

**2000 GRAND MARSHAL BALLOT INSIDE**

# insidepride





Take PRIDE

Take Action

HOUSTON LESBIAN & Gay PRIDE 2000

**INTRODUCING  
THE SLOGAN AND LOGO  
FOR 2000's  
SEASON OF PRIDE**

WINTER 2000



PRIDE COMMITTEE OF HOUSTON

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





#### Pride Committee of Houston, Inc.

##### Mission Statement

The Pride Committee of Houston, Inc., is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is to coordinate and promote events that celebrate the diversity, unity, and history of the lesbian and gay community. We do not discriminate on the basis of age, color, gender, transgender, or bisexual identification, nor do we discriminate against the physically challenged or those who are differently abled.

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

##### Board of Directors

Jack Valinski	Executive Director
Michelle Franke	Celebration 2000 Chair
Steve Belunek	Secretary
Gary Masse	Treasurer
Nick Brines	Fundraising
Troy Christensen	Publications
Brian Keever	Banner District
Joel Lutringer	Marketing

##### Celebration Committee

Michelle Franke	Chair
Roy Hendricks	Secretary
Paul Radous	Treasurer
Fred Reninger	AstroWorld
Jason Vincik	AstroWorld
Jamie Wenner	AstroWorld
Tina Travis	InterPride Region 3
Ryan Rice	Media
Jim Duke	Merchandise
Bill Burford	Parade
Manny Gutierrez	Parade
Mark Willis	Parade
Ken Donnelly	Pride Guide
Cindy Archer	Volunteers
Christian Sanders	Volunteers

##### Legal Counsel

Debra Hunt  
Moore and Hunt, Attorneys

##### Contact Information

PrideLine 713.529.6979  
Fax 713.529.6929

## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We all made it to the year 2000—"the dawn of a new age." So what does the Pride Committee have in store for you during this new age? As the year progresses, you will see many improvements in the Pride celebration that have been planned for quite a while. This issue of *insidepride* provides details about many of the additions and improvements to the festivities in 2000.

The Pride Committee really shines in June, but we work for the community all year. This February, PCOH will host a conference for Pride coordinators in our region so that we can learn from one another's experiences and begin networking. In conjunction with this conference, the Pride Committee will hold a media workshop open to all Houston community organizations so that we can all learn how to get the best coverage for our community and our issues.

This summer you will see a bigger Parade, a more festive AstroWorld event, a glossier *Pride Guide* and a better variety of events, all because we have a dedicated group of people who have worked since last June to make Houston's Pride celebration the best in the Southwest. In December, PCOH received the Community Service Award from the Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, and we were recognized by *The Texas Triangle* for being the best Houston GLBT organization in their annual Round-Up Awards. We are grateful for this recognition, but we don't work for awards—we work to provide the community with a fun and empowering celebration.

We can't do it alone; we need your help. Come to a meeting, join us at the Pride office when we update our database or be a volunteer Marshal on Parade day. There are also many organizations that sponsor Pride events and have floats and marching units in the Parade. You definitely help us when you get involved in these groups; our community is only as strong as our organizations are. If you don't find an organization that fits your needs, you can always start your own.



PCOH Executive Director Jack Valinski accepted a Community Service Award from Anita Renteria of the Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce at their December meeting. Photo by Dalton DeHart

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Happy New Year! Even though we have just entered the new year, the Celebration Committee has already been working very hard to produce an exciting and fun-filled Pride season and has accomplished quite a bit. Things really started moving after we held our annual retreat on November 14 and hatched ambitious plans for the whole year. It's a lot of work, but we also have a lot of fun and we're very proud of the work we do. Our 2000 slogan sums it all up—"Take Pride, Take Joy, Take Action."

The time is now to take pride, not only in ourselves but also in our community and how far we have come in the last thirty years. It is time to show we're proud of who we are, what we can contribute and whom we love. I know that this century holds great promise for gay and lesbian rights, and it all starts with taking pride.

Take joy in simple things and in each other. We are our greatest support system and we can make a difference. I often rely on my "family of choice" to help bring me joy and to lift me up if I am feeling blue. Our family is a strong family and we have abundant joy to share with each other.

Take action! Let this be our time to move our rights as a people to the forefront of society. If we all step up and speak out about who we are, we will be heard. Together we can make a difference.

The Celebration Committee has been working hard for several months and could always use more proud, joyful and active individuals. It's not too late to do your part to



Michelle Franke	Chair
Roy Hendricks	Secretary
Paul Radous	Treasurer
Fred Reninger	AstroWorld
Jason Vincik	AstroWorld
Jamie Wenner	AstroWorld
Tina Travis	InterPride Region 3
Ryan Rice	Media
Jim Duke	Merchandise
Bill Burford	Parade
Manny Gutierrez	Parade
Mark Willis	Parade
Ken Donnelly	Pride Guide
Cindy Archer	Volunteers
Christian Sanders	Volunteers

#### Legal Counsel

Debra Hunt  
Moore and Hunt, Attorneys

#### Contact Information

PrideLine 713.529.6979  
Fax 713.529.6929

Pride Committee of Houston, Inc.  
PO Box 66071  
Houston, Texas 77266-6071

E-mail info@pridehouston.org  
Web www.pridehouston.org

#### Meetings

Executive and general meetings are held at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center (1475 W. Gray) on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, respectively. Board of Directors meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Hollyfield Conference Center (2700 Albany). All meetings begin at 7 p.m.

#### Submissions

We encourage you to submit articles or photographs for possible inclusion in *insidepride*. Submitted materials may be edited and cannot be returned without prior arrangement.

## InterPride

The Pride Committee of Houston, Inc., is a member of the International Association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered Pride Coordinators (InterPride).

*insidepride* Vol. 15 No. 1, Winter 2000.  
Copyright 2000 Pride Committee of Houston, Inc.  
All rights reserved. Published quarterly. No part of this newspaper may be reproduced in any manner without permission of the Pride Committee of Houston, Inc. The Pride Committee of Houston logo is a service mark of the Pride Committee of Houston, Inc. Published by the Pride Committee of Houston, Inc., PO Box 66071, Houston, Texas 77266-6071.

*Triangle* for being the best Houston GLBT organization in their annual Round-Up Awards. We are grateful for this recognition, but we don't work for awards—we work to provide the community with a fun and empowering celebration.

We can't do it alone; we need your help. Come to a meeting, join us at the Pride office when we update our database or be a volunteer Marshal on Parade day. There are also many organizations that sponsor Pride events and have floats and marching units in the Parade. You definitely help us when you get involved in these groups; our community is only as strong as our organizations are. If you don't find an organization that fits your needs, you can always start your own.

You can take pride in taking action and, as the Pride Parade comes down Westheimer at 9 p.m. on June 24, you'll know you did your part for our community's celebration.

**Jack Valinski**

## LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

One of the greatest joys of being involved with the Pride Committee is working with the Grand Marshals of the Pride Parade and honoring these amazing individuals along with the rest of the community.

As a group, the Grand Marshals of Houston's Pride Parade have moved our gay and lesbian community forward with their generosity of time and spirit, their accomplishments, their leadership and their civic pride. As individuals, each of the Grand Marshals has been an inspiration. It is a pleasure to work with them and hold them up as role models for the community.

It has also been exciting to see the evolution of the Grand Marshal selection process. Traditionally, the vote for Grand Marshals was limited to the membership of the Pride Committee and to one meeting, so there was always a relatively small group deciding who should receive this great honor. In 1998, an ad hoc committee reviewed the selection process and, with input from the

that this century holds great promise for gay and lesbian rights, and it all starts with taking pride.

Take joy in simple things and in each other. We are our greatest support system and we can make a difference. I often rely on my "family of choice" to help bring me joy and to lift me up if I am feeling blue. Our family is a strong family and we have abundant joy to share with each other.

Take action! Let this be our time to move our rights as a people to the forefront of society. If we all step up and speak out about who we are, we will be heard. Together we can make a difference.

The Celebration Committee has been working hard for several months and could always use more proud, joyful and active individuals. It's not too late to do your part to make 2000 a memorable year. Join us at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center and learn about the many volunteer opportunities available on the Committee.

The Pride Parade began with just a few people who took pride in who they were and took action to celebrate that pride and empower the whole community. Let us all live up to our potential this year and "Take Pride, Take Joy, Take Action."

**Michelle Franke**

community, significantly revised the process for the 1999 Parade, making it far more democratic. It was great to see very active participation by the community in selecting last year's Grand Marshals.

As you'll see in this issue of *insidepride*, we're off to an even better start for 2000. Along with the mail-in ballot, you'll find the accomplishments of 20 nominees for the four Grand Marshal positions. That's surely a record number and it's going to make for some difficult decisions—all of these individuals and organizations have contributed significantly to our community.

Regardless of who is chosen, it will again be a pleasure for the Pride Committee to put the 2000 Pride Parade Grand Marshals in their place of honor in our publications, at Pride events in June and in the Parade.

**Troy Christensen & Russell Ben Williams**

BIL  
Remer  
saw or  
time in  
your h  
one m

Our vis  
places  
throug  
the pro  
web si

For thi  
you. To  
P-FLA  
with th  
reserv  
volum

Contri  
more  
board  
pflagb  
at 713

GE

The H  
and g  
Pride  
music

The b  
us in t  
to form  
march



# PRIDE COMMITTEE UNVEILS 2000 SLOGAN AND LOGO

by Troy Christensen

The Pride Committee has unveiled the logo for Houston Gay & Lesbian Pride 2000, an interpretation of the 2000 Pride theme, "Take Pride, Take Joy, Take Action," designed by local graphic artist Diane Jolley.

The slogan selected by the PCOH general membership at its November 16 meeting for the June Pride celebration is also the international Pride 2000 theme, picked at the annual InterPride conference in October 1999. This will be the first year since 1996 that Houston has used the international theme for its own Pride festivities. Slogans picked in the last few years have been related to aspects of Houston's unique nighttime Pride Parade.

"We need to use the international slogan to show our solidarity with other Pride committees around the world and to show how big and worldwide our movement is," Pride Board member Brian Keever said during discussions about various slogan ideas. InterPride Region 3 Coordinator Tina Travis said adopting the international theme for 2000 would be appropriate since the Pride Committee will host a regional InterPride conference in February.

After selecting the 2000 theme, the Pride

from among several outstanding portfolios at its December 7 Celebration Committee meeting. Diane Jolley was selected and presented various interpretations of the theme for a vote at the Committee's December 21 general meeting.

Diane's logo illustrating the 2000 Pride theme is colorful, festive and very contemporary. The primary visual image is of two heads that are close enough to portray intimacy, albeit in a subtle way. Diane explained that the image can be interpreted as either a lesbian or a gay couple and it is symbolic of unity and love. She also said its violet, yellow and magenta colors were chosen for their strength and warmth. The typography she used is whimsical, continuing the joyful attitude of the logo.

The logo also incorporates the pink triangle, an important symbol in the gay and lesbian community. The pink triangle was used to identify gay men for persecution in the Nazi Holocaust and was co-opted by the community to symbolize gay power and action. Diane's design adds another layer of symbolism to the pink triangle because it is the point of contact and intimacy between the two faces in the logo.

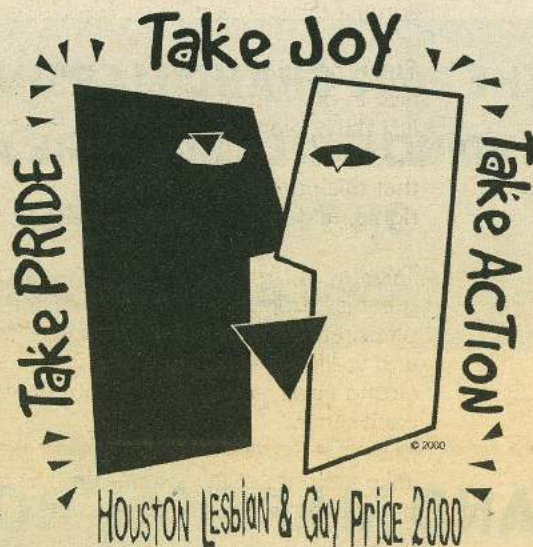
Diane studied Commercial Advertising at Boise State College and Communications Graphics at Idaho State University. She has been the owner/principal of Jolley Design Studio, a print creative and design company, for 23 years. The company has provided identity



2000 Pride logo designer Diane Jolley (right) received a \$500 check for her design from Celebration Committee Chair Michelle Franke at the Committee's January 4 meeting. Photo by Troy Christensen

packages, brochures, catalogs and CD and book covers for clients ranging from small businesses to international companies, including Moody Gardens, The Houston Arboretum and Nature Center, St. Luke's Hospital, Racal Survey Inc., Van Ommeren Ceteco, Trendmaker Homes, Tenneco and Harold's Menswear.

The Pride 2000 logo was formally shown to the public at a logo unveiling party held by the Pride Committee at the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center on Thursday, January 27. The logo will be used on Pride 2000 merchandise, as well in publications including the PCOH web site, *insidepride*, the *Pride Guide*, posters and advertisements. The logo will also be available to sponsors and the media.





Brian Keever said during discussions about various slogan ideas. InterPride Region 3 Coordinator Tina Travis said adopting the international theme for 2000 would be appropriate since the Pride Committee will host a regional InterPride conference in February.

After selecting the 2000 theme, the Pride Committee set out to select a logo designer



Graphics at Idaho State University. She has been the owner/principal of Jolley Design Studio, a print creative and design company, for 23 years. The company produces logos, identity

ize gay power and action. Diane's design adds another layer of symbolism to the pink triangle because it is the point of contact and intimacy between the two faces in the logo.

Diane studied Commercial Advertising at Boise State College and Communications

Nature Center, St. Luke's Hospital, Racial Survey Inc., Van Ommeren Ceteco, Trendmaker Homes, Tenneco and Harold's Menswear.

The Pride 2000 logo was formally shown to the public at a logo unveiling party held by the Pride Committee at the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center on Thursday, January 27. The logo will be used on Pride 2000 merchandise, as well in publications including the PCOH web site, *insidepride*, the *Pride Guide*, posters and advertisements. The logo will also be available to sponsors and the media.

## HOUSTON TO HOST REGIONAL PRIDE CONFERENCE

### COMMUNITY-WIDE MEDIA WORKSHOP TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH REGIONAL CONFERENCE

by Tina Travis

Gay and lesbian pride celebration coordinators from the Southwest and elsewhere will meet in Houston, Texas, on Saturday, February 19, to learn how to organize bigger and more successful Pride events in their communities and to begin networking with one another. Topics to be addressed at the regional conference include fundraising, legal and financial issues, marketing, events and record-keeping.

The Pride Committee of Houston is hosting the conference under the auspices of InterPride, the international association of pride organizers. The Pride Committee has had a long history of leadership within InterPride, including hosting one of its annual international conferences and having a former co-president of the organization as a member. I am proud to serve as coordinator of InterPride Region 3, which includes Texas,

New Mexico, Arizona, Oklahoma and Kansas. On Sunday, February 20, PCOH will host a media workshop open to conference attendees and Houston community groups that will focus on maximizing publicity for community events and advancing gay and lesbian issues through the press. The workshop will be held at the Hollyfield Conference Center (2700 Albany) from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. A \$20 fee will cover lunch and material costs; the workshop is free for regional conference attendees.

Workshop attendees will learn how to develop relationships with media professionals, interact proactively with the media, monitor and respond to coverage of gay and lesbian issues and of the community and undertake a media campaign for their organizations. The workshop will include several exercises, discussions with Houston media professionals and take-home resources.

The Pride Committee is grateful to the Hollyfield Conference Center for donating space for the media workshop, and to the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection for hosting the regional conference.

PCOH has secured discounted hotel rates for representatives of Pride organizations in or outside InterPride Region 3 who would like to attend the regional conference. We are finalizing details regarding the media workshop for Houston groups.

To register for the conference or the media workshop, call the PrideLine at 713.529.6979 or e-mail PCOH at [info@pridehouston.org](mailto:info@pridehouston.org).



# VOTE FOR THE 2000 PRIDE PARADE GRAND MARSHALS

by Troy Christensen

In 1999, voting for Pride Parade Grand Marshals was opened to the entire Houston community, leading to the greatest participation ever in deciding who would be given this great honor. The Pride Committee is excited about increasing voting opportunities for 2000 even further, especially since there is a surprising number of nominees in each of the available Grand Marshal categories. A very large voter turn-out is expected.

