

MEDIA RELEASE

Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Week 1996

PO Box 66071
Houston, TX 77266-6071
info@pridehouston.org
<http://www.pridehouston.org/~pridehou>

pride line: 713-529-6979

Contact: Jack Valinski
voice & fax: 713-529-1223

4 June 1996

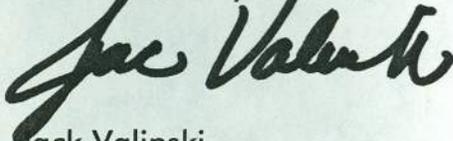
Dear Producer / Editor / Assignment Editor:

The Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Week Committee announces the upcoming Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Week 1996 beginning June 14th to June 23th, 1996. A media conference will be scheduled on Friday, June 14th at 4:00 pm, at the Santa Fe, 804 Pacific, one block North of Westheimer, one blocks West of Montrose.

Although many gay and lesbian people shy away from cameras because of the lack of legal protection and fear of losing their jobs with no recourse, cameras, both still and video, will be allowed in the media conference.

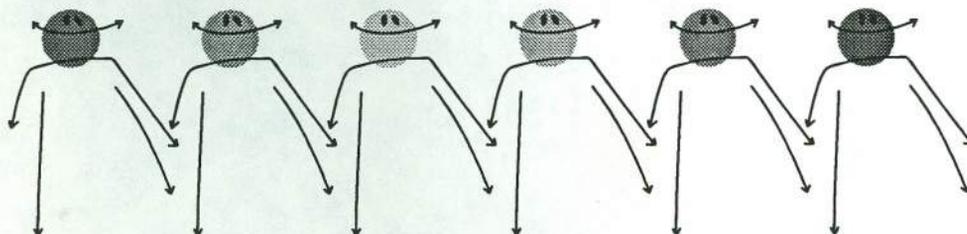
I ask that you consider attending this conference, as I believe that the events outlined in this packet will be of interest to the community you serve.

Thank you for your interest in this matter,



Jack Valinski

Media Coordinator



Pride
knows
no
borders.

Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Week 1996

Statement of Purpose

The Pride Committee of Houston, Inc. is a non-profit (c)(3) organization whose purpose is to coordinate and promote events which celebrate the diversity, unity and history of the Lesbian and Gay Community. We do not discriminate on the basis of color, gender, transgender or bi-sexual identification, the physically challenged or differently abled or on the basis of age.

We are here to commemorate, educate and celebrate our pride and to create a path towards a positive future for all humanity not to exclude any segment of who we are as a people.

Background

One of the more volatile and emotional social movements in the nation's history emerged on a summer night 27 years ago at a ransacked bar in New York City's Greenwich Village.

At 3 am. on June 25, 1969, police raided the Stonewall Inn investigating alleged liquor violations. Until then, raids regarded as routine harassment of bars catering to homosexuals had met only token opposition.

Within minutes, however, more than 400 people had gathered in nearby Sheridan Square and a riot erupted. More disturbances followed the next night.

A minority shrouded in mystery, fear, self-deprecation and widespread looting decided it had enough. It was the Lexington of the gay rights movement, a gathering of forces and the beginning of a tumultuous march.

The true story of events surrounding the Stonewall riots has always been a bit elusive, and media accounts printed at the time appear blatantly biased and notably lacking in factual detail. However, the above quotes tell the story that is most widely known, and the results of that night in New York City can be seen today as the national gay and lesbian community grows in both influence and in stature in our society.

In 1970, a noted gay activist from Los Angeles named Morris Knight was responsible for the "Remember Stonewall" vigil that became a yearly event around the country. In 1975, the first gay and lesbian march in Texas was held in Dallas as a part of the Stonewall remembrance. Community activists in Houston held a widely attended news conference that summer which announced, among other events, the formation of a political coalition that has become the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus.

In 1975, an estimated 200 people held a march in downtown Houston to commemorate the Stonewall riots, which was sponsored by the fledgling Gay Activists Alliance of the University of Houston. Singer and former beauty queen Anita Bryant's appearance as featured entertainer for the Texas Bar Association convention in 1975 brought an estimated 5,000 angry gay women and men down Houston's streets in protest. The heavily publicized march, headed by such notables as gay publisher David Goodstein and Rev. Troy Perry of the Metropolitan Community Church was in vivid reaction to Ms. Bryant's ordinance then in effect in Miami, Dade County, Florida. A few weeks later, Houston's gay community held its first Gay Pride Rally in Cherryhurst Park to celebrate what has become a national holiday for lesbians and gay men.

Over 4,000 community activists met at the Astrodome in 1978 for Town Meeting I, the first organizational gathering in Houston that included gay men and women from every aspect of Houston society. Former state legislator and vice-presidential nominee Frances "Sissy" Farenthold was the keynote speaker, and the meeting was chaired by Virginia Apuzzo, a leading gay activist who became executive

director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in New York. Many of Houston's gay services, including the Montrose Counseling Center and the Montrose Clinic, were formulated and organized at the first historic meeting.

During the 1980s the AIDS epidemic hit the Gay community. With little federal and almost no state end local help, the community responded first by dealing in our with own morality then by building community institutions dealing with AIDS.

Since 1979, the gay community of Houston has celebrated Gay Pride Week with a full schedule of events spanning 10 days in late June.

1996 — Pride Knows No Borders

We are celebrating "Pride Knows No Border" in a year in which "out" has truly been "in": in the news, in the world spotlight. The involvement of gay and lesbian people in the election process and the seemingly endless debate over the military's anti-gay and lesbian policy have ushered in, at last, a time of intense attention to our issues in the overall public. Gay men and lesbians, our lives, goals and political movement have received more serious coverage in the mainstream media, print and electronic, in the past six months than they have in over a decade.

Also of importance is the U.S. Supreme Court overturning Colorado's discriminatory Amendment 2. "This decision is an outstanding moral victory," said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign, after the court ruled 6-3 that the measure violates the constitutional guarantee of equal protection under the law. "And this triumph is especially important in light of the congressional gay-bashing, which has reached an all-time high in the last two weeks."

