

GEE, A...?

General Assembly this year will be in New York City at the Americana Hotel. The theme of GA is Stone Soup, which is taken from a story about some soldiers who come into a town where they are not welcome and gradually get the townspeople to share what little there was in the way of food with them. The idea of the theme is basically: If we all bring a little something to GA this year, we all will return to our homes and churches with a little more than we started out with. The point is that we need to share our problems so we can find solutions and if we really want the communication we so badly need between members of the denomination then we must make something of our annual meeting. If you would like to be a part of this experience and are interested in what is happening in the UU movement then why not start doing something about it now?

Why should you go to GA? Well, if you care about what happens in your denomination, if you feel that there should be more youth representation in the UU movement, if you feel that people should know that LRYers are interested in other facets of the denomination and/or if you are interested in the learning experiences that happen when you meet UUs from all over the continent, then you will probably feel some need to be at GA.

To be a voting delegate at General Assembly you should go to your minister or the chairperson of your church board and ask him/her about representing your church at the meeting. You probably will have to do this now and be a member of your church to be successful. Delegate status will probably involve giving a report of some kind to the board of your church telling them what you did and how you felt about the different programs that you came in contact with, and generally conveying any information obtained at GA which you feel is valuable to the church.

A voting delegate fee is \$45.00 this year, which includes a packet about General Assembly which contains schedules and information regarding workshops and resolutions.

If you don't get voting delegate status, don't give up. There are still ways to get to GA. Try for an alternate delegate status. That means that you go to GA and if by chance the delegate from your church can not make it to any of the meetings then you receive all his/her privileges and responsibilities -including voting.

The other way to get to GA is to become a Youth Delegate which means that you can have a packet on the program and can attend meetings but you do not have a vote. The cost of a youth delegate status is \$15.00. Also if you live in the New York area you can visit daily for a \$5.00 cover charge.

-continued next page

SMOKEY THE BEAR SUTRA

Once in the Jurassic, about 150 million years ago, the Great Sun Buddha in this corner of the Infinite Void gave a great Discourse to all the assembled elements and energies: to the standing beings, the walking beings, the flying beings, and the sitting beings—even grasses, to the number of thirteen billion, each one born from a seed, were assembled there: a Discourse concerning Enlightenment on the planet Earth.

"In some future time, there will be a continent called America. It will have great centers of power called such as Pyramid Lake, Walden Pond, Mt. Rainier, Big Sur, Everglades, and so forth; and powerful nerves and channels such as Columbia River, Mississippi River, and Grand Canyon. The human race in that era will get into troubles all over its head, and practically wreck everything in spite of its own strong intelligent Buddha-nature."

"The twisting strata of the great mountains and the pulsings of great volcanoes are my love burning deep in the earth. My ultimate compassion is schist and basalt and granite, to be mountains, to bring down the rain. In that future American Era I shall enter a new form: to cure the world of loveless knowledge that seeks with blind hunger; and mindless rage eating food that will not fill it."

And he showed himself in his true form of

SMOKEY THE BEAR.

A handsome smoke-colored brown bear standing on his hind legs, showing that he is aroused and watchful.

Bearing on his right paw the Shovel that digs to the truth beneath appearances; cuts the roots of useless attachments, and flings damp sand on the fires of greed and war;

His left paw in the Mudra of Comradely Display—indicating that all creatures have the right to live to their limits and that deer, rabbits, chipmunks, snakes, dandelions, and lizards all grow in the realm of the Dharma;

Wearing the blue work overalls symbolic of slaves and laborers, the countless men oppressed by a civilization that claims to save but only destroys;

Wearing the broad-brimmed hat of the West, symbolic of the forces that guard the Wilderness, which is the Natural State of the Dharma and the True Path of man on earth; all true paths lead through mountains.

With a halo of smoke and flame behind, the forest fires of the Kali yuga, fires caused by the stupidity of those who think things can be gained and lost whereas in truth all is contained vast and free in the Blue Sky and Green Earth of One Mind.

Round-bellied to show his kind nature and that the great earth has food enough for everyone who loves her and trusts her;

Trampling underfoot wasteful freeways and needlessly suburbs; smashing the worms of capitalism and totalitarianism.

Indicting the Task: his followers, becoming free of cars, houses, canned food, universities, and shoes, master the Three Mysteries of their own Body, Speech, and Mind; and fearlessly chop down the rotten trees and prune out the sick limbs of this country America and then burn the leftover trash.

Wrathful but Calm, Austere but Comic, Smokey the Bear will illuminate those who would help him; but for those who would hinder or slander him,

HE WILL PUT THEM OUT.

Thus his great Mantra:

Namah samanta vajranam chanda maharashana
Splataya hum traka ham mam

"I DEDICATE MYSELF TO THE UNIVERSAL
DIAMOND BE THIS RAGING FURY DESTROYED!"

And he will protect those who love woods and rivers, Gods and animals, hobos and madmen, prisoners and sick people, musicians, playful women, and hopeful children;

And if anyone is threatened by advertising, air pollution, or the police, they should chant SMOKEY THE BEAR'S WAR SPELL:

DROWN THEIR BUTTS
CRUSH THEIR BUTTS
DROWN THEIR BUTTS
CRUSH THEIR BUTTS

And SMOKEY THE BEAR will surely appear to put the enemy out with his vygra-shovel.

Now those who recite this Sutra and then try to put it in practice will accumulate merit as countless as the sands of Arizona and Nevada.

Will help save the planet Earth from total oil slick.

Will win the age of harmony of man and nature.

Will win the tender love and caresses of men, women, and beasts

Will always have ripe blackberries to eat and a sunny spot under a pine tree to sit at.

AND IN THE END WILL WIN HIGHEST
PERFECT ENLIGHTENMENT.

thus have we heard.

-credit WIN magazine (may be reproduced free forever)

PERSONALS

Page the second, People Soup - an LRY Publication

We are trying to start an alternative school within our high school and need info., ideas, etc. Anything!! Write: Ellen Bruce, 1315 Monroe, Evanston, Ill. 60202.

Dear OVF: OUT TO LUNCH. Will come MARCHing in soon enough, Love Bunny.

Dear Jim Munroe from Starr King: Let's talk about our revolutionary idea. Love, Layni from TOAKtm.

Hello Anna Banana, meet me at dog'n'suds mar.9 at 5:30 pm rsvp to 25 or 134 signed rabbits anonymous

If anyone found a jean jacket at Continental that had a rainbow hand embroidered on the back please write to: Richard Tauber, Box 509, 821 Volunteer Blvd., Knoxville. Tenn. 37916 I miss it terribly.

Chere mon amie Bev,
Bonjour, madame/oiselle!! Quelle appelons-nous "Ms" en francais? J'ai heureux vous connaitre, mais ma grammaire est tres, tres terrible!! J'ai triste, mais je ne sais pas quel dire, parce que ma vocabulaire est tres petite. Desirez-vous une traduire? Je t'aime Layni.

Found at Continental Boards (Chicago): One white T-shirt, medium size, black printing on front picture & "Hey, Hey, Hey". Contact Layni Martin, 1503 Montclair St. Arlington, Tx. 76015.

Any local group who would like to write a letter to my local group let's get to know each other: LRY C/O TVUC 3219 Kingston Pike, Box 10507, Knoxville Tenn. 37919...

-continued from the front page

each time you come to the convention. If any of the above ways appeal or fit your circumstances please get in touch with us and let us know what you are doing.

We plan to have alternate housing for youth attending the convention at a Universalist church near the hotel site. We (LRY) are sponsoring a banquet in Central Park, two worship services and four practica sessions (workshops) during the Assembly.

In order to help youth who attend the GA out, we would like to send a packet to all of them, the packet will provide information that will hopefully aid them in making various decisions and in understanding the GA structure and process. Please let us know as soon as possible if you decide to be at this years annual meeting, which will take place from June 25 to June 30th, write: LRY /25 Beacon street /Boston MA 02108.

Wanted; Local group to participate in pilot programs dealing in sexism. Should be an equal balance of sexes. If interested contact: Adam c/o LRY 25 Beacon St. Boston Mass 02108

ATTN: WeeWillie: Please write soon I miss you a whole lot. Take care I love you really...posies.

JTB from MAF finally got the monthlies after 11 years!! sigh..

Jo D. from Indianapolis why don't you ever come out and relate or at least write sometime from PR. in B-Town....

Where is the CCC? from PJ.

