

PRIDE05

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF HOUSTON PRIDE 2005

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HOUSTON



EQUAL RIGHTS!



NO MORE! NO LESS!

HOUSTON GAY LESBIAN BISEXUAL & TRANSGENDER PRIDE 2005

PRIDE₂₀₀₅



Welcome to Houston's 2005 Pride Celebration!

"Two Steps Forward and One Step Back." The history of Houston's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender rights movement seems to follow this old adage perfectly. When we seem to be making the best progress, we find that we get pushed back again. Still, we must continue to forge ahead.

Not long ago, people within our own community began to wonder and editorialize if the need for Pride celebrations was a thing of the past. People were coming out at younger ages. Full GLBT rights seemed to be right around the corner. Acceptance was in the air. Then, Houston voters turned down City Proposition #2, which would have provided same-sex partner benefits for city employees. Still, we continued to press forward despite all obstacles.

In 2003, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the discriminatory Texas homosexual-conduct laws. Gay marriage became a reality within the U.S. thanks to Massachusetts. Houston Mayor Bill White proudly marched in the 2004 Pride Parade, though he received opposition from a minority of vocal, local pastors. Then, our nation's president called for a constitutional amendment (an amendment!) to actually write discrimination into our country's greatest document and not allow same-sex couples the right to marry. And now a similar amendment has been introduced for our Texas Constitution, regardless of the fact that it is already illegal.

From the first Pride March in 1978 protesting Anita Bryant's appearance in downtown Houston to the creation of North America's first nighttime Pride Parade, Houston has a rich history of continuing to push GLBT Pride forward.

Our organization has made some big changes in the last year as well. We have changed our name from "Pride Committee of Houston" to a friendlier moniker, Pride Houston. Despite the name change, we are still the same egalitarian organization that you know and love.

Pride Houston now has a full-time Executive Director staff position, filled by longtime Pride volunteer and advocate, Jack Valinski. Our board of directors is strong, focusing on fundraising and the long-term growth of our organization. A newly created "Production Team" filled with over 30 faithful volunteers works closely with the Executive Director to ensure a professionally run and fun series of events in June to celebrate Houston's GLBT community.

We've come a long way from fighting City Hall for the right to have a simple parade permit. But, we still have a long way to go.

Won't you be a proud face of Houston's GLBT community? Join us at one or all of the Pride events this June. Lend a hand, organize a parade float or make a donation. Bring a straight friend, family member or co-worker to the Pride Parade. Help us to take two more steps forward, without any steps back.

As goes our 2005 theme, "Equal Rights! No More! No Less!" Houston will keep on organizing Pride celebrations until that becomes a reality.

In Pride,

Nicolas Brines
President



P.S. I sincerely hope you enjoy all of the hard work put in by our volunteers on this year's PRIDE.05 magazine. Read about what's in store for you at this year's Pride celebration and what you experienced at the '04 event. Feel Pride all over Texas. Get a snapshot of a day in the life of our community through the eyes of some amazing local GLBT individuals. Find out about some of our unique community organizations and use the Resource Guide and Bar Map all year long. Finally, support the businesses and organizations advertising here. They are all supporting you by contributing to the effort that makes GLBT Pride in Houston possible.

Greetings

Greetings!

As mayor of the City of Houston, I am pleased to extend my warm greetings to all participating in various activities to be held during the annual *Pride Celebration*. I welcome the many guests who will be attending these events from across the state.

Houston is a city that celebrates the diversity of its population, including people of all sexual orientations. The strengths of this great city are in the men and women who make up our diversity.

Your work shows that Houston is a city of communities, and we all strive to make this a better place to live and work. I look forward to working with you on the issues that are important to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community, and all Houstonians.

Best wishes for a successful and memorable *Pride Celebration*.

Sincerely,



Bill White
Mayor



Dear Friends,

It has been another year of incredible victories and heartbreaking defeats. But, as always, we move forward with hearts full of hope.

As the great writer Victor Hugo said, "Progress...has its pauses, when it rallies the stragglers, its stopping places when it meditates...its nights of slumber."

To the tireless Pride Committee volunteers who devote hundreds of hours of work throughout the year so the entire GLBT community can celebrate together.

Congratulations on a grand tradition that produces bigger and better parades and events each year.

Thank you for some of the best celebrations of our lives!

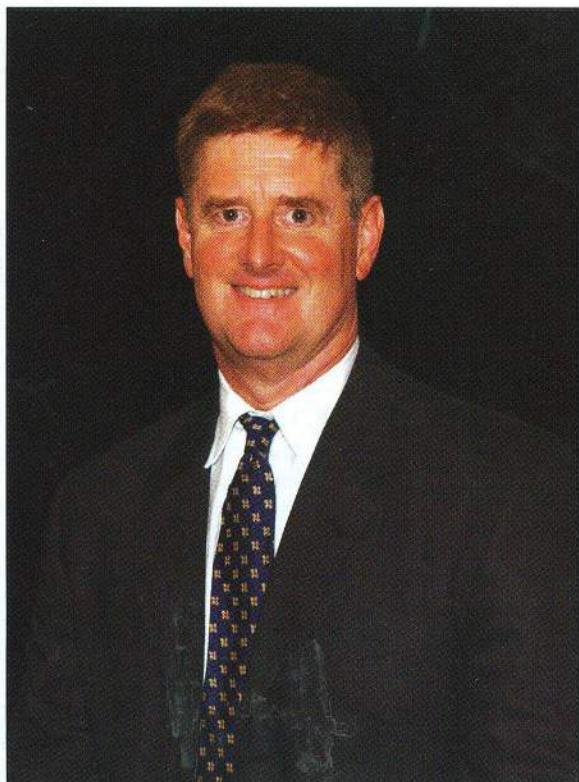
Annise D. Parker
Houston City Controller



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A Day in the Life of . . .



Michael Collins –
President, BCBC

Michael Collins began volunteering for the Bayou City Boys Club (BCBC), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, in the mid '90's. Michael felt a strong desire to make a difference and give something back to the community. He was so impressed by the dedication of BCBC and its members to raise money for local HIV/AIDS information, education and service providers that he decided to get involved. By becoming a part of BCBC, Michael found a way to fulfill his desire to give back and make a difference, and have a lot of fun while doing it. "These are professional and affluent people that could be doing anything they want," explains Michael, but they choose to spend their time "raising badly needed funds for HIV/AIDS services. I respect that."

After the 1998 Hurricane Party, a friend and active member within the organization nominated Michael for membership. His drive and dedication to the mission of BCBC eventually lead Michael to take on the role of President. Although he has taken on new duties since he began volunteering for BCBC, there is still enough of the party boy inside of Michael that enjoys the thrill of the night! "It's amazing to see the event come together," Michael says. "We are all exhausted by the time the party reaches critical mass, but it's all worth it in the end." BCBC has raised over \$650,000 for local HIV/AIDS services through events like the annual Jungle Party. Well worth it indeed!

When Michael is not throwing parties and raising money for BCBC, he works as an attorney. As of this spring Michael is now on the board of directors of Montrose Clinic. Michael also has a passion for politics, so I wouldn't be surprised to find his name at the polls sometime in the future. Keep an eye out for this one; he's smart, single and going somewhere!

- RM

Fred Walters –
Executive Director, Houston Buyers Club

About nine years ago, Fred Walters got together with a couple of other AIDS activists to get advice on starting up a nutritional supplement buyers club here in Houston. "Houston Buyers Club is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that has been helping people living with chronic illness manage side effects since 1996."

Fred started Houston Buyers Club out of his own home with only 12 customers and six supplements. Eventually, the Houston Buyers Club grew to offer about 3000 supplements and now supports 3500 customers all over the country. Fred began raising funds by visiting local bars and campaigning for financial support. "The focus has always been on wellness," says Fred, but it didn't take long for him to realize that most of his clients needed help managing their side effects. Realizing the lack of available information, Fred spoke with some doctors and got them to write up protocols regarding nutritional supplements to help combat side effects. Not too long after, physicians started sending their patients to Fred and the Houston Buyers Club to learn how to manage the side effects caused by their treatments.

Houston Buyers Club holds community education classes on many different topics. Want to learn how to lose or gain weight the right way? Go see Fred. Just don't expect him to give you a quick fix solution. "There is no miracle pill out there for anything," explains Fred, who eats extremely healthy and exercises daily. Although he is very conscious of what goes into his body, he is not only passionate about health and wellness. He is also passionate about human rights issues and supporting locally funded community programs such as KUHF, but more importantly he is passionate about his partner, Steven Foster. "I just want what everyone else wants," says Fred. "I want to go home to the person I love."

- RM



We Must Fight . . .

by Randall Ellis, Executive Director, Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas

The histories of America's civil rights movements—and their successes in securing equal protection of the law for those denied it—have always been shaped by a complex interweaving of legal victories, political progress and advances in public opinion.

When we look at the state of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) civil rights today, we have every reason to be optimistic. Our movement is strong, it is determined and it is gathering momentum every day.

It has been two years since the United States Supreme Court struck down the Texas anti-gay sodomy law and all remaining state laws that branded gays and lesbians as criminals; just over one year since marriage for same-sex couples became a reality in Massachusetts; and a mere five months since California enacted the nation's most expansive domestic partnership law.

In Texas it may be it may difficult to appreciate the speed with which our movement is advancing. Wrapping themselves in cloaks of "family" and "values," organizations such as the Texas Eagle Forum and the Free Market Foundation work vigorously to deny LGBT Texans their civil rights. These groups are spending millions of dollars to confuse, distort and subvert the public debate that continues to change hearts and minds about our right to equality.

As we engage in this public debate, we begin to tell our real-life stories. The reality of our lives reveals the injustices our community faces. If we must take time to care for an ill partner, we can lose our jobs because we are denied the protections of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. Surviving gay and lesbian partners can find their families imperiled by laws that deny inheritance, child custody rights, and Social Security survivors' protection. Bi-national same-sex couples and families can be cruelly torn apart by deportation and immigration laws that treat them as legal strangers.

The stories of our lives have begun to turn the tide of oppression. This revolution in understanding and respect has been made possible by millions of LGBT Texans coming out, being out and living the truth of their lives for others to see. It has been made possible by families unafraid to publicly declare their love for and commitment to one another. It has been made possible by people unwilling, by word or deed, to tell future generations that our relationships are deserving of anything less than acceptance, respect and celebration.

As we celebrate Pride 2005, LGBT Texans can be proud of the progress our community has made. In the seventies, we stood up to a state law banning gays and lesbians from organizing at public universities. In the eighties, our community fought off attempts to quarantine people living with HIV/AIDS. In 2001, we saw the passage of the James Byrd Hate Crimes Act, marking the first time gays and lesbians were recognized and protected under Texas law.

Our struggle for equality has a long way to go. We must dig in our heels and prepare to continue to educate Americans and our lawmakers on issues important to our community:

We must fight for equal employment opportunity, benefits and protections—and the federal and state laws that safeguard them.

We must fight against anti-LGBT violence and support the inclusion of gender identity in state hate crimes law that already protects Texans based on race, religion, national origin and "sexual preference."

We must fight—in both the private and public sectors—for equal access to health care and insurance. We must advocate for HIV/AIDS policies that effectively address this epidemic at home and abroad.

We must insist on safe schools, where youth can pursue their education free from bullying, harassment and discrimination.

We must fight for family laws that give our children strong legal ties to their parents.

We must continue to expose the radical right's efforts to advance a culture of prejudice and intolerance, and we must fight their attempts to enshrine anti-gay bigotry in our state and federal laws and constitutions.

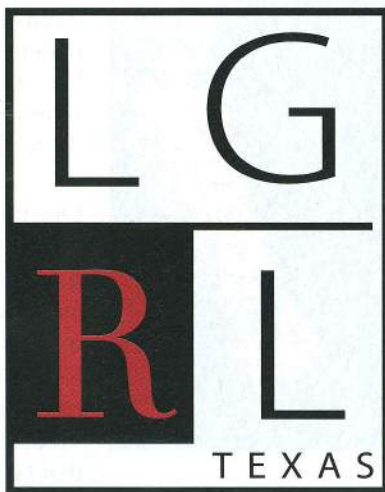
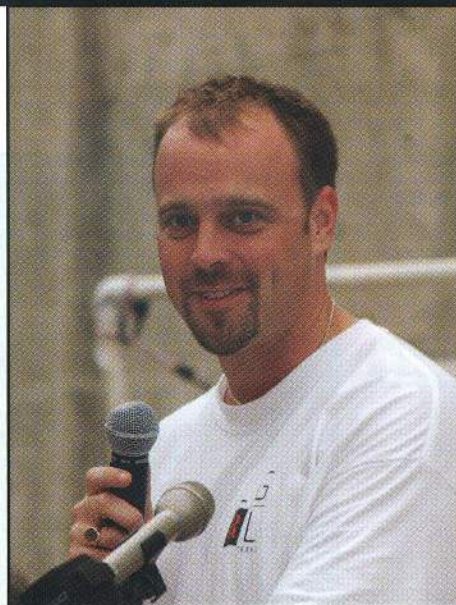
We must continue our pursuit of the freedom to marry, with the equal protections, rights and responsibilities that safeguard our families, strengthen our commitments and continue to transform understanding of our lives and our relationships.

The progress we have made has not happened by chance or by accident. An ensemble of organizations at the local, state and federal levels has worked tirelessly to shape our movement. The success of our movement is measured not only in the hearts and minds we change, the allies we engage and the civil rights we secure, but in the strength of our collective commitment to the pursuit of enduring social, political and legal change that moves us ever closer to true equality.

There is a place for everyone within our movement. Some are motivated by large rallies that motivate our community and draw attention to our issues. Others prefer to work to build coalitions and educate through personal contact. Still others prefer the behind-the-scenes work that takes place in town halls, and our capitols in Austin and Washington, D.C. Each component is important to the success of our movement and there is not one that will accomplish what we need without the assistance of the other.

Get involved. Learn more about the work of our movement's local, state and national organizations. Invest in that work. Encourage your friends and family to do likewise; give them the opportunity to invest in our future—and theirs. Champion equality and respect in your community. Engage new allies at home, in your workplace, in your church, at your school. Stand up and share your story.

