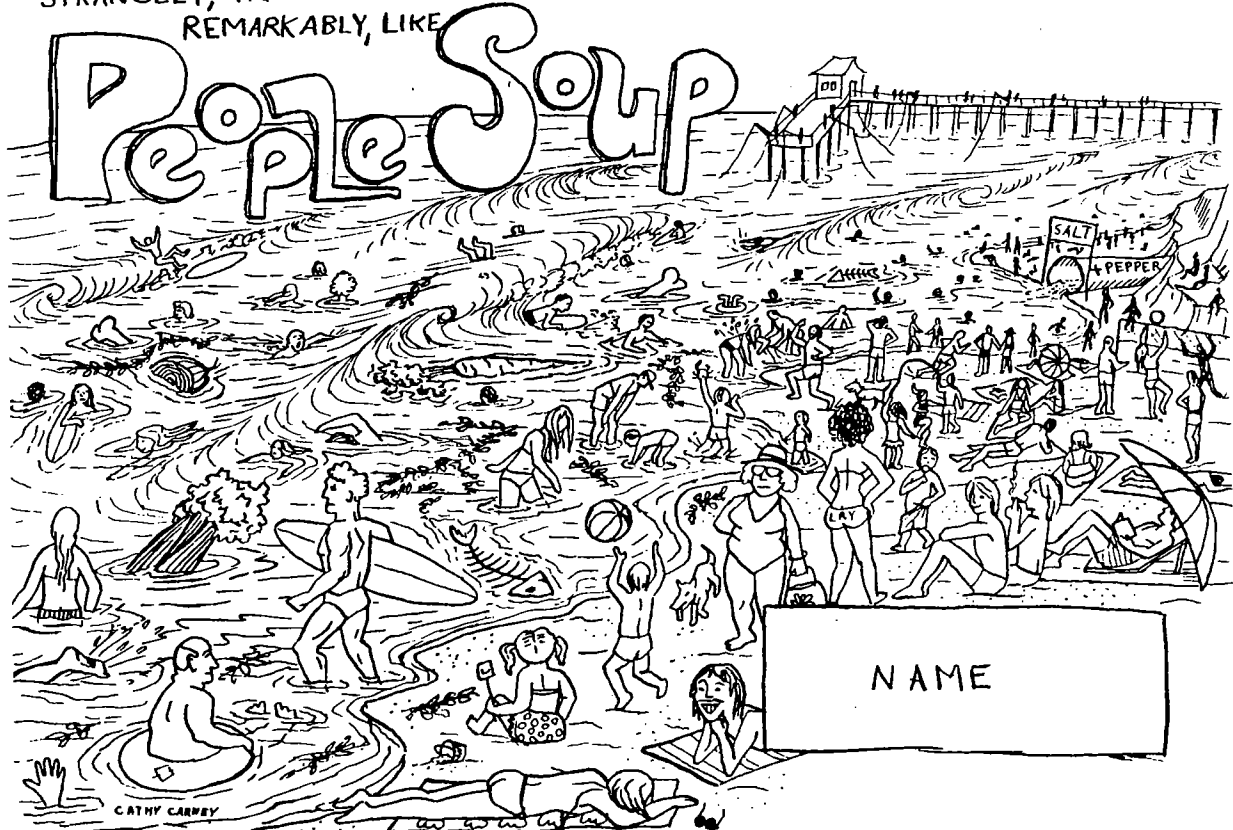


ONE DAY ON A CALIFORNIA BEACH, I NOTICED THE WATER LOOKED STRANGELY, IN FACT REMARKABLY, LIKE



GAY RAP

During my most active years in LRY, I learned that people of the same sex were not prohibited from showing affection to one another, within the LRY society. I guess I picked up on the feeling that everyone is really ambisexual (I guess bisexual is a more comfortable word), and that anyone who withdrew from same-sex hugging or hand-holding was considered uptight. At that time my Gay awareness was very low, and I was overwhelmed with the task of dealing with my fears of sexually approaching the "opposite" sex that I didn't even consider that the person who might become both friend and lover could have a body as familiar as my own.

I am going to admit it, and you are allowed to nod in sad agreement from your private seat: as "liberal" as I thought myself, as able to deal with such strange things as drug consumption and advisors using obscene language, I would not have been able to deal with the discovery that one (or more) of the couples in the Saturday night 'Soft Room' was composed of two persons of the same sex. The only time homosexuality was brought up was when a young man joined the group as a representative of Gay Liberation. The token Gay person was the only such person I remember. Even the extremely effeminate males were not called Faggots or judged to be Gay--it supposedly made no difference to anyone. But if they or any less stereotypical persons really were Gay, I don't think they would have found enough support within LRY to chance actually 'coming out'.

That was 3 years ago. I want to hear from Gay LRYers across the continent---what are the vibes now? what happens when homosexuality in Sex-Roles workshops? HOW CAN WE MAKE LRY A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE CAN EXPRESS THEIR LOVE AND/OR SEXUALITY WITHOUT PRESURE TO CONFORM, PREFORM, OR REFORM?

If you want a letter printed, say so, with or without your name. I can send personal replies (including info on Gay groups, politics, health care, etc) c/o your local group or somebody else so I don't even have to know who you are. It might sound silly to make such a big deal about identities, but the people who have power over us (parents, employers, friends) may do a complete turn-around if they find out that their colleague is Gay or curious.

I am sort of a delegate from the UUA Gay Caucus, and my energies are directed toward helping the caucus to provide for the needs of young Gay people of the UUA community, because we need each other's support. I will be continuing this column in People Soup, and I WANT YOU TO WRITE TO ME: anyone who has a comment or question to share.

The important thing is for persons to understand and share ideas about this unfortunately suppressed factor. I hope that this column will stimulate serious thinking, and with the help of my peers we can begin to deal with the needs of a possibly ignored part of our important LRY community.

.....This is a part of our lives--so let's learn from each other so we can begin to educate those in power who don't understand.

Take Care,
Patches

reader, to formulate your own opinion of this man, Phelps.

He was born Andrew James Phelps on January 22, 1947. At an early age he exhibited an extensive interest in criminal science, using all his savings to obtain the "tricks of the trade" when still a mere child. He was recognized as an exceptional scholar in third grade, when his teachers discovered him translating Shakespeare into Chaucer's English at the age of nine. He was judged mentally incompetent at the age of thirteen and in ninth grade he was institutionalized. This in itself is not unusual. Many otherwise brilliant people have been shut off from the mainstream of society because they couldn't relate to their educations. I know I have.

but I feel differently. For you see, I am one of the fortunate ones. I have worked for, with, in spite of, and because of Phelps. He has proven himself both as a worthy adversary and a respectful friend. And at the same time, he has filled me with respect and enveloped me with hatred. For, you see, Phelps is not a happy man.

Phelps was incarcerated at a mental institution in Fall's Church, Va. in 1967, at the age of twenty. He immediately set forth to lead a sane and simple existence, and follow his chosen path, that of a criminologist.

Continued on pg. 2.



This may or may not be a photograph of the elusive Phelps. As a master of disguise, Phelps comes up with "works" all the time, outside just Sacramento, in 1971.

Many people have seen different sides of Phelps. Some see him as a dangerous and threatening entity, hell-bent on his own destruction and that of the civilization as a whole. Some, those closer to him, feel he is the repleat enigma, devoid of guilt, full of devousness, and in general, a calculating and callous man-thing, disinterested in the welfare of anyone but himself.

Perhaps I should use this space as a sort of history of the things which have made Phelps what he is today. This will help you, the

Ever since the dissemination of information on Andrew James Phelps started, I have felt a burning need within my psyche to help stem the tide of spurious lies, and propaganda which have been "making the rounds", so to speak.

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David Knight
Lara Stahl
Bev Treumann
Stephen R. Wilcox

Your contributions for this newspaper are welcomed. It is made possible through your energies, both spiritual and physical. Any contributions of news items, short stories, poems, editorials, or artwork are welcome and will be considered. None can be returned. Drawings or other artwork must be in black ink, and it is considerably easier for us to use black and white photos than colour. No matter which you choose, they will be printed in b&w. We cannot, unfortunately, pay for contributions. The old budget jers wouldn't stand the pain.

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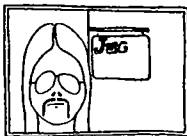
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But all was not to be peaches and cream for the hounded and persecuted Phelps. He was turned down for innumerable jobs in his chosen field simply because he had been incarcerated in a mental institution. And as he found rejection at every turn, his overlaid mind began, inexorably, to snap. He, eventually, turned to illicit means in order to find shelter and sustenance. And it was shortly thereafter that Phelps' life was changed for all time.

In desperation, Phelps turned to the U.S. government for help. There he found, much to his surprise, acceptance, friendship, and true respect. His parents, who had been rather underprivileged mentally, were long since dead and gone, and Phelps started to regain some shreds of self-confidence. For you see, Phelps had his first job.

The government liked Phelps, and he the government. He applied for, and won, a job as a secret agent of the Central Intelligence Agency. While this may seem cliché, he was very much involved in his work, and always completed his assignments well ahead of schedule.

Phelps did not spend his years in the institution unwisely. He used the facilities at his disposal to further his awareness of his favorite subjects, and this education paid off handsomely when he went to the government to apply for work. He was hired on as a clerk in the criminology

To Elliot Kolner,

personals

Sometimes referred to as "The Nylon Pies"

Dear Elliot,

Are you alive or dead? Please respond in any case. I'd love to hear from you. drop by

Rachael Stark
50 Ashford St
Alhston, Mass
02134

John D.L. Rosett-- I miss you. Where can I write you? Love from your wife. Layni Martin, 1503 Montclair st. Arlington, Tx. 76015.

Steve Marona-- people soup keeps getting back the issues it sends you. Steve/ or anyone who knows his correct address please contact people soup.

Nashville Way-Station LRYers finding themselves either passing through or going to Nashville are offered a place to stay-in the beautiful Uncle Steve's house. Featuring air conditionings, a real mattress (unless someone beats you to it), and FREE conversation. 1/2 mile from the Unitarian Church and within five miles of most local LRYers. Guaranteed on night's lodging. All this is absolutely free (no credit cards please). No food is offered do to the amazing low price. Call 615-385-0073 for reservations.