ADVERTISING RATES:

PERSONALS: A personal ad may involve personal gain, but no financial gain, FREE (within reason)

CLASSIFIED: A classified is any ad to buy or sell something. For anyone \$5.00 up to 30 words Per Column Inch

LRYers - \$1.00

Non-LRYers - \$2.00

(column width subject to change)

1/8 of a page

LRYers - \$5.00

Non-LRYers - \$7.50

1/4 of a page

LRYers - \$8.00

Non-LRYers - \$13.00

1/2 of a page

LRYers - \$15.00

Non-LRYers - \$25.00

Full Page

LRYers - \$35.00

Non-LRYers - \$50.00

Rates subject to change

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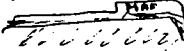
This Week's
TACOS
BELIEVE-IT-OR-NOT!

The Oldest LRYer...



...is the Reverend Peter A. Baldwin, a former executive director of LRY, who is LRY's ONLY LIFE MEMBER.

A FILE....



in the LRY office, dating back to 1989, reported that a Red-eration was dying... Last winter, 5 years later, the representative from that fed told the LRY board that the Red WAS STILL DYING!

If LRY had a Nickle for every time that someone asked LRY for money for a "Special Project" ...

LRY would have enough money to publish 3 free issues of People Soup

- Including Postage!

LRY has TWO Birthdays!



The first LRY was started in 1953 as a Coordinating Body between the Universalist Youth Fellowship and American Unitarian Youth. The second LRY was incorporated in 1956, when the UYF, the AUJ and the old LRY were combined into a new organization for all liberal religious youth!

The Grandparents



LRY is SO POOR... That the four LRY executives have to live on \$30 per week for food for themselves and their guests. And - they are forced to steal their toilet paper from their own office!

- AND AGAIN WE PLEAD...

It is our intention that People Soup become a self supporting program and publication of Liberal Religious Youth. In order for this to happen it is necessary that we continue to receive subscriptions. With the money we have collected and the money we are owed by subscribers, we could put out another twelve page issue without dipping into our budget.

We are asking you please, if you find this paper valuable, to sell subscriptions. Local group subscriptions will not carry us, we need many more individuals buying our paper. It only takes a moment to fill out the form on the right, turn on your friends and the people in your church. If you use up the forms or don't want to damage your paper, just send the necessary information on a plain sheet of paper. For \$2.50 the subscriber will receive eight issues of People Soup. If the paper should fold he/she will be reimbursed 31c per issue not delivered. Also available bulk rate on a per issue basis: 25c per copy for thirty or more, up to forty-nine copies, 20c per copy for over fifty. SEND SUBSCRIPTIONS AND MONEY TO: People Soup, C/O LRY, 25 BEACON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108 Make checks payable to LIBERAL RELIGIOUS YOUTH.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

BILL ME (I WILL PAY WITHIN 2 MOS.)

ENCLOSED IS \$2.50

Name _____
Street _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

editorials

The outstanding characteristic of newspapers, besides the format, is the fact that they contain news. News may be defined as any event or series of events, reported with as little judgement as possible, which will be important to the reader.

Importance can be a matter of dimension, Watergate is important internationally, whereas John Doe's election to city council in Urbana, Illinois is not.

Importance can be a matter of novelty, if John Doe happens to be running as a Communist Party candidate it may be important as an unusual event.

The city council election could also be important to LRYers if John was an eighteen-year-old LRYer or if a local group was involved in the process in some way. An event, then, can be important if it is one that involves a group which the reader identifies with.

An important event may also be initiated by the reporter. If an LRYer chairs a conference, for example, and decides to write an article about it he/she must be careful not to let his/her enthusiasm for the event crowd out the facts. Reporting an event which one participates in is going to be somewhat subjective regardless of how one tries to avoid it. However facts are important, the facts I would like to know are: 'what was the purpose of the conference?' 'how was the conference set up in terms of fulfilling the purpose?' 'was the conference successful?' 'how did people react to it?' and of course, 'when and where was it?' 'why was the conference good/bad?' 'are there any conclusions you can draw from this experience?'

Facts that are usable are important. If I tell you how people in my high school managed to gain some real power for the student council then you have that experience to draw on when dealing with your school.

Writing a successful news article is not the easiest thing to do, but with a little planning it is not impossible. Probably the first step in writing about something you expect to happen is to write down facts that are already known.

The second step is to make a note of any questions that arise either out of the known facts or in your own head. A good question to ask yourself is 'what does the reader need to know?'

At this point it may be necessary to do some investigation into the background events which support or lead up to the occurrence you are reporting. Make up a list of questions and interview people who are in some way responsible for, or directly affected by, the event.

Now you are fully prepared to observe the event. Try to take notes as it happens. Ask people questions. If you have a camera take pictures.

The final step is to draft an article. This is a crucial point, if you have a lot of important facts, but are unwilling to write them down using understandable English then nobody is going to read the article.

Often something will happen when one is not expecting it. Tomorrow you may walk into a race riot at school. Immediately you see the possibility of newsworthiness so you begin taking notes and asking questions. When people have cooled down you can begin investigating the events leading up to the riot.

The most important news in this paper may well be reporter initiated. If 'nothin's happenin'' maybe starting a project and writing about it could be a good thing for both your head and for People Soup. The preceding was, by the way, an editorial.

NERO REBORN?

Peter Nalven

I will start this editorial out with a plea directed to NERO LRYers. I plea to you to separate yourselves from your ego while you are reading and responding to this editorial. I plea to you to sit down and really think about what is written and send your responses to People Soup.

Being centered in Boston and fairly well exposed to the New England LRY has brought me to some conclusions about its existence and future. First I will present to you my observations. The first observation is the most obvious and all encompassing; LRY in New England is falling apart. The reason behind its falling apart are; A real lack of leadership, existence for the purpose of keeping the system going. The lack of well planned and successful conferences, The over abundance of most of them poorly planned. These problems lead to other problems such as poor attendance, low keyed participation, inner turmoil and all round disenchantment with LRY.

I feel that a change is needed, a radical change. If something does not happen I can foresee the total falling apart of LRY in the area within the next few years. When a NERO executive was confronted with the idea of change he responded, "you know you are right, but we cannot change. NERO has to fall apart completely before we can put it back together." I disagree with a philosophy behind the statement and the statement itself. True, the falling apart of NERO will bring about a change and possibly a rebirth but what about the cost? Years of needless confusion and the work to build attendance back to the low point it is right now? I say that NERO needs to come together not fall apart. Come together without their egos and federation power trips and build something new.

I propose that all of the Federations in the New England Area redraw their boundaries making the ten now existing federations into three larger and hopefully stronger feds. I propose that CVF and Narragansett combine to make one federation. That Bayshore, Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk, and South Middlesex combine to make a Boston Area Federation. And that Downeast, Hosea Ballou, New Hampshire Federation, and Central Mass combine to make a North Northeast Fed. I did a good deal of thinking before I decided on these combinations. The things I took into consideration were the population of these areas, the distance that people would have to travel to get to a conference, and the strength of the old feds that would make up the new feds.

The problem that this move would bring about is the dissolving of old governing bodies and the creation of new governing bodies. I am confident that if we put our minds to work we will be able to solve this problem. What I recommend is that CVF and Narr. just combine their executive committees until elections come up. For the Boston Area and the North-NorthEast area I recommend a coalition governments and their next election they abolish the president/vice-president structure and elect area representatives to the new exec-council.

I hope NERO will take action on this proposal or a better one soon while they still have something to work with.

A WORD ON THE NEW COMMUNITY BY RICHARD TAUBER

LRY at one point was an entirely separate part of society, a place where neat heads got together for community. At that time it was the only place where these people got together. We have lost our uniqueness, now if you look in the right place there are individuals and even whole-groups of people who are living LRY without even knowing that LRY exists. What we need to do to make a truly New Community is to seek out these people and groups and unite them. Try and make this as large a Community as possible.

For with this progression of growth of a true community of like souls then perhaps a change can be affected upon our whole culture, all by a little help from old LRY. What a thought????

But back to "reality". LRY and its people will be getting themselves together, the transition from LRY now- to the New Community will be a painful one but the pain will be that of birth. True, a good bit of the emotions shown in LRY are put on, however, the little parts that aren't overly compensate for the "put ons".

For the whole idea of the New Community is that LRY not to be a group of individual people who just go to meetings and then home. The idea is to make LRY the home and family of each and every person. In this it will not be all happiness, no family is, it will be happiness and tears, love and hate, helping and needing help. But with this LRY can obtainly be the New Community.

But can us LRYers say that we are no different that there are no other groups or people who want to live the way we are attempting. It seems our obligation to ourselves is to find these and bring them into the New Community. For in the long run we are members of the world who want to live a better style- can we exclude and not reach for others who desire this style. Let's make this a total New Community.

National Efficiency Contest

- Andrew Velonis

The New Jersey Area Council recently held a joint meeting with whatever interested LRYers wanted to show, and while there I met a very interesting person. She is sixty-nine years old and both her family and her husband's family have been Unitarian for three generations, herself being part of the third.

