

Capitol Steps heads south to Palm Beach

The Capitol Steps, Washington's own political satirists, are taking their act to Palm Beach for the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Palm Beach Civic Association at the Four Seasons Ocean Grand Hotel, Dec. 7.

The group began in 1981 when then congressional aides in Sen. **Chuck Percy's** (R-Ill) office provided entertainment at a Christmas party of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The non-partisan musical troupe was an instant success and now pokes fun at such big names as **Bill** and **Hillary**, Attorney General **Janet Reno**, **Ollie North** and **O.J. Simpson**. They stay ahead of the headlines, and will undoubtedly have lots of new post-election material to take with them to Palm Beach.

Domestic issues weren't the only subject of interest in the 1994 elections. Diplomats on Embassy Row eagerly followed the pre-election hoopla and election night results, but not because they were so interested in term limits or taxes. They were anxious to determine how the outcome will affect U.S. relations with their countries through foreign aid, free trade agreements, and foreign policy. Many differing opinions were voiced on the content and coverage of the elections.

Some new ambassadors, who were observing their first U.S. election, said they found the negative campaigning downright amusing. Others were surprised that foreign policy was

generally not a campaign issue. One ambassador, **Sven Alkalaj** of Bosnia-Herzegovina, showed a penchant for partisanship.

He said he's looking forward to more Republicans in the Congress. He wants the U.S. to lift the arms embargo on his country and explained, "We expect more pressure on the Clinton administration to take more definitive actions if the Republicans win seats in the Senate or House."

America's first openly gay Congressional spouse, a mortgage banker **Herb Moses** refers to himself, is seen at many "A-list" parties with his partner, Rep. **Barney Frank** (D-Mass).

Moses is finding that living in the limelight as a gay partner takes its toll. "I have to think about things that no straight spouse would," explains Moses, 37, in the November issue of *Genre Magazine*. "Will I be included? Will I be ignored?" More often than not, Moses and his Frank, are included. They were the first same-sex couple to dance at The White House and have recently dined there with Barney's pal, Bill.

On being a "Washington wife," Moses said: "I suffer from a lot of the same things other spouses do — a lot of people may regard me only as being an extension of Barney. That's a good honest assumption to make, but it's not true."

Frank and Moses believe that public knowledge is a lot better than private gossip. That's why Moses revealed what he proposed to the Congressman at the Greenbrier in W.Va.,

an elegant resort where the Democrats have held many retreats.

When Californians **George** and **Dorothy Saxe** decided to take up a new hobby together in the early 80s, they discovered the beauty of glass. The couple went in search of a fresh interest to revitalize their 30-year marriage, and ended up with one of the best-known studio craft collections in America.

"We liked the process of collecting; it was a reason d'être for traveling," explained Dorothy. Their collection of 122 pieces of rare glass and other objects on display at the Smithsonian's Renwick Gallery is representative of one of the best-known studio craft collections in America.

The works range from whimsical figurative sculptures to highly refined glass, clay and fiber vessels.

"We wanted glass to be shown in fine arts museums and given the same respect as art and sculpture," said George Saxe, a retired real estate developer.

They've donated much of their collection to the Toledo Museum of Art, which has hired a curator for 20th century glass to ensure that it gets the respect the Saxes believe it should.

Prize-winning playwright **Wendy Wasserstein**, Iditarod dog sled race winner **Susan Butcher**, **Cher**, **Harry Belafonte**, Jewelry designer **Marina Bulgari**, basketball great **Magic**



Capital Connection

by
Faren
Feld

Johnson, actor **Tom Cruise**, and artist **Robert Rauschenberg** have something in common. All are past recipients of the notable Lab School of

Washington's Learning Disabled Achiever Award. Each won the award for overcoming a learning disability and achieving success in his chosen field.

This year's recipients were honored on Nov. 14 at the Washington Hilton. Honorees include: Bell Atlantic ceo **Ray Smith**; Retired General **Joseph Hoar**, the former commander in chief of the U.S. Central Command; Fried Green Tomatoes author **Fanny Flagg**; and photographer **Richard Avedon**.

The Lab School, founded in 1967 by **Sally Smith**, uses an interactive, alternative, arts-based curriculum to teach LD kids.

Through Smith's efforts it has become a leading force in the field of learning disabilities.