

OutSmart

JUNE 1999 • COMPLIMENTARY

Houston's Gay & Lesbian Monthly Magazine

Comedian
Kathy Griffin

The State
of Pride

Gay Pride
20 Years Ago

Pictures of Pride

Celebrating Houston's
Gay & Lesbian Pride Month

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Photo by Evin Thayer

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Photo by Blase DiStefano

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HOUSTON PRIDE

Turns 20



• by Steven Poruban • photographs by Blase DiStefano •

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Houston's gay and lesbian pride parade and celebration. And this year's theme—"Pride, Power, and Pizzazz"—seemingly highlights the core elements underlying the community's overall achievements and long-time survival.

The presence and power of the gay and lesbian community has grown noticeably strong over the last 20 years and the community is, as it should be, extremely proud of its accomplishments. Plus, no other group of individuals seems better able to really put on a party than the gay and lesbian community. In the words of the first pride celebration's co-organizer Larry Bagneris at a rally following the first organized parade: "I'm beginning to think that only gays can do everything right."

There exists a discrepancy in Houston about how and when pride was started. In 1976, about 200 members of

the now-defunct Gay Activist Alliance marched down a two-block stretch of road. Discovering the significance of this event and its placement in Houston's gay history merely depends on who is asked.

It would seem that no single incident sparked the first community-concerted

riots still serve as a pivotal point in gay history, when the community spoke up and out with demands for fair and equal treatment. But the pride celebration in 1979 went beyond remembering. And the momentous occasion set a precedent for all future pride events to follow.

Around the time of the first organized pride event, gays and lesbians were moving to the Houston area in droves. Billed as the newest "Gay Mecca," Houston was quickly becoming a strong urban force, and the sense of community was a healthy one.

The theme of that first organized happening was "Proud to Be." With an estimated crowd of about 20,000, the all-gay parade was routed along Westheimer, starting from Shepherd and continuing to Bagby. A police escort accompanied the 20 floats along their passage through what was dubbed the "Great Gay Way of the Montrose."

"Disco Grandma" Mary Thelma Hensel acted as the parade's grand mar-



"Disco Grandma" Mary Thelma Hensel (l), the parade's grand marshal, and gay activist Ray Hill celebrate Gay Pride in 1979.

observance of pride in Houston. Of course, the event's organizers intended, in part, to commemorate the infamous Stonewall Riots, then 10 years old. The

TIMELINE 1979-81

Each month *OutSmart* will feature sections of the Houston gay history timeline as featured in the January issue.

1979 Commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Stonewall riots in New York City, June saw the first organized efforts toward the start-up of Gay and Lesbian Pride Week Parades. The week-long event instilled a sense of pride and community that are still apparent in Houston today (see related story on previous page). The Gay Men's Chorus of Houston (GMCH) began and continues through to this day, performing at least two major concerts every season. The chorus' membership is comprised of both singing and non-singing members and invites members of both sexes and any sexual preference. Its mantra remains: "GMCH strives to instill community spirit though a mixed repertoire of formal, popular, and empowering music."

1980 In May, the Montrose Sports Association (MSA) became a Texas nonprofit organization appealing to gays who enjoyed organized competitive sports. The core



From all walks of life: 1980's Gay Pride Parade began with this proud banner.

idea behind the group was summed up in Article 4 of incorporation: "The specific and primary purpose is to foster sports competition among the membership for the pleasure and recreation of its members, with special interest for the gay community." MSA's first assistant director Patrick McIlvain said of the organization, "MSA is an alternative to bars, baths, and bookstores, centered around sports with a natural social outgrowth. The camaraderie generated by exercise is a lot more genuine than that mustered by martinis."

HIV and AIDS, the clinic still plays a vital role as a nonprofit, low- or no-cost healthcare facility, serving the gay and lesbian community. Next month, *OutSmart* will highlight certain events that helped shape the Houston gay and lesbian community during 1982-1984.