Birch noted that this decision does not advance equal rights for gay and lesbian Americans. "It merely ensures that Colorado—and every other state—cannot pass laws to deny gay and lesbian Americans equal access to the democratic process," she said. "But it also makes clear that this Supreme Court will not permit any state to attempt to pass laws making its gay residents second-class citizens."

Amendment 2 is the only statewide anti-gay ballot measure that has ever been passed by voters. In 1994, voters in Idaho and Oregon defeated anti-gay initiatives in the midst of the Republican sweep. And last year, voters in Maine rejected a similar effort.

Public opinion polls continue to show that while most Americans support equal rights for gay people, the majority of Americans do not understand that no federal law protects lesbian and gay people from discrimination, Birch noted. Most people do not know that it is perfectly legal to fire someone for being gay in the 41 states that do not have civil rights protection based on sexual orientation.

"The religious political extremists have changed tactics," Birch said. "Instead of statewide anti-gay ballot initiatives like Amendment 2, they are pressing for bills in state legislatures and, most recently, in the U.S. Congress, that would outlaw same-sex marriage. What this new wave of hate demonstrates is that gay and lesbian Americans still have a long way to go toward winning equal rights."

The members of Congress who are pushing legislation to outlaw same-sex marriage "should look at today's Supreme Court decision and think again about what they are doing," Birch said. "The highest court of the land has said that no state can make its gay and lesbian citizens unequal to everyone else' or a stranger to its laws.' This is all we have ever asked for."

Amendment 2, approved in 1992 by 53 percent of Colorado voters, would have overturned local laws prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and prevented state and local governments from passing similar laws in the future. Colorado's Supreme Court struck down Amendment 2 in 1994 as unconstitutional, declaring that the measure denied supporters of equal rights for lesbian and gay people the basic right to participate in the democratic process. HRC was the largest single financial contributor to the legal challenge against Amendment 2.

Driven both by the positive attitude of our government's new administration and the swift and fierce negative backlash to the changes from the radical right, role models seem to suddenly be crawling out of the cracks in the pavement. They are everywhere, coming out or coming forward in droves, and their appearance has coincided with a reexamination of values, policies and approach in society at large.

Just as the participants in the parades and the marches on Washington and state capitals represent a cross-section of a broader gay and lesbian society, our community is a microcosm of society itself. Considering this, we are about as much "like everybody else" as we are ever going to get. That we define our vision of a nebulous "everyone" deserving of our respect and emulation in terms of a minority within society that rejects us is an irony rooted in self-hatred.

In the wake of the 1993's March on Washington for Gay, Lesbian and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation, and with this year's flood of positive media portrayals of gays and lesbians, it would appear that pride, diversity and being Out are good for us after all.

It is true that sexual orientation is only one aspect of an individual's personality. However, historically and in today's political climate, it is not gay and lesbian people who have made the biggest deal out of it. While we are consistently described as an aggressive and powerful lobby, in truth we are only now regrouping from an overwhelming blow the AIDS crisis landed on our energy, leadership, organization and political firepower. Meanwhile, those whose political agenda it has always been to deny us basic human rights have maintained their presence and power and have become more aggressive.

If we are here celebrating that we have a responsibility to support the weary warriors who do more than their share of our community's work. We also have a responsibility to personally participate, each in our own way, and to offer our leaders the insight and guidance they need from a broader and more representative community.

We have reason to celebrate. But now is not the time to compromise ourselves back into a closet of obscurity, even a padded one with a view. We make positive strides and withstand negative aggressions from silence to celebration.

FOUNDER'S AWARD

The Founder's Award is awarded occasionally to a very special person who demonstrates dedication to our national community.

Candace Gingrich

Candace Gingrich decided to get involved in the movement for equal rights when her brother was elected House speaker, feeling that she had an opportunity and an obligation to help educate Congress and the public about the problem of discrimination and the lack of equal rights for lesbian and gay Americans. She participated in the Human Rights Campaign's annual leadership conference in March 1995, and joined more than 100 fellow advocates from more than 30 states in lobbying members of Congress to preserve HIV/AIDS funding, end job discrimination against gay and lesbian people, and stop anti-gay hate legislation in the 104th Congress. She has been profiled in The New York Times, The Washington Post, Newsweek and newspapers across the country. She has also appeared on Good Morning America, Larry King Live, and other national television programs.

In 1996, Candace is spearheading HRC's voter mobilization project, touring the country to urge Americans to register to vote, get involved and participate on Election Day. "This election will determine the direction of the country into the next millennium," she said. "If and only if we organize for the challenges of the 1996 election can we turn away from extremism and back toward the core of American values of

fairness and equality.”

Candace Gingrich was born June 2, 1966, in Baltimore to Robert and Kathleen Gingrich. In addition to her brother, Rep. Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., she has two sisters, Susan Gingrich and Roberta Brown. The family moved frequently due to Robert Gingrich's career in the U.S. Army, living in California, Kansas, Maryland, and Panama before settling in Pennsylvania.

Candace graduated in 1984 from Central Dauphin East High School in Harrisburg, Pa., where she took college preparatory courses and played field hockey and softball. She attended Indiana University of Pennsylvania near Pittsburgh, where she played and coached field hockey and was involved in advocacy for women's issues through the school's Women's Advisory Council. She graduated in 1989 with a bachelor's degree in sociology with a concentration in women's studies.

Before joining the Human Rights Campaign in 1995, Candace worked as a computer consultant to the Pennsylvania Department of Education and as a package sorter at United Parcel Service. She is an avid rugby player.

The Human Rights Campaign is the largest national lesbian and gay political organization, with members throughout the country. It effectively lobbies Congress, provides campaign support and educates the public to ensure that lesbian and gay Americans can be open, honest and safe at home, at work and in the community.

HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL ORGANIZATION

The Honorary Grand Marshal—Organizational is awarded to a group that has demonstrated outstanding dedication and service to the lesbian and gay community. Nominations for the position are made in writing to the Pride Committee at a meeting several months before the parade. Voting members elect the Honorary Grand Marshall — Organization from the nominees.

Royal Sovereign & Imperial Court of the Single Star

For over twelve years, the Royal Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star or "THE IMPERIAL COURT" has raised awareness and funds for the community and the state through the international court system (which is over thirty years old), primarily for those who are struck with HIV/AIDS. Houston's court is one of the most active in the state of Texas, collecting their funds one dollar at a time and raising thousands for such groups as the Pet Patrol, Colt 45s, Omega House, Cornerstone Day Care, Loving Arms Foundation, Casa de Esperanza, Community Visions, Stone Soup Kitchen and our own Pride Committee.

From this Court has sprung some of Houston's biggest charitable projects such as the LVL Holiday Fund, a year-round fund for people with AIDS. The court has a mixture of drag and non-drag performers along with a good mix of lesbians who perform and those who help in other ways

This is truly a good indication that all segments of our community are there, from leather to drag.

HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL

The position of Honorary Grand Marshal is awarded to a non-gay or non-lesbian person who has demonstrated outstanding dedication and service to the lesbian and gay community. Nominations for the positions are made in writing to the Pride Committee at a Pride Committee meeting several months before the parade. Voting members elect the Honorary Grand Marshal from the nominees.

Constable Jack Abercia

Precinct One Constable Jack Abercia has worked tirelessly for the gay and lesbian community for many years, providing the first vehicle to patrol Montrose from his own funds. Jack has screened and been endorsed several times by the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus.

GRAND MARSHALS

The position of GRAND MARSHAL is awarded to a gay and lesbian person who has demonstrated outstanding dedication and service to the lesbian & gay community. Nominations for the positions are made in writing to the Pride Committee at a Pride Committee meeting several months before the parade. Voting members elect the Grand Marshal from the nominees.

Bill Havard

Mr. Havard has been active in the community for many years as past vice president of the Colt 45s, past president of the Misfits, past Stone Soup Chairman for the Colts 45s, president of the Brazos River Bottom, Inc., a commercial member of the TGRA, Inc., and IGRA. Bill has volunteered his club for fund raisers every Sunday; he has been a sponsor of belt buckles for the rodeo and for the Quilt here at the convention center, and was Grand Marshal for the 1995 TGRA Rodeo. Bill has, in many ways, gone the extra mile for the gay and lesbian community.

Jeanette Vaughn

Jeanette has been an active member of our community for many years. Her devotion to the court system as Queen Mother for Life reflects her everyday life as a care giver. Her assistance in lending a helping hand or words of encouragement to friends, organizations, performers, and organizers can summed up by saying that Jeanette Vaughn is a beautiful, loving, caring, uplifting and wise person.

PRIDE WEEK EVENTS

Friday, June 7

The Actors' Workshop presents "The Dogs of Foo" by Scott Ross

World premier of this story of a famous gay film director and his Japanese lover who experience homophobia and racism in Hollywood in the 1940s, The Actors' Workshop of Houston, \$15, runs until June 22, 8:00 pm (3:00 pm Sundays), 1009 Chartres at Lamar (behind Brown Convention Center), FYI 713-236-1844

Saturday, June 8

4th Annual H.A.T.C.H. Prom

Turn back the hands of time to prom night but this time you can bring anyone you like. Plenty of dancing, food and music and lots of memories, sponsored by Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals, 8:00 pm, The Majestic Metro, 911 Preston Avenue, FYI 713-942-7002

Monday, June 10

Beauty and the Beast

Comediennes Vicki Shaw and Lea Delaria perform at the Laff Stop. A portion of ticket sales to benefit Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Week 1996, 1996, \$15.00 advance, \$18.00 door, 7:30 pm, Laff Stop, 1952-A West Gray, FYI 713-524-2333

Tuesday, June 11

Out Positive and Proud

HIV Positive comics Steve Moore and Kevin Maye perform, a portion of ticket sales to benefit Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Week 1996, \$15.00 advance, \$18.00 door, 7:30 pm, Laff Stop, 1952-A West Gray, FYI 713-524-2333

Friday, June 14

Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Week

Beginning of 10 days of celebration, runs until June 23, FYI 713-529-6979 FAX 713-529-1223 eMail: info@pridehouston.org [http:// www.pridehouston.org/~pridehou](http://www.pridehouston.org/~pridehou)

Pumped Up on Art Preview

The official kick-off for Houston's Lesbian & Gay Pride Week 1996. A preview of shoes donated by celebrities - one signed and the other given to a local artist to create a work of art to be auctioned off separately. See the completed artwork and original unchanged shoes of celebrities that include Loni Anderson, Sally Jesse Raphael, Gloria Estephan, Dionne Warwick, Martha Wash and more, sponsored by Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Week 1996, 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm, JR's party bar, FYI 713-529-6979

The Actors' Workshop presents "The Dogs of Foo" by Scott Ross

World premier of this story of a famous gay film director and his Japanese lover who experience homophobia and racism in Hollywood in the 1940s, The Actors' Workshop of Houston, \$15, 8:00 pm, 1009 Chartres at Lamar (behind Brown Convention Center), FYI 713-236-1844

Latinas Against AIDS/SIDA

Benefit to assist Stephen's House, 9:00 pm, Mela's Tejano Country, 1016 W. 19th St., FYI 713-880-1770

PRIDE WEEK EVENTS

Saturday, June 15

Rollin' With Pride Picnic in Park

Picnic and games for walkers, runners, bikers, skaters, etc. at Memorial Park. Everyone is encouraged to bring a covered dish. Beverages will be provided, 11:00 am, Memorial Park, 100 Picnic Lane (look for Lambda Roller Skate Club banner), FYI 713-933-5818

gmch://taking.center.stage/~

Benefit concert featuring Gay Men's Chorus, Bayou City Chorale and Turtle Creek Chorale's ensemble group "Acafellas". Selections include songs from Broadway and familiar Pop music, sponsored by Gay Men's Chorus of Houston benefiting AFH Stone Soup Pantry, \$10 to \$20, 8:00 pm, Wortham Center, Cullen Theatre, FYI 713-521-7464

