

The Update

VANCOUVER ISLAND AIDS SOCIETY

JUNE 1991

VOLUME 4 NUMBER 5

Volunteer Party "Kudos"

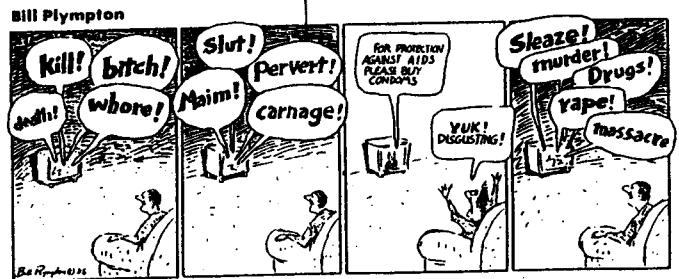
AVI's Volunteer Appreciation Party s held at Rumors Cabaret on April 27, 1991. Great appreciation goes to Glen Froud and his staff at Rumors for making us feel so welcome.

Special thanks to David T. for providing us with some excellent entertainment to round out the evening! And to Terry Froud - thanks for your help in organizing this event for some pretty special people - our volunteers!

We, at AIDS Vancouver Island also gratefully acknowledge the support of the following individuals and businesses:

- Angelika Fox and Q-100.3 FM;
- Francia and Allan Castagne for donations from Columbia Brewery;
- Molsons;
- Pacific Western Brewing Co.
- Mark Anthony's Wine Marts;
- Vancouver Island Brewing;
- Calona Wines;
- Okanagan Estate Wine Cellar;
- Oak Bay Flower Shop;
- Sports Trade Mall;
- Baskin-Robbins;
- The Entertainer;
- Steven G. Productions;
- Christie's Carriage House Pub;
- Caprice Theatres;
- and last but certainly not least Dan and Lana for the great food!

We had a great time -- thanks!



PWA Platform

We are starting a new column in our newsletter called "PWA Platform."

Anyone who is HIV+ and is interested in writing a short article on any subject of concern may submit it to "The Update," c/o David Swan. It can be published anonymously. If you wish to see yourself in print!! Call David at 384-1511.

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NEWS BULLETINS

READ THE FINE PRINT

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Reference Material
NOT FOR LOAN
AVI Resource Centre

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Help!!

Our Update Needs an Editor!

Are you a creative team player, able to use Aldus Pagemaker have editorial skills, can look good in print and looking for a challenge? The Update needs you!

If you are interested in becoming Editor of the Update, please contact JoAnn at 384-2368 ASAP!!

PWA Drop in

AIDS Vancouver Island would like to invite anyone who is HIV+ to our Thursday afternoon drop ins. Every Thursday afternoon from 2:00 - 4:00 pm coffee and tea will be available in the back lounge. This is an opportunity to meet and hang out in an informal setting. Drop in and make new friends!

PWA Committee

Are you HIV+ and interested in having a voice at AIDS Vancouver Island? We are forming a committee to address the needs and concerns of PWA's. If you would like to be involved in the formation of this group please contact David Swan with times you are available.

Interested in Art Therapy??

Now that I am at A.V.I. haltime, I would welcome working with HIV+ individuals in Art Therapy. This is another way to express ourselves using a creative symbolic approach. No art experience required - in fact, it is often helpful if you don't know how to draw. For more information call Claudia at 384-1511 or 384-2366.

REX CALHOUN

A One Man Show

"IMAGES AND..."

McPherson Playhouse-Upper Lobby
June 11th - July 13th, 1991

Mr. Calhoun's works are all one of a kind original watercolours. This particular exhibition will take you from the Universe of Abstract to the Beautiful Mountain Ranges of British Columbia.

AIDS Vancouver Island supports this local artist. Mr. Calhoun is a resident on Gabriola Island and now devotes all his time to art. Formerly, he taught art for 35 years for the Surrey School Board. A prolific artist, Mr. Calhoun has exhibited works around the world, and last year had three shows, two in Victoria and one in the Yukon. Next year he exhibits in Quebec.

