

THE UPDATE



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1995

VICTORIA WALKS FOR AIDS 1995

ANATOMY OF A FUNDRAISER

BY JAMES WOOD, AIDS WALK VOLUNTEER

At the beginning of August 1995 a group of volunteers picked up where the previous Walk Committee left off, and gathered to discuss Victoria Walks For AIDS. The challenge for the group would be the two month period in which to set up and publicize the event. No one at the meeting seemed to recognize the daunting task of putting an event of this scale on in such a short time. Ignorance is bliss. Thank God.

And so, it was decided that on Sunday, October 1st 1995 Vancouver Island would join the rest of Canada in an effort to raise funds for HIV/AIDS. The national campaign title, Canada Walks For Life, would be altered slightly to better reflect the purpose of the walk. The event would be called Victoria Walks For AIDS, with funds raised going to AIDS Vancouver Island, Victoria AIDS Respite Care Society and Victoria Persons With AIDS. Of course, there was still the question of whether or not the city would grant permission for the walk. City Council felt that a walk on Sunday morning might disturb church-goers returning to their homes. This would be the first of many roadblocks the committee would face, but nothing seemed to dampen their spirits.

Alan Elder, a UVic student with previous experience on AIDS Walks in Toronto, assumed the responsibility of chairing the committee. Sub-committees were established to deal with marketing, volunteers, registration and recruitment, fundraising, and events taking place on the day of the walk.

The marketing committee arranged for media support from CHEK 6 TV, the Q radio station, the Times Colonist, Monday Magazine and UVic's radio station CFUV. Both Monday Magazine and the Times Colonist would support the walk through print ads, CHEK 6 would feature segments on CHEK Around and run self-produced PSAs, and the Q and CFUV would utilize their news magazine shows in addition to running PSAs. The media was covered

The fundraising committee secured financial support from Thrifty Foods, Zackery Bean and Canadian Springs. Money was still an issue but support from the corporate sector would defray some of the costs.

The registration and recruitment committee set about targeting secondary markets for distribution of pledge forms. These included arts groups, colleges and universities, emergency services, the gay, lesbian and bisexual community, the hospitality industry and the medical community. Pledge forms would be available to a large cross-section of people.

Volunteers to help in all aspects of the event are being rounded up and assigned specific areas. Until you work on this kind of project you can't really grasp the amount of time and effort that volunteers put in. Thanks in advance should go to the over 100 volunteers.



BUDGET. This is the scariest word when you're putting on an event of this magnitude. Especially when your budget is minuscule. The costs began to mount; police, tents, toilets and St. John's Ambulance for the day of the event. Pledge forms, posters, programs, envelopes and postage to promote the event. All had a price attached. Corporate sponsorship would cover some of the costs, but the main concern was that monies raised from the walk would not be eaten into. Cuts were made with the result being a more manageable budget while still allowing the committees to do their job.

It is now one month away from the day when Victoria Walks For AIDS. So much has been done in so little time, but so much more still needs to be done. For the walk to be a success it needs over 1000 walkers. Support would be the key word in this final phase; support from all walks of life to be there on Sunday October 1st at 9am, pledge form in hand so that AIDS Vancouver Island, Victoria AIDS Respite Care Society, and Victoria Persons With AIDS Society can continue to help those living with HIV/AIDS.

On Sunday October 1, 1995 Victoria Walks For AIDS... make every step count! For further information contact: 384-2366

HELPLINE: 384-4554 (GREAT)

Reference Material
NOT FOR LOAN
AVI Resource Centre

HELPLINE: 1-800-665-AIDS (2437)

CLASSIFIEDS



ON-LINE AIDS TREATMENT INFO

Victoria PWA is pleased to announce its on-line AIDS Treatment Library Database! For those of you with internet access, the dbase address is: www.vpwas.horizon.bc.ca Give it a try!

Classifieds are welcome from readers of the update. Printed free of charge, as a service to our members, clients, and volunteers. Please fax submissions to 604-380-9411.

VOLUNTEER BOUQUET

AIDS Vancouver Island fundraising volunteer, Irene Hibbert, says "she's a couch potato;" but I think not! Since she first answered a newspaper ad to help with AVI's annual bazaar, Irene has worked five times on their Bizarre Bazaar Committee.

