

May 2, '87

Dear Rupert,

Long time no hear. What gives? Hope you are still with us and the long silence is because of your new apartment & job hunt and not the demise of the MMRF.

December I held an informal F-M gathering at my place (about 10 of us) and a few days later I moved out of Page St. (please note new address: [REDACTED] Albion, San Francisco CA 94110). Just couldn't continue trying to live and "just be friends" with my ex-lover Tom. I've got an excellent new place with a male friend I've known for years. But all Dec. I felt weak and tight in my chest, figuring I was just stressed out. The 30th, went to the doc cuz I was having such trouble BREATHING and was immediately diagnosed as having pneumocystis pneumonia and AIDS. So too bad for me.

I was in the hospital the first 2 weeks of 1987 getting intravenous antibiotics. Since then I've been much better, weigh more now than I ever have, and have been taking AZT for over 6 weeks. So far so good.

Of course, one of my first thoughts upon hearing the diagnosis was, "Oh, great, no way is my surgeon going to give me a left ball now!" but he did, thank God, in March. Looks like this one's going to stay put. It's still healing and numb to the touch, but I know that will improve with time. He was also going to extend my urinary opening further toward the front cuz it was just too buried inbetween my balls to enable a steady stream, but doc felt that procedure would be more complicated and prone to infection, so we decided to leave well enough alone in that dept. So, I can't stand to pee, but at least my pee hole isn't like a female's. A few days after my surgery, another F-M hosted our 2nd F-M gathering which I was too sore to attend.

I've been concentrating on finishing my biography of Jack Garland, and after that, editing my 24 years worth of diaries into an autobiography. My work with the Gay Historical Society is very high on my priority list. See my enclosed article for them, which I give you permission to reprint/excerpt. I can't promise I'll do an article on my genitoplasty for you, but I will try.

Hope to hear from you or the MMRF soon! Take care. I know I will be!