

## OITM Needs Your Help

The first issue of 'Out in the Mountains' was published in February of this year. In our first year we have published eleven issues and distributed them across the state of Vermont. There have been snags and frustrations both in producing the paper and in getting it distributed. But, by and large, we have been getting the word out that we are here and that we won't tolerate being ignored any longer.

There have been many very visible benefits which have come about either directly or indirectly as a result of this paper. Two years ago, Vermonters for Lesbian and Gay Rights (VLGR) conducted a poll of the candidates before the November elections and got virtually no response. This year the poll was conducted by OITM. It was noted in the survey that the results would be published in OITM and that failure to respond would be duly noted. Virtually all the candidates polled ended up responding. OITM is a part of making it politically costly to keep silent on issues of concern to lesbians and gay men. When political people know that we have the means of spreading information across this state they listen to our concerns and they think carefully about their responses.

Another area where OITM has had an important impact is in breaking down the isolation of lesbians and gay men in this state. We have gotten numerous letters from people just beginning the process of coming out. OITM is an important part of breaking through some of this isolation and offering hope and inspiration to many who are in the midst of this struggle.

OITM also provides a mouthpiece for the many diverse aspects of our community, helping us to understand and support one another better and helping us to see our common goals.

We want this paper to continue for all of the above reasons and many more. We need your help. In January and February of the coming year, OITM will be conducting a fundraising campaign to allow us to continue and hopefully expand publication for another year.

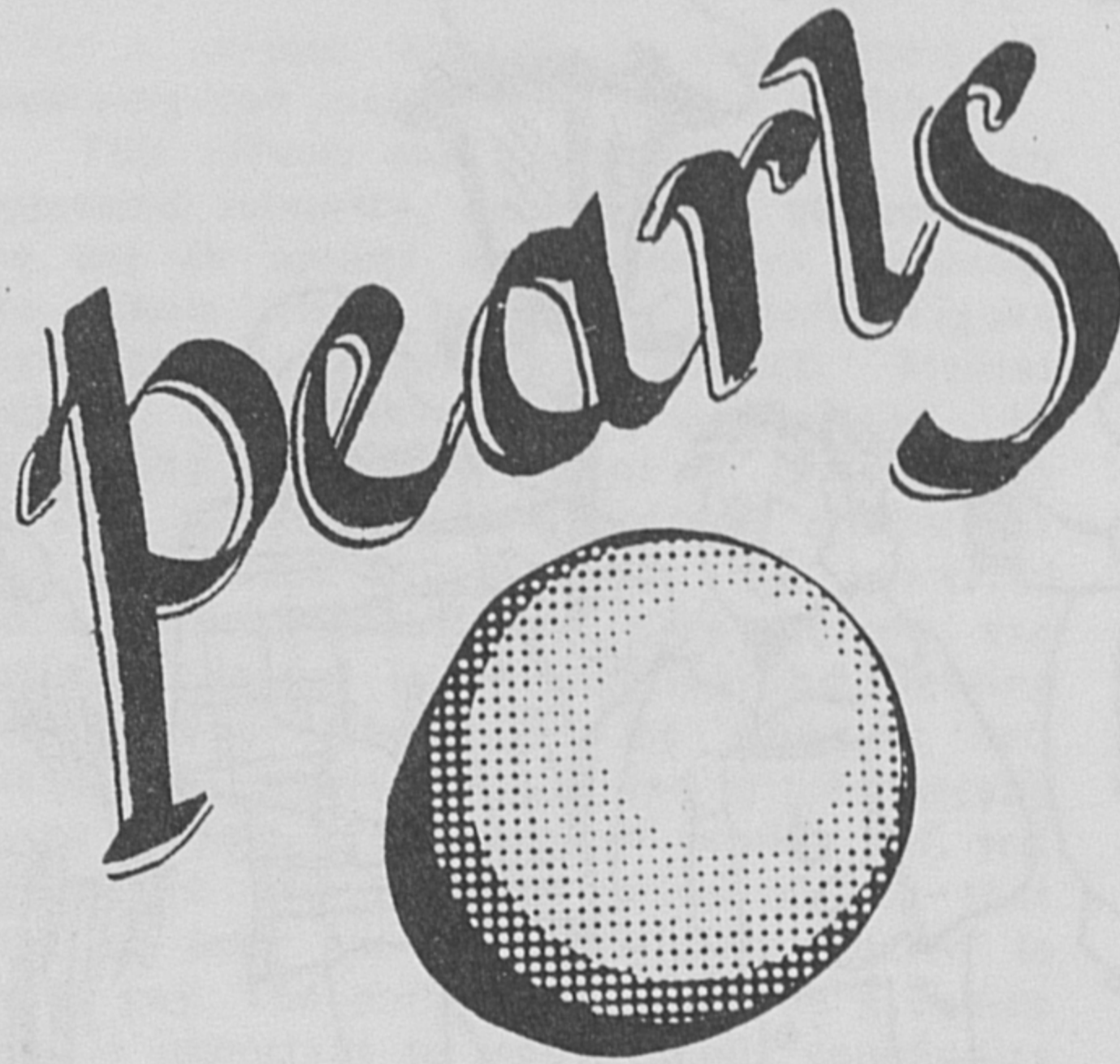
To put out an eight page issue costs approximately \$300. For a twelve page issue, it costs approximately \$450. It is our goal to be able to alternate eight and twelve page issues every other month. That means we need to raise \$4,500 this year. Can you help?