Irene was born in Victoria, B.C. and was educated in Calgary, Alberta. Years later, she returned to Victoria and continued in her specialized profession as a lab technologist (microbiology) at the Royal Jubilee Hospital. While her vocation is not without stress, she has always enjoyed her employment and supportive camaraderie of her associates.

"Life is a banquet!", declared the fabulous and beloved Auntie Mame in the late author, Patrick Dennis' book of the same name. Gregarious Irene has this same curiosity, empathy, enthusiasm and need to enrich her life with active world travel. Her axiom is to journey where she has an intuition to visit. An avid photographer, Irene's photo albums evoke many precious memories.

Travelling on her own or with friends, Irene's journeys to the United States have taken her to many states including, Arizona, New Mexico, Louisiana, California, New York, and Oregon. She especially enjoys the scenic coastal beauty of Oregon.

Irene has travelled from Europe to Australia and taken cruises to the Caribbean, Mexico and Alaska. She hopes to visit Greece and Peru. An ambitious 1999 travel goal is to trek on an African safari.

Since 1988, Irene has returned again and again to the Cook Islands, which lie virtually centred in the Polynesian triangle of the South Pacific. Rarotonga is a beautiful and luxuriant reef-encircled island with a rugged mountainous interior rising to over 2,000 feet. While Maori is the local language, English is widely spoken.

We shared happy stories, as I visited this delightful island paradise in 1985 and 1986. The friendliness of the Cook Islands reminded me of the relaxed mid 1950's lifestyle of the Hawaiian Islands. In 1987 and 1993, hurricanes lashed Rarotonga and the port of Avarua township. As a result, the main road has been widened and a more protective pier extended to protect the harbour. Irene is a member of the non-profit South Pacific Peoples' Foundation and anticipates visiting more Polynesian islands.

Irene's most recent trip was to China in March 1995. For fifteen days, by train and bus, she travelled with thirty-two fellow tourists from Shanghai to Beijing and return. Irene's sightseeing included the cities of Shanghai, Suchow, (nicknamed the "Venice of China"); Taian; Qufu, (birthplace of philosopher/teacher Confucius); Jinan; and Beijing.

Back in Victoria, we wish Irene success in her next fundraising project, the October 1st Walk for AIDS.

BY JOHN HODDER

SPEAKERS' BUREAU RENAMING CONTEST!

Readers are encouraged to dream up new, more grabby names for our busy Speakers' Bureau. Send your suggestions to Barb Chester at AVI....there are prizes, so go for it!

THE UPDATE

The Update is published bi-monthly as a service to members. One-year subscriptions are available for \$15.00. Typed submissions and letters to the Editor are welcome, c/o AVI #304-733 Johnson Street, Victoria, BC, V8W 3C7, or via EMAIL at avi@IslandNet.com. The Update will print no sexist, racist or homophobic copy and will cover issues and events from perspectives which will initiate positive change in the work done by and for AIDS Vancouver Island. The appearance of any advertisements, treatment information or letters to the editor do not imply endorsement by AIDS Vancouver Island. Submissions may be edited for conciseness and grammatical correctness. AIDS Vancouver Island will not be responsible for errors or omissions.

Erik Ages (editor) c/o avi@IslandNet.com

NewsLetter Committee: Marilyn Branco, Kevin Knox, Lois Moon, Michelle Purdon

FROM THE CHAIR

The summer has been a busy time for our Board!

Our funding has been significantly increased by the Provincial Government. Our Nomination Committee is in hot pursuit of suitable candidates for the Board (get your nominations in now!) Selection Committees addressed staff vacancies, (we have not yet hired a new Executive Director), and Annual General Meeting preparations are also heating up. All this on top of our regular activities as *volunteers!*

Given the crunch on our time and energies, The **Annual General Meeting** has been postponed to October 28, 1995. This gives us all an extra month of breathing space to complete hiring of the Executive Director and put more effort into AGM preparations, including an interim strategic planning report.

The year has gone by relatively quickly. As the organization grows, the Board has had to take a stronger managerial role. This has been a challenging and at times difficult process. But only a strong and effective Board working cooperatively with a skilled and committed staff will provide the kind of service our community expects and deserves.

