



Thunder GAY



BAY Magazine

FEBRUARY-MARCH 1983

magazine



COMMUNITY

UPCOMING EVENTS:

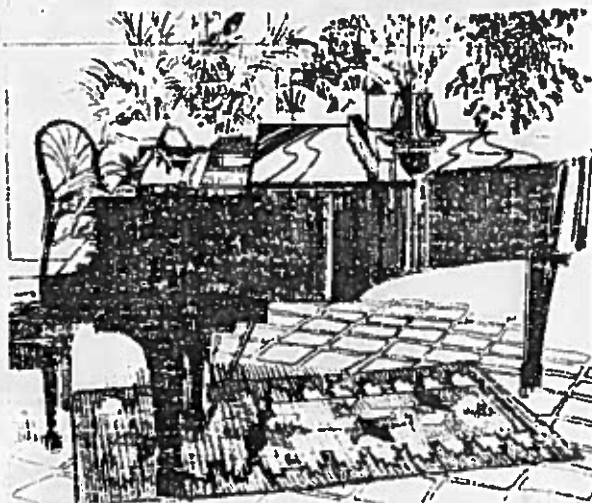
February 1	General Meeting
February 12	Special Valentine Social: "Chris Collins' Odyssey of Stars"! There will be dancing and cash bar as usual, <u>plus</u> Chris! OOOOoooooooo! At Ukr. L. Temple.
February 15	General Meeting
February 26	Regular Monthly Social at Polish Hall, 102 S. Court
March 1	General Meeting
March 15	General Meeting
March 26	March Social: <i>Spring Has Come!</i> At Oliver Road Recreation Centre

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Things to watch for in April: A concert by Heather Bishop and Thunder Bay's own Lauri Conger as well as GTB's Grand Third Anniversary!

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Opinions expressed in articles in THUNDER GAY MAGAZINE are those of the author and not necessarily the views of Gays of Thunder Bay.



WANT TO CHANGE THE MUSIC? YOU CAN!

Frequently we get feedback about the kind and variety of music that gets played at GTB Socials. We encourage comments and suggestions.

With the excellent sound set-up we now have, Patrick has offered to assist others who would like to do some programming at any of our dances. Either bring some of your own albums or arrange to get them taped in advance and you could be a 'DJ' with your own choice of music. If various individuals took an hour or so at each dance, potentially we'd have a greater variety of music, spread the responsibility of running the system, and make a lot of dancers happy. Wanna flip your disc? Just let us know in advance and the opportunity is all yours!

Thunder GAY magazine

GAYS OF THUNDER BAY Magazine

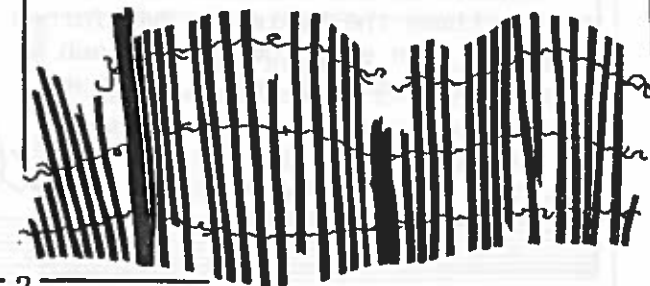
Contributors to this issue: Douglas, George, J. Kenneth, Michael, Marie and Zachariah

February-March 1983

Congratulations are due to many members of our community for making the past Holiday season an active and happy one. GTB's last official meeting of 1982 featured a film and party afterward in our office. Special thanks to George, Ken, Zachariah and Doug who helped organize it and provide goodies. A number of holiday house parties were held as well as GTB's first ever 'formal' ball, "High Elegance" on New Year's Eve. This great evening was mainly due to co-ordinators Doug, George and Zack, to Patrick's good music and the many volunteers who helped us all have a good time.

The Body Politic, Canada's National Gay newsmagazine, is available at the Bookshop Co-op, 182 South Algoma Street. The store also has a good selection of feminist and lesbian books and journals. A friendly and discreet bookshop. Drop in.

GTB receives a wide variety of newsletters and journals from across Canada and the States. Complimentary copies are received in exchange for issues of THUNDER GAY. There are a dozen or more different newsletters, including "VOICES"- a journal for women from Kenora, VGCC NEWS from Vancouver, NETWORK from Victoria, RIT - A Country Journal for rural gays published in the U.S., Northern Lambda Nord from gays in New Brunswick, Quebec and Maine, and many others. Copies are loanable from the office, or drop in at one of our regular meetings to browse through some of the issues.