The Actors' Workshop presents "The Dogs of Foo" by Scott Ross

World premier of this story of a famous gay film director and his Japanese lover who experience homophobia and racism in Hollywood in the 1940s, The Actors' Workshop of Houston, \$15, 8:00 pm, 1009 Chartres at Lamar (behind Brown Convention Center), FYI 713-236-1844

Angels Over Montrose Clinic

Variety show to raise funds for those in need of counseling but unable to pay the full amount, sponsored by Montrose Clinic, 9:30 pm, Venture-N, 2923 Main, FYI 713-520-2000

Sunday, June 16

Mr. Montrose Contest

Contest to crown the new Mr. Montrose. Open to everyone, sponsored by Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Week 1996, benefitting the Pride Committee, 7:30 pm, Brazos River Bottom, FYI 713-528-9192

The Actors' Workshop presents "The Dogs of Foo" by Scott Ross

World premier of this story of a famous gay film director and his Japanese lover who experience homophobia and racism in Hollywood in the 1940s, The Actors' Workshop of Houston, \$15, 3:00 pm, 1009 Chartres at Lamar (behind Brown Convention Center), FYI 713-236-1844

Miss Life Today Pageant - PWA Sweetheart 1996

3rd Annual charitable pageant selecting female impersonator who will reign as "1996 PWA Sweetheart", sponsored by AIDS Housing Coalition Houston Emergency Housing Fund, 9:00 pm, 2517 Ralph @ Westheimer, FYI 713-902-2231

Monday, June 17

Financial Planning With a Life-Threatening Illness

Financial advisor Julie LaRue, LUTCF, discusses financial planning for people with life-threatening illness. Topics include benefiting from insurance plans, sources of funds in case of disability, and how to keep your employer-provided benefits. RSVP Required, sponsored by The Acacia Group, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, 9 Greenway Plaza Suite 3000, FYI 713-888-3500

PRIDE WEEK EVENTS

Tuesday, June 18

Bringing Your Money Out of the Closet

Financial advisor Julie LaRue, LUTCF, discusses financial planning for gay men & women. Topics include getting the most from employer-provided benefits and developing a road map to secure a strong financial future. RSVP required, sponsored by The Acacia Group, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, 9 Greenway Plaza Suite 3000, FYI 713-888-3500

Grand Marshal's Reception

Event to honor the Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Week 1996 Grand Marshals, Organization Grand Marshal and Honorary Grand Marshal, sponsored by Lady Victoria Lust PWA Holiday Fund Board, Soiree Aubergine, Colt 45s, and the Venture-N, 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, Venture-N, 2923 Main, FYI 713-521-0911

Make a Joyful Noise VI

For the 6th consecutive year, local churches unite to present an evening of Gospel entertainment, sponsored by Community Gospel Church, 7:30 pm, Community Gospel Church, 501 E. 18th St. at Columbia, FYI 713-880-9235

Wednesday, June 19

End of the Rainbow

Houston Press and JR's present an evening of romance with free personal ads, door prizes and complimentary hors d'oeuvres, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, JR's, 808 Pacific, FYI 713-521-2519

AIDS Mastery Workshop Open House

Mastery graduates will be available to answer questions about the workshop. Snacks & non-alcoholic beverages served, sponsored by AIDS Mastery Workshop, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm, 3202 Wesleyan, FYI 713-523-8711

Mock Candidate Screening Open House

Mock screening of various political candidates by the Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus. Learn how the HGLPC screens and endorses candidates and meet various candidates, sponsored by Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, 2700 Albany, Suite 304, FYI 713-521-1000

A Night of Dance

Country & Western dance lessons and exhibition taught by professional award-winning dance instructor Mr. Red Draper, sponsored by Rainbow Ranglers Dance Club benefiting Stephen's House, \$5.00 donation per class or \$10.00 for three classes, Time: 7:00 pm beginner, 7:45-8:30 intermediate, 8:30-9 exhibition, 9-9:45 advanced, Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos Avenue, FYI 713-880-0670

Roller Ball II - 1996

Second Annual Rollin' with Pride Skate Night. All ages welcome. You may bring your own skates, sponsored by Lambda Roller Skating Club, \$5.00 + \$1.00 Skate rental, 8:00 pm to 10:30 pm, Starlite Roller Rink, 8075 Cook Road (@ Beechnut), FYI 713-933-5818

Theatre Night presents "Ten Percent Revue"

The quintessential gay musical revue, sponsored by The Group (Theatre Workshop), \$10.00, 8:00 pm, 2536 B Times Blvd. (in the Village), FYI 713-522-2204

Video Rewind

Take a trip back in time to the best of the eighties, 9:00 pm, Heaven, 810 Pacific, FYI 713-521-9123

PRIDE WEEK EVENTS

Thursday, June 20

Lesbian & Gay Pride Ice Skating Celebration

5th Annual Lesbian & Gay Ice Skating night at the Galleria ice skating rink. Wear red tank top or lesbian/gay organization or pride week T-shirts, sponsored by Montrose Ice Picks, \$5.00 admission + \$2.00 skate rental, 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm, Galleria Ice Skating rink, 5015 Westheimer, FYI 713-522-3687

Camping It Up in H.O.G. Heaven

Potluck social event with door prizes and a raffle. Come celebrate Pride Week and see what its like in the great outdoors! Bring your favorite covered dish, sponsored by Houston Outdoor Group (HOG), benefiting AFH Stone Soup Pantry, Cost: one canned good, 7:00 pm, Assistance Fund Building, 1116 Jackson Blvd, FYI 713-KAMPOUT

Theatre Night presents "Ten Percent Revue"

The quintessential gay musical revue, The Group (Theatre Workshop), \$10.00, 8:00 pm, 2536 B Times Blvd (in the Village), FYI 713-522-2204