Mr. Calhoun strongly supports AIDS community groups and has generously offered to donate one piece from his current exhibition to AIDS Vancouver Island as a fundraising project.

Update Editor Extraordinaire

Daryl Jensen has been Editor of the A.V.I. Update since February 1990. After many months of almost single-handedly producing "The Update" from start to finish, he feels it is time to take a break. We are very grateful to you, Daryl, for your dedication and long hours in producing the high quality newsletter it has become for our volunteers, members, and staff.

Take care and enjoy all the extra time you will have!

AIDS Overfunded, gay activist says, "Manitoba's concern called Excessive"

Winnipeg - Despite recent reports that suggest the AIDS virus is spreading faster in Manitoba than previously thought, a gay activist says the province is spending too much money to battle the disease.

"AIDS in Manitoba is overfunded," said Chris Vogel of Gays for Equality. "The concern about AIDS is excessive here. You can count the number of new cases on one hand."

Early findings of a Canadian Red Cross study suggest the rate of Manitobans testing positive for the virus that leads to acquired immune deficiency syndrome is eight times higher than earlier estimated. The study was based on a relatively small sample and its findings are still being analyzed.

The number of AIDS cases is still too low to warrant the financial attention the disease has received, Mr. Vogel said.

In Manitoba, the number of persons reported to be living with AIDS is currently 53, or about 46 per million, and 35 are believed to have died as a result of AIDS.

In the past year, the province spent about \$500,000 on research, education and support.

"How can anyone argue there is too much funding being given to an epidemic of a fatal disease that is continuing to spread?" asked Richard Burzynski, executive director of the Canadian AIDS Society.

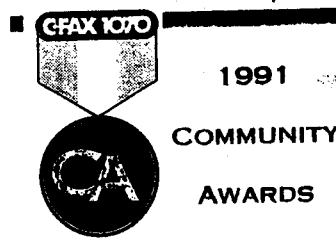
"Our experience is that the majority of groups trying to do things never have enough resources to do it properly."

Saskatchewan spends about \$600,000 on a population with roughly the same number of AIDS cases per million as Manitoba.

Ontario reports a rate four times higher - about 194 cases per million - and spends about 80 times more than Manitoba.

Health Minister Don Orchard said that what Mr. Vogel called "excessive" funding may explain Manitoba's low casualty count.

-Reprinted without permission from *The Globe & Mail*/
March 1, 1991.



ARTS PERSON OF THE YEAR MERIT AWARD FRAN WILLIS

Fran Willis has hosted many community art shows free-of-charge at her beautiful North Park Gallery, even though each time she does, it means she has to take-down and put-away the works on whose sales she relies to keep her gallery in business.

Well-known for her commitment to local artists and the community in general, Fran has donated considerable



time and space to shows which increase public awareness. Often, as when exhibiting the giant "AIDS Quilt" in 1989, she will design and organize the installation of each show personally. She runs

her own design-consulting firm, and recently volunteered her expertise in designing the new premises for AIDS Vancouver Island.

In addition, Fran regularly hosts fund-raising receptions and concerts, and has acted as a volunteer juror on many occasions. For the past six years, she has organized, provided space, and acted as a juror for the C.N.I.B. "Eye Appeal Art Auction."

From the look of things, Fran Willis intends to continue adding to the arts community. She has just been appointed to The Board of the Metchoia International Summer School of Arts, and has recently agreed to jury the 1991 Fine Arts Show in Sooke.

HELP! HELP!

If anyone has a means of helping us clean our newly donated sofa and loveseat (i.e. a shampooer) and would let us use it, please contact JoAnn @ 384-2368.

POTLUCK DINNERS FOR HIV+/PWA'S

If you would like to be informed regularly when the next potluck will be held let Kobe know at 727-9985 and we will notify you. Leanne or delegate will check a few days before the event to coordinate rides and/or food.

Our next dinner will be on June 16.

Thai Rulers Declare War on Sex Trade

Bangkok - Thailand's new government said it is declaring war on the country's infamous sex industry and the spread of the AIDS virus.

