

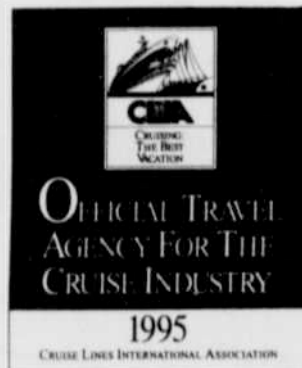


**Carnival.**  
**4 NIGHT GETAWAY**

Cruise out of L.A. to Catalina Island, Ensenada and back to L.A.

Departure every Monday—3 nights also available—  
from \$349 ppdo\*

\*plus air and port charges



Our leisure experts will help you plan your vacation, Christmas Vacation, Wedding and more! GIVE US A CALL!



Wayne Boulette

Pick up  
Just out  
here!



PARKING  
VALIDATED



"always park smartly"



Michael Scott

One SW Columbia  
Suite 1010  
Portland,  
OR 97258

(503) 227-3639

FAX  
(503) 227-0602

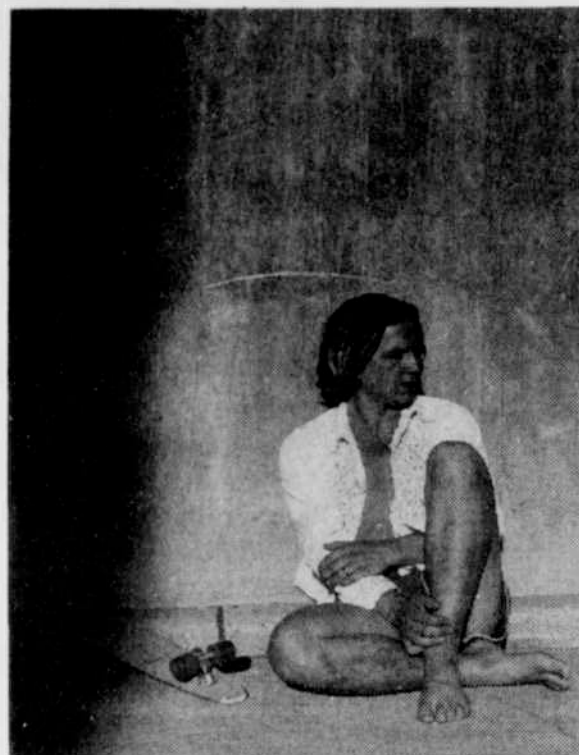
1-800-248-0624



David Tarver

All fares & rates subject to change • Some restrictions apply.

**MIKONI**  
TRAVEL SERVICE



**Pro Lab N.W. Inc.**  
133 SE Madison  
Portland, OR 97214

503-231-1599

FULL SERVICE  
CUSTOM PHOTO LAB

**HAMID'S**  
**PERSIAN RUGS**

Portland's Finest Selection of  
New/Old Persian & Other  
Oriental Rugs, Tribal Kilims,  
Bags & Pillows

WE BUY OLD RUGS

248-9511

901 SW WASHINGTON ST.  
Mon-Sat 10-6 Sun 12-5



The  
**See Vue**

Lodging—where mountain meets the sea

95590 Highway 101  
6.2 miles south of  
Yachats, Oregon 97498  
(503) 547-3227

**local news**

**Time not right**

*Believing that voters aren't ready for a proactive initiative, Basic Rights Oregon stays on the defensive*

by Inga Sorensen

**J**ulie Davis, executive director of Basic Rights Oregon, says the human rights group will not push a proactive initiative that could protect gay men and lesbians from discrimination.

"I know there have been a lot of people calling for a proactive initiative, but our polling shows that people who generally voted against Measure 9 and Measure 13 would also be inclined to vote against a proactive initiative. We had pondered the idea, but we've decided against it."

Basic Rights Oregon, formerly the No on 13 Committee and Support Our Communities Political Action Committee, held its campaign kick-off this spring. Unlike its predecessors, which were created to counter specific state-wide and local anti-sexual-minority initiatives, Basic Rights Oregon is a long-term, year-round operation whose mission is to "build a movement to advance and protect democratic freedoms, and civil and human rights; build the broadest possible coalition to counter activities of groups such as the Oregon Citizens Alliance; [and] defeat attempts to deny basic rights through the electoral process."

Earlier this year, Basic Rights Oregon said it was considering a proactive measure which read, in part: "The initiative power reserved to the people... does not include the power to repeal or limit rights and liberties guaranteed by the Oregon Bill of Rights.... Those rights [include] Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Assembly and Freedom of Religion. No ballot title shall be issued nor shall an election be held on any initiative petition if the measure proposed by the petition includes matters that fall outside the scope of the initiative power."

"Our polling found that people were confused by the wording," says Davis.

Jann Carson, associate director of the Portland chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, which helped draft the wording, says, "Basic Rights Oregon is doing what it thinks is best. I think polling shows while Oregonians don't think the initiative process is perfect, they're not yet ready to change it. By and large they want to keep it intact."

A similar measure was considered this past session by state lawmakers. The bill would have allowed the Oregon Constitution's Bill of Rights to be amended only by the referendum process, not the initiative process. An initiative consists of a procedure whereby a certain percentage of voters may, by petition, propose a law or constitutional amendment to be placed on the ballot for voter approval or rejection. Referendum, meanwhile, allows questions to be submitted to voters on the judgment of the legislature. Unable to push anti-sexual-minority rights measures through the Oregon Legislature, the OCA has effectively used—and some would say abused—the initiative process to further its agenda. The bill received a hearing but died in committee.

Though the group won't be touting the virtues of its own initiative, Basic Rights Oregon will have its hands full. Davis says the OCA has filed eight

anti-sexual-minority-rights initiatives that would permanently legalize discrimination against gay men and lesbians. Those measures are poised for the November 1996 general election ballot.

"Oregonians have twice before rejected state-wide anti-gay initiatives, and we're very encouraged that citizens say they do not believe it's OK to discriminate against people in employment due to sexual orientation," says Davis. "What we're also finding, however, is that many people still don't know that it's perfectly legal for a gay person to be fired because of their sexual orientation. There's still a great deal of education that needs to be done."

According to Davis, Basic Rights Oregon has



Julie Davis

launched an aggressive house meeting strategy where participants learn more about OCA strategies and pledge not only to vote against anti-human-rights measures, but to work to inform others about the threat posed by groups such as the OCA.

Davis says 2,000 pledge cards have been sent out thus far, and the group hopes to connect with a solid support base of 200,000 voters during the next several months. Basic Rights Oregon also hopes to raise \$500,000 by the end of 1995 to use going into the 1996 campaign season. Davis had estimated it would cost at least \$4 million to simultaneously run a proactive and a reactive campaign.

"The work we're doing now is the neighbor-to-neighbor, nitty-gritty work. It may not be sexy, but it's the type of work the OCA has been good at. It's the type of work that is effective and necessary," she says.

Davis says several house meetings are planned through August and September. Anyone interested in hosting a house meeting or becoming involved in the campaign should contact Basic Rights Oregon at 222-6151.

PHOTO BY LINDA RUEVER