ELLEFSSEN APPOINTED TO COMMISSION ON AGING.

John Ellefsen was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Commission on Aging. He will represent seniors from the Hayward area of Alameda County. John is secretary of the board of directors and a founding member of Lavender Seniors of East Bay.

John is a sixty-six year old gay man currently living in Hayward. He has lived in the East Bay area for 22 years. He retired about ten years ago, after twenty-one years as a social worker. He worked sixteen years with Alameda County Social Services. Most of those years he was a Child Welfare Worker.

John's interest in aging issues and needs started around the time he turned sixty. Primarily that interest has taken the form of being active with Lavender Seniors of the East Bay.

John attended the monthly meetings of the Advisory Commission as a visitor. He was impressed with the quality of work that both the Commissioners and the Aging Agency staff have been doing. He cites the spirit of friendly cooperation among all. When he learned there was a vacancy on the Advisory Commission from the supervisory district serving Hayward, he decided to apply in hopes of serving better both the aging population in the county in general and his own community.

John writes about the role of the commission on page three of this newsletter.

August Meeting:

Back by popular demand!

Ken Miller is back with one of his delicious expose of the past iniquities of mankind. "Sex and Sin in The Catholic Church," will be the provocative topic of discussion. Ken is always detailed in his heavily documented accounts of the erotic weaknesses of the human race. Ken has been associated with Stanford University and brings a curious and inquiring mind to his subject. So join us on Saturday, August 14th for our potluck at 12:00, a short business meeting at 1:00 and our outstanding speaker.

Volunteer Services Program News.

More thank you's!! Rosamaria Zayas, director of the program, wishes to express her appreciation to the following for their generous contributions of time and energy to the new program:

Beth Little - computer instruction; Loren Javier - computer instruction; Marvin Burrows - office help;

Dot Hallinan - office help; BJ and Meg - Fax Machine
Rosa is requesting all Lavender Seniors to call the office and give them your birthdays. This will assist them in a new "Birthday Club" (It needs a clever name). She also needs phone numbers of attendees and any former attendees of the Lavender Seniors meetings.

There has been a postponement in the "Volunteer Training Orientation Session" (due to summer vacations and prior commitments). New Date: September 11, 1999 9:30 A.M. to Noon; Location: 1395 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577, Main Floor, Orientation Room, Front Entrance. Everyone is invited to attend. Breakfast will be served. So call Dot or Marvin by September 8, 1999. (So there will enough food for everyone).

Lavender Seniors Monthly Pot-Luck will follow the Orientation Session, and all are invited to stay and meet and eat.
Lavender Notes: The newsletter of
Lavender Seniors of East Bay,
P.O. Box 6044,
Fremont, CA, 94538,
Voice Mail: (510) 247-2406

MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of Lavender Seniors of the East Bay is to improve the quality of life of older gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered residents of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties through community outreach, advocacy and education.

Founding Members
Bill Bailie, Doreen Brand, Meg Brunell, Marvin Burrows, Shirley Dennett, John Ellesefn, Dottie Fowler, Beverly Hieckck, Frank Howell, Doris Fischer, Bobbie Jarvis, James Joslin, Barbara Jue, Barbara Konechy, Stella Lopez Armijo, Donna Montgomery, Ina Mae Murri, Camille Sconitino, Don Silva, Margaret Shepherd, Bill Swenon, and Natalie Zarchin

Board of Directors Officers
Dottie Fowler, President
Frank Howell, Vice President
John Ellesefn, Secretary
Bobbie Jarvis, Treasurer

There are no membership dues. All persons over 55, their partners, and guests are welcome.
The cost of mail makes it necessary to request a donation of $12 dollars per year to receive the newsletter. Visitors or persons interested in learning more about Lavenders Seniors may receive the newsletter for three months without charge. None will be turned away for lack of funds.

Lavender Notes is mailed on the first of each month. Entries must be received by the last Sunday of the previous month. Entries may be edited for space or clarity. Send entries to:
Editor, Jim Joslin,
1311 Webster St., E213,
Alameda, CA 94501,
(510) 522-6395,
E-mail: joslin1@gte.net

Monthly Advertisement Rates:
$1 per line
$10 for business card size ads.
Subscribers: Half price.