Write to me! at my college address
Even Dresel
Carleton College
Northfield
Minnesota 55057
or visit my room 315 Davis. Or phone (507) 645-4431 ext 308

Beth Miller-- from Illinois. Sorry I didn't get to say good-bye to you in Maine. Will send some fed info soon Love, Wayne from Maine.

Kelly Z- I'm thinking of you. Love, Maury.

Sheldon Sands in Cleaveland Heights--I'd like to hear from you-or even see you. Love Rachell Chinitz in San Diego.

Bill C.-if you write me a letter I'll write you a letter-D.

IF ANYONE knows the where abouts of Timmer and Michelle please tell me. D. Knight.

L.R.-when will I see you. D.K.



To Beth Miller from Illinois: Sorry I didn't get to say good-bye in Maine. I will send some fed info soon

Love Wayne from Maine

JLD...Phelps and I love you beyond mere words, and hope you're recovering from your recent bout with the blues. See you sooner than you think. Steve says hello, etcetera.

P.G.C. from Plainfield: Dirty pool never got anyone anywhere. Only in odd months are no trump non-poisonous. Watchit. Love SRW.

B.E. from New New York. Put her in neutral at stoplights, and don't ride the clutch. Yours in friendly admiration, Raggedy A.

X.O. Phoenix: Get in touch, eat pie or die. Love, S.R.

Richie L. from NFF...fact or fiction? Only the Purple Hawks know for sure.

To all our friends on shore

Dear everyone, Morning Dew Associates has finally found a luxurious home in Madison suburbia. Our new address is 843 Barbra St. Sun Prarie, Misc. 53590. (608) 837-3560. Take 90 and 94 to hwy 151.

7 miles down 151 then right down Business 151 (Main St.) to Columbus. Turn left and go to Clara St., turn rt. then left on to Barbra. OR-take 151 to Columbus, turn left, take the first left (Laura) then right on Barbra.

So be sure to cruise by sometime. We'll be having our Halloween Extravaganza around CMF Fall conference, but you're welcome anytime. We should have enough accommodations to keep going indefinitely.

We love you madly- Morning Dew Associates (Madison)

Kevin Bell
Ken Dermota
John and Jim Marring

Written by S.R. Wilcox.

department of the federal government, and quickly rose through the hierarchy of that section until he reached his goal in 1970, as a district inspector, a post he held for three months.

Phelps was, for the first time, secure. There came a time, however, when his small, cozy and secular life was plunged into the very depths of despair and degradation. Phelps, being a normal and feeling human being, fell in love. A young and intensely intelligent fellow worker in the department caught Phelps' eye, and he hers. And now, Phelps felt, for the first time, that most beautiful and intense emotion love. Things went smoothly, in general terms. But Phelps was, let's be frank, a little unsure of his social graces, and so there were times when things were awkward. It has already been stated here that Phelps was intensely intelligent, and he was certainly no insensitive, so these rocky periods in his life were quickly paved over.

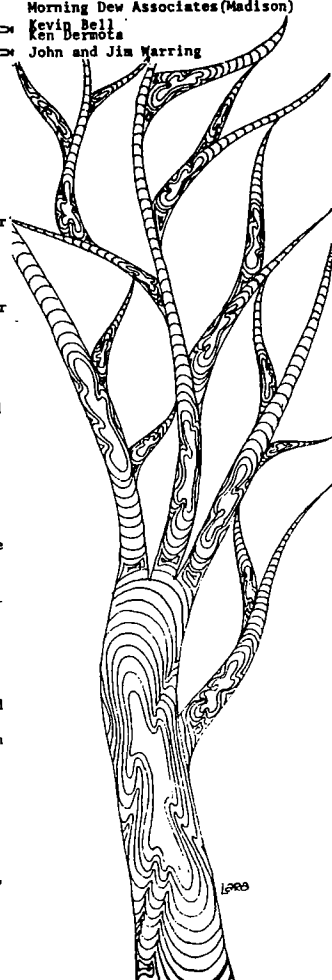
Unfortunately, one of the most obvious human traits is insecurity. Maria, who by this time was engaged to marry Phelps, went out one evening with some of the other people from her department, and they all overindulged. Getting drunk acts as a method of tension release, and also tends to remove people's inhibitions. Maria was young, and possibly frightened by the prospects of our society's concept of marriage, and so, decided to confide her fears in one of her fellow workers, a man named Duane Thisbee, a 50-year old divorced Episcopalian, and member of the Lion's club. And,

as so often happens, Duane was a co-worker with Phelps. Duane provided a sympathetic ear. And then, a sympathetic mattress, after the transit system closed down for the night. Maria was drunk and afraid, and Thisbee old and scared, and they drowned their common sorrows in the desperate joys of their bodies. As the popular song goes, "There's got to be a morning after", and sure enough, there was. After a bitter realization of what she had done, Maria left Thisbee a note, went to work, left a note in the Woman's washroom, and went home, where the poor, unhappy and madly-in-love girl chased three hundred secondals with a half-quart of rubbing alcohol.

Some suicides are engineered in such a manner that they may be found before the accomplish their last act, and it would appear that this was one of them. But unfortunately, the note in the washroom was not found until it was too late, and so Maria, Phelps' first and last love, perished.

These things are never neat, and Phelps was one of the first to find out about his betrothed one's death. The unfortunate Phelps, for whom bad had followed worse most of his life, was utterly crushed by the death, which he interpreted as one of atonement. Perhaps he was right, and then, perhaps, his feeling of responsibility was caused by a mammoth ego loss, but whichever the case, Phelps went around the bend. Thisbee, realizing his own implication in Maria's death, followed the human instinct of self-preservation, and left town as soon as possible. Which was, in fact, right away.

To be continued next issue....



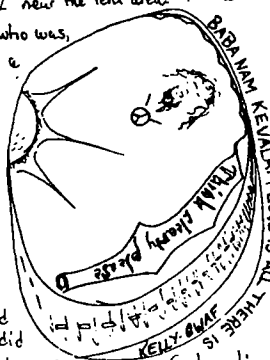


And please,
Remember to watch
the sun and the stars-

Kim

YOGA AT CONTINENTAL

- Dick and I had decided to do some yoga together aside from the regular seven AM workshop. We walked across camp from the registration office to the unused pavilions III and IV near the tent area. At the ping pong pavillion we met a man who was, by chance, rounding up some people for a yoga workshop. He was Tommy.
- The Yoga workshop in the mornings with Sunday was not too successful, Dick and I had both agreed that we would rather do it by ourselves than in that workshop. Besides not getting off, Sunday's yoga session was quite a bit too early for a conference.
- Tommy's workshops were at four in the afternoon, which was a pretty good time. After some deep breathing we did a relaxation exercise that sent me into the deepest state of relaxation I've been in in a long while. I slowly regained my senses to the sound of the rest of the group discussing the rush of relaxation. The next day we did more exercises and meditated while then did some chanting that mellowed me for the rest of the evening. Tommy's workshop kept me relaxed and spiritual for days.
- At the talent show Friday night, Tommy read some of his poetry and I liked it so here it is.



All is fun

A box turtle lay her eggs
in the dirt soft and cold.
The birdies chase in the tree tops
Suddenly the sun pokes through the sky,
causing the leaves to laugh.
Two squirrels catch a bubble of smiles
brought by the wind.
They ate them and became electric
Floating past the sun they fell into
heaven,
Where all is nothing but beauty.
Beauty is a great sculpture.
Or a potter's perfect pot,
made by not so perfect hands.
It is a weeping willow tree
in motion by a creek.
The roughness of the north Atlantic
the smoothness of a winter snowfall.
Beauty is living in Eden
where peace is the only quest
and love is no man's mystery.

The wind is still as death

A lizard lay on a rock
But the wind is still as death
A branch falls from a tree
and stirs a little dust.
The lizard moves and stops.
The wind is still as death.
The wind is still as death.

As the days go on I feel like a lazy man

I feel like a lazy man
I sit - I sleep - I eat
As the days go on, I feel like a dying man
I sleep - I eat
As the days go on, I feel like a dead man
I sleep as the days go on

The Honey Bee

The honey bee has no time to be
Although he has a thousand eyes
He has no time to see
He must work work and not stop
He must make honey
Not just for him
Him and his queen
And every human being
Perhaps if he would slow down and make
just some for him
He would have time to see
And may be time to be
More of what he is.

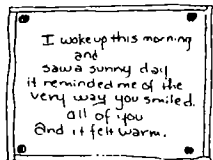
You'll not see me work hard all day

NO WAY

I must have time to sing and play

Trees

They sit closely together
in the forest
After a morning stretch
toward the sun,
They meditate.



Excerpts from Continental Conference Book 1974

- when I left for Continental Conference, I expected some-thing great. I thought: wow, it's finally going to a conference with people who aren't hung up on all the social aspects of life, ie. sex, nudity, being a leader, etc. well, I found a lot of people who were actual like they weren't hung up on those problems. Then a... well, what do you say about a conference? All these people are my brothers and sisters. How can you express the amount of love flowing? I feel happy, sad, lonely, loved, loving, concerned... Oh how can I say it! So much. So much is going on...

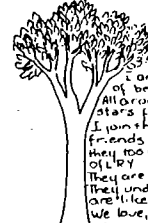


- Sue (Detroit)

I'd like to extend my thanks to Tricky Dick Nixon for the excellent timing of his resignation. August eighth, Ah what a day - the middle of a Continental Conference.

Through the day, the major topic of conversation was - what will HE say? Answers were offered from one and all. A credulous Michigan'er knew he would "take the plunge," while a cynical New Jerseyman was quite sure that another affirmation of his innocence was impending.

Out looks from all over the continent were extended. Some embraced the general views of their region of the country, while some expressed their own crazy ideas. Finally, the time came...



I am centered in a world of beauty, love and peace. All around me reaches the stars for growth. I join them for they are my friends they too share the myriad moods of life. They are my people they understand because they are like me. We love, we cry, we enjoy. We are united as one, but free. Seeking out emotions and feelings, we are close finding misplaced dreams and goals we are united. I love and I am loved. We take time to smell the flowers and touch the soft raindrops. We are alive. We are LRY!