When she was in LRY (except it wasn't called LRY then) at the age of fourteen or fifteen, there was a program called the National Efficiency Contest. For this contest the leaders of LRY would publish what they thought was a worthy set of goals for the group nationwide. Then the locals from all over the country (I don't think that there were federations then) would cook up and institute programs that they thought would accomplish one or more of those goals.

The winning group got to send someone from their group to the continental conference, and all the programs that groups had tried were published in a book called: THE NATIONAL EFFICIENCY CONTEST. Anyone who had the book (I assume that all the locals got a copy) could readily see what programs were being used in other parts of the country, and their success.

Maybe we could do something similar. I know that competition is generally frowned upon in LRY, but I think that it would be great to have a more unified effort to reach common goals, and also to be able to use every LRYer in the country (continent, and that goes for all other references to country or nation- ed.) as a source for programs.

Maybe we could do this along the lines of:

- 1) Reiterating the goals of LRY;
- 2) Demanding, encouraging, coaxing, persuading and somehow getting as many groups as possible, feds locals anything, to write up what programs they have tried

*****ECF is planning to make tee shirts.

*****NERO is planning an intergenerational conference sometime on the week end of the 23, 24, and 25 of March.

*****MVF held its winter conference in Kansas City in late January. It was quite a large conference with almost 100 people attending. A BODY (Board of Directing Youths) meeting was held. Representatives gave local reports. A feeling of accomplishment was evident. I now have a list of local contacts for you. It was decided to start a sort of "packet library" in which each local will make a list of all the packets and materials that they have and send it in to our communications officer. This way everyone will know where to get the materials they need.

*****Clearinghouse is still in the works.

*****MVF is still planning to have a multi-fed conference this summer (multi-fed because it is not sure who will be included).

*****Continental LRY has the NARMAC slide show "Post-war War" for use of LRYers.

AIM CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY

(LWS) February 27, the first anniversary of the beginning of the siege of Wounded Knee and the declaration of the Independent Oglala Nation will be celebrated in cities all over the country with a variety of marches, picket lines, benefit dinners, dances benefit concerts, and films. The activities will continue from February 27-March 10 and will be celebrated in cities including Toledo, Ohio; Louisville, Ky.; Pensacola, Fla.; Bronx, N.Y.; Wilmington, Del.; and Savannah Ga.

People interested in organizing something in their city should get in touch with the Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee, PO Box 255, Sioux Falls, SD, 57101, (605) 339-9805. Speakers and educational material are available.

to attain these goals and how successful they were and send them to a central location where they would be compiled and published.

That way, all LRYers could be sharing their experiences with growing, living and learning. That, to me, is central to what LRY is about.

The purposes of LRY as stated in the constitution are:

To unite liberal religious youth.

To build understanding and cooperation between youth and adults in the liberal religious movement.

To provide for effective implementation of these purposes through local and regional organizations and activities.

To help individual young people grow in:

Dealing creatively and imaginatively with religion as the most exalted quality and spirit of living. Nurturing the distinctively liberal tradition in religion: freedom and responsibility of belief, the free and questing mind, the use of reason and the scientific method in religion and respect for the individual integrity and dignity of every person.

Achieving a responsible and durable faith through personal and group experiences of learning, service and worship.

Understanding and practicing the privileges and responsibilities of the democratic spirit and method.

Becoming creative and realistic contributors to the achievement of a just, peaceful and united world community.

This brings up an interesting question. How often do we think about what we do in LRY in terms of our stated goals or any other goals for that matter? -editors

UUSC PROJECT

Young people, dissenters, non-whites and other "non-conformists" too often become the targets of tough punishment and deliberate harassment in our system of justice-- in contrast to the experience of most middle-class citizens.

Standing on street corners, loud parties, quarrels, can often provoke police, more because of the lifestyles of the people involved than any harm to society.

Once taken to court, particularly young people and non-whites just don't have the money available for bail, lawyers, court costs and fines.

Maybe you've got some stories to tell yourself since this situation repeats itself daily all over the country, spanning suburbia and inner-city. The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) has been trying to do something about the abuses in the criminal justice system with a national administration of justice project that just celebrated its first birthday.

For the past year UUSC has been organizing Unitarian Universalists to take a hard look at their local courts, police, prisons and begin to take action for reform.

This process most often starts with a period of court monitoring where people actually sit down in their local courtrooms and see for themselves our assembly-line style of justice, what happens to the long-hairs and to minorities.

UUSC extends a big welcome and invitation to members of LRY to participate in a court monitoring project. Young people can make a significant contribution to judicial reform by taking the time to watchdog their local courts as court monitors.

If you have any comments/questions, contact Attorney Raymond Dougan at UUSC's Administration of Justice Project at 25 Beacon St., Boston, Mass. 02108.

Putting together a paper for a special group of people is not an easy job, especially when you are not sure who these people are. What they are into, where their heads are at and what their realm of experiences are. We would like to know the answer to these questions and I am sure you all would like to know who else is crazy enough to subscribe to and read this paper. I am also sure you would like a little insight into who we are and what we are about. That is the purpose of this paper. We would like to have a little autobiography of you in issues to come and are asking you to write them and send to People Soup 25 Beacon St. Boston Ma. 02108.

THE GREAT INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE POLL

Object:

The People Soup Production Poll is a one competition, during which member Federations and Regional organizations will endeavor to amass points for various activities and what not as set forth in the section points.

EVENTS

Conferences

BOTS/Advisor Conferences/LTWs

Day Rallies/ Youth Sundays/ Coffee Houses/ Pancake Breakfasts/etc.

Social Actions

Magazine/Newspaper/T.Shirts/Buttons/etc.

Newsletters

For attending Continental Conference the individual Feds or Reg. will receive

For subscriptions to People Soup " " "

Articles published in People Soup " "

For each meeting per week

For every new member who has attended 3 consecutive meetings

For any unpublished articles sent to People Soup

For original and innovative workshops

For original and innovative local group programming

For an exceptional conference (report required)

For each existing local

For any ongoing program

For sponsoring or co-sponsoring a summer camp

For each delegate at G.A.

For miscellaneous, if you feel you have done something extra special tell us about it

Points:

Upon entering the Poll each Fed or Regional Org will receive all points for the valid events, activities and so on that they can take place since January 1, 1974. On the 15th of each month, People Soup productions will calculate points for all events and what-not that are proven to have taken place between the 16th of the previous month and said date. Game points are awarded as follows.

No. of POINTS AWARDED

Maximum of 5 points for each of the first 3 conf. and -5 for each exceed-over 4 conferences per year.

5 points

2 points **RULES:** As you already know, nothing

5 points can work without rules, so here they

3 points are:

3 points 1) When talking in terms of members,

1 point you must supply full names & addresses

2 points and the group they are attached.

3 points 2) When talking in terms of events

1 point you must supply the written hand outs

1 point or the names of 10 participating members

3 points 3) In each issue of People Soup, an

5 points account of standings, to the date of

5 points issue, will be published.

5 points 4) In the event of question the staff of

5 points People Soup will have final say.

15 points

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This is a project designed to make LRY friends and folks more acquainted with this menagerie called the LRY executive committee. When the committee first came to office they had little or no idea of the job they were taking on. As they discovered what the office and working conditions were like they came to the startling realization that:

It's all here, all year!

They knew that things had to do with leadership training and field-tripping. They developed a way to say what they had to say and do what they had to do.

EXPERT TALKS

Getting down to business

START 'EM LAUGHING

They made contacts with the UUA. Center of the World

In addition to projects, packets, and associated actions, one of their biggest projects was preparation for Midwinter Boards in Chicago, or Chicago Heights as it were. They had to arrange for places, times, transportation, shelter, and food.

How many times a year do you take 1500 guests out to lunch?

Attendees at Boards found it quite an experience and the committee could find no words to express how they felt about the whole affair. One thing that is abundant in LRY especially at board meetings is

A lot of people want to sell you pure razzle dazzle.

After recovering from the meetings and the traveling, the committee has been working hard at all sorts of ideas that came out of the meeting. The paper is part of these workings as are many appearances at places for helping folks. A lot of learning goes on too, that's for sure. At this point, the committee is starting to work on their next big gathering together project which is General Assembly.

Boondoggle or Bonanza?

