

CCF

UPDATE

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**Large, Small
Groups Use Center**

Who's using the Center? Plenty of Organizations both large and small. One of the largest recently has been the Candidate Forum for the Fifth District sponsored by the Lambda Rights Network. Another large group was the Mid-West Gathering of the Oberons which brought people from all over the area. The Center was used for registration, meals and social gatherings for an entire weekend.

The Saturday Softball League has found that meeting there has made their meetings shorter and more businesslike as opposed to back-rooms of bars as they did formerly. Dignity, and the New Hope MCC Church have regularly scheduled services and/or meetings there. The Pride Celebration has had numerous meetings to get our two week celebration underway.

Almost every other Gay/Lesbian organization has at one time or another used the facilities and more are finding, that especially, the businesslike Peter Johnson Conference Room is just right for getting down to business and effectively meeting.

Foundation Community Center

- ...Large New Meeting Room
Being Readied**
- ...New Expanded Hours**
- ...Gains Business Support**
- ...Progress Continues**

Major advances in developing the Foundation Community Center located at 225 S. 2nd St. on your behalf were announced on July 24th.

The Center will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. as Shalom Business Services moves in to man the morning hours. Office services can thus be obtained by any organization or individual.

New floor tiles have been donated to redo both bathrooms. Heating radiators are being relocated to serve the large and small meeting rooms and fire doors and entry doors are being installed in the upstairs so that areas can be sectioned off to house small incubator businesses and community organizations on a rental basis.

The 2400 sq. ft. Second Floor contains an additional large meeting room with a sanded hardwood floor that can be used for dances, or special community events. When heat is directed to that space, the Community will have a total of three

meeting rooms that can hold up to 280 persons for two large and one small meeting.

Four new area business donations have been obtained towards the progress and support of the Center. We are very pleased to thank M&M, This Is It, The YP and C'est La Vie for their major donations towards the Center. Others are planning events to help provide support.

"We've come a long way toward realizing a dream for this Community," said John Cowles, chairman of the Board of Managers which oversees the Center for the Foundation.

"We are one of only seven such centers in the country — but ours is 'Inter-Active' since it is totally available to every organization — others usually house strictly offices of various Gay service agencies. With our three meeting rooms we have a real center for action, planning and development of this community."



**Don't Miss The Fundraiser
To Support the Center!**

Saturday, September 24 at the Wreck Room, 4 P.M.

President's Column

Don Schwamb,
President, CCF

Make A Pledge in 1988!

Summer is historically a time of relaxation and little progress in most organizations. This is normally true of gay and lesbian organizations as well.

Summer 1988 has been different, though. The CCF has been very busy. Things are happening, and quickly, on many fronts. The Board of Directors is very pleased with the progress in development, funding, equipping, and staffing of the Community Center. Meanwhile, we've been reviewing the past year of fundraising, and planning for the coming year, in our regular monthly Board meetings and a Strategic Planning session one sunny Sunday in mid-July.

Everything We Do Is Directed Back To The Community

Our continued progress depends on just one thing: your support. We have no 'membership' to provide for, no staff to pay. Everything we do is directed back to the community. What we do have are the expenses of keeping you advised with newsletters and similar materials, and the need to raise the money needed to be the 'united fund' of the gay community.

The Community Center is becoming self-supporting, thanks to the support of some individuals and businesses. But we need to continue to fund seminars, educational programs, the arts, anti-discrimination, and other causes needed by the community. We want to have the funding to assist other organizations when they request help — to do that, we need **your** help: your generous contributions.

Stability Is Our Goal

We'd like to see one more change this year: from an irregular schedule of contributions, to a more stable pledge-based system. We really appreciate your support, through United Way or by direct payment. But a check here and there, and a lump sum each time United Way or

some other combined campaign decides to send us money, is not a good way for us to budget and maintain stable grant giving. We'd like to see you go into this fall pledging your contribution to the CCF directly. You can bypass the United Way or Combined Campaign, by sending us a pledge for \$5 or \$10 or \$25 per month. We'll send you a reminder, or better yet, we can charge it to your Visa or Master Card charge card every month (or every two or three months, if more convenient). Just complete the donation form in this newsletter and we'll take care of the rest.

Of course, if you can't pledge money right now, you can pledge time or materials. We need volunteers to staff the Center evenings, or to serve on committees.

So make the Fall of '88 as memorable and productive as this Summer has been. Call or write today with a **pledge** of time, money, or materials to help out YOUR community!