Short Notes by Sidney Pouffe
- Marvin Burrows sent me this note: "I thought everyone would get a kick out of this quote. "If the automobile had followed the same development cycle as the computer, a Rolls-Royce would today cost $100, get one million miles to the gallon, and explode once a year, killing everyone inside." Robert X. Cringley
- Speaking of Marvin... Did you see his net page? There is a story about a monkey that is amazing...
- If you're old enough to know better, you're too old to do it.
- Pacific Center in Berkeley has a grant to provide a support group for seniors. They are looking for a facilitator to run the program. It will be a mixed group. See the insert on page four in this newsletter.
- Lavender Seniors Board would like to see some one on the Pacific Center board that can represent the interests of seniors. Do you know anyone that would be interested? Contact a LS board member.
- We received this report from Daisy Chainberlin. "Some of us were talking to Jim Joslin last meeting when he informed us that the dessert he brought to the pot luck was from one of his mother's old recipes. Here is is: "you take your check book and go to the bakery." Thanks, Daisy. You can learn a lot in the potluck line.
- Remember, half the people in the world are below average. If ignorance is bliss, why aren't more people happy?
- We got this note from Barbara Jue: "Hi Folks, thought you would like to know that Barbara K's surgery went okay... Thanks for your kind thoughts and concern."
- Dottie Fowler was missing at last month's potluck. She was in Washington state trying to get in touch with the prosaic side of her psychic. She returned in time for the Volunteer Services open house then returned to Washington to meditate again. Actually she is Kayaking in Puget Sound.
- Peggy Alices was leading the "lonely single life" while Bert was on vacation in Illinois visiting family. Did you have fun Peggy? We won't tell.
- Congratulations to raffle winners Jean Godin and Rita Kresha. Jean purchased her ticket at the G/L Film Festival. Rita is a Lavender Senior. Rite donated her prize of $100 back to Lavender seniors. Thank you, Rita.
- A special thanks to Stella Lopez-Armijo who did an outstanding job selling tickets at both nights of the festival. She would approach a baby dike and they would reach for their wallet. It was amazing to watch.
- Stella and her partner and our founding mother, Ina Mae Murri, are off to Utah and Idaho for family and friend visit. They will also taking in a professional women's basketball game in Utah. She says that women's sports are high now after the soccer tournament. "GIRLS RULE"
- Do you know anyone who has a speakers podium that has a microphone installed in it? Would they like to sell it to Lavender Seniors to use at the monthly meetings? Call Ina Mae Murri, (510) 490-5425.
- Our own Don Silva, Mamma Portugal, The Grand Duchess, is stepping down from his reign this month. A Royal Grand Ducal Ball was held July 25. All their events are fund raisers for the gay community. The Lavender Seniors will be well represented at the ball.

Donations needed by Lavender Seniors of East Bay
Donations needed to pay for additional hours for our director of the Volunteer Services Program. The budget allows 20 hours only. She needs to increase your work week to 30 hours.
ATTENTION

Do computers scare you?
Are you about to invest in a computer?
Is the computer at home gathering dust?
Or are you just curious?

Come and Learn what you always wanted to know but never dared ask:

The Computer Made Easy
(a monthly series)

Taught by: LOREN JAVIER,
Interactive Media Director of GLAAD

Call Lavender Seniors at: (510) 667-9655 or John Ellefsen, (510) 583-9638
to register and for more info.

DATES AND TIME TO BE DETERMINED

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

--

NO ON KNIGHT

--

ORGANIZING MEETING

AUGUST 7TH
EAST BAY

Contact information:
Telephone: 415-227-1020
505 Howard Street
San Francisco
Email: StopKnight@aol.com

Volunteers needed now
Lavender Notes

We Get Mail

Editor: I will be away for three weeks, stopping in Helsinki and Tallinn, Estonia for three days each. Then, on to St. Petersburg to board a ship. For two weeks, I'll be on the ship, going ashore to see the sights. Maybe, there'll be some sights on board, too (I'd better not look in a mirror). We (the tour group) will be in St. Pete for four days and in Moscow four three days. There'll be some cruising (of course), on the lakes, rivers and canals of Russia during which time we are supposed to be taught some Russian, some culture and some history of Russia. We will also be entertained aboard ship. We will be stopping to go ashore for various lengths of time from just a few hours to whole days.