We have come so far and yet we have so far to go, but by working together as a community we can accomplish so much.



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A Day in the Life of . . .



D.Y. Beresky & April Palatino – HPD Officers

You name it and I bet these ladies have seen it! As Houston Police officers, D.Y. Beresky and her girlfriend April Palantino have seen just about everything.

When D. and April became police officers they took an oath to protect and serve all of the citizens in our city, and it's an oath that both women take very seriously. Whether they are pulling over a car during a routine traffic stop, or responding to a burglary in progress, both D. and April have one thing on their minds. That is, to enforce the law and protect the rights of all of Houston's citizens. D. and April both agree that is very important for everyone to understand that we all deserve equal protection under the law. As openly gay police officers, not only do these ladies represent our GLBT community behind the badge, they do everything they can to protect our rights.

One project that they are very proud to be a part of is the diversity training for cadets in the police academy. When the cadets are nearing graduation, D. and April come in and discuss the importance of being unbiased and open-minded when responding to all disturbances. They openly discuss issues and concerns that a police officer may come up against while dealing with GLBT citizens. The Houston Police department agrees with D. and April that GLBT citizens have the same rights as any other cit-

izen within our city and therefore should not be treated any differently. D. and April emphasize to the cadets that the most important thing to understand is that we are all people no matter what our sexual orientation or gender identity may be.

When D. and April are off duty, they enjoy outdoor activities such as biking, camping and grilling. While on duty these two women work hard to make our city a safer place to live. After meeting these women, I can honestly say I can sleep a little easier knowing that there are people such as D. and April out there who are dedicated to making this world a better place.

—RM



Austin Pride Festival

Sponsored by the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas

Big changes are in store for Pride Season this year in Austin, Texas!

The Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas is adding a spectacular new event: a Post-Parade Street Party right in the heart of downtown Austin! We are so excited about this one!

The Austin Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (AGLCC), organizers of the Austin Pride Parade, have graciously agreed to alter the parade route so that it will end at the party. Four blocks of 11th Street in downtown Austin, just south of the Capitol, will be shut down for the night! There will be live music, food, beer and more LGBT Texans than you can stir with a stick!

The AGLCC Austin Pride Parade and the Post-Parade Street Party, as well as the Texas Pride Festival, will all be moved to the second weekend in June this year. The date to remember is Saturday, June 11th.

The Texas Pride Festival (June 11, noon-8pm), sponsored by the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas, showcases Austin's well-known standing as the "Live Music Capital of the World" with incredible local and regional bands on-stage all throughout the day. With 200 vendors, live entertainment and thousands of Proud Texans, the Festival ignites downtown Austin with the energy and excitement of this important celebration.

The AGLCC Austin Pride Parade is among the fastest-growing parades in the country. The parade takes off through the streets of downtown Austin just as the sun sets on the Capital City, creating an incredible evening, thoroughly charged with excitement. With the addition this year of the Post-Parade Street Party, the Parade will definitely continue to establish itself as the premier Pride event in the State of Texas.



Texas Pride Coordinator Heath Riddles has some big expectations. "I think Austin is perfectly poised to become *the* Pride destination in Texas," Riddles says. "The changes we have made, along with the new spirit of cooperation between our organization and the Austin Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, will really energize our festivities. We are expecting more and more people to make the trip to Austin for Pride. And why not, Austin's LGBT community throws a great party, and the rest of the city has so much to offer as well."

The Texas Pride Sunrise Brunch, along with a series of other exciting events, will round out a full week of Pride activities. Combined attendance is well over 30,000 and growing every year!

The Texas Pride Sunrise Brunch, the Texas Pride Festival, and the Post-Parade Street Party are all sponsored by the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas. All proceeds from these events help fund the critical work of LGRL. In addition to LGRL's renowned work within the Texas Legislature, LGRL has concentrated its energy and resources into a series of highly focused and effective initiatives aimed at changing the face of Texas politics. The most aggressive of these is Equality Knocks, a voter I.D. initiative designed to educate and empower LGBT-friendly voters in Texas. To find out more about Equality Knocks, LGRL and Texas Pride 2005, please visit www.lgrrl.org.



AUSTIN

A Day in the Life of . . .

**Turner Schofield –***Performance Artist & Transgender Activist*

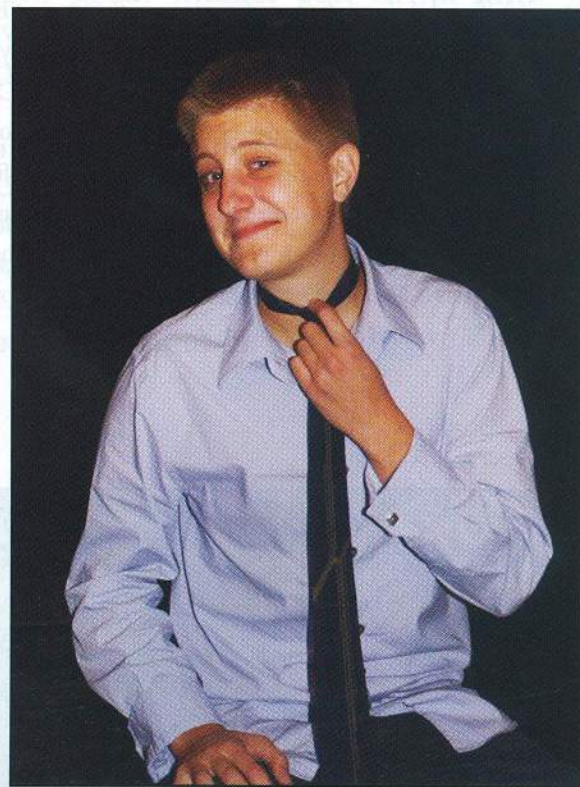
"Would you believe I was almost Homecoming in high school," asks Turner Schofield in the opening line of *Underground Transit*. Turner is a self-described transgender, feminist performance artist and community activist. Rarely have I met a 24 year old with such ambition and maturity.

Although Turner grew up living in many different places in the South, it took moving to New York City for him to figure out who he was. "Everybody finds themselves in New York," explains Turner. It was in New York that Turner began to figure out the differences between being a dyke and being transgender. He started putting his life history together in a way that began to make sense out of what he felt his identity was. These experiences flowed naturally into prose for Turner, who eventually transformed this prose into his first performance piece. Turner describes *Underground Transit* as a spoken word tranny performance. "I spent a lot of time riding the subways and I used that time to study people and think about things," remarks Turner regarding the title. Then he gives me this line from the show to explain it better. "I got on the train to ride it out. Went underground to talk about what we never ever talk about on the street."

After performing this show for a couple of years, Turner decided to write something new that would reflect his experiences while growing up in the south. This brainchild within Turner's mind grew to become his second show, *Debutant Balls* (a subject of which Turner knows quite a bit about). Apparently Turner has been privileged enough to attend three debutant balls in his lifetime and he had quite an interesting experience at his last one. "There I was, standing in three inch heels, wearing a dress and explaining sex reassignment surgery to the mother of one of my high school friends in the middle of a debutant ball. It was awesome!"

Making the decision to transition was and still is very difficult for Turner. He was scared to hurt the many women who supported him when he came out as a lesbian, but he knew that it had to be done. "Even though I had lots of support from so many fabulous women, I still never felt like I belonged," remarks Turner. Quoting his transgender idol, Turner says, "to have a gender identity is to have a sense of privacy." Just being able to get through the day where people see and refer to Turner the way he sees himself is what he strives for. "I'm not becoming a man as a copout or to make things easier for myself," says Turner. "I am queer and I was almost homecoming queen, and I am a guy with a vagina who is feminist and loves women. You'd be surprised at how good things can be when you go through your day just being honest."

-RM



Houston GLBT Community Center

3400 Montrose Blvd. Suite 207

On Sunday mornings, the joyful noise of New Covenant Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) rings through the Houston GLBT Community Center. Then the music and testimony of Fresh Start Church rocks the Center on Sunday afternoons. On the first Monday of the month, the GLBT veterans of American Veterans for Equal Rights meets at the Center, located on the second floor of an office building on Montrose Boulevard. The Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus holds its frequently lively general meeting on the first Wednesday. Women converge for Lesbian Game Night on one Friday night of the month, then on another Friday for Lesbian Film Night. One Saturday means the monthly social for the Houston Big Men's Club, and another the meeting for the Texas Association for Transsexual Support. Other days and times may see the board meeting of PFLAG Houston, or a gathering of the brand-new Queer Collegiate Alliance, or the weekly meeting of Community Awareness for Transgender Support or Men Empowering Men, the support/discussion group targeting African



Americans. And that's only a fragment of the calendar at the Houston GLBT Community Center.

In its present home for two years since moving from a converted house two blocks away, the Center is one of the hubs of the community.

Established in 1996, the Center offers office space for prominent organizations, including the Political Caucus, provides low-cost meeting space for groups, and presents regular programming such as the Lesbian Film Night, a monthly poetry reading and more. The Center is also creating a comprehensive resource guide of community organizations, resources and services.

The current Center actually represents at least the third effort in Houston to launch a community center (the best known of those previous attempts was probably the Montrose Activity Center). The first two expired for lack of funding, dearth of volunteer interest or both. In the mid-nineties, a group of dedicated volunteers decided Houston—the fourth-largest city in the nation with certainly one of the most concentrated GLBT populations of any

American city—needed a center for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community. The organization launched as the Houston Gay & Lesbian Community Center; two years ago the board adopted the more inclusive designation.

In the Center's ninth year the board and volunteers are developing new programs and a long-term goal:

finding and funding a home for the future. The former include community forums on critical issues such as hate crimes and same-sex marriage and workshops on matters that affect organizations, including fundraising and promotions. There are also plans for a GLBT job bank, allowing individuals to post "job wanted" notices and prospective employers to post available jobs. The Center is also looking ahead to acquiring a permanent facility that the community can use.

In the meantime, like organizations across the community, the Center seeks financial support and volunteers for tasks including phone duty, fundraising, special-events planning, web design and maintenance and more. —Victor Zorn



"Your Queer Home in Houston"

Houston GLBT Community Center

3400 Montrose Blvd. Suite 207

Houston, Texas 77006

713-524-3818

www.houstonglbtcommunitycenter.org



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Become a Volunteer!

You, too, can help shape the history of Pride! You can volunteer your time to help Pride Houston celebrate our heritage, our diversity and our community. Moreover, you can volunteer for as little as one hour a week or just on parade and festival day. You can commit to as much or as little as you like. The volunteer opportunities with Pride Houston are as diverse as the community we serve.

To find out more about how you can volunteer, visit us on the web at www.pridehouston.org, email us at info@pridehouston.org or call the Pride Line at 713-529-6979. Volunteer and make an impact on history!



Dane Powell and Sandy Warman at the Pride Houston Retreat '04

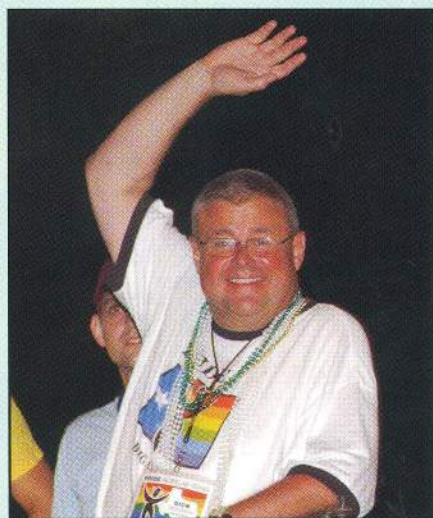


Jason Ayala - Office Chair



B.K. Silva - Parade Dispatcher
Year after year Pride Houston relies on B.K., who works behind the scenes, to keep everything running smoothly.

“We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give.” – Winston Churchill



Dick Dickerson - Pride Houston Secretary



Greg Decker - Pride Houston "First Lady"
Nick Brines - Pride Houston President



Carol Wyatt & Rob Caballero -
Pride Houston Board members

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." – Anne Frank

Dear Friend,

At Pride Houston, that's what we do—every single day. We work to improve the world for GLBT people by celebrating Pride, promoting self-acceptance and educating the larger community about who we are. We invite you to become a member of **Friends of Pride**, an organization that supports Pride's ongoing efforts and offers you special benefits and recognition.

The incredible nighttime Pride Parade that you see each June is not only a celebration of Pride in our community, it is our community's statement to the world. The Pride Parade is the largest GLBT event in Houston, and even more, it is the largest GLBT event in the Southwest. The regional impact of the Parade and the media coverage we receive presents us with outstanding opportunities to educate society about the diversity and scope of our community. Additionally, attending the Pride Parade is often the first step on an individual's journey of self-acceptance and "coming out" to those around them.

While the work of Pride Houston is most visible in June, our work continues throughout the year. Pride Houston produces educational programs and provides resources for the GLBT community to help further the ideals of inclusion, tolerance and acceptance. In addition, we sponsor the Banner District on lower Westheimer and work with other community organizations to make Houston a better place to live for GLBT people. When people are educated and informed about the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community, bigotry diminishes and the world becomes a better place for all of us. In today's political climate our mission and our work are more important than ever before.

In order to for us to continue with our valuable work, we need your support. Becoming a member of Friends of Pride allows your tax-deductible contribution to support events and resources that educate, empower and uplift every member of our community throughout the year. Additionally, as a member of Friends of Pride, you will receive a host of benefits, as outlined on the next page. For 2005 we have taken a fresh look at our offerings and have made a few changes and additions. We hope you will join Friends of Pride and help make 2005 our most successful year ever!

Sincerely,



Nicolas Brines
President, Board of Directors
Pride Houston

Become a Friend of Pride

... and receive these wonderful benefits!