Timeline provided by the Houston Gay and Lesbian Community Center and Steve Brown of the Botts Memorial Library of MCCR. Research obtained from "Twelve Fighting Years" by Bruce Remmington.

1981 Kathy Whitmire was elected mayor with gay and lesbian backing. Previous Whitmire campaigns for city controller were staffed with lesbian volunteers. The Montrose Clinic got its start through the work of Ruth Ravas, or "Mother Ruth" as she was known in the gay and lesbian community. Ravas helped to run a program that screened the homosexual community for venereal disease, which was becoming a growing concern. Initially, Ravas "in her own very ingratiating way, got herself into the bars" to screen the Montrose populace and then, later, was aided by a used mobile unit. Realizing the necessity for the service yet conceding to its shortcomings, the Gay Political Caucus' Medical Committee, under the stewardship of David Bonuelos, made plans toward a "free-standing medical clinic in the Montrose area that would be free [and] would serve the predominantly gay population." With the onset of

Pictures of Pride



NAME: Ian Leffler **AGE:** 40 **HOMETOWN:** Moline, IL **GAY OR STRAIGHT?** Gay **YEARS OUT:** Since birth **MOM AND DAD KNOW?** Yes **GAY HERO:** Tinky Winky **GAY ZERO:** Rev. Falwell **ADVICE FOR NEWLY OUT:** Play safe. **PET PEEVE:** Stereotyping **RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL?** Both **Y2K: HYPE OR HELP?** Over it already! **GAY STEREOTYPE THAT FITS YOU BEST:** See pet peeve. **GAY PREDICTION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM:** People of all races, sexual preferences, and sexes will become closer and accepting. *Ian can be found at Basic Brothers clothing store.*



NAME: Richard Wiederholt **AGE:** 57 **HOMETOWN:** Maryville, MO **GAY OR STRAIGHT?** Gay **YEARS OUT:** 20 **MOM AND DAD KNOW?** Father died before I "came out." Mother knew before she died. **GAY HERO:** First drag queens at Stonewall who fought back. **GAY ZERO:** Anyone who believes God made homosexuals to be hated. **ADVICE FOR NEWLY OUT:** Come on out and join the rest of us. It's a great life. **PET PEEVE:** Gays and lesbians who refuse to get involved in our community. **RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL?** Spiritual **Y2K: HYPE OR HELP?** Help **GAY STEREOTYPE THAT FITS YOU BEST:** I don't believe in stereotyping. **GAY PREDICTION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM:** Slow but definite progress in not only being recognized but being appreciated. *Wedding bells still ringing. Richard and Ian (above) are celebrating pride month as recent newlyweds.*



NAME: Sean D. Carter **AGE:** 28 **HOMETOWN:** Garland, TX (suburb of Dallas) **GAY OR STRAIGHT?** Gay! **YEARS OUT:** 8 **MOM AND DAD KNOW?** Yes, probably before I did. **GAY HERO:** Olympia Dukakis **GAY ZERO:** Martha Stewart **ADVICE FOR NEWLY OUT:** Respect the older members of our community. They had it rough and made it easier for us. **PET PEEVE:** Men who juggle other men. **RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL?** Buddhist (spiritual) **Y2K: HYPE OR HELP?** Blah, blah, blah! **GAY STEREOTYPE THAT FITS YOU BEST:** Swish! **GAY PREDICTION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM:** Sequin tube tops, butterfly collars, and feathered hairdos will be hip again! *Sean is the development and marketing manager at the Montrose Counseling Center and is one of this year's proud grand marshals for the Gay Pride Parade.*



