

# Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

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*celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country*

## *Gemini II*

**Publishing History:** Issued by **Waterloo Universities' Gay Liberation Movement (WUGLM)** from 1973, February - 1974, February.

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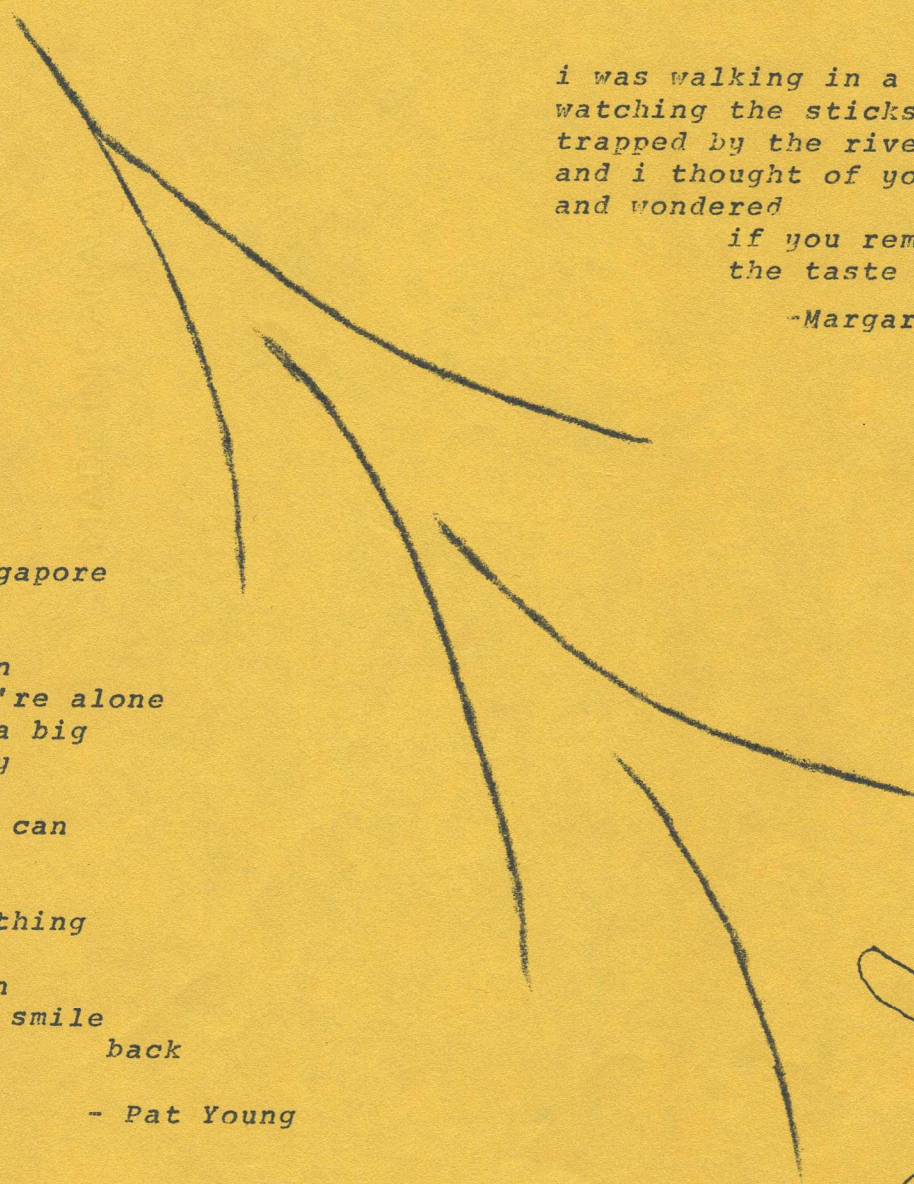
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# GEMINI II

Waterloo University Gay Liberation Movement : volume 1, issue 1



i was walking in a new winter storm  
watching the sticks and brown leaves  
trapped by the river.  
and i thought of you  
and wondered

if you remembered  
the taste of snow.

-Margaret Murray

Singapore

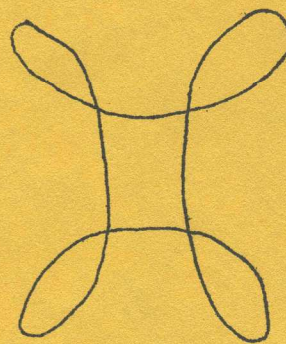
when  
you're alone  
in a big  
city

you can  
do

anything

even  
smile  
back

- Pat Young



February 1973

Gay Love by Richard Nash  
reprinted from Gay Sunshine.