EDITORIAL

In October of 1982, the Caring Homosexual Association of North Bay (CHANB) shut its doors. Through the efforts of the group's two main driving forces - Val and Cate - CHANB attempted many of the things GTB is striving for. But, sadly, as in many groups, the people doing the work reduced in numbers. They tried to maintain interest but help and mutual sharing declined. Val and Cate burned out.

In our relative isolation, northern communities must have an organized group of lesbians and gay men not only to provide basic and needed services such as social activities, phonline counselling, information referral, sharing and so on, but to provide the other essential - the spirit of our common experience. It's hard to put a label on that or pinpoint the exact source - just, we know when it's there and miss it when it isn't.

Society can be brutal; as homosexuals we are cautious as a result. Sometimes the brutality has forced us to turn ever inward, to lash at our own sense of worth. In turn

we lash further, focusing wrath on the closest thing we may have to our own selves, be it our friends, our families or GIB.

Maybe a negative mood wells out of unrequited ambitions; a gnawing impatience leads to despair; an unheard cry fumbles in darkness; a simple refusal shatters the air. So many things whip by us; we fling darts into a sorry numbing heart.

Sometimes we become laissez-faire. We construct the facade from without, neglecting the need to feel, to respect, to determine our common need - the result is a ghostly translucence, pale but burning deep. Devoid of trust, sandwiched by fear and longing, the numb heart pumps in confusion.

But flickers remain; we must grasp them before the numbness freezes all. Co-operate, stay open, keep the mind fresh, alive and new. Listen to all our hearts - their beats, their drumming, their gathering thunder. When they beat as one, it is then that we will all be free.

Long Brown



A SOUND INVESTMENT

Following the theft of Partick's sound equipment last Fall, GTB was left in a vulnerable position. The group quickly realized how much we had become dependent of Patrick both for his excellent services and the use of his equipment for our monthly social events.

At an Executive Committee meeting, the possibility of purchasing equipment was discussed and a small search committee volunteered to check out various local stores and report on what was available. A ceiling on what to spend was set at \$2,500. Concerned also that GTB not deplete its growing Building Fund, it was decided to look into securing a loan at our present financial institution, to be

paid back out of earned revenues.

All this was put forward at a General Meeting and approved by those present. The search committee consisted of Patrick, David, Lawrence and Tom. The loan was secured by our President and treasurer. Because of year end bargains and good business competition in local stores, an excellent sound system was checked out and purchased by GTB. It consists of an amplifier, two tape decks, two speakers and a turntable. Costs came in around \$2,000. The system (except for the turntable) was put to use at our New Year's Eve Ball and Patrick declared it to be "excellent!" Many good comments have been received on the quality of the sound.

Currently, insurance is being looked into for the equipment. It is being stored at an Executive members home when not in use for GTB functions. Policy guidelines will be drawn up for use of the equipment.



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Time is timeless
age of green
the forest, the trees
the evergreen.

M Δ +

So rid yourself
of knowing pain
in the soap of roses
fallen from refrain

M Δ +

Time is timeless!

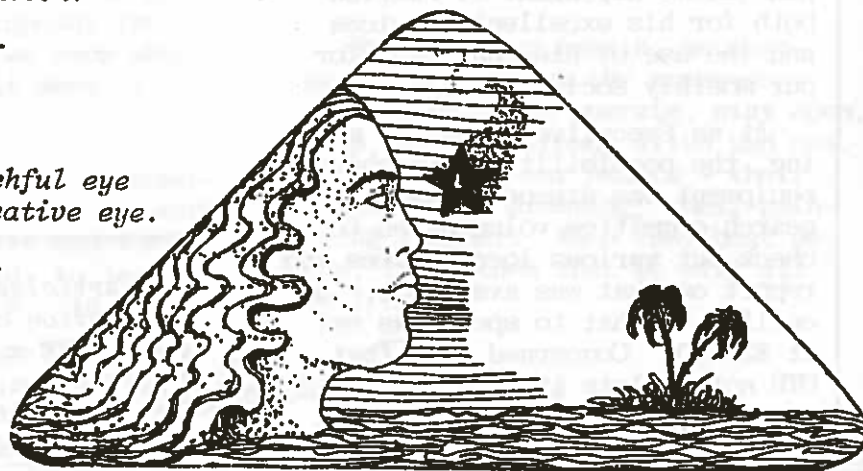
M Δ +

Naked came I
to be inwardly stripped.
Life in moderation!