June & July Low Donor Months-



Fund Raising Committee Asks Continued Interest Of Donors

In six months of fund raising — CCF reports that it is exactly on schedule with \$15,000, raised against the 12 month budget of \$30,000. However, June and July were the lowest contribution months of the year and donors are asked to show continued interest in helping the Foundation reach its 1988 goal.

Fall and winter will be crucial to the programs as heat for the Community Center will become a factor and Grants are being distributed. Funds to maintain minimal services must be found within the community.

A renewed effort by the Fund Raising Committee is being readied in order to stimulate donors to remember CCF when donating funds to worthwhile charitable causes.

Operation Visibility Get Out The Vote



REGISTER & VOTE!

President, Senator, 5th District All Up For Grabs

As a National Sponsor of Operation Visibility, The Cream City Foundation is distributing Posters, Buttons and other materials to all the bars, organizations and individuals possible within the next month.

This is a non-partisan effort — because all Gays are different in their political beliefs — but We need to get everyone registered and voting.

Beyond that, we urge you to get involved in your favorite candidates campaign. When we get identified Gays to participate and move up in campaign organizations — we will begin to get clout — we can become the power behind the power — try it and you'll like it.

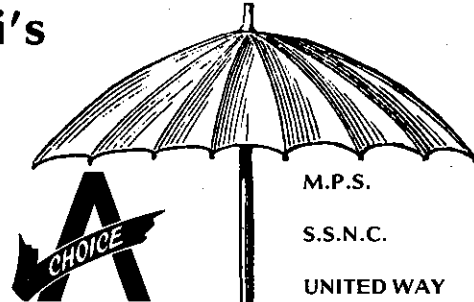
Choose A-CHOICE

Discover Your Options
When Your Employer
asks for a United Way
Donation, Ask For
A-CHOICE
See Page 3

New Options for United Way, Federal Campaign and Local Government Employees



...Secrecy No Longer Necessary
 ...Parents, Friends and Relatives Welcomed
 ...Closeted, Married, Bi's
 ...Humanitarian and Concerned Citizens



All the above have new options during this Fall's United Way Campaign. Since most companies put great pressure on employees to give, why not survey your options carefully this year.

A Major option is A-Choice, an umbrella group that represents the Cream City Foundation and support human concerns agencies in the State of Wisconsin.

Those mentioned above may have difficulty in supporting CCF because they feel a need for secrecy — being related to a Gay, being closeted, being Bi, all may feel uncomfortable in sending us a check, or designating CCF. NOW no secrecy is required. By designating A-CHOICE, CCF as the second largest agency of the 13 agency umbrella membership, will receive funds you give through A-Choice.

Doesn't that make it easier? Those who feel a humanitarian concern for the oppressed and have-nots of this area should think seriously about A-CHOICE. Your straight donation to the United Way goes to its traditional agencies — the Red Cross gets a set percentage off the top no matter if the campaign loses contributions, and most of the monies go to the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and YMCA's. (Check their budget allocations.) To get your attention they give small dabs of monies to health and social service agencies, but the Suburban establishment agencies with their powerful Boards of Directors have locked up huge allocations well before the first dollar is raised.

That says that we must all designate our gifts in order to have our funds count towards the causes WE CARE ABOUT.

How To Designate A Gift Use Option C

United Way Campaign — You must ask for a separate donor option card from the person who is soliciting you. They are instructed not to offer one, but must if you request it. **Use Option C** (both A and B are so worded that they still go to the United Way). Write in Cream City Foundation or A-Choice, whichever you feel most comfortable with.

Federal Campaign — A booklet is provided with all the Umbrella Groups listed and under the name of the Umbrella all the agencies which comprise the group. (United Way always comes first). A-Choice is listed and CCF is listed under them. Each agency has a number which you look up in the booklet and write in on the pledge card (only one form required here). Write in the number for A-Choice and we will get part of your gift. Write in CCF's Number and we will receive all your gift.

Other Governments and Schools — All the area city, state and county employees will have a campaign in which A-Choice is approved. Ask for a separate designation form for most of these campaigns (a few do not require two forms). If you feel comfortable designate CCF, if not Write in A-Choice.

Community Center Wish List

The Foundation has been amazed at the Wonderful response we have had to recent wish lists — Thank you deeply one and all.

Some things are still of great importance:

...Chairs and Furniture to outfit the New Large Meeting room at the Center.

...Volunteer painters to completely repaint the New Room.

...Persons willing to take MATA training and join the Production Team for our Tri-Cable Tonight program.