To add your vote, you must be a resident of Harris County or its surrounding counties. Other eligible counties are Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Liberty, Montgomery and Waller.

Send the ballot below to PCOH by Thursday, February 24, 2000. Check one name or organization per category and print and sign your name on the ballot. All votes are confidential and the signature portion of your ballot will be removed before it goes into the ballot box.

Include with your ballot proof of residency in Harris County or its surrounding counties. This could be a copy of your driver's license or state identification or a copy of a utility bill. License and account numbers can be obscured, but your name and address must be readable. Mail your ballot and proof of residency to Grand Marshal Vote, Pride Committee of Houston, Houston, Texas 77266-6071, or fax them to 713.529.6929. Ballots not received by February 24 or received without proof of residency will not be valid.

In addition to its publication here, the 2000 Grand Marshal ballot is also available on the Pride Committee's web site, [www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org), and it has been made available to local community publications for wider distribution.

On Saturday, February 26, the Pride Committee will hold poll voting for the Grand Marshal positions at the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center (803 Hawthorne) between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. To vote at the Community Center, you cannot have voted by mail-in ballot and you must bring proof of residency in Harris County or its surrounding counties.

Vote tabulation will be conducted by members of the PCOH Board of Directors. Winners will be determined by a plurality of the vote, with any ties resolved by members of the Board. The 2000 Pride Parade Grand Marshals will be

announced at a special press event to be held at Riva's Restaurant (1117 Missouri) at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 9.

Take PRIDE  
Take JOY  
Take ACTION  
HOUSTON LESBIAN & GAY PRIDE 2000

THE 2000 GRAND MARSHAL BALLOT  
AND NOMINEE BIOS ARE AVAILABLE  
ON THE PCOH WEB SITE  
[www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org)

2000 Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade  
**Grand Marshal Ballot**

## GRAND MARSHAL NOMINEES

The Pride Committee announced the nominees for the Grand Marshals of the 2000 Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade at its general meeting



In addition to its publication here, the 2000 Grand Marshal ballot is also available on the Pride Committee's web site, [www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org), and it has been made available to local community publications for wider distribution.

**ON THE PCOH WEB SITE**  
**[www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org)**

## 2000 Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade Grand Marshal Ballot

- Check **one** name per category
- Include proof of residency in Harris or surrounding counties (copy of Texas Driver's License/ID or utility bill)
- Print and sign your name (for verification purposes only)
- Mail to: Grand Marshal Vote  
Pride Committee of Houston  
P. O. Box 66071  
Houston, Texas 77266-6071  
or fax to: 713.529.6929
- Ballot must be received by **February 24, 2000**



### Female Grand Marshal

- ☐ Pat Gandy  
☐ Anita Renteria  
☐ Barbara Walker  
☐ Tori Williams

### Male Grand Marshal

- ☐ Tony Brigandi  
☐ Kevin Davidson  
☐ Ray Hill  
☐ Grant Martin  
☐ Pete Martinez  
☐ Bill O'Rourke  
☐ Richard Wiederholt

### Honorary Grand Marshal

- ☐ Jack Adams  
☐ Sarah Gish  
☐ Ann J. Robison  
☐ Don Sinclair  
☐ Blake and Gordon Weisser

### Honorary Grand Marshal - Organization

- ☐ Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian  
Chamber of Commerce  
☐ Houston Gay and Lesbian  
Political Caucus  
☐ Houston Lesbian and Gay  
Community Center  
☐ People with AIDS Coalition

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## GRAND MARSHAL NOMINEES

The Pride Committee announced the nominees for the Grand Marshals of the 2000 Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade at its general meeting on Tuesday, January 18.

Nominees for the position of female Grand Marshal are Pat Gandy, Anita Renteria, Barbara Walker and Tori Williams. Male Grand Marshal nominees are Tony Brigandi, Kevin Davidson, Ray Hill, Grant Martin, Pete Martinez, Bill O'Rourke and Richard Wiederholt. Nominees for Honorary Grand Marshal are Jack Adams, Sarah Gish, Ann J. Robison, Don Sinclair and, nominated as a couple, Blake and Gordon Weisser. Groups nominated for Honorary Grand Marshal - Organization are the Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center and the People with AIDS Coalition.

The female and male Grand Marshals of the Pride Parade are lesbians and gay men who are honored for their community leadership. They are shining examples of gay and lesbian achievement and role models for all of us. Honorary Grand Marshals are heterosexual individuals who have shown outstanding dedication to gay and lesbian causes or to the gay and lesbian community. Groups that have been the Honorary Grand Marshal - Organization have supported the Houston gay and lesbian community, significantly contributing to its positive image or outlook, and have been in existence for over two years.

Letters of nomination for these Grand Marshal positions were sent to the Pride Committee in December and January and a committee of former Grand Marshals met on Monday, January 17, to review each nomination. According to PCOH rules, the review committee is charged with assuring that each nominee meets the qualifications outlined above, through a simple majority vote. This year's review committee included Bob Bouton, Jim Carper, Sean Carter and Brian Keever. PCOH representative Troy Christensen acted as the committee's coordinator. The qualifications for each nominee, as detailed in the letters of nomination, are listed on the following pages.



## FEMALE GRAND MARSHAL

### Pat Gandy

- ▼ past Co-Chair, Lesbian/Gay Democrats of Texas
- ▼ past Board member, Houston Gay Political Caucus; Vice-President and President, Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus, 1996-1997
- ▼ member, Board of Trustees, Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby, 1986-1994, serving the last two years as Co-Chair
- ▼ organized team that arranged for the *Texas Observer* to publish a complete issue on gay and lesbian issues, which had never been done by a Texas statewide magazine
- ▼ served many years as Precinct Committee member in Precincts 84, 37 and 53 for the Harris County Democratic Party
- ▼ attended every State Convention, 1986-1998; always urged gay men and lesbians to participate
- ▼ elected to State Democratic Executive Committee as one of 31 women and one of two open lesbians, 1994; used position to advance the causes of gay men and lesbians in the State Democratic Party
- ▼ elected to National Democratic Convention as a Clinton delegate, 1998
- ▼ currently retired from all official community organization positions, but remains interested in community affairs, offering advice and help

### Anita Renteria

- ▼ Charter Member and Board member, Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce; President, 1998-1999
- ▼ co-chaired Empower '97, the Chamber's first major event, drew 2500 consumers to a gay and gay-friendly business expo and entertainment event and named one of the top ten gay news stories of the year by the *Houston Voice*
- ▼ has managed multi-million dollar aerospace accounts for Digital Equipment Corporation for 14 years, dealing with major Fortune 100 companies as customers
- ▼ became co-owner, the Computer Factory, 1996, gaining experience in owning a small business that, combined with her corporate experience, was very useful in leading the Chamber
- ▼ Advisory Board member, Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center, focusing on community issues and fund-raising
- ▼ graduate, Leading & Learning series of seminars, which has fostered leadership qualities in a diverse group of selected

- ▼ Council Coordinator for the Ryan White Planning Council Office of Support
- ▼ former member, Hazelwitch Productions, a volunteer organization that produced concerts and events for women and brought many lesbian entertainers to Houston
- ▼ founder and former president, 1986-1993, Pet Patrol, which provides care and supplies for the animal companions of people with HIV/AIDS
- ▼ founder, HeartSong, a Houston women's chorus that hosted the National Womyn's Choral Festival
- ▼ National Steering Committee member, HeartStrings, a touring production fundraiser benefiting DIFFA
- ▼ co-founder, AssistHers, which organizes care teams to provide support to lesbian women with life-threatening, chronic or disabling illnesses and provides health care education to the lesbian community
- ▼ has received an award for outstanding contributions to the NAMES Project Houston; the Mary Fisher Award, 1994; the Extra Mile Award from An Uncommon Legacy Foundation, 1997; and the Outstanding Individual Award from Body Positive Wellness Center, 1999

## MALE GRAND MARSHAL

### Tony Brigandi

- ▼ opened Mr. Tony's Hair Salon in 1957
- ▼ has organized several parties raising money for AIDS groups, Down's Syndrome children and other causes
- ▼ provides free haircuts to delinquent children and at CASA
- ▼ has won many hair styling awards in Texas
- ▼ Unity Church AIDS communicator
- ▼ counsels parents with gay children
- ▼ has a wide diversity of friends, generating goodwill between the homosexual and the heterosexual communities

### Kevin Davidson

- ▼ founding board trustee, H.A.T.C.H., 1992; president, 1995-present
- ▼ Board member, P-FLAG/H.A.T.C.H. Scholarship Foundation
- ▼ past Program Coordinator, Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center, scheduling meetings, parties and other events and leasing tenant space
- ▼ past three-term Board Chair, five-year Board member and Political Action Committee Treasurer, Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus; received the Barbara Ciganero Volunteer Award,



- ▼ co-chaired Empower '97, the Chamber's first major event, drew 2500 consumers to a gay and gay-friendly business expo and entertainment event and named one of the top ten gay news stories of the year by the *Houston Voice*
- ▼ has managed multi-million dollar aerospace accounts for Digital Equipment Corporation for 14 years, dealing with major Fortune 100 companies as customers
- ▼ became co-owner, the Computer Factory, 1996, gaining experience in owning a small business that, combined with her corporate experience, was very useful in leading the Chamber
- ▼ Advisory Board member, Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center, focusing on community issues and fund-raising
- ▼ graduate, Leading & Learning series of seminars, which has fostered leadership qualities in a diverse group of selected community members

#### **Barbara Walker**

- ▼ work with the Montrose Clinic and the Lesbian Health Education Project has been a valuable tool for lesbian women in Houston
- ▼ has helped hundreds of women with breast cancer and created innovative education and prevention programs
- ▼ pre- and post-test HIV counselor, helping men and women deal with chronic illness
- ▼ holds highest title in line of succession beneath Empress, the Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star; has held numerous titles in the Court; and has won numerous awards including the Hall of Fame Award for raising the most money in one year and the Pink Ribbon Award for service to breast cancer charities
- ▼ voted Houston's best fund-raiser by *The Texas Triangle*, 1998
- ▼ holds the titles of Ms. Chances Emeritus, Ms. Gay Pride Emeritus and Ms. Montrose Emeritus

#### **Tori Williams**

- ▼ greatest talent is seeing needs in the community and using skills, compassion and network of friends to address those needs
- ▼ coordinated the Houston Area Refugee Resettlement Program for the Lutheran Church
- ▼ past AIDS specialist, United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast, helping create their first AIDS Resource Directory and raising \$120,000 for AIDS services
- ▼ past Coordinator of Volunteers and Special Projects for the Foundation for Interfaith Ministry, the largest religious response to HIV/AIDS in the U.S.
- ▼ past Chapter Director of DIFFA/Houston, the largest source of private dollars for AIDS care in the Houston area

- ▼ Unity Church AIDS communicator
- ▼ counsels parents with gay children
- ▼ has a wide diversity of friends, generating goodwill between the homosexual and the heterosexual communities

#### **Kevin Davidson**

- ▼ founding board trustee, H.A.T.C.H., 1992; president, 1995-present
- ▼ Board member, P-FLAG/H.A.T.C.H. Scholarship Foundation
- ▼ past Program Coordinator, Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center, scheduling meetings, parties and other events and leasing tenant space
- ▼ past three-term Board Chair, five-year Board member and Political Action Committee Treasurer, Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus; received the Barbara Ciganero Volunteer Award, the Dennis Spencer Award and Lifetime Membership from the Political Caucus
- ▼ five-term Election Committee Chair, Executive and Professional Association of Houston
- ▼ past delegate, Senatorial District 15 and Texas State Democratic conventions
- ▼ maintains membership database, manages telephone lines and provides Board support for the Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce
- ▼ owner, The Resume Company, providing professional business and technical writing of resumes, business plans and proposals
- ▼ adjunct instructor of technical writing and word processing classes, Houston Community College

#### **Ray Hill**

- ▼ came out as a gay man to family and at Galena Park High School, 1958
- ▼ co-founding and leading positions in numerous Houston gay and lesbian community and progressive organizations beginning in the late 1960's, including the Promethean Society, Houston's first gay/lesbian organization; Pacifica Radio KPFT-FM; the Houston Human Rights League; the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus; Houston Lesbian and Gay Pride Week; the Montrose Activity Center; and the *Wilde 'n' Stein* radio show, one of the first regularly scheduled gay/lesbian radio shows in the country and the only one in the South in the 1970's
- ▼ Chair, Executive and Coordinating Committees, first March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Rights, 1979



- ▼ convict, Texas Prison System, 1970-1975; organizer of several groups for first amendment issues and police and prison reform; won four Federal lawsuits against the City of Houston for police abuse and infringement of first amendment rights, including a U.S. Supreme Court case, 1987; and founder, producer and host, *The Prison Show*, the only prisoner-support radio show in the U.S., 1980-present
- ▼ writer and performer, *Ray Hill, The Prison Years*, named best one-character show by the Houston Press, 1997; *Ray Hill & the Sex Police*; and, coming soon, *Ray Hill in Love*
- ▼ remains a citizen provocateur without peer in the Houston gay and lesbian community

#### **Grant Martin**

- ▼ directs Houston City Council member Annise Parker's political campaigns, including her 1997 campaign, the first successful campaign in Houston for an openly lesbian or gay candidate
- ▼ organizer and faculty member of Houston's first Gay & Lesbian Leadership Training Institute, preparing 32 lesbian and gay Houstonians to enter public life, particularly in the political arena
- ▼ co-founder, Progressive Voters in Action, which is identifying 100,000 Houston voters who support progressive and queer-positive candidates and ballot issues
- ▼ national Board member, Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund
- ▼ founder and Board Chair, Gay or Lesbian Dollars Political Action Committee (GOLD PAC)
- ▼ former Board member, Houston Black Tie Dinner
- ▼ has raised money for a variety of lesbian and gay organizations and candidates
- ▼ prior to 1996, worked on campaigns in San Francisco; Policy/Issues Director for Roberta Achtenberg's 1995 mayoral campaign

#### **Pete Martinez**

- ▼ 12-year volunteer for the NAMES Project and tireless promoter of the AIDS Quilt
- ▼ has made the Houston chapter of the NAMES Project one of the most successful in the nation; over 5000 individual panels have come from the area
- ▼ has personally created over 150 AIDS Quilt panels, including a panel remembering City of Houston employees that was viewed by over 50,000 at the 1999 International Quilt Festival
- ▼ as Workshop Manager, Quilt Maker and Quilt Coordinator, assists remembrance panel makers nearly every Saturday and Sunday

- ▼ received the Special Recognition Award from Body Positive in 1998
- ▼ sponsors and promotes many fund-raisers and contests in Houston; is a national sponsor of the Mr. Gay All-American Contest; and was Chairman of the Board, Garden Party, 1987-1992, donating over \$40,000 to Houston AIDS support organizations

### **HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL**

#### **Jack Adams**

- ▼ has been active in fund-raising for a number of organizations in the gay and lesbian community since 1982
- ▼ member, 12 years, Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star; charter member and Treasurer, PWA Holiday Charities; President, Gulf Coast Transgender Community; and member, Houston Area Bears and National Leather Association: Houston
- ▼ has worked to bring understanding of the transgendered community to both the gay and lesbian community and the heterosexual community by serving as a speaker or a panelist at medical schools, college psychology classes and service agencies
- ▼ founding Director, International Conference on Transgender law and Employment Policy, working toward legal and civil rights for the entire GLBT community

#### **Sarah Gish**

- ▼ founder, Houston Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
- ▼ has devoted countless hours in the last four years to developing the festival, selecting and ordering films, organizing parties, selling ad space in the program, publicizing the festival and other duties
- ▼ Houston City Manager, Landmark Theatres, which consistently show films with queer subject matter and that foster gay and lesbian pride and visibility
- ▼ has worked to make the Landmark Theatres in Houston warm, welcoming spaces for Houston's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community

#### **Ann J. Robison**

- ▼ has served as Executive Director of the Montrose Counseling Center for the past 11 years, constantly increasing the quality of services for one of the gay and lesbian community's oldest agencies and the first GLBT United Way agency in Texas
- ▼ co-authored the Lesbian Health Initiative's Community Needs Assessment Survey, 1993-1995
- ▼ member, Greater Houston AIDS Alliance Board, 1990-1992



