# THE CENTER TIMES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Boston Center for Lesbians & Gay Men

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***First Annual Meeting at 338 Newbury Street Location***

## New Board Members Elected

Summing up the Center's achievements at the annual Board meeting, President Ann Sanders dubbed the first year "a great success."

Sanders noted that the Center now fulfills its original goals of providing "office and rental space for the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community, a forum for social activities, and a place to hang out or meet for lunch."

Plans for the coming year include "offering Center-sponsored programs, activities, and lectures," Sanders added. She emphasized that the Center exists for *all* members of the community, and she expressed the hope that those who come to the Center would find a variety of reasons for returning. "We'd like to see the Center become a social alternative to the bars," she said.

> ***"If New York and Los Angeles can do it, Boston can, too!"***

Board member John Nicoli was elected Vice President and Fund-raising Chair at the meeting. Nicoli called on board members and volunteers to help launch an aggressive fund-raising campaign. "I see the Center as providing hope and inspiration for the community," he said, "but we need to move onward and upward. If New York and Los Angeles can do it, Boston can, too!" As the audience applauded, he added, "I want this to be the best Center in the country!"

Treasurer John Graves said that the Center was "off to a good start," financially. However, he too stressed the need for major fund raising to offset new expenses.

Citing New York as an example, Carol Wessling, Clerk, said future dreams for the Center include ownership of a vacant school or office building. Such a site would provide adequate space, parking, and other amenities.

During the hour-long meeting, four new members were elected to the Board of Directors: Tim Burgers, Diane Daren, Alan Gray, and Melissa Wills. The board also recognized the contribution of the Advisory Board, whose members provide help with organizational matters and serve to keep the Center in touch with a variety of minority concerns within the community. —*M. Wills*

***Meet Diane Daren:***

## Volunteer of the Month

Chances are good that if you call the Center on a Monday night, you'll talk with Diane Daren. "I've been told I was the first volunteer," she says, laughing. "Carol Wessling asked if I'd help out because the Center needed people." She shrugs. "Generally, I answer phones once a week."

Most callers request information on events at the Center, Diane says. Some people want to get in touch with a specific group, while others are seeking counseling. Sometimes people just drop in to look at the community guide.

Diane's commitment to the Center has expanded over time. She has spent many hours on the unglamorous task of folding and stuffing the newsletter mailings. Recently, she was nominated and elected to the Board of Directors. As a member of the board, Diane knows she'll spend even more time on Center activities, especially fund raising.

She also has personal goals to achieve. "I hope to help the Center expand. I'd like the Center to reach many more people, so that it's a place for the whole community to come. I'd like to help make the entire spectrum of people in our community feel comfortable here, so that this can be a place for all of us together."

Diane is not a stranger to commitments. In the past she worked at the Pine Street Inn and a women's health

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***New and Improved!***

## Center Announces New Movie Night

The Center is pleased to announce that its Friday night movie series has been completely revamped.

Beginning June 22, the Center will sponsor an exciting, new Film/Video/Discussion series on Friday evenings. The program will be coordinated by Chris Coveney, who has a B.S. in Video Production, and Cory Conley, who has a B.S. in Cinema and Photography. As the program grows, it will include both videos and films, as well as showings by local filmmakers.

A showing of "The Life and Times of Harvey Milk," on Friday, June 22, will kick off the new series, and there are tentative plans to have a guest speaker after the film. On Friday, June 29, Chris and Cory will show the video, "I've Heard the Mermaids Sing."

Circle Fridays on your calendar and be sure to join us at the movies.

***By Conservative Estimates...***

## 70,000 at Pride!

According to Lt. Larry Robachaud of the Boston Police Department, the official police count of the number of people at the twentieth annual Boston Pride March and Rally was 70,000.

Thanks to everyone who turned out and helped make the day so special.