Maybe you personally could afford to pay for an issue. Maybe your group or organization could make a commitment to pay for half of an issue. How about one page of an issue? Or maybe you can only afford a smaller amount. Any and all contributions are appreciated and are a vital part of keeping this paper going.

OITM is produced entirely by volunteers who give many hours of time to see that the word gets out. But production cannot continue without support from the community at large. So think about it and give as much as you're able because lesbians and gay men in this state deserve to have our voices heard. Thank you.

### OITM Contributions:

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$450 (large issue)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$300 (small issue)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$150 (one-half issue)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$40 (one page)
- \_\_\_\_\_ other



Tues. Ed's \$1 Bud Night  
Wed. Ladies Night  
Thurs. Boys Night Out

**Dec. 5, Womyns Dance 5-9 pm**

**Dec. 21, Pearl's Christmas Party 4-8 pm**

(bring a tree ornament, we'll buy you a drink)

**Looking forward to seeing you at our  
Gala New Year's Eve Party**

Open 7 Days a Week  
Mon. - Fri. Open at 5pm  
Sat. + Sun. Open at 8pm

Downstairs Is Open Tues., Thurs., Fri., and Sat.

135 Pearl Street

Burlington, Vermont

802 863-2343

## AIDS Volunteer Orientation Held

Vermont's first training session for A.I.D.S. volunteers took place in Burlington the weekend of November 15-16.

Sponsored by the Vermont Committee for A.I.D.S. Resources, Education and Services (Vermont CARES), the two day session featured a variety of workshops covering medical questions, social service resources, empowerment in the health care system, legal issues, antibody testing, risk reduction, direct care, and methods of avoiding burnout.

The training was designed to provide a core group of people with information to serve as resources. "A lot of what we're doing is teaching people who will become teachers themselves" said Terje Anderson, Director of Vermont CARES.

The workshop, which was hosted by GLSA at University of Vermont, included presentations by local authorities and representatives of the Boston A.I.D.S. Action Committee.

Twenty-seven people attended all or part of the conference, which organizers said was "an encouraging number."

"While we are still fortunate to have a relatively small number of diagnosed cases in the state, we have to be prepared for what lies ahead" said Anderson.

Future workshops on specific care issues are being planned. For more information, contact Vermont CARES at Box 1125, Montpelier 05602.