

Impersonating a Rainbow Seniors' member, can you believe it?
by Sherlea Dony

Probably a better title for this column would be, "Immature at any age."

The Board of Rainbow Seniors discovered recently that someone wrote a mean-spirited letter to a member of the GLBTI community (not even a RSWNY member!) using our name. It's obviously a hate letter that is immature and damaging to our organization and the individual targeted. Actually, I'm hoping the author isn't over the age of 13 or 14; for an adult to write something like this also is incredibly cowardly.

The writer did not sign the letter but indicated that s/he is a member of the "Rainbow Seniors of New York Dance Committee." There are two people on that committee, neither of whom would write a letter like this. The interesting thing is that there is no organization, "Rainbow Seniors of New York." We wish that our membership was that far reaching but want you to know there are several other organizations throughout the state that do the same work as we do, for example, SAGE Upstate, Rainbow Elders of the Niagara Frontier, etc.

The Board hopes that whoever wrote this letter doesn't come to the dance. It'll be hard to tell, tho, because cowards rarely confess. But if the person who wrote this letter ever turns up, you can bet we'll pursue this legally.

The hate letter stated that the individual was drinking and that the Monroe County Parks Department does not permit alcohol. The decision to be drug and alcohol free was made from within RSWNY, not by the Monroe County Department of Parks. They do allow alcohol. The content of the letter is entirely false, and again, RSWNY does not and will not condone this type of action against us and against a member of the GLBTI community.

You did a lousy job impersonating Rainbow Seniors, and the Board feels that your actions are totally inappropriate, not to mention illegal. The Board suggests that the author of this letter try to be a person of substance, addressing personal issues face to face. Your letter was a real cheap shot.

And now a different topic: To find out more about us, visit www.rainbowseniorswny.org or call our Info Line, 585.234-1290. Hope to see you soon!