M Δ +

For it is the watchful eye
that is the creative eye.

M Δ +



Elements of life
ingredients are
earth, wind, fire, water
sunlight

S
M Δ V

One plus one
is the equivalent of
one whole person

M Δ +

Chris Collins'

ODYSSEY

Some people attending the special Valentine's Fund Raising Social on February 12 may be surprised to find the likes of Mae West, Carol Channing, Peggy Lee or Judy Garland up on stage. GTB will be hosting *Chris Collins' Odyssey of Stars* that night and it is shaping up to be really something special.

Chris will be doing four characters out of his repertoire of over twenty famous entertainers in a one hour show during the Valentine Fund Raising dance.

Garth Cramer of the Winnipeg Tribune said of Chris' shows: "Unlike most impressionists who showcase their talent, or lack of it, with the cosmetic aid of comedy routines, Chris Collins achieves his success because of his keen eye for character reproduction, a fine use of costumes and a most gifted voice." Cramer also wrote that as an impersonator "he is first rate...as a song stylist he is even more accomplished".

Describing himself more as a character actor than an impersonator, Chris uses his own voice over recorded music.

In an interview with Janice Keys of the Winnipeg Free Press, Chris stresses that "I present the characters on stage as they would present themselves. If I'm doing Peggy Lee singing 'Is That All There Is?' I sing it as she would sing it... I do a comedy patter



Chris Collins ...

as part of the act but I'm not making fun of my characters".

Those who have seen one of Chris' performances in western Canada come away with the eerie feeling that they have just been visited in person by one of his performers. Chris is a star, a remarkable talent.

Formerly from Thunder Bay and now headquartered out of Winnipeg, this will be his first performance here. It promises to be a special evening. Spread the word, it will be wonderful!

All tickets are six dollars for admission and regular prices apply for beer and liquor. A dance will precede and then follow the show. All proceeds from the event will be placed in the GTB Building Fund.

Mr. Chris Collins is...



Chris Collins' ODYSSEY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1983

UKRAINIAN LABOUR TEMPLE - 203 OGDEN STREET

TWO SHOWS: 10:00 - 10:30 AND 11:00 - 11:30

FLAUNTING IT

Jearld Moldenhauer was the first gay man I met and spoke to in Toronto. Our conversation probably made no lasting impression on him; for me it is a clear and positive memory.

Jearld is the founder and owner of Glad Day Bookshop and, years ago, when that first conversation took place, the store was located on Yonge Street north of Bloor. Now it is in a larger facility farther down Yonge (648A, still on the second floor).

I sought out Glad Day years ago as the only likely source I knew for gay literature, and secondarily, for information on what might be happening in Toronto. These are still good reasons for visiting the store. Glad Day, according to Danny Cockerline in *The Body Politic*, is "a crossroads of the gay community" and "now one of the world's best gay bookstores."

It is also, like *The Body Politic*, one of the most visible gay institutions in Toronto. Last spring Glad Day was visited and raided by members of Metro Toronto's police and following this an employee of the store, Kevin Orr, was charged with "possession of obscene material for the purpose of sale."

The "obscene material" was copies of two magazines which

were available at about 50 other stores at the same time as this raid. No other store was charged.

Here, in Thunder Bay, there are numerous outlets where we can quietly buy our new, glossy copies of "In Touch", "Mandate", "Stallion", etc. At most local magazine racks there is usually a small section of gay material. Where previously only a few 'identified' outlets carried gay material, now it is available most everywhere, including in Keskus and Victoriaville.

The thing is, here for the most part *the material and the purchasers are invisible*. Probably the store-owners and most of our community prefer things this way.

Glad Day in Toronto is flaunting it. Boldly, proudly. It has a brave pink neon sign that cheerily says "gay" to all of the city. And they are attacked. Kevin Orr and Glad Day will have gone to trial by the time you read this. Let us hope their case becomes yet another in the string of victories gay advocates are winning against oppression in Ontario.