Increased joint activities with Victoria AIDS Respite Care Society and Victoria Persons With AIDS Society has also increased our effectiveness this past year, so if there are any members who are ready for a new challenge, I invite you to consider standing for election to the Board. We need a broad range of skills, including increased representation from people living with HIV/AIDS. Please contact Karen Dickey, Nominations Committee Chairperson, if you are at all interested.

I look forward to seeing you at the **AGM, October 28, 1995**. Details will be mailed to members soon. We need your input and participation especially at this time in AVI's development.

Bryan Teixeira

VOLUNTEER NEWS

Volunteers Required for AIDS Walk

July 23 saw the initial meeting of the current Victoria Walks for AIDS Steering Committee with representatives from the gay, lesbian and bisexual communities, the media, the business & professional communities & the organizations benefiting from the Walk proceeds. Much to my surprise my name was next to Chair, Volunteer Committee. Beware of taking holidays, for you never know what's in store when you return! Nevertheless, I'm very pleased to be involved in such

a worthwhile event.

Norman Brulotte & I form the Volunteer Committee at present but welcome additional members as we count down to October 1st. We hope to recruit the close to 100 volunteers required from the 3 organizations benefiting from the proceeds. So if you are a member/volunteer/supporter/friend of AVI, VARCS or Victoria PWA Society, have we got a job for you!

1. Pre-walk Activities

-representing Victoria Walks for AIDS at public events prior to October 1st to distribute pledge kits, raise awareness & support for the walk.

- distributing pledge kits to organizations & businesses, restocking when necessary.

- assisting volunteer committee with volunteer registration (data entry) & assignments.

- data entry.

2. **Walk Day** - to support the day's activities at Fisherman's Wharf & along the route.

- security.

- parking.

- food services - if you have a FOOD SAFE certificate, then this is for you.

- registration of walkers.

- site preparation - transportation, setup/takedown of equipment, and tents.

- registration of volunteers.

3. Post walk.

- data entry

4. Volunteer Appreciation.

Thanks to the generosity of the Barton Leier Gallery & *The Sally Cafe* for donating the space; *Thrifty Foods* for donating the food & Danny Stanyer for once again preparing it we will be able to gather together all the volunteers who will make the walk possible for a fun evening.

- volunteers required to organize, setup/takedown, provide entertainment etc.

If you are interested in these or other volunteer opportunities, please send in the enclosed volunteer form or call me at 384-2366 to register. Thanks! JOANN REID

AVI VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Speakers' Bureau - Sept 16, 17.

Street Outreach rescheduled to October - date TBA

Core Training - for new volunteers or a refresher.
October 12, 14, 15, 19, 26 & November 2.

Support Training - Nov. 18, 19.

Call JoAnn at 384-2366 for further information.

INTERVIEW: HOMOPHOBIA

AN INTERVIEW WITH ROBERT OSBORNE

by Michelle Purdon

The theme of this issue of The Update is AIDS and homophobia - both topics which were explored in a mini grassroots festival which took place in Victoria over the summer. For this article, I've asked Robert Osborne, Artistic Director of "As Deep As Your Throat", to share his insight and experiences on these topics and how they relate to the work he did over the summer.

Michelle: Robert, can you give our readers a bit of background on the projects you have been involved with this summer?

Robert: It was a year in the making, and I remember coming up with the title, "As Deep As Your Throat," and it just kind of popped out of my mouth, and I thought, 'hmm, ok, interesting, but there's no way you can apply for funding [for a project of this nature]. I was writing a grant application for the Explorations program of the Canada Council at the time, and I thought, 'if I have to hold back now, with the title even, there's no point in doing it... and I'm going to do it, so here's the title and let's see what happens.'

Michelle: So your grant application was approved?

Robert: Yeah, ... and I think it's so crucial to be able to say that the Canada Council, which is the largest funding body in the country, chose to fund a very 'out', in-your-face style and process, and primarily support gay artists, who are self-identifying and wanting to create community value with their work. Although there have been many gay projects funded... never something specifically, that I'm aware of, that has been such a gift to gay artists in seeing what they can come up with.

Michelle: So where did you go from there?