Ruby Level

- 2 Passes for VIP Parade seating area with cash bar
 - 2 Passes for VIP wine tasting party at MFAH
 - Individual recognition on "thank you" web page
- \$100

Garnet Level

- 4 Passes for VIP Parade seating area with cash bar
 - 4 Passes for VIP wine tasting party at MFAH
 - 1 Reserved Parade & Festival day parking space
 - Individual recognition on "thank you" web page
- \$250

Topaz Level

- 6 Passes for VIP Parade seating area with cash bar
 - 6 Passes for VIP wine tasting party at MFAH
 - 1 Reserved Parade & Festival day parking space
 - Individual recognition on "thank you" web page
- \$500

Emerald Level

- 8 Passes for VIP Parade seating area with cash bar
 - 8 Passes for VIP wine tasting party at MFAH
 - 1 Reserved Parade & Festival day parking space
 - Individual recognition on "thank you" web page
- \$1000

Sapphire Level

- 10 Passes for VIP Parade seating area with cash bar
 - 10 Passes for VIP wine tasting party at MFAH
 - 2 Reserved Parade & Festival day parking spaces
 - Individual recognition on "thank you" web page
 - Business recognition on "thank you" web page
 - Fee waived for Parade Float entry
- \$1750

Amethyst Level

- 12 Passes for VIP Parade seating area with cash bar
 - 12 Passes for VIP wine tasting party at MFAH
 - 2 Reserved Parade & Festival day parking spaces
 - Individual recognition on "thank you" web page
 - Business recognition on "thank you" web page
 - Fee waived for Parade Float entry
 - Fee waived for Festival booth
 - Business logo on Pride Houston homepage
- \$2500

2005 Pride Events

Following are just a few of the dozens of events sponsored by a variety of GLBT community organizations that will be held in June as part of Houston's Pride Celebration.

For complete event listings, check the Pride Houston website at www.pridehouston.org.

Groove Girlz 2005 Pride Party -

Groove Girlz is an energetic group of friends who are dedicated to bringing Houston's lesbian scene exciting and tasteful parties geared toward women who love women.

When: June 3, 2005
9:00PM-2:00AM
Where: 1415 California
Cost: \$10.00 Cover
Proceeds benefit Pride Houston

Groove Girlz Productions (GGP)

PO Box 66071
Houston TX 77266-6671
www.groovegirlz.com

LHI Rainbow Health Fair -

Health Fair for GLBT women offering free mammograms, blood screening tests and osteoporosis screening; and through collaboration with the Montrose Clinic, pelvic exams, Pap tests and HIV and STD testing and counseling. LHI also offers a variety of educational materials.

When: June 4, 2005
8:15AM-3:00PM
Where: Montrose Clinic
215 Westheimer
Houston TX 77006

Lesbian Health Initiative (LHI)

PO Box 130158
Houston TX 77219-0158
lhi@lhihouston.org
www.lhihouston.org
713-603-0023
Lucy Watson 713-807-7798

Houston NLGJA Annual Pride Event -

The local chapter of the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association would like to invite you to attend our annual Pride event. Each June we feature special guests speaking to the media and the community. Last year's guest speakers were Mayor Bill White and Comptroller Annise Parker.

When: June 8, 2005
7:00PM-9:00PM
Where: TBA

National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association

www.nlgja.org
Oliver Dyke - ojd@sbeglobal.net

The Well Deserved "Roast" of Ray Hill -

Close friends and not-so-close friends will come together to take jabs at Ray Hill, "Citizen Provocateur." The evening, filled with laughter, urban lore, truths and myths, will be a fund raising event for the Houston GLBT Community Center.

When: June 10, 2005
7:00PM-10:00PM
Where: 1415 California
Cost: \$75.00 advance/\$100.00 door

Stonewall Law Association of Greater Houston

3400 Montrose Suite 509
Houston TX 77006
info@slagh.org
www.slagh.org
713-227-1717; 713-522-2610

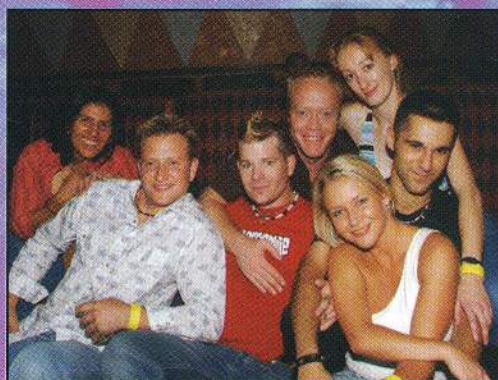
XALT 2005 -

An interactive praise and worship program that invites local talent from our church to perform musical selections to lift up Jesus and draw the congregation and guests into the very presence of God.

When: June 19, 2005
7:00PM-9:00PM
Where: Community Gospel Church

Community Gospel Church

4305 Lillian
Houston TX 77007
cgospel@communitygospel.org
www.communitygospel.org
713-880-9235
Donna Rickard 713-751-6804



Friends gather at an official 04 Pride Event

Pride Houston 2005 . . .



NICK BRINES

President



JACK VALINSKI

Executive Director



RUSTY MARTIN

Treasurer



CAROL WYATT

Board Member



DICK DICKERSON

Secretary



JERRY SIMONEAUX

Board Member



ROB CABALLERO

Board Member



MERLIN CAVALLIN

Board Member

Officers and Board of Directors

Pride Houston Production Team



LYNN SIXKILLER

Parade Chair



MATT STONE

Festival Co-Chair



TOOD AMDOR

Festival Co-Chair



JACK RICHARDSON

Marketing Chair



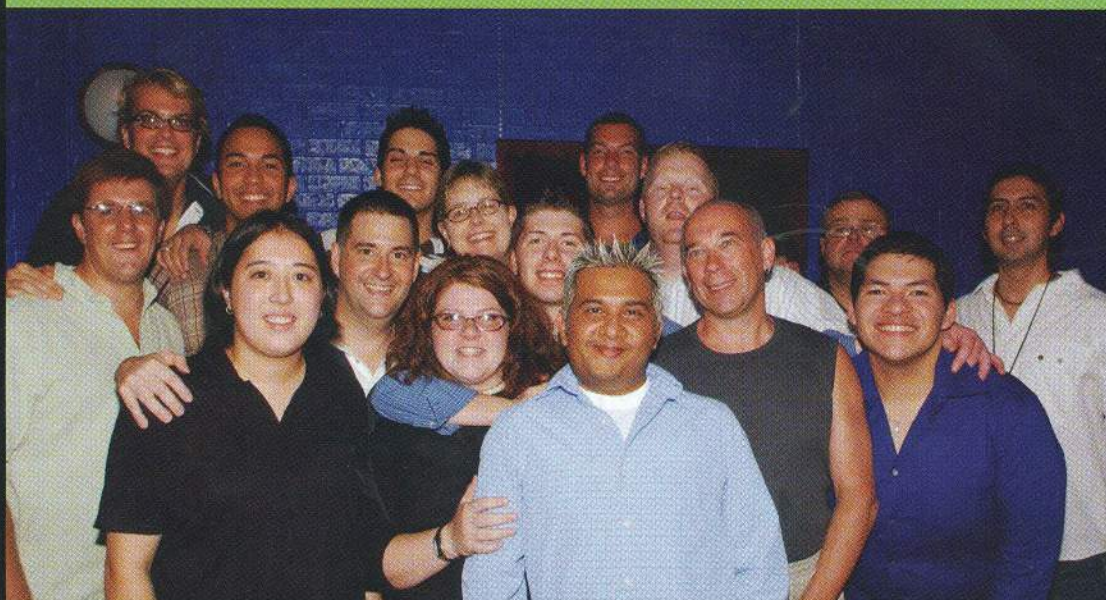
JIM HALLORAN

Events Co-Chair



DONNA JUNKER

Events Co-Chair





SANDY WARMAN

Volunteer Chair



JASON AYALA

Office Chair



DANE POWELL

Merchandise Chair



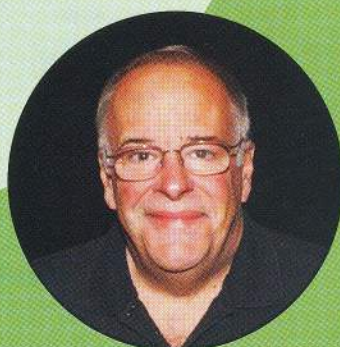
CONRAD MONES

Public Relations Chair



TROY CHRISTENSEN

Web Chair



ED BARNES

Assistant Treasurer

Magazine



TERESA CUNNINGHAM

Proofreader



YVONNE FEECE

Magazine Co-Chair



REBECCA MAHAFFEY

Magazine Co-Chair

A Day in the Life of . . .



Kevin & William –

Couple

"The first time I met Kevin I thought he was straight," said William. "We were outside of the loop and he was surrounded by women!"

A little over two years ago, William and Kevin met for the first time at one of Kevin's fabulous birthday bashes. The next night Kevin ended up at William's house with a mutual friend for William's own birthday soiree. Even though this would be the second time that the two had met, it would take a couple more chance meetings over the course of the next couple of days for them to hit it off. After getting to know each other a little more it didn't take William long to realize that Kevin was not only gay, but he was also available.

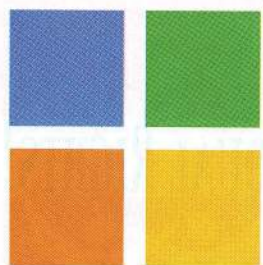
Two years, three dogs and a new house later, the couple finds themselves in a wonderfully committed and trusting relationship. "Trust is a strong part of our relationship," admits William. "When we got together we were both looking for someone to build a future with" adds Kevin. Although both Kevin and William grew up in similar atmospheres, they are still very different. William is the "reserved" one out of the two, which seems to help balance out Kevin, who is more social. Kevin seems to be the type of person who can walk out of the bar with 25 new friends. "William keeps me grounded sometimes," Kevin says, "and sometimes I ground him," adds William with a slight chuckle.

The two love to travel together and plan to go to a new place every year. Thanksgiving holiday seems to be their favorite time to escape Houston. "We don't mind missing out on the family drama," Kevin says. While falling asleep on the couch after a big turkey dinner seems appealing to some people, these boys enjoy the itch of the travel bug and the taste of something a little more exotic than turkey and gravy.

– RM

AVES - Amigos Volunteers in Education and Service, Inc.

Promoting a healthy community for Latinos and other under-served populations in the Greater Houston Area living with HIV/AIDS



AVES

The purpose of Amigos Volunteers in Education and Service, Inc. (AVES) is to promote a healthy community for Latinos and other under-served populations in the greater Houston area living with HIV/AIDS. Founded in 1989 by a small group of volunteers, AVES has grown into the largest AIDS services provider in Southeast Texas dedicated to the Latino community. Strengthened by its mission to serve, AVES aspires to improve the quality of life of those impacted by HIV/AIDS.

In order to effectively achieve its mission, AVES values the cultural diversity of Latinos and other communities, and reflects these values through its board, staff and services. AVES programs are designed to transcend cultural and linguistic barriers that are oftentimes ignored by mainstream AIDS service organizations. The staff and board are comprised of a diverse and professional group of people who understand the unique needs of the individuals being served.

Phone: 713-626-2837

FAX: 713-626-2848

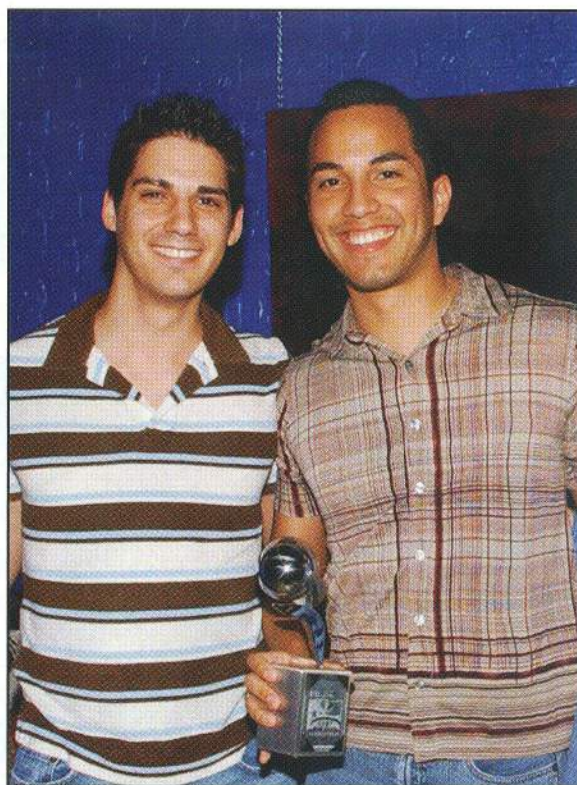
info@aves-health.org

Volunteers of the Year 2004

by Jose Lara, 2004 Volunteer Director

In selecting the recipients for this coveted award, the Volunteer Committee not only looks for an individual that does an outstanding job on Parade day, but also makes a profound contribution to the committee during the course of the entire year. This year's recipients were truly deserving of the 2004 Volunteer of the Year award based on the amount of time and effort put forth on their parts to ensure a successful, well produced and heavily publicized Pride Parade. On the evening of Saturday, July 17, 2004, at the KeyStar Complex in the heart of Montrose, the PCOH Volunteer Committee coordinated a Volunteer Appreciation Party to thank all of the individuals who helped in the organizing and production of the Pride Parade, one of the city's most anticipated events. It was there that we celebrated and praised these individuals for their noteworthy contributions and accomplishments.

The Volunteer of Year-Male award went to Rob Caballero and Conrad Mones, both of whom chaired our Media & Public Relations committee. Rob and Conrad joined the committee during the 2004 Pride as Big as Texas logo unveiling party. Taking the initiative to join and working to make an impact in the committee, both took on the task of arranging and implementing an intense campaign to publicize the Pride Parade as well as all official Pride Events through an array of media outlets. Rob and Conrad did a great job meeting face to face with local GLBT media sources as well as other mainstream sources to ensure that all types of publications were covered. A congratulatory pat on the back goes out to these gentlemen for an outstanding job and for a show of true professionalism.



Conrad Mones & Rob Caballero



Yvonne Feece & Rebecca Mahaffey

The Volunteer of the Year-Female award was awarded to Yvonne Feece and Rebecca Mahaffey, both of whom assumed the roles of writer, photographer and editor for the Texas edition of Pride.04, the annual magazine publication put together to showcase various Pride celebrations across our nation. Yvonne and Rebecca, having initially joined the committee during the 2002 - 2003 Pride year, found themselves with the colossal task of coming up with the concept, content and completion of this magazine. Both Yvonne and Rebecca worked diligently to ensure that deadlines were met, graphics were in place and, for the first time in several years the entire layout of the magazine was handled in-house. The end result was a true representation of GLBT life in the south with an emphasis on Houston. Yvonne and Rebecca's blood, sweat and tears were embossed in the pages of this magazine, and we were all witness to that.