Love - Kim Trippamith



Tommy Falkowski

I shall NEVER forget that moment, and I'm SURE NO ONE ELSE will FOR ME it was extra special because I was with people from Michigan, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Tennessee, New York and Alberta. What better way to see the President's resignation than with LRY'ers from all across the continent? All of us brought up differently, in different areas, united through LRY, and our interest in history; all of us waiting, hoping, wondering... huddling around the radio. We listened intently and soberly... and then...

REJOICE!!

Once more; Thank you, Milwaukee, for the wonderful experience and the memories you have given me and all of us at Continental Conference, you finally did something right.

Marion Blum DVF

MONDAY AND THE CRISIS

ONE MONDAY NOT TOO LONG AGO, THE INHABITANTS OF AN INNOCENT AND QUIET PARSYTERIAN CAMP FOUND THEMSELVES SURROUNDED BY A LARGE GROUP OF PEOPLE, MOSTLY YOUNG AND CORAUNT. THEY LOOKED AND SMELLED STRANGE AND UNCONTROLLABLE. THIS SUSPICION WAS CONFIRMED WHEN SEVERAL OF THESE PEOPLE TOOK OFF THEIR CLOTHES. THE CAMP CARETAKER, BALD, SHINI, CLEAN MR. GRIMES, DID WHAT HE HAD TO; HE CALLED THE POLICE. AN EMERGENCY MEETING WAS CALLED. THE POLICE, WE WERE INFORMED, HAD PUT THE CAMP ON A TWENTY-FOUR HOUR PATROL. A RESIDENT OF THE STATE TOLD US THAT THEY MIGHT BEING IN DOGS TRAINED TO SNIFF OUT DOPE. THE GROUP ACCESSED FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES. MANY PEOPLE DASHED TO THE BATHROOMS.

PEOPLE THEN REUNIONED EACH OTHER IN THE LOBBE. IT WAS DECIDED TO SETUP A CONFERENCE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, OR CAC, FOR THE PURPOSES OF SELF-POLICING. A FEW PEOPLE FELT VERY RELATIVE ABOUT THIS, VOICING FEARS THAT THE CAC MEMBERS WOULD BE OVERZEALOUS IN THEIR ACTIONS. THEIR FEARS WERE RELATIVELY UNFOUNDED, AS THE CAC DID NOT GET IT TOGETHER ENOUGH TO MEET FOR TWO DAYS. DURING THE BUSINESS MEETINGS OVER THE CRISIS, SEVERAL GOOD THINGS WERE SAID. WHEN THE TYPICAL LRY PARANOID OVER THE POLICE, AND THE CAMP OFFICIALS SHOWED UP, PEOPLE REMINDED THE CAMPERS OF THE COMMON HUMANITY BETWEEN US AND THEM. MANY PEOPLE VOICED THEIR HOPES THAT WE COULD SUCCEED IN ESTABLISHING A TRUSTING COMMUNITY OF LRYERS. THERE WAS ALSO A LOT OF Frustration ABOUT THE REDUNDANCY AND NOISE AT THE TWO MEETINGS. SOMEONE POINTED OUT THAT THIS SORT OF THING WAS INEVITABLE TO A DEGREE AS A BY-PRODUCT OF THE TRULY PRODUCTIVE THINGS THAT WERE GOING ON. AS THE WEEK WENT ON, THE DRAMA'S GOT QUIETER AND THE Frustration WAS REDUCED. THE RESULTS OF THE CRISIS WERE, IN MY OPINION, POSITIVE RATHER THAN NEGATIVE. THE CONFERENCE HAD LESS DOPE AND MORE BREAKING BECAUSE OF IT AND THERE WAS AN INCREASED ATTITUDE OF RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS THE CONFERENCE COMMUNITY.

SUNSAN F

Continental Conference '74

photos by Matthew Easton

SO THIS IS CONTINENTAL '74
 FAR OUT...
 ALL I CAN SAY IS IT HAS BEEN
 THE HAPPIEST WEEK I HAVE EVER
 SUFFERED THROUGH,
 LAUGHED THROUGH,
 SUNG THROUGH,
 BEEN WIRED OUT THROUGH,
 OR LIVED THROUGH
 I LOVED IT
 THANK YOU EACH AND
 EVERY ONE OF YOU

THANK YOU
DAVID INNES

A DAY IN THE LIFE

Upon arrival at Continental Conference everyone being around the Registration Building talking to old friends and meeting new ones. Then it was time for cabin picking. I was drawn to cabin "I" because most of my friends were there, and I heard some good music coming from a cassette player. So the Cabin One-ers assembled. Immediately the drab camp cabin was redecorated. The bunks were moved around and stacked in a different arrangement. A carpet was improvised from a tarp and twin couches were made from mattresses. A coffee table was made from a guitar case and two bricks. Because of the extravagant decor, posters were tacked up what I named the cabin "La Maison de la Boudoir" or "Morrison's Hotel".

The first night a Hot Seat question game took place and we found out a little more about each other: "Bullshit" or "I Doubt". It was a common household word around cabin one. While playing this card game you're either laughing too hard for words or bullshitting other players loudly.

Most of us stayed very clean in Cabin "I". Crazy foam fights were a common occurrence and usually ended up in the showers.

Cabin "I" (alias Maison de la Boudoir or Morrison's Hotel) was a great place to be. We all got it together - Northerners, Southerners, Easterners and Westerners.

- meg Ragan



going out to Nebraska,
 to sleep with buffalo women,
 and god coming around the corner
 to kiss me goodnight,
 Their breast and rounded toes
 comforting my soul,
 but you're the only one
 who sits sleepless at night
 waiting for your baby
 that's only imagined in a
 dream,
 buffalo women with eyes of
 tortured god
 in Nebraska.

-Doug Wurtz



On Silk Screening

Silk Screening is an interesting and useful hobby to pick up. A personal touch can be added to those old T-shirts. You can also make your own posters.

There are several techniques used in silk screening. To make a simple design, a stencil can be cut out of paper and placed on the screen. Then the dye is squeezed across the stencil. A print is made. Another method is to draw the design onto the screen with wax. Then apply water based glue. It sticks everywhere except where the wax is. The wax is then removed and the dye is pulled. This is called wax resist.

Photo silkscreen is a technique where stencils are made from film negatives. Incredible detail can be achieved by utilizing this method.

Jeff Battershall, from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, taught the silkscreen workshop at Continental this year. He learned how to do it about three years ago at an art camp.

- meg Ragan

Conformity in LRY

During Continental Conference I've come to the realization about LRY, we're about the most homogenous group imaginable. The community reacted almost unanimously in the same ways to several incidents such as the resignation and the Monday night Crisis. We dress the same way and talk the same way, it's easy to pick an LRY'er out of a crowd. In normal society we aren't quite acceptable; in LRY we have created an accepting environment for ourselves.

Although many of us are damn good game playing, LRY has its own games and meets. There is a ritual for meeting people, for getting into a sexual involvement with them, for saying goodbye at

seed
 opening
 becoming life
 sprouting - growing
 branching out to universal being
 and reaching back into
 its old age and
 beginning to
 seed
 -doug wurtz



someday
 I'll find this place forever
 and I will stay
 with the woodsmoke
 and the sunshine
 and the crisp green wind
 someday
 I'll walk into this place
 forever and never
 wonder when I have
 to leave, and
 I will stay with the
 translucent leaves,
 and the laughter
 of the bright
 haired sun
 children and
 the guitar music
 floating on the
 wind....



someday
 I'll remember
 not to forget
 how happy I will be
 someday.

- sunsan

A couch
 soft, warm, and caring
 is soothing
 and comforting
 to me

your fingertips
 like warm raindrops
 wash away my depression
 My touch in return -
 Thank you.
 - meg Ragan

Alternative Vocations

JOE VOLK FROM THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE LED A WORKSHOP ON ALTERNATIVE VOCATIONS. ABOUT TWENTY-FIVE INTERESTED PEOPLE ASSEMBLED IN THE LOBBY WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 7. THE WORKSHOP BEGAN WITH A MOMENT OF SILENCE... IN A SUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO BECOME AWARE OF A GAME WAS PLAYED IN WHICH EACH PERSON TOLD WHOM HE HAD COME TO THE WORKSHOP.

THE WORKSHOP BROUGHT OUT THE FACT THAT SOME PEOPLE FELT A CONFLICT BETWEEN WHAT THEY THOUGHT THEY HAD TO DO AND WHAT THEY WANTED TO DO. FOR EXAMPLE, PEOPLE THOUGHT THAT BY GOING TO SCHOOL, OR DOING WORK THEY DID NOT ENJOY, THEY WERE BUYING THEIR FREE TIME. A MAJOR QUESTION WAS, "WHAT CAN I DO THAT IS GRATIFYING FOR ME?"

OCCUPATIONS MENTIONED INCLUDED THE ARTS AND TECHNICAL FIELDS. PEOPLE AGREED THAT THEY WOULD RATHER HAVE A JOB IN WHICH THEY ARE THEIR OWN BOSS. ALSO PREFERRED, WOULD BE A TYPE OF WORK SERVING PEOPLE, RATHER THAN THE MASTERS OF SOCIETY.

Think Twice

look into eyes for just so long
 until the guilty come along;
 Just look until you're met
 and then the skin and fringe
 descend
 and your sight resets again
 Think twice, blink quick and
 look away to stones in walls

And it's all so funny
 'cause I love the way she
 looks
 and I just want to be swal-
 lowed in speaking eyes
 and shelves of unread,
 priceless books.
 Think twice, blink quick
 and look away to boards in
 floors

That's why you're in this room
 instead
 with two small windows rain-
 ing
 and a pillow for your head
 beside no friend, complaining
 you can't stand to meet the
 filling basins
 filled with jugs For your own
 use
 Soak your eyes in crystal juice,
 cleanse all away the cold abuse.
 Think twice, blink quick and
 look away at printed points

I cannot find my only mirror,
 vacant and unkept,
 somewhere locked in careless
 cupboard
 with madly swinging cupboard doors
 and smoothly slipping dresser
 drawers, unhandled,
 Smiling at floors.

