

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away."

Henry David Thoreau



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Cover and Opposite Page: Elias, Drummer's Lebanese leatherman, captured in a couple of uncompromising positions. Photos by Jim Wigler.

GETTING OFF

TELL IT TO THE MARINES

There was a flap around Christmas time about a gay bar in North Hollywood collecting Toys For Tots to feed to the U.S. Marine's annual P.R. campaign. It seems that the chickenshit Marine Corps was afraid to pull a couple of their boys off Hollywood Boulevard long enough to go out to the bar and pick up whatever the faggots had collected. CBS-TV in L.A. picked up the story and named the U.S. Marine Corps "Turkey of the Year."

This is the same Marine Corps that open-handedly accepted toys from the Hell's Angels and made a big publicity flap when it did so. And the same Marine Corps that Harry Truman said had a publicity department bigger than some nation's armies.

But our beef is not with the assholes in the Marine hierarchy. Again we ask, why do gay men suck up to straight charities like these? These organizations can draw from the entire population and do, in the millions of dollars. But gay charities, or pro-gay groups like the ACLU, go begging and have no one but gays to draw from. I remember being at an annual function in Miami given by a leather bar there where there was an ACLU booth with a notice that they did not have enough money to even send a representative to interview a man held in a Florida prison simply because he was gay. Yet another bar was proud it had raised over \$10,000 each year for some non-gay charity.

Any gays "Uncle Tomming" it with any straight charities, when gay people and gay causes are in such need, deserve what they get, no matter how well-intentioned their efforts.

And boy, is that particularly true with the big upcoming annual Gay Rodeo in Reno, Nevada.

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