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5 Take A History Lesson On How The Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride Week All Began

11 New Items In Our Merchandise Catalog To Show Your Community Pride

Glowing with Pride

JANUARY 1997

HOUSTON GAY AND LESBIAN PRIDE WEEK COMMITTEE

PRIDE WEEK '97 LOGO VOTED IN

JAMES RODRIGUEZ

Pride Committee of Houston unveiled plans to host America's first night time Gay / Lesbian Pride parade scheduled for Saturday, June 28, 1997 in Houston's colorful Montrose area.

This year's committee is off to an early start and has selected "Glowing with Pride" as an appropriate theme for Pride Week festivities. Leana Colmenares was commissioned by the group to design a new four color logo that captures the essence of the Pride

gay/lesbian community, committee members are in the process of staging a spectacular Saturday evening event full of dazzling lights, neon floats and colorful costumes. Committee Chairs Darren Armstrong and Susan Guerrero are confident that even though this is a challenging undertaking, they feel that they have selected a team of eighteen committee members with the talent and skill to produce a fabulous night of glitz and pride.

For more information on the parade or other Pride Week activities please contact the Pride

Glowing with Pride

HOUSTON GAY AND LESBIAN PRIDE WEEK 1997



night time Gay and Lesbian Pride parade scheduled for Saturday, June 28, 1997 in Houston's colorful Montrose area.

This year's committee is off to an early start and has selected "Glowing with Pride" as an appropriate theme for Pride Week festivities. Leana Colmenares was commissioned by the group to design a new four color logo that captures the essence of the Pride Week slogan.

The Pride Committee broke with tradition and did not choose to follow the international theme this year. Instead, the decision to use 'Glowing with Pride' was based on two factors. First, the logo needed to reflect the night parade. Second, it had to inspire the community and capture the imagination of the participants. Supplied with little more than these two basic ideas and the standard guidelines for logo requirements, Leana presented the Committee with 3 prototypes. The Executive Committee critiqued the designs, ranked the three entries and made suggestions for changes on the final selection. Leana took the suggestions and two weeks later, the logo you see here was the result. We hope you feel it captures the essence of a night parade and the colorful celebration it will generate.

The predictable daytime Houston summer heat has inspired the Pride Committee to make history by planning the country's first night time Pride parade. Already garnering accolades from the Houston

costumes. Committee Chairs Darren Armstrong and Susan Guerrero are confident that even though this is a challenging undertaking, they feel that they have selected a team of eighteen committee members with the talent and skill to produce a fabulous night of glitz and pride.

For more information on the parade or other Pride Week activities please contact the Pride Line at (713) 529-6979. Potential parade float participants should be on the look out for those after Christmas light sales.



THE MAKING OF A LOGO

For the first time, Pride Committee of Houston commissioned a graphic designer to design the Pride Week logo for this year. In the past, the Pride Committee held a logo contest in which designs were accepted from members of the community. These logos would be judged by a panel of local artists with the final logo being chosen by the Pride Committee of Houston. Unfortunately, recent years have resulted in a small number of entries from which to choose. The Pride Committee decided rather than spend time and energy to have a contest, time and money could be better channeled by commissioning a graphic designer to create the logo. The Pride Committee obtained bids and reviewed portfolios of three Houston professional graphic designers. The Pride Committee chose Leana Colmenares to design the logo because of her strong portfolio and talent for creating icon based identities for other Houston based businesses. Leana, who coincidentally is also a member of our community was thrilled to do the logo since pride is a very close and personal issue with herself. Pride Committee of Houston is also thrilled with the new logo and hopes to continue a relationship with Leana for future design work.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JULIE SISK A

vol-un-teer (vol'ən-tīr') n. **1.** one who enters into or offers him/herself for a service of his/her own free will.

Over the last few years I have had the opportunity to volunteer my services to the Pride Committee of Houston.

It has had it's learning opportunities and on the whole has been the most rewarding of experiences, particularly in developing self-confidence and areas of meeting new people.

In our community, it is not that people do not want to volunteer their time. As a whole, they do. From my experience, what keeps them away (or "in the closet" so to speak) is that to be involved may jeopardize their job or family situation. And, for this, I cannot find fault with their position. Even though we have come a long way in our acceptance in society, we still have a *loooooong* way to go.

But this column is not about that, it is about how you can participate in spite of that.

In talking to many people, they want to get involved but they also want to stay out of the limelight or visibility. That is until they are ready in their lives to come out. As most organizations, we are sensitive to. We do want out volunteers to feel "safe" and at the same time feel that they are truly making a contribution, not only to our endeavors, but also to our community and to the world.

There are many ways to participate in the Pride Committee throughout the year. We have a newsletter which welcomes fresh new articles. Mailout sessions for the newsletter and Pride guide are always looking for helpers to fold, label and seal. Staff is needed to assist at merchandise sales tables set up at various functions, fundraisers and local bars.

We also have opportunities to work with computers in maintaining our mailing list database. Of course, new "things to do" are continually cropping up.

With a new year upon us, this may be a good time to look and see how you may want to design

your schedule. To include activities in the area of community involvement in your life.

The Pride Committee of Houston, Inc. is committed to "coordinate and promote events that celebrate the diversity, unity and history of the Lesbian and Gay community..." Our activities include ALL of our community — individuals, organizations and businesses. Not only lesbian and gay, but the general population (our employers; our families) as well.

My reason for joining the Pride Committee is that it represents a FUN opportunity to make a difference in my community. It has done just that for me. I have met many wonderful, generous people over these last four plus years of my involvement. Not only that, but I personally feel that I am a (working) cog in the wheel to making a difference in the universe.

That represents a great amount of satisfaction in the time I commit to not only this endeavor, but also to making a difference for us. ▼

PRIDE COMMITTEE
OF HOUSTON, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Darren Armstrong
Carol Clark
Susan Guerrero
Brian Keever
Patrick McIlvain
Ray Ramirez
Jack Valinski

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Julie Siska

LEGAL COUNSEL

Debbie Hunt

GAY AND LESBIAN
PRIDE WEEK '97

CO-CHAIRS

Darren Armstrong
Susan Guerrero

TREASURER

Darren Armstrong

SECRETARY

Susan Guerrero

EVENTS

Steve Belunek

FUNDRAISING

Nick Brines

MEDIA

James Rodriguez

MERCHANDISE

Jerry Sherman

NEWSLETTER

Trent Jefferson
Joel Lutringer

PARADE



ASK THE CHAIRS

DARREN ARMSTRONG & SUSAN GUERRERO

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may be a good time to design see how you may want to design

to not only this endeavor, but also to making a difference for us. ▼



ASK THE CHAIRS

DARREN ARMSTRONG & SUSAN GUERRERO

**Q
A**

Why have a night parade?