Robert: From there it was a process of finding some incredible people to work with. The first experience we had together was a retreat that went on for 6 days in the mountains in Metchosin, 12 artists in total... spending our time, and I think, well, I know so... for the first time in our lives, creating what we could genuinely call a gay world for ourselves and being able to share absolutely anything and everything... so it was really a coming out of the internal closet as it were, because most of us were already really open and seemingly out.

Michelle: So this retreat, this first instalment, became part of the whole experience of the grassroots festival for you?

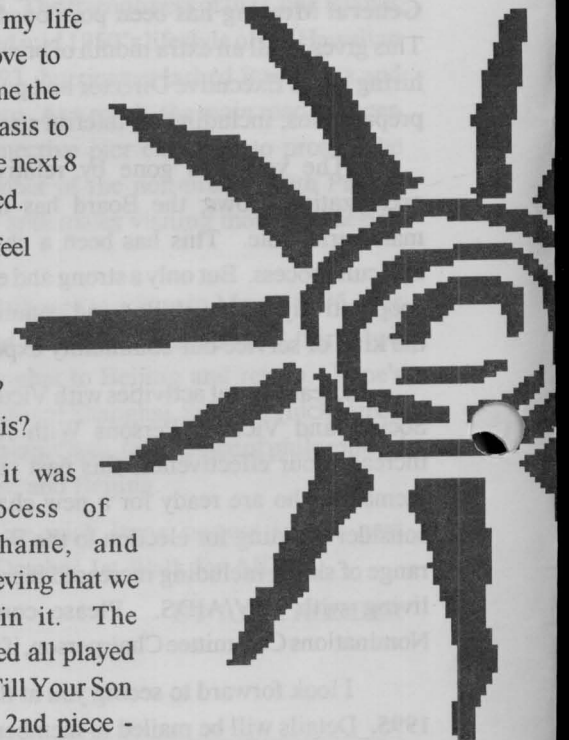
Robert: Definitely. A big part of the retreat was about what we called, 'swallowed lies' - things we have all bought into in our belief systems, whether consciously or unconsciously... and looking at that from a gay perspective, a big one that came up was that as a gay man, I don't deserve to be loved. And once we really got in touch with the feelings and belief systems that supported this, we found that it really ran deep with everybody in the group, with many variations. When we finally came to what we called, 'authentic truth,' and really believing that, 'yes, I am gay, and I do deserve a lot of love in my life and I've got a lot of love to give,' - that really became the premise and the very basis to all the work we did in the next 8 instalments that followed.

Michelle: Do you feel you were successful in incorporating that sentiment into the rest of your instalments? How did you achieve this?

Robert: I feel it was achieved by a process of transforming the shame, and understanding and believing that we didn't need to hide in it. The instalments that followed all played into this theme. "Wait Till Your Son Turns Nelly," was our 2nd piece - [an ode to] gay bashing, where we declared queer space in front of the Empress Hotel with a big pink chalk triangle and invited somebody from the audience to be gay bashed. I stepped up and threatened to hit the volunteer with this plunger I was carrying and instead of hitting him, I deep throated him. From there we went to McDonald's [a place known in Victoria for assaults on the gay community] and then to the police station to give them some literature and to share our concerns about the amount of violence in the city that is not being identified as gay hatred?

Michelle: So how big a part of this was about raising awareness in the community? On AIDS, homophobia, violence?

Robert: My feeling is that people react the way they need to. My agenda, and I've said this before, isn't to push your buttons, I can't do that. My job is to say 'hi', to say, 'hello,' with whatever work I do, just to do that. The project really had no agenda about making you be anything other than what you



already are. We can only give ourselves the gift of our own honesty and see how it affects the rest of the world.

Michelle: How do you feel about the gay movement as an evolutionary process? Do you believe that for any movement to be successful in achieving its goal, it must be radical? How do you think AIDS has altered this process?

Robert: I think AIDS has provided the community with a different kind of upward arc in the movement towards acceptance. AIDS has become one of the paradoxes of our community. For me, that paradox is our blood, the life force of our community, which has also become synonymous, in many instances, with death. Another further paradox is the gift AIDS has given us - the gift of crisis, and of having to wake up to our individual responsibilities we all have in this world, whether we are gay or straight. Again, I think things happen as they need to, and that if I change, my world changes. I can't try to change other worlds - change only occurs when we look at ourselves. The transformations that can occur globally by this process are phenomenal.

