



The Pacific Center  
for Human Growth

# News Letter

## FEBRUARY 1979

PACIFIC CENTER

LOSES ELIZABETH LAY

Hello and good-bye from Elizabeth Lay, former Director of Educational Services as of Jan. 26. I've been with the Pacific Center for 18 months, and the changes I've seen and experienced both within the gay community and outside of it lead me to conclude that educational services is only just beginning to hit its stride. The campaign to defeat Prop 6 clearly demonstrated the need and effective use of educating a predominantly homophobic public.

In 1978, the Pacific Center Speakers Bureau addressed close to 4000 people in 81 speaking engagements. The audiences ranged from junior high school students, parents, church members, labor unions, state prisoners, army chaplains, to Democrats, radio audiences in the Bay Area, the Alameda Co. School Board, doctors, and nurses. The speaking engagements were filled from a pool of 32 speakers who contributed a total of 155 volunteer hours throughout the year. These speakers came from such diverse backgrounds and professions as computer programmer, architect, writer, psychotherapist, nurse, clerk typist, single parent, dancer, medical consultant, theological student, mineralogist, bartender, dog groomer, library worker, and prison guard. We are, indeed, everywhere!

1978 was a good year, a hard year. The loss of Harvey Milk is immeasurable. So too are his words, "Come out!" Our visibility is crucial if we are to continue educating a homophobic public as to who we are. The Speakers Bureau is a formal structure through which gay people talk with non-gay people. It has been my experience during these 18 months that whenever I talked informally with a non-gay person I experienced the same feelings as addressing a group of 35 high school students, and the results were the same: homophobia thrives on the unknown; by becoming known to whomever I'm speaking with, whether formally or informally, I destroy one myth after another, and instead of being the lesbian conjured up in someone's imagination, I become Elizabeth Lay, person.

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# EDUCATIONAL

# SERVICES

...and from Post-Elizabethan Ed Services:

John David Dupree takes over formally as Director of Educational Services on Feb. 1.

In addition to continuing the vital Speakers Bureau work, John intends to concentrate on institutionalized homophobia (e.g., in media, schools, libraries, churches, government, business, families, the military, etc.)

Libraries have been a primary focus of the Pacific Center since we were instrumental in getting the anti-gay film, "Boys Aware," removed from the Alameda County School Board's film library in Hayward. John has also given testimony about needs of the gay community at both the City of Berkeley and County of Alameda Library Systems, with City of Oakland and Contra Costa County systems yet to be dealt with. The PC is requesting that the most blatant titles - particularly children's literature - be removed to "historical shelves" and replaced with non-sexist volumes, preferably with some positive gay role models. If any of you know of good materials you would like to have us request in our ongoing conferences with the libraries, please call the PC.

Other institutions being negotiated with at this time include Contra Costa College in San Pablo, Concord High School, the Berkeley Psychic Institute, and the UC Medical Schools.

The President of Contra Costa College, Rex Craig, has promised several courses of action after a lengthy PC protest of a police instructor's anti-gay statements at CCC. John dealt unsuccessfully with the instructor, the division head, the associate dean, and the chancellor of the college, but the President came through with the following: (1) the instructor was formally reprimanded; (2) a college-wide forum on homosexuality and homophobia is being set up by the President in the outdoor amphitheater this spring; (3) the President wants to set up anonymous meetings at the PC with the complaining students so he can apologize to them and assess how widespread the homophobia is at CCC; (4) the President is going to send a memo to all faculty and staff reminding them of non-discrimination clauses in existing student grievance handbooks and faculty/staff manuals; and (5) following assessment of the problem, the President wants the PC to assist in incorporating education around homosexuality and homophobia into an ongoing In-Service Staff Development Program.

In much less resolved stages of negotiation, the Concord High School issue concerns high school students who "came out" during the "No on 6" campaign who are now being harassed in the hallways between classes; the Berkeley Psychic Institute issue has to do with complaints received from gay people who were told by the institute's director that they had "bad karma" because they are gay; and the medical schools issue has to do with insuring that medical students get more and better formal training in the physiology and psychology of homosexuality, after increasing numbers of complaints from gay patients about homophobic treatment by area physicians.

