

Greater Phila. Chapter NEWS

BY DINA AMBERLE

MAR '92

RESTROOM USE RESTRICTED AT MEETING SITE

Renaissance members will be restricted from the general restrooms at our meeting site. Managing Director Michelle [REDACTED] reports that this is an edict that comes from the building's property manager and until further negotiation we will not be using the public restrooms, nor the back hallway leading to the restrooms. The only restroom facility for Renaissance use will be the one powder room within the office space that we occupy.

Michelle [REDACTED], our harried Chapter leader, is hoping this will be only a temporary inconvenience until we can reach a meeting of minds with the building management. The Renaissance National Board is going to assist us in negotiating for our freedoms. Everyone realizes that this is a poor situation to find ourselves in after years of cooperation and it is hoped a workable remedy can be found.

This major change in restroom availability will require everyone to be mindful of speed when using the facilities. In order for 75 to 100 people to use one restroom, everyone is going to have to be considerate and remember that others are waiting to use the room after we're done. Don't dilly-dally unnecessarily. This will also mean that members and guests can't change into or out of dress in this restroom. Other arrangements will be worked out for changing clothes.

This is an inconvenience for us but with cooperation and good manners we can get through it together. And we can hope that intelligence will prevail and the building management will be persuaded to let us return to use the general restrooms.

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ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Celebrate Renaissance's Fifth Anniversary at the Center City Holiday Inn on May 9th. There are two admission plans: a \$60 VIP reception with open bar plus dinner; and a \$35 dinner and cash bar ticket. Special guest of honor will be Richard Docter, Ph.D. A special birthday salute is planned and it promises to be a great evening to celebrate our five years of success and continuing growth.

Reserve your space by mailing your payment by April 30 to:

Renaissance
P. O. Box 60552
King of Prussia, PA 19406

The *Renaissance* Education Association, Inc.
GREATER PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER
Box 530 Bensalem, PA • 19020

FLASH. RENAISSANCE SURVEY RESULTS CONTINUE TO POUR IN. From the four corners of the Earth (or at least the Tri-State area) crossdressers are making their voices heard. The early returns have definitely shown some favorites among you as far as future activities. The favorites so far in the Party Primaries:

WINE AND CHEESE PARTY is so far the clear favorite (probably from the great time those of us who attended last years affair at the Chadd's Ford Winery enjoyed). Take heart. A wine and cheeser is being planned for this spring. Watch your Chapter Notes for future details.

MOVIE NIGHT generated a large amount of interest and the Woods is being contacted about the possibility of setting up a future Hollywood premier event. Also, come to find out the Woods themselves put on a monthly Movie night as well. Again, stay tuned for details.

HOUSE PARTIES received a healthy share of interest, probably because some of you have already been putting on your own little affairs over the past months (you know who you are). Given the limited amount of space that a house can provide guests and its availability, its the thought of your trusty board to just let people conduct their own parties as they wish. Anyone desiring to promote a party or some sort of extravaganza can use this meeting or these pages to get the word out, if desired. Any Hostesses-In-Training out there?

THEME PARTIES at the Woods got a the nod from some of you with ideas ranging from a Fashion Show to Lingerie Party Number Two (which was suggested by a certain ex-Chapter Director who shall remain nameless). We'll put this one on hold for this month, Gang, until the situation with the Woods resolves itself.

CASINO NIGHT is a big budget affair that sparked interest. The Directors of Greater Philadelphia, Michelle [REDACTED] and Kara [REDACTED] of South Jersey are huddling on this one to see if they can make it a dual Chapter effort.

THEATRE NIGHT ladies of the evening can get an early start, however. The adventurous Angela Gardner and the aforementioned Michelle [REDACTED] are planning a for ay to the Climax Theatre (love that name) on Friday, March 27, to see "The Opposite Sex is Neither" which will feature none other than Kate Bornstein, one of the original co-founders of Renaissance. The theatre is located on 623 South St and tickets are \$10. Dinner at Overtures is also being considered. Those interested may talk to Marvelous Michelle or leave word on the hotline (215-946-TVTS). Other dinner and theatre excursions are being planned for the near future.