Over the years, the community has expressed concern that the parade held in June on a Sunday afternoon was too hot for most people to attend and especially difficult for those in the community that may be ill. Last year we formed a task force to determine a way to solve the heat problem.

After six months of meeting, surveying the community, talking with community leaders and researching temperatures the task force recommended a night parade held in June. Most of the community wanted to keep the parade in June to commemorate Stonewall and a night parade would be the first night gay pride parade in the country. This solution solved our heat problem, kept pride week during June to commemorate Stonewall, and gave us a new, creative way to have a parade by having it at night. ▼

**Q
A**

I want to help. What can I do?

There is plenty of work for anyone wanting to donate their time to Pride Week. Just coming to meetings is a great place to start. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center at 1475 West Gray at 7:00 p.m. Just attending these meetings you can contribute your opinion and make a suggestion that may solve a difficult question. In addition to meetings, you can join us at newsletter mailouts, help prepare the newsletter, help the parade committee with their planning, help plan the festival,

sell merchandise at local bars, or help out with fundraising events. If you work in a sensitive position or aren't interested in sharing your sexual status with others, we also have opportunities for your involvement. Just let us know that you prefer to contribute as a low profile volunteer. We have several jobs where interaction with the public is limited or non-existent. ▼

**Q
A**

Why have a Pride Week and Parade?

Having a Pride Week and a Parade gives gay and lesbians the opportunity to be proud of who they are and to acknowledge that pride to the city and to themselves. Pride Week gives us the opportunity to not only show our Pride to ourselves and the rest of the world, but also allows us to instill pride in the younger generations that may have feelings of repression or self-hatred for being gay. A pride week and parade lets these kids know that they are not alone and they have a supportive community that they can connect to. ▼

**Q
A**

What is the purpose of the Pride Committee?

The committee is guided by their mission statement. The group organize fundraisers, sell merchandise, and holds outreach programs all year-round. We are affiliated with other pride week organizations across the world through the International Association of Gay and Lesbian Pride Coordinators. ▼

FUNDRAISING
Nick Brines

MEDIA
James Rodriguez

MERCHANDISE
Jerry Sherman

NEWSLETTER
Trent Jefferson
Joel Lutringer

PARADE
Robin Duncan
Tim Gibson

PRIDE GUIDE
Guy Burns

VOLUNTEERS
Pete Contreras
Gina Richardson

MISSION STATEMENT

The Pride Committee of Houston, Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization whose purpose is to coordinate and promote events which celebrate the diversity, unity and history of the Gay and Lesbian Community. We do not discriminate on the basis of color, gender, transgender or bi-sexual identification, the physically challenged or differently abled or on the basis of age.

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

The Pride Committee
P.O. Box 66071
Houston, TX 77266-6071
Tel: 713.529.6979
Fax: 713.529.1223
eMail:
info@pridehouston.org

RAINBOW FISHING CLUB SETS SAIL

SANDY NACY

The Rainbow Fishing Club is one of the newest social clubs in the Montrose area. The club was founded just a few months ago by several local residents who are avid fishermen.

Dedicated to promoting social interaction among all segments of our community through monthly events, the group has grown to over 60 interested people.

Although fishing events are the group's main social function, other activities are being considered. Monthly trips are planned for weekdays and weekends to accommodate members' different work schedules.

Trip prices range from \$45 - \$60 depending on the time of year, the length of the trip and boat availability. There is even a night

trip planned for those members who can't stand the heat of the day. Trips are taken on modern fishing vessels that include a lounge with color TV, snack bar, and the latest in fish finding equipment. Bait, tackle and fishing pools are included at no extra charge. You can even have your fish cleaned by the crew if you so desire.

If you have a casual interest in fishing, fish regularly, or are a fishing addict, this club is for you!

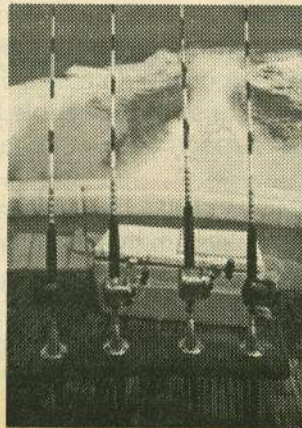
Currently John Hubert and Sandra Nacy are coordinating the planning of the monthly fishing

excursions to the Galveston area. An international excursion to Mexico is planned for the summer and a day trip to next year's Renaissance Festival are also on the group's agenda. If you are interested in being a member of this organization or would like to serve as an officer, contact

Sandra Nacy (713) 520-0714 or John Hubert (713) 523-6381.

Or send a self-addressed stamped envelope to The Rainbow

Fishing Club, P.O. Box 66450, Houston, TX 77266 and you will be mailed the current newsletter with all scheduled events.



RAINBOW FISHING CLUB CALENDAR 1997

A P R I L

16TH, WEDNESDAY — NEW BUCCANEER, 12 HOUR TRIP

20TH, SUNDAY — NEW BUCCANEER, 12 HOUR TRIP

16TH, WEDNESDAY — NEW BUCCANEER, 12 HOUR TRIP

M A Y

18TH, SUNDAY — CAVALIER, 8 HOUR RIG TRIP

J U N E

22ND, SUNDAY — TEXSUN II

J U L Y

19TH, SATURDAY — TEXSUN II, NIGHT TRIP (9PM TO 6AM)

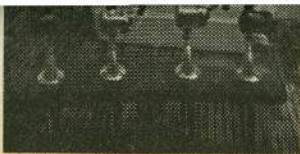
A U G U S T

21ST-24TH, THURSDAY-SUNDAY

THREE NIGHTS IN MATZATLAN, MEXICO



depending on the time of year, the length of the trip and boat availability. There is even a night



interested in being a member of this organization or would like to serve as an officer, contact

AUGUST

21ST-24TH, THURSDAY-SUNDAY

THREE NIGHTS IN MATZATLAN, MEXICO



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FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR

NICK BRINES



Nick Brines joined the Pride Committee a year ago when he saw a small ad in a local, community newspaper. As the Coordinator of Programs for the Houston Alumni Organization, Nick spent most of his time organizing events and programs for the University of Houston. He decided

he wanted to get more involved with the community and this seemed like the perfect match with his skills (and it would allow him to wear something other than red and white to an event, for a change).