Michelle: So you don't think AIDS has slowed down the progress the community had previously made towards gay acceptance?

Robert: No - there are eras. Stonewall was one era, the sexual revolution another. I think this era would [have to be

classified as one where] we are beginning to explore our own internalized homophobia and admitting to it, that as a gay man, I'm

homophobic, and have bought into those stereotypes. We can only move forward by first making changes in ourselves and in the way we approach situations and people.

Michelle: Do you feel that hatred and violence in the gay community is more prevalent now than it has ever been?

Robert: I don't believe there is more hatred, no. More acts of violence? Perhaps. I do know that there is simply more courage out there today than there was 10 years ago, and we need to tap into that courage. We tried to do that through our project.

Michelle: Can you talk about the piece you did in Beacon Hill Park?

Robert: That was one I'd been dreaming about for a year, the one in fag forest. And I thought, probably one of THE deepest places of shame, where guys go, and that is not true for everybody, but where we meet anonymously, we meet secretly,

without exchanging names usually, I mean it's different for everybody of course, but it's for anonymous sex usually. And I was really waiting to transform and liberate that shame, and find the creative flip side to it. So for this particular instalment, we dressed a bunch of people up, and two of the guys who had been on the retreat had been married five years ago in a legal ceremony. So we had a marriage renewal, from the 11th century Greek bible. There were huge, outrageous costumes. The train for the bride was about 12 feet long, with this pink, orange, and green neon lace and this HUGE costume. And we had this music system that could have been heard in Oak Bay - BA BA BA BOOM! Then the wedding song came on and 12 car lights, all the headlights came on at just that moment, and the whole meadow was flooded with light, everybody could see everybody. Then the wedding started, music flooding the park. For the reception we played the theme song from Mr. Roger's, "Welcome to the Neighbourhood," and we had this massive flag which we unfurled ceremoniously, a rainbow flag, just beautiful. In the end there were about 90 people in the circle holding hands, doing the Can Can - that was a spontaneous thing, we hadn't planned that. All this took place on the 27th of July on the new moon, to signify a new beginning, a coming out.

Michelle: What would you say to people who might classify your project as a stereotype of gay life and who might base their ideas on AIDS and homophobia based on this stereotype?

Robert: I think there is an extraordinary fear that gay men have of being stereotyped.

Like the drag artists, or the femmes, or the butches - and again, I think it's systemic of the way that we begin to attack each other and become more normal so that THEY will accept who we are - whether THEY be gays, straights, ethnic groups etc. To answer that question, I buy into the stereotype, that fear that controls. We are as a community so diverse, so extraordinarily colourful - I can be stereotypical if I want to be, I can be whoever I want to be.

In terms of the straight audience, we had a 50 percent straight audience at some of the shows, and the main comment was that it was like being invited into somebody's personal living room, and sharing some intimate details of their life with them. I think it shook them up a little bit, surprised them maybe, because it wasn't what they expected, because they didn't really know what to expect. I think they were really moved to see the intimacy that men could share with each other.

INTERVIEW...

EDUCATION UPDATE

As most of you know Aaron Severs has left AVI to take a position with the Ministry of Health. I have been appointed as the Education Coordinator on an interim basis until December 31, 1995. Until the end of October I will continue to work one day per week in the Cowichan Valley delivering mobile needle exchange and support services.

HIV/AIDS, like all other epidemics, is as much a sociopolitical issue as it is a medical condition. Disease and illness do not exist in isolation from the socioeconomic and political contingencies of the day. The course of HIV/AIDS, no less than influenza or cholera, has been in part, charted by the daily realities of poverty and discrimination.