### Pete Martinez

- ▼ 12-year volunteer for the NAMES Project and tireless promoter of the AIDS Quilt
- ▼ has made the Houston chapter of the NAMES Project one of the most successful in the nation; over 5000 individual panels have come from the area
- ▼ has personally created over 150 AIDS Quilt panels, including a panel remembering City of Houston employees that was viewed by over 50,000 at the 1999 International Quilt Festival
- ▼ as Workshop Manager, Quilt Maker and Quilt Coordinator, assists remembrance panel makers nearly every Saturday and Sunday and coordinates displays of Quilt panels all over Texas

### Bill O'Rourke

- ▼ spends countless hours, energy and his own money doing community work and putting on benefits for various Houston organizations
- ▼ member, Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star; leather groups; the Lone Star Nudist Club; the Krewe of Olympus; and Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection
- ▼ self-employed as a masseuse; studying to be a Reiki Master
- ▼ volunteers to train children in stage work and performs plays for children and Parent-Teacher Associations
- ▼ appears on stages in and around Houston
- ▼ speaks out when he sees oppression in any organization in which he is involved

### Richard Wiederholt

- ▼ opened Basic Brothers clothing store in 1982, providing a retail spot where GLBT customers can be themselves and an outlet for non-profit organization to inform the community about upcoming events
- ▼ founding Board member, Vice President and Media Relations Co-Chair, Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce
- ▼ received the President's Award from the Chamber in 1996
- ▼ Board member, Museum District Business Alliance
- ▼ serves on several HIV/AIDS organizations as President, Program for Wellness Restoration (PoWeR); Advisory Board member and past Board member and Vice President, Body Positive Wellness Center; Charter Board Member, HIV/AIDS Resource Group; and Charter Board Member, Houston HIV Forum
- ▼ speaks to classes at the University of Houston-Clear Lake on "Living with AIDS"

show films with queer subject matter and that foster gay and lesbian pride and visibility

- ▼ has worked to make the Landmark Theatres in Houston warm, welcoming spaces for Houston's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community

### Ann J. Robison

- ▼ has served as Executive Director of the Montrose Counseling Center for the past 11 years, constantly increasing the quality of services for one of the gay and lesbian community's oldest agencies and the first GLBT United Way agency in Texas
- ▼ co-authored the Lesbian Health Initiative's Community Needs Assessment Survey, 1993-1995
- ▼ member, Greater Houston AIDS Alliance Board, 1990-1992
- ▼ planning committee member, Living with HIV in Houston Conference, 1989 and 1990
- ▼ founding Board member and current Advisory Board member, Texas Association Against Sexual Assault
- ▼ State President, National Organization for Women, 1987-1988; active since 1982
- ▼ was named the Outstanding Consortium Member for the Houston HIV Care Consortium in 1994 and 1996; received the MacAdory Award for professional service by the AIDS Equity League in 1993; and received the Excellence in Medical Service award from the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault in 1991

### Don Sinclair

- ▼ retired United Methodist minister and pastor, Bering Memorial United Methodist Church, 1986-1997
- ▼ under his leadership, the Church began the Bering Support Network for those infected with or affected by HIV, and later, the Bering Dental Clinic the Adult Day Care Center and the Bering Community Service Foundation for community involvement in the Church's AIDS work
- ▼ counseling programs for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered and HIV-positive people were included in Bering's ministry under his pastorate
- ▼ received the Bering Community Service Foundation's first Donald Sinclair Leadership Award
- ▼ fights for the full inclusion of GLBT persons into the life of the United Methodist Church and against religious bigotry; under his leadership Bering became a reconciling congregation, publicly including all, regardless of sexual orientation, and specifically honoring and working for the full inclusion of GLBT persons
- ▼ Program Chair and Vice President, 1993-1994, and President, 1995, P-FLAG



- ▼ has lobbied in Austin and in Washington DC for hate crimes and nondiscrimination legislation
- ▼ currently active in P-FLAG's speakers' bureau, speaking to high school and college officials on the need to provide safe environments for GLBT students

#### **Blake and Gordon Weisser**

- ▼ nine-year members of P-FLAG, with the personal goals of being available for support of GLBT people and their families, making P-FLAG visible and making connections to the larger community, both gay and straight, in Houston and beyond
- ▼ Blake is a four-year Board member, serving as H.A.T.C.H. liaison and youth advocate, while Gordon has been treasurer for the last two years and is treasurer of the P-FLAG/H.A.T.C.H. Youth Scholarship Foundation
- ▼ have undertaken all three of P-FLAG's missions—support, education and advocacy—with time, dedication, determination and energy
- ▼ have provided support by starting the Southwest mid-month support group, sponsoring the meetings for the past 2½ years, mentoring parents and answering the P-FLAG Helpline
- ▼ have helped educate school officials on GLBT issues by networking with HISD administrators and counselors and helping out with the Healing the Hurt conferences for educators
- ▼ have advocated for GLBT equal rights by marching in Austin, lobbying for ENDA with "Moms and Dads Go to Washington" in 1996 and representing P-FLAG in church, civic, political and educational groups

#### **HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL - ORGANIZATION**

##### **Greater Houston Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce**

- ▼ advances the economic and cultural development and vitality of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and supportive heterosexual individuals, businesses and organizations
- ▼ produces Empower events that garner national media attention and show Houston's strong community and business leadership
- ▼ has financially assisted many non-profit organizations, including P-FLAG, the H.A.T.C.H. Scholarship Fund and the Pride Committee
- ▼ develops community leadership skills through the Leading & Learning Series, Community Partnerships and monthly meetings
- ▼ has a diverse membership reflecting the entire community
- ▼ continues to seek out ways to develop programs for community needs that are not being fulfilled

##### **Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus**

#### **People with AIDS Coalition**

- ▼ established in 1986 originally as an all-volunteer organization addressing alternative healing therapies and methods for people living with HIV/AIDS
- ▼ formalized its structure and expanded its services over the years to serve the basic sustenance, medical and psychosocial needs of the HIV/AIDS community in the greater Houston area
- ▼ keeps a finger on the pulse of the community by maintaining a volunteer Executive Board comprised of 51% HIV-infected persons
- ▼ meets the needs of people with HIV/AIDS through a number of programs, including the New Beginnings Household Restart Program, case management, the Volunteer Program at Thomas Street Clinic, emergency housing/utility assistance, Project LEAP, housing through Milam House and Project Open Doors and child care.
- ▼ has diversified its programs, operating locations and staff in response to the changing face of the epidemic and a more diverse client base
- ▼ has a main office on Montrose near Westheimer that offers easy access and convenience for clients, with very close bus lines, grocery stores, pharmacies and other AIDS service providers
- ▼ has developed new and modified programs to assist people taking combination therapies who are able to go back to work but still experience difficulties

## **GRAND MARSHALS OF THE PAST: A HISTORY OF COMMUNITY PRIDE**

by Troy Christensen

As you decide who should be honored as a Grand Marshal of the 2000 Pride Parade, read through the following list of past Grand Marshals, compiled with the assistance of Brandon Wolf and others on the Houston Activist Network (han-net) e-mail service. Information for earlier years is still spotty and requires further research, but the list here is definitely a "who's who" of community leaders past and present and of vital community organizations and treasured allies. Also of historical interest is that the current Grand Marshal classifications seem to have been fixed only since the early to mid 90's.

1999 Grand Marshals: Sean Carter and Nancy Ford  
Organization: Colt 45's

1998 Grand Marshals: Bob Bouton and Jackie Doval



- ▼ advances the economic and cultural development and vitality of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and supportive heterosexual individuals, businesses and organizations
- ▼ produces Empower events that garner national media attention and show Houston's strong community and business leadership
- ▼ has financially assisted many non-profit organizations, including P-FLAG, the H.A.T.C.H. Scholarship Fund and the Pride Committee
- ▼ develops community leadership skills through the Leading & Learning Series, Community Partnerships and monthly meetings
- ▼ has a diverse membership reflecting the entire community
- ▼ continues to seek out ways to develop programs for community needs that are not being fulfilled

#### **Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus**

- ▼ celebrating its 25th anniversary as the oldest gay and lesbian civil rights organization in the South
- ▼ has helped educate the gay and lesbian community and lead the gay and lesbian rights movement in Houston
- ▼ brings together men, women, business owners and politicians working for the future of the community
- ▼ provides a forum for politicians addressing the community and for discussion of gay and lesbian issues, including hosting Police Chief Bradford to discuss the bar raids during last year's Pride festivities with the community
- ▼ highlights the community within the political system of Harris County, Texas and the U.S.
- ▼ blazes trails within the community, adding transgendered inclusion to its mission statement by a unanimous vote in the past year and being the first occupant in the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center

#### **Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center**

- ▼ empowers, educates and nurtures individuals of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities while generating a sense of community
- ▼ houses some of the oldest and most respected organizations in the city, providing many networking opportunities
- ▼ offers coming out groups for men and women, HIV support groups, leadership development and monthly social functions
- ▼ transforming a simple building into a home for the Houston gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community

Take PRIDE - Take JOY - Take ACTION  
HOUSTON LESBIAN & GAY PRIDE 2000

As you decide who should be honored as a Grand Marshal of the 2000 Pride Parade, read through the following list of past Grand Marshals, compiled with the assistance of Brandon Wolf and others on the Houston Activist Network (han-net) e-mail service. Information for earlier years is still spotty and requires further research, but the list here is definitely a "who's who" of community leaders past and present and of vital community organizations and treasured allies. Also of historical interest is that the current Grand Marshal classifications seem to have been fixed only since the early to mid 90's.

- 1999 Grand Marshals: Sean Carter and Nancy Ford  
Organization: Colt 45's
- 1998 Grand Marshals: Bob Bouton and Jackie Doval  
Honorary: Barbara Winston  
Organization: Gay Rodeo Association
- 1997 Grand Marshals: Debrorah Bell and Jimmy Carper  
Organization: Krewe of Olympus
- 1996 Grand Marshals: Bill Havard and Jeanette Vaughn  
Honorary: Jack Abercia  
Organization: Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star
- 1995 Grand Marshals: Suzanne Anderson and Don Gill  
Honorary: Amella Harrison  
Organization: H.A.T.C.H.
- 1994 Grand Marshals: Jay Allen and Cicely Wynne  
Honorary: Claire Koepsel  
Organization: Q-Patrol
- 1993 Grand Marshals: Brian Bradley and Carolyn Mobley  
Honorary: Adan Rios, M.D.  
Organization: P-FLAG
- 1992 Grand Marshals: Sheri Cohen Darbonne and Brian Keever  
Honorary: Gay & Lesbian Switchboard Houston
- 1991 Grand Marshals: Gene Harrington, Jack Jackson and Linda Morales  
Honorary: Katy Caldwell and Lady Victoria Lust
- 1990 Grand Marshals: Walter Carter and Annise Parker  
Honorary: Debra Danburg and Craig Washington
- 1989 Grand Marshals: Charles Armstrong and Bettie Naylor
- 1988 Grand Marshals: Bruce Cook and Eleanor Munger  
Honorary: Sharon Kowalski and Harvey Milk
- 1987 Grand Marshals: Persons Living with AIDS
- 1984 Grand Marshals: Pokey Anderson and Rick Grossman
- 1981 Grand Marshals: Ray Hill and Rita Wanstrom
- 1980 Honorary: Jim Farmer and Ruth Ravas
- 1979 Grand Marshal: Thelma Hansel



# GRAND MARSHAL MEMORIES

by Sean Carter

Throughout the past few years, I have felt very honored to be able to say that many of the former Grand Marshals have been friends of mine. I still greatly admire the work and involvement of people like Marvin Davis (a.k.a. Lady Victoria Lust), Brian Keever, Don Gill, Jimmy Carper, Deborah Bell and Bob Bouton, and I will always look up to the work of individuals such as Ray Hill and Annise Parker. I have always considered Jeannette Vaughn to be like my second "mom," with her wonderful words of wisdom and her positive outlook toward the community, and to this day, I still look up to her and Dot Thompson and the wonderful relationship they have shared for the past 29 years. They both mean the world to me. So, when I found out that I had been nominated for Grand Marshal, I was extremely honored to have been placed in such a position.

The months that followed the announcement seem like a big blur, but the most amazing experience I had was meeting so many people. Being Grand Marshal gave me the opportunity to work with numerous groups and to be a part of so many of their events—and all of this at a time of year when everyone is truly focusing on "showing their pride." I loved serving with Female Grand Marshal, Nancy Ford. Getting to

know her even better throughout the events of the Pride season was great, and her humor and outlook definitely make anyone proud to be a part of this community. She is such a wonderful individual, and I am glad that we have her here in Houston!

Out of everything that happened while I was Grand Marshal, there are two events that stand out. I was asked to speak at different functions and make numerous appearances; I had been warned by many of the former Grand Marshals that it would be non-stop and, of course, they were right (I think all of it caused me to get my first gray hairs at age 27!). Nancy and I were asked to speak at a meeting of the H.A.T.C.H. youth at the Community Center, and out of all of my speeches and performances, that one night was the most rewarding. They are so proud to be a part of this community and they look to all of us for guidance and leadership. That night I felt that I was really helping the future of our community, which is something that is very important to me. These individuals are our future and I hope we all can take some time to make sure that we give some guidance and support for their endeavors.

The second experience that I will always remember and will always speak of when anyone asks about the Parade itself was rounding the

curve on Westheimer in front of Chances. There are so many people throughout the parade route, but when you hit that one spot, it's amazing how much larger the crowd gets... and then gets even bigger! The feeling of excitement, energy and pride I had at that point was so uplifting that it is a feeling I will never forget. Thank God for my partner, Jerel McNeil, because without him holding onto my belt loops, I'm sure I would have flown right out of that car with all of the jumping around and dancing that I was doing.

Even though I only wrote about two experiences, the whole process—from the announcement of the Grand Marshals to the end of the Parade route—will always be a treasured memory. I am so proud to be a part of such a wonderful community and I look forward to the 2000 Parade. We are extremely lucky to have such a hard-working and devoted Pride Committee that takes on this task and puts on the best event of its kind every year.

I know that I am just one of the countless leaders and role models we have in Houston and I am extremely thankful to have been given this honor. So, to the next Grand Marshals I say the same thing that was said to me: you will constantly be on the go, but it will be worth every minute!

**i Can Make A**

☐ **Yes! I want to be a part of history.**

*Please accept my contribution, as indicated below. I want to support Houston's Pride Celebration and take advantage of the benefits listed below.*

☐ **Red**

**\$1000**

☐ **Orange**

**\$500**

☐ **Yellow**

**\$250**



to work with numerous groups and to be a part of so many of their events—and all of this at a time of year when everyone is truly focusing on “showing their pride.” I loved serving with Female Grand Marshal, Nancy Ford. Getting to

and support for their endeavors.

The second experience that I will always remember and will always speak of when anyone asks about the Parade itself was rounding the

same thing that was said to me: you will constantly be on the go, but it will be worth every minute!

# **i Can Make A Difference In 2000**

In 1997, Houston made history when it held North America's first nighttime gay and lesbian Pride Parade. With each year that followed, our pride has grown with our Parade. In fact, last year over 100,000 gathered under the glow of an 8 1/2 foot mirrored disco ball, making it the premier Pride event in Texas and the most exciting gay and lesbian community event in the entire southwest. What's more, last year's extensive media coverage enabled us to educate Houston and Texas about Pride and the vitality of our community.

This year, with the help of individuals like you, we can make Pride 2000 the best yet. We can add new events and educational programs throughout the month of June. We can make a difference. Through our **i Can Make A Difference In 2000** campaign, funds raised will complement our corporate sponsorships and grants. And they will provide much needed resources for Pride Committee activities. In appreciation of your contribution, you'll receive "the best seats in the house" in our exclusive bleacher seating at the Pride Parade as well as special commemorative t-shirts and

pins to mark Houston's Pride in the year 2000. The coordinators of the this year's celebration are planning a great season. With your help, the 2000 celebration will be our greatest commemoration of Pride ever!

**house seats!**  
With your donation you'll receive our exclusive bleacher seating for Pride Parade 2000.

☐ **Yes! i want to be a part of history.**  
Please accept my contribution, as indicated below. I want to support Houston's Pride Celebration and take advantage of the benefits listed below.