PRO-FILE

MATTHEW

Hi my name is Matthew Easton and this is the second time I am starting to write the article now before you (although I vowed to do it in one try) I was born on March the first 1955 in Seattle Washington, have blonde hair, hazel eyes, and glasses which I bought last Thursday with my very own money (th date is February 13 1974 at quarter of six) I am a vegetarian for the sake of how I feel rather than any humanistic or otherwise lofty ideals. I like Jazz music, prefer it to Rock or Pop or whatever you call it- simply because it is less repetitive, has greater variety of emotional feeling involved, is not associated with (at least in my mind) some of the sick trips that happen in this society and which I can see reflected in various stage shows of various rock and rollers (John Coltrane never had to kill chickens on stage for attention) also as a general rule jazz is quieter and more serene, it seems too that Jazz musicians on the whole, if they have managed to survive this long, are much more inclined to play real music real well, of course on the other hand I can't condemn Rock- It is part of my culture... I play the Saxophone, Clarinet, Recorder, and Piano- although I am getting pretty out of practice lately. My ambition right now (a couple minutes after six) is to seclude myself somewhere in Tallahassee Florida, where I lived prior to coming here, and practice up till I can cut a record. Of course, fantasies like that don't happen very often but it often sustains me through times of distress or boredom. Although I am probably the kind of person one would consider to be a part of the "YOUTH CULTURE" I am basically fed up with it... too much lethargy, no sense of direction, it's time to stop licking our wounds "I'm sorry, but I was born in the suburbs, how can you expect me to..." and start changing the world, or it's time at least to change myself. I've found that I do have at least some control over my own destiny, whether I choose to accept or act on the knowledge of that control or not. The question arises, How much control do I have? I don't know, at least enough to correct the grammatical and spelling errors in this peice of writing, if I choose to, or to leave them if I don't. On this line (disregarding the spacing errors) I incorrecly spelled piece. And incorrecly, Golly gee I'm getting spacey.

I am a member of the continental LRY Executive Committee Because: What is this an essay question? LRY has lost its sense of purpose just like almost every other institution in this country therefore What Better Cause than to set this time honored and august institution back on the road to fulfillment of all those lofty ideals we forgot about some where along the way? of course, I'm not here to do it by myself, which is the reason, probably, that I am submitting myself to this article which I really don't have a great desire to write. So what is LRY all about? I'd say healing people. I figure that this scenario and all the others that I happen to in this office and in the field and at the apartment are really about how I get my head together by helping other people get their heads together by helping other people get their heads together by helping other people get their heads together by... well you get the general idea. Of course this also implies that other people get their heads together by helping me get my head together... I am reminded of a song called WE ARE THE OTHER PEOPLE by Frank Zappa. What am I doing to reach the goal stated above? You really ask hard ones, Yeah I know I misspelled another word. well I do a lot of garbage work like typing and filing and I do answer letters though it sometimes takes a while. I'm trying to write a leadership development packet designed to wake up people (turn on the lights open the doors etc) generally I try to listen and care, what's that Peter says I don't talk enough, show my anger enough... It's okay, I like the way I am, life wouldn't be half so exciting if I didn't... I also am beginning to enjoy this little ego trip although have much skepticism that it will have the desired result. A thought: I am not an officer so that people can fill up with me, I and this entire office act as a vehicle better say facilitator so that people can fill themselves up with the world, so that people can put it on and wear it as a second skin of course this office and the humans in it is much too far away and much too understaffed to really act that way- it facilitates federations which facilitate locals which are where the real action happens HAPPENS darn it (if I was Patient) Got a problem? Go out and get fulfilled, fellow kid. I think I'm going to join a local next time I'm in town on a Sunday night, good for the head give me some kind of feel for what I'm doing anyway and whytoo...

In closing friends, since I appear to be running out of paper, the mark of the good leader is the ability to follow, the best speakers and musicians are among the best listeners, the true scientist is truly creative from top to bottom, and is also careful in not making such absolute generalizations as I have done... this piece of writing with a grain or three of salt. love you madly.



Matthew 5 years old

PETER



Attempted self portrait

This year has brought me through a lot of changes, for better or for worse, so I often find myself looking inside and trying to see who I am and where I am going too. In order for you to have a feel for who I am, I guess I should tell you a little of my History. I grew up in a liberal, white, upper middle class family in Plainfield, New Jersey. I have three sisters; Claudia, who is a year older than myself and was on the Continental Executive Committee last year, and Emily and Laura who are two and four years younger, respectively. My parents were politically aware and very intelligent. They saw to it that I had a good home, a good education, and that I was aware of my surroundings. I spent all of my years in public schools, which for the most part, I intensely disliked. I lived through many one way conversations consisting of the lines "Peter, you are so intelligent. If you would only apply yourself, you could be a very good student. Unfortunately I never did. The most important and useful things I learned in school were how to survive in an institution without putting any energy into it, and insights on racial conflicts since over seventy percent of my school was black. The things I did best were going to LRY and getting high.

After I graduated, my friend Art and I decided to take a bike trip. I bought a bike and a week later we were off. We biked up to Montreal, took a train to Vancouver, and proceeded to pedal towards L.A. Our trip ended at continental conference which was held at Redlands, California. I spent a week with my friends at a good conference, then took a bus ride to Boards where I was elected Program Director for LRY.

So here I am in Boston, working in an office, doing things that I never envisioned myself doing. Some of the things I do are write lots of letters, packets, and articles for the newspaper. I field-trip to places and put on programs, give speeches to ministers and other groups of Unitarian Universalists. I also help people work out problems they are having with their feds, regions, and locals, and anything else that comes up. I am living with Matt, Adam, and Paula. This is a very interesting and trying experience having never lived with anyone outside of my family. I have learned that living with people is not an easy thing to do and that it takes alot of work to keep things going in a good way.

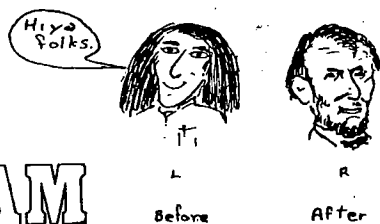
The things I enjoy doing vary with my mood and the people I am with at the time, but there are a good deal of things that I find to be consistant pleasures. Talking to people is one of my favorite pass-times, and it usually does not matter what we are talking about as long as it flows. A good laugh does wonders for me, and corny jokes (especially when I am telling them) are a lot of fun. I have always wanted to play an instrument but I have never been able to get it together and learn how to do it. Well, for the past couple of weeks I have been struggling with a guitar and although I often think the guitar is winning I really think I am learning how to play it. If someday you see me on your T.V. strumming away, don't be surprised. I like to play sports, get high, and/or sit back and groove with other people. When I am alone I do alot of thinking- about work, people, events, or whatever is a good thing to think about at the time.

My dreams about the future are really important to me and when things are down they are the only thing that keeps me going. I often dream about being a whiz kid in college and learning how to write with some degree of competency. What I hope to major in if I go will be something in the line of working with groups of people. Being here at 25 Beacon Street exposes me to alot of ministers, and alot of my friends are going into the ministry, so I often think about what I would do if I had a church. This is fairly impractical because by no stretch of the imagination am I a good writer or any good at public speaking. Well, so it goes. My last fantasy which I thought had a good chance of coming true, but does not look as rosey as it did, was to move in with a certain group of people and open a store front. From this we could open a drop-in center, a clinic, programs that are free to whom ever wants them, etc., etc.... Well, dreams are nothing more than wishes and a wish is nothing more than a dream that you wish to come true.

Howdy folks, my name is Paula Rose and I live eat breathe and work LRY for a year. This article is to help explain a bit about myself and what and who I am. I could go into a long story about me, myself and I but it would take too long and I don't know where to start. Maybe the best place is some info about where I'm coming from.

I am a Canadian citizen and I'm 19 years old and I'm a female. That is pretty basic to say the least. How did I ever get to Boston? I wonder about that too sometimes. I went out to Continental conference last summer and really got into what I could give to LRY in return for what I got from it and the people I came in touch with. After the conference I went to the annual meeting (Summer Boards) and ran in a election and won the position of Director of Finance and Assemblies for Continental LRY. That's how I got to Boston and where I'm at sort of mentally and physically too. My job description is bookkeeper, ex-officio on Continental Conference planning committee, trying to get our IRS Non-Profit Status, General Assembly planning our Board of Trustees meetings Youth Adult Committee and other general chaotic stuff goes into doing this job. I really don't mean to be a 9-5 job because it is the farthest thing from it. The four committee members live with each other in a 2½ bedroom apartment in Cambridge. So we are a family and working partners trying to deal with the complications that are involved in our situation. We are not special people that get chosen by the almighty to show the way to anyone. We are LRYers just like many of you but happen to be living it more in a tighter scene because we have to.