It is the latter category of discrimination that we will be addressing during AIDS Awareness Week (October 1-8) this year. The focus is on HIV/AIDS and Homophobia. Homophobia can be defined as "the fear of gays and lesbians and the hatred, disgust and prejudice that fear brings. Homophobia refers to "individual negative attitudes and personal prejudice" (**Homophobia, Heterosexism and AIDS, CAS, 1991**). The presence of homophobia as an active form of discrimination in North America has been a key determinant in our response to HIV/AIDS. The initial medical and political response to HIV/AIDS was slow and lacked commitment. To be charitable, we can attribute a small part of that response to ignorance and lack of knowledge of the disease. To be less charitable, we can say with considerable certainty that the lack of support for PWAs and for research and prevention education is owing to homophobia. That gay men were already a marginalized group in mainstream culture made it easy for government to initially ignore the enormous toll HIV/AIDS was having on the gay community. That gay community activism compelled a response from governments is well known and those efforts should be applauded as they are largely responsible for the improved levels of care, support and education around HIV/AIDS.

Homophobia rears its ugly head in other ways. The belief that HIV/AIDS is a "gay disease" lulls others into a false sense of security. One need only look at the massive numbers of infections among heterosexuals in Africa and Asia to understand that HIV/AIDS does not discriminate based on sexual orientation.

Homophobia also takes the form of internalized homophobia where gay men and lesbians may experience low self-esteem and self-loathing as a result of growing up in and living in a society where same sex relationships are often characterized as aberrant. Both anecdotal evidence and recent

studies show that self-esteem plays an important role in the choices people make in their sexual activities.

AIDS Awareness Week events will feature discussion of the relationship between HIV/AIDS and homophobia.

Peter MacDougall

Acting Coordinator, Education Services

NATIONAL AIDS AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

It takes more
than condoms
to fight AIDS.
It takes your
acceptance and
understanding.

SPEAKERS' NEWS

I am writing this in the second week of August, and as it looks right now, it would seem that Summer '95 is over!! so I thought a good way to meet and greet the Fall would be to have a new name for Speakers' Bureau. I have been arranging and co-ordinating speaks since '93 and even then I thought there must be a more lively and upbeat name for this programme from Education Services. (See info on page 2 regarding our contest).

Speaks have slowed down during the summer (historically this is the normal course of events), but we are now booking into '96. Ed Wilson will be flying up to Whitehorse in September, talking about HIV/AIDS, staying in a log cabin, and attending a rock concert, all in the space of 48 hours!

We had a count of 40 people attending the evening when Dr. Pepper Schwartz, from the University of Washington, came to talk on "The Politics of Sexual Desire". Thanks to everyone who attended. Some of the feedback I received was, and I quote: "...it opened up some discussion that might not otherwise have taken place in a different setting..."; "It's about time such topics were addressed," and "We need to incorporate sexuality into our education with Speaker's Bureau."

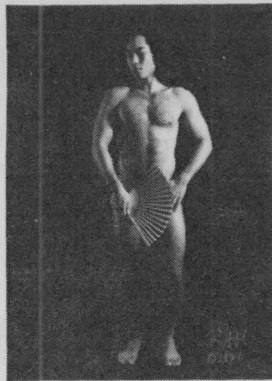
We now have some copies of *Module 4: Palliative Care - A Comprehensive Guide for the Care of Persons with HIV Disease* from Mount Sinai Hospital and Casey House Hospice, and we also have copies of *The Employee Handbook to HIV/AIDS* from AIDS Calgary.

On a final note, the next Speaker's Bureau Training is on September 16th and 17th (weekend) from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. (both days) in the AVI living room. Hope you've had a great summer!

BARB CHESTER

FUND RAISING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SELL VICTORIA'S FIRST "ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS." AVI SELLS THE BOOKS FOR \$30 EACH, AND KEEPS A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF THE SALE FOR THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FUND.

IT'S A GREAT BUY FOR VOLUNTEERS, TOO! SEE ENCLOSED ORDER FORM TO PURCHASE A BOOK FOR YOURSELF, OR PASS IT ON! OR CALL ERIK FOR DETAILS.



Bam! PRODUCTIONS
Presents

"BAM--RETROSPECTIVE"

A Photography Exhibit
September 3-29, 1995

MOCAMBO COFFEE GALLERY CAFE

1028 Blanchard, Victoria B.C. 1-604-384-4468

BAM or **Brent A. McTavish** has been published in various magazines including VICTORIA BOULEVARD and MUSCLEMAG INTERNATIONAL. Exhibitions include BC Festival of the Arts "Images And Objects," Sooke Region Museum's "Fine Artas" and "Publishing The Portrait" at Vancouver's Foto Base Gallery. BAM's work is held in many private collections in Canada, Denmark, India and the USA.