## ☐ **Red \$1000**

- 10 passes for premier bleacher seating along the Pride Parade route
- 10 commemorative T-shirts and pins
- 10 copies of the Pride Guide keepsake magazine
- 10 invitations to the Pre-Parade VIP Party
- 10 invitations to the Post-Parade Wrap-up Party
- Annual subscription to the Inside Pride newsletter
- Advance notice and invitations to all Pride Events

## ☐ **Orange \$500**

- 6 passes for premier bleacher seating along the Pride Parade route
- 6 commemorative T-shirts and pins
- 6 copies of the Pride Guide keepsake magazine
- 6 invitations to the Pre-Parade VIP Party
- 6 invitations to the Post-Parade Wrap-up Party
- Annual subscription to the Inside Pride newsletter
- Advance notice and invitations to all Pride Events

## ☐ **Yellow \$250**

- 4 passes for premier bleacher seating along the Pride Parade route
- 4 commemorative T-shirts and pins
- 4 copies of the Pride Guide keepsake magazine
- 4 invitations to the Pre-Parade VIP Party
- 4 invitations to the Post-Parade Wrap-up Party
- Annual subscription to the Inside Pride newsletter
- Advance notice and invitations to all Pride Events

## ☐ **Green \$100**

- 2 passes for premier bleacher seating along the Pride Parade route
- 2 commemorative T-shirts and pins
- 2 copies of the Pride Guide keepsake magazine
- 2 invitations to the Pre-Parade VIP Party
- 2 invitations to the Post-Parade Wrap-up Party
- Annual subscription to the Inside Pride newsletter
- Advance notice and invitations to all Pride Events

## ☐ **Blue \$50**

- 1 pass for premier bleacher seating along the Pride Parade route
- 1 commemorative T-shirt and pin
- 1 copy of the Pride Guide keepsake magazine
- 1 invitation to the Pre-Parade VIP Party
- 1 invitation to the Post-Parade Wrap-up Party
- Annual subscription to the Inside Pride newsletter
- Advance notice and invitations to all Pride Events

## ☐ **Purple \$25**

- 1 pass for premier bleacher seating along the Pride Parade route
- Annual subscription to the Inside Pride newsletter
- Advance notice and invitations to all Pride Events

## **DONOR INFORMATION**

Name		Home Phone Number	
Address		Apt. #	Work Phone Number
City	State	Zip	Email Address
T-SHIRT SIZE(S)			
____ Medium			
____ Large			
____ X-Large			
____ XX-Large			

Please mail your **i Can Make A Difference in 2000** contribution to:  
**Pride Committee of Houston, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 66071, Houston, TX 77266-6071

The Pride Committee of Houston is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. All contributions are tax deductible.



# MEDIA GETS THE WORD OUT

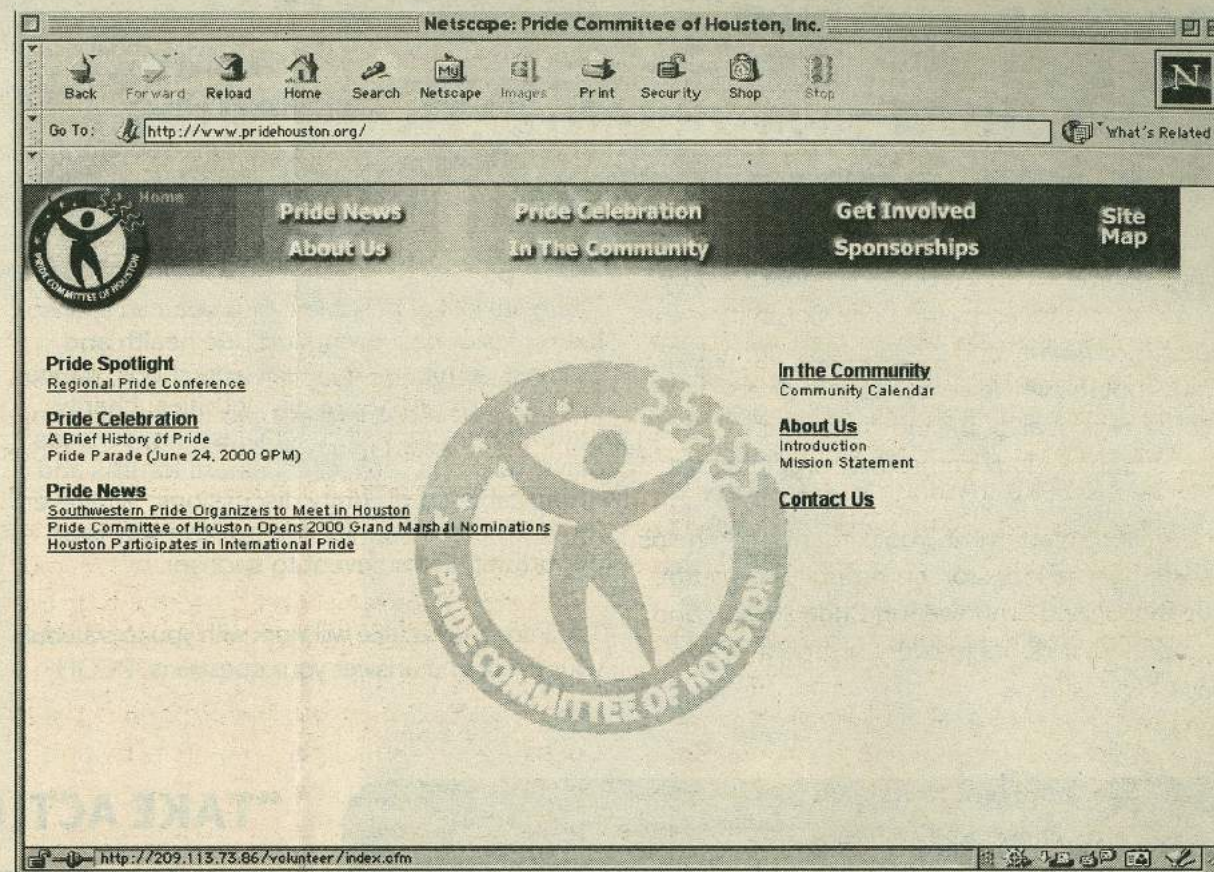
by Ryan Rice

You've probably heard mentions of a local health fair on the radio while driving, seen a thirty-second commercial for a fun run between your favorite shows or glimpsed an ad promoting a fund-raiser in a newspaper. These valuable methods of promoting various events and issues are called public service announcements and are donated by media outlets in the community on a case-by-case basis provided that both entities benefit from the venture. These PSA's are vital for the success of organizations like the Pride Committee because they ensure that we get our message out to the public in a cost-effective manner.

By partnering with media outlets in both the gay and lesbian community and the greater Houston community, the Pride Committee will generate the publicity needed to increase awareness of our message and events as well as garner financial support through vendors and corporations. These free ad spaces are also a great resource for the Pride Committee to highlight our corporate sponsors and donors, giving them the recognition they deserve to all audiences.

Benefits to the media include cross promotion between corporate sponsors who are potential paid advertisers, logo inclusion in all printed pieces related to the entire Pride season and the ability to reach an audience that they may have never reached before.

The partnerships between the media and Pride help to spread a valuable message throughout the community. The media outlets get recognition for being involved in the Houston gay and



The Pride Committee's web site can be accessed at [www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org). The site was recently refurbished to focus on PCOH's year-round activities. You can find Pride news and information about upcoming events, as well as information about the various functions of the Committee and how you can help. Future additions to the site include interactive editions of the community events calendar and the resource guide maintained by PCOH. As June approaches, look for the full list of Pride events on the web site.

## ASTROWORLD COMMITTEE PROMISES MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCK

by Jason Vincik

Exciting things are planned for June 2000 as the Pride Committee's AstroWorld coordinators promise an all-new "Pride in the Park" weekend.

Slated for Saturday and Sunday, June 10-11, a full weekend of fun, food and entertainment awaits you. Your \$25 advance ticket provides

Sunday. But that's not all! Hang on to your ticket stubs, because Rich's is offering free admission Saturday night to all Pride in the Park ticket holders.

To ensure admission to our private food area and the celebrity performance, purchase your tickets in advance. Tickets purchased on the day of the event will guarantee park



to highlight our corporate sponsors and donors, giving them the recognition they deserve to all audiences.

Benefits to the media include cross promotion between corporate sponsors who are potential paid advertisers, logo inclusion in all printed pieces related to the entire Pride season and the ability to reach an audience that they may have never reached before.

The partnerships between the media and Pride help to spread a valuable message throughout the community. The media outlets get recognition for being involved in the Houston gay and lesbian community and the Pride Committee gets the publicity needed to raise funds and increase event participation.

## ASTROWORLD COMMITTEE PROMISES MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCK

by Jason Vincik

Exciting things are planned for June 2000 as the Pride Committee's AstroWorld coordinators promise an all-new "Pride in the Park" weekend.

Slated for Saturday and Sunday, June 10-11, a full weekend of fun, food and entertainment awaits you. Your \$25 advance ticket provides discounted admission for all of the exciting rides and fun activities at AstroWorld, a BBQ buffet and drinks in our own private hospitality area and a special performance by a guest celebrity on Saturday and a return ticket to get wet on all of the thrilling rides during our "Pride in the Waterpark" day at WaterWorld on

Sunday. But that's not all! Hang on to your ticket stubs, because Rich's is offering free admission Saturday night to all Pride in the Park ticket holders.

To ensure admission to our private food area and the celebrity performance, purchase your tickets in advance. Tickets purchased on the day of the event will guarantee park admission only. For more information and to find out how to purchase advance tickets, call the PrideLine at 713.529.6979 or e-mail the Pride Committee at [info@pridehouston.org](mailto:info@pridehouston.org). We'll see you in your Pride 2000 t-shirts or your rainbow-colored swim trunks for the best Pride in the Park event ever!

## THE PRIDE GUIDE MAGAZINE: A NEW OUTLET FOR PRIDE

by Ken Donnelly

Each year, the Pride Committee publishes the *Pride Guide*, a handy calendar of the Pride events in June, culminating with the nighttime Parade, as well as an up-to-date reference source of available community resources from social clubs to health services and from political organizations to religious groups. The two-fold purpose of the *Pride Guide* has been to inform, both during the month of June and throughout the rest of the year.

This year's *Pride Guide* will have an extended purpose. Along with printing information about the 2000 Pride celebration and community organizations, we will introduce new content inspired by this year's international Pride theme—the reasons we take pride in ourselves and where we live, joy in celebrating our diversity and action by becoming involved with

our community. Rather than just a snapshot of what's happening in June, the *Guide* will be a yearbook of Pride and of the community, packaged in a brand-new format—the *Pride Guide* magazine.

The magazine, modeled after pride guides from such places as San Francisco, Amsterdam, Washington DC, Munich, New York and Vienna, will be published by Highbury House Communications, Inc. The company is the largest publisher of specialty magazines in Europe and brings a vast wealth of experience, knowledge, skill and resources to our publication. Highbury House has published specialty magazines for such large events as the U.S. Open and is also working with the Atlanta Pride Committee to produce the magazine for that city's Pride celebration. Samples of other magazines Highbury House has published indicate that we can look forward to an excellent, high-quality

publication that you would be happy to keep around the house until Pride 2001.

The production of this year's *Pride Guide* magazine is just another step forward in PCOH's commitment to continuously improve the annual Pride celebration. We welcome everyone's suggestions for the Guide and there is still plenty of content that needs to be written and photographed. If you would like to volunteer, contact the PrideLine at 713.529.6979 or e-mail the Pride Committee at [info@pridehouston.org](mailto:info@pridehouston.org).

Look for your free copy of the *Pride Guide* magazine in many local area businesses starting May 27. It will also be distributed in Galveston, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Austin, San Antonio and Corpus Christi. Check our web site, [www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org), for further developments.



## SPONSOR AN EVENT

### AND SHOW YOUR ORGANIZATION'S PRIDE

by Troy Christensen

Houston's annual Pride season is bookended by two events produced by the Pride Committee—the Pride Kick-off party and the fabulous nighttime Parade—but the whole season is very diverse because almost all of the other events are sponsored by various community organizations.

By sponsoring an event, your organization helps ensure that the Houston community has a fun, educational and empowering Pride season and you open your doors to every segment of

Houston's gay and lesbian population—an estimated 350,000 people.

There are lots of possible events you can sponsor. Examples of past events include health and wellness seminars, financial workshops, dances, sports tournaments, family activities, charity fund-raisers, arts and cultural festivals, concerts, plays, religious services, business forums and round-table community discussions. Whatever moves the community in a positive way is an opportunity for an event to sponsor.

The Pride Committee will work with you to schedule your event and answer your questions. PCOH

also publicizes community-sponsored Pride events through a variety of publications. For assistance, call the PrideLine at 713.529.6979 or come to one of our general meetings.

Event applications are available now. If your organization hasn't received one, you can get one through the Pride Committee web site, [www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org), or one can be mailed to your organization. Event applications must be sent to PCOH postmarked by Saturday, May 6, to be listed in all publications.



## "TAKE ACTION" FOR YOUR 2000 PRIDE PARADE PLANS TODAY

by Bill Burford, Manny Gutierrez and Mark Willis

With the required parade application approved by the city and the year-end festivities behind us, plans for the 2000 Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade are beginning in earnest.

After the sun goes down on Saturday, June 24, all of us will turn Westheimer into a glowing stream of Pride for over 100,000 spectators. This year's international theme, "Take Pride, Take Joy, Take Action," will set the tone for a great celebration and we're looking forward to seeing everyone's interpretations of it.

To help you decide what you'll do to show the Houston community how you take pride, take joy and take action, we will host a parade workshop on Saturday, May 6. Unlike past years, the workshop will be separate from our regular general meeting so we can focus on giving you advice and answering your questions. We plan to have a two-track program, one for

## PRI

by

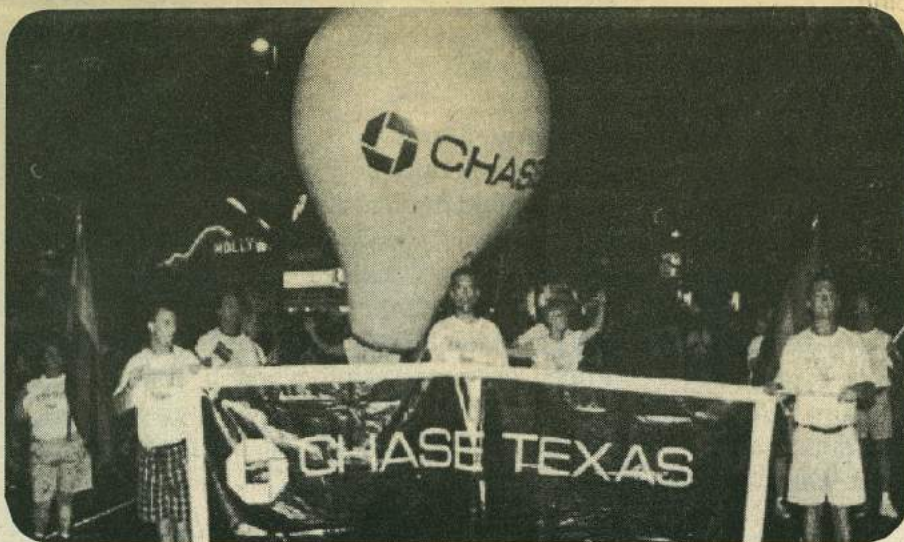
The Pride  
Houston C  
pretation  
Take Joy,  
graphic ar

The sloga  
members  
the June  
tional Prid  
InterPride  
be the first  
used the  
festivities.  
have been  
unique ni

"We need  
show our  
other Prid  
around th  
show how  
wide our  
Pride Boa  
Brian Kee  
discussion  
ous sloga  
InterPride  
Coordina  
said adop  
national t  
would be  
since the  
Committe  
gional Int  
conferenc

After sele





Come to the Pride Committee's parade workshop on Saturday, May 6, to learn how to light up Westheimer with a float like the Krewe of Olympus' 1999 "Pride-a-saurus" entry (top) or entertain the crowds along the parade route with a walking unit like the Chase P.R.I.D.E. Team (above) did last year. Photos by StevenDavid.com

activities behind us, plans for the 2000 Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade are beginning in earnest.