- Dick Schwass

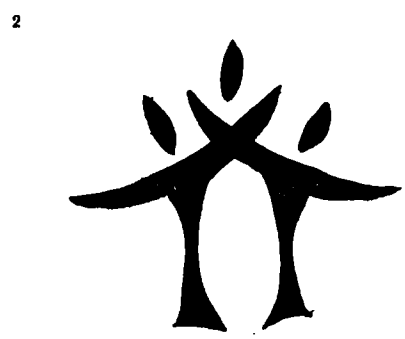
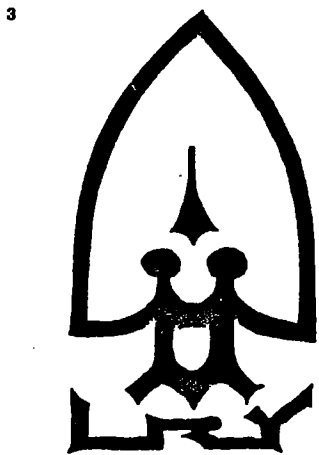
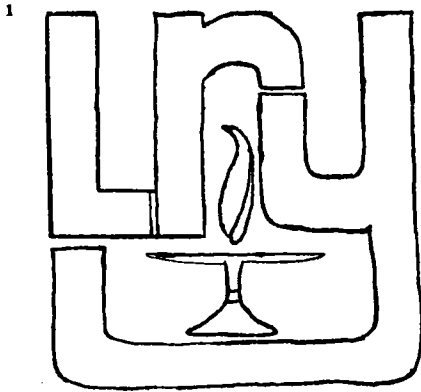


AN LRY SYMBOL? Pg5

Contrary to popular beliefs the official LRY symbol has not yet been chosen. After a lengthy discussion the Board decided to narrow the possibilities down to the three symbols that you see on this page and give you the final say on what symbol you want. You also can decide not to have any symbol as the official LRY symbol.

So, the final decision is down to you.

Fill out the ballot and send it to:
LRY Symbol 25 Beacon Street, Boston,
Mass. 02108. Deadline for casting your
ballot is October 20, 1974.



Will it be:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Symbol 1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Symbol 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Symbol 3
<input type="checkbox"/>	No Symbol

Cut along dotted line.

Diversity Has No Symbol

I was present at a bit of organized chaos called the LRY Board meeting. One agenda item was the choosing of an LRY symbol. According to the discussion, the major reason for acquiring an official LRY symbol is that it will unite us. This I doubt as there was more controversy on this issue than on many apparently more complex arguments.

It seems to me that an official symbol is against the very concept of liberal religion (two thirds of LRY's name). Liberal religion means that you think about what you believe in. Official religious symbols throughout the ages have been used specifically against thought, i.e., in the middle ages you did not think about the teachings of Jesus, you were just willing to "die for the cross." You left the thinking to the church.

LRY is my religion, read religion to mean "way of life." I do not want my way of life to be represented

by a symbol that can be misinterpreted, or worse, used to replace the thought and spiritual effort that has gone into each individual LRYer's search for meaning. I would really like to think that LRY is beyond the point that it needs something like an official symbol.

In the past year I have seen a lot of really good symbols made up by locals and federations that are much more valid than a Continental symbol would be. I can look at these symbols, see the letters L, R, and Y beneath, above or around them and know that this is what LRY is to the people who use that symbol. It is not necessarily what LRY is for me but I can appreciate in the extreme that this is what LRY is for them. I think that LRY symbols should be just like LRY; ever changing, ever growing, and always being created anew.

-Alan Trachtenberg

DETROIT CATHOLIC PAPER FIRES GAY COLUMNIST

DETROIT (LNS)--A columnist for the Michigan Catholic, the Detroit archdiocesan weekly newspaper, was fired recently when he was quoted in another newspaper as the local president of Dignity, a national organization of Roman Catholic gays.

Brian McNaught has filed a complaint with the city's Human Relations Commission in protest of the firing. Detroit's city charter, which went into effect earlier this year, states that no person can be "denied enjoyment of civil or political rights or be discriminated against in the exercise thereof because of race, color creed, national origin, age, handicap, sex or sexual orientation."

Margaret Cronyn, editor of the paper, said that McNaught's column was dropped along with others because of space problems and because his writing was "detrimental" to the paper. The paper has been reduced from 10 to 8 pages but McNaught maintains that the previous editor, who is now on leave of absence, had known of his homosexuality and had said that his column would be continued and others dropped.

McNaught had previously come under fire for a column in the June 20 Michigan Catholic in which he said that homosexuality was no more abnormal than being left-handed, but did not say that he was gay. On July 6, the Detroit News quoted him as Dignity chapter president. Two days later his column was dropped from the paper.

The provision in Detroit's city charter prohibiting discrimination on the basis of "sexual orientation" was not given publicity until shortly before the charter became effective. The Catholic Church locally did not fight the provision. In other parts of the country, however, the church has come out in full force. In New York City, for instance, a powerful, last minute campaign by Catholic church officials helped greatly to defeat a similar clause in that city's charter.

LEGISLATING MORALITY GETS EXPENSIVE

WASHINGTON (LNS)--A Washington Superior Court Judge has estimated that it takes \$18,000 to arrest one prostitute or gay man for soliciting. This figure includes police training, court procedures, and the cost of maintaining a vice squad.

Free Symbols

There are a number of reasons why L.R.Y. should not have an official symbol. To see this one must look at the role of official symbols in society and at people's reactions to these symbols.

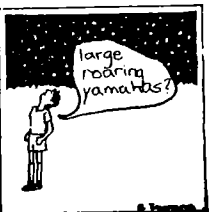
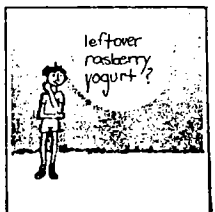
Symbols are used to focus people's attention on energy. "Rally round the flag" is a phrase which expresses this. But when energy is focused on a symbol, this energy is not necessarily being focused on what the symbol represents. The ideas behind the symbol are often relegated to the subconscious. The symbol then supercedes the idea it stands for. This is not a direct result of the use of symbols, but of their repeated use. Symbols, when repeated, do not provoke thought by people; they are used instead of thought.

An official L.R.Y. symbol would be more or less permanent and in frequent use. Thus, it would have all these

problems. If, however, there was no official symbol, people could use whatever symbol represented their idea of L.R.Y. at the time. The symbols could change easily and freely as L.R.Y. changes. If a symbol became meaningless or came to have had meaning to some people, it would just be replaced by some other one. The use of several symbols over a period of time or at the same time would be far less likely to become meaningless or obsolete. A symbol could be changed of its symbolic meaning (like the flame of knowledge in the chalice) become different from the real meaning of the symbol (what the group is and does).

Free Symbols for Free Religion!
Vote No
to All Proposed L.R.Y. Symbols!!

-Even Drese!



Biofeedback Monitor System Pg 6

Deah People Soup,

This ahticle is fo' th' benefit o' awl you Northerners. Puleeze, beah in mind that owah R's ah practically non-existent and fo' writin' purposes have been replaced by R's.

We ah from Atlanta, as in Georgia, and we would like ya'll to know a li'l bit about owah li'l ol' town. Many stories seem to goin' 'round 'bout the South which simply ahn't true! This is pahiculalahly true concernin' accents. Theyah is no such thing as a Southern accent so ya'll can clesh yo' li'l ol' hahds of such a silly notion raht now.

Mah sistah and I recently attended a Continental Conference in Durham, North Carolina. We had th' distinct puleasuh of meeting many of ya'll from 'round the country. We were informed by many of you nuhvy folks up theyah that we talk funny. Now let me make one point clesh: We ah not bittah about ya'll makin' fun o' owah speech.

About owah town: Aftah Th' Fire (surely ya'll remembah that), We were forced to move to owah humble plantation. Furthah, we had to release owah haf o' owah slaves. If it weren't fo' owah cotton and tobaccacah fields, I don't know how we would have managed cuz mah 'addah, the Colonel, says the only money in th' South is in cotton o' tobaccacah. Mah sistah and I had to give away all but 3 o' owah hoop skirts. Worse still, Ashley no longah comes to cawl. Natchally a Southern Belle, without a man, is nothing.

I do sincerely hope this ahticle cleahs up many of th' mis-conceptions held about owah South. Ya'll come see us now, heah?

Miss Nina West

Miss Eron West

Dear Soup,

You arrived faithfully the other day as usual in the latest fashions. This time I believe it was from New York judging by the perfect lines and spacing.

I very much approve of you choice of layout from the fall line of Sears, or was it JC Penny's? I just love maxis and the color! Beautiful black and white.

I enjoyed receiving you as always. Sometimes I wish I could become a newspaper. See you next month and as always dressed as whatever is vogue.

Millie Wombat Jr. XIX



Dear Soup:

I find the action of the Board of Trustees at the most recent Board meetings concerning the Director of Communication and Publications most distressing. First of all, the procedure followed by the Board was highly irregular. I am referring to the nomination of candidates after balloting had begun, and the failure of the Chair to close nominations when there were no more nominations, as per Roberts Rules of Order, page 172. It seems to me that the nomination and renomination of candidates after the balloting had begun was an act of desperation and foolishness on the part of the Board of Trustees.

The instructions to the Executive Committee to find a suitable person to fill the office of Director of Communication and Publications are unfair. They are unfair to the Candidates as well as the Board for the following reasons. The candidates will have been defeated by a person who did not even have the interest to run for the office at Boards, and it is unfair to the Board because they will not have had the opportunity to ask questions of the person or find out the opinions and views of the person as they did of the candidates who were at the Board meetings.

Milo Velimirovic

Dear All and Sundry:

While loitering about the LRY office one day (Sept. 3 1974) as this ish of Soup was getting together, I chanced to read Milo's letter, and since I was personally and deeply involved in the matter, and hold a considerably different viewpoint than Milo's, I felt compelled to respond, already.

First of all, the matter of closing nominations seems to me to be a technicality only. The fact that there were several nominations made after balloting had begun, while it may indeed be categorized as an "act of desperation", merely indicates that the Board was attempting to make the best possible choice.

The candidates were not defeated by any one person, regardless of that person's interest or lack thereof. The Board simply declined to elect any of the candidates that were available for the office at that point in time and space.

Finally, it seems absurd to me to talk about the Board being unfair to itself. The Board decided (since none of the candidates which it had, uh, scrutinized, were suitable) to give a mandate to a committee composed of the elected old and new exec comms to, giving due consideration to the feelings the Board had indicated, find someone who could meet all the requirements for the position.

