



# GAY LIBERATION FRONT @ 40

## Gay Liberation Front 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion

**G**ay Liberation Front was the first militant gay organization to emerge after the June 1969 Stonewall Rebellion in New York and was a catalyst for the gay pride marches in New York and Chicago the following year.

To celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Stonewall and GLF, a bicoastal GLF Gay Pride committee is planning various events for New York City and San Francisco.

The month-long events will culminate with a GLF contingent marching in each

**There will be various events during June 2009**

gay pride march.

This contingent will include veterans, spouses, friends, and family members of the original

**Because we are GLF!  
We will never give up!**

national and international GLF organizations.

The sole purpose of this newsletter is to inform as many GLF veterans of 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary events.

Nikos Diaman has done a remarkable job maintaining a GLF email list for several years. His email list enabled the planning committee to reach GLF veterans all over the world. The intent of the

list is to be inclusive, but there are some GLFers we've been unable to locate. A list is below..

**Marching contingents will be in New York and San Francisco.**

### San Francisco Events

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## Seeking "Lost" GLF Colleagues

**G**ay liberation pioneers planning 2009 reunions seek lost colleagues. Former members of the Gay Liberation Front (GLF), the organization that launched the modern gay rights movement in the wake of the June 1969 Stonewall Rebellion in New York City, are seeking information about "lost" colleagues as they plan reunions in June to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Stonewall. We have e-mail addresses for about 100 people and are looking for others we've lost contact with over the years. They are the

following:

Mike Boyle, John Brault/Murphy, Kathy Braun, Tom Buckingham, David Elbaz, Mark Ericson, Jesse Fallon, Bob Fauss, Richard Farrell, Marta Ferro, Steve Gavin, Donna Gottshalk, Paul Guzzardo, Gerald Hansen, March Hoffman, Jim Jordan, Bill Katzenberg, Larry Kehoe, Roger Kornhaber, Bernard Lewis, Pat Maxwell, Stephanie Meyers, Nova, Jack Openhym, Barbara Payne, Roberta Rheume, Linda Rhodes, Ana Sánchez, Roni Schnitzer, Charles Shoe, Lin Stephen, Ruben Toro, Kay Van Deurs,

Tom White, Ann Wilson, Barry, Dore, Marty from Queens and Liban from Paris.

Organizers are interested in hearing from members not already in touch. The pioneering activists, or friends who have information about such individuals, are asked to provide names, GLF chapter location, and all contact information including phone, email and mail address. Information about deceased members is also wanted.

The organizers can be contacted by e-mail: [NADiaman@aol.com](mailto:NADiaman@aol.com).

### New York Events

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## GAY LIBERATION FRONT @ 40

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*"GLF helped craft an integral part of gay and lesbian politics that remains with us today."*

### San Francisco Contingent for Gay Pride March

The Gay Pride March for 2009 will take place in San Francisco on Market Street on Sunday June 28, 2009 at 10:30 am.

The GLF/Stonewall 40 contingent has been approved for the second spot in the march. The contingent is just behind Dykes on Bikes.

The Mission of the San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Celebration Committee is to educate the World, commemorate our heritage, celebrate our culture, and liberate our people.

GLF in 2nd Spot

### Smash the Church, Smash the State!

Tommi Avicoli Mecca's , *Smash the Church, Smash the State: The Early Years of Gay Liberation* (City Lights 2009) will have a reading by contributors to launch this new anthology.

The event will take place at the Main Library, 100 Larkin/Grove, Wednesday, 3 June 2009 at 5:30 p. m.

This event is cosponsored by the Queer Arts Festival and City Lights Books.

*"This book vividly recreates the thrilling and euphoric moments of gay liberation in the wake of Stonewall, with the added wisdom and grace of 40 years of hindsight."*

### Panel Discussion on Early Gay Liberation

A panel discussion on early gay liberation, with Blackberry, Martha Shelley, Steven Dansky, among others.

The event will take place on 6 June 2009, 2 p.m., at the Main Library, 100 Larkin at Grove, San Francisco.

This event is cosponsored by the Queer Arts Festival and LGBT Historical Society

### New York Contingent for Gay Pride March

Rick Landman has registered a GLF contingent to be part of the 2009 NYC LGBT Pride March sponsored by Heritage of Pride.

The March will be Sunday, June 28th, 2009, beginning at Noon. The March starts on 5th Avenue & 52nd Street and

ends on Christopher & Greenwich Streets.

There will be a moment of Silence: 2:00 PM

Each GLFer will need to pay a fee to march with this contingent: \$3 per person for a donation to HOP and \$2 per person towards an HIV/AIDS organization.

Rick has graciously volunteered to be the GLF marshal.

More information about the March planning will be in subsequent issues of this newsletter.

*"GLF also transformed the concept of coming out from a process that gay men and lesbians experienced privately and shared with only a small group of friends into a more strategic political tool."*

### Ellen Shumsky One-Woman Show: Portraits of Transformation 1967–1973

**E**llen Shumsky was a member of GLF and a founding member of Radicalesbians.

Her photography spans more than four decades. Her work is a unique testament to the spirit of the early years of the LGBT movement and

lesbian/feminism.

The LGBT Center will feature a photography exhibit of work by Ellen Shumsky title:

*Portraits of Transformation: 1967-1973*

The exhibit will be from 1 June through 4 September 2009.

There will be an opening reception on 11 June 2009.

### Gay Liberation Front (1969-1971): A 40th Anniversary Photographic Retrospective

**S**teven F. Dansky will be curating an exhibit of GLF photographs to be exhibited at the LGBT Center, from 1 June through 4 September 2009. Many are familiar images, but many have never been exhibited before. And certainly the photographs

have never been shown together. Some photographers will include, Diana Davies, Michael Evans, Robert Giard, Peter Hujar, Fred McDarrah, Carl Miller, among others. GLF individuals, groups, and events will be represented in the exhibit.

There will be an opening reception on 11 June 2009.

*"For all its controversies and difficulties in creating a sustainable movement, GLF provided radical activists an important focal point for a few years."*



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## GLF Panel at the LGBT Center

Perry Brass, GLFer and member of the Come Out! newspaper collective has arranged a GLF panel discussion sponsored by the Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders (SAGE). A GLF panel discussion will take place at the LGBT Center, West 13th Street, New York on June 25th from 6 pm to 9 pm, Room 101, ground floor.

## GLF Statement of Purpose

1969

We are a revolutionary group of men and women formed with the realization that complete sexual liberation for all people cannot come about unless existing social institutions are abolished. We reject society's attempt to impose sexual roles and definitions of our nature.

## The GLF 40th Anniversary Planning Committee

The planning committee for the GLF 40th anniversary was ad hoc and wasn't a formal process.

All the members are volunteers, many of whom haven't seen each other since the 1970s.

These GLFers began to reunite through emails exchanges that began after the death of Bob Kohler in December 2007.

The committee members live in many different places from Tucson to New York to Orange, MA to Las Vegas to San Diego to San Francisco to the Bronx. We've done all the planning via email and telephone. It's a marvel that we've been able to accomplish what we have to date.

There are more events planned, and this newsletter will serve to keep everyone up-to-date.

Please feel free to contact us with any suggestions that you may have.