After the sun goes down on Saturday, June 24, all of us will turn Westheimer into a glowing stream of Pride for over 100,000 spectators. This year's international theme, "Take Pride, Take Joy, Take Action," will set the tone for a great celebration and we're looking forward to seeing everyone's interpretations of it.

To help you decide what you'll do to show the Houston community how you take pride, take joy and take action, we will host a parade workshop on Saturday, May 6. Unlike past years, the workshop will be separate from our regular general meeting so we can focus on giving you advice and answering your questions. We plan to have a two-track program, one for marching groups and one for floats. Look for details in community publications and on our web site, [www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org), soon.

Also be on the lookout for details about some new spectacles we're planning for the evening of the Parade, both at Westheimer and Montrose and at the Parade line-up on Woodhead. Expect a lot more outreach from us to you on Parade day, especially because we hope to see even more of you at and in the Parade this year.

There are many great things in store for this year's Pride season, but the pinnacle will be the 2000 Pride Parade on Westheimer between Woodhead and Whitney, stepping off at 9 p.m. on June 24. Be there to see it happen!

## PRIDE MERCHANDISE FOR A NEW YEAR

by Jim Duke

It's finally Y2K and no computer bug shut my Pride button off. I still have Gay Pride and I'm selling it every chance I get!

With the 2000 slogan and logo chosen, the "Take Pride, Take Joy, Take Action" merchandise line is moving rapidly into the production stage. Samples of the Pride 2000 merchandise line have already received "ooh's" and "aah's" at the logo unveiling party on January 27. You'll soon be able to buy all of your past favorites: t-shirts,

tank tops, sleeveless T's and caps. But get ready for some new colors and some new styles for the new season. Also, because you, the buying public, demanded it, we anticipate having merchandise in sizes for kids who have Pride. There are plans to expand the Pride pin line and, while I know you've heard this from me before, we very well may have Pride boxer shorts this year!

We'll kick off the 2000 sales at the Grand Marshal voting day on February 26 at the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community

Center. Come by to vote for the Grand Marshals and get your first chance to buy all of the new merchandise! After that, I'll be all over town, so be sure to look for me. I'll be selling merchandise at another great LUEY weekend, starting March 10, and if the Spring Westheimer Street Fair is permitted this year, I'll see you there.

I'll be out looking for you, and you can come out to look for me, as long as all of us take pride, take joy and take action together in 2000!

Brian Kee  
discussion  
ous sloga  
InterPride  
Coordinat  
said adop  
national t  
would be  
since the  
Committe  
gional Int  
conferenc

After sele  
Committe

**HOU**  
**COMM**

by

Gay and l  
from the S  
Houston,  
learn how  
ful Pride e  
begin net  
addressed  
fundraising  
events an

The Pride  
conferenc  
internatio  
The Pride  
leadership  
one of its  
having a f  
as a mem  
of InterPri



## WALK FOR AIDS

by Alice Sarmiento

The 2000 AIDS Walk Houston will take place Sunday, March 12, 2000, at 8 a.m. The 10K walk/run, a fundraiser benefiting AIDS Foundation Houston and 11 partner agencies, begins at the George R. Brown Convention Center and takes participants on a walking tour of downtown Houston.

There is no fee to participate and funds are raised through sponsorship from your friends, family and co-workers. If you would like to form a team, let us know and we will be glad to help you.

For more information or to register, go to [www.aids-help.org](http://www.aids-help.org), e-mail [walk@aidshelp.org](mailto:walk@aidshelp.org) or call Alice Sarmiento at 713.623.6796.

We hope to see you out there, and remember, until it's over, we're counting on you to take a step for AIDS.

## SUPPORT THE P-FLAG BILLBOARD CAMPAIGN

by Jane Smith

Remember your feelings in 1995 when you saw one of the P-FLAG billboards for the first time in Houston? In October of that year, with your help, we put up 11 full-sized billboards for one month.

Our vision for 2000 is a lengthy campaign that places full-sized billboards at strategic locations throughout metropolitan Houston. Pictures of the proposed billboards may be seen on our

## Take PRIDE - Take JOY - Take ACTION HOUSTON LESBIAN & Gay Pride 2000

### VOLUNTEER FOR PRIDE 2000

by Cindy Archer

Do you love to get involved, have fun and make a difference in the community? Do you think you have to wait until June to volunteer for Pride 2000? The Pride Committee of Houston would like to get to know you! We meet, work and play throughout the year and we're always on the lookout for enthusiastic new volunteers.

Much of our work, of course, takes place on and around the day of the nighttime Pride Parade. Our volunteers work on every aspect of the Parade, from helping with the setup and the entry check-in to carrying banners for our Grand Marshals. Our volunteer Parade Marshals are stationed along the route, keeping things running smoothly and getting a fabulous view. A strong volunteer presence helps the Houston Police with the crowds, and shows the entire community our commitment to a safe and flawless event.

Outside of the June Pride celebration, our volunteer opportunities center around mail-outs, merchandising and record-keeping.

Throughout the year, we keep the community informed of Pride happenings with the insidepride newsletter, which we distribute four times a year. Other mail-outs include the Pride Guide and various materials announcing important dates and events. We also sell official Pride merchandise in local clubs and other venues; volunteers who staff our table can make new friends while helping to raise funds for the Parade. And because every organization needs to stay organized, we also conduct regular work sessions at our office in the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center (803 Hawthorne) to keep our records in shape. Volunteers can lend a hand as we update our mailing list, as well as the media guide, the events calendar and the resource guide, which are valuable community-wide publications maintained by the Pride Committee.

To get involved, call the PrideLine at 713.529.6979, or e-mail [info@pridehouston.org](mailto:info@pridehouston.org). It's never too soon to start making a difference, and June is closer than you think. Join us and become one of the dedicated volunteers who will make Pride 2000 a success.

## Y2K PRIDE CALENDAR

February 19-20: Pride Regional Conference and Community Media Workshop

February 24: Grand Marshal mail-in balloting



# BILLBOARD CAMPAIGN

by Jane Smith

Remember your feelings in 1995 when you saw one of the P-FLAG billboards for the first time in Houston? In October of that year, with your help, we put up 11 full-sized billboards for one month.

Our vision for 2000 is a lengthy campaign that places full-sized billboards at strategic locations throughout metropolitan Houston. Pictures of the proposed billboards may be seen on our web site, [www.pflaghouston.org/billboards.htm](http://www.pflaghouston.org/billboards.htm).

For this vision to become a reality, we need you. Together, we can create new awareness of P-FLAG Houston and share our journey of love with thousands of other families. In order to reserve the best billboard locations and obtain volume discounts, we must raise funds quickly.

Contributions of any size are welcomed! For more information about donating to the billboard campaign, e-mail [pflagbillboards@aol.com](mailto:pflagbillboards@aol.com), or call our help line at 713-46P-FLAG (713.467.3524).

view. A strong volunteer presence helps the Houston Police with the crowds, and shows the entire community our commitment to a safe and flawless event.

Outside of the June Pride celebration, our volunteer opportunities center around mail-outs, merchandising and record-keeping.

To get involved, call the PrideLine at 713.529.6979, or e-mail [info@pridehouston.org](mailto:info@pridehouston.org). It's never too soon to start making a difference, and June is closer than you think. Join us and become one of the dedicated volunteers who will make Pride 2000 a success.

## Y2K PRIDE CALENDAR

- February 19-20: Pride Regional Conference and Community Media Workshop
- February 24: Grand Marshal mail-in ballots due
- February 26: Grand Marshal poll voting day, Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- March 9: Grand Marshal announcement party, Riva's Restaurant, 7 p.m.
- March 10-12: Pride merchandise sales during LUEY weekend
- April 10: Pride event applications due
- May 6: Parade workshop
- June 1: Parade applications due, avoiding late fees
- June 9-24: Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride 2000**
- June 9: Pride Kick-off party
- June 10: Pride Festival at AstroWorld
- June 11: Pride Day at WaterWorld
- June 13: Pride Parade Mandatory Meeting, Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 6 p.m.; and deadline for Parade applications with late fees
- June 24: The 2000 Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade steps off at 9 p.m. on Westheimer between Woodhead and Whitney!

## GET YOUR INSTRUMENTS OUT OF THE CLOSET

by Russell Ben Williams

The Houston Pride Band, a group of lesbian and gay musicians, is gearing up for the 2000 Pride Parade and has already begun rehearsing music for the event.

The band is actively seeking musicians to join us in this festive event. Plans are also underway to form a flag and rifle corps to accompany the marching musicians.

The band rehearses on Wednesday nights from 7-9 p.m. at Dignity-Houston, 1307 Yale (between 13th and 14th Streets in the Heights).

Rehearsals are open to all musicians who wish to participate with us in the spirit of music and friendship. If you are a musician or have flag/rifle experience and would like to join the band, please call 713.524.0218 or send e-mail to [HousTxBand@aol.com](mailto:HousTxBand@aol.com).

We are an active member of the Lesbian and Gay Bands of America and will be joining musicians from bands across the country for several performances during the Millennium March on Washington in April.

For our current performance schedules and more information about the band, visit our web site at [www.houstonprideband.org](http://www.houstonprideband.org).



## POWER IN MOTION: TEXAS LESBIAN CONFERENCE SET FOR MAY IN HOUSTON

The 13th annual Texas Lesbian Conference will be held at the Renaissance Houston Hotel in Greenway Plaza in Houston May 19-21. With the theme "Power in Motion," the three-day conference will feature a number of informative workshops and exciting and entertaining speakers.

TLC organizers are hoping to attract lesbians from diverse ethnic backgrounds; speakers and entertainers of various backgrounds are being recruited for the event.

Urvashi Vaid, former executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, will present the conference's opening address on May 19. Vaid also wrote *Virtual Equality: The Mainstreaming of Gays and Lesbians*.

Other slated Texas Lesbian Conference presenters include cartoonist Alison Bechdel, creator of the *Dykes to Watch Out For* comic strip, and poet Ntozake Shange, whose writing about African-American women has been adapted to Broadway, earning her critical praise. Comedian Marga Gomez, who has opened for k. d. lang and Linda Ronstadt, will entertain conference attendees.

Conference organizers are currently looking for workshop leaders for the weekend event as well as volunteers needed for a variety of duties. They have also planned a fund-raising event to help defray costs. The "Red and White Ball," a Valentine's dance, will be held at Club Rainbow on February 12. Admission is \$10.

Admission for the Texas Lesbian Conference in May is \$65-\$85. For more information, call 713.863.1452.



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

- ☐ I want a **FREE** subscription to *insidepride*
- ☐ You're sending my copy to the wrong address
- ☐ I'm getting too many copies
  
- ☐ I want to volunteer for **Pride 2000**
- ☐ I want to advertise in *insidepride*
- ☐ I want **Pride 2000** sponsorship information

PLEASE PRINT ADDRESS BELOW:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ALTERNATE # (PAGER, CELL, ETC.): \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HOUSTON TX  
MIT NO. 6739



ALTERNATE # (PAGER, CELL, ETC.):

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

Take PRIDE

Take JOY

Take ACTION

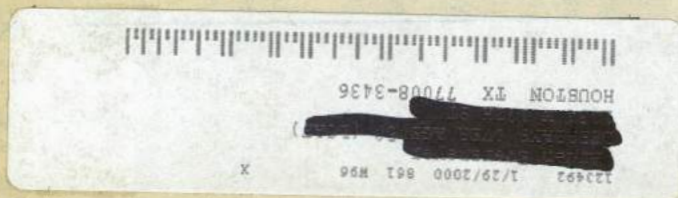
HOUSTON LESBIAN & Gay PRIDE 2000

costs. The "Red and White Ball," a Valentine's dance, will be held at Club Rainbow on February 12. Admission is \$10.

Admission for the Texas Lesbian Conference in May is \$65-\$85. For more information, call 713.863.1452.

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HOUSTON TX  
PERMIT NO. 6739

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





# insidepride

PRIDE COMMITTEE OF HOUSTON

SUMMER 2000

## PRIDE PARADE WOWS RECORD CROWDS

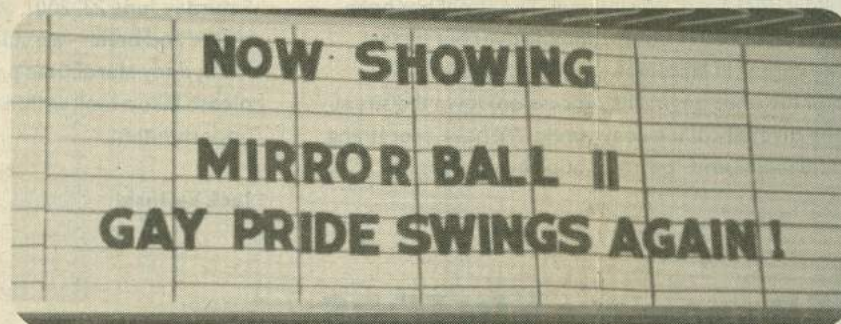
by Troy Christensen

THE 2000 HOUSTON LESBIAN & GAY PRIDE PARADE was a huge celebration of our community's unity, diversity and history, featuring 120 entries, the first appearance of a sitting Houston mayor, the return of Houston's fabulous disco ball and by far the largest attendance in the Pride Parade's history.

According to unofficial Houston Police Department estimates, between 150,000 and 170,000 came out to "Take Pride, Take Joy, Take Action" at the Saturday, June 24, parade—at least 50% more people than in the record-breaking 1999 Parade audience. In addition, many, many more people saw live coverage of this year's parade on the evening news on several Houston TV stations.

The huge crowd was treated to a brilliant spectacle as the Pride Committee's 8 1/2-foot disco ball was again suspended above Westheimer and Montrose with even more special effects. Street lights on lower Westheimer were turned off by Reliant HL&P during the parade to heighten the disco ball's effect.

Passing under the disco ball were floats, walking units and vehicles sponsored by many different community



organizations and businesses. Houston Mayor Lee Brown became the first mayor of the city to participate in the annual Parade in its 22-year history. He was joined by U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee, Texas Representative Debra Danburg and Houston City Councilmembers Carol Mims Galloway, Annise Parker and Gordon Quan.

The bright, colorful floats and other entries in the Parade showed the diversity of the groups in Houston's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. Award-winning entries were:

**Houston Pride Band**—"Ruby Slipper" (best walking unit)

**Razzle-Dazzle Dallas**—"Gypsy Rose" (best out-of-town unit)

**Krewe of Olympus**—"Edison" (best lighting on a non-professionally built float)

**Bering Memorial United Methodist Church**—"Houston" (best non-professionally built float)

**Miss Camp America**—"Rainbow Lights" (best lighting on a professionally built float)

**Rich's**—"Texas" (best professionally built float)

**Houston Gay and Lesbian Parents**—"Stonewall" (unit best)

*This Week in Texas* publisher Allan Gellman, Black Lesbian and Gay Coalition President Bonita Kirk and *Houston Voice* editor Wendy Mohon.

The audience at the 2000 Pride Parade also showed the beautiful diversity of our community. The power of Pride can educate, invigorate and empower all of us. The audience at this year's parade had a large number of families—both gay and straight—with children, reminding us that we should take pride in ourselves and our community, but we must also take action to ensure an inclusive and free future for everyone. ✧

## EL DESFILE MAS ORGULLOSO DE HOUSTON

por Manuel Gutiérrez

SI HAY ALGUNO DE USTEDES QUE NO LOGRARON IR AL DESFILE *Lesbian & Gay Pride* este 24 de Junio, perdieron mucho. Para contarles, aquí estoy. Todo empezó a las 9:00 de la noche y duro hasta las 11:00 con mas de 120 participantes incluyendo nuestro propio alcalde Lee Brown. La ruta fue designado en la colonia de Montrose alumbrando la calle Westheimer. Hubo gente de todas partes de la nación atendiendo. Es muy emocionante ser Latino y gay y poder compartir este orgullo con todos. La única que faltaba fue la presencia de muchos





The huge crowd was treated to a brilliant spectacle as the Pride Committee's 8 1/2-foot disco ball was again suspended above Westheimer and Montrose with even more special effects. Street lights on lower Westheimer were turned off by Reliant HL&P during the parade to heighten the disco ball's effect.