It gets pretty hard trying to type about yourself without getting boring so I hope you stick with me. What I find so many people need from day to day is support and I'm one of those people for sure. I hope I give the support back and not lean on people. I also need to be in a loving situation with people I know care and love me for what I am and not have to live up to unreal expectations. I think and feel that's the place where I'm at right now with the men I live with. We were thrown together with the only basic common experience that we all had at one time was LRY. We are all from different parts of the continent and have shared and had similar experiences but at the same time they are very different, too... I am the woman who went through LRY with different head than the men I live with. Living with three men is a pretty interesting experience and one that I would recommend to anyone that have never really thought they could do it. When I got elected and my name was the only woman called three women came up to me and asked me how I was going to live with those men? It really is hard at times living with men that really don't understand where my head is at and I can feel the tenseness in the air when issues come up like roles people get stuck in and other heavies!!! We share the workload and household chores as evenly as possible (really don't like tradition crap) and we are all guilty of role plays and who is the heavy but at least we try to improve the situation and our heads. When I came to Boston really was aware that women play an important role in my life and my thinking and that I didn't know anyone else in the city besides the people I live with. So a big step was getting to know more people and got involved with a Conscience-Raising group and really begin to know other women and not be as lonely I was. Also I have become aware of where my head is at that being in a womens group and dealing weekly with the hassles that we as women go through play an important part of my life and that I can't avoid a part of my heart any longer. The womens movement is important to me 1) I am a woman and proud 2) that as long as society has its built in resistances towards my sex then my freedom is held back; 3) as long as my sisters are beaten down my freedom will never be what I want. Liberation is a heavy trip to be involved in because no matter how liberated you may feel you are there is some brother or sister that isn't. Until the day comes when there is no prejudice roles and class differences no one person can be completely liberated. If we say to each other that we love every soul on this earth and do nothing you might as well give up now and forget any hopes you may have.... Paula



ADAM

I'm Adam Auster, who does (among other things) Social Actions. I'm supposed to write about myself, but I think I'll be tricky and start off by telling you a little bit about Peter, Paula and Matt, who I live with.

Peter is LRY's token jock-type. A native of New Jersey ("Joisey" he says), he's spent most of his life in the New York Metropolitan area. He's also a wizard bridge player.

Paula is our token Canadian and woman (Last year the exec. comm. had 3 women so don't get too excited). I first met her at a conference in Toronto last Easter. She's a pretty quiet person.

Matt is the token Flower Child. He's also got the most outlandish laugh you have ever heard (seen?) and a sort of a beard that he chews on alot. He's great to share ideas with, even though he has a habit of losing his place in the middle of a conversation and forgetting what he was about to say.

That leaves me, LRY's token Quaker-type. Only let me hasten to explain that I am not a member of any Friends (Quaker) society, though I have been considering applying for membership for quite some time. I have a few pretty strong feelings about being a non-Unitarian in LRY, but I'll get back to that later.

Let me tell you a little ancient history. I've spent my LRY years at three different schools, none of which I liked very much, which is why I quit the first two and decided to stick it out in the third. My first school was a liberal Friend's boarding school in Poughkeepsie where I first got into non-violence, living away from home, and also LRY. The second school was the public school in Westport, Ct., a classically middle class "liberal" suburb where my family lives. I found, however, that after living away I couldn't go back home so I left for my third and last boarding school, a small and deceptive boarding school in the Berkshire Mountains of Massachusetts. The mountains were beautiful but the school most certainly was not- I put myself through a lot of useless grief over the people and definitely was failing to hold my own. Then I got back into LRY, and all of a sudden (even though I was still living at school) the misery of trying to exist at that place faded away. I had something else to do- life at school simply didn't matter any more; it was a tiresome game I had to play until my graduation at the end of the year. The important things were all in LRY. In fact, I missed my own graduation to go to a MARC conference in Pennsylvania. Then I really got going- I went to continental conference, to boards and I got elected to the LRY executive committee.

There's been more. Rowe camp has played a very important part in my life, and for the last two years I've been going to the New York Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends, the annual gathering of the New York Quakers. There was even a time when I quit LRY for good (that's what I said), but that is another story.

Since then I've been living in Cambridge and working in Boston with these people, and it (as you may imagine) has been weird. Nonetheless it is a definite groove, and so is the work. After years of school it is really refreshing to find that the work you're supposed to do and the work you want to do are one and the same.

I've been thinking of late about the broad implications of LRY, where we've been, and where we are going. I think that we are nearing our next stage of our growth- from youth group to youth movement. A movement means living our ideals with others, and I honestly don't feel that LRY is doing that yet. We talk about it enough, and we say we care.... and I believe that that is where we are moving, that is what we should try to be whenever we can. Because we are evolving along these lines, LRY has become much more than just a high school church group... but we are also many other things. That is why there are so many non-UUs in LRY- non- Unitarians, but still undeniably youth who are liberally religious.

I sometimes find it hard to write about myself flat out like this is supposed to be, which is really frustrating because I really want to reach out to people. Well, I do that sometimes. There are still times when I take things too hard and there are still times when I find I'm unable to relax and get comfortable, but I guess that I'm getting more to where I want to be. -Adam

SMOKING DOPE

I have often been asked, "Why do you smoke dope?" The answer I usually give is, "To get high." The more I think about it the more I am inclined to say that smoking is not just for getting high, but is also something that helps find a common denominator in a relationship. As a matter of fact, I very rarely get high by myself. I feel it is an experience that is to be shared; that almost anyone who wants to can share with you. It is a gesture of friendship to someone who you have just met, or a reaffirmation of friendship with someone you know. I feel my best highs are when I do something with the people I have smoked with.

Even the process of smoking dope is a sharing experience. The joint, pipe, or whatever is used is lit, and the communion begins. It is passed from person to person, hand to hand, until everyone is properly intoxicated or the supplies have run out. This ceremony, although it is almost

always lightly taken, induces a closeness in any relationship. This closeness is extended because the people who are now high are at a common level. What I mean by this is that although peoples' thoughts may be very different, they feel a community in the easy-going acceptance of these thoughts and even the willingness to groove on what the people around them are perceiving.

I have excluded the whole thing of what dope makes you feel like as far as your personal high. But I feel that this is hard to describe and that it is something you have to experience for yourself. I would also like to say that I think that people who have to smoke dope to get a good thing going are missing a lot of the important parts of life, and that people have to leave themselves susceptible to highs that are not induced by dope. That is why I am against dope smoking at LRY conferences.

Peter Nahen

Dope Games People Play

After thinking about it and talking about it and watching it in LRY for years, I have come to the cautious conclusion that our much discussed "dope problem" has actually got very little to do with dope itself and instead is a problem that stems from all of the social attachments that come along with drinking and smoking. For example, I remember when I first outgrew my Jr. High School morality and began to notice that most of my friends seemed to spend an awful lot of their time getting drunk or getting high. A friend of mine explained it to me once by telling me that "there's nothing nicer than getting drunk in a room full of friends". That sounded pretty reasonable to me until I looked around and saw that most of my peers had no room full or even armful of friends. In fact, everyone seemed caught up in some sort of dog-eat-dog social structure in which drinking and smoking counted pretty high for points. It then occurred to me that the nicest part about getting drunk in a room full of friends is the friends, and in fact you could even leave off the drinking part and not do too badly. Leave out the friends on the other hand and all you have left is getting drunk in a room (sort of depressing I think). But as I said before, the problem is not the drink, or the dope, but rather the dumb social system and the strange idea that smoking dope automatically makes you into something better than you are. Not the experience, in other words, but the mystique.

What hurts is that this games playing goes on in LRY too. Not just sometimes either. It is rare to go to a conference and not find at least a few people who are trying to score points with dope or sex. Below are a few examples of the dope games that people play.

the "I'M NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR MY ACTIONS" game.

The title of this game is pretty self explanatory, and the game is pretty common. However because of the many different ways that people try and pull this one off it is often hard to spot. "I'm Not Responsible" is the most obvious when people who are drinking or smoking pretend that it's OK to hurt each other because they are stoned and therefore not "all there". These people smoke or drink not to get high but to have an excuse for violent, sexist or otherwise antisocial behavior. When stoned, the players of "I'm not responsible" have carte blanche to insult their friends or treat others as sex objects. Ask them about it later and they will hand you some line about how "it's not me, it's the dope". Key phrases in this game include, "I hardly ever get this drunk", "I feel so silly" and of course the classic, "Wow, this stuff really makes me horny".

the "DOPE STATUS SYMBOL" game.

This game is probably the most popular one of its kind. In "Dope Status", the purpose of smoking (or drinking) is not to get high but rather to be socially desirable. Skillful players can become more than just socially desirable; they can, by following the rules to the hilt, become certified grade-A groovy, number one Joe and Jane Hips. Almost every kind of person plays "Dope Status". People who have been smoking for years and people who are getting high for the first time all try to be equally "cool" about dope. Sometimes a non smoker will be so pressured that s/he will fake it and start playing. Sometimes they even succeed in fooling everyone else, because after all the essence of the game is not smoking but talking about it. Talking about past

experiences with dope or drink is the best way of amplifying the social aspect of dope, and in fact "Dope Status" players often spend much of their time while stoned bragging about previous highs. This is usually a competitive game that is "won" by the most experienced doper in the group. When, as often happens, this game is played in a large group of people including some non smokers, the game of "Everybody Must Get Stoned" (or the "Hips vs. Straights Polarization" game) often begins. Some common phrases are, "Hey man, I'm really high" (especially when re-repeated over and over) and, "If you think this stuff is good, last month I..."

the "DOPE MAKES ME COSMIC" game.