His first project with the committee was coordinating "Pumped Up On Art," the Pride Committee's major fundraising event during Pride Week. He got many national and local celebrities to donate autographed shoes (or "pumps") which were turned into works of art by local artists. Strong celebrity participation, extensive coverage by the local media and a crowd of over 300 people made the event a big success. Even well-known activist Candace Gingrich made an appearance.

This year, his role has expanded to include the coordination of the entire fundraising process for the Pride Committee. Nick sees strong fundraising as important for all of the Pride Week activities. "Corporate and business underwriting and other financial support is essential for the scale of activities we host in Houston during Gay and Lesbian Pride Week," says Brines. "As this year's Pride Week positions itself to be the biggest and best Houston has seen yet, we will work very hard to build new relationships and secure major underwriting from nationally-recognized companies who want to be part of the excitement."

Anyone interested in getting more involved with the Pride Committee through fundraising or "Pumped Up On Art" can call Nick through the Pride Committee hotline at (713) 529-6979. Nick especially encourages anyone with local or national celebrity contacts to volunteer and bring him some autographed shoes. Look for "Pumped Up On Art" to take place on Friday, June 20, 1997. ▼

**YOUR SUCCESS IS
OUR SUCCESS**

PARADE COORDINATORS

ROBIN DUNCAN

TIM GIBSON



Robin Duncan had no idea when she went to a community forum, held by the Pride Committee of Houston, that she would be Parade Coordinator two years in a row. "I went to share my thoughts about moving the parade to a cooler time. By the end of the meeting one of the board members pointed to me and said, 'Will we see you at the next meeting?'" The parade was something Robin felt strongly about, so she went to the next meeting.

The next Tuesday, night she was sitting in a meeting and the parade coordinator looked at her and said, "you ought head this committee with me." She was not prepared for that. Robin had to ask lots of questions before agreeing to becoming a committee chair. Now I am co-coordinator of the 1997 Parade, along with Tim Gibson. "It is a big job but somebody's got to do it," Robin said.

Which leads into one of Robin's goals for '97, Pride Parade. "I want people to be inspired to come out — to a friend, family or just help quietly behind the scenes for something you believe in. I want to see more community involvement. I truly want a united community. And not just the "gay" community," said Robin. There are so many people that support a non-discriminatory lifestyle. Let us all support each other to be strong and proud who we are.

Robin's future plans for this committee are simple. She told us that she is in the process of setting up a system that will enable anyone to come in and put on this parade. It is really not that simple, but when it is done it will be a masterpiece.

Robin says she would also like to see more groups participate in the organization. The Krewe of Olympus has joined us this year and they have been a wonderful addition. "If only one person from your groups become involved it would make a tremendous difference," said Robin. We hope to set up more outreach and education this year.

Robin believes the parade to be the biggest celebration of Pride Week. "I know a lot of events take place during our ten days of Pride, but I think the largest concentration is at the parade. I know I see people there I only see once a year," said Robin. ▼

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**YOUR SUCCESS IS
OUR SUCCESS**

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JULIA A. SISKKA
CPA

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Through Gina Richardson Tim Gibson became interested in the Pride Committee last year when he volunteered to carry a banner in the Pride Parade. This year he is excited and proud to say that he is on the Pride Parade Committee.

As Head of the Gay and Lesbian Travel Division of All Around Travel Network, specializing in gay travel, his organizational and people skills

will prove to be helpful in pulling together people from all backgrounds whether they are gay, lesbian, bi-sexual or transgender, in support of OUR community. The staff of All Around Travel Network has graciously donated tickets to Hawaii that will be given away at this years' Black Tie Affair benefiting people with aids; and recently made a donation to Camp Hope for children with aids. Tim devotes his spare time to being a supporting partner for the Aids Foundation and is an active member of the Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce here in Houston.

This year in conjunction with his female coordinator Tim will plan, organize and handle the myriad of duties required for the first ever night parade.

With hopes of getting nation wide coverage, this years' parade should prove to be the most memorable one yet. We look forward to the cooler atmosphere of the night as opposed to the heat factor of the day. With thoughts of color and lights, the ideas for parade entries decorations ideas are endless. The parade route has changed. The new committee has plans of getting businesses along the parade route more involved through store fronts.

"The more lights, the more memorable the parade" says Tim when he found out that battery operated lights are available at Arnies and generators are available at Aztex Rental. Advance planning should be done since needed supplies will become scarce as parade time draws near. There will be a greater emphasis on floats in the parade with a few planned float building seminars to take place before the actual parade. Watch for details in upcoming newsletters. ▼



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TRENT JEFFERSON

New Entrepreneurs Needed. Demographers and marketers for big companies trying to sell goods into fresh and growing markets look for communities which already have the spark of entrepreneurial spirit flickering and fighting to become a flame. These organizations have already identified their top ten choices and will often publicize their intentions by advertising the new acquisition with a coming soon sign. This does two things. It sets them up to quickly take advantage of increasing interest in growing a community. This action further heightens the interest of other businesses so that the final effect is to alert the sea of marketers that there is another harbor of untame waters teaming with potential sales.

Why should the big fish get all the rewards? It is time and early enough in the game that the beginning entrepreneurs in our community can take advantage of this potential ourselves. How do you do it? I am on that road myself and have

GAY BUSINESS UNDER GOES RENEWAL

Montrose is alive again

TRENT JEFFERSON

While driving through Montrose the other day, it occurred to me that our little section of town has been undergoing an urban renewal for sometime. Not to the tragic degree that New York's Times' Square is experiencing but through a more deliberate, and cautious course that is being driven by the local gay and gay friendly community.

Vacant lots which had been littered with debris, shopping carts from who knows where, and the ever present "For Sale" signs are now mown, and nearly spotless. Vacant store fronts and homes long neglected are now busy sites of new and relocated businesses. Signs displaying "Coming Soon" proclaim the promise of new additions to the business landscape and character of our community. New "Melrose on Montrose" construction projects accent the landscape of renovated and yet-to-be renovated homes that were the beginning of the community makeover. All this foreshadows a promising future for our geographic and economic gay center.