Passing under the disco ball were floats, walking units and vehicles sponsored by many different community



Lee Brown is the first sitting Houston Mayor to participate in the annual Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade.

Parade showed the diversity of the groups in Houston's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. Award-winning entries were:

**Houston Pride Band**—"Ruby Slipper" (best walking unit)

**Razzle-Dazzle Dallas**—"Gypsy Rose" (best out-of-town unit)

**Krewe of Olympus**—"Edison" (best lighting on a non-professionally built float)

**Bering Memorial United Methodist Church**—"Houston" (best non-professionally built float)

**Miss Camp America**—"Rainbow Lights" (best lighting on a professionally built float)

**Rich's**—"Texas" (best professionally built float)

**Houston Gay and Lesbian Parents**—"Stonewall" (unit best commemorating Pride)

**E/J's**—"Take Pride, Take Joy, Take Action" (unit best interpreting the 2000 Pride theme)

**Chase Bank PRIDE Team**—"Spiral of Montrose" (best unit overall)

Judging the entries were former Grand Marshal Bob Bouton, *The Texas Triangle* publisher Todd Cunningham,

## DE HOUSTON

por Manuel Gutiérrez

SI HAY ALGUNO DE USTEDES QUE NO LOGRARON IR AL DESFILE *Lesbian & Gay Pride* este 24 de Junio, perdieron mucho. Para contarles, aquí estoy. Todo empezó a las 9:00 de la noche y duro hasta las 11:00 con mas de 120 participantes incluyendo nuestro propio alcalde Lee Brown. La ruta fue designado en la colonia de Montrose alumbrando la calle Westheimer. Hubo gente de todas partes de la nación atendiendo. Es muy emocionante ser Latino y gay y poder compartir este orgullo con tantos. Lo único que faltaba fue la presencia de mucho más de nosotros los Latinos. Si gustan participar y ser oídos, por favor comunícansen conmigo por el comité *Pride* de Houston al 713-529-6979, o por el internet correo electrónico [www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org). Con más de nosotros el desfile para el año 2001 será el mejor del mundo. ✧

## PRIDE 2000 EVENTS CELEBRATE COMMUNITY DIVERSITY

by P.J. Sanzone and Lynn Sixkiller

THIS YEAR'S PRIDE SEASON WAS VERY EXCITING, with over two full weeks of diverse events.



The Gay Men's Chorus of Houston held their annual Pride concert at the Jewish Community Center June 17-18.

Pride 2000 officially began with the Pride Kick-Off Party hosted by the Pride Committee on Friday, June 9, at the Lovett Inn. A large crowd celebrated as attorney Mitchell Katine spoke about his court case that overturned the Texas "sodomy law," Penal Code 21.06. Singer Sheila Lennon provided entertainment for the evening. We know everyone had a good time because we ran out of beer before the party was over!

As Events coordinators for Pride 2000, we were very pleased with the functions that were offered to the community. There were over 90 events, with a wide variety of films, plays, art shows, church services, charitable benefits, recreational events, educational programs and social events.

All of the events contributed to a positive celebration that enabled individuals to become more



Attorney Mitchell Katine spoke at the Pride Kick-off Party about the defeat of Texas' anti-gay sodomy law.

aware of resources available within the community. We hope that you were able to enjoy some of these events and to see what goes on around Houston all year long.

We also encourage you to consider holding a cultural, educational or charitable event for the GLBT community during Pride 2001. Hosting an event is a great way to let everyone know more about your organization. We would love to see you get involved. For more information about Pride events, call the PrideLine at 713-529-6979. ✧



Rev. Dr. Janie Spahr presided over the second annual Pride interfaith worship service at Bering Memorial United Methodist Church on June 11.





## Pride Committee of Houston, Inc.

### Mission Statement

The Pride Committee of Houston, Inc., is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is to coordinate and promote events that celebrate the diversity, unity, and history of the lesbian and gay community. We do not discriminate on the basis of age, color, gender, transgender, or bisexual identification, nor do we discriminate against the physically challenged or those who are differently abled.

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

### Board of Directors

Jack Valinski	Executive Director
Gary Masse	Treasurer
Nick Brines	Fundraising
Troy Christensen	Publications
Brian Keever	Banner District
Joel Lutringer	Marketing

### Celebration Committee

Roy Hendrick	Secretary
Paul Radous	Treasurer
Jason Vincik	AstroWorld
Jamie Wenner	AstroWorld
P. J. Sanzone	Events
Lynn Sixkiller	Events
Tina Travis	InterPride Region 3
Ryan Rice	Media
Jim Duke	Merchandise
Bill Burford	Parade
Manny Gutierrez	Parade
Mark Willis	Parade
Ken Donnelly	Pride Guide
Cindy Archer	Volunteers
Christian Sanders	Volunteers

### Legal Counsel

Debra Hunt  
Moore and Hunt, Attorneys

## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE NIGHT IS MAGICAL! THE PARADE IS MAGICAL!

The PCOH Board, Celebration Committee and volunteers have put in hundreds and hundreds of hours to prepare for this night. As the sun goes down, and the day dissolves into night, the floats light up, the music begins to stream and the marchers gather. All the contingents line up like airplanes on a busy day at Intercontinental Airport ready to take off to distant places. But our parade is taking place in our own neighborhood. And all the planning, designing, painting, lighting, pasting, nailing, costuming and covering everything in rainbow colors is behind us now—it's time to go. The night is here and over 150,000 people are ready for the event.

I blow the starting whistle at precisely 8:52 p.m. and we start down our yellow brick road, Westheimer. The street has been cleared and the disco ball is up and shining over our largest dance hall, the corner of Montrose and Westheimer.

As each of the units begins its procession down the street, we witness the diversity of the community. We have everything from "mom and mom" and "pop and pop" businesses to

multinationals and we represent all political persuasions, but we all march together to the beat of one big drum.

I am proud to be part of this magic. Even after all the years that I have been involved in the Parade, it still empowers me. Each year we get a little bigger and a little better. Houston Mayor Lee Brown's participation added to the political significance and public awareness of the Parade. Channel 11's Diana Rubio and Channel 2's Kim Alvarado, who broadcasted live TV reports, not only reported the story, they showed how much fun they and the crowd were having. Our community could not buy such positive coverage.

So where do we go from here? The Committee has already begun work on next year's festivities. The parade is set for Saturday, June 23, 2001, at 8:45 p.m. Join us in making 2001 even bigger and better—we still have a long way to go to be as grand as the Sydney Mardi Gras parade. If you are interested in helping, please take a look within this newsletter for volunteering opportunities.

**Jack Valinski**

## LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

WE ON THE PRIDE COMMITTEE ARE REALLY DELIGHTED with the brilliance of the Pride Parade, the diversity of events held during the entire Pride season, the enormous turnout for the Parade and other events and the excellent coverage Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride received in the broadcast and print media.

Each member of the Pride Committee has worked very hard over the past year to bring Houston this celebration of our community's unity, diversity and history, and we are very proud of our accomplishments. However, the celebration does not belong to the Pride Committee of Houston—it belongs to the entire community. We need your feedback to make Pride 2001 even better.

The success of the annual celebration and the Committee's year-round service to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Houstonians require community involvement as well. One of our goals is to create a true cultural festival of diverse artistic, educational and charitable functions culminating in the annual nighttime Pride Parade. While there hasn't been a post-Parade festival since the switch to a nighttime Parade in 1997, we would also like to find a way to bring that tradition back to Houston. The festival plays an important role, continuing our celebration, giving organizations a space to showcase themselves and

The Pride Committee shines in June, but we provide services to the community year-round. We currently publish a community resource guide, a media guide and a weekly community calendar. Education is a major component of our mission and the ways in which we can educate our own community and society at large about lesbian and gay lives is only limited by our imagination and our resources. In this newsletter, you can read about a variety of activities PCOH sponsored this past June and a variety of ways you can get involved in the coming year.

As the editors of *insidepride*, we want you to read all of the articles, of course. But if you can't get past all the pretty pictures, that's okay too. We're excited to bring you the second edition of "Visions of Pride," two full pages of color photos from the 2000 Pride Parade. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Dalton DeHart for the use of his photos. All photos in this issue are courtesy of Dalton unless otherwise noted. Dalton photographs every Houston gay and lesbian event he can, performing an enormous service over the years by single-handedly chronicling our history.

Our community accomplishes a lot with the selfless efforts of a relatively few individuals like Dalton. Just imagine what we could do if everyone worked together to secure freedom for us all. Join us in our mission of education and celebration and help



Roy Hendrick	Secretary
Paul Radous	Treasurer
Jason Vincik	AstroWorld
Jamie Wenner	AstroWorld
P. J. Sanzone	Events
Lynn Sixkiller	Events
Tina Travis	InterPride Region 3
Ryan Rice	Media
Jim Duke	Merchandise
Bill Burford	Parade
Manny Gutierrez	Parade
Mark Willis	Parade
Ken Donnelly	Pride Guide
Cindy Archer	Volunteers
Christian Sanders	Volunteers

#### Legal Counsel

Debra Hunt  
Moore and Hunt, Attorneys

#### Contact Information

PrideLine: 713-529-6979  
Fax: 713-529-6929

Pride Committee of Houston, Inc.  
P. O. Box 66071  
Houston, Texas 77266-6071

E-mail: [info@pridehouston.org](mailto:info@pridehouston.org)  
Web: [www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org)

#### Meetings

Board of Directors and general meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center (1475 W. Gray) on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, respectively.

#### Submissions

We encourage you to submit articles or photographs for possible inclusion in *insidepride*. Submitted materials may be edited and cannot be returned without prior arrangement.

## InterPride

The Pride Committee of Houston, Inc., is a member of the International Association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered Pride Coordinators (InterPride).

*insidepride* Vol. 15 No. 3, Summer 2000. Copyright 2000 Pride Committee of Houston, Inc. All rights reserved. Published quarterly. No part of this newspaper may be reproduced in any manner without permission of the Pride Committee of Houston, Inc. The Pride Committee of Houston logo is a service mark of the Pride Committee of Houston, Inc. Published by the Pride Committee of Houston, Inc., P. O. Box 66071, Houston, Texas 77266-6071.

over the past year to bring Houston this celebration of our community's unity, diversity and history, and we are very proud of our accomplishments. However, the celebration does not belong to the Pride Committee of Houston—it belongs to the entire community. We need your feedback to make Pride 2001 even better.

The success of the annual celebration and the Committee's year-round service to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Houstonians require community involvement as well. One of our goals is to create a true cultural festival of diverse artistic, educational and charitable functions culminating in the annual nighttime Pride Parade. While there hasn't been a post-Parade festival since the switch to a nighttime Parade in 1997, we would also like to find a way to bring that tradition back to Houston. The festival plays an important role, continuing our celebration, giving organizations a space to showcase themselves and empowering our community with rousing speeches. Neither of these goals is attainable without community involvement in sponsoring cultural programs and contributing to the festival.

and our resources. In this newsletter, you can read about a variety of activities PCOH sponsored this past June and a variety of ways you can get involved in the coming year.

As the editors of *insidepride*, we want you to read all of the articles, of course. But if you can't get past all the pretty pictures, that's okay too. We're excited to bring you the second edition of "Visions of Pride," two full pages of color photos from the 2000 Pride Parade. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Dalton DeHart for the use of his photos. All photos in this issue are courtesy of Dalton unless otherwise noted. Dalton photographs every Houston gay and lesbian event he can, performing an enormous service over the years by single-handedly chronicling our history.

Our community accomplishes a lot with the selfless efforts of a relatively few individuals like Dalton. Just imagine what we could do if everyone worked together to secure freedom for us all. Join us in our mission of education and celebration and help to change the world.

**Troy Christensen & Russell Williams**

## VOLUNTEER INTEREST SESSIONS PRIDE 2001

### *If you enjoyed the recent Pride Parade*

and wondered how it happens, this is your chance to find out. The Pride Committee of Houston is a year-round non-profit organization that produces and promotes a series of events to celebrate the Houston GLBT community's history, unity and diversity each June. The grand finale, the popular nighttime Pride Parade, is our community's highest profile event. We have a variety of openings for volunteers, such as newsletter writing, party planning, fundraising and publicity.

Working with the Pride Committee of Houston is an excellent networking opportunity and an enriching experience. Our group works closely with many of the non-profit organizations, businesses and political leaders of our community. Our activities have a major impact on GLBT lives and have the power to transform society. If you are energetic, creative and proud, then...

*We want you!*



**Come and learn** about the structure of our organization and the variety of ways you can become involved. We will host two Volunteer Interest Sessions in August. There is no obligation—just attend and learn about our exciting activities as we begin planning for Pride 2001.

### *Session 1*

Wednesday, August 23, 7 p.m.  
Lobo Bookstore and Café  
3939 Montrose Blvd.

### *Session 2*

Tuesday, August 29, 7 p.m.  
Houston Lesbian & Gay  
Community Center  
803 Hawthorne St.

For more information, call the PrideLine at 713-529-6979 or visit our web site at [www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org)



# PCOH THANKS VOLUNTEERS—THE SECRET OF PRIDE'S SUCCESS

by *Cindy Archer*

WRAPPING UP ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SEASON, the Pride Committee of Houston hosted its annual Thank You party on Friday, July 21. The event, which is held to thank and recognize the Committee's volunteers, sponsors and other friends, took place at the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center, home of the Pride office and located in the heart of Montrose. The night was sultry, but the atmosphere was festive, with Committee members and guests enjoying a buffet and visiting with friends.

PCOH Executive Director Jack Valinski expressed his thanks to all volunteers, including the Committee's Board members and coordinators who work year-round to make Pride a success, and Fundraising Director Nick Brines thanked our sponsors and individual donors.

Volunteer coordinators Christian Sanders and Cindy Archer then announced the Volunteers of the Year. Each year, one male and one female are awarded this honor in recognition of their outstanding volunteer work. This year's awards went to Russell Ben Williams and Cynthia Hernández.

Russell has made great contributions to the insidepride newsletter over the past year, lending his editing, proofreading and layout skills to this quarterly publication. He has also worked on other PCOH publications for the past few years, tirelessly combing for grammar and typing errors and helping to polish the text. In addition to this "behind-the-scenes" work, he has also helped with many mailouts and other volunteer functions.

Cynthia's contribution to Pride 2000 was on the front lines—she volunteered as a runner during our Pride Day in the Park at AstroWorld and then took on the role of line-up

and safety captain on Parade day. After working all day checking parade entries for proper safety equipment, she stayed to help with crowd control. In addition to bringing great energy and enthusiasm to these tasks, Cynthia helped add new faces to our ranks by encouraging many friends and acquaintances to volunteer.

The Community Center's big-screen TV was another focal point during the evening as attendees watched video footage of this year's parade. Everyone gathered around later to watch a compilation of various news reports covering the parade, and partygoers cheered to see the broad and positive coverage our fabulous nighttime event received.

As a special thank-you gift, volunteers who worked during the 2000 Pride season were treated to complimentary copies of the parade video. Even while reminiscing over the Parade's highlights, some volunteers were already discussing their plans for the coming year.



*Pride Volunteers of the Year, Russell Ben Williams and Cynthia Hernández, accept their awards from PCOH Volunteer Coordinators, Cindy Archer and Christian Sanders.*

Pride 2001 promises to be even bigger and better. Planning begins soon. Anyone interested in joining the Pride Committee of Houston can come to a general meeting, held at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 W. Gray. For more information about getting involved, check out our web site, [www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org), or call the PrideLine at 713-529-6979. ✕

## SPONSORS TAKE ACTION TO SUPPORT PRIDE

by *Nick Brines*

THE PRIDE COMMITTEE OF HOUSTON COULD NOT PRODUCE the numerous

## 2000 PARADE DAY VOLUNTEERS

by *Cindy Archer*

THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTEERS WORKED WITH US ON JUNE 24 to make the nighttime Parade so fabulous. We thank these individuals for giving of themselves to make Pride 2000 a success:

Raju Adwaney • Billy Apgar • Paul Archer • Ed Barnes • William Barneset • John Black • Michelle Bowen • Joel Deason • Jone Devlin • Kelly Draper • Johnny Espinosa •

Guthrie • Jim Halloran • Cynthia Hernández • Lynne Hill • Tomas Hubert • Paul Knobloch • Dean Mackey • Melissa McClaskey • Rick Michaels • Michael Miller • Cynthia Mimix • Andy Morales • Lauren Nagel • Chris Nixon • Ashley Pearson • Teresa Ponce • Alex Ponce, Jr. • Rick Ramirez • Tracy Rebouche • Lyn Smith • Matt Thompson • Michael Todd • Joe Weinman • Juan Wertz • David Wilson • Lee Wright

We love our volunteers and appreciate each of you, even if



lines—she volunteered as a runner during our Pride Day in the Park at AstroWorld and then took on the role of line-up

## SPONSORS

### TAKE ACTION TO SUPPORT PRIDE

by Nick Brines

THE PRIDE COMMITTEE OF HOUSTON COULD NOT PRODUCE the numerous events, publications and activities that make up the annual Lesbian & Gay Pride Celebration if it were not for the important support of our sponsors and donors. In addition to providing necessary financial support, the involvement of these businesses demonstrates their commitment to community diversity and, more specifically, to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender consumers. Please thank these sponsors and donors for their involvement when doing business with them.