TO THOSE WONDERFUL PEOPLE WHO VOLUNTEERED THEIR SERVICES HELP: Sad to say, we don't know all the members by sight yet (all one hundred plus of you) so please take a moment to introduce yourself to the overworked Board. We can use all the HELP we can get.

RAP GROUP ON PASSING will be conducted on Monday, April 13 by the lovely and talented Angela Gardner. The start up time is 7:00 PM and all interested ladies can call or let a handy Board person know of your interest. Cost is FREE. In addition to the above and this month's Rap Group with Jo Ann Roberts, others are in the ofting so keep those comments coming so we know your thoughts and needs are.

PLACES TO GO

RENAISSANCE GREATER PHILA. CHAPTER MEETINGS April 18, Dr. Roger Peo, noted authority on transgenerism will be the featured guest speaker

THE CARTWHEEL "DRAG SEARCH '92" Every Monday night, 11:30 PM amateur contest leading up to Miss Cartwheel pageant in Sept. The Cartwheel, Rte. 202, 1 mi. west of New Hope Center, New Hope, PA; Call 215/862-0880

GATSBY'S Popular nightclub and disco features something different each night of the week, including drag shows on 2nd and 4th Thursdays of month. Gatsby's, Cuthbert Blvd, between Rtes 38 & 70, Cherry Hill NJ. Call 609/663-8744

WSC CLUB Roomy nightclub has different attractions throughout the week. WSC Club, 624 West Main Street (in rear), Norristown, PA; Call 215/278-9646

CHECK OUT The Philadelphia Gay News (75¢) and Au Courant (Free) for current events at clubs, etc. Available in Center City and various spots around the area, the nightclubs listed above.

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BRIEFS:...After last month's meeting, a few of the girls went to the WSC Club in Norristown for drinks and dancing. After the WSC Club, they enjoyed a late-night breakfast (no sausage, please) at a diner on Rte 202 in King of Prussia. Oh, you want me to name names? Alright. Samantha, Whitney, Jennifer and Michelle Rose... Mardi Gras is a big party night, so April and Dina went down to South Street on Fat Tuesday for Cafe Nola's Mardi Gras bash. While they were down there, they also dropped in at Backstage, Judy's Cafe and Hepburn's...Angela and Michelle went up to New York's Limelight disco and met some of the girls from Long Island's LIFE group...There was a nice turnout for Gatsby's Friday 13th party. Barbara, Michelle Mt. Holly, Linda and Julie, Samantha, Charlene, Shakina, April, Gayle, Dina, Susan, and Janis enjoyed the festivities and the \$1 drinks...April had one of those crazy experiences we can all look back and laugh at. She ran out of gas on I-95 on the way home from the Cartwheel early on a Tuesday morning. The ensuing adventure featured our own April in full drag, two burnt-out police officers, an indignant gas station attendant, and a large guy in a van who may or may not have been a closet crossdresser...Police in several East Coast cities are reporting smash and grab burglaries by groups of drag queens who hit high fashion dress stores to augment their wardrobes. That is some publicity we can all do without...It looks like there's a new place to go in the Delaware Valley. Hardyhoo's bar in West Grove, Chester County is a new gay establishment featuring occasional drag shows. We may have an exclusive first hand report on this place for next month's Chapter news. Bet you can hardly wait...

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IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT EVENTS OR SHOPPING BARGAINS - OR QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS OR GOSSIP (ESPECIALLY GOSSIP) - THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO PASS ON FOR THE NEXT CHAPTER NEWSLETTER, SEE DINA AMBERLE, OR WRITE ME AT:

RENAISSANCE, GR. PHILA. CHAPTER, BOX 530, BENSALEM PA 19020