This business review started out as a laundry list of my favorite stomping grounds, but that would be unfair to the many businesses

We watch the prosperity of the gay and lesbian community grow as we do.

We get better jobs, move into new house, start families and broaden our prospects.

That is not to say that we shy away from new ideas and opportunities. These two

articles on this page begin to address

some of the potential that the Houston gay and lesbian community is now discovering

and taking advantage of. I hope you come away with a new or reinforced confidence

harbor of untame waters teaming with potential sales.

Why should the big fish get all the rewards? It is time and early enough in the game that the beginning entrepreneurs in our community can take advantage of this potential ourselves. How do you do it? I am on that road myself and have friends who have started their journey already.

Just look around. What does our community need? You know as well as anyone else. How about a sporting goods store and health food are just two.

There are certain franchises which could do well away from the big mall scene, in the right atmosphere. Do some research, get to know someone who has done it, plan and make your move. Of course you might want to keep your present job.

We should step into the waters in addition to watching our community prosper, grow and flourish and take take our piece of the good fortune just ahead.

Take advantage of our own community's prosperity and heap the biggest bounties for our selves.

community. New "Melrose on Montrose" construction projects accent the landscape of renovated and yet-to-be renovated homes that were the beginning of the community makeover. All this foreshadows a promising future for our geographic and economic gay center.

This business review started out as a laundry list of my favorite stomping grounds, but that would be unfair to the many businesses which I do not frequent. Rather this piece will identify some positive trends in our business landscape that should be attributed in part to (our) the Gay community's efforts to take Pride in ourselves, our families, our community, and the city of Houston.

The first trend is the opening of many of these businesses to the street. The front patio and casual dining-on-display atmosphere has caught on with restaurants, coffee houses, and even book stores. This trend is possible partly because of our climate but I think it is more in step with our desire to step out of hiding. In a sense we've taken ownership of our homes first and then extended that to our socializing and social places. These businesses, on top of offering desired services and goods to the gay community, give us a place to call our own and be comfortable.

The second trend is the variety of businesses that are making their home or start in Montrose. There are American, Mexican, Italian, Chinese, Moroccan, and French restaurants serving our community. While national franchises are scouting new locations others have

articles on this page begin to address

some of the potential that the Houston gay and lesbian community is now discovering and taking advantage of. I hope you come away with a new or reinforced confidence in ourselves and our potential. Take this new confidence and do something to help this trend continue.

been home grown and continue to grow with the community. The retail clothing sectors are difficult to sustain, being so centrally located, but a burst of new store fronts may change that in the coming years. Next time you get a chance bike or skate the terrain of the neighborhood to get a feel for what is really there. You are certain to find "THE" out-of-the-way store you are looking for. Of course many of these business are following the construction surge but even that is being encouraged by the Pride filled evolution of the Gay community.

The final trend is not really so business oriented as it is improving our image. We are being seen as credible additions to the city as opposed to a blight on the good

name of Houston. The combination of our public presence, outgoing community involvement, and community leadership has begun to turn around the negative image that some media organizations repeatedly broadcast. We still have our shortcomings but our efforts to strongly and compassionately take control of our future should not go unnoticed.

We have a bright business future a head of us. In addition to shopping till we are maxed out (of which I am guilty!) we should look into taking advantage of some of the opportunity that is right under our noses.

To quote a friend "look for more Good Things to come!"

HOUSTON GAY AND LESBIAN PRIDE WEEK HISTORY

In 1975 the first gay and lesbian march was held in Dallas as part of the StoneWall remembrance. In Houston activists held a widely attended news conference. That summer, which announced the formation of a political coalition that has become the Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus of Houston. In 1975 an estimated 200 people held a march in downtown Houston to celebrate the StoneWall Riots, which was sponsored by the fledgling Gay Activists Alliance of the University of Houston. Singer and former beauty queen Anita Bryant, came to Houston as a featured entertainer for the Texas Bar Association Convention.

This brought over 5,000 angry gay men and women down Houston's streets in protest. We had such notables as Gay Publisher David Goodstein and the Rev. Troy Perry of the M.C.C. church, in reaction to her effect in Miami, Dade county, Florida. A few weeks later Houston's Gay community held its first Gay Pride Rally in Cherryhurst Park. On June 28, 1978, over 4,500 community activists met at the Astroarena complex the first gathering of people from all walks of life in the community. Former state legislator, and vice-president nominee, Frances "Sissy" Farenthold was the keynote speaker.

1979

First Houston Gay Pride Week. The excitement of the afternoon parade spilled over to the rally at Spotts Park, attended by over 5,000 people. At the end of the Star Spangled Banner the first spectacular \$2,000 fireworks display erupted in the sky above the park.

1983


"Unity Through Diversity" was the theme, a song written by John Day and Co. just for the pride week celebration. It was broadcasted over top radio stations to promote the parade and Gay Pride Committee event "Tina Turner Live" at the Summit.

1986

The first full color rainbow logo was used to promote and celebrate Pride Week. "Liberty Is In Our Grasp" with the Lady Liberty holding a rainbow flag.


1988

We were "Rightfully Proud" eight month's after the march on Washington the co-chairs' message to the community was to stand proud as a unit to fight discrimination, self-doubt and ignorance.



1982

At Spotts Park the Gay Pride Committee parade rally had Mayor Kathy Whitmire and half of the city council in attendance. They addressed the overflowing crowd and help start the huge fireworks display and dance music.




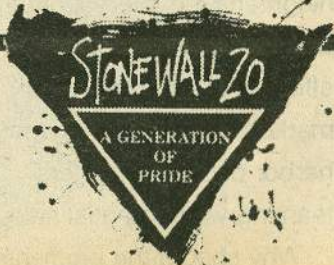
1985

"Alive with Pride in '85" paralleled the ten year celebration of Gay Pride Committee's *After Dark in the Park Celebration* at Spotts Park.

A live concert by Romanovsky and Phillips continued the theme "Come Out And Celebrate." With more people marching in the parade than ever before.

Come out and
and





20th Anniversary of Stonewall in New York City. Locally we went "Stonewall 20 — A Generation of Pride" with a design of foiled art on multi-colored shirts and buttons. Larger than life size banners featuring the anniversary theme were showcased in the pride parade march.