Recently, AVI used BAM's work in the **"LOVE SAFELY" Post Card Campaign**, the latest series of which will be launched during the September Labour Day Weekend.

You are invited to an Artist's Reception on Saturday, Sept 16 between 7-9pm at MOCAMBO Coffee. Stop by and sample the wonderful food and java while enjoying the art!

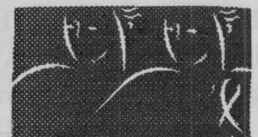
ENTERTAINMENT...

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VALUE**



FUND DEVELOPMENT NEWS

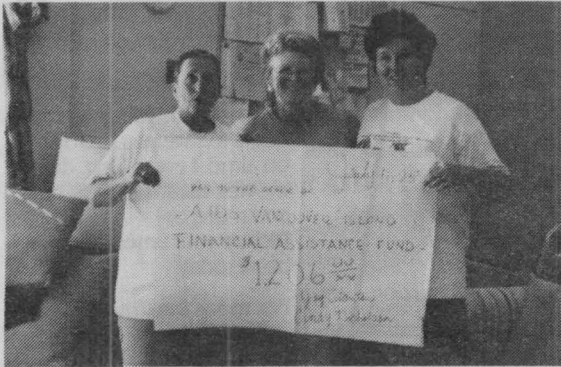
Welcome to the busiest fund raising cycle of the year! September to January is the most crowded events period at AVI, and 1995 will be the busiest yet: AIDS Vancouver Island has taken on the administration of Victoria Walks For AIDS; and we'll also be selling AIDS Walk merchandise, including t-shirts bearing the Canada Has AIDS logo, key fobs, buttons and silver-plated pins. We encourage you to come in to the office to see the merchandise display and to purchase your t-shirts before the AIDS Walk. Our new black t-shirts sell for only \$12 each.



In addition to the AIDS Walk, AVI has been given first run at Victoria/Vancouver Island's first issue of Entertainment 1995. We'd like volunteers to help sell these valuable books to

their friends, colleagues and acquaintances. Each sale generates income for the Financial Assistance Fund, and provides the purchaser with valuable coupons to services and merchandise across the Island region and the mainland. If you've never seen Entertainment coupon books before, come in to the office and have a look through! We're taking orders for books during the month of September, and distributing them when they arrive in early October. This is a new, and potentially rewarding opportunity for AVI.

Bizarre Bazaar 1995 was a great success once again. Run almost exclusively by volunteers, the event raised \$4,000 for the Financial Assistance Fund. Special thanks to the Biz Baz committee, The Sally Cafe, and Zackery Bean for their terrific support. And a million thanks to Irene Hibbert for her tireless effort coordinating this year's Bazaar (see profile on Irene in this issue).



The 18th Annual Great Tahsis/Gold River Walk. Thanks, again, to Joy and Cindy for their pledged donation of \$1206 to the Financial Assistance Fund! After 35km of logging road, a 5km AIDS Walk in Victoria should be a breeze. Look for Joy and Cindy resting their weary feet on October 1st!

SUPPORT SERVICES NEWS

PWA DINNER (and maybe a movie) NIGHT: The next PWA Dinner night will be on Monday September 25 at 5:15pm in the Living Room at AVI. Join us for good food, scintillating conversation and a movie (if we have a TV/VCR by then).

PWA CAUCUS: Following a meeting of PWAs in May, 1994, a directive was given to the Board of AIDS Vancouver Island to form a PWA Caucus. The Caucus was to be a group of PWA members of AVI with whom the Board could seek consultation and advice on matters relating to the lives of PWAs. As such, a meeting was held on August 17 in the Living Room. At this meeting, the role of the PWA Caucus was more clearly defined and Caucus members arrived at a working definition of "direct service". The Caucus will be an opportunity for PWA members to have their voice heard at AVI and provide direction to the Board on matters which affect their lives. If

VANCOUVER Island AIDS Society

(non-profit registration # 0756957-11-28)

MANDATE

AIDS Vancouver Island shall confront Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, prevent its spread through education, support all those affected by the disease, and advocate on their behalf.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 SECRETARY Ross McKinnon
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 Support Worker Roshni Narain
 Support Worker Alicia Parker
 Support/Education Worker (Comox Valley) ... Shari Dunnet
 Coordinator, Street Outreach Services Claire Dineen
 Street Outreach Worker Bart Wittke
 Comm. Dvp Wrkr (Cowichan Valley) Peter MacDougall

anyone would like more information about the Caucus, please leave a message for Leam at AVI, or speak to Roshni.