Friday, June 21

Fridays are Fabulous

Pride parade weekend kickoff party. 12 gorgeous Go-Go Gods. Giveaways, specials and hors d'oeuvres served beginning at 6:00 pm All American happy hour until 10:00 pm, JR's, 808 Pacific, FYI 713-521-2519

Pumped Up on Art

Hosted by Jan Glenn, local and national celebrity women including Loni Anderson, Sally Jesse Raphael, Gloria Estephan, Dionne Warwick, Martha Wash, Debra Danburg, Claire Cassedemont, Ruth Buzzi, Donna Shalayla donated a pair of pumps - one autographed and left as is and the other given to a local artist to create a work of art reflecting the woman as a celebrity. , sponsored by Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Week 1996 benefiting: The Gay & Lesbian Switchboard, Texas Lesbian Conference, Milam House, The NAMES Project and Pride Committee of Houston, \$20.00 donation, 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, JAGS, 5120 Woodway in the Houston Design Center, FYI 713-529-6979

School's Out: The Naming Project

This Bessie award-winning ensemble leads us on a spirited investigation of what it is to be young and queer, sponsored by DiverseWorks, \$12.00, \$10.00, & \$7.00, 8:00 pm, 1117 East Freeway (I-10 @ North Main), FYI 713-228-0914

The Actors' Workshop presents "The Dogs of Foo" by Scott Ross

See June 14,, The Actors' Workshop of Houston, \$15, 8:00 pm, 1009 Chartres at Lama , FYI 713-236-1844

Unchained

Retro-disco charity event, \$5.00 - \$6.00, 9:00 pm to 2:00 am, Rich's, 2401 San Jacinto, FYI 713-759-9606

Houston's Hot IX: A Night In Black Leather

This annual S&M/leather/fetish ball & fashion show gala kicks off NLA:Houston Leather Pride Weekend. Includes an erotic fashion show for men & women and fantasies from leading leather title holders, sponsored by National Leather Association: Houston, 10:00 pm to 1:00 am, Venture-N, 2923 Main, FYI

PRIDE WEEK EVENTS

713-527-9666

Saturday, June 22**The Leather Symposium**

Consists of three workshops: 1) Flagellation (flogging) 2) Submissives II, the Sequel 3), sponsored by National Leather Association: Houston, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Days Inn (conference room), 4640 S. Main (US 59 & downtown exit) , FYI 713-527-9666

Latino Pride Gala...the tradition continues

Semi-formal dance to celebrate lesbian & gay pride. Live bands and DJ to perform Latino music as well as country/western and dance/pop, sponsored by Aves, Inc., \$30.00 presale, \$40.00 at door, 8:00 pm, 2151 Holcombe near S Main @ Holcombe, FYI 713-626-2837

School's Out: The Naming Project

This Bessie award-winning ensemble leads us on a spirited investigation of what it is to be young and queer, DiverseWorks, \$12.00, \$10.00, & \$7.00, 8:00 pm, 1117 East Freeway (I-10 @ North Main), FYI 713-228-0914

The Actors' Workshop presents "The Dogs of Foo" by Scott Ross

World premier of this story of a famous gay film director and his Japanese lover who experience homophobia and racism in Hollywood in the 1940s, The Actors' Workshop of Houston, \$15, 8:00 pm, 1009 Chartres at Lamar (behind Brown Convention Center), FYI 713-236-1844

PRIDE WEEK EVENTS

Sunday, June 23

Pride Mass and Brunch

Sunday Mass for lesbian & gay Catholics and friends followed by a light brunch, sponsored by Kolbe Project (Kolbe House), Free will offering, 1509 Fairview, FYI 713-522-8182

Nellie Ribbons Party

Invitation only party along the parade route, sponsored by Nellie Ribbons benefiting AFH Stone Soup Pantry, 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm, 811 Westheimer, FYI 713-526-4608

Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Week Parade

The annual parade, one of the largest in the city, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, FYI 713-529-6979 FAX 713-529-1223

Pride Fest 96

Follow the Parade to Pride Fest 96. Starts immediately after the parade. Food/drink, merchandise, & information booths of community businesses and organizations and a concert featuring Bronski Beat and Ce Ce Pennaston as well as local performers, sponsored by PCH, Donations requested, 7:00 pm, Lovett Street between Whitney and Taft, FYI 713-529-6979

Houston's Biggest After Parade Party

Broadway showtunes, group sing-a-long and Karaoke, After the parade, JR's, 808 Pacific, FYI 713-521-2519

After the Parade Double Bust

Cool off with the sounds of John Sims and the seventies trash disco, After parade, Montrose Mining Company, 805 Pacific, FYI 713-529-7488

Juneteenth Pride Celebration

A pride celebration to honor outstanding achievements of African-American lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people featuring live entertainment and dancing, sponsored by African-American Lesbian & Gay Alliance, \$5.00, 7:30 pm, Incognito, 2427 McKinney, FYI 713-864-2242

School's Out: The Naming Project

See June 22, DiverseWorks, \$12.00, \$10.00, & \$7.00, 2:00 and 8:00 pm, 1117 East Freeway, FYI 713-228-0914

Sunday, June 30

HGLPC Casino Day

Round-trip excursion to the Grand Casino Coushatta in Kinder, Louisiana. Departs Houston at 6:30 am and returns approximately 8:00 pm Seating limited to 47 passengers, Sponsored by Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus, \$25.00 plus gambling expenses, 6:00 am, 2700 Albany, FYI 713-923-6676

HOUSTON PRIDE

HOUSTON LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE WEEK 1996 AUGUST 1996

Nominations Accepted for 1997 Officers and Directors

Pride Committee of Houston is accepting nominations for Officer positions for the 1996-97 fiscal year. Positions available are male and female Co-Chairs, Secretary, and Treasurer. Nominations were accepted at the August 6th Executive Committee Meeting and will also be accepted at the August 20th General Meeting at which time voting will take place. Persons who have attended two consecutive General Meetings will be eligible to vote but anyone is eligible to nominate themselves for an Officer position. The meeting will be held

at 7:00 p.m. on August 20, 1996 at 2700 Albany.