These individuals have demonstrated that they are worthy of their Volunteer of the Year status and we are sure that they will continue to commit their time and energy with Pride Houston and make a difference in the GLBT community.

You can also make a difference as a volunteer for Pride. Simply visit us at www.pridehouston.org and complete an online volunteer application or e-mail Pride Houston at info@pridehouston.org.

pridehouston.org
Houston

PRIDE05

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF HOUSTON PRIDE 2005

D I R P R E T N I W E
T M A R R I A G E B F A T H E R S H E G D
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Part 2



TIME WARNER
CABLE



here!



In the Lead for 2005

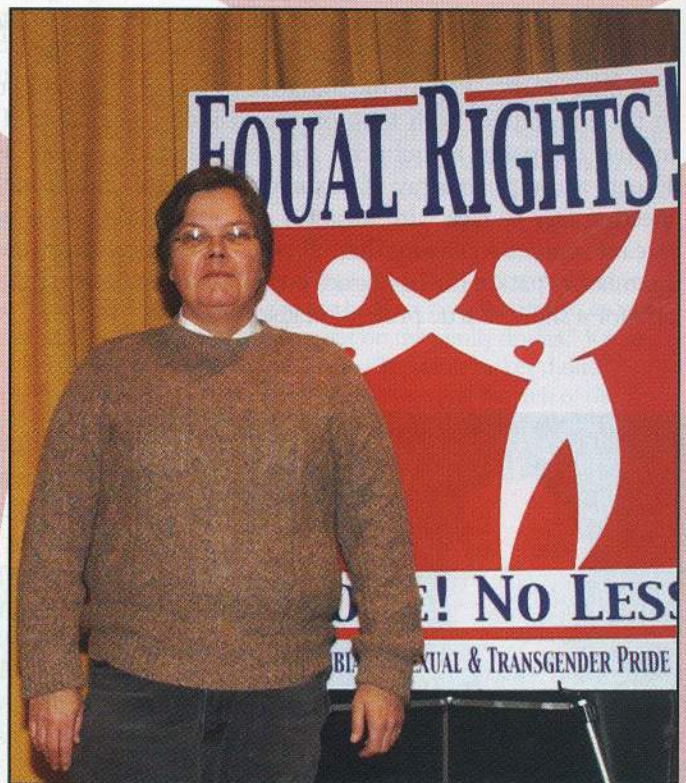
Equal Rights! No More! No Less! Pride Parade Grand Marshals



Weldon Hickey – Hickey has been involved in and held leadership roles with many GLBT organizations including the Krewe of Olympus, Miss Camp America, Four Seasons and Classic Chassis Car Club. Hickey is also one of four members of a performing camp drag queen group, the Cu'tless Supremes, which performs at many fundraisers for the GLBT and AIDS/HIV service and community organizations. Hickey has worked for the Maranatha Fellowship MCC and the Montrose Clinic. He has been described as someone able to get other people involved and bring out the best in people.



Houston's Pride Parade Grand Marshals are some of the most highly honored individuals and organizations in our GLBT community. Look for them as they lead the Parade down Westheimer on Saturday, June 25th!



Deb Murphy – Murphy is the Youth Services worker with H.A.T.C.H. (the Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals) and her goal is to help these GLBT adolescents find their authentic selves while putting an end to their isolation. She has worked with hundreds of young people and has helped build the H.A.T.C.H. program into a nationally recognized program for others working with GLBT youth. Murphy has also played an integral role with the Houston GLBT Community Center as a volunteer and volunteer coordinator, and on the Board of Directors. She has also volunteered her time on the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard Houston, the CATS Transgender Shelter in Galveston and the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival as Festival administrator.



Dennis and Evelyn Schave – The Schaves are licensed counselors at Community Gospel Life Counseling Center, where they work with individuals, couples and groups on issues ranging from sexual orientation and dealing with friends and family to drug dependency. The Schaves support and counsel members of the GLBT community to accept their sexual orientation from within the context of their Christian faith. Over the past fifteen years, the Schaves have ministered to the GLBT community even when their advocacy of GLBT Christians has brought them rejection from family and friends. Dennis Schave, with degrees in sociology, psychology and Bible studies, has served for over 25 years as a counselor, worked in the Youth Prison System in Washington State and trained fellow professionals to be substance abuse counselors. Over the last 50 years, Evelyn Schave has served as an evangelist, youth pastor, worship leader and director/founder of a drug rehabilitation center.

Bayou City Boys Club –

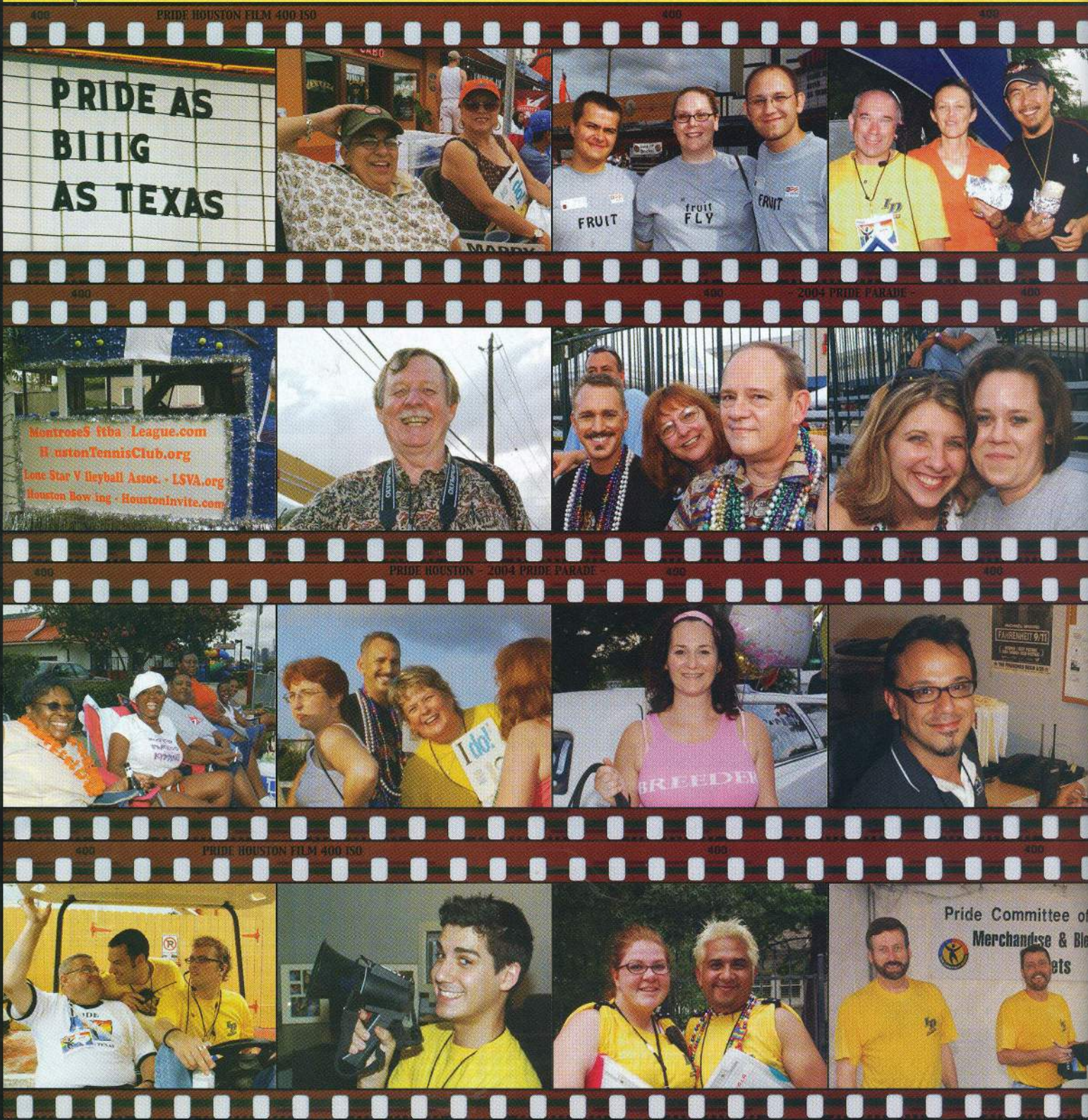
BCBC, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, whose efforts are focused on raising funds for local HIV/AIDS service providers, research efforts and education/prevention programs through popular fundraising events such as Jungle Weekend, Gospel Brunch, Holiday Toy Drive and Summer Theater Night. The organization began as four friends devoted their 1992 birthday party to food donations for the Stone Soup Food Pantry and the Houston Clinical Research Network. With only 32 active members, 13 associate members and 11 emeritus members, the

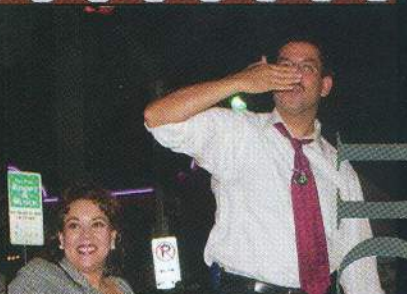


Bayou City Boys Club has been able to donate over \$650,000 to local charities that provide essential, unduplicated HIV/AIDS related services since 1992. Bayou City Boys Club is very proud that 100% of proceeds from entry fees to events are donated to event beneficiaries. The organization won both the Community Service Award from the AIDS Action Foundation and a reader's choice award from the Houston Voice as the Best Gay Nonprofit Organization in 2004.