It is undoubtedly true that the average gay person has sex with a larger number of people than the average heterosexual, but it is not true that sex for the gay person is simply a matter of fun and not a means of expressing tenderness and warmth and love. Since procreation is not the goal for two men or two women in bed, sex for us is more a matter of communication. And through our experience with different people, we develop a wide range of skills and a broad perspective on sexual means of relating to people. While a diversity of sexual contacts is often looked down upon by society and virginity is the expressed ideal, gays welcome the opportunity for intimate relationships with many people, and experience is more highly valued.

Traditionally gay people have had to separate sex from the rest of their lives. Heterosexuals could meet partners at work or at school, they could show their affection for each other as they skipped through the park, they could listen to their love celebrated in popular songs, they could have their relationships formalized by the church. None of these opportunities were available to gays. Our relationships on the job, in school, at church could never be whole because it was not safe to express our sexual interests there. Therefore, at the end of the day or at the end of the week we went to where we knew gay people congregated: certain bars, baths and parks. We went not out of choice, but out of necessity. Society permitted only these meeting places because they were the means by which we were kept in our place. By restricting our meeting, society forced us to act out roles in our search for each other that supported heterosexual stereotypes of us. For example, they wanted to believe that we are more impersonal in our sexual relationships, that our sex less often occurs in the context of an ongoing,

stable relationship. First, they made it dangerous for us to be open about sex in our regular relationships. Then they provided meeting places, which, because we were so easily exposed, were also dangerous. Anonymity became necessary for survival. The person who led a double life could not allow his partner to know him well. His life and reputation were at stake. Impersonal sex became an imposed way of life, and society confirmed its prejudice that this was basic to our nature. Our oppression reached into our bedrooms.

Little by little we are hearing a new statement: "What you do in your own bedroom is your own business. I don't care what you do as long as you don't parade it in public." That is also a new put-down because heterosexuals feel perfectly free to parade their sexuality in public. They make no effort to keep their sex behind closed doors. This double standard is their means for hiding their prejudice from themselves. Increasingly we are understanding this insult for what it is. And we are beginning to act as though we were actually equal. We express our affection openly, just as others do. After years of being forced to do otherwise, we are reintegrating sex into the rest of our lives.

No one need be bound by traditional role playing, of course, but social pressures are strong and subtle. How you walk, what you do with your legs when you sit, how you carry your books, how you hold a cigarette, which emotions you express and when, and hundreds of other similar matters determine whether you are "masculine" or "feminine". It takes an unusually secure person to undo all this conditioning, even when he really wants to. It is easier for the gay person, who surrounds himself with other gay people, to shake this cultural baggage. His friends do not make the traditional expectations of him. Lovers do not question manhood and womanhood if one does not fit into the stereotypes.

Because sex is such a beautiful and ecstatic experience for gay people, we regret that it cannot be

talked about as openly with others as it is among ourselves. And we are mystified about why the so-called authorities so consistently portray it otherwise. Perhaps someday the defensiveness will lower enough that conversation can be based on truth rather than on lies.

#### EDUCATION

Since the beginning of the fall term the Waterloo Gay Lib has been involved in a few areas and education is one of them.

Our regular meetings have been very educational for some. Those with panels and speakers tended to draw the largest number of people.

Gay Lib has two video tapes, each about forty minutes in length, made when Dr. Franklin Kameny visited campus last year. Upon our last viewing, it was decided to reduce them to one tape by means of editing. This tape will then be available for use by classes on either of the two campuses.

With the aid of counselling services from the U of W, three sensitivity groups were formed this past fall. They consisted of a mixture of gays and straights. At the same time a few members from G.L.M. were meeting with many of the counsellors to discuss homosexuality. Our meetings with them were an attempt to broaden their awareness of gay people as well as to personally acquaint ourselves with the counsellors.

The Movement has also received many request for panels and speakers for classes or groups. So far we have met with two sociology classes, a kinesiology class and the Rap Roomers. At the moment we have requests from a couple of the high schools in the area as well as from Conestoga College.

This may be an area in which not many of the members feel personal feed back, but it is a very important part of the human liberation that we are working towards.