Speaking from the unique position of one who was both a Board member and a candidate, I can understand that the Board was put in an extremely difficult position, and all things considered I feel that they took the most responsible course.....I'm glad, I'm glad, I'm glad.....

Much love

Bill Cameron

Dear People Soup:

Today I recieved my very first copy of People Soup. My feelings are mixed. The contents are excellent-- but why can't you send it in a wrapper of some sort? I got nine pieces of mixed up paper and by the time I had them together my ardour was somewhat dampened. If it hadn't been for some excellent articles I would have given up in complete disgust.

I've included some more "poetic works" and let me tell you, it makes me happy to see a paper who doesn't believe in just prose and pictures. Too many little papers these days seem to feel that by including any poetry they leave themselves open to attack as a "wishy-washy" paper. People Soup is far from that, though, and that's great.

Sincerely yours,
Arlee Barr
RR 3 Guelph
Ontario, N1H-6H9



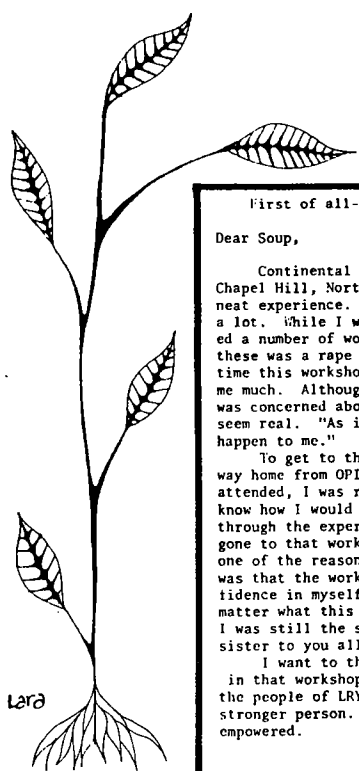
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND LIKE THAT
-FROM DANNY PENTLARGE ABOUT BOARDS AFFILIATIONS ETC.

Dear PEOPLE SOUP August 18, 1974
I write to you from the Annual Board Meeting of Liberal Religious Youth, Inc. I came here as the representative of Central Massachusetts Federation of Liberal Religious Youth, expecting rather vaguely that I would be empowered to vote on the Board in the interests of my fed. I say, "vaguely," because approximately two weeks before Boards I was sent a copy of the "Board Packet" which included a letter from Adam Auster to the effect that CMFLRY had not affiliated with Liberal Religious Youth, Inc. This came as something of a surprise to me, as I had been led to believe by the former fed president that we had affiliated. I now see that it would have been impossible for us to affiliate, as we do not currently have the three local groups required by the bylaws for affiliation. In any case, because of forwarding problems, I recieved the packet the day before I left for Boards; too late to start a new local, or much of anything else for that matter.

All of the above is history of a sort. The import of this letter is that CMFLRY now finds itself in the unhappy position of wishing to affiliate, but seeing it as being more advantageous to remain unaffiliated. You see, not only did the Board vote to require dues of federations, but it also designated CMFLRY as Central Mass. Area, and suggested that we be given special attention (presumably to improve us).

Now while CMFLRY can probably use some help, judging by Continental's past performance, I do not foresee their being of great help in the coming year. Continental's packets don't seem to have great application to CMFLRY's problems, and in the instances in which they do apply, well Continental is notorious for selling it's packets to just anyone. As for its other activities, well, with the exception of PEOPLE SOUP, also available to people in mere "areas", I myself can see no way in which CMFLRY could benefit by affiliation with Liberal Religious Youth, Inc. This is an extremely regrettable situation, and one that I hope to see changed, but for the present, while Continental Execs, and members of any and all affiliated feds are utmostly welcome to attend any CMFLRY functions, I cannot foresee any action on our part to affiliate, and as CMFLRY Secretary/Co-ordinator (and as Continental Liason), I shall advise my fed accordingly.

sincerely,
Daniel Eaton Pentlarge



First of all- LNYers-I love you
Dear Soup,
Continental Conference in Chapel Hill, North Carolina was a neat experience. I enjoyed myself a lot. While I was there I attended a number of workshops. One of these was a rape workshop. At the time this workshop didn't effect me much. Although, of course, I was concerned about rape, it didn't seem real. "As if it could really happen to me."
To get to the point. 'On my way home from OPIK, which I also attended, I was raped. I don't know how I would have gotten through the experience if I hadn't gone to that workshop. I feel one of the reasons I wasn't hurt was that the workshop gave me confidence in myself, and that no matter what this maniac did to me I was still the same person. A sister to you all.
I want to thank all the people in that workshop. Actually, all the people of LRY for making me a stronger person. I truly am empowered.
Loving you,
Lelen Kuester



Dear People Soup,
At many of the conferences I've been to recently, many people including myself, at times, have been pretty depressed and disillusioned by the events and interaction that took place at the conference. They would come to me and complain of being upset and not really understanding why. This confusion is often transmitted into frustration which can be damaging to a conference atmosphere.

People in this condition often just come to the conclusion that what's happened to them is the result of a "Bad Conference". The next step is to wall yourself off from the community, or to lay some really angry, destructive emotions of the conference committee. At Continental Conference this year, so much of this happened that a difficult time was created for everybody to handle.

I think I understand how much of this depression starts. Most people just go to conferences because it is something they do; which is fine until things don't seem to be going just right; the bad feelings set in and they don't know how to change whats going on. However, if you think about it, everyone has a reason to go to a conference and has an idea of what they would like to see take place. Once they know their particular plans, then, if things don't "seem right", they know what to change and how to improve their own state of head. (I hope so anyway)

Also, I've found that I appreciate a total experience so much more if I know why I'm involved in that particular experience. In short, everyone really is easier to deal with and enjoy.

Finally, I hope people can separate a "Bad Conference" from a "Bad Personal State of Mind". Because both of these can be changed, but only if everyone understands the difference.

Jeff Barnes
503 talkirk rd.
Wilmington, D.C.
19803

because it would take too long and the only way to do it was through Robert's Rules. Then you tried to fight something through the rules, people had a tendency to say BULLSHIT, and then not really listen at all. I saw this happen many times.

Since so much was done at Boards, and I believe all actions are to be found elsewhere in this Soup, I won't go into what was accomplished, other than to say that a lot of it was bullshit, and some of it wasn't.

I will go into what went into all that was "officially acted on" by the Board. I feel that the majority of the board members were all very, very committed to doing what was best for L.R.Y., and this was part of the reason that there was much repetition in the meetings and they were so long. This is a very hard thing for a devoted cynic to say and I wouldn't say it unless I believed it. People ought to think a little about the commitment it takes to spend hundreds of dollars of your own money, to spend hours and days of your time doing shit work, to fly 2,000 miles (or hitch) just for 7 days of Board meetings just for L.R.Y..

Just think about it a little, think if there's anything else you're that devoted to. That's all I ask.

All my love,
Den Alexander

P.S. Just a word about the Munchkins. I feel that it was only through the work of the Munchkins that I kept sanity during the board meetings and I want all to remember:

G.I.L.L.I.A.M.
O S I MU
D B K N
E E C
R H
A K
L I
N

Dear People Soup

Boards this year, were held in Charlottesville, Virginia. I couldn't imagine a better place. The town was beautiful and the people were all incredibly friendly.

The Board consisted of 25 voting members, 21 from feds and regionals, and 4 continental tacos. There were meetings everyday for 7 days. We spent an average of 10 to 12 hours a day in board meetings. All meetings were run by Robert's Rules of Order. In general the meetings tended to be very low-keyed, with a very high level of concentration. This was caused, partially because most of the board members were very tired from Continental Conference '74, the week before, and partly because of the way the meetings were run. What that means is that Robert's Rules, out of necessity, dragged out meetings so that after the first few meetings no one really wanted to stand up for the minority opinion,

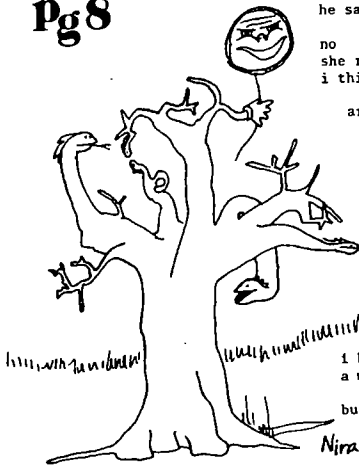
People Soup:

I am pleased to receive the first issue of "People Soup"... I is long over due that the young people of our "Church" make thier views known to us-- " The Establishment"--they call us here...

I note the article by Scott Herrick, a fellow Miamian, who acts as an advisor to LRY group--not at our Church...(which is the) Unitarian Universalist Society. The LRY group here is dormant. I feel it is a great loss to the Church and the Community, for I sincerely believe that all people, young and old, should be involved in the community in which they reside, and the world at large.

But, let me return to Scott's opinion "We must first develop a sense of our own center before we can reach out in any meaningful way. I don't feel we can develop Outreach until we have worked on Insight--on Inreach." We have been waiting for three years in our Church for our Youth to have completed this searching for their "Insight--on Inreach." Perhaps, learning and involving ourselves in the "Outreach", it will help us to find our own insight. Man is not an island, it is an old cliché, but it is true! The Environment in which we live, work and play help us to find our own niche. I so wish that our youth would work together with the "Establishment" who are not all stupid and out of step. There are projects in the community that are crying for help of volunteers--intelligent and sincere volunteers. We need them in our work with young ex-offenders, we need them in After School House where underprivileged children seek help with their home work, or help the migrant workers, etc. Our Church is singular because it accepts 13 year olds as full fledged members and permits them to vote at Congregational meetings and serve on the Board. Here is an opportunity for our young people to make thier voices heard. Let's start a dialogue, and you may tell us what's wrong with us, but you, too must listen to our opinions.

