

**what we're into. . . .**

**some**

**1974-5 GAA**

**projects**

GAA/DC prides itself in being a flexible organization--one that can respond rapidly to needs and circumstances of gay people in our community. But we do have some established goals that require our constant attention. They are not easy to list, and even when we do, the list undergoes changes continuously. However, here are some of our goals for 1974-5. This list will give you some indication of the kinds of things we are into. (NOTE: GAA/DC has a current "working approval" list of goals and priorities which is always subject to change according to the wishes of its members. The projects listed here are from such a list adopted October 8, 1974. The reader should be aware that this list is for internal guidance only, and is not meant as a rigid statement of GAA's intentions for the year)

✓ POLICE ENTRAPMENT--We hope to make major strides this year in the area of police entrapment of gays by plainclothes officers. Our current thinking is that a fair entrapment law cannot be written; instead, we must seek a legislative ban on the use of plainclothes police for enforcing "sex crimes." This will be under the new City Council's jurisdiction in January of 1975, and our election campaign work stressed this as a major GAA/DC goal.

✓ HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION--Our aim here is, in part, to get an openly-gay person appointed by the Mayor to the Commission. We feel that, with the passage of Title 34 protecting gay people, there will be great symbolic value, and a real chance for the enforcement of Title 34 in the appointment of a gay to the Commission.

✓ FINANCES AND FUNDING--Like any other organization, GAA/DC needs money. This year we hope to stop sweeping this issue under the rug. We are looking for new and imaginative ways for raising revenue.

✓ NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GAYS AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT--With the introduction of gay civil rights legislation in the Congress of the United States this term, gay liberation has reached another milestone. GAA/DC feels that the time is right for a major gathering of interested people on the wide range of policies of the federal government toward gays. This year we hope to organize such a conference and we hope to invite gays and U.S. government personnel from around the country.

✓ FUNDING FROM CITY COUNCIL FOR A COMMUNITY CENTER--As a part of our participation in the Washington Area Gay Community Council's work toward a gay community center, we hope to win supporting funds from the D.C. budget for such a center. We anticipate that work done during the campaign for City Council will assist us in getting support for such a project. This GAA project will depend, in part, upon decisions reached within WAGCC.

- ✓ BUDGETING FOR ENFORCEMENT OF TITLE 34--GAA will take an active part in the city's budgetary process this year. Besides funding for the community center, one of our major aims will be an increase in the portion of the District's budget appropriated for the enforcement of Title 34, and thus, for enforcing gay rights. This project, along with the appointment of a gay person to the Human Rights Commission, indicates our seriousness in seeing that our newly-won rights will actually be implemented on a day-to-day basis for D.C.'s gay citizens.
- ✓ LAW REVIEW COMMISSION--GAA is aware that the City Council will not have jurisdiction over the criminal code of D.C. until January of 1977. By an act of Congress, a Law Review Commission has been set up to make recommendations for changes in the Code. GAA's interest in the Commission is twofold: (1) getting an openly-gay person appointed to the Commission, and (2) getting the Commission to recommend basic changes in the D.C. law, especially repeal of the sodomy and solicitation statutes.
- ✓ GAA INFORMATION BOOTH--This year GAA/DC hope to initiate a project designed to spread the word about gay liberation and GAA activities. We will have a booth which will be used in various festivals, street fairs, block parties, etc. with information and literature about GAA and the movement.
- ✓ D.C. ELECTIONS--GAA has a continuous project involving the election of local governmental officials. In 1974, we are heavily involved in the Mayoral, City Council, and School Board elections; in 1975, we will again be involved in School Board elections. GAA sends out questionnaires, confronts candidates publicly, sponsors candidate forums and rates candidates for the information of D.C. voters.
- ✓ "OPEN HOUSE"--GAA members feel that it is important to get to know each other on an informal basis. For that reason we have made informal gatherings on a regular basis one of our goals for this year. In addition, we want others to get to know us, our philosophy of gay liberation, and to learn what it is we are trying to do. Our informal gatherings are meant to do both.

There are many other projects which interest GAA members. Some of them will almost certainly receive major portions of our attention this year. They include:

- ✓ Actively testing Title 34
- ✓ Ending discrimination in the bars
- ✓ Responding to anti-gay media presentations
- ✓ Project "Gay Care" for the D.C. School system, beginning with Teacher Awareness Seminars
- ✓ Community education projects about gays
- ✓ Education of gays about our rights
- ✓ "In-house" projects such as a newsletter, membership, a permanent home for GAA/DC, and GAA constitutional revision
- ✓ Improving local libraries and bookstores on the availability of gay materials
- ✓ Work on gay studies curriculum; publication series on gay issues.

GAY ACTIVISTS ALLIANCE/WASHINGTON  
Post Office Box 2554  
Washington, D.C. 20013