One of the sights I am most anxious to see is the Church of the Transfiguration on Kizhi Island. It is very old, has twenty-two domes and is completely wooden and without a nail or bolt. There is an international fund raising campaign to preserve it. There will be at least one evening theatrical or musical performance in St. Pete and a night at the Moscow Circus. There are other optional activities, but I have not yet signed up for them. I have to wait to how much stamina I have....

Regards, Gerson Goodkind
Ed. Note: Sounds like a wonderful trip. Have a good time, Gerson. Write us again when you return. We would be interested in your experiences and impressions of what you saw.

Editor: Ch. 2 TV news is reporting tonight (Sunday, July 4) that the Mormon Church hierarchy in Salt Lake City has sent letters individually to every member of that denomination in California asking them to contribute time and money "to make sure that the initiative to prohibit gay marriages in California" is successful. Of course the letter also urges them to vote for the ban. It was also reported in the Sunday San Francisco Chronicle Examiner.

-- Barbara Jue

Hi folks: It is really great to see so many of my tidbits in the newsletter. However, you have one item which needs corrections. The GLOBE fund raiser had two very important volunteers serving the tables. None of Barbara's grandchildren were assisting. She had one daughter in the kitchen, but the larger part of the effort was borne by three really wonderful guys: Shaun Souter, Marvin Burrows and Robb Crowder. Without their enormous help, we could not have had such a successful event. Please correct the article and run it in the newspaper so that they may see it and our thanks to them for their wonderful, wonderful help. Thanks, -- Barbara Jue

Ed. Note: We understand this may be an annual event. Great idea.

Lavender Seniors: On behalf of my wife, Sue, and myself, I wish to say "Thank you" for your great "OPEN HOUSE" on Friday, June 18th. I shall look forward to seeing members of Lavender Seniors of the East bay at our Commission on Aging meetings.

Best Regards, Don Nelson, Member, Commission on Aging, Alameda County Board of Supervisors

Ed. Note: We heard Mr. Nelson was nervous about attending and brought his wife for protection. Now he is a supporter. Good Job, Lavender Seniors.

Dear Mr. Jolson: In reference to the July 99 Lavender Notes, Page 2, "Short Notes" column, you refer to Jerry Holmes at the bottom paragraph. There is a Jerry Holmes and SHE belongs to the Lavender Seniors and there is a Jerry Hyman and HE too is a member.

I believe you were referring to Jerry Hyman and HIS trip to Glasgow and Edinburgh. My one chance for fame and you didn't use my last name!

This is the second time for the error referring to my last name. If it happens again, there will be hell to pay!! I would appreciate a correction, if you please, Miss Jolson, I mean Joslin.

Sincerely, Jerry Hyman.

Ed. Note: I have discussed the error with Sidney Poufle. Sidney reminded me that competence was not a prerequisite for working on Lavender Notes. Willingness is the only requirement. Sidney did not know, as I do, that Jerry Holmes is an intelligent, sophisticated woman who would have very different reports about a trip to Scotland.

Sorry Jerry and Jerry

The Afternoon Group

for seniors, disabled folks and others

Interested in meeting people who enjoy afternoon activities like you do? Join us!

Wednesdays
1:30-3:30pm

Pacific Center is offering a new support and social group for people who prefer to join afternoon activities. This group is for both men and women and will include games, hobbies, discussions, and support.

Pacific Center
2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley
510-548-8283
pcvolunteers@gay.net
www.pacificcenter.org

$5-10 sliding scale donation requested. No one turned away for lack of funds.

HAYWARD GAY CENTER PLANNED

A Town Hall Meeting for the GLBTQ Community was held about starting GLBTQ Community Center in Hayward. Special Guest Speakers were Hayward Mayor, Roberta Cooper and Hayward City Council Member, Kevin Dowling. Mayor Cooper assured the group about the city’s support for the creation of the Community Center. Council Member Dowling spoke about how the idea for the Community Center came about, where we are now and future directions. A "Name the Center" contest was started. For more information, call CommPre at (510) 247-8208
BOOK REVIEW
by Frank Howell

Columbia Reader on Lesbians & Gay Men in Media, Society, and Politics
Edited by Larry Gross & James Woods
Columbia University Press, paperback

How delicious it is to wallow joyously in a big fat paperback of over six hundred pages of the best gay reporting and thinking since the end of World War II.