Elena Herrschaft
Miami, Fla.



a freudian slip
he said smiling crookedly

no
she replied absently
i think it was lace

arlee barr Something fresh,
Young and alive,
Twisting, moving, shooting, telling...
"Just for you..."
It can be heard in the words of the waves,
Or even on a cold sunless day,
Living, Growing, not knowing,
"For you, only for you..."
For you hold the key,
And you may touch, hear, and see,
The world as you please..."
Billy Grassie

Blooming

MYTH

HAM-LET

i know a girl who once knew
a myth personally,
but it died of disbelief.

sometimes
i feel like taking a bow,
it's just that i
don't know where i'd
keep it
or what to use it for.

Nira

-arlee barr

-arlee barr

Rebirth Of Democracy

i looked at his face, brown and clear;
mellow eyes rejoicing! Thriving
in the warm contentment of unity.
Firelight flaring

Firelight flaring, swelling,
recreated in two hundred faces;
intense in the energy of the instant.
This instant will be forever.

Struggle ignites the coals,
which have always shimmered from the mountains,
from the rainbow in the desert-
our communion is shared by two billion.

Carol Suzanne Lashof

Poem For Brad
this one curl
that hangs dark
against your forehead
why should it be
so unique
among all the others

arlee barr

Solitary Reflections
Cemented to a rock,
one observes the smaller pieces.

A minute waterfall-
tumbling, tumbling.
Smashing the pane of water
below.

And I, like the water-
falling, falling,
into a bigger whole.

And observing the smaller pieces.

ELLEN BRUCE



There are no books,
no teachers, no rules,
and no people
That can tell you how to
Live life the way you want to.

For only you can truly
know what you want.
And only you can
rule yourself.

Words - C. Hurson, Art - Julie Reynolds,
Synthesis - M. Easton



1974 SUMMER BOTs

This year's BOTs were held after Continental Conference, as usual, in lovely Charlottesville, Va. The proceedings were smooth and well attended, and in contrast with previous board meetings, the BOT was not only fully representative, but truly empowered.

Arrivals from Continental were scheduled for Sunday, August 11, but as usual, there were people straggling in all thru the week.

Since the minutes of the meetings are being distributed in an all-church mailing at the end of September, I'll only mention the most important items of business in this article.

Aside from regular business, several controversial matters were discussed. One that rose the most furor was a Minority Report on Directorships by Adam Auster concerning the establishment of a fifth directorship, that of intergenerational activities and affairs. The debate centered around problems relative to housing, finance, and rationale. While most people felt that the proposal was a good idea, there was a feeling that the board, (which would have had to pledge a total of \$1500. . . to be delivered by September 15, to ensure the budget) would fail to deliver. As a result, the motion failed by a tie vote.

This was also the year that saw sweeping changes in the LRY constitution to ensure the legitimacy of federation representatives by establishing prerequisites for member status. This will ensure the existence of a fully responsible board. Another result was a more rigid definition of what constitutes a local group, and similar guidelines for feds. The requirements are as follows: a local group must consist of four regular members, and a federation must provide evidence of thirty active people to fulfill its mandate as a fed, which would have representation on the Continental board.

Another resolution which raised considerable controversy was the question of dues, and the repercussions of that debate will fill the halls of LRY for several months to come, at least. Under the terms of the proposal, which was passed, each federation must pay \$50. in dues annually, in order to preserve its affiliate voting status. In the event that the federation had more than \$200 in its treasury, it would be asked to contribute 25% of any monies above and beyond the initial \$50. The argument which followed the presentation of this proposal was both vehement and lengthy: it revolved around the fears of the smaller federations that it would

be impossible to raise the required amount. After all was said and done, the proposal was passed, as previously mentioned, and with it, an amendment which set forth an annual dues structure for local groups and LRYers at large of \$15 and \$5 respectively. So those of you who are not involved in a fed or local and who wish to receive the bountiful benefits of LRY continentally should forward your cheques, post haste, to us here at 25.

You may be puzzled by the earlier statement I made concerning the "empowered" LRY board of trustees. The affiliation process this year made certain that no frivolous or dilatory representations were made. The board members were required to submit their credentials as reps of vital operational feds, and as a result, we were able to direct and succinct judgements, and keep our business in order.

The implications of an empowered board are manifold. First of all, when everyone knows that everyone else is present to conduct business, and not for personal prestige, all the proceedings go much more smoothly. There isn't any of the personality-oriented flak, and everyone is much more comfortable. In short, the business is just that, and the week doesn't turn into "just another conference, with a little business thrown in just to remind us that it's there".

In addition, the board is now responsible for the administration of the Executive Committee, in terms of program, policy, and administration. The board deployed its power by issuing the following directives:

(This list is not to be in any way construed as a complete list of the year's projected activity. It is only a list of the directives of the board)

1) Packets:
-the researching, writing, printing and distribution of packets on the following topics;

- LRY Worship
- High School Activism
- Non-Recycled Programs

2) Communication:
-mailing lists
-newsletters from the execs
-at least 2 local group mailings

3) Resolutions
-A.C.L.U. Draft Code resolution
-letter of general sympathy with aims and intentions of A.C.L.U.

These projects, as directives of the LRY board of trustees, are to be dealt with on a priority basis, owing to the fact that the Exec Comm is responsible to the board for all its

programming and official decisions.

As a result, the Exec Comm has the additional responsibility of accountability this year: the facts pertinent to LRY's business are to be laid bare not only at next summer's bots, but also at the

REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS!

which are to take the place of the unwieldy and unpopular winter BOTs. As the result of a proposal by Adam, which was part of the new constitution, we are now subdivided into six regional committees, who do their business independently of each other, and who meet annually at the summer BOTs. More information can be found simply by looking into the new constitution.

The empowerment of communication between all the different plateaus of LRY government.

The clearinghouse received an allocation of \$1000. . . and more information on the intentions and aims for the coming year are contained herein. (this issue of the Soup, that is)

In short, the summer BOTs were possibly the best ever, in terms of accomplishment, value to LRY as a whole, and smoothness of operation. It was entirely satisfying to see so many people devoted completely to LRY agenda, conducting themselves as delegates, and I feel that the camaraderie which existed helped to take up the slack between business and pleasure.

Any author who tried to deal with BOTs would be seriously remiss in their duties if they failed to cast a vote of confidence, preferably tied to a brick, toward our effacious and faultless munchkins. Friendly folk, the munchkins did their level best to see to it that board members, candidates, and other dignitaries were comfortable and well-adjusted. We certainly do owe these curious, masochistic, and happy creatures a colossal thankful uproar.

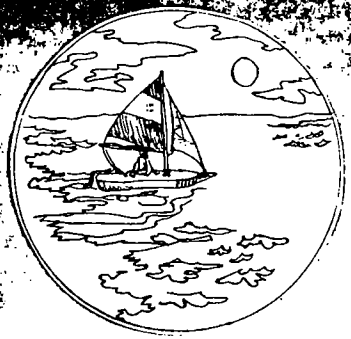
As a final analysis, it would be fair to all concerned to thank them for their tremendous will to work. Boards are not nearly perfect yet, but if we continue to refine the procedures that we used (to wit, ROBERT'S RULES), I am convinced that there will come a time in the not too terribly far future when boards will lose their undeserved reputation as a total bore. See, the thing is that something like this, being as how it's fundamentally business oriented, can prove to be a fantastic resource. Or it can continue as a total waste of time. But the difference lies in how much energy one is willing to put forth, because as we all should know: AS YOU GIVE, SO SHALL YOU RECEIVE...

S.R. Wilcox

she is....

she is someone i dare not describe
 Love is....
 More than words could ever say,
 They are
 The beating of my heart and
 The only thing which restores
 My faith in life.

Billy Grassie



RARA AVIS

they'll think they see the real me.
 but these poems are like an onion-
 layer after layer can be peeled off,
 the tears coming faster,
 until only the core is left.
 (and it's so soft and green there.)

-arlee barr

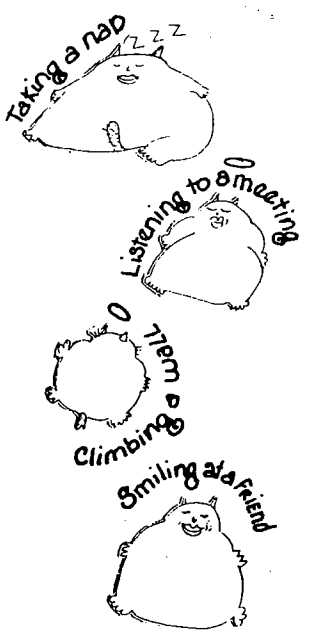


TIME

The kindness of an old man, who's seen far more than he can describe,
 Threads of silk reflect the sky's emotions, as if on a reddened mirror
 Wandering minds, that travel floating over endless questions,
 The truths that all find within themselves sink slowly,
 As time covers the tangible emotions, long past.

The dust of memories fade, and life continues,
 Waiting for promised pleasure, never quite seeing things as you did,
 The horizon once again shows dawn,
 You await it with a smile on your lips and a wildflower in your hand.

-Chris Lonchon



Munchkin Patrol - Reporting For Duty, Sir!

A major factor setting apart summer lry boards '74 from all other boards as I've known them, was that there were no peons. Instead, a group of people-- including frustrated would-be representatives not recognized by the Board, those who worked in the kitchen, and others who came just for the helluvit-- banded together to form the MUNCHKIN PATROL!

If no one else had a good time, at least the munchkins did. We giggled and sang in high little voices, looking to our cheerless leaders: John Rosett- King Munchkin; Alan Trachtenberg- Munchkin Liason; and Rob Fellows- Instigator and co-ordinator of the Mobile Munchkin Office and Drop-inCenter. At our occasional meetings held in the MP Offices we discussed many things, such as: the Munchkin Fee, Munchkin Purpose and Philosophy, the possibility of board members taking Munchkins for granted, Munchkin Organization, and Munchkin Kitchen Policies.

The Munchkins were asked by the board to pay a dollar per day for room and board. Though this seemed like a reasonable amount, many objected, mostly on the grounds that they had no money. Some felt that we needn't pay because of the work we were doing. We finally agreed to pay as much as we could afford, gathering funds from individual MPs, Board members, donations, and tips (The tips were given to Rob Fellows who supplied Mocha and other necessities for the Orifice).

