

Portlander rescues Seattle TV program

by Jay Brown

A member of the Portland Chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, William Shepherd, was recently interviewed for a public affairs program on a Seattle television station. Mr. Shepherd was invited to appear on a segment of the program *Friends and Lovers* because the program's producer was unable to find a father of a lesbian or a gay man who would talk about being the parent of a gay child.

"There was no father in Seattle willing to appear on our show," said Ellen Lockert, producer of the KING-TV program. "None of my friends knew anyone. And none of the advocacy groups could find anyone to do it, either."

Concerned with relationships of all kinds, *Friends and Lovers* is moderated by sociologist Pepper Schwartz, co-author with Phil Blumstein of *American Couples*. Relationships recently examined on the program include working couples, breaking up, adolescent sexuality, and working wife and house-husband.

Mr. Shepherd was interviewed for a forthcoming segment "Growing Up Gay." Mr. Shepherd and his wife, Ann, are the parents of long-time civil rights activist, Susie Shepherd. The Shepherds are founding members of the Portland Chapter of Parents of Gays.

Asked to comment on his Seattle experience at a recent meeting of Parents/FLAG in Portland, Mr. Shepherd said he was surprised that, "in the whole city of Seattle, there was no person willing to have his mug on TV."

"For parents of gays, the reprisal factor is awful," Ann Shepherd said during discussion concerning problems facing parents of gays and lesbians.

Mr. Shepherd said moderator Schwartz asked general questions about his reactions to "having a gay child" and for suggestions for parents on how "to love a gay child."

KBOO news internship offered

Community Radio KBOO is beginning an intensive four month non-paid internship program in public radio news production. Five participants will be selected in a com-

petitive application process to take weekly classes and become a working member of the KBOO News Department.

The course of study will cover writing for radio, interviewing technique, voice, story formulation, and radio production. Classes will be held Tuesday mornings between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Interns will spend an additional three hours each week working on the daily newscast.

Internships will be supervised by KBOO Information Director Ross Reynolds. He has worked in community radio news for the past eight years and WCUW Worcester, Mass., KMXT Kodiak, Alaska, Pacifica National News Washington, D.C. He has attended the National Public Radio News Reporter Workshop and his work has been heard on the Alaska Public Radio Network, National Public Radio, and Pacifica National News.

Applicants for the internship program must be able to type and have a broad knowledge of international, national, and local affairs. They will be expected to spend five hours each week on the program.

The Internship program will begin September 18th and run through December 21st.

For information and an application form contact Ross Reynolds at KBOO, 20 S.E. 8th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97214. (503) 231-8032, (503) 231-8187.

Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

New telephone referral in works

by Jay Brown

The Portland telephone book contains three listings which might help a gay or lesbian seeking contacts with the local community. *Might* is the operative word here, because two of the number (*Gay Civil Rights Reports* Portland Town Council 227-2765 and *Gay Speakers Bureau* Town Council Foundation 227-8290) are no longer in service.

Another listing is operational between the hours of 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. (*Gay Hotline* Counseling Center for Sexual Minorities 227-8290). The Counseling Center for Sexual Minorities (CCSM) has been providing telephone outreach since the mid-seventies. According to Daryl Lindley, CCSM co-chair the hotline receives an average of five calls per evening. CCSM is staffed by a cadre of

volunteers.

A group of people in the lesbian and gay community have been meeting recently for the purpose of exploring ways to provide a telephone referral service during daytime hours. The group, Community Services Committee (CSC), met for the second time on August 14 and agreed that a staff person be hired to provide such a service. The committee members further agreed that the person hired be associated with an existing community service organization, such as Phoenix Rising, MCC, CCSM, etc.

"There is a pressing need for this kind of a service," said Deborah Betron, co-chair with

Joe Maher, of CSC. "The community can certainly handle this. We need to get working on it."

The extended referral service, although now in the initial planning stages, may be operational by January, according to Betron. As envisioned by CSC, the service would be operational between the hours of 10 a.m. and five p.m., with a forwarding number after normal business hours.

CSC is encouraging full community participation in this project. The next meeting of CSC will be on Tuesday, September 11, at 7:30 p.m., at MCC, NE 24th and Broadway.



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