



# The Washington Blade

THE GAY WEEKLY OF THE NATION'S CAPITAL

## Soviet Gays sprang to action to help resist coup

Printed and distributed Yeltsin's call for resistance

by Lou Chibbaro Jr.

Soviet Gay activists, realizing they had one of the few working laser printers in Moscow on Monday, rushed to the assistance of loyalists to Russian Republic President Boris Yeltsin in opposing the Soviet Union's ill-fated coup.

Leaders of Moscow's fledgling Gay rights group used their word-processing and copying equipment to print thousands of copies of a proclamation issued by Yeltsin calling for resistance to the coup.

Officials with the San Francisco-based International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC), which has an office in Moscow, said the decision by Moscow Gays to lend their equipment to Yeltsin's forces represented a dramatic and public stand against the coup at a time when many expected it to succeed.

The San Francisco group delivered two MacIntosh word-processors and a laser printer to the organization's Moscow office only two weeks ago during a Gay rights conference held there and in Leningrad. The equipment and office is being shared with the Moscow Union of Lesbians and Gay Men, headed by pioneering Soviet Gay activist Roman Kalinin.

According to accounts by IGLHRC officials in San Francisco, Kalinin learned Monday that the IGLHRC office had one of the few, and possibly the only, working word-processors and laser printers accessible in the city.

The eight-member coup committee which temporarily took control of the Soviet central government had closed down all printing plants and independent newspapers and broadcast stations. Western news agencies reported that state security officials loyal to the coup sent a surge of power through Moscow's electric utility lines that severely damaged communications equipment such as computers, word-processors, and fax machines.

Upon learning of these developments,



by Doug Hinckle

## Assets soar over Lammas

AFI Quick Assets team members hoist their coach, Linda Watts, following their championship victory over Lammas Monday night. See story, page 47.

## Lesbian baby boom underway

by Kimberly Scott

## DOD must prove ban 'rational'

by Nick Bartolomeo

A federal appeals court panel in San Francisco has ruled that the Defense

reversed Gray's dismissal of the case and ordered him to require the Army to prove whether its discrimination is rationally

Elizabeth  
and Wj Spreken Nederlands

618 18th Street NW, Suite 240  
(1/2 blk Farragut West Metro, 2 blks Farragut North Metro)



Couples, Family  
Individual Counseling  
Spiritual Growth

**Betty Powell Rosenberg**  
M.S.W., M. Div., D. Min.

THE GROVE  
(703) 53-GROVE  
(703) 534-7683

5319 Lee Highway  
Arlington, VA 22207

**Eileen D. Suffian, C.P.A.**

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN TAXATION

*Specializing in Tax  
& Business Planning*

Computer & Bookkeeping Services  
Also Available

(202) 387-8401

**MARY CAMPBELL, M.D.**  
Obstetrics and Gynecology

7501 Little River Turnpike  
Annandale, Va. 22003

Office: (703) 642-6610 Ans: (703) 893-4222

**Farragut Square Chiropractic Center**

**Dr. Jack R. Mackler**

1717 18th Street NW

(202) 857-0003



and from health  
related financial services  
and more information  
available at home

Individual • Group • Couples

3 Washington Circle, N.W.  
[Foggy Bottom Metro]  
(202) 822-0078

**SEX THERAPY**  
using  
**HYPNOSIS & COUNSELING**  
*Individuals • Couples*

**Thomas C. Clary, Ph.D.**  
3410 Garfield St., NW, D.C. 20007

*Call for our Free Brochure on  
"Why Hypnosis?"*  
**202-333-6354**

**ROBYN S. ZEIGER Ph.D., C.P.C.**  
lesbian feminist counselor  
individuals, couples & groups

Certified Professional Counselor  
(State of MD #000136)  
Certified Sex Counselor  
(American Board of Sexology)



Relationship issues  
• Sexual issues  
• ACOA/Codependency  
• Coming out

Silver Spring area • Most insurance accepted • (301) 445-7333



**JANE'S  
Veterinary  
Clinic**

**Dr. David Vanderzeyde**  
**Dr. Julie Giles**  
*Seven days a week,  
by appointment only.*

**(202) 543-6699**

520 Eighth St., SE, Washington, DC 20003

**Directory ads feature:**

**ECONOMY  
EXPOSURE  
EXTRA DISCOUNTS**

**call Advertising Sales  
(202) 347-2038**

# Gays help resist coup

*Continued from page 1*

Kalinin and Tom Boellstorff, a U.S. citizen from San Francisco who runs the IGLHRC's Moscow office, rushed to the site of the Russian Republic's parliament building, where Yeltsin set up headquarters for the resistance.

"They saw people handing out copies of Yeltsin's proclamation that were barely legible," said Russ Gage, an official with IGLHRC's San Francisco office. Gage, who spoke to Boellstorff and Kalinin by phone, said Yeltsin backers told him they could not find functioning copying equipment.

So Boellstorff and Kalinin returned to the IGLHRC office, located five subway stops from the Russian parliament building, with copies of the Yeltsin proclamation in hand. Kalinin retyped the text using the word processor and laser printer. Kalinin and volunteers from his group then used the office copying machine to make 4,000 crisp copies of the proclamation, said Gage.

Kalinin and his crew rushed back to the parliament building and began distributing the copies, which bore the logo of *Tema*, the newsletter published by Kalinin's Moscow group. Gage said Kalinin also distributed copies of a special edition of *Tema*, which he printed in defiance of an edict by coup leaders that declared all independent publications illegal.

"People like Roman Kalinin really started out in the pro-democracy movement," said Boellstorff, in a statement from Moscow. "So they feel that Gays and Lesbians have to join forces with the

pro-democracy movement. The two have been unified. To help one is to help the other."

Monday's announcement on Soviet television that the country's vice president, Gennady Yanayev, had taken control of the country from President Mikhail Gorbachev was especially chilling to Soviet Gays. Kalinin and his associates knew Soviet hard-liners had strongly opposed rights for Gay men and Lesbians.

In his televised speech on Monday, Yanayev declared that "immoral elements threaten stability." Soviet Gays immediately perceived the statement as a reference to sexual minorities and as a warning of an impending crackdown.

Further shockwaves rippled through Moscow's Gay community that day; according to IGLHRC, when state health officials loyal to the coup visited a Moscow AIDS clinic and demanded a list of patients.

"We expected," said Julie Dorf, IGLHRC's executive director the arrests of prominent activists were imminent.

Meanwhile, Dorf was scheduled to give a speech yesterday afternoon in San Francisco at a rally to celebrate the defeat of the coup. IGLHRC, the Bay Area Council for Soviet Jewry, and the International Foreign Policy Association had originally scheduled the event as a rally to protest Gorbachev's ouster and the takeover by hardliners. Dorf said she planned to urge the head of the Soviet consular office in San Francisco, who was expected to attend the rally, to push for Gay rights. ▼

**Blade Subscriptions**  
are available for only \$25 a year  
Call 347-2038, Monday-Friday, 9-5.