The Glad Day Defence Fund needs help. And we can do so discreetly, quietly, boldly, loudly, however you may individually feel. Cheques can be sent payable to Hamburg/Trollope in trust for Glad Day Defence Fund. Send to 400 Dundas Street East, Toronto, Ont. M5A 2A5

Michael Sobota



....at last, SPRING HAS COME!!!

OLIVER ROAD RECREATION CENTRE
SATURDAY, MARCH 26 9:00-1:00

Phoneline:



345-8011

**THE
BODY POLITIC
FREE THE PRESS
FUND**

Send donations to
The Body Politic Free the Press Fund
c/o Box 7288, Station A, Toronto, Ontario
Canada M5W 1X9

Cheques payable to: Lynn King in Trust for TBP
Information: (416) 577-6370

TRICKS

by Renaud Camus

Reviewed by J. Kenneth Lapinski

Trick.

A trick, the trick, tricks, tricked, tricking, trickle(?), trickster, tricky. You've heard these words. You've used them. Presumably you know what they mean - a crafty procedure meant to deceive? A mischievous act or childish action? A quick and artful manner of getting a result? A knack? But for some people, including Merriam-Webster, the only trick they know goes: ten, jack, queen, trump.

Tricking is the oldest game known to man; all the other sports invented are a substitution for the real thing. Therefore, because it is a game there are rules, and to learn to play well mental and physical preparation, intuition and practice are necessary. Renaud Camus is good at tricking and through this autobiographical novel and the men in it - Jim, Maurice, Ze, Daniel X, Daniel with the helmet, Red Morgan, Plaid Shirt, and the Perfect Fuck (a memorable threehander with a nameless boy) - he becomes our instructor in the art and science. Since each reader has a different level of experience the lessons are personal, but all involve the

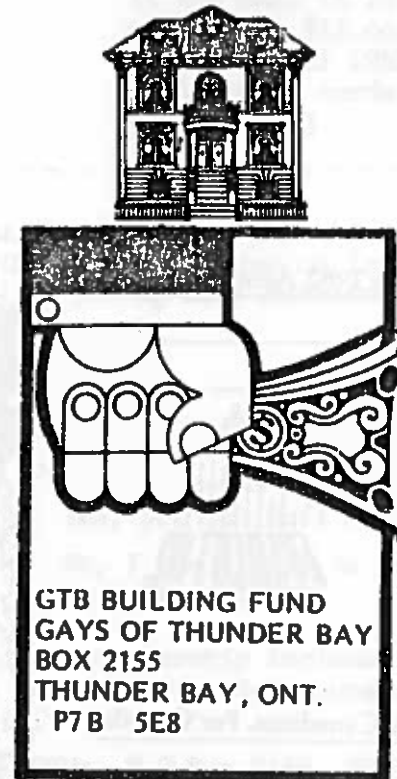
skill of observation. This power of sense, or sensibility begins when you drag your eyes over the unknown tricks mind and body and, as the game is played out, each card falling from the hand, the players must be alert for a bluff or a finesse, each body sign evaluated, assessed and acted on. The success of taking the trick is unique to this type of game in that if played correctly both partners are winners.

The book opens with a forward by the author where he states what the book is not: not pornographic, not erotic and not scientific. With regard to the last denial the data may lack mathematically acceptable statistics, but the content and observations are significant. That the episodes are not sexy, one must only examine my copy of the novel to find a few pages that are difficult to separate. What is the book then? This is stated cleanly by the author:

EXHIBITIONISM is an obvious charge. The word implies abusive revelation of what, by nature, should remain hidden. But why is sex accorded this special status, except by the obsession of the twenty centuries? Which is to grant to much importance. Sex has its joys, certainly, which are amongst the finest: but none which deserves to make it the secret

PAR EXCELLENCE. If this book helps to make the subject banal AS SUBJECT, it will not have been written in vain. Once we know where the obsessions are, then we can talk about something else.

Ed. Note: *TRICKS* by Renaud Camus is available from Glad Day Bookstore, 648A Yonge Street, 2nd floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5Y 2A6, where it has been in the "Top 10 Fiction Booklist" for many months.



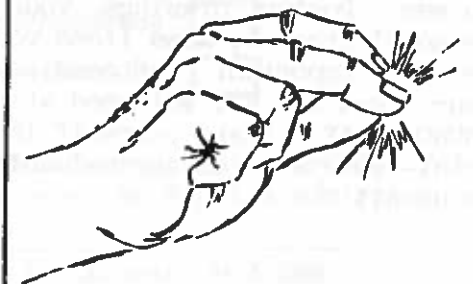
IF YOU WANT TO DO IT, THERE'S "NOTHING TO IT!"