This game is different from the "Dope Status" game in that the people playing this game really and truly believe that smoking dope contributes to everything good about them and helps to get rid of everything bad. Like magic, dope makes the player more creative, more spiritual, more fun to be with and in greater harmony with the deep inner truths of the universe. This sounds so absurd written flat out that almost no one will admit to it, but none the less a good many people remain secretly convinced that when they are stoned they become much more aware and in tune with reality (As might be expected there is sometimes a lot of conflict between the "Cosmic" players, who claim that dope makes them more sensitive, and the "I'm Not Responsible" players, who claim that dope makes them less!). Phrases to watch out for are "Wow, I really need a joint right now" and "you'd have to be stoned to really appreciate it".

These are just a few of the most common games and their variations. There are certainly a good deal more, but what remains clear is that these games are almost the exact opposite of whatever it is we mean by the "New Community" in LRY. In fact, these games threaten the very life of LRY. It is not enough to recognize these games and to understand them; it is also up to each of us to see what we can do to change things.

ADVISOR/LRY CONTRACT

What is an Advisor/LRY contract?

It is a verbal (written or oral) agreement between the LRY group and its advisor to designate the relationship between the group and the advisor and those responsible. The advisor holds to the autonomous group and the church.

Why a contract?

To increase communication and understanding but mostly because we get tired of hearing the old cliché: Why the hell (are they) (am I) here?

How to initiate?

Get your group together and decide exactly why you need an advisor and for what purposes. The following are most generally found:

Shoulder - This is the type of person you can confide in- cry with-and trust.

Consultant- This is your contact for speakers, resources, and also the voice of experience...hopefully.

Chaperone- Self-explanatory, this type is a security blanket for the church and parents.

Prompter- This involves initiating ideas, activities, etc. for the group.

Buffer- This is our adult-to-adult contact with the church and, as the name implies, softens the blows.

There are many pro's and con's to these, as well as variations and each group should contemplate all the aforementioned needs and find those that best befit the group and church situation.

It is suggested that you keep in that LRY is traditionally autonomous (self-governing) and to follow that trend, please do not decide on anything too restrictive. The best combination found so far was the Shoulder/Consultant: and if any problems in group/church relations, Buffer.

/s/Floyd Doughty, Pres.
MVF 1973-74.

SRL FIDDLES WHILE

COMET BURNS (OUT)

In spite of a rather disappointing showing by the much touted Comet Kohoutek, SRL's midwinter Comet Conference was held with huge success.

SRL, A Free Religious Fellowship is a college age institution associated with Unitarian Universalism, and their midwinter gathering was planned as a meeting for the SRL Board and Continental Conference Committee, as well as a southern regional conference.

Folks on their way down to Florida and even folks who finally got there seemed to be plagued with the same run of bad travel karma associated with the first week of January so eloquently described by Margaret Blattman in the last issue of People Soup. Cars broke down left and right, tires flattened for no reason, teeth got broken, and colds developed.

Balancing all that, was some beautiful hospitality provided by the people of the Gainesville U-U Fellowship and the Gainesville SRLers who organized the event. Highlight conference adventures included moonlight paddles around the YMCA's lake, a midnight visit to the Millhopper, a notable sinkhole in the area (a sinkhole is like a mountain in reverse) a natural foods banquet in downtown Gainesville, and a canoe trip down some of Florida's waterways.

Ric Masten was in town for a couple of days during the conference, and we all felt good about making a connection with Ric again.

SRL continued the process of community building and land speculation begun last summer in California, at the Florida conference. Criterion were set down for land searchers, other investment opportunities were investigated, and thought was given to processes for between conferences to bring us closer to our goal.

SRL's Continental Conference site was tentatively set for Point O'Pines Conference near Boulder, Colorado. Cost should be something like \$55.00 for two weeks, the second and third weeks of August. Publicity will appear in People Soup when it gets printed.

SRL's next Regional Conference is planned for the Milwaukee area over Easter Weekend. Tentative theme is "Diving into The Wreck". We intend to undertake an intensive exploration of our own sexism in same-sex and mixed sex groups. More to come on that in the next issue of People Soup.

ABC CANS CAVETT

NEW YORK (LNS) In the second such move in less than a year, one of the three major television networks has censored a show already taped and ready for airing.

On February 6, Dick Cavett taped a 90 minute show with former Chicago 7 defendants Tom Hayden, Abbie Hoffman, Jerry Rubin and Rennie Davis. It was to be aired nationally the next night but ABC censors stepped in and scuttled the show, charging that it violated the "fairness doctrine".

Last Spring, CBS postponed the showing of the anti-war drama "Sticks and Bones" because, they said, its "controversial nature" might offend the POWs who were returning at that time. While CBS was able to manufacture an argument to skirt the fact that they had no legal reason to postpone the show, ABC, according to one journalist who writes about TV, "just flat junked" the Cavett show.

ABC contends that it was acting on its obligation to "insure fairness and balance." And network spokesmen said that the show contained "discussions of controversial issues of public importance which ABC feels should be balanced on the same program by opposing views." According to almost all sources, ABC was making its own political decision about the show and not obeying any Federal Communications Commission (FCC) directives.

Cavett said he received a letter some time ago from former FCC Commissioner Nicholas Johnson explaining that there is no FCC regulation "which insists on so-called 'fairness' in a single program". And, a statement from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) attacking the cancellation of the show, noted that while ABC's "overall programming should present diversified expression" there is "no FCC requirement that a single program must air contrary views."

The ACLU further contended that the ABC decision not to air the program was "denying first amendment rights to Mr. Cavett and the four guests." The ACLU statement contended that "this recent episode is cut from the same cloth as ABC's action in 1970 when the remarks of folk singer Judy Collins on the Cavett show were deleted from the program because of their political content."

The ACLU charged that in both instances "ABC is demonstrating a disrespect for first amendment rights." They charged that "ABC has succumbed to the general anti-democratic atmosphere of the Nixon administration."

Responding to the "balance" argument, Cavett noted that "when I put Vice-President Ford and his family on the air for

90 minutes on January 10, the network made no demand or proposal that anti-Nixon views be represented on the same program in the interest of fairness."

He explained that now ABC is offering a compromise in which "they want me to cut a half-hour of it in order to put in opposing opinions from the Nixon administration or some sort of conservative point of view."

A woman on the Cavett staff said that she "doubted" that the compromise proposal would be accepted by Cavett. "We feel that the show was balanced," she explained.

Actually, according to TV critics who viewed the taping, the show was more "an exercise in nostalgia" than anything else. Cavett himself admitted that "The show was nothing more than a taffy pull," adding that ABC's reaction was "out of proportion when you consider the content of the show."

Apparently, the only real discussion of current politics was initiated by Hayden who explained his involvement in a Washington lobbying campaign to get Congress to cut off all financial aid to the Thieu regime in South Vietnam. The other conversations ranged from Rubin on health foods to Davis on the Guru Maharaj Ji and Hoffman on his recent cocaine bust. At one point, as Davis was discussing the guru, a Hayden fan yelled from the audience, "Talk about reality, Tom."

According to Hoffman, immediately after the taping, Cavett was called aside by a network censor who led him to a screening room where they viewed the show. "The discussion was not to be believed," said Hoffman. "He (the censor) said it wasn't balanced enough... Well, that's ridiculous. They had Goldwater on and no one thought that show was unbalanced. They had Ford on... the same thing."

According to a television writer for the entertainment trade magazine Variety, "what ABC was trying to get was not balance but a pro-Nixon point of view." Hoffman seemed to back this up when he quoted a ABC censor as "saying things like 'Nixon's foreign policy is magnificent. Why didn't anyone mention that?'"

Cavett's show has been cut from five nights a week to two shows a month by ABC. As his staff points out, this is despite the fact that the show has been making money and has had no problem selling advertising time. The cancellation of this particular show seems to be further indication that ABC has been phasing him out because of occasional shows on controversial issues.

Social Actions

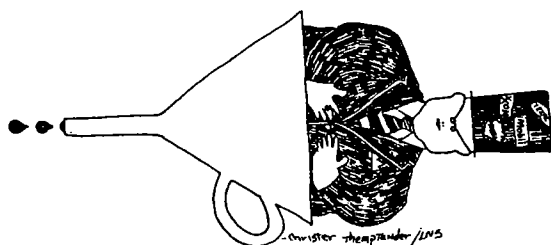
NARMIC Slide Show, POST-WAR WAR

"LRY now owns a copy of the Post-War a slide show put out by the National Action/Research on the Military Industrial Complex (NARMIC), a project of the American Friends Service Committee. The slide show clearly documents the Thieu Government in Vietnam, which is slated to go into billions of dollars of aid this year in direct violation of the '73 treaty agreement. The slide show is easy to understand, easy to show and never boring. It can be had from LRY if you ask ahead of time or you could get it from your nearest AFSC office. (check your SAEC catalogue) The AFSC charges \$10. as a rental fee. We are charging for postage plus a donation (if you can manage it)." Taken from the SAEC newsletter.