#### COMING EVENTS:

February 2 \*\*\*\*\*  
GLM Dance (8:30 - 1:00) at Jason's of Kitchener, 417 King St. West, half a block east of Victoria. Music by "J.W." Admission 50¢ Licenced.

February 17 \*\*\*\*\*  
University of Western Ontario Homophile Association dance. Grad Student Lounge, Somerville House, London. Admission \$1.00 without membership card. Licenced.

#### Regular Events

\*\*\* Monday evenings 8:00 Rm 113 Campus Centre, U of Waterloo, the regular meeting of Gay Lib.

\*\*\* Tuesday evenings. 14 Hagerman St. Toronto, the regular CHAT meeting.

\*\*\* Friday evenings, 14 Hagerman St. Toronto, Chat sponsors a weekly dance.

#### EDITORIAL

Persons who were familiar with GLM last year will recognize the title of this publication as being similar to the special publication 'GEMINI'. Gemini II, however, will be different in that it will combine the contents of the previous GLM Newsletter with the more general type of articles of Gemini.

Those of us who are putting this together are new to this form of communication. We hope that the information and ideas will be of interests and value to everyone. We also hope that people will supply us with any criticisms or suggestions as to how this may best serve the Gay community in this area. It is also our wish that people will supply us with possible materials for future editions.

Remember! Communication is a two way street.

Contact us at the regular meetings Monday (Campus Centre Rm 113, 8 p.m.) or at the new office (Campus Centre Rm 217).

## Who Is The One?

Who is the one my heart cries for?  
 For I am filled with loneliness and so  
 much more,  
 I don't understand this heart of mine,  
 It seems to want but never find.

There was a time when my heart could  
 feel,  
 Now it feel so cold and for me this  
 unreal,  
 I wish this heart of mine could need  
 It's been through a lot, quite a lot  
 indeed.

But what it has been through is in the  
 past,  
 It should be forgotten and forgotten  
 fast.  
 For the past is gone,  
 Yes gone and I must exist, I must live  
 on.

I know this heart of mine can love,  
 For love is such a precious thing.  
 Love is as beautiful as flowers  
 blossoming in the spring.  
 For without knowing that you are  
 loved there is only emptiness.

I wish this heart of mine could hope  
 for happiness,  
 For happiness is everything,  
 Without it I am sad,  
 And this heart of mine will soon be had.

I have happiness,  
 But for how much loneliness I have  
 paid,  
 I will ignore and try to be glad.  
 In this life I chose to lead.

My heart is heavy, heavy  
 With feelings and so many other things.  
 But I don't regret this life of mine  
 Somedays it is very happ,  
 Somedays very kind.

But other days I could die,  
 And I'm sure you will ask me why.  
 Why I don't know,  
 I guess it's my feelings that make  
 me cry.

My heart is heavy with grief tonight.  
 Please understand, I think I am right  
 So who is the one my heart cries for  
 For I am filled with loneliness and  
 so much more.

- FJB

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**New Office:** Gay Lib has aquired its own offic on campus located in the  
 Campus Centre, room 217 , telephone 885 1211 and ask for the  
 Gay Lib extension. It is hoped that in the future there will  
 be regular office hours in the evenings when people can telephone  
 for information, or just drop by to rap.  
 The office will contain all the Gay Lib materials including the  
 library of books and magazines. It is planned to expand the  
 present collection of books and to obtain copies of magazines  
 from as many other gay organizations as possible.  
 Until the new facilities are set up or if there is no response  
 at the office call [REDACTED] for further information.

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**Membership Changes:**

Changes in membership policy for GLM have lowered the yearly fee  
 from five dollars to fifty cents. The reduction will be in effect  
 only until the first of March when the price will inzease to  
 two dollars.

Memebership will include a subscription to GeminiIII and a  
 membership card which can be used after the beginning of March  
 to attend the dances and other special functions at reddced rates  
 \*\*\*\*\* Interested in a Membership?\*\*\*\*\*. Jot your name,  
 adress and telephone number onto a piece of paper, place in an  
 envelope with 50¢ and mail to: Gay Liberation Movement  
 c/o Federation of Students  
 University of Waterloo.

★ NOTICE ★

GAY LIB

DANCE

Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> - 8:30<sub>pm</sub> → 1:00<sub>am</sub>

at: Jason's of Kitchener  
417 King St West  
(½ block east of Victoria)

Music By "J.W."

Every one Welcome

licenced

Admission

50¢