In addition, the Board of Directors of the Pride Committee of Houston is also accepting nominations for Director positions for the 1996-97 fiscal year. Any interested persons should submit their nomination in writing to the Executive Director and include a brief personal bio and goals they wish to achieve as a Director. Nominees should be present at the August 20th Board meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. at 2700 Albany.

Pride Line: 713-529-6979

FAX: 713-529-1223

eMail

info@pridehouston.org

[http://](http://www.pridehouston.org)

www.pridehouston.org

Parade Video

2 hour video of the 1996 Pride Parade, copies are limited, \$19.96, Infinite Index Independent, PO Box 66690, Houston, TX 77266

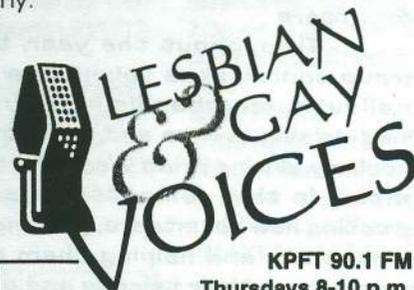
Future Meetings at New Location

In a unanimous decision at the August 6th Executive Meeting, the Pride Committee of Houston voted to move its meetings to the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center beginning October 15, 1996. Reasons for the change include a more efficient classroom-style meeting facility, improved lighting, availability of visual aids, extra parking and the presence of security. The Pride Committee is hoping for a significant growth in its volunteer participation in the upcoming year and is anticipating a big year of planning and preparation in accordance with the plans of a night parade. With this new meeting space, the Pride Committee feels it can grow and accommodate more volunteers and conduct more efficient meetings in a classroom setting.

The Pride Committee previously met at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center up until 1994 when the Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus offered their new office space to the Pride Committee for meetings. The Pride Committee is very grateful to the Caucus for

making the office available over the last two years and hopes to continue to use the offices for special meetings and mailouts.

The Pride Committee has secured the new location through August 19, 1997. The meetings will be held as usual on the first and third Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center at 1475 West Gray (across from the River Oaks Cineplex Odeon) beginning October 15, 1996. Up until October 15th meetings will be held at the Caucus office at 2700 Albany.



KPFT 90.1 FM
Thursdays 8-10 p.m.
EMail LGVoices@aol.com
Voice Mail 713-866-6505

MISSION STATEMENT

The Pride Committee of Houston, Inc. is a non-profit (c)(3) organization whose purpose is to coordinate and promote events which celebrate the diversity, unity and history of the Lesbian and Gay Community. We do not discriminate on the basis of color, gender, transgender or bi-sexual identification, the physically challenged or differently abled or on the basis of age.

We are here to commemorate, educate and celebrate our pride and to create a path towards a positive future for all humanity not to exclude any segment of who we are as a people.

Join Us to Make a Better Pride Week

The Committees

The following are the committees that make up Pride Week. Each September we start new. Are you interested in any of the following committees? If you have an interest in helping out please fill out the mailer included.

Events

This committee stimulates interest and gathers applications to schedule community activities during Pride Week for publication in the Pride Guide and other media releases. Lots of fun, lots of work, lots of opportunities to meet people and be in the know.

Fund-raising

A year-round committee that thinks up and produces fun events that raise funds for the Pride Committee's operations budget. The committee also develops joint efforts with other non-profit organizations. If you want to be involved with only one project or event, come join us. Ideas are always welcome.

Media, outreach, video

This committee reaches out locally, statewide and nationally via print and broadcast media to let everyone know what the Pride Committee is doing. The committee also promotes interest in Gay and Lesbian Pride Week.

Mailouts

Every month, we publish this newsletter and once a year we mail 5,000 Pride Guides. This committee learns the U.S. Postal Service routines, organizes mailout materials, provides motivational food and music for volunteers at the mailouts and delivers bags of completed Pride mail to the Post Office.

Merchandising

This committee selects merchandise to sell, solicits bids, places orders and coordinates sales parties. The group consists of people who like to meet new people.

Newsletter

Once a month throughout the year, the Pride Committee publishes a newsletter (this one, in fact). Members of this committee find out what is happening with the other committees and report on the progress and development of Pride Week and other community activities. The committee solicits ar-

ticles and produces the newsletter. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in writing articles or gaining valuable experience with print media.

Pride Guide

Once a year, the Pride Committee publishes the Pride Guide. The publication is distributed in time to promote Pride Week. It contains a resource guide that is a listing of local organizations and services. This committee solicits advertising to offset its costs, gathers and develops content, designs, produces and distributes the guides. If you've ever wanted to gain large-scale print media experience, then this is the committee for you.

Parade

This committee is in charge of hundreds of people marching down Westheimer. The committee seeks sponsorships, obtains insurance, organizes with the police and health department, arranges cleanup, obtains city permits, sends applications to participants, organizes parade volunteers, finds judges, assembles reviewing stands, handles street decorations, trophies, Pride Committee transportation and orders banners. This committee needs many people with strong organizational and communication skills to make it work.

Pride Fest

This group isn't happy unless there's a huge party waiting to reward our marchers and attendees at the parade's end. They find entertainment, solicit vendors, decorate the grounds, coordinate efforts with the Parade Committee.

Volunteers

Throughout the year, this group coordinates volunteers for mailouts, merchandising events, fund-raising events and, most particularly, during Pride Week. Participating in this committee means greeting new volunteers, getting to know them and helping them discover where their talents and skills can best be used.

PRIDE COMMITTEE OF HOUSTON INC.