SUPPORT VOLUNTEER TRAINING: The next round of volunteer training will be held November 18th and 19th, starting at 9:30am. If you wish to sign up, please call Roshni or Alicia at 384-2366.

SUPPORT SERVICES WISH LIST: Here are all the things that would make our life much easier:

blankets; pillows; clean, quality clothing for women, men and children; and a child size table with chairs.

If anybody is considering donating household furniture or any household items, please call Alicia or Roshni at 384-2366.



AIDS Vancouver Island

SEPTEMBER 1995

DIRECTORY

**AIDS INFO LINE
(VICTORIA)
384-4554**

**TOLL-FREE INFO LINE
1-800-665-2437**

**ADMINISTRATION
EDUCATION
SPECIAL EVENTS
SUPPORT SERVICES
VOLUNTEERS
384-2366**

**FACSIMILE MACHINE
380-9411**

**ISLAND OUTREACH
(COURTENAY)
TEL 335-1171
FAX 355-1178**

**ISLAND OUTREACH
(Cowichan Valley)
TEL 746-0808
FAX 746-8666**

**STREET OUTREACH
(OFFICE)
384-1345**

LOCATION OF EVENTS

Events, unless indicated otherwise, occur
at AVI's main office
304 - 733 Johnson Street.

M	T	W	T	F	S/S
Living Room drop-in hours (unless booked) are Monday thru Friday from 9:00 - Noon Lunch hour from Noon - 1:00 Everyone Welcome				1	2 3
4	5 Labour Day Office Closed	6 Women's Group 5:00 - 7:15 pm	7	8	9 10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Speakers' Bureau Training 17 Speakers' Bureau Training
18 Support Services Volunteer Meeting 5:00 pm	19	20 Women's Group 5:00 - 7:15 pm	21	22	23 24
25 PWA Dinner 5:15 pm Board Meeting 6:00 pm	26	27	28	29	30

DIRECTORY

**AIDS INFO LINE
(VICTORIA)
384-4554**

**TOLL-FREE INFO LINE
1-800-665-2437**

**ADMINISTRATION
EDUCATION
SPECIAL EVENTS
SUPPORT SERVICES
VOLUNTEERS
384-2366**

**FACSIMILE MACHINE
380-9411**

**ISLAND OUTREACH
(COURTENAY)
TEL 335-1171
FAX 335-1178**

**ISLAND OUTREACH
(Cowichan Valley)
TEL 746-0808
FAX 746-8666**

**STREET OUTREACH
(OFFICE)
384-1345**


LOCATION OF EVENTS

Events, unless indicated otherwise, occur
at AVI's main office
304 - 733 Johnson Street.



AIDS Vancouver Island

OCTOBER 1995

S/S	M	T	W	T	F
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2 9 16 23	3 10 17 24	4 11 18 25	5 12 19 26	6 13 20 27
 VICTORIA WALKS FOR AIDS	AIDS AWARENESS WEEK			OCTOBER 1 - 8	
	THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED		Helpline Mtg. 5:30 pm Living Room Sp. Bureau Mtg. 6:30pm Living Room	Volunteer Training 6:30-9:30pm	
	Supprot Servcies Volunteer Meeting 5:00 pm		Women;s Group 5:00 - 7:15 pm	Volunteer Training 6:30-9:30pm	
	Board Meeting 6:00 pm PWA Dinner 5:15 pm			Volunteer Training 6:30-9:30pm	
Annual General Meeting				Living Room drop-in hours (unless booked) are Monday thru Friday from 9:00 - Noon Lunch hour from Noon - 1:00 Everyone Welcome	