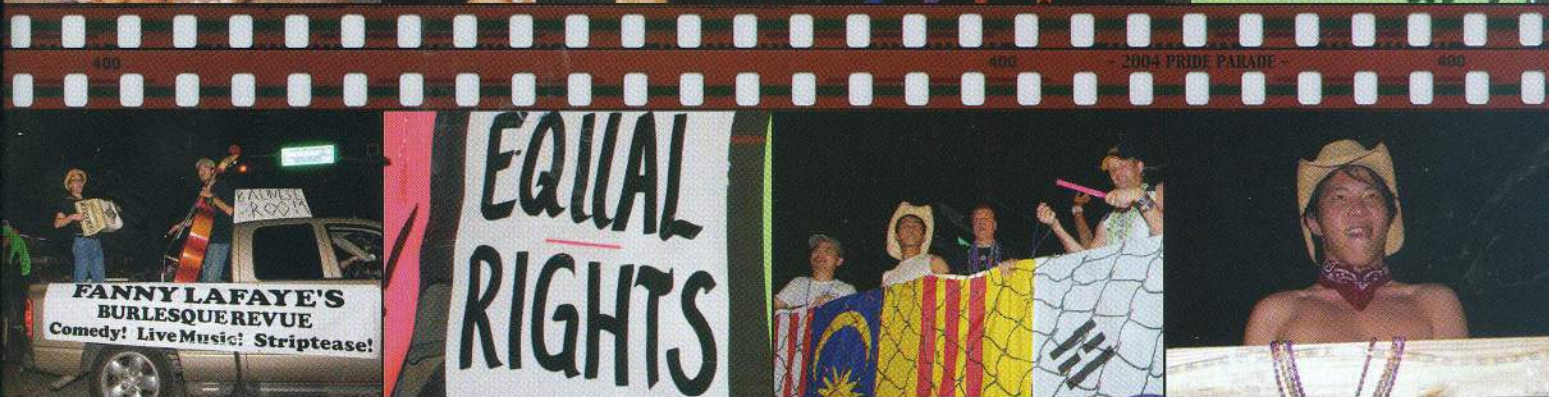
Pride Parade 2004 Review

- Photography by Yvonne Feece -



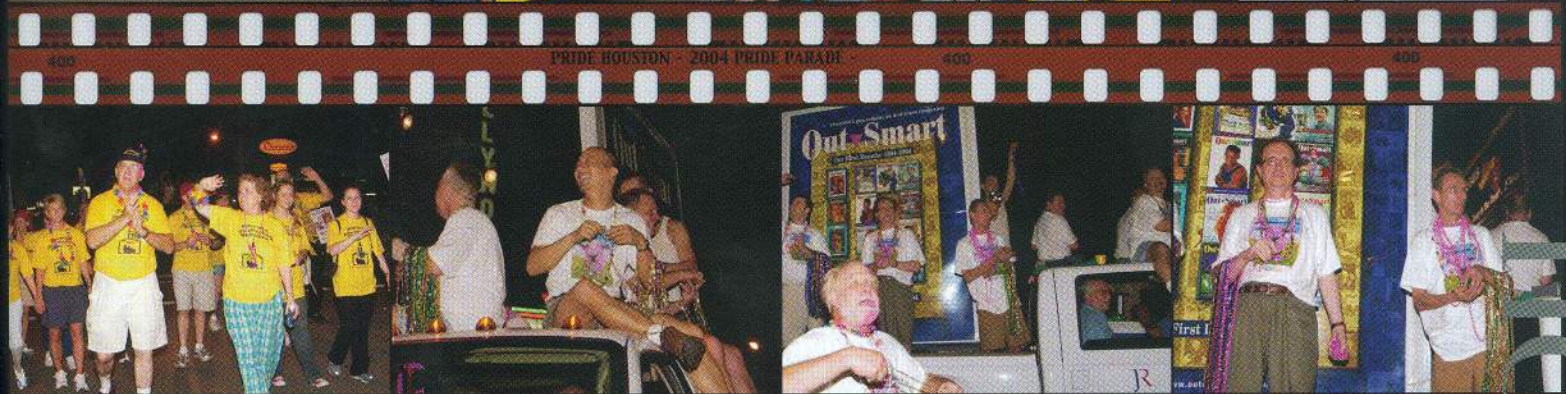








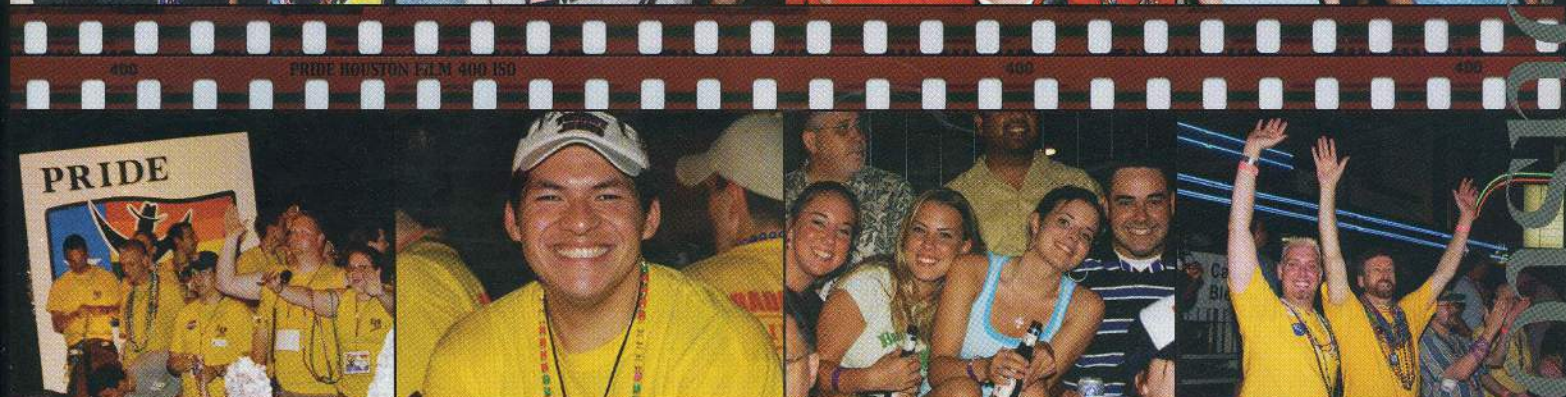
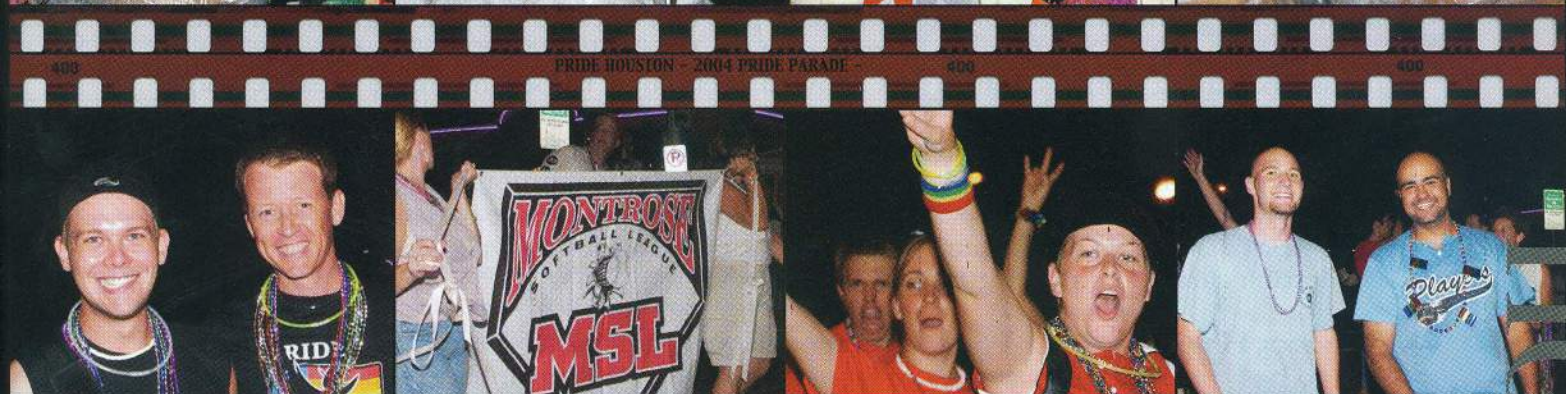






11





Houston Pride Parade

Equal Rights! No More! No Less! by Lynn Sixkiller, Parade Chair

The 2004 Pride as Big as Texas Pride celebration was a true reflection of how far GLBT Pride stretches across Houston, throughout Texas and beyond. The Parade was attended by a mixture of GLBT and non-GLBT friends and allies from all over the country. Would you believe that last year alone, at least one-third of the Parade attendees were from outside the Houston metropolitan area? Pride Houston welcomes the diversity that the annual Pride celebration attracts and encourages everyone to come down to the Montrose District the last weekend of June to help celebrate our community's history and individual diversity.

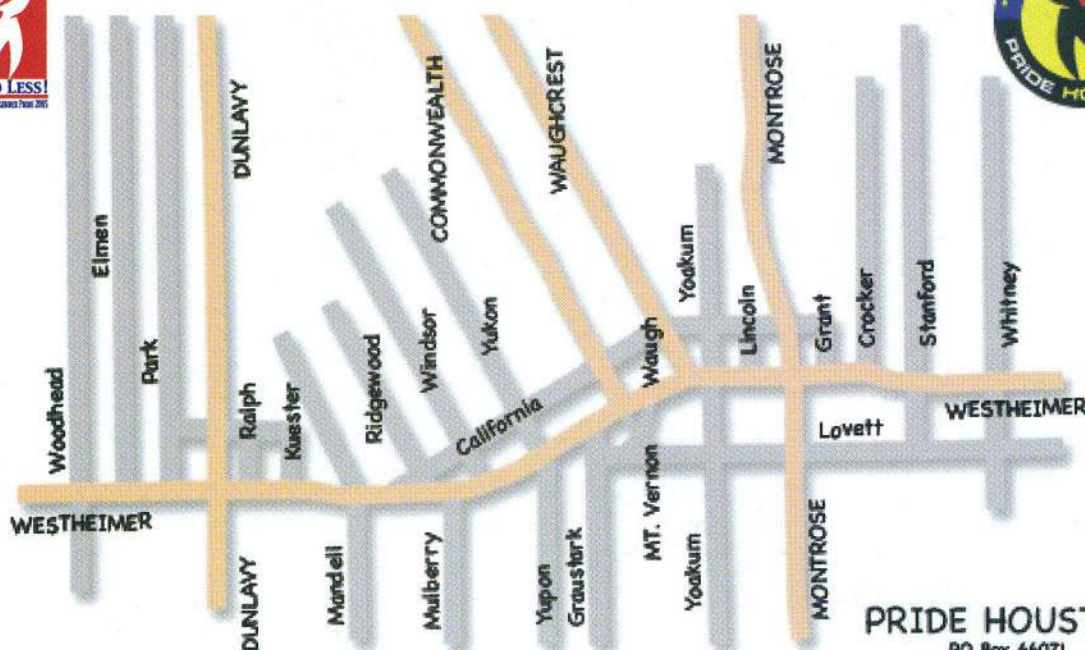


Houston's annual Pride Parade is the second largest parade in Houston and has grown to become the largest Pride event in the southwest. In 1997 our Parade made the transition from day to night, starting promptly at 8:45 pm, and became the first nighttime Pride Parade in country. Changing the start time of the Parade lent itself to so many more fabulous decorating options, which has allowed each entry to become more creative and expressive of their GLBT Pride. The entries encompass a diverse mixture of professional as well as homemade floats, walking units, and vehicles decorated to celebrate Pride. A wide variety of smaller community organizations and larger corporations take part in the Parade each year. GLBT police officers and politicians participate in the celebration and in 2004 Mayor Bill White became the first mayor of Houston to walk, instead of ride in a convertible, for the entire length of the parade route.

The 2005 Houston GLBT Pride celebration, Equal Rights! No More! No Less!, promises to be bigger, brighter and more fabulous than ever! Remember, Houston weather can be unpredictable. However, even though it may rain during the day Mother Nature hasn't let it rain on our Parade yet. So come down to Montrose Saturday, June 25, 2005, to celebrate your community, watch the best Parade ever, and be a part of our journey that is constantly evolving by showing the world that we deserve "Equal Rights! No More! No Less!"



2005 Houston Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Pride Parade ROUTE MAP



PRIDE HOUSTON

PO Box 66071
Houston, Texas 77266-6071

Prideline: 713.529.6979
Fax: 713.529.6929
Email: info@pridehouston.org
Website: www.pridehouston.org

Saturday, June 25, 2005
8:45 - 11:00 pm on lower Westheimer
Between Woodhead and Whitney
Be a part of the nation's original nighttime Pride Parade!

Here are a few suggestions to make everyone's Pride more enjoyable...

1. Drink plenty of water. Houston in June is very hot, even at night.
2. Get there early. Did you know that Houston Pride is more than just a Parade? Come early and enjoy live entertainment in our Festival area.
3. Walk, take public transport, carpool. Parking can be scarce in the area on Parade and Festival day and the traffic leaving can be heavy.
4. Respect our neighbors. Help keep Montrose the unique, friendly, beautiful neighborhood it is. Please do no park on lawns, block driveways or disturb the neighbors. You also show your respect by using a trash can.
5. Dress light. Don't know what to wear? Why not try a new *Equal Rights! No More! No Less!* T-shirt or tank top!
6. Keep the pets at home. Sure your pet has Pride too, but a crowd of 150,000 plus might scare the GLBT right out of Fluffy!
7. Don't worry, be happy! If you encounter any problems please let one of the many volunteer Parade marshals along the route know.
8. Invite everyone. Pride celebrates our diversity and the Parade/Festival just isn't the same with out it.
9. Play it safe! This may be Montrose, but you're still in a big city! Don't ruin your celebration by becoming a victim of crime. Call 911 if there is trouble!

EQUAL RIGHTS!



NO MORE! NO LESS!

HOUSTON GAY LESBIAN BISEXUAL & TRANSGENDER PRIDE 2005

pridehouston.org
houston

2004 Parade Award Winners . . .

Judy Garland (Best performance)

Krewe of the Moons of Uranus

Rainbow (Best lighting)

Bering Memorial United Methodist Church

Ruby Slipper (Best walking unit)

Continental Airlines

Fabulous (Best costumes)

DIAGEO/Smirnoff

Stonewall (Best social commentary)

Holiday Inn & Suites Galleria

Pride As Big As Texas (Best interpretation theme)

E/T's

Aria (Best creative sound)

Houston Pride Band

Spirit of Montrose (Best overall entry)

Krewe of Olympus

Pink Diamond (Best float by a for-profit group)

JPMorgan Chase

Priscilla (Best float by non-profit group)

Community Gospel Church

Judge's Choice

Countrywide Homes

Halloween Magic

Unity Through Sports



Unity Through Sports



DIAGEO



Continental Airlines



Houston Pride Band



EJS



The Krewe of Olympus



Holiday Inn & Suites Galleria



JPMorgan Chase



Krewe of the Moons of Uranus



Community Gospel Church

A Day in the Life of . . .



Binnie Fisher –

Editor, *Houston Voice*

Binnie Fisher is no stranger to the pen. Having worked as a journalist for various outlets including the Fort Worth *Star Telegram*, she also did time as a police reporter. Currently as editor of the *Houston Voice*, Binnie has done her fair share of writing. She attributes her editorial skills to working as a police reporter under a tough editor, Mary Crutcher. Binnie recalls composing articles over the phone to Mary at the office while Mary would take the dictation. Mary would often push Binnie very hard to become faster at reporting her stories. In the long run, all Binnie's hard work would pay off. In the fall of 2004, Binnie accepted the position of editor at the *Houston Voice*. It was her partner Faye who actually saw an advertisement in the paper and pushed Binnie to apply. The *Houston Voice* is owned by Window Media and is part of the largest GLBT newspaper holding. Last year the *Houston Voice* celebrated its 30th anniversary.

Binnie and Faye live in Manville, Texas, with their four dogs and two miniature horses. In her spare time, Binnie is working on her first novel. The heroine just happens to be a lesbian newspaper reporter that solves mysteries. (Hmm... I wonder if there is some kind of connection here?) Binnie also enjoys being out in the community and covering local life.

–YF

H.A.T.C.H. (The Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals) is a program of the Montrose Counseling Center, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit, United Way organization. H.A.T.C.H. was originally founded in 1987, and is dedicated to empowering gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans-gender and questioning (GLBTQ) adolescents to become positive contributors to society by:

- Providing a safe social environment for GLBTQ youth.
- Offering role models and peer support.
- Sponsoring educational and community outreach opportunities.

The purpose of H.A.T.C.H. is to provide a positive environment and support for GLBTQ youth in the Greater Houston Area. H.A.T.C.H. programming works to increase the self-esteem of the youth participants so that they can make healthy and life-affirming choices.

H.A.T.C.H.

701 Richmond Avenue
Houston, TX 77006-5511

Tel.: 713-529-3590

Fax: 713-526-4367

E-mail: info@hatchyouth.org

History in the Making

by Troy Christensen, Pride Parade DVD Producer

When the Pride Parade is over and all that remains on the street are a few forgotten strands of beads, some work still needs to be done—ensuring that our community's achievement is remembered.

Our history—the record of our community's achievements and struggles—is part of what makes us a people with a culture. Lacking a common geography, religion or ancestral heritage, telling the story of our common fight for liberation and equality is what will make our culture endure.

The achievement of the annual Pride Parade is an important part of that story. Dozens of people put weeks of work into building floats and choreographing routines for a mile-long parade. The brevity doesn't matter to them, though, because they know how inspiring the Parade is for the thousands and thousands crowded along that mile. Not only is it important to remember what a beautiful spectacle we produce when we all come together as a community, but it would also be a shame to forget all of the effort put into making the Parade a success.

