

"Revolutionary integration," Boot says

by W.C. McRae

For the social movements which evolved in the 1960s, the '70s "were a time to reorganize," and, according to Tom Boot, now in the 1980s, those separate liberation movements "must find new allies." Boot, a black, gay social activist from San Francisco, spoke at a forum on "revolutionary integration," advocating further linkage between the black, feminist, gay and labor movements. The forum was sponsored by the Socialist Freedom Party and Portland Radical Women.

According to Boot, the revolutionary implication of the '60s black civil rights movement was channeled in the '70s to "reformism" and "black nationalism." "Reformism promised that enhanced voting power (and the presence of power-broking national black leaders) would lead to social change through enhanced political power." By so doing, the black movement limited itself to the provisional freedoms of the white establishment it buys into. Black nationalism or separatism, by its desire to be in control, to be first, to be certain of its own superiority, is merely a mis-

applied white need: "suddenly everyone has at center a white person who needs to be in control."

The signal failure of both avenues leading out of the '70s was that as liberation strategies, both continue to oppress the black woman and gay people of color, who were in many ways the original movers in the civil rights movement.

As black male militance and separatism turned increasingly to super-macho self-deification (Boots quotes Stokely Carmichael: "The only position for women in the movement is prone"), "black women increasingly fled the movement and turned to feminism."

Black feminism, according to Boot, speaks out against the intertwined realities of race, sex and sexual orientation, and class oppression, because the black woman experiences herself "as a member of the most oppressed class, gender, race, and of-ten, orientation."

"Racism and sexism are ploys to keep people divided — nothing so threatens overlords as a united working class," and Boot looks to black feminists for the leadership in the struggle for race and sex equality. He sees the form of leadership to be one of alliance between all minorities. "Leadership comes from you and I speaking out for all who are oppressed."



Radical Faeries to gather in February

For the sixth year, a gathering of radical faeries of the Northwest will meet at their traditional site at a secluded hot springs in the foothills of the Cascades southeast of Portland.

The gathering will occur the weekend of February 14-17, 1986 (President's Day weekend). Preregistration is necessary and will be limited to the first 100 received. Organizers will not accept walk-ins because of limited space. Registration deadline is January 15, 1986.

In past gatherings, men have shared in circles and workshops on such topics as Relationships, Healing, Yoga, Feathers and Leathers, and Gay/Faerie History. Participants

are urged to bring their own ideas for workshops, etc., they would like to join or lead.

For inquiries or to obtain a registration form write to: 1717 NW Glisan, Portland, OR 97209.

The idea of faerie gatherings originated with longtime gay activist Harry Hay. Harry's concept of gays as spiritual beings has had a major impact on the relationships between many gay men since the early seventies. Harry, a founder of the Mattachine Society, has attended many gatherings and shared his insights and history with many of us.

Gatherings have traditionally been a place for participants to feel safe and a time to share those special sparks which make faeries what we are. And a time and place to come out.



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Lesbian and Gay Pride workshop held

by Steve Fredrick

On November 27th, Portland's delegates to the International Conference of Lesbian and Gay PRIDE Coordinators reported to the community during a public workshop at the Main Library.

Cathy Schmitz and Mark Pan told those in attendance about the various workshops and activities that took place at the three day conference in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. They shared information regarding activities in other cities across the U.S. and Canada as well as announcing plans for the local Lesbian and Gay Pride celebration in Portland.

The conference delegates selected "FORWARD TOGETHER" as the international theme for Lesbian and Gay Pride activities. Schmitz explained that the delegates urged cities to incorporate the theme in each of their celebrations and to make it reflective of each individual city.

The conference delegates also established June 28th as International Gay Day. Pan reported about national efforts to establish the day as a recognized international holiday to coincide with the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots.

The 1985 Lesbian and Gay Pride Steering Committee sponsored the workshop. The Steering Committee presented the annual

financial report and announced plans for a Community Meeting January 9, 1986 to begin the Preparation for the Lesbian and Gay Pride celebration. The Meeting will be at the Main Library, 7-8 p.m.

Lesbian co-host found!

Queersville, the new Lesbian/Gay radio show being developed at KBOO-FM, has found a Lesbian Co-host. Michelle Fisher will co-produce the 1/2-hour program with Howie Bierbaum. The tentative air date for the 1st installment will be late January, although no definite slot has been set in KBOO's schedule. In the meantime, Howie and Michelle will get underway with initial production work: selecting a theme song, writing skits and organizing a cast for "Gays of Our Lives," a satirical radio drama. *Queersville* will be a lively combination of news, interviews, comedy and music with a large helping of irreverence thrown in for good measure. Anyone interested in helping out with production should contact Howie at 236-2536.