#### Title Sponsor

Gallery Furniture

#### Corporate Sponsor

Bud Light and Silver Eagle Distributors

#### Grand Sponsor

Coors Light and Hillman International Brands, Ltd.

#### Proud Sponsor

hotboytv.com

#### Pride Supporters

Chase Bank • ID Lubricants and Westridge Laboratories • Rich's • Starbucks • Wells Fargo

#### Community Grants

Colt 45's • Hollyfield Foundation • Texas Gay Rodeo Association

#### Media Sponsors

104 KRBE • Greater Houston Convention & Visitors Bureau • HERO Magazine • OutSmart Magazine • The Texas Triangle

#### Retail Partners

Basic Brothers • Black Hawk Leather • Leather Forever • Lobo Bookstore and Café • Walgreens

#### In-Kind Donors

DeMontrond Volvo • Don Carlos Catering • Kroger's • Lovett Inn • Red Bull Energy Drinks

Parade's highlights, some volunteers were already discussing their plans for the coming year.

713-529-6979.

## 2000 PARADE DAY VOLUNTEERS

by Cindy Archer

THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTEERS WORKED WITH US ON JUNE 24 to make the nighttime Parade so fabulous. We thank these individuals for giving of themselves to make Pride 2000 a success:

Raju Adwaney • Billy Apgar • Paul Archer • Ed Barnes • William Barneset • John Black • Michelle Bowen • Joel Deason • Jone Devlin • Kelly Draper • Johnny Espinosa • Krysta Ferguson • Melanie Barr Fitzpatrick • Terry Fontenot • James Fulton • Annie Gonzales • Adrianna Gonzalez • J-Mag

Guthrie • Jim Halloran • Cynthia Hernández • Lynne Hill • Tomas Hubert • Paul Knobloch • Dean Mackey • Melissa McClaskey • Rick Michaels • Michael Miller • Cynthia Mimix • Andy Morales • Lauren Nagel • Chris Nixon • Ashley Pearson • Teresa Ponce • Alex Ponce, Jr. • Rick Ramirez • Tracy Rebouche • Lyn Smith • Matt Thompson • Michael Todd • Joe Weinman • Juan Wertz • David Wilson • Lee Wright

We love our volunteers and appreciate each of you, even if we slip and leave out your name. Any oversight or omission is purely unintentional.

## CELEBRATING PRIDE WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

by Nick Brines

THE FRIENDS OF PRIDE CAMPAIGN WAS CREATED THIS YEAR to ensure that Houston's Lesbian & Gay Pride Celebration remains a grassroots, community-supported event. The Pride Committee of Houston requires funds above and beyond Parade fees to operate each year. The individuals listed below have made a financial commitment to ensure that Houston will continue to produce high-quality Pride events for everyone to enjoy.

In recognition of their commitments, Friends of Pride receive a package of benefits during the Pride Celebration. Reserved VIP bleacher seating at the parade, commemorative merchandise and invitations to exclusive Pride events are a few of the benefits received.

If you are interested in becoming a Friend of Pride, please contact the Pride Committee of Houston at 713-529-6979 or visit our web site, [www.pridehouston.org](http://www.pridehouston.org).

#### ORANGE (gift of \$500 or more)

Paul Rados • Dr. David Sanford

#### YELLOW (gift of \$250 or more)

Richard Bielec • The Garden Party (c/o Elmer Shehane) • Phil Layton & Dana Fitzsimmons • Rick Potter • Thomas Schwartz • Carl Whitmarsh

#### GREEN (gift of \$100 or more)

Philip Agler & Ron Lacarna • Tim Baker • Thomas Conry • Kermit Eisenhut & Scott Boyd • James Ferea • Deborah Holmes • Alfred Kroulik • Mark Leger • Grant Martin • Olivia Monica • Victor Pala & Chris Thompson • J. Richard Pickering • Gilbert Vargas • Randy Scott & Henry Chiu •

Eric Shamban • Blake & Gordon Weisser • Peach Williamson • Barbara W. Winston

#### BLUE (gift of \$50 or more)

Fara Armien • Melissa Cantrell • Ken Council • Larry Dodgen & Abie Kupfer • Gene Harrington • Annella Harrison • Kristin Ingram • Jack Jackson • Jim Jemelka • David Manuel • James Ragan • Frank Rhodeham • Nick Rogers • Alexander Shreders

#### PURPLE (gift of \$25 or more)

Larry Butler • Chris Ehlinger • Jodie Endlich • Andria Ford • Donald Goad • Gary Grant • Gene Harrington • Monica Montanez • Jeffrey Wacaser



## THRILLING PRIDE CELEBRATED AT ASTROWORLD

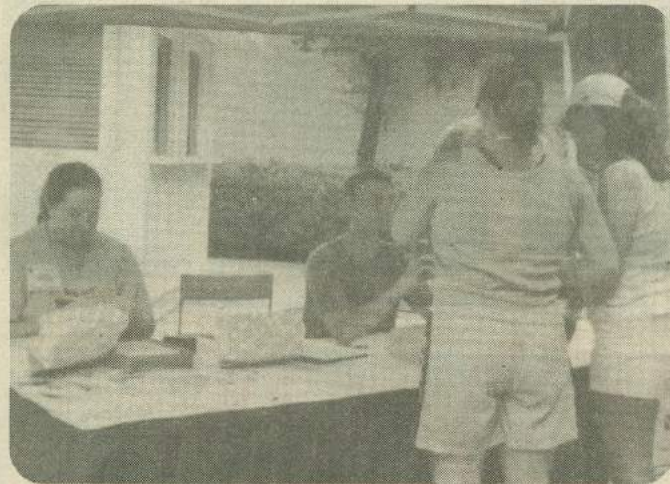
OVER 750 COMMUNITY MEMBERS joined PCOH to celebrate Pride and to ride the thrilling roller-coasters at AstroWorld during the 2000 Pride Day at the Park event on Saturday, June 10.

The day turned out to be perfect for enjoying all of the theme park's rides. There was a strong chance of bad weather and, while it never did get nasty, we almost had the park to ourselves.

Pride ticket holders were treated to a BBQ lunch in AstroWorld's private reception area, giving us all a chance to meet and mingle with our fellow community members. The entertainment provided for Pride ticket holders was also a lot of fun. Local personality Kofi did a great job as emcee and performed several numbers that had everyone hooting and hollering. The AstroWorld players sang their popular rock-n-roll revue and the crowd went crazy for Tamara of the dance group Funky Green Dogs.

This year's Pride Day in the Park tickets were a fantastic deal—ticket holders also received free admission into Rich's Saturday evening and a WaterWorld pass good for the rest of the season.

Pride Day in the Park 2000 was a big success, so we'll continue the fun and frivolity in 2001. Make sure to join us for all the thrills. ✨



*AstroWorld scenes (clockwise from top): Pride Day in the Park coordinators Jason Vincik and Jamie Wenner with headliner Tamara of the Funky Green Dogs, emcee Kofi and Fundraising Director Nick Brines; Pride Guide coordinator Ken Donnelly and Publications Director Troy Christensen with Daffy Duck and Foghorn Leghorn; Volunteer coordinator Cindy Archer and Treasurer Paul Radous sell Pride tickets outside the Park's front gates.*

*Photos courtesy of Troy Christensen*



## HOUSTON SHOWS OFF ITS DIVERSITY WITH 120 ENTRIES IN 2000 PRIDE PARADE

THE HOUSTON LESBIAN & GAY PRIDE PARADE grows and grows. The 2000 parade consisted of 120 entries, including:

Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce • Body Positive Wellness Center • Texas Renegades • City of Houston Bureau of HIV/STD Prevention • KRBE • Bayou City Boys Club, Inc. •





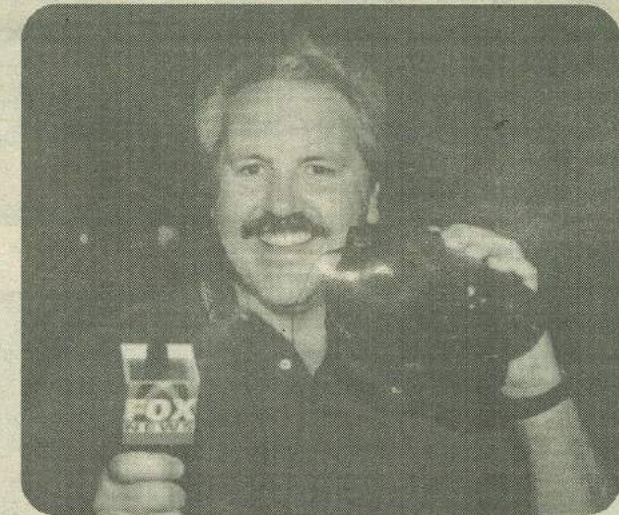


## HOUSTON SHOWS OFF ITS DIVERSITY WITH 120 ENTRIES IN 2000 PRIDE PARADE

THE HOUSTON LESBIAN & GAY PRIDE PARADE grows and grows. The 2000 parade consisted of 120 entries, including:

Houston Area Motorcycle Society • Pride Parade Banner • Pride Grand Marshal Tori Williams • Pride Grand Marshal in Memorium Richard Wiederholt • Pride Honorary Grand Marshal Don Sinclair • People with AIDS Coalition Houston • Honorable Houston Mayor Lee Brown • Chase Bank PRIDE Team • Honorable United States Congressperson Sheila Jackson Lee • Honorable Texas State Representative Debra Danburg • Honorable City Council Member Annise Parker • Silver Eagle/Budweiser Beer 1 • Rich's • Montrose Counseling Center • hotboytv.com • Krewe of Olympus-Texas, Inc. • Gary Brewton MD • Church of Kindred Spirits • Crash Productions • Montrose Clinic • Harris County Democratic Party • Honorable City Councilmember Gordon Quan • Honorable City Councilmember Carol Mims Galloway • Yard of Pride • Houston Pride Band • First Unitarian Universalist Church of Houston • 25th Anniversary of Daniel and Thomas • Continental Valley Investors • The Rainbow Room • United Cab • Lesbians Over Age 50 (LOAFERS) • Brazos River Bottom • Astro Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf • Alpha Lambda • Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual Alliance at UH (GLOBAL) • AssistHers Care Team Program • Ripcord • Overland Trail Riders • Rainbow Ranglers Dance Club • Willows-Willowbend, Willow Meadows & Willow Brook • Bering Memorial United Methodist Church • Houston Gay and Lesbian Film Festival • Integrity-Houston • Asians & Friends Houston • Community Gospel Church • Classic Chassis Car Club - Houston • Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center • Compaq PLUS • Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (HATCH) • Progressive Voters in Action • Montrose Clergy Association • AIDS Foundation Houston • Miss Camp America Foundation • Houston Outdoor Group (HOG) • Venture N • Gallery Furniture 1 • Wells Fargo • Houston Voice • Houston Gay and Lesbian Parents • Greater Houston

Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce • Body Positive Wellness Center • Texas Renegades • City of Houston Bureau of HIV/STD Prevention • KRBE • Bayou City Boys Club, Inc. • Ron's American Limo • The Assistance Fund • Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church • SEA Shell • Dignity/Houston • Harris County Libertarian Party • Houston Humane Society • Steven's House • Maranatha Fellowship MCC • Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG) • SGI-USA-Houston • More Light Presbyterians of Greater Houston • Bering Omega Community Service-Residential Hospice Program • E/J's • The 611 • Incognito, The Club • Red Bull Energy Drink • Lambda Rollerskating Club • Unity Committee Houston • National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Houston Creating Change Committee • Hollywood Food Store • ACLU of Texas • Kolbe Project • Mela's Tejano • Universe Pageantry • OutSmart Magazine • Unhinged Productions • Charles Armstrong Investments • HMBL, Inc • Houston Women's Festival • Covenant Church Liberal Ecumenical Baptist • Houston Area Family Ties Association (HAFTA) • Stonewall Democrats of Houston • WIP Society • Cousins • Misfits of Houston • GLBT Aggies • Chances • ~N~Between New Barn • Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus • Human Rights Campaign • Mary's • The Texas Triangle • Razzle-Dazzle Dallas • Texas Gay Rodeo Association • Bonham Exchange • Gay Men's Chorus of Houston • Pacific Street • Club Inergy • Supercuts • ICTLEP • Rascal's • Pride Committee of Houston • Gulf Coast Archives Museum • Silver Eagle/Budweiser Beer 2 • Gallery Furniture 2



Lanny Griffith of Fox 26 News brought his "Lanny-Cam" to the 2000 Pride Parade and his playful coverage of the Parade was featured on the TV station's Monday morning news broadcast following Parade weekend. The Parade was covered live on KPRC Channel 2 (NBC) and KHOU Channel 11 (CBS) and was also covered on KTRK Channel 13 (ABC) and Spanish-language Univision Channel 45. Pride 2000 events received extensive coverage in the community press and Pride activities were covered in the Houston Chronicle's This Week neighborhood editions throughout the year.







Texas Representative Debra Danburg



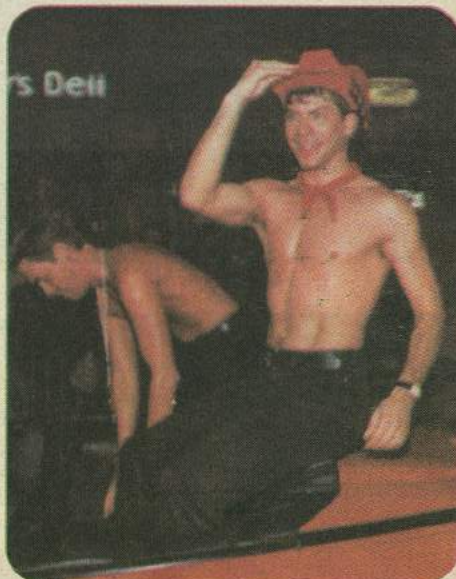
Body Positive



Honorary Grand Marshal Don Sinclair



Grand Marshal Tori Williams



hotboytv.com



Sue Lovell of Stonewall Democrats



25th Anniversary of Daniel and Thomas



Honorary Grand Marshal-Organization People with AIDS Coalition-Houston

# VISIONS





# VISIONS



Honorary Grand Marshal-Organization People with AIDS Coalition-Houston



Houston Pride Band



Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (HATCH)



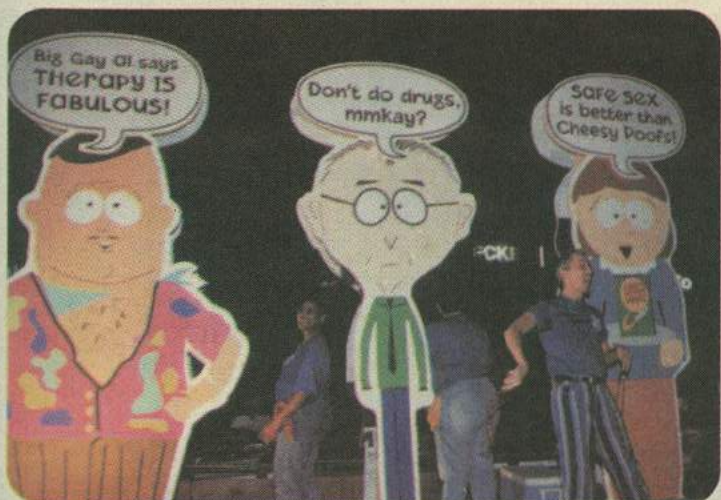
A few of our estimated 150,000-170,000 closest friends



Venture-N



Chase Bank PRIDE Team



Montrose Counseling Center



Family of Richard Wiederholt, Grand Marshal in Memorium



Houston City Councilmembers Gordon Quan and Carol Mims Galloway





Singer Tina Cousins on the 104 KRBE float



Hollywood Food Store



The Texas Triangle



Bering Memorial United Methodist Church



Krewe of Olympus

# OF PRIDE

Photos by Dalton DeHart







Bering Memorial United Methodist Church



Krewe of Olympus

# OF PRIDE

Photos by Dalton DeHart



U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee



Rascal's



Gallery Furniture



Miss Camp America



Pride Committee of Houston



Cousins



# RELIVE THE **EXCITEMENT—** **ORDER YOUR PARADE VIDEO** **TODAY**

Words and photos can't capture the beauty of the floats, the energy of the performers, the roar of the crowds or the fabulousness of the disco ball at the 2000 Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade. Houston's nighttime Pride Parade



is a fantasia of light, motion and sound. For all that, you need to purchase a copy of the Pride Committee's official 2000 Parade Video.