ENERGY PACKET

"Yes, there is an 'energy crisis' - but just who and what is responsible is quite another unanswered question. This upcoming packet is (at the moment) slated to contain a few reprints from Liberation News Service, a little research and a bibliography of books and movement groups. This packet can be much bigger and better if you take the time to write down your ideas, what you know and what questions you would like answered. The packet will have a special section on 'ATOMIC POWER'. Also from the SAEC newsletter.

Barbara Lawrence who is on the SAEC wrote the following response to this, that we would like to share with you: ".I don't agree with what you're saying there's an energy 'crisis'. There is according to CU, a shortage of refined petroleum products but as far as crude oil is concerned, as Nader says, we're drowning in it. The oil companies have merely used this shortage to scare hell out of people and get them the oil companies' way of handling it. This was mostly a maneuver to rid the refineries of their nemesis, the Environmental Protection Agency and affiliated groups. When oil companies wanted to build refineries and the Alaskan pipeline included, the EPA informed them there were certain federal regulations they had to adhere to and would have to change their blueprints in compliance. However, the oil companies refused to even compromise and said they would not alter their plans in the least. Therefore, the EPA said, 'Tough potty, no pipeline.' So the oil companies scream 'Unfair!!' and here we are today.



TO GET OFF OUR MAILING LIST

If you find yourself on the SAEC mailing list and you would like to stop receiving what we've been sending you, by all means write in and say so. We can save on postage, and you won't be bothered.

SA NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE

The first issue of the newsletter of the LRY Social Actions Enabling Committee was sent out last week to all SAEC members, and to all known fed presidents and newsletter editors. A second issue will come out as needed (whenever there's enough to print up, probably pretty soon). If you would like to be put on the mailing list just drop us a line and you'll start getting the newsletter. We are asking that subscribers donate some money to cover postage costs (a dime per issue, or else a stamp), but this is not necessary. Finally, if you have got anything that you would like to say to the folks in LRY SAEC, just send it in, and we'll print it up.

AIM CALLS ELECTION A FARCE

- thanks to LNS and AIM for the information here contained

The election for tribal chairman of the Oglala Sioux has held on the 7th of February at Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota. It was held after a landslide primary in which Russel Means, American Indian Movement (AIM) leader, beat Richard Wilson, who AIM called the "encumbent government puppet". In the final election Wilson defeated Means by the narrow margin of 1709-1530 votes.

Means and the Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee (WKLDOC) are planning to move in court in the next month to nullify the election on the grounds of, as Means put it, "collusion between the BIA [Bureau of Indian Affairs] police, the goon squad, the FBI, the Interior Department, the Justice Department, and the U.S. Marshalls with the puppet tribal government". The motion will go before Judge Bogue, who has granted Means a temporary restraining order to prevent the destruction of the ballots after the tally. The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and the Community Relations section of the Justice Department have also been asked to conduct an investigation of the election.

"A lot of Indians had a lot of \$20 bills," said an unidentified "official" who was quoted in the New York Times. Many other irregularities were cited by Means and the WKLDOC. A few are: **In Wamble, S.D., white ranchers and their wives voted. **In Potato Creek, S.D., 83 votes were cast although there were only 30-40 eligible voters who signed registration cards. **In many places BAI police were observed going from door-to-door intimidating voters. ** Former tribal judge Hobart Kieth noticed money being handed out by the Wilson regime to buy votes.

Another interesting fact is the BIA police refused to allow independent observers of news media people onto the reservation to monitor the elections.

Five people have been killed since the siege of Wounded Knee ended last summer. They were all AIM supporters and not one person has been charged with any of the deaths. At least 8 families who are known AIM supporters have been threatened with having their houses firebombed and shot at. And finally, with this case in court, Wilson has already put out leaflets saying that the 1500 people who voted for Russel Means have three days to get off the reservation.



STILL TIME TO BE LISTED

It is very late, but if you hurry you can still be listed in the next SAEC catalog, or at least be in a supplement to it. The catalog includes the names and addresses of socially concerned LRYers from all over, as well as a listing of resource social action groups. To be included you must write your own listing, which should mention your concerns, your skills, your past experiences (if any), any projects that you would like to get into (especially regional Social Actions conferences), and anything else that you feel would say something about you. If you are too late, your listing will be included in a later edition of the SA newsletter.

SEXISM/SEXUALISM WORKSHOP WANTED

If you have any experiences doing workshops that deal creatively with sex roles (particularly in regard to LRY), we would like to hear from you. Please send us a description and evaluation of the WS, including how it was presented to you and how effective it was. If you have any new ideas of your own, let's hear from you.

KNOW ANY GOOD RESOURCE GROUPS?

If you know of any movement groups (peace movement, women's movement, or otherwise) that could conceivably be of use to other LRYers, send in their names, addresses, and a short description of the type of work they do to LRY today or tomorrow. If you can move fast you will be helping LRY alot, and if you can't, we'd still appreciate the information.

FOR INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE ABOVE, INCLUDING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SAEC, WRITE TO LRY, 25 BEACON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

page the seventh
it is not the pain of the body
that will destroy

but the ache of the soul
and questioning

that echoes past an infinity
of dawns and dusks

passing thru a thousand men and women
from parent to child

each hoping blinding to ease the ache
answer the questioning

dying alone
gaining only a small handful
of bitter fruits-

imagination or memory

from Need I Go 'round Bittersweet
by Mindy Vosseller

IRF BRINGS IN NEW YEAR

By WAYNE ARNASON

Midnight. 1974 begins with splashes of red and green fireworks across clouded skies over a Dutch canal. People from eight countries pile back into the comfortable carpeted "cellar" at the canal's edge to dance the old out and the new in. We chant together for endless few minutes, building into harmonious crescendo...

"Listen, listen listen to my heart's song...
I will never forget, I will never forsake you..."
then falling softly in slow smiling spirals and finally drifting off into the fog of a chilly Dutch winter.

Good feelings.

International Religious Fellowship held its mid-year Executive Committee Meetings and conference in Utrecht, Holland and from December 27 to January 2. In attendance were IRFers from England, Switzerland, France, Germany, Belgium, Canada, the USA and of course Holland. The North American member groups, LRY and SRL A Free Religious Fellowship, were represented by Tim Cahn of Peoria, IL and Wayne Arnason of Boston Mass.

The Dutch hospitality was magnificent. While the Executive Committee deliberations were carried on over tea and beer for three days, the folks who had come just for the conference were given a thorough tour of Utrecht, with plenty of free time for shopping or relaxing. Two fine banquets were arranged, one in an Indonesian and one in a Greek restaurant, and for the New Year's Eve, we were treated to the traditions and Dutch delicacies of "appel-flappen" and "oliebollen" (deep fried batter, like donuts, containing apple slices and raisins respectively.) New Year's is a traditional Dutch occasion for fireworks, so the whole week we were there somewhat reminiscent of being in a war zone, with explosions happening all around.

The Exec Committee heard reports on planning for the up-coming summer conference in Holland, July 27-August 4, to be built around the theme "The Art of Living Together". We will undertake a unique experiment in international living for the conference will be divided up in small groups that will closely together for the first 48 hours of the conference, building their own agendas of interaction. After 48 hours we will come back together to share and build on this experience. Groups will have two facilitators-leaders, one a professional group worker and one and IRF member with experience and competence in human relations. Translators will also be available in each group. A less formal second week is also planned, with a number of options available for the participants: a week in Amsterdam, a sailing week in co-operation with the youth from the International Humanist Congress being held nearby, or a week relaxing on a farm in northern Holland. Total cost for each week, including all food and lodging runs about \$70.00. Publicity for the conference will be published in People's Soup during March.

The EC also discussed IRF's financial difficulties, largely arising from the expense of printing our magazine, Forward Together. The new issue of Forward Together (including translations), with articles on Media Manipulation, Third World Development, and The Psychedelic Sacrament, are available from LRY at 25 Beacon St.

