

Metaphysical gays

To the Editor:

I very much enjoy reading each issue of *Just Out*. It keeps getting better and better. Your efforts and fine work are appreciated. I look forward to finding a copy each month.

I was very much drawn to your current issue, having Tarot cards depicted on the cover. However, while I enjoyed the Spirituality: Altaring Sensations article, I would at some point in the future, enjoy an article on gays who are truly into meta-

physics.

Something exploring Portland's pagan groups would also be of interest (I feel pagans are one aspect of the full spectrum of the esoteric wisdoms).

I am enclosing this letter in the first issue of *The Silver Pegasus*; you may find some of the articles of interest. Being both gay and a metaphysician, I find the two worlds are finally beginning to blend for many of us.

Highlights and Lowlifes by Laguna Bitch & Tippi were excellent. A good reminder of the past year, and how humor-

ously absurd life can be. Hopefully they will write more.

Also, if they are not aware of it, it may be of interest to them that "Terry" Dolan

died recently.

Best wishes and a fulfilling '87 to you.

E. Charles Engel

Who needs empty promises?

To the editor:

Did anybody else have as tough a time as I [sic] did, trying to donate a Christmas gift to a person with AIDS (PWA) through the CAP/City Week program?

It was a wonderful, charitable idea, spread across City Week's front pages in mid-December.

And so I tried. Honest, I did. Being new in town, I didn't personally know anybody in need. Also, I didn't want to give something redundant. A gift collection was the perfect solution.

So I called someone at the CAP office on Dec. 17 to ask what was needed most. He referred me to City Week. They're organizing it, he said.

Three unreturned phone messages later, on Dec. 23, I stopped by CW's offices to ask someone in person about the program. The man I spoke to said there was no one in to handle donors' calls, but he assured me somebody would call back if I would leave my name and number. (A fourth message? OK.)

Guess what! No one has called back. And it's Dec. 26.

It's bad enough for PWAs to suffer. But who needs the added aggravation of empty, bungled promises?

Whoever organized this holiday gift program (and I'm still trying to find out who's in charge of it) has it backwards. You're supposed to make it easy to donate to a charitable cause, not impossible.

Someone royally dropped the ball.

Sincerely,
David McCartney

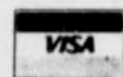
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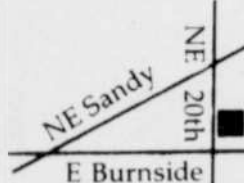
Clarice Johnston, DMD

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C O M M E N T A R Y

The Great Peace March

B Y A M Y S M I T H

My sister, Rebecca Smith, walked 3,700 miles in THE GREAT PEACE MARCH FOR GLOBAL NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT. My mother and I joined the march for the last three days as the original 600, plus several thousand newcomers, marched triumphantly into Washington D.C. on November 15th. Eight thousand people attended a final rally in front of the Lincoln Memorial. Speakers and singers at rallies throughout the day included Dr. Benjamin Spock, Carl Sagan, Pete Seeger, Sweet Honey in the Rock, and Holly Near, among others.

Three thousand people began the walk March 1st in Los Angeles under the direction of PRO-Peace. PRO-Peace went bankrupt waiting for enough funds to cross the Mojave Desert but 600 determined marchers incorporated as a self-governed mobile tent city they named The Great Peace March. The peace city travelled across America to revive the peace movement and call for global nuclear disarmament, a test ban, and a halt to unsafe nuclear power.

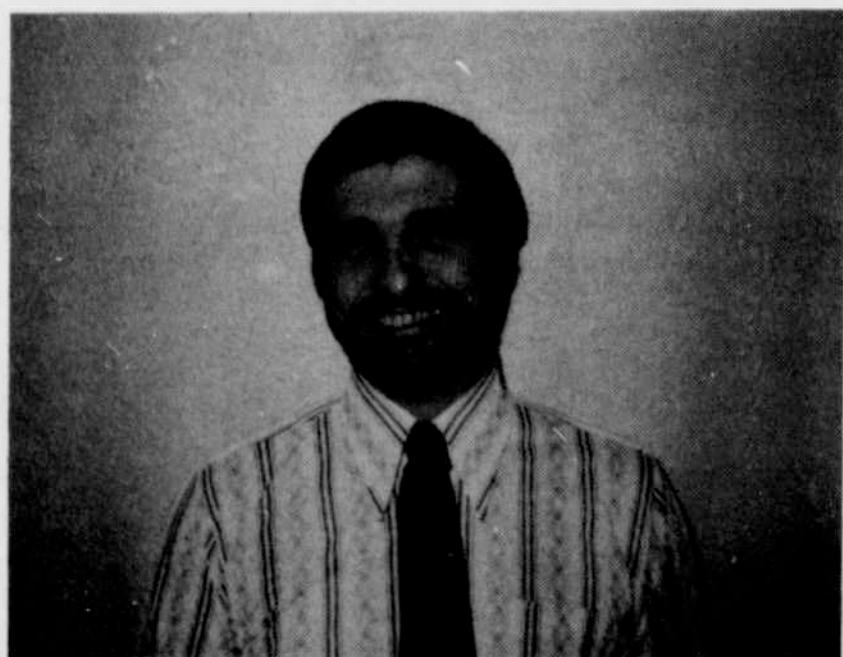
Hard work by each and every participant, constant fundraising and many support vehicles made "peace city" a reality. They travelled across America walking 15-25 miles per day and camping in church yards, state parks, and coliseum grounds.

Four semi trucks carried all the gear (tents, clothes, guitars . . .). Three porta-potty trucks, affectionately named Daisy, Rose and Lilac, became the one place marchers had privacy, and media trucks, the kitchen trailers, and numerous other vehicles supplied day to day necessities.

Life went on during the nine months of the march. Each child in the march attended school on one of three reclaimed school busses. The oldest person held his 89th birthday party on the march route. There were several marriages, two deaths and two births.

The "Wimin's Village," "the Anarchists" and other less than mainstream groups participated in teaching tolerance and acceptance to the diverse group of marchers. The marchers certainly taught more than nuclear disarmament to small town and big city residents they encountered on the way; direct conversation was the most interesting, inspiring and educational facet of the march for everyone. Rebecca recalls the diversity of America and the friendliness of the people as high points of her trip.

As the Great Peace March disbands, plans for a peace march through Florida this winter and an international march to Moscow through the U.S.S.R. next year are under way. Marchers ask us to join them in the greater peace march by working for peace in our homes, in our cities, and our world.



Oregon gay activist Billy Russo

has filed for the March 3 election to the Winston-Dillard School Board.

Billy's column, The Roseburg Report, has appeared in *Just Out* since the newspaper first began publishing three years ago.

He has been instrumental in developing the Southern Oregon gay community and has been continuously open and vocal about issues in the gay/lesbian community and in the Southern Oregon area.

Billy is highly respected by many citizens as well as community leaders in Winston, Oregon, and he has an excellent chance of winning this school board seat.

We urge you to send your contributions to:

Friends of Billy Russo
P.O. Box 942
Dillard, OR 97432

This ad paid for by *Just Out* and Friends of Billy Russo

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