At \$10 per copy, the video is an affordable way to

relive the excitement of the Pride Parade or to experience it for the first time. And if your group was in the Parade, you can see yourself in action!

The video features all of the entries in the Parade, announcements of the sponsoring organizations by the emcees and group performances in front



of the judges' stand.

Use the handy order form below to get your video and see



*The Chase Bank PRIDE Team's fanciful giant marionettes are featured in the 2000 Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade video.*

## 2000 MERCHANDISE—SOLD!

*by Jim Duke*

ANOTHER PRIDE SEASON HAS COME AND GONE, and it was another amazing year for merchandise. Sales were great for the T-shirts, caps, tanks, sleeveless T's, shorts and pins. I think just about everybody in town got a memento from Pride 2000 because there were even fewer items remaining than last year!

I first want to say "thank you" to all of the members of the Pride Committee of Houston. It was a very tough year for me—much more than I had anticipated. I was the only Merchandise coordinator this year, but getting help and support from each and every PCOH member pulled me through. A special thanks to Craig for all of his help in selecting merchandise. And a very special thanks to Michael. He kept me focused and helped me

# TH

OVER 75  
coaster

Th  
was a st  
park to

Pri  
area, gi

enterta

Kofi dic

and hol

crowd v

Th

receive

the rest

Pri

in 2001.



# HO

THE HOUSTON  
2000 parade



affordable way  
relive the excitement of the Pride Parade  
or to experience it for the first time. And if  
your group was in the Parade, you can see yourself in action!

The video features all of the entries in the Parade, announcements of  
the sponsoring organizations by the emcees and group performances in front



of the judges' stand.

Use the handy order form  
below to get your video and see  
all of the excitement for yourself.  
Hurry—supplies are limited.



## PLACE YOUR VIDEO ORDER NOW!

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (work) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of copies (\$10 each) \_\_\_\_\_  
Method of Payment (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (required) \_\_\_\_\_

FULL PAGE  
ADS FOR  
Gallery  
Furniture  
+ Bud Light  
omitted

## 2000 MERCHANDISE—SOLD!

by Jim Duke

ANOTHER PRIDE SEASON HAS COME AND GONE, and it was another amazing year for merchandise. Sales were great for the T-shirts, caps, tanks, sleeveless T's, shorts and pins. I think just about everybody in town got a memento from Pride 2000 because there were even fewer items remaining than last year!

I first want to say "thank you" to all of the members of the Pride Committee of Houston. It was a very tough year for me—much more than I had anticipated. I was the only Merchandise coordinator this year, but getting help and support from each and every PCOH member pulled me through. A special thanks to Craig for all of his help in selecting merchandise. And a very special thanks to Michael. He kept me focused and helped me keep a "prideful" perspective, and he was always there to remind me of how important my work for Pride is.

The season would not have gone as well as it did without the tremendous support of our retail partners. The staff at Basic Brothers, Lobo Bookstore & Café, Black Hawk Leather, Walgreens on Montrose and Walgreens on W. Gray helped me keep up with the stock and promote sales for the 2000 season. To say "thank you" to these individuals seems inadequate for the care and effort that they put out toward our community. Be sure to let them know that you appreciate their caring the next time you are out shopping around town. I know I will do all I can to support these stores because they are our community!

I did not seem to make it out to as many events, clubs and bars with Pride merchandise as I have in the past, which was a regret of mine. I wish I could have done more, but I hope you were able to catch up with me at the places I was able to attend. Many thanks go out to the staff at the Brazos River Bottom, Chances ~N~Between New Barn, Guava Lamp, JR's Bar & Grill, the Lovett Inn, Mary's, the Montrose Mining Company, Riva's Restaurant and the Westheimer Street Fair (in Exile). These guys and gals were a tremendous help and they picked up my spirits when I was feeling run-down. I feel grateful to have such wonderful places in our gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community.

I want to let you all know that I am not planning to serve in an official capacity on the Pride Committee in 2001. Now, I haven't turned "straight" or anything like that, but I need to take some time off to rejuvenate. I still look forward to coming out and being active in the community and you may see me out unofficially volunteering during Pride 2001.

A friend asked me this past year, "Why do you do all of this work for your community?" I told him because it is too important not to. We have a huge community of diverse people that work extremely hard to get out the messages of support and love to the world around us. What I am able to do seems like only a small contribution to the massive effort that is being done.

I know for a fact that being an active and involved member of our community here in Houston will make a difference. Each boy or girl who sees a Pride Celebration for the first time may realize that he or she has found a place of inclusion. I feel that my own nieces and nephews, and all future children, can exist not in a world of hate and violence, but in one of tolerance and peace.

This is why I worked for the Pride Committee of Houston in 1999 and 2000. This is why I am not going to disappear, but will always stay involved. This is why I'm proud!

Peace, love and pride to you all. ✧

HO

THE HOUSTON  
2000 parade

Houston A  
Pride Gran  
Memoriam  
Marshal D  
Honorable  
Team • Ho  
Jackson Le  
Danburg •  
Silver Eagle  
Center • h  
Gary Brew  
Production  
Party • Ho  
Honorable  
of Pride •  
Church of  
Continent  
Cab • Lesb  
Astro Rain  
Lesbian or  
Care Team  
Rainbow F  
Willow Me  
Methodist  
Integrity-H  
Gospel Ch  
Houston L  
PLUS • Ho  
(HATCH) •  
Associatio  
America F  
Venture N  
Voice • Ho



# WOMEN'S FESTIVAL FLOURISHES EACH FALL

THIS YEAR MARKED THE FIRST TIME that the Houston Women's Festival had an entry in the Pride Parade. With Tina Burgos at the helm of a DJ booth and over a dozen volunteers dancing and passing out prizes, the colorful float was a hit with spectators all along the route. Festival producer Shirley Knight says, "We had a great time participating in the Pride Parade and we look forward to having an entry every year."

The Houston Women's Festival is an annual event held in the fall to celebrate art, music, crafts and community. It is one of the premier annual events for women in Texas and draws people from throughout the state and beyond. Founded in 1995, the festival has grown every year, from over 500 participants the first year to over 1500 in 1999.

The sixth annual event takes place on Saturday, October 28, from 1 p.m. to midnight at Garden in the Heights, 3926 Feagan between Heights and Shepherd. The show on the main stage kicks off at 1:30 with local artist Chris O'Toole. She'll be followed by Elaine Townsend, a blues artist from South Carolina who has shared the stage with k.d. lang and the Indigo Girls. Next up is local singer/songwriter Noria, a name to remember.

At 4:30 the Therapy Sisters take the stage. This musical comedy duo travels nationally and is spending the summer performing in Provincetown. Tret Fure is next at 5:30. A legend in women's music, Fure produced albums for and toured with Cris Williamson for many years before returning to her solo career.

At 6:30 Texas sensation Terri Hendrix takes the stage. Hendrix recently opened for Joan Armatrading in Houston and has launched a successful musical career. She performs in a duo with guitar player Lloyd Maines.

At 7:45 the festival is pleased to present Tina of Tina and the B Sides. This charismatic performer was signed by the same Sire Records exec who signed Chrissie Hynde, Deborah Harry, Madonna and k.d. lang. Expect a dynamic

solo set from this artist who wins fervent fans wherever she plays.

Reggae artist Tchiya Amet is up next at 9 p.m. A favorite on the Bob Marley tour, Amet combines native Indian themes with reggae rhythms and Sade-like music to create beautiful, uplifting tunes. She will be backed by her four-piece band.

The show concludes with the all-woman band Diamella and guest artist Miss Molly. This Louisiana band keeps Gulf-Coast music alive with a steady stream of blues, rock and boogie.

Also included in every Houston Women's Festival is a performing and visual art show featuring established and up-and-coming artists who work in a variety of media. The art show is held indoors in the Main Hall. This year's featured artist is Charla Bruce and the featured photographer is Sharon Stewart. Poets Donna Garrott and Karon Cook are among the women who will share their work on the indoor stage.

Throughout the event, festival-goers can stroll through the community marketplace where craftswomen display their wares, entrepreneurs promote their businesses and organizations provide information. Jewelry, pottery, stained glass and imported clothing are just some of the items that will be offered.



The Houston Women's Festival sponsored an entry in the Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade for the first time in 2000.

The festival is open to all friends of the women's community. Tickets are \$10 in advance and will be on sale in local shops such as Lobo Bookstore and Café and Tracy's Retreat beginning October 1. Tickets are \$12 at the door. The festival is produced by the Athena Art Project, a non-profit organization that supports the artistic endeavors of women. For more information, see the festival web site, [www.hwfestival.org](http://www.hwfestival.org).

## PROGRESSIVE VOTERS IN ACTION SIGNS UP 1,750 AT PRIDE

ON JUNE 24, 2000, 91 INDIVIDUALS CAME OUT to sign up 1,750 people who believe in gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) civil rights. It was a tremendous effort, gathering volunteers from Progressive Voters in Action (PVA), the Harris County Democratic Party, the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political

manager for PVA. Mr. Morua noted further, "With over 150,000 people in attendance, the Pride Parade is an excellent opportunity to both identify and activate our GLBT and straight, allied supporters. We look forward to working with the Pride Committee next year to identify

you find a progressive organization that has a sharp focus and holds itself accountable to measured results and to social justice."

PVA is a non-profit, non-partisan, voter identification organization dedicated to building a progressive political



in a duo with guitar player Lloyd Maines. At 7:45 the festival is pleased to present Tina of Tina and the B Sides. This charismatic performer was signed by the same Sire Records exec who signed Chrissie Hynde, Deborah Harry, Madonna and k.d. lang. Expect a dynamic

Throughout the event, festival-goers can stroll through the community marketplace where craftswomen display their wares, entrepreneurs promote their businesses and organizations provide information. Jewelry, pottery, stained glass and imported clothing are just some of the items that will be offered.

Retreat beginning October 1. Tickets are \$12 at the door. The festival is produced by the Athena Art Project, a non-profit organization that supports the artistic endeavors of women. For more information, see the festival web site, [www.hwfestival.org](http://www.hwfestival.org).

## PROGRESSIVE VOTERS IN ACTION SIGNS UP 1,750 AT PRIDE

ON JUNE 24, 2000, 91 INDIVIDUALS CAME OUT to sign up 1,750 people who believe in gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) civil rights. It was a tremendous effort, gathering volunteers from Progressive Voters in Action (PVA), the Harris County Democratic Party, the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, the Green Party, Stonewall Democrats, and Resurrection MCC. The strong turnout reflected the potential power unleashed when GLBT people and straight allies build coalitions across political and sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, class, disability and faith.

"We were quite pleased to work with the Pride Committee of Houston in building our community database of registered voters who support our values—this progressive database benefits all of our GLBT and progressive communities," remarked Alejandro Morua, campaign

manager for PVA. Mr. Morua noted further, "With over 150,000 people in attendance, the Pride Parade is an excellent opportunity to both identify and activate our GLBT and straight, allied supporters. We look forward to working with the Pride Committee next year to identify several thousand more registered voters during Pride 2001."

PVA's goal is to build a community of 100,000 progressive voters who believe in GLBT civil rights, racial and economic justice and reproductive rights. In turn, PVA works as a living year-round campaign actively supporting candidates who uphold its progressive values. PVA was co-founded by Grant Martin, Annise Parker's campaign manager, and Alejandro Morua. Dr. Maria Gonzalez, University of Houston Professor of English, is PVA's other founding board member. Dr. Gonzalez noted, "PVA is a great way to test academic theories on social justice in the real world. It's not too often

you find a progressive organization that has a sharp focus and holds itself accountable to measured results and to social justice."

PVA is a non-profit, non-partisan, voter identification organization dedicated to building a progressive political culture in Houston by identifying and organizing a community of voters who share its broad progressive values. The group's initial focus is on GLBT civil rights, reproductive rights and racial justice. In subsequent years PVA will expand on these issues to demonstrate its commitment to a broader vision of social justice.

For more information on PVA, contact Alejandro Morua at 713-521-7161 or by e-mail at [ProVoter@Lconn.com](mailto:ProVoter@Lconn.com). PVA has tremendous work ahead with just over two months remaining before the general elections. Come and give them a hand!

## CHORUS ANNOUNCES 22ND SEASON

THE GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF HOUSTON begins its 22nd season with a rehearsal at 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 7, at Grace Lutheran Church on the corner of Waugh and Missouri in Montrose. Rehearsals are held every Thursday from 7-10 p.m. during the Chorus' performing season.

Come join one of the oldest gay men's choruses in the world. The 22nd season promises to be an exciting year and will feature a joint concert with the Capital City Men's Chorus of Austin. Individuals who wish to audition for GMCH and would like more information should call the chorus at 713-521-7464, e-mail [info@gmch.org](mailto:info@gmch.org) or visit the Chorus' web site at [www.gmch.org](http://www.gmch.org). Non-singing members are always welcome to help with stagecraft, fundraising, marketing and hundreds of other tasks necessary for putting on a show.

*The Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center was one of many organizations in the 2000 Pride Parade. The Community Center is the home of the Pride Committee and several other local groups.*



NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HOUSTON TX  
PERMIT NO. 6739

DOZENS OF **COLOR** PRIDE PARADE PHOTOS INSIDE

# insidepride



City Councilmember Annise Parker (right) and Kathy Hubbard greet over 150,000 revelers at the 2000 Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade. Photo by Dalton DeHart

**SUMMER 2000**



PRIDE COMMITTEE OF HOUSTON

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

CHASE

MPAQ

Houston  
oice

angle



ices International



ATER HOUSTON  
SKY & LESBIAN  
ER OF COMMERCE

nter

THE 2000  
PARADE W  
commun  
history, f  
appearar  
mayor, t  
fabulous  
largest a  
Parade's  
Acc  
estimate  
Pride, Ta  
parade—  
breaking  
more pe  
evening  
The  
the Prid  
suspenc  
more sp  
were tun  
heighte  
Pass  
and veh

PR





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

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
HOUSTON TX  
PERMIT NO. 6739

106507 0/12/2000 2523 ¥00

HOUSTON TX 77098-0601

# Power Up Now!

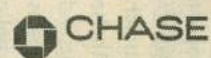
Charge up your plans to participate in **EMPOWER 2000** and help support this energetic effort from The Greater Houston Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. Held at the George R. Brown Convention Center each year, **EMPOWER 2000** endorses National Coming Out Day and entertains everyone with the: Business Fair, Job Fair, Health Resources, Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Sports & Outdoors, great food, drink, as well as special interest seminars.

Plug in Today. There are lots of ways you can play a part in this powerful one day event. Arrange a corporate sponsorship. Underwrite a special program or seminar. Exhibit your products and services with a cool booth. Run an ad in the **EMPOWER 2000** program. And last, but not least, bring your family and friends to the event.

Call the EMPOWER Hotline today for details and exhibitor discounts. 713-523-7576

**EMPOWER**  
**2000** The Community  
Event of the  
Millennium

**October 8, 2000 • George R. Brown Convention Center**



**COMPAQ**

**HOUSTON**  
**VOICE**



Shell Services International



**SUMMER 2000**