Board of Directors:

Darren Armstrong
Brian Keever
Scott Lewis
Howard McHale
Ray Ramirez
Jack Valinski
Teri Vega

Executive Director:

Julie Siska
Legal Counsel:
Debbie Hunt

Lesbian and Gay Pride Week 1996

Co Chairs:

Howard McHale
Teri Vega

Treasurer:

Darren Armstrong

Secretary:

Dean Waldrat

Newsletter:

Tracy Alston

Joe Fisher

Adam Rossen

Jack Valinski

Sue Cox

Joan Devlin

Pride Guide:

Howard McHale

Teri Vega

Parade:

Robin Duncan

Ray Ramirez

Merchandise:

Susan Guerrero

Jerry Sherman

Media:

Brian Keever

Volunteers:

Rose Gutierrez

Patrick McIlivain

Pride Week Events:

Darren Armstrong

Pride Fest:

Scott Lewis

Howard McHale

Teri Vega

Fund-raising:

Ranbo de Klown

Howard McHale

Teri Vega

The Pride Committee
PO Box 66071
Houston TX 77266-6071
713-529-6979
FAX 529-1223

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SUNDAYS

Chain Gang Bicycle Club

Different rides every week and different levels, Easy Riders (Montrose area rides), Chainsmokers (faster/longer rides) and Rough Riders (off-road), free FYI 713-863-1860

Rainbow Riders

Rainbow Riders: A Bicycling Club for Womyn. Bicycle rides every Sunday morning. Easy, long off road rides. All womyn are welcome regardless of ability and experience FYI Cookie Davenport at 869-1686 eMail: guusje@aol.com

MCCR

MCC Churches are Christian Churches with an outreach into the lesbian and gay communities, 9:00 am (Holy Eucharist); 11:00 am (Traditional), 9:00 am, 1919 Decatur St FYI 713-861-9149

Houston Tennis Club (HTC)

Houston Tennis Club is a lesbian and gay tennis club with members of all levels of play - beginner to advanced, 9:00 am to noon, Memorial Park Tennis Center FYI 713-868-5039

Maranatha Fellowship

To praise the Lord in Music, the Word and Prayer, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, 3400 Montrose, Suite 600 FYI 713-528-6756

Community Gospel Church

Worship services, Pentecostal worship service, 11:00 am, 501 East 18th at Columbia FYI 713-880-9235

Houston Mission Church

Come worship the Lord in a supportive atmosphere, 11:00 am, 1505 Nevada FYI 713-529-8225

Kingdom Community Church

Sunday worship; Sunday school 10:00 AM, 11:00 am, 4404 Blossom FYI 713-351-4217

HATCH

A peer support group for teens and young adults between ages 16 and 21, committee meetings, socials and movies with gay theme, 6:30 pm FYI 713-942-7002

Inner Loop Sunday Bowling

Mixed league, Fall/Winter session September to April, Summer session May to August, 7:00 pm, Palace Lanes, Bellaire Blvd, Inside the Loop FYI 713-522-9612

MONDAYS

Heartsong Women's Chorus

Rehearsal's are at 7 PM, 3rd Floor First Unitarian Church, corner of Fannin and Southmore FYI 713-947-1488

Avez

Free HIV testing in English and Spanish, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717 (Twelve Oaks Tower)

Creative Writing Class

Taught by freelance writer Greg Rodriguez for anyone affected by AIDS, 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm FYI 713-623-6796 713-868-0008

Calendar & Nerd Workshop

Weekly sessions to keep up to date the community's best mailing list along with this calendar, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm FYI 713-529-1223

Gay Fathers / Fathers First

Weekly support meeting for fathers and their partners, 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm, Grace Lutheran Church, 2515 Waugh FYI 713-861-6181

TUESDAYS

PROTECT

Provides a safe place for HIV negative people to share their experiences, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm, Bering Church, 1440 Harold FYI 713-520-7870

Survivors of Loss

A weekly group for gay men or women who have lost a loved one to AIDS, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm, Sharpstown General Hospital FYI 713-778-2677

WEDNESDAYS

Avez

Free HIV testing in English and Spanish, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717

GLOBAL

University of Houston Student Group, 4:00 pm, University Center, University of Houston FYI 713-743-7539

Inner Loop Bowling League

Mixed league, Fall/Winter session September to April, Summer session May to August, Dues \$11, 7:00 pm, Palace Lanes, Bellaire Blvd FYI 713-522-9612

HIV Survivor Support Group

For anyone whose life is touched by HIV, 7:00 pm, Unity Church, 2929 Unity FYI 713-782-4050

Women's Action Coalition

An alliance of women committed to direct action, 7:00 pm, Toupees FYI 713-867-9581

Lambda Rollerskating Club

Gay rollerskating group, 8:30 pm to 10:30 pm, 8075 Cook Road at Beechnut FYI 713-933-5818

THURSDAYS

Gay Men's Chorus

Come sing with a rapidly growing community minded men's chorus, open rehearsals, 7:00 pm, 2515 Waugh FYI 713-521-7464

Twenty Something

a group of young adults ages 20 to 29 addressing issues concerning bisexual, lesbian and gays, 7:30 pm FYI 713-315-6786

Lesbian and Gay Voices

A radio show featuring community activists, 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm, KPFT 90.1 FM FYI 713-866-6505

FRIDAYS

Lesbian Avengers

Join us in the struggle against homophobia, 7:00 pm to 9:00 PM, Toupee's, 1830 W Alabama

HATCH

A peer support group for teens and young adults between ages 16 and 21 in greater Houston area with guest speaker, 7:00 pm, FYI 713-942-7002

SATURDAYS

Chain Gang Bicycle Club

Different rides every week FYI 713-863-1860

Dignity/Houston

An organization for gay and lesbian Catholics and their friends meets for liturgy and a social hour, 7:30 pm, 1307 Yale, Suite H, just north of 13th Street FYI 713-880-2872

After Hours

A late night radio show featuring a different host and crew present interviews, music and mayhem, 12:00 am to 3:00 am, KPFT 90.1 FM FYI 713-526-5738

Wed, Aug 14

St Thomas Health Council

Elected group that advises the Harris County Hospital district on matters concerning the AIDS facility, 2:00 PM, 2015 St Thomas

Women's Network

Butch Fem Stereotype or Identity, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, MCC, 701 Richmond FYI 713-529-0037