These historic articles roam widely over time from a 1947 Newsweek article, "Homosexuals in Uniform," to Cardinal Ratzinger's "Letter to The Bishops of the Catholic Church on the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons." Larry Gross and James Woods, both Professors of Communications, have given us the satisfying gift of historical perspective and exposing us to little known research on gay pockets of complex human interest.

Let's take a quick and tempting sampling:
"Abominable Sin: The Spanish Campaign Against Sodomy And It's Results in Modern Latin America," by Walter Williams. (God. punished the Indians with small pox).
"How To Bring Your Kids Up Gay: The War on Effeminate Boys" by Eve Sedwich.
"Who Hid Lesbian History?" by Lillian Faderman;

"Gay and Lesbian Publishing Boom" by William Mann;
"Gay Teachers Make Their Lives Whole Again" by Deb Price
"Uptight on Gay News: Can The Straight Press Get The Gay Story Straight" by Randall Pierson
"Why Outing Must Stop" by C, Cam
"The Advocate: Setting The Standard For The Gay Liberation Press" by Roger Streitmatter
"We're Teen, We're Queer, and We've Got E-mail" by Steve Silberman
"Here Comes The Groom: A (Conservative) Case For Gay Marriage" by Andrew Sullivan
"Blacks and Gays: Healing The Great Divide" by Barbara Smith

Read and enjoy. There is something here for all views and tastes. The Columbia Reader will stretch your intellectual horizons and cause all of us to think deeply about our rich and turbulent past.

CREATING CHANGE CONFERENCE IN OAKLAND

Oakland and Bay Area activists are gearing up for the Twelfth Annual Creating Change Conference, the country's largest and most exciting annual gathering of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender movement. Creating Change 1999 will take place at the Oakland Marriott City Center Hotel, November 10-14. The annual conference is expected to attract over 2200 activists and organizers from around the country.

This year's Creating Change Conference will be greatly influenced by its location in Oakland. Because California is preparing for the Knight Initiative vote in 2000, a special training entitled "Defeat Knight: Door-Knock in Your Community" will teach the electoral skill and the human art of door-to-door voter identification and persuasion.

The 1999 Conference is also supported by the Pacific Center for Human Growth of Berkeley, which will serve as the anchor organization for the Host Committee. In this capacity, the Pacific Center will assist the Host Committee by providing a postal address, financial and accounting services, and additional outreach to the community.

To learn how to get involved with the 1999 Creating Change Host Committee, call 510/834-6333. For more information about the Creating Change Conference, call 202/332-6483, ext. 3329 or visit www.creatingchange.org.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:
Conference Registration: $150 includes Conference Registration PLUS one pre-conference institute on either Wednesday or Thursday. Conference Registration plus two Pre-conference Institutes - $175 Includes Conference Registration PLUS two pre-conference institutes on Wednesday or Thursday.

http://www.creatingchange.org creatingchange@ngltf.org
CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

August 10  Tuesday - 6:30 p.m. - Board of Directors
ALL WELCOME!! Meeting at at Harry’s Hof Brau at 14th and Hesperian Blvd., San Leandro, (Across from Bay Fair)

August 14  Saturday - 12 Noon  MONTHLY MEETING

Sex and Sin in
The Catholic Church
Speaker: Ken Miller

Meeting at
San Leandro Community Church, 1395 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro

If your name begins with the letters
A through H - Bring a Main Dish
I through P - Bring a Salad
Q through Z - Bring a Dessert

San Leandro BART station shuttle is available.
Call voice mail: 247-2406 to arrange pickup.

SECOND SUNDAY - 5:30 - 8:30 P.M. - FELLOWS OF EAST BAY
Social Club for mature men and their admirers. Monthly Potluck dinner and social held the second Sunday of every month at the Parish Hall, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church (No affiliation), 1823 9th Street, Berkeley. Bring $3 door charge and food or drink to share.

VARIOUS DATES - WOMEN OVER FIFTY AND FRIENDS
WOFF, a social club for lesbians, has an active social schedule. Monthly potluck/planning meeting the first Saturday of each month at 6 p.m. For information, contact Barbara Konecny or Barbara Jue, 508 Broadmore, San Leandro, (510) 633-0398.