Like GTB Socials? Have ideas for changes? Want to make them better? More often? All this can happen.

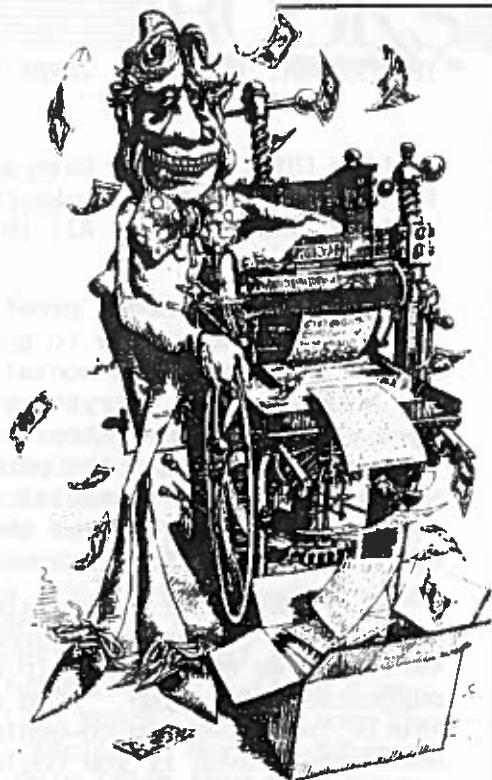
GTB has published a great little guide about how to go about co-ordinating a social. The book explains everything in a simple, step-by-step fashion. From how to fill out the permit to completing the financial report. Copies are free at the office and at socials.

We'd like to offer socials more frequently and with greater variety. We need your help and suggestions to do so. Give a little, volunteer to co-ordinate one dance. Even if you could only co-ordinate once, if a dozen or more people offered to do so, we'd all have a lot less burden in making sure they happen. And a lot more time to 'socialize'.

And really, there's NOTHING TO IT! That's the name of our guide book. Grab a copy and put on a party...



IT'S A SNAP!



...Further Coverage of a Top Man:

For those of you who read about Pat Morrow in our December-January issue of THUNDER GAY, you may want to pick up the current issue of EQUINOX Magazine, now on the stands. Pat, you'll recall, is the 2nd Canadian to stand on top of the world. He perches there in full colour on the cover of EQUINOX, having brazenly discarded his oxygen cannister and mits to grin winningly out at you. The article inside features some of his extraordinary photographs of the Canadian Everest Expedition.

The 1982 Ascent of Everest.



By Canadians. For Canada.



THUNDER GAY Magazine welcomes your contributions. We hope this is a personal magazine, with the sort of varied content you want to see. Poetry, drawings, your personal stories, news items you feel are important, cartoons, your views are all welcomed at THUNDER GAY. Share yourself in print--your stories are valuable to us all.

OOPS!

YOU'VE EXPIRED.

This is the final issue that will be mailed to you on your 1982 GTB membership.

If you haven't become a new member or renewed your membership for 1983 simply fill out the form below, snip it and mail it to our address, along with \$11.00. We will mail you your official 1983 Membership Card. (All former cards expired December 31st, 1982).

Quick! Sign me up as a member of GTB. I don't want to miss a single issue of THUNDER GAY Magazine or lose any other membership advantages. Enclosed is \$11.00 for my 1983 Membership.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

Yes, you can mail me GTB correspondence: ☐

No, I don't wish to receive anything by mail from GTB. ☐

I am aware membership includes a year's subscription to THUNDER GAY Magazine (mailed in a plain envelope) and gives me ½ price admission at GTB Socials.

GIB: P.O.Box 2155, THUNDER BAY P, Ontario P9A 5E8

Gays Of Thunder Bay

GAYS OF THUNDER BAY is an organization of lesbians and gay men from the Thunder Bay region.

OUR MAILING ADDRESS is: G.T.B.

P.O. Box 2155

Thunder Bay P, Ontario

OUR PHONELINE is open every Wednesday and Friday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. At other times a recording advises callers of activities. Reach the phoneline by dialing:

(807) 345.8011

All persons interested in the gay movement in this area are welcome to contact us with offers of help and donations!

G.T.B