

Commentary

VT L/G Rights Activist Receives Award/Appointment

by Philip Roberts

Recently, James Morgan of Burlington received the VT Social Worker of the Year award at the organization's annual meeting held last June. Mr. Morgan was cited for his active work on S-278, Vermont's proposed sexual orientation anti-discrimination bill.

In a related matter, Mr. Morgan has been appointed by Governor Madeleine Kunin to serve as one of five commissioners for Vermont's reactivated Human Rights Commission. When asked what it is that he would like to accomplish Jim stated, "I want to make sure lesbian/gay issues are raised in the context of Vermont's Human Rights Commission. We need to be heard."

The commission will endeavor, through public education, to increase awareness of the importance of full civil and human rights for each inhabitant of the state. The Commission will have jurisdiction to investigate and enforce complaints of unlawful discrimination in public accommodations, rentals, and in the sale of real estate. It also appears the Commission

may begin compiling statistics regarding other types of discrimination.

The staff of "OITM" congratulates Jim Morgan for the fine work he has done for lesbians, bisexuals and gay men in Vermont.

Kunin Addresses L/G Vermonters

This letter was read at the Lesbian and Gay Pride Rally on June 11, 1988.

Dear Vermonters:

I regret that I cannot be with you to celebrate this sixth annual Vermont Lesbian and Gay Pride Day. This rally reminds us that we must not allow ignorance, prejudice or invidious stereotyping to deny any citizen the full enjoyment of his or her constitutional rights. Because of your marches, we as a state have moved forward in recognizing those rights.

I am proud of the accomplishments of

this recent legislative session. Senate passage of the anti-discrimination bill was a milestone that allowed for vigorous debate and a great deal of education. We will continue this debate and we shall pass an anti-discrimination law. This progress plus the passage of the AIDS insurance testing bill and the human rights commission would not have been possible without the hard work of the Vermont Coalition of Lesbian and Gay Men.

The theme for today's march and rally is "Celebrate." So, let's celebrate. Let's celebrate the coalition and the progress made these past six years. Let's celebrate the inherent value of each individual. Neither Vermont nor this nation can afford to do without the creativity, skills and contributions of our gay and lesbian citizens.

And, as we celebrate, let us hope that the hour will soon come when we can move beyond today's struggles to greater victories.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

Madeline M. Kunin
Governor

PEARL DATES

Tues, Wed, Thur
Aug. 30-Sept. 1

KAREN'S LAST WEEK

The Summer is over and Karen is going back to her real job. Come in and wish her the best. Lucky for us she'll be back once a month for the ever popular Women's Dance.

Sunday Sept. 4

LABOR DAY DANCE • DOWNSTAIRS BAR

D.J. No Cover • Open at 8pm

Tues Sept. 6

ED'S BACK on Tuesdays serving his dollar bud and bud lite with the **DOWNSTAIRS BAR OPEN**

Friday Sept. 9

WOMEN'S DANCE • Andrea O'Bannon spinning

Fri & Sat
Sept. 23 & 24

STEPHEN C. from the Boatslip is back—
He promises lots of new tunes from the summer in P-town.

Watch for our line up of new D.J.'s and new music!