Mayor Kathy Whitmire and half of the city council in attendance. They addressed the overflowing crowd and help start the huge fireworks display and dance music.

1982

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1987

OF PRIDE

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1989

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP

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- Ask the checker to "scan" the card.
- Once this is done, your purchase amount is being recorded for Pride Committee of Houston.
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If you have problems or questions call Kroger at 1-800-745-GIFT for more information.

CLIP OUT AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Pride Committee of Houston
Educate and celebrate our pride and to create a path toward a positive future for all humanity.



1990

"Look To The Future" was theme which shared billboards city wide with the Starnight '90 group. Together we put on a two day festival and concert after the parade with disco diva Thelma Houston. The parade was re-routed up Westheimer to Dunlavy and to the Multi-Service center on West Gray.



1992



As one of the premier pride parades in the nation and more entries in the parade than ever before we decided on the theme "Pride Equals Power."

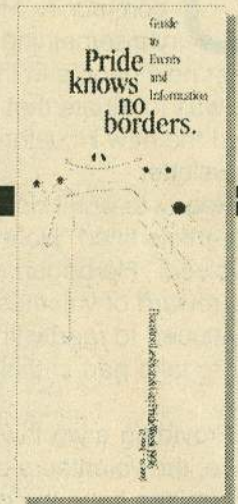
1994



A special anniversary of the 25th year of Stonewall with a march in New York City to combine with the Gay Games. The "Houstonewall 25" celebration was held earlier in the month allowing people to attend the events in the big apple.

1996

With the biggest parade in Houston history a commitment for all segments of the community to attend the parade was made. This pledge tied in with the "Pride Knows No Borders" theme.



We were able to "Take Pride" on the road, travelling to other Texas cities with our message of Gay Pride. The parade had a sub-theme of "Feel The Music" and all entries played different types of music for parade watchers to celebrate.

1991

Taking a familiar look and adding a Texas gay twist we re-worked the theme "Out And Proud" into a Texas Flag to fit the Houston gay and lesbian community. Special cloisonne label pins lifted the energy level even higher as community members went to the March on Washington.

1993



A new group of energetic individuals joined Pride Committee bringing us into the next century of activism. It was a GenerationX of leaders coming of age. They brought with them enthusiasm and a message "Silence To Celebration."

After a long and intense discussions the community had spoken. The first gay and lesbian night time parade in North America history will happen on June 28 beginning at 9pm. Once again Houston is on the cutting edge of the gay and lesbian community in pride celebration. We are "Glowing with Pride."

1997

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1997

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OFFICE FURNISHINGS

CHAIRS, COMPUTER TABLES, FILING CABINETS
AND STORAGE UNITS

OFFICE SUPPLIES

EVERYTHING FROM STAPLES TO TABLE LIGHTS,
PICTURES TO TELEPHONES AND
POSTAGE TO COMPUTER DISKS

HOUSTON GAY AND LESBIAN

PRIDE WEEK MEMORABILIA

POSTERS, BUTTONS, PRINTED MATERIAL
(PRIDE GUIDES, FLYERS, VIDEO TAPES AND INVITATIONS)

MEETING DATES & TIMES

GENERAL MEETING DATES:

JANUARY 21, FEBRUARY 18, MARCH 18

WHEN:

7:00 PM

WHERE:

METROPOLITAN MULTI-SERVICE CENTER
1475 WEST GRAY

eMail address: info@pridehouston.org

Telephone: (713) 529-6979

Web Site: www.pridehouston.org

HOW TO: GET INVOLVED IN HOUSTON PRIDE

**PETE CONTRERAS
GINA RICHARDSON**

John was a proud guy who was hoping to do something positive for the gay community. He wanted to do something different and meet new people in the process. He was fortunate that he began to read the new Houston Pride Newsletter.

Ready to put it down he noticed the article titled "How to Get Involved." He began reading about the reward of volunteering. John continued to read with interest hoping to take part in this new opportunity.

Providing a worthwhile experience, the volunteers of the Pride Committee have the opportunity to participate in fun activities and meet people from an array of backgrounds and talents. Just what he wanted landed in his lap and curiosity took the best of him. He learned more about the Pride Committee and how meetings were held only twice a month, the first Tuesday was an Executive meeting and the third Tuesday was a General meeting. John continued reading till he arrived to the section on volunteers.

Giving everyone an open invitation to volunteer, the coordinators Pete Contreras and Gina Richardson asked anyone interested in volunteering to give them a call at the Pride Line, (713) 529-6979. This was John's opportunity

did he know that calling Gina and Pete would bring his hope of volunteering to a reality.

John put the article down immediately it is now or never. He raised the receiver to his ear, dialed the Pride Line. He left a message for Pete and Gina.

He eagerly awaited Pete and Gina's telephone call and, as anticipated the call came the very next day. When John picked up the receiver a voice on the other end said "This is Pete with the Pride Committee. I am returning your call."

"Well my name is John and I am interested in volunteering." John replied.

Pete spoke enthusiastically about the Pride Committee, about the positive work they do for the gay community and most of all how volunteering was an important asset to the Pride Committee. John's enthusiasm began to rise as he heard the excitement in Pete's voice. He liked the idea of how Pete and Gina worked closely together to provide enough volunteers for events and to show their appreciation in the process.

A day later Pete received a message on his machine from John. Pete called back. They began speaking about each other's day and John wanted to know more about volunteers and what they actually did. Pete provided him with a run down of each possibility for the volunteers: merchandise sales, mailouts, data input, Pride Week

You parties and of course, Volunteer Appreciation parties. John was really interested in hearing more about this. Pete invited John to meet him and Gina for coffee at a local coffee shop. John agreed.

John was not sure how he would recognize them, however, Pete said it would be a man and a woman at a table covered with papers. After he met Gina and Pete, John felt really excited about volunteering. He felt the camaraderie Pete and Gina shared and realized they really enjoyed their roles in provided the community with positive outlets.

Gina and Pete began to mention the different types of activities which require volunteers such as merchandise sales. Gina spoke about the importance of merchandise sales at events. The length of the events varies, so the events that last longer are divided into shifts to give everyone an opportunity to volunteer. There are events like the "Let Us Entertain You Weekend" (LUEY) and the Westheimer Street Festival where the committee sets up tables and sells its merchandise. Tables are also setup at other special events, at local clubs and even during the Parade.