"Sex tourists are no longer welcome here," said Mechai Viravaidya, minister of the Prime Minister's Office in the new cabinet.

"We are telling them to go back home and exploit their own women and children," he said in an interview.

Thousands of foreign men - mainly from North America, Western Europe, Australia and Japan - flock to Thailand every year in search of sex. They don't have to look far.

Sleazy bars and massage parlors abound in the capital Bangkok and the resort Pattaya.

Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, whose administration was installed by a military junta which took power in a February coup, has described prostitution and AIDS as Thailand's biggest social problems.

Some estimates put the number of women working as prostitutes as high as 700,000. Others said there are 20,000 child prostitutes.

The Public Health Ministry estimates 200,000 people throughout Thailand are infected with the virus which causes AIDS, spread through sexual contact or drug addicts sharing needles.

A UN official said Thailand, with nearly 60 million people, faces a "tragedy of devastating power" it does not do more to stem the spread of AIDS.

Reprinted without permission from The Times-Colonist/ March 25, 1991.

Wanted:

One "Rebounder" - Mini trampoline for PWA workout. Cheap or free if you have one contact David Swan at 384-1511.

Bizarre Bazaar

AIDS Vancouver Island will be holding a Bazaar in July at 640 Moss Street. Last year's event was an extremely successful Fund Raiser and we hope it continues to be this year.

If you have any items you would like to donate to our Yard and Bake Sale, please call Bruce at 380-3962 or Ron at 388-9775 for pick-up. The earlier the better. We are also in need of items for our Bake Sale. So,...let's dust off those favourite recipes and let's start those houseplant cuttings.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BIZARRE BAZAAR

AVI's Bizarre Bazaar is an event you won't want to miss! It's happening July 20th. If you enjoy organizing; baking; selling stuff; slinging lemonade; or otherwise being involved in the garage sale of the year, contact JoAnn at 384-2368.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Benoit F. has been a tireless Helpline volunteer since July 1990 as well as assisting with talks and trying to keep all of us organized! Having moved out of town, Benoit will no longer be able to work on the Helpline, but has promised to keep in touch as often as possible. Merci, Benoit for the hard work and the laughs!

AND THE WINNERS ARE

Congratulations to Jean Robertson, one of our dedicated support volunteers, for being, in March, the first winner of our monthly prize draw. Jean won two double passes to the University Cinemas 4/Capital 6 - Famous Players Theatres. Many thanks to Rob Dennison - Manager of University Cinemas 4, for donating the passes.

Our winner for April was Windi Earthworm, one of our new volunteers. Windi received a dinner for two at Cafe Mexico. Our thanks to Randy Welters of Cafe Mexico for donating the gift certificate.

To be eligible for our May draw, please send your volunteer hours for May in by June 15, 1991. You could be our next winner!

Poetry Corner

Remembering...

*Yet in the spring
I remembered
what the winter had caused me to forget
about the beauty and durability
of the human spirit.*

*I was reminded anew
that AIDS is less about dying
than about choosing
how to live.*

*Death is a teacher
that forces us to consider
how precious,
fragile
and yet incredibly abundant
life is.*

*By the gift of knowledge,
however painful,
I am exceedingly blessed.*

-Anonymous

JUNE 1991

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
						1
2	3 HIV/PWA support group 5:15	4 Surviving Partners 7:00pm	5 Family/Friends/ Lovers 7:30pm	6 Women's support group 5:30pm	7	8
9	10 HIV/WA support 5:15	11 Surviving partners 7:00pm	12 Family/Friends/ Lovers 7:30 pm	13 Women's support group 5:30	14	15
16	17 HIV/PWA support group 5:15 pm	18 Surviving partners 7:00pm	21 Family/Friends/ Lovers 7:30pm	20 Women's support group 5:30pm	21 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 7:30 pm	22
23	24 HIV/PWA support group 5:15pm	25 Surviving partners 7:00pm	26 Family/Friends/ Lovers 7:30pm	27 Women's support group 5:30pm	28	29
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