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customs made when life was simple
when there were no thoughts to question why
when reason seemed complete and truth was simple

customs made when moonbeams thru the wood did pictures
make, that could be understood
when grains of sand with each fresh raising tide
held dreams
upon the shores that seemed so new

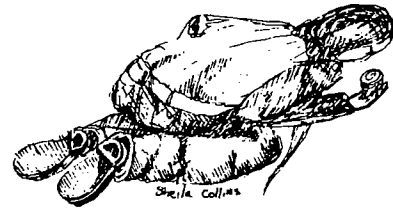
when laughter held a child's song
and tears flowed easy as the thought

yesterdays,

passed remembered yesterdays
to find motion forward, not back

to turn the seasons back
to travel just as far and not misplace a single hope
to have not drowned a single dream in quenching thirst

from Need I Go 'round Bittersweet
by Mindy Vosseller



HIGH SCHOOL

This article was written by John Schaller who founded FPS, a high school liberation news service. It was originally published in Workforce magazine (Sept-Oct 1973) [edited by People's Soup]

(FPS) My interest in high school and youth organizing began in the fall of 1968. I had moved with my family to a suburb of Chicago. It was an all-white suburb and before long I realized that there was a strong racist attitude among my peers as well as conservative ideas on other social issues. The school paper generally refused to deal with issues, preferring to write about "the car of the week".

During the fall, I and six other students campaigned for a local antiwar congressional candidate. He was defeated. After the election we decided to start an underground high school paper, which would deal with political issues our regular school paper ignored. Late in January we hit the halls with 1000 copies of ALTERNATIVE.

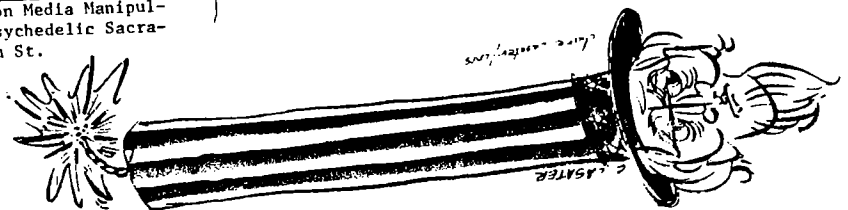
The administration didn't like it. Anyone who was caught distributing copies of ALTERNATIVE in school got a lecture and the copies were confiscated. But the paper was something new and controversial, so we didn't have any trouble distributing all the copies. We even got enough donations to cover the printing costs.

During the next two months we had many conferences with the principal, his assistant, and their aides. We argued we had a constitutional right to distribute the paper in the school; they said that they were responsible to the taxpayers and the taxpayers wouldn't approve of the paper. This was only one of the directions in which they were able to pass the buck. Meanwhile we published another issue and distributed it without the schools permission.

In April, when it felt like the principal and his staff would finally admit that we were right, they announced that any change in distribution policy would have to be made by the school board. All our negotiations with the principal had been worthless. Our first lesson: IF YOU ARE GOING TO NEGOTIATE, MAKE SURE YOU GO TO THE PEOPLE WITH THE POWER TO GET WHAT YOU WANT TO HAPPEN.

We went to the school board, sometimes individually and sometimes in groups. Some community groups got interested and started arranging other "conciliatory" meetings, it came to the point where much of our time was spent talking to the officials. This delayed our next issue of the paper. Our

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(cont. from previous page)

second lesson: DON'T GET INVOLVED IN TALKING WITH OFFICIALS TO THE POINT THAT YOU LOSE SIGHT OF YOUR REAL GOALS.

Meanwhile factions developed within our group. Some of the staff wanted us to exercise our full constitutional rights as we understood them. They were willing to talk with the school board and the administrators but had no intention of obeying any rules which allowed the administration to prevent us from distributing the paper or to read it before it was published in order to censor it. Others on the staff wanted to make whatever concessions were necessary to get the paper approved. These differences which began as small disagreements grew into a wide schism. It not only kept us from starting new activities and improving the paper, but it discouraged new people from joining the staff. We were too tied up in our problems with each other to give much personal attention to new people. Our third lesson: AVOID SPLITS BY DISCUSSING POLITICAL IDEAS WITH EACH OTHER, TO UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCES THAT EXIST. If the differences are major and irreconcilable two groups should be formed.

Explaining things to new people and frequently evaluating longrange goals seemed important.

At the end of the term, the board of education had still not taken any action on reconsidering the literature distribution policy. An unrelated incident occurred which angered many students. The senior class valedictorian was barred from participation in commencement because he had a beard. Many students were dissatisfied with the dress code. During the summer, we temporarily resolved some of the differences within our staff, and decided to reorganize ourselves. The first priority was to raise money since Alternative was broke.

Also, during the summer, we formed the Naperville Alternative Student Coalition. Like many student unions and coalitions, the name reflected our wishful thinking more than any reality. The Coalition's purpose was to work for the changes the students wanted. The first issue was the dress code.

At the beginning of school in September we distributed a brochure announcing the first meeting of the Naperville Alternative Student Coalition. Two hundred people came, mostly interested in the dress code issue, and broke down into a dozen smaller groups to discuss things more easily. The dress code became the first issue to concentrate on.

All fall we organized around that issue. We got hundreds of students and parents to sign petitions, which the school board did not seem to care about. Most effective, I think, was getting ourselves on the board's agenda to present our case for abolishing the dress code. We called those who had signed petitions and encouraged them to attend the meeting. The room was so packed that they had to move to larger quarters, which I think impressed the school board. They completely rewrote the dress code shortly afterwards, making the changes we wanted.

Feeling victorious, we called another meeting to discuss what to do next. But nobody was interested! Only about a third as many people showed up as before. Obviously people had been interested in the dress code, and when that was changed, they were pacified. Though we continued organizing around other issues we felt were important, there was never again that massive support.

There should be another lesson that came out of this, but I never have been able to figure out what we might have done differently to avoid having this apathy set in. Perhaps we could have tied the dress code in with a demand that major school policy decisions should be decided by a majority vote of all school workers and students.

The board of education would never have agreed to this, but it might have gotten more students to realize that just having a different dress code wasn't enough.

At the end of that school year, most of us who had worked on the paper or the coalition graduated. A few people said they'd like to continue publishing Alternative and doing organizing, so we gave them all our files and the little advice we could think of. They seemed optimistic about continuing the paper, so those of us who graduated left town for college or jobs, confident that the paper would be continued.

The files and advice that we left them, however, were not enough. Neither the paper or any type of organizing continued for more than a few months after we left. It seems that for incoming sophomores, the idea of publishing their own paper appeared to be a vast, complicated problem with no place to begin. For us it had been easier, because we had been able to improve and expand on it slowly, learning each step as we went along: the new staff inherited it and tried to pick up in a few weeks what we had spent two years learning. We had a concrete issue on which to build. They had nothing

no focus or strong feelings to work with.

This provided a final lesson: IT IS GOOD FOR HIGH SCHOOL ORGANIZERS TO STAY INVOLVED IN SOME WAY AFTER THEY LEAVE HIGH SCHOOL. In this respect, youth organizing differs from other groups; one stays black or brown, or female all one's life, but one can't stay young. The only way to create an experienced, powerful organization is to keep some continuity by having people continue to be active after they leave high school. This doesn't mean that they should put themselves into leadership positions, but they can give advice, offer a perspective on how things are different from the past, and help new students learn procedures and meet people who might be important. In addition, people who have left high school can be invaluable in coordinating city-wide or state-wide organizing. This type of co-ordination is important, but young people who are still in school will usually lack the time to do it, since they're kept busy organizing in their own school.

This is just a fraction of what we did and learned during those two years. Anybody who tries to start a student paper or organization will learn what he/she needs to know pretty fast. I hope that they will try to write about it too, so that we can gradually work out solutions to our various problems and build a strong young people's liberation movement in this country.



Big Brother Watching Draftees

The State Directors of the Selective Service System are sending out letters to high school officials in their states asking their assistance in insuring that all students register for the draft. The letters note that high schools are in a unique position to help assure that all persons are registered, and suggest that each school designate a person, usually of the counseling staff, as the volunteer draft registrar.

When one realizes that the volunteer registrar, being a member of the counseling staff, has access to student records, such as birthdays, addresses, etc., it is indeed clear that the school has a unique opportunity. This would, in effect, provide the Selective Service System with an almost complete list of persons who should be registered, and enough volunteer registrars to insure that all non-registrants could be personally contacted by Selective Service volunteers. It effectively makes school records available to the SSS, since the volunteers are being chosen from the group that already has the records, namely the high school counseling offices. This new step, combined with the national computer bank on draft registrants, would make it virtually impossible to avoid registration without being caught. It would also make it even more likely that schools would give out list of their student to the recruiters.

Selective Service now considers non-registration a major problem, and is heading a massive campaign among churches, schools, community groups, newspapers, and radio stations to get out the word to register. The System is concentrating especially on New England, where non-registration is highest in the country, Massachusetts being the highest of all states.

It would be wise for persons or groups to make every effort to stop the appointment of Selective Service registrars at their schools since school records should not be available to the SSS.

- Joan Sherman

thanks to Peacework for this article.