

# 'Gays' plan activities for fall

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Coffee houses, dances, a quarterly newsletter and a new name are all in the planning this fall for the Gay People's Liberation Alliance (GPLA). Although the group has accomplished little this summer, having only two meetings, because of the lack of members in Ames, according to Dennis Brumm, GPLA member.

GPLA's purpose is to "liberate gay people from all forms of oppression," by serving as a counseling service to those unsure of their sexuality and an information service to the general community on the subject of homosexuality.

Last May the Government of the Student Body (GSB) approved in its budget allocations for campus organizations \$387.60 for GPLA for the 1974-75 school year. This amount was an increase of \$30.60 over the finance committee's recommendation, because of an added allotment for office expenses and a phone.

GPLA will have an office this fall in Three, Memorial Union. The office will have a phone for business and possibly the number

will be used by people seeking help or counseling with problems related to their sexuality, according to the group advisor, who wished anonymity. Presently people can by put in touch with GPLA by calling Open Line or by answering their classified advertisement in the Iowa State Daily.

GPLA will change its name this fall to simply Gay People's Alliance (GPA) if members approve the new name on the second vote this fall. GPLA had 13 paying members spring quarter, although more than that were attending various meetings, Brumm said. Last fall members numbered up to 30, but an ideological split apparently caused the group's membership decline, Brumm said. While not going into the nature of the ideological split that weakened the group, its advisor said they hope to build up membership this fall by having coffee houses. "Some people just don't like to go to business meetings, so we hope the coffee houses will create a better atmosphere for people to get together."

The GPLA newsletter will be printed this year rather than mimeographed—three to five pages—and include articles written by group members, Brumm said. The newsletters are distributed to all dorm houses and fraternities and anyone who requests it.

Other than their newsletter, GPLA information efforts include members speaking to various university classes, mainly in sociology. Brumm said their efforts seem to be paying off as, "Questions are getting more intelligent as people exhibit a broader base of knowledge about homosexuality than before. Although, there still are a lot of bigots around."