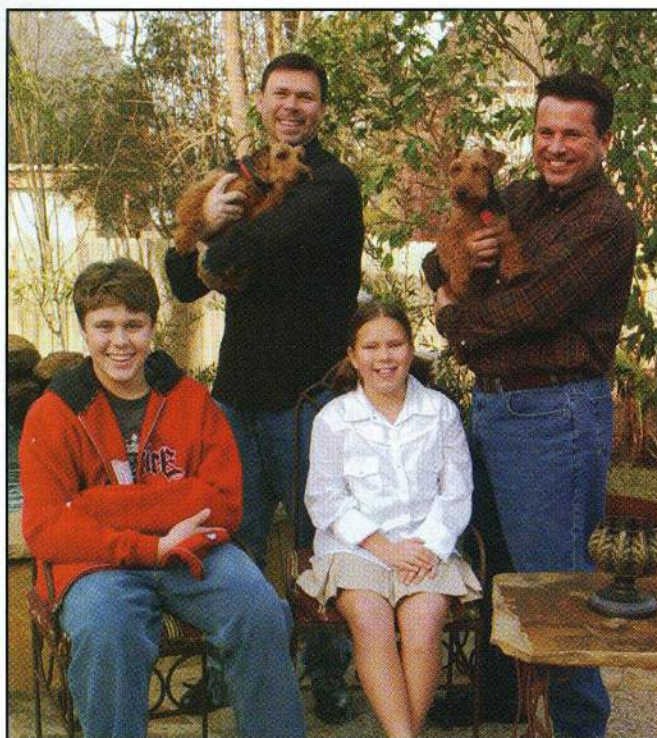
One of the ways we provide a visual reminder of this community effort is by producing the annual Pride Parade video. During the Parade, a few volunteers operate digital video cameras to film the Parade from a variety of angles. Meanwhile, several other volunteers take hundreds of still photos of the Parade participants and their groups' entries. After the Parade, all of the video footage is reviewed and edited together by volunteers. Everything is examined to determine the best pictures and the best sound, making sure that every group is shown. Scores of still photos are also inserted for variety and for close-up shots of the Parade participants and the crowds on the sidelines. The video is distributed on DVD for a digital production from beginning to end.

While the video honors the effort put into the last Parade, sales of the video help sustain the organizational effort for future Parades. Please consider doing your part to preserve our history and to help make more history by reserving your copy of the video today. Pre-order the 2005 Pride Parade DVD at our secure online store at www.pridehouston.org. It will be shipped to you when it is completed in late Summer 2005.



pridehouston.org
houston

A Day in the Life of . . .



Wallace Bennet & John Huckabee – GLBT Family

Anyone who meets these two gentlemen would think that they have been together forever. With a beautiful home in Kingwood, two wonderful children and two hyper dogs, their lives seem to be perfectly manicured and maintained through years of sacrifice and hard work. However, John and Wallace first met about four years ago.

The family hasn't always lived in the suburbs. For the first year of their relationship, John and Wallace lived together in the Heights but decided to move to Kingwood to be closer to Taylor and Simone, Wallace's two children from a previous relationship. Family is a huge part of their lives, explains John and Wallace. Being gay, John never thought he'd be in a situation that would allow him to have children of his own, but now "it's a whole new adventure." The most important thing to John and Wallace is to be nurturing parents. "It doesn't matter if it's two men, two women, or both," explains Wallace. "We worry about the same things as heterosexual parents and I feel blessed to have these kids be a part of my life."

Apparently, being out in the 'burbs isn't that bad. Although it is a very different lifestyle from living in the fast-paced city, John and Wallace have not had any problems being openly gay within the predominately conservative suburbs of Kingwood. Wallace explains that, "they are living a lifestyle that is more liberal in nature but not that far off from mainstream America." Of

course, there was some concern when they first moved up there, but like any strong family would do, they came together and discussed all of the issues that may arise. Fortunately enough, none of the family members have been faced with discriminatory remarks or resistance.

According to Wallace, the family philosophy is to accept everyone for who they are. "Be who you are, be true to yourself and be open to others who are different from you. There is not a gay or straight world. There is not a Republican or Democrat world." In the end, we all just want to get along and they seem to be doing just that.

-RM

Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus

Founded in 1975, the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus is dedicated to eliminating prejudice, violence, and injustice against gay, lesbian bisexual, and transgender people through educating, activism, and political advocacy. Our goal is to create a world where all human beings are guaranteed freedom, equality, and opportunity.

Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus • PO Box 66664 • Houston • Texas • 77266-6664 • 713-521-1000 • voter@hglpc.org



Randall Ellis of LGRL speaks at a Houston Gay & Lesbian Caucus meeting to discuss the current political climate in Austin.

A Day in the Life of . . .

Farah Cox –

DJ/Surfer

Surfers are bums. This is a popular misconception, dude.

Surfing, like any sport, requires skill, concentration and love for the game. For Farah Cox, surfing is not just a sport. In a sense, it's like breathing. She can't live without it, nor can she imagine life without her music.

After having lived in Austin for five years, Cox, who began surfing over ten years ago, recently moved back to the Houston/Galveston area not only to follow her passions, but to enjoy life to the fullest extent. She left a comfortable, stable environment so that she could one day pursue audio engineering, help protect the beaches, be closer to the ocean, and so that you, your brother and your Aunt Sissy could be captivated by tracks she lays down.

In 1999 Cox discovered another outlet, which, along with surfing, allowed her to distance herself from everyday stresses. She became a DJ, spinning progressive trance, house and hip hop, mainly in the Austin area. However, a particularly memorable gig took place in Galveston. About 500 party-goers moved to her beats at a field party located about 200 yards from the beach. "Just hearing the ocean, hearing the waves crash and playing the music I love. It was a fabulous combination," she recalls.

As a non-surfer, I find it interesting that this surfer finds tranquility in an activity that can wear her body down or where her body can be "smacked down by the waves," forcing her to be "tumbling under like [one is] inside of a dryer." Yet when Cox surfs, she attests that she is at peace and that it is a positive release from the everyday. "[I come] out just feeling exhilarated afterwards."

Just as she surfs, Cox is focused when she spins. "My mind's just completely occupied with the music and I'm thinking only of that, and I love seeing people dance."

It seems as though Cox has similar connections to music and the ocean. She works hard to ride every wave and spins hard for you to ride every beat. The only difference is that the lights turn on at 2am and the ocean lasts forever.

Like, totally.

-JG



NLGJA Houston

Happy Pride 2005!

The Houston chapter of the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association (NLGJA) is in the process of organizing programs that will reach out to fellow journalists and the LGBT community at large.

On our agenda for this year is to educate local media via a newsroom outreach program. An issue of great interest to us today is same-sex marriage. The Texas legislature plans to debate adding an amendment to the state constitution barring same-sex marriages. Our goal is to assemble a panel that will provide points of view to and educate Houston-area journalists on coverage of this very important issue.

Next up, we would like to host an NLGJA Institute for LGBT journalists in Houston and throughout the region. Plans are to host a day-long, or a weekend-long seminar on building your skills as a journalist. Oh yeah, there will be plenty of opportunities for schmoozing and the like.

Another plan of ours is to network with other journalism groups in Houston. We plan to hold a mixer with a few journalism groups to mingle with other media professionals and we hope to build alliances.

Each year, we hold a community event that coincides with Houston Pride. Last June our event with Houston Mayor Bill White and City Controller Annise Parker was a great success and we plan to hold a similar type of event each June with an elected official and/or a prominent figure in the community.

It's going to be a busy year for us with LGBT issues at or near the top of many legislative agendas. We need your support and involvement as LGBT journalists to accomplish these very important initiatives.

Current members, we need your help in helping us come up with and organizing events. Non-members, we need you too. If you're unfamiliar with NLGJA, please visit our web-site at www.nlgja.org and learn about our organization. Please don't hesitate to contact me as well if you need more information, would like to help us with an event or would like to join.

Thank you,

Oliver Dyke
Houston Chapter President
National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association
ojd@sbcglobal.net
www.nlgja.org

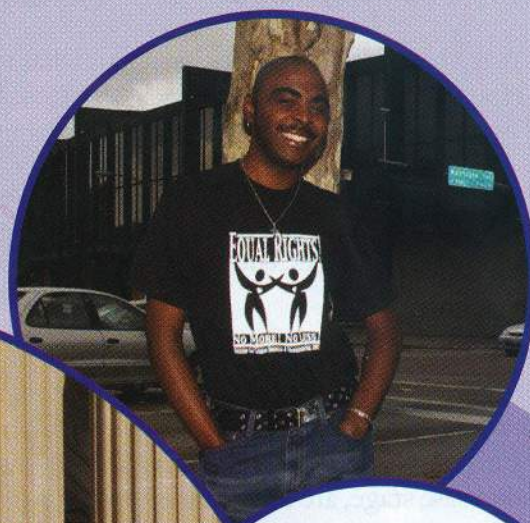
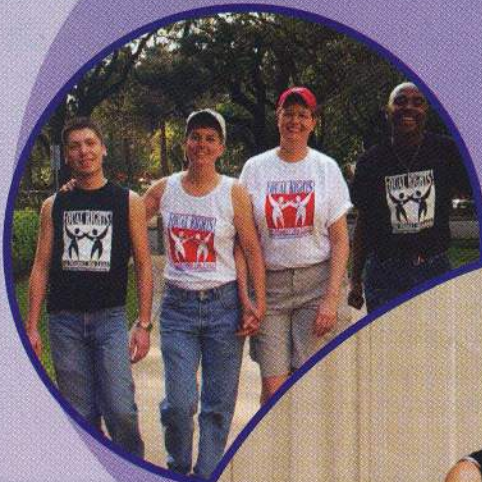


The National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association is an organization of journalists, online media professionals, and students that works from within the journalism industry to foster fair and accurate coverage of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues. NLGJA opposes workplace bias against all minorities and provides professional development for its members.



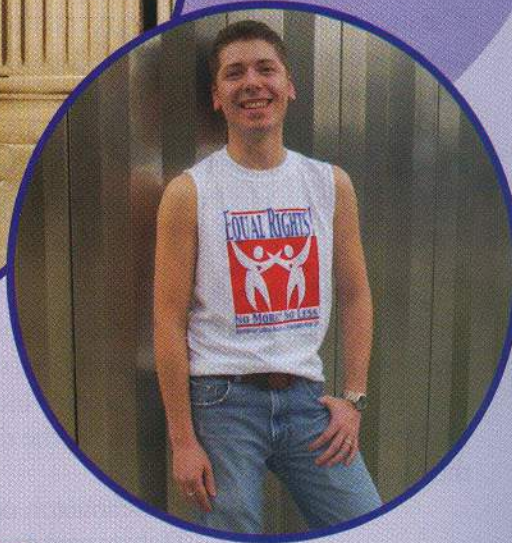
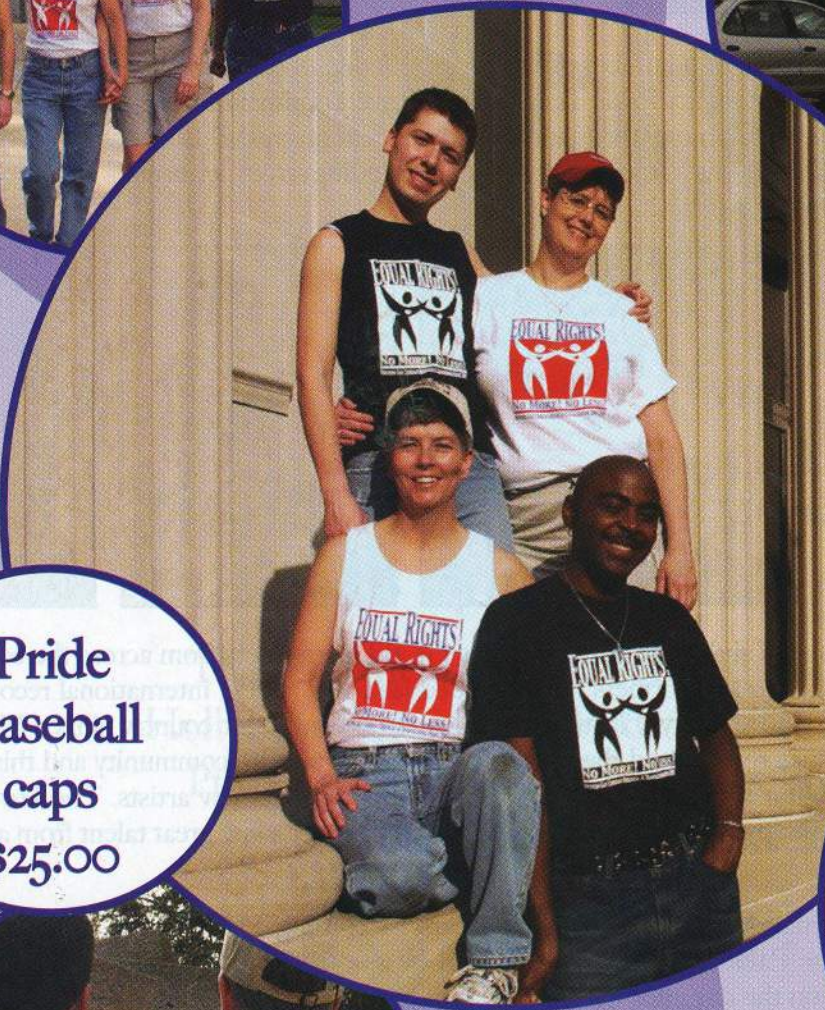
PRIDE '05 Merchandise

Equal Rights! No More! No Less!



Pride Tee,
Sleeveless Tee
&
Tank
\$15.00

Pride
Baseball
caps
\$25.00



Log onto
www.pridehouston.org
to purchase your 2005
official Pride gear.

pridehouston.org
houston

Houston Pride Festival

by Todd Amdor, Festival Co-Chair

This year, there will be no question about what to do in Houston before the Pride Parade. The Houston Pride Festival will rock Montrose beginning at 2 pm on Saturday, June 25, 2005, the day of the Parade, with continuous entertainment until just before the Parade.



Todd Amdor & Matt Stone
Festival Chairs

In the spirit of Houston's great outdoor festivals, this is the GLBT community's opportunity to come together, enjoy live music, relax with a snack or a beer, hang out with friends and visit with community merchants and non-profit organizations. The entrance gate will be located at the corner of Westheimer and Yoakum, and will encompass blocks of fun!

Along with food and drink vendors, there will be a number of businesses offering products and services of particular interest. The Hollyfield Foundation Community Pride Tent will showcase a number of local and national non-profit organizations with opportunities to learn more about and join these great groups! Businesses and organizations can participate by purchasing festival booths. Other entertainment, including street performers and a community showcase stage, are also planned for the event.



