



on Saturday MAY 14, 1988 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday MAY 15, 1988 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

at Westminster Presbyterian Church 1624 N.E. Hancock Street Portland, Oregon 97212

Organized and sponsored by CAEL

For more information: 287-7922 Registration forms available at Catbird Seat Bookstore, A Woman's Place Bookstore, Longfellows, and Center of Light Bookstore Fee \$40



ist news

Community giving

As the needs of the community grow and the contributor lists become larger, the focus on individual generosity is sometimes lost

BY HAROLD MOORE

G ay and lesbian community-based organizations received a quarter million dollars in contributions from individuals last year. Cascade AIDS Project, Right to Privacy PAC and Phoenix Rising Foundation, three groups that provide a substantial portion of the services, support and political activism in Portland's lesbian and gay community, accounted for a majority of that support. All three groups have long-standing and growing contributor lists, and support for their issues appears to be widespread and constant.

As the needs of the community grow and the contributor lists become larger, the focus on individual generosity is sometimes lost. Bill Dickey, a businessman and supporter of a wide range of community causes, discussed with *Just Out* his philosophy on giving, his lifestyle and how both affect his business.

Bill is a 32-year-old single man who has never been married and does not have children. "I've never really thought about whether people knew about my sexuality. In the straight community, I'm judged by who I am and on my ability to do what I say I can do. My lifestyle really plays no role in my business.

"The first time I went into the community to gather support for a gay/lesbian cause I was really surprised that I found so much support in the straight community. The fact that I was confident in asking for support really seemed to make a difference with the businesspeople I went to. Ever since, if I was convinced of the soundness of the project or need, I could count on the support of the community in general.

"I really believe that we gays and lesbians must see ourselves as members of a broader community so that our community will be able to function as a part of the larger group. So many people only want to see out to the end of their noses. Believe me, there's an entire world out there to get involved with. Need has no lifestyle boundaries.

"Last year my partners and I gave about \$20,000 to various events and causes. Some of that was in cash, but most of it was in donated time, supplies and facilities. The only difference in this type of giving compared to individual donations is that you don't really see the money before you give. But the impact is no different." Sanford Director's 50th birthday party accounts for a major portion of the increase.

"Sanford was under a great deal of pressure to produce a really great party. I know the feeling. The outcome of working under such pressure can be frayed relationships. But most importantly, the Montgomery Park experience was spectacular. It opened doors into the straight community that needed to be opened.

"I had not really understood, until the party, how much support and clout Sanford could draw upon in the mainline Portland social structure. The party was a true crossover event.

"When times are good, it's time to give and to give as much as you can. Oh, I'm no dummy, you can't give yourself into bankruptcy. But when times get rough, it's the accumulated good will that you have to draw on to make it. I'm confident that the Dakota Cafe is building a strong good will account.

"I have always been a giver, all the way back to high school in Medford. But it really has been magnified since the death of my friend Harvey George."

George was an employee of Dickey's several years ago at the Virginia Cafe. Eventually he came to work at the Dakota, where his ability to produce was depended on heavily. "When Harvey left Portland, he left me for love," said Dickey. "I felt almost like someone had stolen him from me. We were really close. Then he was diagnosed. There was nothing for me to do. There was nothing I could do. Harvey was a strong character in all ways, and here he was, here we were, strength had nothing to do with it. Harvey died."

Dickey promised himself that he would intensify his support of AIDS-related causes in memory of his friend, with the hope that one day his personal commitment will make a difference. "I want the world to be a better place. Sometimes you have to accept some of the responsibility yourself," he said.

Dickey is not only well-known for his personal generosity, he is also known in the city for his ability to raise funds. "Asking for money has always been easy for me. I know that this raises eyebrows in some quarters, but it's just easy for me. It just makes sense that if you can't do it yourself, you go out and get help." What does Bill Dickey want the community to know about him? "That I'm really a nice guy. Insecure, with my share of problems, but above all, I care."

This year the Dakota Cafe and its partners has an increased budget for giving, Dickey said.

Barbara G. Isaacs, Ph.D.

Incest and Childhood

(503) 248-0775 2250 NW Flanders, Suite 312

Portland, OR 97210

Supervisor, Sandra Pinches, Ph.D.

Adult Children of

Depression

Trauma

Alcoholics

Relationships
Ethnic Identity

Psychologist Resident



Professional Insurance for Portland since 1937

COMMERCIAL PERSONAL LIFE & HEALTH

Downey Insurance Agency 610 SW Broadway Portland, Oregon 97205 (503) 228-8327

Just Out 8 May 1988