The Pride Committee also has periodic mailouts for the newsletter, tentatively set for March 8, May 10 and July 5 and also, the big Pride Guide mail out set for Saturday, May 31 - Sunday, June 1, 1997! At

seal, and sort mail. The labels are printed out at Jack's. Jack also gets volunteers to input all our mailing data on Mondays at "Computer Sessions."

Pride Committee of Houston work really hard all the way to Pride Week. During the Pride Week, volunteers help at most Pride Events. "That's great!" John exclaimed. "So what about the Parade," he asked? Gina replied, "did you read that this year's parade will be at night? It will be first night-time gay parade in the country!" Pete added that volunteers play one of the most important roles in the Parade. We need people to line up floats, attend to water stations, sell merchandise, carry banners, drive cars and walk the route to keep it clear and safe. Also, all the Parade volunteers get a free Pride Week T-Shirt.

We also have two celebrations to formally acknowledge all of the Committee volunteers. We have a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon a Volunteer Thank You Party at the end of the year. It is a chance for the Committee Coordinators and Co-Chairs to also show their appreciation for all the volunteers hard work throughout the year. We believe that you can never tell a volunteer "thanks" too many times!

It was getting late and John had to go. He did mention he would see Gina and Pete at the next meeting. They assured John that he was going to enjoy the activities.

John is now an active member of

He learned more about the Pride Committee and how meetings were held only twice a month, the first Tuesday was an Executive meeting and the third Tuesday was a General meeting. John continued reading till he arrived to the section on volunteers.

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It was getting late and John had to go. He did mention he would see Gina and Pete at the next meeting. They assured John that he was going to enjoy the activities.

John is now an active member of the Pride Committee...Will you join us? ▼

PRIDE COMMITTEE OF HOUSTON

VOLUNTEER FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY

STATE

ZIP

HOME NO. _____

WORK NO. _____

PAGER _____

EMAIL _____

I AM ALSO A MEMBER OF:

AREA(S) I WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER FOR:

Please select the committee you would like to be a part of by listing 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EVENTS | <input type="checkbox"/> NEWSLETTER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FUNDRAISING | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIDE GUIDE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MEDIA | <input type="checkbox"/> PARADE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PRIDE FESTIVAL | <input type="checkbox"/> MAILOUTS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MERCHANDISING | <input type="checkbox"/> VOLUNTEER |

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS SO THAT WE CAN TRY TO INVOLVE YOU IN ACTIVITIES YOU ENJOY!

- | YES | NO | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I LIKE TO GREET PEOPLE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I LIKE TO DO PHONE CALLING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I AM AVAILABLE ON WEEKDAYS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I LIKE TO BAKE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I LIKE TO WASH CARS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I HAVE A VAN TO USE FOR TRANSPORTING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I LIKE TO DO COMPUTER STUFF |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I CAN HELP MAKE SCENERY |

Please return your volunteer form to:
 Volunteer Coordinators
 c/o The Pride Committee of Houston
 P.O. Box 66071
 Houston, Texas 77266-6071

COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS

The following are the committees within the Pride Committee of Houston. Each of these committees is responsible for a very important aspect of the work that must be done in order to produce Pride Week each year.

VOLUNTEERS

Throughout the year, this group coordinates volunteers for mailouts, merchandising selling, fundraising events, and all other events associated with Pride Week. Participating in this committee means greeting new volunteers, getting to know them, and helping them discover where their talents and skills can best be used. ▼

PARADE

This committee oversees the many aspects of holding a parade on Houston streets. This includes, but is not limited to obtaining city permits, acting as liaison to the police and health departments, acquiring and placing street decorations, coordinating parade volunteers, and facilitating the orderly march of hundreds of people down Westheimer and Montrose. This committee is a lot of work, but it is also a lot of fun! ▼

EVENTS

This committee stimulates interest and gathers applications to schedule community activities

NEWSLETTER

This committee produces the Pride Committee's newsletter. Members of this committee find out what is happening with the other committees and report on the progress and development of Pride Week. They also solicit advertising and gather and develop feature articles. If you've ever wanted to gain large-scale print media experience, then this is the committee for you! ▼

PRIDE GUIDE

Once a year the Pride Committee produces the Pride Guide. The Pride Guide is the official listing of all the events that comprise Pride Week, starting with the Kick-off Event and running for the full 10 days of Pride Week ending with our parade and PrideFest! It also contains a full Houston area Resource Guide for our community and feature articles on what Pride Week is all about! If you've ever wanted to gain experience working on a large-scale high-quality publication this is for you. ▼

MERCHANDISING

This committee selects merchandise to sell, solicits bids, places orders, and coordinates sales parties. This committee is a group of outgoing people who like to meet people! Sales tables are often set up in social settings and

Pride Committee of Houston, Inc. is a 501(c)(3), not-for-profit Corporation. Donations to the committee, as charitable contributions, are

TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Pride Committee receives 100% of it's revenue from sales of merchandise, corporate gifts, and donations from people like **YOU** (yes,you). Please help us to make Pride Week the best it can be by filling out this donation form and mailing it back to:

Pride Committee of Houston
Attn: Treasurer
P.O. Box 66071
Houston, TX 77266-6071

YES! I wish to donate the following amount to Pride Week: \$ _____ . _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed check of money order payable to *Pride Committee of Houston*

Credit Card. Please, charge my:

VISA Mastercard American Express Discover

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

NEED SOME

police and health departments, acquiring and placing street decorations, coordinating parade volunteers, and facilitating the orderly march of hundreds of people down Westheimer and Montrose. This committee is a lot of work, but it is also a lot of fun! ▼

EVENTS

This committee stimulates interest and gathers applications to schedule community activities during Pride Week for publication in the Pride Guide and other media releases. These people are also responsible for putting together Pride Week's "Kick-off Event". It's lots of work, lots of fun, and lots of opportunity to meet people and be in the know. ▼

FUNDRAISING

A year round committee that produces fun events which raise funds for the Pride Committee's operations budget. They often develop joint efforts with other community organizations. If you only want to be involved with one project or event this is the committee for you. New ideas are always welcomed! ▼