"Why are we here?" was an important question for which the answers were often somewhat vague. The most common were, "to raise spirits" and "to help things go well." To do these things we decided to pay attention to the meetings because, since we weren't directly involved we could see many things more clearly than could Board members. In their fury, Board members could easily lose track of each other and their feelings. Perhaps we could help keep them aware of each other. The downfall of this plan was that Munchkins are not easily recognized, especially when they are needed most. And so, because angry, insensitive people do not like to be pointed out as such, the Munchkin Patrol served little purpose, save as a force for eager menial servants.

The major function of the MP was to perform little oddities for the Board members so that they needn't interrupt the meetings themselves. These include passing notes preparing and serving coffee and snacks, brushing hair and giving massages. We enjoyed doing these things, until some of us began to feel taken for granted.

By KYLE KNAPP

"They eat all day!"; "And there's not ennuv food in the Kitchen!"; "And what thanks do we get?" were frequent Munchkin comments; and from the Board members: "There's a Munchkin when you need one?!", "Can't you find something better to drink than water?" and "Ya can't trust 'em-they read your notes before they deliver 'em!" (a valid complaint I might add). After some discussion we decided that these remarks represented a relatively small minority and, considering that Boards are quite a strain for Board members, we realized that we weren't really obligated at all and, for the most part the Board really appreciated us.

Our peerless leaders (as well as their loyal followers) were just loaded with brilliant ideas. Rob produced such wonders as \$6H green stamps and quickie-notes (in triplicate, no less), and Alan T. somehow came up with a supply of stickers and buttons supporting GILLIAM (God Is Liberal Like I Am Munchkin) for Congress. We considered ways of entertaining the Board: skits, songs, points of munchkinship, birthday parties, a munchkin report, and a serious worship. Although most of these ideas were well-planned, few actually came off, due to lack of organization. (However, we were considerably more organized than the Board...) I did succeed in bringing up as a point of Munchkinship a brilliant fund-raising idea, (a stroke of genius, PORTABLE LRY THIMBLE ASHTRAYS!!!) and Carol Powers and Allan T. pulled off a serious worshop. Most of the Munchkins were involved in their own individual trips, and as a result, th MP did nothing spectacular as a body.

Because of the oppression, well noted in Munchkin history, the Munchkins delighted at any chance to bitch at Board Members. The kitchen was pronounced off-limits to Borard Members, (except when they had KP duty) and the Munchkins were given the right to expell them from the premises. This was a great help in reducing kitchen traffic between meals. Of course, at times, even the Munchkins in their vast multitude, became a problem and invoked some complaints from the cooks. But most of the time things ran smoothly.

So... I guess whut this all (or at least some of it) boils down to is: if you are a Board Member and you want to see LRY Boards from a different perspective, if you want some new insight into another level of LRY existence, if you walked away from boards feeling ripped off and want to know how you might've fared better... next time, go as a Munchkin! (I did, and I'm not sorry!)

Suspiciously admitted, Kyle K. Knapp, Scribe? (of the) Munchkin Patrol- LRY Boards August, 1974.
 P.S.- The Opinions expressed herein are solely those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the Munchkin Patrol.



Record Review - Marren Senders
Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young

Well, they're back together--the spirits of the sixties and the flowering of the love generation. Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young. And they have, so I hear, a live tour album coming out. Meanwhile, there is a new package of their greatest hits for those who missed them the first time around.

So what do I say? Their high, floating, ethereal harmonies were their trademark, along with their four varied songwriting styles: Crosby contemplative and radical, Stills crying in wounded rage because whatever woman he was currently singing about has left him, Nash with a return to the basic fabric of everyday life, and Young bouncing around in all three.

The album is fairly well balanced, although I must wonder about the absence of "Marrakesh Express," which was, in addition to being something of a hit, one of the nicest songs I had ever heard. It still is, and I question its nonappearance. On the other hand, I wish that "Deja Vu" had not been included here--it has a twangy and abrasive nature, and the shallowness of Crosby's lyrics bother me. I have no objection to Nash's tune "Our House," as long as I don't hear it too often--the flimsiness of its melody and concept don't hold up under repeated listenings, but once in a while it's nice to hear.

However, the other cuts remain as fresh as when I first heard them: "Wooden Ships" is still a gently terrifying look at nuclear war, and the strength of the words is still evident; "Teach Your Children" is as lovely as the first hearing, and the various other songs are equally fine. In general, this album does anyone who hasn't bought their other three a service, in providing highlights from their checkered studio career.

I'd hardly call it a must, but if you're wondering about an album to give to someone you like, then this should fit the bill. are still as fresh and varied as they were four years ago.

HYMN OF THE LRY BOARD OF TRUSTEES by ADAM AUSTER

we are the LRY board of trustees
we come as we are and we vote as we please
we're fearless, courageous and will not be cowered;
we're right on the ball; and we're finally empowered.

we are the far fuckin' LRY board
we're from federations, we can't be ignored
we'll keep to the point and we'll try not to bore 'em;
we'll meet night and day, (long as we have a quorum).

we are the Munchkins of the LRY
we perk up the meetings when they start to die
we keep the ball rolling, we make sure things go,
and deep down inside it, we're running the show.

we are the folks who have made the decisions
(with mucho discussions and mucho collisions)
we are one group that just can't be ignored:
the frivolous, dilatory LRY board.

BOOK REVIEW by Maddie Keeve

on The Awakening by Kate Chopin



For people interested in reading some good literature, an excellent piece is The Awakening by Kate Chopin- published by Avon Books, 95¢ paperback. Written over seventy years ago, it is the story of the summer of a twenty-eight year old woman who attempts to escape from marriage and the society that prevents her from establishing herself as an individual. Any person that has ever felt trapped by the dictatorship of society's conformity can relate to this woman's feelings. The author is genuinely sensitive to the character, and to her rela-

tionships with the people around her.

The author herself is interesting. After her husband's death, Chopin (no relationship to the composer) began writing stories for various literary magazines. The publication of The Awakening in 1899 shocked and angered many people all over the country with its honesty. Chopin was banned from the Fine Arts Club and the book was taken off the shelves of libraries. Chopin also published another novel, At Fault, and two collections of short stories.

"There is no 'beginning' of feminism in the sense that there is no beginning to defiance in women."

--Sheila Rowbotham, Women, Resistance & Revolution

THE 1974 BRIDGEMAN SUMMER CONFERENCE

June 30 - July 6

Better Known as the: "FUCK, YES!!" Conference

Here are a few cold facts. (Well, I decided to warm them up) 16 people came - only 9 for the whole time. The camp we rented was unexpectedly cool about this - they helped alot. We slept in little wooden cabins, kept nice and shady by big, cool trees. There was no soil - only sand. There were big, hot sand dunes and a beautiful private beach just for us. We did all kinds of neat things during the day, like play, and massage, and collect rocks, and walk along the beach, and slide down these big sand dunes and all sorts of other things. At night we watched the sun set on Lake Michigan. It was absolutely, indescribably, incredibly beautiful. I couldn't possibly describe the feelings we had, all sitting together watching nature gloriously show us her secrets, one-by one.

By the end of the week we were insanely high on each other (and a little bit of pot) for the 9 full-weekers, at least, it was an experience of love and getting deep inside another person's head.

Let me explain why we called it the FUCK, YES! conference. The first night, we were all sorts of disappointed at the small turnout. Bridgeman was supposed to be a major LRY camp. We decided to all meet in one cabin, and discuss what direction we'd like to take.

Deb Ramsey and I ran the conference. Just before the meeting, I was very unhappy, and sort of tense. I whispered to her, "do you think the camp will be any good?" "Hell yes," she said. Then she thought a minute and said, "What do I mean hell, yes? FUCK, YES!"

Well, everybody heard, and that was the theme of the conference. (it was, originally, supposed to be: everything is beautiful in it's own way) If we wanted to do it then, FUCK - we could! We realized how high 9 people could get in one week. We reached for the sky - but we touched higher.

We had to cancel some workshops cuz of the lack of people. We did lots of art things, and had a couple of beautiful thought and energy workshops that everybody really got into, like I've never seen people

The Gay Caucus

I attended a meeting of the UUA Gay Caucus, with the intention of bringing the voice of Gay youth (SRL, LRY) into the bureaucracy and reminding the adults that the young people need the support of the religious community in order to brave the terrifying prejudice found everywhere else. The age factor is a legal issue; the social alternative is often only Gay bars (another legality) or religious groups which these Unitarian-Universalists may not really identify with (Catholic 'Dignity', Protestant MCC, Jewish B'nai Miskalah). So we must make our home also our children's home, so to speak. I found that the bureaucratic demands (i.e. asking for a delegate to the UUA Gay Caucus) would not

work with LRY, so I'm doing what I should be doing instead of being a bureaucrat-- I am talking to the people. Perhaps a delegate will evolve: someone who is now involved in LRY, who identifies with the needs of Gay people, and has the energy incentive, and courage to Come out, even if a fake name is used.

The Gay Caucus has been given an office (office of Gay Concerns) at 25 Beacon St (Boston) and we will soon be helping to select a director. It is important for Gay youth to make known their needs, so that the director will be able to provide for the education, counseling, and dialogue needs of the Gay and Non-Gay Unitarian-Universalists.

Patches

get into a workshop before. We filled up a room with mattresses and everybody lied down and listened to some readings. The camp staff were pretty far out and took us sailing and canoeing, and goofed off with us.

We had two planned worship services which both were really nice. We had about 4 spontaneous worship services at night when we saw the sun fall into the lake, then built a bonfire and sang and laughed, and dug each other.

We had a fantastic advisor, Nancy Doughty, that we just got by a last-ditch effort. She was really beautiful - it's incredible how a good advisor helps a conference.

The last night we exchanged presents, cried, saw the sun set for our last time there, and watched the aurora borealis - the northern lights - light up the whole sky.

Bridgeman skipped a year, but the FUCK, YES! camp began. To be good a conference doesn't need 250 people - 9 is just enough!

- just enough to fall in love.
- just enough to hate everybody.
- just enough to play with.
- just enough to hold in your arms.
- just enough so that a trace will always be in your heart.
- just enough to hope with.
- just enough to reach with.
- just enough to touch the sky with.
- just enough to really, really be with.

exactly enough!! FUCK, YES!!!