The lineup of nationally known entertainers and some of the top new GLBT performers from across the country can be found at www.pridehouston.org. Past performers have included jazz diva Suede, international recording star Amber, folk artists Sarah Pinsker and Christy Claxton, comedian Bob Smith, alt country singer Marcus Hutcheson and many others. These artists represented the great diversity of the GLBT community and this year the committee promises another day of fun and an introduction to a number of great new artists. The Houston Pride Festival is Houston's chance to learn more about our community and discover some great talent from across the country.

"The Festival has taken on many incarnations in the past twenty years," according to Executive Director Jack Valinski. "When Houston had a daytime Parade, it would be followed by a festival with live music. In 2001, the Festival attracted over 1,200 attendees on the day after the Parade." Holding the Festival before the Parade gives Houstonians another reason to come into Montrose early in the day and to experience the carnival atmosphere that the Festival will create. June 25th is the day for our community to celebrate, and what better way is there than with the Houston Pride Festival?

Visit www.pridehouston.org for the latest entertainment lineup and to purchase tickets.

Tickets cost \$10, but a limited number will be released for only \$5.



A Day in the Life of . . .

John Paluch & Chris Chiles —

Community Gospel Church

Chris and John met 27 years ago at a small-town gay bar somewhere in the middle of Michigan where Chris had been working. When they met it was instant love and although they were both very different people back then, one thing has remained constant in their lives. Both Chris and John have always had a very strong faith in God. However, Chris admits that if you had asked him back in 1978 if he thought he would become the pastor of a church, he probably would have thought you were crazy! It's a good thing for Community Gospel Church that Chris had a change of heart.

After being together for only a short while, the couple packed up and decided to move down to Houston. While in Houston, Chris and John were both active members of their church. When they first heard about the budding new congregation of Community Gospel Church they decided to get involved. After a few years of traveling the west coast spreading the word of God, Chris and John came back to Houston and eventually took over as pastor and co-pastor of Community Gospel.

Whenever they worried about what direction to go next, they always knew that no matter what happened they had been faithful to the Lord and that God would reward their faithfulness. Shortly after coming back home the Lord spoke to Chris' heart and he decided to become Community Gospel's new pastor. When Chris took over the congregation of only eight people, the church was in a bit of trouble. But after a few years of hard work and reorganization they now have over 100 people in their congregation. Both Chris and John agree that when you make a commitment you have to work hard to make it through tough times. "There is nothing so great that cannot be worked out," John adds.

"We are just regular people," explains Chris. "We don't wear collars or robes. We just come together to worship the Lord and have a good time."

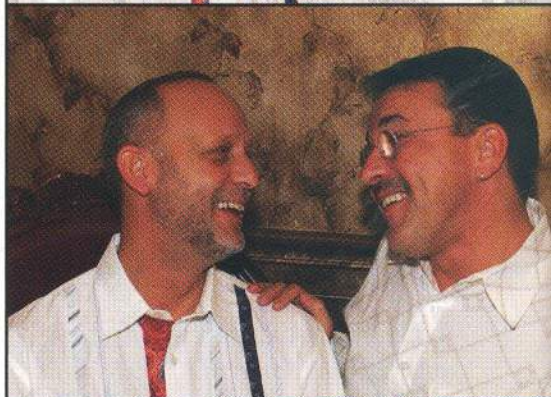
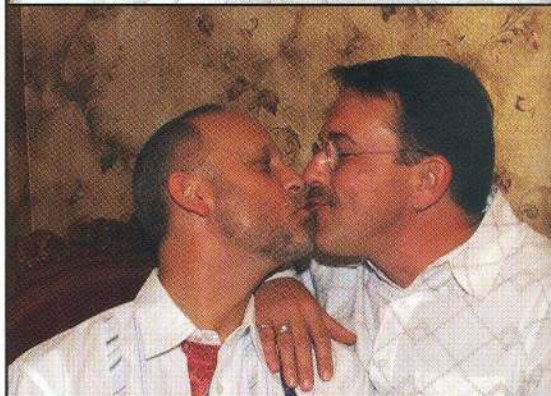
—RM



1978



2004



Spoiled Boyz...

Driving Houston into the Night

Fact - something with real, demonstrable existence

Fiction - a creation of the imagination

The self-proclaimed eclectic, cosmopolitan group of Texas men and women who refer to themselves as SPOILED BOYZ have made Houston nightlife history by recently celebrating over four years of successful events. During that length of time over forty-seven events have been produced and marketed.

After four years of events, people have often inquired as to the formula of success says Charles Solomon, Creative Director of BEYOND Entertainment's SPOILED BOYZ. He says, "It is really quite simple Stay fresh, creative, informed, spontaneous, and always focus on your customer." Solomon further credits much of the SPOILED BOYZ success to the organization's group of Team Leaders and the vast network of personal and organization relationships.

Team Leaders, for instance represent the most involved level of commitment by a SPOILED BOY. This select group of approximately fifteen members is the nucleus from which future events are born and they meet monthly to discuss community trends, upcoming major events and provide valued input into decision-making.

Further, SPOILED BOYZ is very proud of its long-standing relationships and/or partnerships with outstanding organizations like the Bayou City Boys Club, Pride Houston, Bunnies On The Bayou and other marketing partners throughout Texas such as Kos Dallas, Splash Productions Austin, Heat San Antonio and Spunk Austin.

Unknown to many, SPOILED BOYZ is also a very charitable organization. In fact, since April 2002 SPOILED BOYZ has awarded over \$20,000 in door proceeds to local non-profit organizations. For instance, over \$17,500 has been contributed to the beneficiaries of the Bayou City Boys Club's JUNGLE 10, 11, 12 and 13; while over \$2,500 has been awarded to Pride Houston as part of the SPOILED BOYZ partnerships.

Throughout the lifetime of SPOILED BOYZ, Solomon adds special thanks is owed to four community business leaders - Nassim Joseph of Rich's Houston, Jay Allen & Kenneth Long previously of O Nightclub and Michael Malik of M2M Fashion. The on-going commitment of these business owners and recognition that choices of nightlife are a priority to our community have helped to provide stability for SPOILED BOYZ in the vibrant and constantly changing Houston nightlife arena.

Solomon adds, another frequently asked question is "How did this notion of SPOILED BOYZ get created?" He explains, the original graphics image or logo was created by now Dallas graphics designer and TXT Newsmagazine Creative Director Kyle Willis. Willis approached Solomon with the image in early 2001, but was turned away. After some thought and time away from the scene, Solomon contacted Willis for a

second look and shortly after agreed to adopt SPOILED BOYZ and brand the logo as a premium after-hours series of events. Within weeks Willis created art for "All American Spoiled Boy....after-hours for those who can't get enough" and Solomon organized a group of twenty hosts which financially underwrote the first event to be held immediately following JUNGLE 9 at a club located at the Pavilion Center Galleria. With over 435 guests, birth was given to SPOILED BOYZ. Since that time, SPOILED BOYZ has further refined its mission statement as "to stage and produce theme oriented after-hours events focused on the talents of guest DJs, recording/performance artists, attractions, intimate venues and creative promotion with the ultimate goal of creating a safe, fun, high energy party environment." Solomon simply adds, "Mission Accomplished!"

Today, while graphics art designer Willis still flexes his creative muscle and continues to add artistic legitimacy to each SPOILED BOYZ event, his historical gallery of event art may be viewed by a visit to the SPOILED BOYZ web-site. Focus on the SPOILED BOYZ mission have enabled party revelers from around the globe to enjoy events such as Back to Spoiled, Spoiled No. 5, Shipwrecked in Paradise, Pride American Style, jingle bell jock, seventeen, Tribal Communion, Shady, Taboo, Boy Ball, Score, Phoenix Rising, party Monster party, GODIVA and Salvation.

Solomon continues, "The underlying philosophy that makes a SPOILED BOYZ event different from anything in Houston is the undeniable respect that every guest is given the moment they arrive." The respect, the attention to detail, the costumed hosts and greeters, the friendly and caring nature exhibited by the SPOILED BOYZ Team Leaders and the host club employees all combine in a manner that creates an atmosphere where guests can express themselves and enjoy the music and the dance.

Another unique aspect of SPOILED BOYZ is that it offers a VIP card and boasts over 275 card-holders. For a simple one-time fee of \$25, VIP card-holders enjoy discounted door cover, priority entry and advance event announcements for SPOILED BOYZ events. A small price to pay for being SPOILED, VIP cards are available to everyone and may be purchased via the SPOILED BOYZ web-site.

More information about SPOILED BOYZ, the historical art gallery, VIP cards, joining the email list to receive the weekly newsletter or simply to learn more about the next event can easily be accomplished by browsing the SPOILED BOYZ web-site at www.spoiledboyz.net.

SPOILED BOYZ will once again be an "Official Sponsor" of the Houston Pride 2005 Celebration and will host the "Official Pride After-Hours Party". So get prepared as SPOILED BOYZ takes you on a HONEYMOON of a party and commemorates Equal Rights! No More! No Less! Visit www.spoiledboyz.net for the party itinerary.



pridehouston.org
Houston

A Day in the Life of...

Jewel Dean -

Addressing the "T" in GLBT

For over 12 years, men who feel more comfortable or look more titillating in women's clothing have found their muse-fabulosa in Jewel's Boutique on Taft.

A day in the life of owner Jewel Dean and her bright but soft-spoken trans-assistant, Allison, is not quite the same as that of typical merchants. The day might begin by sending clothes to the Alley to be used as wardrobe in a production. A "T" girl might stop by to examine a dress she ordered through Jewel that just arrived from

Nieman's. She'll try it on, have the dress altered and put in Jewel's storage; then she'll return at a later date to "get fem" and pose for photos in her gown. A competitor in a crossdressing beauty pageant—like the Miss Gay America pageant in Dallas—might check in to pick up some shoes dyed on-site to match her \$6,000 competition gown that she bought earlier at Jewel's. A pastor from an area GLBT-friendly church could pop in to leave a card, lest a customer express a need for consolation from the exhaustion of a life with a secret identity. (Jewel has referred many a tortured, closeted soul to various groups, both spiritual and secular.)



A newcomer, often a heterosexual married man—about 50% of Jewel's clientele—occasionally wanders in after indecisively wandering the block a few times, only to discover a world he's been longing for years to find. And after the shop has closed its doors at the end of the day, a patron might arrive for a scheduled discreet appointment for a private session. Maybe it's a make-over, maybe it's a consultation, maybe it's a complete transformation. Practically anything can be done at Jewel's.

Jewel's Boutique
2404 Taft Street
713-523-3557
txjdean@hotmail.com
www.crossdressersboutique.com

Crossdressers and those in the trans community may also find tgnow.com and www.tgconnect.com to be of assistance.

-ED



The Empire of the Royal Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star, Inc.

by Joyce Gabiola

All hail Daryl Quijano, Chief Operating Officer of a cellular infrastructure equipment repair company and Emperor XX of The Empire of the Royal Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star Incorporated (ERSICSS), a charter of the International Court System, whose reign is of "big bodies, big hearts and bigger ambitions." *Whatcha talkin' bout, Willis?*

Quijano is one of about 70 members of ERSICSS, a 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is to sponsor, support and promote community charitable and educational programs and efforts; to promote and recognize community leaders; and to promote harmony among the people in the community. Its mission sounds like that of any other community organization, but ERSICSS sets itself apart by focusing on two main philanthropic endeavors: AIDS and breast cancer. Furthermore, its uniqueness extends to its ongoing weekend drag shows and, of course, Drag Bingo on Tuesdays at Meteor. Most notably, ERSICSS is like no other organization in the community because it functions under a monarchical system. There are dukes and duchesses, princes and princesses, viscounts and viscountesses, etc. Quijano explains that lords and ladies are members of the Court who choose to support and be part of the organization, versus the higher positions that require more responsibilities. Visit their website at www.ersicss.org . . . dramatic, yet festive.

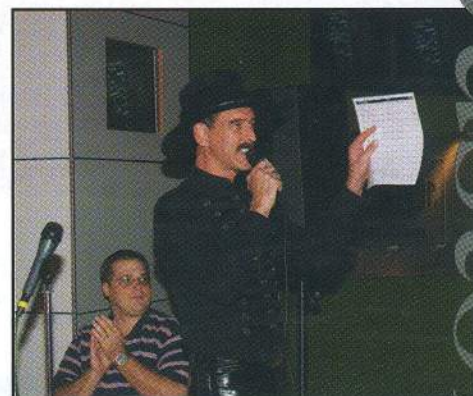
Quijano, who is also involved with Miss Camp America, the Wishful Thinking Fund and the PWA Holiday Charities, first became involved with ERSICSS because his mother had breast cancer. Now, with five years of active membership, Quijano reigns as Emperor XX, along with Empress XX, Miss Stella Link Seville. The community-elected Emperor and Empress lead the organization in its direction for the year, according to Quijano. "We make the decisions on when shows happen, what type of shows, who they're gonna benefit . . . we choose the beneficiaries for the year, we set the calendar. We have a Board that helps us make those decisions."

ERSICSS is a diverse group of community-minded people. GLBT and non-GLBT people, as well as people of different ethnic backgrounds are involved. The main requirements of membership are payment of dues and a local residence, which includes Harris County and the seven surrounding counties.

"Drag. The organization has a history of mainly doing drag shows," shares Quijano, when asked for what ERSICSS is known. It also prides itself on integrity and longevity in the community, declares Quijano. "We've been around and we've done the same thing for 20 years, and we've basically done it the same way all 20 years." Hey, if it's not broken...

Its continued existence is due also to others in the community. A memorable sponsorship for this year is Executive Adult Video and DVD Supercenter, which provided over \$10,000 in support for different events throughout the year. The nightclub Meteor and Jimmy Walker, Attorney at Law, have also been great supporters of ERSICSS this year.

Part of the ERSICSS mission is to promote harmony among people in the community. This is achieved through the members' participation in multiple organizations. "Not one of us is just a member of the Court, so a lot of us try to help other organizations," says Quijano. Just as local businesses and organizations support them, ERSICSS gives back to others in the community. "We don't just focus on ourselves." Good karma, anyone?



A Day in the Life of...