MEDIA

This committee's responsibility is to establish relations with existing print and broadcast media on a local, statewide, and national level to keep the public informed of what the Pride Committee is doing and to stimulate interest. ▼

week is all about! If you've ever wanted to gain experience working on a large-scale high-quality publication this is for you. ▼

MERCHANDISING

This committee selects merchandise to sell, solicits bids, places orders, and coordinates sales parties. This committee is a group of outgoing people who like to meet people! Sales tables are often set up in social settings and various local festivals (such as Westheimer Street Festival). With this group you can not help but have fun! ▼

FESTIVAL

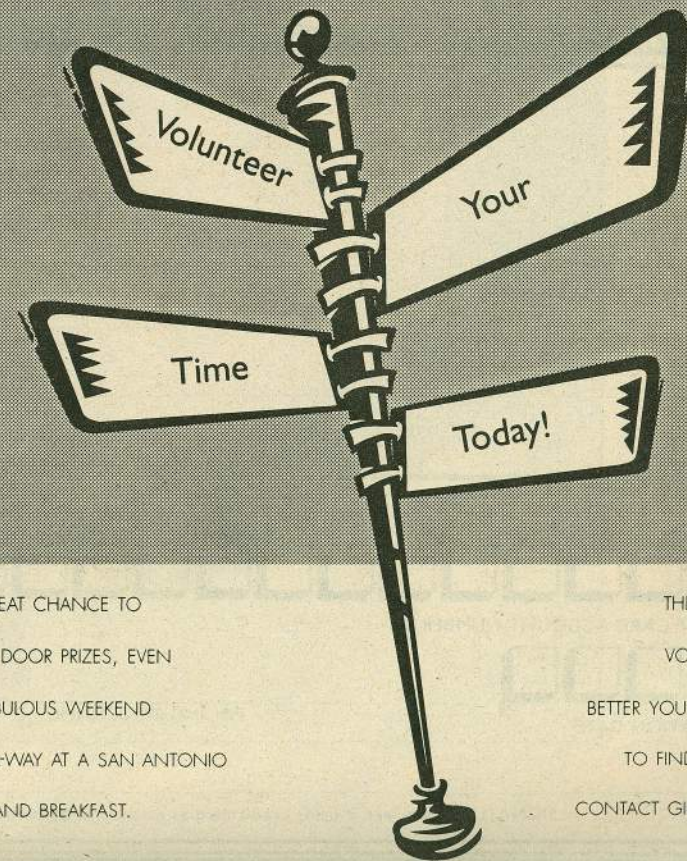
This group is responsible for throwing our biggest party of the year! This committee finds entertainment, solicits vendors, decorates the grounds, and does everything else necessary to put on our yearly PrideFest. This is another group of outgoing, energetic people! ▼

JOIN US

If you would like to be a part of the Pride Committee of Houston by joining one of our committees, please eMail, phone or return the Volunteer Form located on page 8. ▼

Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Enclosed check of money order payable to *Pride Committee of Houston*
 Credit Card. Please, charge my:
 VISA Mastercard American Express Discover
Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____
Signature _____

NEED SOME DIRECTION? BECOME A PRIDE COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER



A GREAT CHANCE TO
WIN DOOR PRIZES, EVEN
A FABULOUS WEEKEND
GET-A-WAY AT A SAN ANTONIO
BED AND BREAKFAST.

THE MORE YOU
VOLUNTEER THE
BETTER YOUR CHANCES!
TO FIND OUT MORE
CONTACT GINA OR PETE.

EMPLOYEES FORM NETWORK CORPORATION GROUP

KERRY GOSLER

"The Corporation Network Group was formed by a combined effort of Employee Groups and Individual Employees of Amoco, Exxon, Shell and Texas Commerce Bank to promote equality in Corporate and Business America regardless of sexual orientation, gender identification, race or religion. We will be a resource to help raise awareness through education to provide a diverse and open work environment," said Kerry Gosler, Chair of the Corporation Network Group. Kerry, a Geoscience Technical Specialist, is openly gay at work and leads a non-discrimination group at Amoco Production in Houston.

"People cannot change without education and the best method of education is awareness. Of course we never advocate an 'In your face' type of policy, but instead we offer you a more professional and more accepted way of promoting your members to enhance your employer," said Gosler.

"We do encourage 'out activities' such as photos on your desk, partner inclusion and employee network activities, as opposed to 'Silencing Activities' which include

unchallenged assumptions, discomfort through avoidance of activities and participating in private conversations dealing with religious and value teachings."

"Visibility leads to acceptance. the more people can see that we are productive corporate individuals instead of the stereotypical non-professional image that America has, the better chance for us to all gain acceptance."

"We are here for you and I strongly encourage you to contact us for assistance in gaining acceptance in your work place. We will be happy to supply you with speakers as well as individuals to help you address specific issues in the workplace dealing with discrimination of any kind. You can contact the Corporation Network by calling my office number, 281-366-5030, leave your name, number, the best time to reach you and I will return your call as soon as possible. I encourage you to contact this number for the date, time and address of the next CNG meeting, everyone is welcome.

Let us help you by showing you our established process to form your employee group and address discrimination in your workplace."

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March

HOW TO:

BUILD A LUMINATED FLOAT

COORDINATOR HIGHLIGHTS

EVENTS - STEVE BELUNEK

NEWSLETTER - TRENT JEFFERSON &
JOEL LUTRINGER

SPOTLIGHTS

PRIDE GUIDE DEADLINES

PARADE FEES & APPLICATION

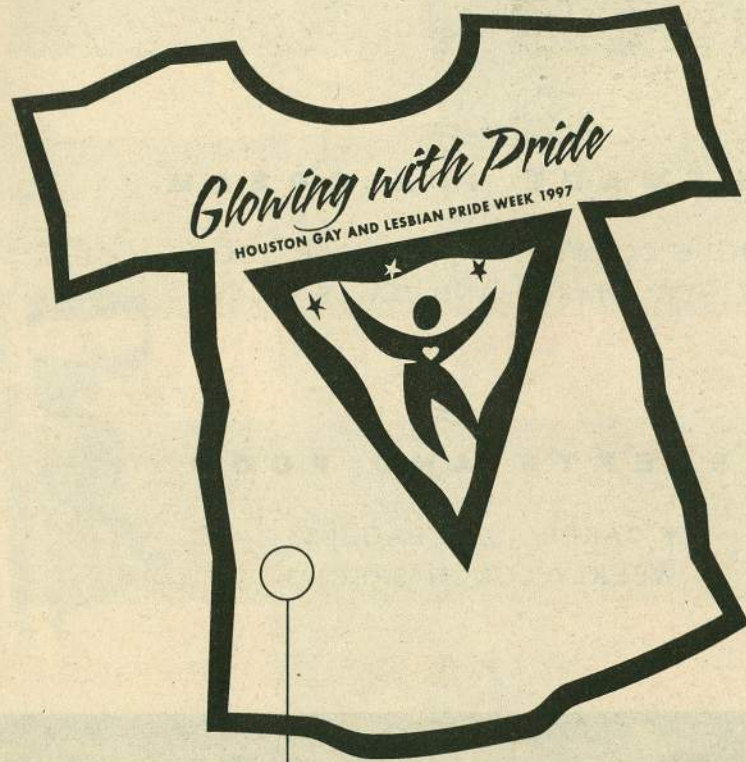
FESTIVAL DEADLINE/FEES

SHIP TO

PLEASE PRINT ADDRESS BELOW:

HOUSTON

HOUSTON PRIDE merchandise



GLOWING WITH PRIDE T-SHIRTS

Silk screened in four vibrant and glow in the dark colors these 100% cotton white t-Shirts are available in M, L, XL or XXL.

\$10.00



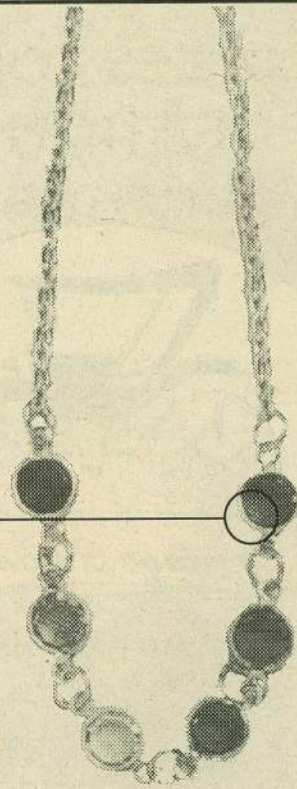
LEATHER MAN BRACELET

Traditional leather colors

GLASS BEAD NECKLACE

Rainbow channel glass bead necklace on a gold chain.

\$8.00



RAINBOW DOVE LABEL PIN

Peace and Pride combined on this round cloisonné. A favorite with children and the young at heart.

\$2.00



RED RIBBON LABEL PIN

One of our most popular items. Bright red enamel with fine gold trim.

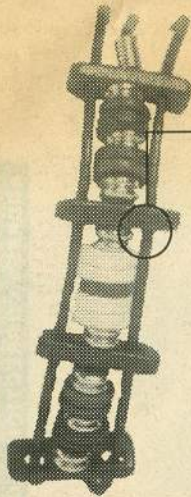
\$3.00

PINK TRIANGLE LABEL PIN

GLOWING WITH PRIDE T-SHIRTS

Silk screened in four vibrant and glow in the dark colors these 100% cotton white t-Shirts are available in M, L, XL or XXL.

\$10.00



LEATHER MAN BRACELET

Traditional leather colors interspaced with silver beads and leather spacers. A powerful statement of your pride.

\$8.00



TEXAS RAINBOW LABEL PIN

Traditional rainbow colors in the shape of Texas. A great hat or cloisonne label pin.

\$5.00



US RAINBOW FLAG LABEL PIN

This cloisonne combines old glory and the rainbow flag to create a statement for gay veterans.

\$5.00

RED RIBBON LABEL PIN

One of our most popular items. Bright red enamel with fine gold trim.

\$3.00



PINK TRIANGLE LABEL PIN

The new Holocaust pin commemorates the origin of the pink triangle.

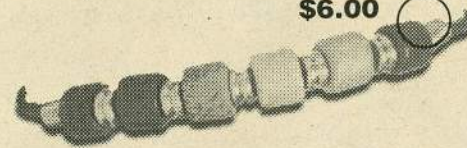
\$5.00



RAINBOW BRACELET

Rainbow clay bead bracelet with gold beads.

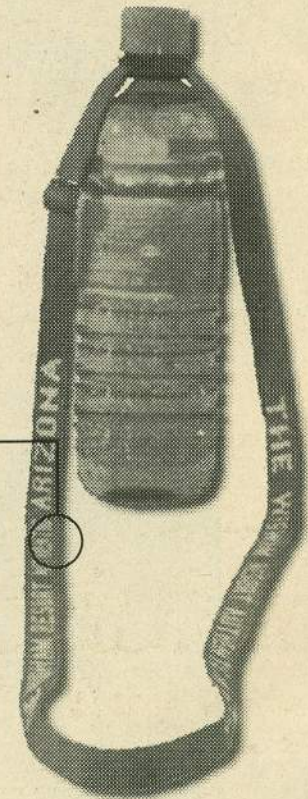
\$6.00



WATER BOTTLE STRAP

These easy to attach bottle straps are available in your choice of black and white or rainbow color spectrum imprinted with "Pride Committee of Houston" in white lettering.

\$5.00



THIS IS ONLY A SMALL SAMPLING OF OUR MERCHANDISE.
PLEASE VISIT A PRIDE COMMITTEE EVENT FOR A WIDER SELECTION.

Serving the Heights with Pride

DAILY COFFEE SPECIAL

- ▼ GOURMET COFFEE ▼ CAPPUCCINO
- ▼ ESPRESSO

HOMEMADE ICE CREAM

- ▼ SINGLE SCOOP ▼ DOUBLE SCOOP
- ▼ SHAKES AND MALTS

DESSERTS AND FOOD

- ▼ CAKES ▼ BAGELS
- ▼ WEEKLY LUNCH SPECIAL



701 EAST 11TH STREET

(between Studewood and Heights Blvd.)

(713) 863-9595

MONDAY-THURSDAY 11AM-9PM

FRIDAY 11AM-MIDNIGHT

SATURDAY 9AM-MIDNIGHT

SUNDAY 9AM-5PM

PRIDE
P.O. B
Hous

ADD

PRIDE COMMITTEE OF HOUSTON
P.O. BOX 66071
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77266-6071

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
HOUSTON TX
PERMIT NO
6739

SUNDAY 9AM-5PM

FRIDAY 11AM-MIDNIGHT