Joy Marshal

Bay Shore Federation -not at board meetings and not affiliated.
CMF (Central Massachusetts Fed.) -present at board meetings but not affiliated.
CMF (Central Midwest Fed.) -present at board meetings.
CVF (Connecticut Valley Federation) -not at board meetings and not affiliated.
DVF (Delaware Valley Federation) -present at board meetings.
Down East Federation not at board meetings and not affiliated.
ECF (Eastern Canadian Federation) -present at board meetings.
 -affiliated with LRY.
 -Conference happening on Canadian Thanksgiving (4-7 of Oct.) in Montreal.
 -it looks like Zowp will be happening again this year at Unicamp but with different people. Write them c/o Unicamp Honeywood, Ont., Canada.
Essex Federation -not at board meetings and not affiliated.
GODARFUL -present at board meeting -affiliated with LRY.
 -conference happening in Pillsbury, South Hills this fall.
 -they go together a revised constitution at their spring conference.
GMAF (Greater Washington Area Fed.) -present at board meetings.
 -affiliated with LRY.
 -conference happening this Oct.
 -revising their constitution this fall.

HBF (Hosea Ballou Federation) -present at board meetings.
 -affiliated with LRY.
JAF (Jersey Area Federation) -present at board meetings.
 -affiliated with LRY.
 -had a Convocation and meeting of the Communications and Pub. Committee Sept. 13 814 in Montclair.
 -Conference in East Brunswick happening late October.
LAF (Long Island Area Federation) -not at board meetings and not affiliated with LRY.
LSD (Lower Southern District) -present at board meetings.
 -affiliated with LRY.
MAF (Metropolitan Area Federation) -present at board meetings.
 -affiliated with LRY.
 -JAF needs help with getting together a newsletter. All aspects contributions, suggestions, news. Send to: Maddie Keeve, 28 Quaker Ave, Cornwall, N.Y., 12518.
 -two locals starting up this fall.
MARK (Mid-Atlantic Regional Conglomeration) -conference happening in Rockville Maryland, October 11-14.
MOHAWK Federation -not at board meetings and not affiliated.
MVF (Missouri Valley Federation) FLASH:VF just had their BODY meeting and the name was changed to the FRIENDS FEDERATION.
 -present at board meetings.
 -affiliated with LRY.
Narragansett Federation -present at board meetings and affiliated with LRY.

-had a gook conference this spring and a fair on this summer.
NFF (Niagara Frontier Federation) -not at board meetings but affiliated with LRY.
NHF (New Hampshire Federation) -present at board meetings but not affiliated with LRY.
NSF (Norfolk-Suffolk Federation) -not present at board meetings or affiliated with LRY.
NSF (North Star Federation) -present at board meetings.
 -affiliated with LRY.
OVF (Ohio Valley Federation) -present at board meetings.
 -affiliated with LRY.
OVF and GOGARFUL leadership training weekend is happening 3 days after thanksgiving in Dayton, Ohio.
PSWRLRY (Pacific South West LRY) -present at board meetings.
 -affiliated with LRY.
 -had a mini conference in San Diego and a 5 day summer youth camp at DeBenville pines.
PHOENIX Federation -present at board meetings and affiliated with LRY.
RMF (Rocky Mountain Federation) -present at board meetings.
 -affiliated with LRY.
SAHILLI Federation -not affiliated or present at board meetings
SAM (Southern Appalachian Mountains) -affiliated with LRY.
 -present at board meetings.
SAMNEWT Federation -present at board meetings but not affiliated with LRY.

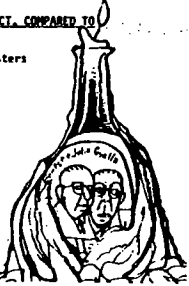
SamNewt needs input. They need letters visitors and ideas. SN is growing despite the obvious physical obstacle of taking up about half of Canada and being isolated from other feds.
SEAFOAM (Sun Earth Air/Freedom Of all Minds) -not present at board meetings or affiliated with LRY.
SMF (South Middlesex Federation) -not present at board meetings or affiliated with LRY.
Starr King Federation -present at board meetings and affiliated with LRY.
 -Having a conference this Thanksgiving.
 -Jim Monroe and Ken Keep are forming the Advisors Co-operative for people into High School age UU activities at the advisor level. Write c/o Ken Keep 230 Ashbury St., San Francisco, Cal., 94117. (415) 931-8933.
SUNCO Federation -present at board meetings and affiliated with LRY.
TOAK Federation -present at board meetings and affiliated with LRY.
 -had a bi-fed this Aug. with Seafoam.
 -new song sheet and a revised constitution coming out soon.
 You may have noticed that many feds, if judged by the above, are not doing anything. We know, however, that this is misleading, and in many cases downright untrue.
 We therefore kneel as if to pra and cry out to your compassionate souls that you might send us some news...

Editor's note- Many of the federations described above as "not affiliated" are only so define because they have not yet turned in proof of local group and membership status.


Why boycott Gallo Wines?

HOURLY WAGE RATES IN NEW UFW ALMADEN CONTRACT, COMPARED TO GALLO CONTRACT

Job	Almaden/UFW	Gallo/Teamsters
General Labor	\$2.85	\$2.76
Pruning	3.15	2.81
Hand Mechanical	3.25	2.81
Irrigators	3.05	2.81
Crew Leaders	3.45	3.34
Tractor Driver		
Regular	3.45	3.16
Special		3.34
Equipment Maintenance	3.65	3.22



The Almaden contract also provides for a union hiring hall, a 10% per-worker-per-hour payment by the company to the Robert F. Kennedy Medical Plan and \$6 an hour to the Juan de la Cruz Pension Fund, detailed pesticide protection, and such benefits as six paid holidays, paid vacations, time and a half for work on Sunday, and leaves of absence without loss of seniority.
 "This is the best farm labor contract in California," said UFW president Cesar Chavez.
 (From EL Maternado.)



United Farm Workers of America (AFL-CIO), P.O. Box 627, Keene, Ca. 93531

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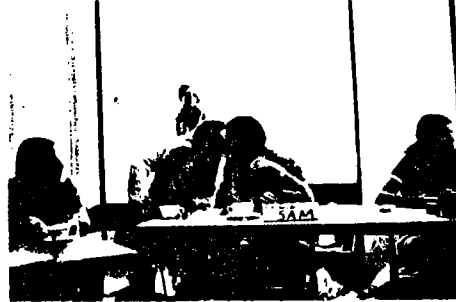
We want to see PEOPLE SOUP become a self-sufficient program and publication of, by, and for LRY. These goals cannot be realized unless the subscription list increases considerably in size. Many of you have been with us through the lean times, when the paper was more of a broth than a real, flavorful, rich and spicy SOUP. And through the year, as more people came to be aware of the paper's existence, even more delicate and subtle flavors were added, and should the trend continue, we will be able to develop a hearty STEW. Right now, we send this publication to approximately 600 LRYers and related types. Since we estimate the existence of close to 5000 active people in LRY, we find our penetration rate to be around 12%. We need a much higher subscription rate to SURVIVE, let alone become self sufficient. So PLEASE share the soup. As a subscriber, it is within your easy reach to ask two friends to send in their \$2.50. It's such a paltry amount, and it can do so much...

Enclosed is \$2.50. Please send me eight issues of People Soup.
 Bill me: I will pay within two months.
 AGE: (This is important for our files!) _____
 NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ PROV./STATE _____
 ZIP OR POSTAL CODE (VERY IMPORTANT) _____
 make checks payable to liberal religious youth send completed forms to lry 25 beacon st boston mass 02108

We Have Moved TO A NEW LOCATION

The four of us now live at 10 Homer Street, Apartment 3, Brookline, Mass. 02146. We are tremendously happy to have a new home - a bigger home. We have friendly neighbors and the cockroaches are not too disagreeable or nasty. We are living quite comfortably. Our new phone number (listed under Jo Taco -as always) is (617) 566-7097.

Who Says Good Vibrations Don't Come Out Of BOARDS?



Are You 264, 384, 464?

In the United States today, there are 7 million veterans of the Vietnam war whose discharge papers carry codes which may tell the veteran's employer and government agencies traits about himself that he didn't know were recorded.

All discharge documents that these veterans received were marked with codes that may signify "apathy", "homosexual tendencies", "character disorder", etc. These codes are called Separation Program Numbers (SPN), or Separation Designation Numbers (SDN). Approximately one million veterans have derogatory SPN numbers, even though they may have honourable discharges.

Because such numbers, (supposedly confidential) have been easily available in publications such as the Red Cross and Veterans of Foreign Wars service manuals, the veteran may be discriminated against by prospective employers without knowing why.

In February of 1974, the American Civil Liberties Union won the first federal court order which will limit the use of the SPN. Soon afterwards, Secretary of Defense James R. Schlesinger directed that as of March 27, 1974, SPN numbers will no longer be included on discharge documents, the purpose being to make all discharge information understandable to the veteran, and "to avoid the potential of undesirable discrimination...". Also, as of May 1, 1974, all veterans who received adverse SPNs on their discharges will be given new papers without the code, and a narrative description of the reason for discharge--but only if they request them.

Crysh Neier, executive director of the ACLU, sent a letter to the Secretary of Defense, pointing out that a black mark over the SPN on discharge papers would indicate the deletion of a derogatory code. Therefore, Neier urged the Defense Department to replace the old numbers with neutral ones, using, for example, 201ETS (which means (expiration of term of service)).

To answer Mr. Neier, Lt. General Leo Penade, Deputy Asst. Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs replied that under the Freedom of Information Act, the Defense Department is required to provide personnel records to veteran-authorized persons. (Example: on an employment application, there is usually a space provided for the applicant's signature, authorizing research into all the facts represented.)

Also, Penade said that the department cannot agree with the suggestion to replace derogatory numbers with neutral ones. "It is a fact," he said, "that some personnel are discharged for adverse reasons... it is this fact which is recorded in personnel records, and, prior to March 27, 1974, as the SPN..."

Veterans who want to find out what their code number means can send it to: Project on Amnesty, ACLU, 22 East 40th St., New York, N.Y. 10016. If the veteran decides that he wants to apply for a set of papers without the code number, he should follow the Defense Department fact sheet which explains procedures for requesting a new DD Form 214.

Note: Imilie Blattman asked me if SPN numbers were also given to members of the Women's Army Corps, and other females serving the the armed forces. I don't have that information yet, but I'll get it and put it in People Soup. Layni Martin