student, would like to share your apt. Please call Joe. 965-0554.

Houston: Middle-aged executive seeking young, handsome, well-built gay youth 18-25. Employment possible for sincere, attractive person. Right person cannot be a doper or alcoholic. Must like the better things in life, not the fast disco scene. Ad 502.

Houston: Houseboy wanted. Neat appearing, personable. Must be willing to carry his part of work load around pad, such as some cooking, laundry, and keeping the apt. clean. Own room & board to start. This is not a fulltime job so you may hold down a fulltime or part time job on the side. Ad 501.

Houston: Businessman wants companionship with others 23 and under. Possible permanent live-in arrangements can be worked out. Ad 500.

The Texas Free Press now has over 500 current gay classified ads. Check with your local bookstore for the new issue. Dealer inquiries invited. Lewis Service Co. (713) 526-6711.

Houston: Gay activits Ray Hill is seeking an attractive, intelligent, even-tempered young man for secondary relationship partner/activist apprentice. Interested persons should submit photograph, resume, description of personal habits, and political/social beliefs to ad 262. Typing ability and lots of spare time helpful. All applications will be considered by selection committee.

THESE CLASSIFIEDS GET INTO THE HANDS OF 14,000 READERS EACH WEEK!

Pasadena, Houston: W/m, 23, brown curly hair, 5'6", 125 lbs., new in Pasadena area, would like to meet other gays or cool people in the area. No S&M's please. Call anytime, ask for Billy, 476-4906. If not home leave message or call back.

Houston: W/m, looking for lover. Who likes dancing, bars & fun. Am looking for male between 18-29, S&M's welcome. Am looking for right person to take care of. Will answer all replys with phone number included. Ad 505.

Houston: Roommate wanted for 2 bedroom duplex. Montrose area behind the Old Plantation. Stop by and look, 2004 Harold.

Houston: W/m, 26, looking to share my one bedroom apt. 643-3843.

Houston: Attractive w/m, 28, wants to meet guys 18-21, for fun and possible lover relationship. Please reply with detailed letter of likes and dislikes and include recent photo if possible. Ad 511.

Texarkana, Arkansas: W/m, 25, 5' 10", 160 lbs., seeks w/m over 50, heavyset to relocate for right man. Life is short and I want to make some older man happy.

Mr. Classified Order Form

Use this form to place a classified with Mr. Classified by mail. Put one *word* on each line, count the words, send 10¢ per word (15¢ per word for bold type) to Mr. Classified, the Montrose Star, 900 Lovett, Houston, TX 77006. *Or, after you've figured out your ad, you can phone it in to (713) 527-8961, 9am-6pm weekdays, noon-6pm Saturday.* There's a minimum charge of $2 per ad. *You may pay for as many weeks as desired, deducting 10% if paying for 5 to 9 weeks, 15% if paying for 10 to 14 weeks, or 25% if paying for 15 or more weeks.* Photos may be run along with your classified for an additional charge of $5 per week. We'll run the photo as large as space will allow.

For a limited time, all classifieds appearing in the "Friends" section are free. To qualify, the ad must not be commercial in any way. No items or services can be offered for sale through "Friends."

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Use additional paper if necessary. *Deadline for issue released Friday is Tuesday noon.*



It's Birthday Time for

Ronnie Sheffield
Gentle Ben
Steve
Jimmy
André



BIG FEB. 5TH BIRTHDAY BLAST AT THE BARN

10AM till...?

HALF A BARBECUE BEEF WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS !!!

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