The Ed Services Department also intends to continue sending out regular news releases and features to the media in an attempt to combat destructive myths and stereotypes about lesbians and gay men.

Anyone who is aware of homophobic issues/events/news stories, etc., please bring them to the attention of the Pacific Center as soon as possible, so we can help take action to correct discriminatory situations!



**SWITCHBOARD:** Two workshops this month, both basic and recommended for anyone who hasn't had them. Crisis Techniques--Tuesday, Feb. 13, 7:30 at P.C. and Sexuality--men and women, Wed., Feb. 28, 7:30 at P.C. The workshops will be given by Christa Donaldson, director of women's mental health, and Jeff Richards, formerly training director of the Gay National Educational Switchboard.

# MEN'S FEB CALENDAR



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Friday	Saturday
			1	3 Young gay men's rap 1:00pm
5 Gay Men's rap 7:30 pm	6 Gay Men's rap 7:30 pm	7 Married Men's rap 8:00 pm TV/T& Rap 7:30 pm	9	10 Young gay men's rap 1:00pm
12 Gay Men's rap 7:30pm	13 Gay Men's rap 7:30pm Roller skating Event check events board.	14 Married Men's rap 8:00pm Black Gay Sup. Group 7:30pm-	16	17 Young Gay Men's rap 1:00pm
19 Gay Men's rap 7:30 pm	20 Gay Men's rap 7:30 pm	21 Married Men's rap 8:00 pm TV/T& Rap 7:30 pm	23 Men's Advisory Board--EVENT Potluck/Disco BENEFIT 7:30pm	24 Young Gay Men's rap 1:00 pm
26 Gay Men's Rap 7:30 pm	27 Gay Men's Rap 7:30 pm			



# PACIFIC CENTER

## Women's Calendar

# February

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
			1 Slightly Older Lesbian (30+) Rap 7:30pm ----- Women's Bisexuality Rap 7:30pm	2 Open Lesbian Rap 8pm ----- Evan Rubin, 'Oppression of Disabled Women, Pt. 2' \$1.50 8pm	3 Original Music w/ Robin Flower, Nancy Vogl & Joan Balter \$2 9pm
			8 Slightly Older Lesbian (30+) Rap 7:30pm ----- Women's Bisexuality Rap 7:30pm	9 Open Lesbian Rap 8pm ----- Original Songs by Juanita Oribello \$2 8:30	10 Mother Tongue Reader's Theatre 'Sex Roles' script 8pm \$2
<b>SUNDAY</b> Breakaway Wkshp. 'Politics & Spirituality' w/ Margo Adair noon - 5pm (Sliding scale fee)		14 Black Gay Rap 7:30pm	15 Slightly Older Lesbian (30+) Rap 7:30pm ----- Women's Bisexuality Rap 7:30	16 Open Lesbian Rap 8pm	
<b>Politics &amp; Spirituality</b>  Margo Adair 848-3084  In this workshop we will look at the sources of political and spiritual awareness and power, where one hinders the other, where one enhances the other, which is needed for a particular change. We will do this by sharing our own experiences, knowledge and concerns. I will also lead a meditation enabling us to experience our own individual perspectives on these issues from an intuitive level. If need be, the organization of on-going support groups will be facilitated.  Women should bring pillows.  Sunday, February 11, Noon - 5:00 p.m. One day workshop			21 Slightly Older Lesbian (30+) Rap 7:30pm ----- Women's Bisexuality Rap 7:30	22 Open Lesbian Rap 8pm	
		28 Black Gay Rap 7:30pm			

They're getting closer and closer to the end which will just be the beginning for us. The beautiful ole Victorian at 2712 Telegraph Avenue will soon be ready to house all the folks at the Pacific Center. The last word on moving dates is April. Of course, there's still plenty of work that needs to be done. Anyone interested in sheetrocking or painting? You don't need to know how. If so, please contact Barbara or Michaela in the administration office or simply go to the house anytime between 9 and 5, Monday thru Friday. Even an hour or two will be a great help. There will be three floors of offices and we're looking for donations of office furniture and equipment as well as pillows, plants, etc. that will make the house a home. And, please let us know if you have any good leads for obtaining these items. Again, contact Barbara or Michaela. Jim Boland has offered his basement for storage.

THANK YOU!!!