...Donate one night a week to help keep our office open mornings and evenings for 2-3 hours.

...Volunteers to represent CCF to A-Choice activities (envelope stuffing, campaign kit delivery, phone calling of donors).

Board Meetings —



Julia Kleppin concentrating on a major decision at a recent board meeting.

Plan A Gift To The Foundation And/Or The Community Center

"The concept of giving in the gay and lesbian community is only in its infancy," says the Executive Director of New York's Gay and Lesbian Center, Richard Burns.

"We are used to appeals from charities like United Way and Cancer Care, or being asked by our alma maters to contribute to a new building campaign or scholarship fund, but giving to gay causes isn't yet a tradition for most of us. And the idea of planned giving is even further from our minds."

Major types of planned gifts include wills, property, life insurance, living trusts, and gift annuities.

For most lesbians and gay men, life insurance and bequests (gifts made by a provision in a will) are probably the most feasible way to plan a gift.

The Importance of a Will

As we continue to cope with the AIDS crisis and are confronted daily with the painful reality of early death, it becomes an urgent priority for all of us to consider people and institutions we — sooner or later — will leave behind.

Bill Johnson, a tax lawyer, and a consultant to the New York Center on tax matters, strongly believes that writing a will gives us an opportunity to analyze our responsibilities. "All too often," he says, "people consider the distribution of their estate a boring detail or feel restricted to some requirement they've been conditioned to accept."

"Rather, they might ask themselves, 'Who am I responsible to and how can I best assign my assets so that the people and organizations that have been important and helpful to me in my life can count on my continued support after I'm dead?'"

"If there are individuals who require all one's assets, then it would be irresponsible to divert any part of those assets to the charities one supported in life. But for most of us, it's possible to continue the charitable giving we do in our lifetime. And it can be done in such a way that our loved ones' lifestyles are least affected."

Most of us have heard horror stories of a person whose lover died leaving his or her estate to a hostile family. A will can prevent such situations. It can also ensure that our wishes involving individuals or institutions will be carried out.

"State statutes provide very specifically for how the property of someone who dies intestate (that is, without a will) is divided. If married at the time of death and the parent of one child, the deceased's spouse generally receives half of what's left after the payment of debts, taxes, and administrative expenses. When there are two or more children, the spouse gets one-third and the children get two-thirds divided proportionately. If the intestate deceased was unmarried and without children, his or her parents are the beneficiaries; if no parents survive, then siblings; if no siblings, then grandparents, or aunts, or uncles, or cousins, or other distant

relatives."

"What this all makes perfectly clear," says Johnson, "is that to maintain control of your estate, a will is necessary, and there is little reason not to have one, no matter how much or how little your estate comprises."

"In addition, a will allows you to appoint an executor who will see that your wishes are carried out. Most important, when lovers — or life partners — are involved, a will is absolutely essential."

Johnson points out that "the rules for contesting a will are firmly established. If the deceased was of sound mind when the will was written, his or her wishes are protected. (There are exceptions when a spouse and children are involved.)"

Life Insurance

Herbert Juli, CLU, calls a gift of life insurance to a non-profit organization "a simple and sure way to establish a living memorial." A gift of life insurance, he notes, can provide the donor "with an opportunity to fund a large gift without depleting capital."

By irrevocably naming a non-profit organization such as CCF both owner and beneficiary of a new or existing policy, you can multiply the value of your contribution, since upon your death, the organization would receive a much larger gift than the cumulative total of your premium payments. Meanwhile, you're allowed to claim a federal income tax deduction for the policy's approximate cash surrender value as well as for all subsequent premiums paid.

Some policies can even pass through a part of your premium payments directly for the Center's operating expenses during the life of the policy. Others, called "vanishing premium" policies, establish a cut-off on premium payments after a specified period of time, thereby locking in a large gift for the organization.

Although ownership of fixed-income policies generally cannot be transferred, you may be able to name the organization as beneficiary of, say, your pension fund or group life insurance policy through your employer.

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Excerpted from "The Center Voice" Aug. 1988- New York Gay and Lesbian Center Magazine.

Matching Gifts

Does your employer have a matching gifts program? Many companies match any gift or gifts by their employees to not-for-profit organizations. The Foundation Community Center and the Cream City Foundation is a tax-exempt organization and is qualified to receive such gifts and is grateful for them. For more information call the Cream City Foundation.

If your employer does not have such a program, suggest it as a good means for your employer to become involved in the community.