Spring High School Gay Straight Alliance -

Can you picture yourself walking down the hallways in high school? I recall orange, blue or yellow lockers slamming shut, pre-adults gossiping or smacking gum, scrambling for books and binders from or to their backpacks, exchanging notes or exam answers. People would run or fly at slug-speed ahead of me; trombone and violin cases would scrape against walls or bump unsuspecting passersby. It was always loud, always hectic. Was it them or the perpetual angst? Sometimes I would see Charles in the hallways. I never said or did anything. I just watched as they pushed or teased him. It was a much easier thing for me to walk down the hallways. No one knew about *me*.

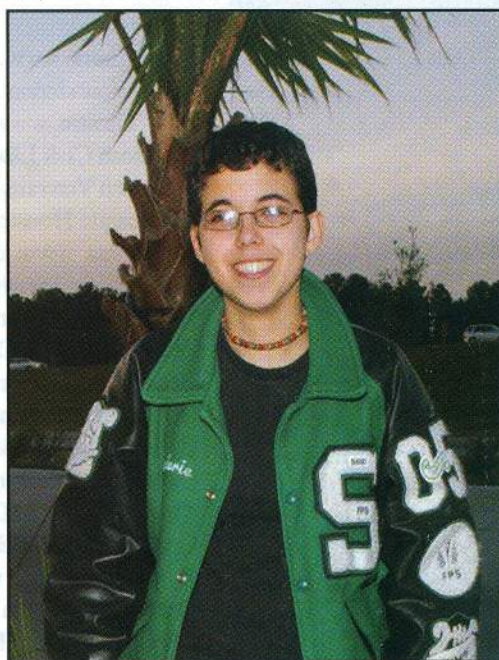
The Diversity Alliance at Spring High School, better known as the Gay Straight Alliance to everyone in the cafeteria, classrooms, principal's office, locker rooms, faculty rooms, restrooms, parking lot, science labs, library aisles, and on the theater stage, the tennis court, and the football field, continues to grow as an official school organization to support students who just want to be themselves. "Diversity Alliance" is less controversial, but what's in a name? It's content that counts, is it not?

Marla Dukler's victory—the settlement of her federal lawsuit in March 2003 against the Klein Independent School District, which allowed her to establish a gay acceptance organization at Klein H.S.—paved the way for other area high schools to achieve the same. Later that year, after the previous year's petitioning and meetings with the principal, Dukler's friend, Susan Martin ('04), and fellow classmates established the Diversity Alliance with cooperation from the school administration, faculty, students and PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays). The Alliance, with a generous grant from PFLAG, began the school year with its first project inviting school organizations to submit tolerance-themed posters for cash prizes.

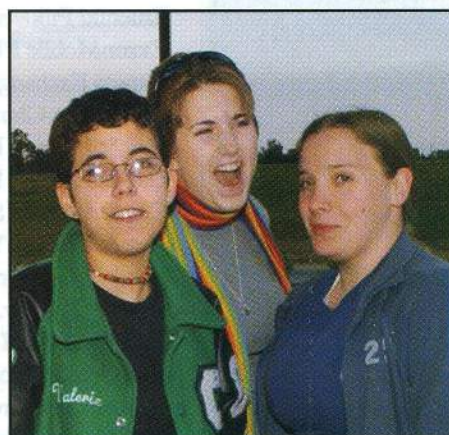
According to Valerie Halsworth, a senior at Spring H.S. and Vice President of the Alliance, the administration is a lot more open than people would realize, especially in Spring. "It was okay before we had the Alliance. Now it just has gotten better."

While the administration is supportive and the overall experience is positive, the Alliance has encountered obstacles. Martin recalls the Alliance receiving threatening letters, as well as a threat from a teacher to picket the room in which they were meeting. In addition, the Alliance has had difficulty with acquiring a faculty sponsor, a requirement for every school organization. After a month or two of waiting for a response to the Alliance's request, Dr. Edward Pita, a Foreign Language teacher, informed the Alliance this school year of his interest in sponsoring the group. "He's really awesome," says Senior Jeff Burnett, President of the Alliance.

-JG



Valerie Halsworth - Vice President, Spring High School GSA



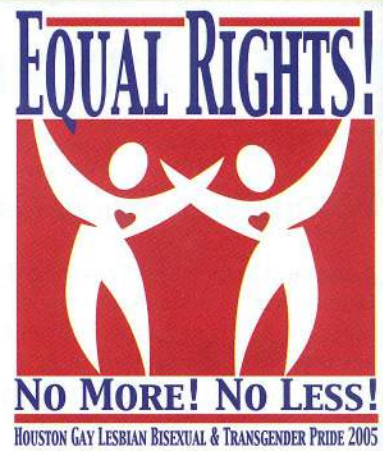
What is a Gay-Straight Alliance?

A Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) is a student-run club, typically in a high school, which provides a safe place for students to meet, support each other, talk about issues related to sexual orientation and work to end homophobia. Many GSAs function as support groups and provide safety and confidentiality to students who are struggling with their identity as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or questioning. In addition to support, some GSAs work on educating themselves and the broader school community about sexual-orientation and gender-identity issues. They may bring in outside speakers to cover a particular topic such as GLBTQ history. They may organize a "Pride Week" or "GLBTQ Awareness Events" and offer a series of educational workshops, panels and Pride celebrations. Many participate in the Day of Silence, a day when participants remain silent all day as a way of acknowledging the silence induced by homophobia in our society. Some GSAs organize a "Teach the Teachers" staff development day which focuses on teaching school staff how to be better allies for GLBTQ students. For example, GSA members would present scenarios about discrimination or harassment and get teachers to brainstorm how to respond to those situations.

Other GSAs are activist clubs and have worked to get GLBTQ issues represented in the curriculum, GLBTQ-related books into the library and progressive non-discrimination policies implemented at a district level. All of these different types of GSAs also provide a social outlet for GLBTQ students and their straight allies.

How can I start a Gay-Straight Alliance? Visit www.gsanetwork.org to learn how!

2005 Community Resource Guide



- After Hours www.kpft.org/afterhours.php
- AIDS Foundation Houston www.aidshep.org
- Alley Theatre www.alleytheatre.org
- American Civil Liberties Union Houston www.aclu-houston.org
- American Veterans for Equal Rights (AVER) www.aver.us
- Art League Houston www.artleaguehouston.org
- AssistHers www.assisthers.org
- AVES www.aves-health.org
- The Assistance Fund www.theassistancefund.org
- Bayou City Boys Club (BCBC) www.junglehouston.com / www.bcbsc.info
- Bering Omega Community Services www.beringomega.org
- BP America Beyond Pride www.bp.com
- Bunnies On The Bayou www.bunnies.org
- Career Management International www.careermanagement.com
- The Center for AIDS www.centerforaids.org
- Community Gospel Church www.communitygospel.org
- Covenant Church www.covenanthouston.org
- Delta Rho Upsilon www.deltarhoupilson.net
- Different Spokes Houston Cycling sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/DS-Houston/
- District D Council Office - Ada Edwards www.houstontx.gov
- Diversity Builder www.diversitybuilder.com
- Donald R. Watkins Memorial Foundation www.donaldrwatkins.org
- Emerald Pillows Zine www.emeraldpillows.com
- ExxonMobile PRIDE EMPRIDE@yahoo.com
- Fitness Exchange www.fitnessexchange.cc
- Fresh Start Church 832-372-4234
- Gay & Lesbian Bowlers www.texasinvite.com
- Gay & Lesbian Rainbow Pages www.rainbowpages.net
- Gay & Lesbian Switchboard Houston www.gayswitchboardhouston.org
- Gay & Lesbian Yellow Pages www.glyp.com
- Gay Men's Chorus of Houston www.gmch.org
- GLOBO www.globohouston.org
- GLOBAL, UH www.uh.edu/global
- The Greater Houston GLBT Chamber of Commerce www.ghglcc.org
- Groove Girlz Productions www.groovegirlz.com
- Gulf Coast Archive & Museum of GLBT History www.gcam.org
- H.A.T.C.H. www.hatchyouth.org
- Harris County Libertarian Party www.lptexas.org
- Helping Transgenders Anonymous www.brendat.com/hcda.htm
- H.e.r.s. Magazine www.hershouston.com
- Hollyfield Foundation www.hollyfield.org
- Houston Big Mens Club www.HoustonBigMensClub.com
- Houston Black Tie Dinner www.HoustonBlackTieDinner.org
- Houston Buyers Club www.houstonbuyersclub.com
- Houston GLBT Community Center www.houstonglbtcommunitycenter.org
- Houston Gay & Lesbian Film Festival www.hglff.org
- Houston Gay & Lesbian Parents www.hglp.org
- Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus www.hglpc.org
- Houston Human Rights Campaign www.hrhouston.org
- Houston Humane Society www.houstonhumane.org
- Houston Invitational Tournament www.houstoninvite.com
- Houston Pride Band www.houstonprideband.org
- Houston Transgendered Cover Girls www.groups.yahoo.com/group/TransgenderedHouston

Houston Transgender Unity Committee 281-424-6080
 Houston Voice www.houstonvoice.com
 Houston Women's Festival www.hwfestival.org
 Immigration Equality www.immigrationequality.org
 Inner Loop Alternative www.texasinvite.com
 Integrity/Houston Interfaith Care Partners www.interfaithcarepartners.org
 Jewish Congregation Mishpachah Alizim mishpachah@onebox.com
 Jewish Family Service www.jfshouston.org
 JPMorgan Chase Bank P.R.I.D.E. Team www.chase.com
 JR's Bar & Grill / Montrose Mining Company www.JRsbarandgrill.com
 Keys West www.keyswest.com
 Khush Texas www.groups.yahoo.com/group/khushtexas/
 The Kolbe Project www.kolbeproject.org
 KPFT Pacifica Radio 90.1 www.kpft.org
 Krewe of Olympus—Texas www.mardigrastexas.com
 Lambda Houston Alcoholics Anonymous www.lambdahouston.org
 Lesbian Health Initiative www.lhihouston.org
 Lesbians Over Age Fifty (LOAF)
 Log Cabin Republicans Houston www.logcabin.org
 Lonestar boys of Leather ebelredboy@aol.com
 Lone Star Shih Tzu and Lhasa Apso Rescue www.shihtzu-rescue.com
 Lone Star Volleyball Association www.lsva.org
 Maranatha Fellowship House of Glory www.houseofglory.org
 Meteor www.meteorhouston.com
 Metropolitan Multi-Service Center www.hwsa.org/metropolitan
 Miss Camp America Foundation www.mcaf.org
 Monday Night Men / Monday Night Women www.texasinvite.com
 Montrose Clinic www.montrosecclinic.org
 Montrose Counseling Center www.montrosecounselingcenter.org
 Montrose Soccer Club www.montrosesoccer.org
 National Leather Association Houston www.nlahouston.org
 National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association www.nlgja.org
 Northwoods Unitarian Universalist Church www.northwoodsuu.org
 Old Lesbians Organizing for Change (OLOC) www.oloc.org
 OutSmart Magazine www.outsmartmagazine.com
 Ovaries Hair Studio and Spa 713-533-0008
 Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays www.pflaghouston.org
 People with AIDS Coalition Houston www.pwach.org
 Planned Parenthood of Houston www.pphouston.org
 Popcorn Pleasures www.popcornpleasures.com
 Pride Houston www.pridehouston.org
 Prime Timers Houston www.primetimersww.org
 Queer Voices www.queervoices.org
 Racing Limos of Houston www.racinglimoshouston.com
 Rich's Houston www.richs-houston.com
 Ryan White Planning Council www.rwpc.org
 Sapience Magazine www.sapiencemagaazine.com
 Shell Oil Company kathleen.devlin@shell.com
 South Beach www.southbeachthenightclub.com
 Steve Roberts Interiors www.steverobertsinteriors.com
 Stonewall Law Association of Greater Houston www.slagh.org
 Tau Chi, the Houston Chapter of Tri-Ess www.tau-chi.org
 Team Houston for the Games www.GayGamesTeamHouston.org
 Texas Association of Transsexual Support www.groups.yahoo.com/group/TATSHouston
 Texas Gay Rodeo Association (TGRA) www.tgra.org
 The Assistance Fund www.theassistancefund.org
 TXT www.txtnewsmag.com
 United Cab Company www.unitedcab.com
 Young Men Saving Men www.ymsmhouston.org
 WIP Society www.wipsociety.net



pridehouston.org

Houston GLBT Bar Guide



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|--|---|---|
| 1. 611
611 Hyde Park • 713-526-7070 | 817 Fairview • 713-528-9204 | www.midtowne-spa.com |
| 2. Bricks II
617 Fairview • 713-528-8102 | 10. Decades
1205 Richmond • 713-521-2224 | 18. Montrose Mining Co.
805 Pacific • 713-529-7488 |
| 3. BRB
2400 Brazos • 713-528-9192 | 11. EJ's
2517 Ralph • 713-527-9071 | 19. Michael's Outpost
1419 Richmond • 713-520-8446 |
| 4. Chances/GSpot/Barn
1100 Westheimer • 713-523-7217
www.chancesbar.com | 12. JR's
808 Pacific • 713-521-2519 | 20. Ranch Hill Saloon
211 Airport Rd. (Conroe) • 936-441-6426 |
| 5. Club Inergy
5750 Chimney Rock • 713-666-7310
www.clubinergy.com | 13. Keys West
817 Dallas • 713-571-7870
www.clubinergy.com | 21. Rich's
2401 San Jacinto • 713-759-9606
www.richs-houston.com |
| 6. Club Houston
2205 Fannin • 713-659-4998 | 14. Mary's
1022 Westheimer • 713-527-9669 | 22. Ripcord
715 Fairview • 713-521-2792 |
| 7. Rainbow Room
1417-B Westheimer • 713-522-5144 | 15. Mela's
302 Tuam • 713-523-0747 | 23. South Beach
810 Pacific • 713-529-7623
www.southbeachnightclub.com |
| 8. Club Xscape
2612 S. Richey • 713-944-7663 | 16. Meteor
2306 Genesee • 713-521-0123
www.meteorhouston.com | 24. Toyz
5322 Glenmont • 713-668-4892 |
| 9. Cousins | 17. Midtowne Spa
3100 Fannin • 713-522-2379 | 25. Viviana's
5219 Washington • 713-864-0203 |