Healing Through Wellness

Will explore the concepts of wellness, Sponsored by AFH, 7:00 pm, 1475 W Gray FYI 623-6796

The Mind/Body Connection

A panel of health care specialists will discuss complementary health alternatives, 7:00 pm, 1475 W Gray FYI 713-524-2374

Thu, August 15

NOW

Now fights for Lesbian Rights and all womens rights, 7:00 pm, 239 Westheimer FYI 713-665-8NOW

Lesbian and Gay Voices

GaySoaps, GayTravel and other gay issues, Regular features includes, Suzanne Anderson's Speaking Out, 8:00 pm, KPFT 90.1 FM FYI 713-866-6505

Friday, August 16

Mom's the Word

Six mothers describe the laughter the tears and challenge and the rewards of being a mom, runs until September 21, 8:00 pm, Stages Repertory Theatre, 3201 Allen Parkway FYI 713-489-3191

Sat, August 17

LIB

Niobe Ngozi will do a performance and discuss her writing, 6:00 pm, Innova Building, 1st floor, 20 Greenway Plaza FYI 529-0077

CALENDAR INFORMATION

Calendar listings must be received fifteen days before the end of the month. Note that listings are printed only as space allows. Items should be mailed to Calendar, HGLPW, PO Box 66071, Houston, TX 77266-6071, eMail to calendar@pridehouston.org or FAX to 713-529-1223. Do not phone in Calendar items.

Weekly Updates <http://www.pridehouston.org>

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sunday, August 18

The Women's Group

Ann Rushing and Colleagues: Women defining sexuality. Does waiting to have sex make a better relationship, The Women's Group, 10:45 am, First Unitarian Church, 5200 Fannin FYI 713-529-8571

LOAF

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Houston Mission Church, 1505 Nevada at Commonwealth FYI 713-661-1482

AALGA

African American Lesbian Gay Alliance Support Group general membership, 5:30 pm, 1440 Harold FYI 713-864-2242

The Gay Comedy Jam

Gay standup comics performing gay stand up comedy, \$12 in advance \$15 at door, runs until August 20, 8:00 pm, Houston's Laff Stop, 1952A W Gray FYI 524-2333

Tuesday, August 20

Pride Committee of Houston

Elections for board and Executive Director, anyone interested should come to the meeting, 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm, 2700 Albany 304 FYI 713-529-6979 FAX 713-529-1223

Empowerment for Living

Interfaith HIV positive group meets for potluck meal and love, MCCR 1919 Decatur FYI 713-861-9149

Lesbian/Gay Pride Week

Elections for Cochairs for 1997 along with Treasurer and Secretary, everyone is eligible to vote at this meeting, 7:00 pm, 2700 Albany 304 FYI 713-529-6979

Dating & Mating

Entertaining and confidential workshop explores the nature of safer sex and sensual options through lively discussion and games, 7:00 pm, 1475 W Gray FYI 524-2374

Wed, August 21

Men's Network

7:00 pm, Montrose Counseling Center, 701 Richmond FYI 713-529-0037

OutVote

Dedicated to registering, educating, and motivating our community to vote, 7:00 pm, 1475 W Gray FYI 520-VOTE

Thu, August 22

Dollars & Sense

A panel of planning specialists will review legal and financial matters concerning PWAs/HIV, 7:00 pm, 1475 W Gray FYI 524-2374

Houston Outdoor Group

Monthly business meeting and mailout party for the HOG newsletter, 7:30 pm FYI (KAMPOUT)

Friday, August 23

Unitarian Potluck

Potluck dinner, First Unitarian Church, 5200 Fannin FYI 713-526-5200

Sunday, August 25

The Women's Group

10:45 am, First Unitarian Church, 5200 Fannin FYI 713-529-8571

Monday, August 26

Gay and Lesbian Readers

7:00 pm, Barnes & Noble, 3003 W Holcombe FYI 713-349-0050

Tuesday, August 27

Log Cabin Republicans

Gay Republicans, 7:00 pm, Renata's, 2006 Lexington FYI 713-529-9100

HIV/AIDS Treatment Mixer

Informal treatment discussion and open form for asking questions, sharing information and comparing notes, Sponsored by The Center for AIDS, 7:00 pm, 2700 Albany, Suite 205 FYI 713-527-8219

Town Meetings, Inc

Open to the community at large in order for them to provide input on Spectrum 96, 7:00 pm FYI 713-526-2853

Wed, August 28

Love, Lust & Intimacy

An entertaining and confidential discussion for developing/improving communication and intimacy in relationships through discussion and games, 7:00 pm, Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray FYI 713-524-2374

Thur, August 29

Job Protection for HIV+

Free seminar led by attorney Mitchell Katine. RSVP, 6:00pm to 8:00pm, ONCOL Medical Associates, 4140 Southwest Frwy, 4th floor FYI 713-961-7100

Women's Network

Achieving Intimacy the give and take of staying together, The Women's Network is a support group for lesbian and bisexual women, \$3 to \$5 donation requested, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, Montrose Counseling Center, 701 Richmond FYI 713-529-0037

Friday, August 30

Safer Sex for Lesbians

This entertaining program discusses the facts and risks of women to women sex, sponsored by AFH, 9:30 pm, 9200 Buffalo Speedway FYI 713-666-3464

Wed, September 4

Roundtable: The Houston Philosophy Forum

Discussion "What should be the focus of lesbian and gay politics in the coming year? Same sex marriage, presidential politics or local lesbigay rights ordinances?", Cafe Artist, 1601 West Main FYI 713-779-8620

Thur, September 5

Lesbian Gay Journalist

Ready for a journalist's convention that will make some waves, \$110, runs until September 8, Hyatt Regency, Miami Florida FYI 412-781-1138 FAX 412-781-2871

Fri, September 6

Stonewall

Story of Stonewall, Landmark Greenway FYI 713-626-0402

Pride Committee of Houston

PO Box 66071

Houston TX 77266-6071

Address Correction Requested

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
HOUSTON TX
PERMIT NO
6739