

U. U. Holds L/G Lay Service

A pink triangle hung in the front of the church. The dozen speakers fidgeted nervously in the front pew. Gilles Yves Bonneau sat at the piano and began playing J.P. Rameau's, "Gigue en rondeau". Thus began the first lesbian/gay lay service sponsored by the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington.

Approximately two-hundred and fifty people, many of them "regulars" of the congregation, listened as selections from "Gay American History" by Jonathan Katz and a writing by Rita Mae Brown were read. People listened to John Calvi's song, "For The Ones Who Aren't Here," performed by Philip Roberts, and to nine personal anecdotes from different participants of the service. Stories of coming out, of harassment, of amusement, and of oppression were related.

People in the congregation were given an opportunity to respond at the service. Of the one-hundred sixty personal feedback cards received, only three were negative. Many expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to learn, to grow, and for the courage of the participants "coming out" to the church. Those whom took part also had the joyous chance to grow. For many it was the first time one stood in public as an openly lesbian/gay person.

The service was followed by a forum. Approximately forty people gathered to express their feelings about the service, or about lesbians and gay men in today's society. The service organizers had collected book lists, contact information, and other information which was available for those attending the forum.

As one of the personal feedback cards said, "I'm pleased I have come to once more learn of love and concern. My prejudice is lessened. My heart is more open. Thank you all for sharing your soft, sincere love."

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PFLAG

parents and gays and given them our support and they have also helped us.

Our prayers are that groups will get started in Vermont for gays, lesbians and their families. We all need each other and we are all different people.

PFLAG has a great newspaper, that helps you see what is being done, and yet to be done, for our sons and daughters and us."

Kathy's name and number will appear on the resource page of *Out in the Mountains* as a PFLAG contact parent. She is anxious to hear from other people interested in starting a PFLAG group in Vermont. To receive information about becoming a member of the federation, write to:

PARENTS FLAG
P.O. Box 24565
Los Angeles, CA 90024



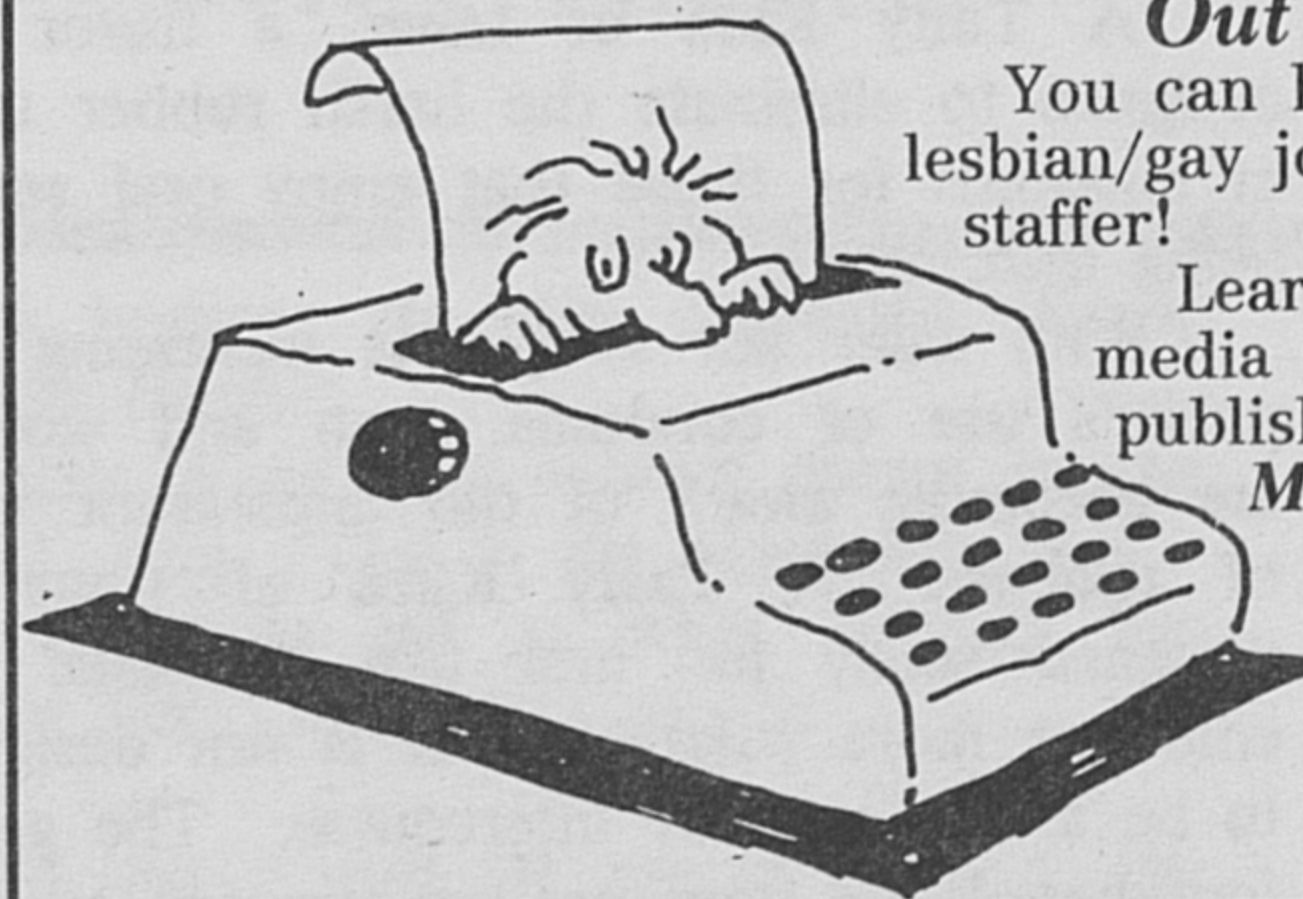
Tues. Ed's \$1 Bud Night
Wed. Ladies Night
Thurs. Boys Night Out

Womyn's Dance Friday, April 3, 5-9 p.m.

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, VT 802 863-2343



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Learn all there is to know about the print media as you have a lot of fun trying to publish the monthly issue of *Out in the Mountains*.

Intrigued?

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