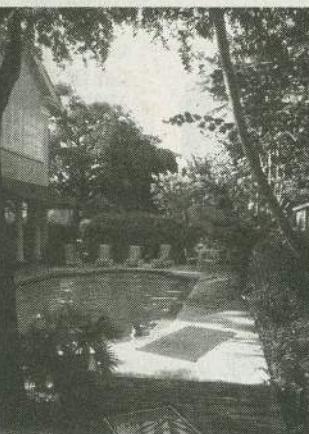
NAME: Caroline Burum **HOMETOWN:** Houston **GAY OR STRAIGHT?** Gay **YEARS OUT:** 9 **MOM AND DAD KNOW?** Yes **GAY HERO:** M. Dietrich **ADVICE FOR NEWLY OUT:** Find a support group like H.A.T.C.H. or Twenty Something **PET PEEVE:** When people accidentally out someone. **RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL?** Spiritual **Y2K: HYPE OR HELP?** Just relax—it'll be Jan. 2 soon. *Caroline is the proud owner of Toopees Cafe.*



NAME: Bridgette Chambers **AGE:** 29 **HOMETOWN:** Houston **GAY OR STRAIGHT?** Gay! Is there any other way to be? **YEARS OUT:** 6 **MOM AND DAD KNOW?** Yes. Dad is supportive; mom is out; sister is out. **GAY HERO:** Robert Sadler **ADVICE FOR NEWLY OUT:** Relax and breathe. It will all work out. **PET PEEVE:** When people chew ice. **RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL?** Both. This is something that me and my partner share and keep at home. **Y2K: HYPE OR HELP?** Hype. Nonetheless, I am still going to go to the ATM machine on New Year's—just in case. **GAY STEREOTYPE THAT FITS YOU BEST:** Let's see—there are typically two lesbian stereotypes: 1. Butch (I hate the word dyke) and 2. A lipstick lesbian. I am somewhat in between—clearly further from the lipstick stuff. **GAY PREDICTION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM:** In the near future, gays and lesbians will enjoy federal protection at the workplace and protection from hate crimes. *The optimistic Bridgette connects us all as a wireless consultant.*

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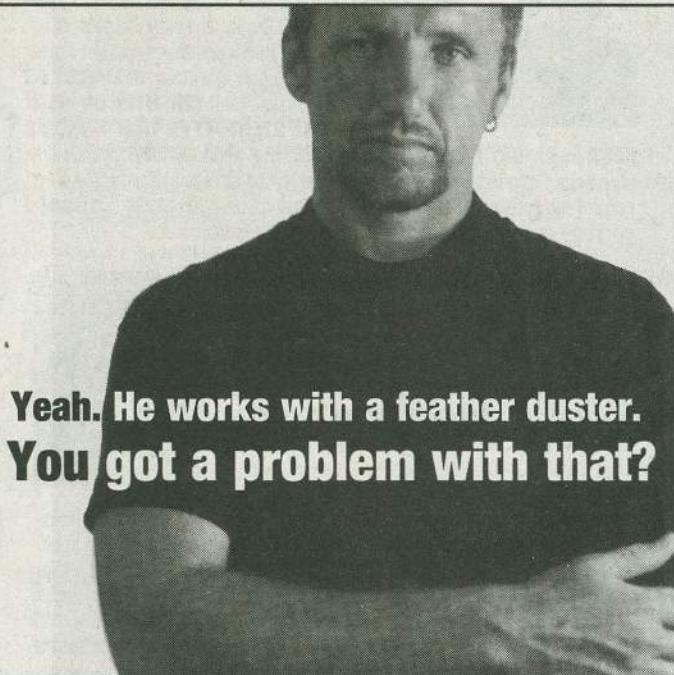
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shal, led down the street by the MAC marching band and drill team. En route, she blew kisses to the crowd as they cheered wildly.

The floats were judged along the way. Mary's Lounge's float, titled "Proud to Be Beautiful," was awarded top prize.



Mary's Lounge was awarded top prize in the 1979 Gay Pride Parade.

Midtowne Spa turned out a second-place entry, while Dirty Sally's landed third place.

The parade was followed by an "Expressions of Freedom" rally at Spotts Park at the intersection of Memorial Drive and Waugh. The rally, which was presented by the Gay Political Caucus (GPC), reportedly attracted several thousand gay and lesbian participants. At the time, the GPC and Pride Committee worked together to sponsor the event.

The rally featured activist Ray Hill and GPC president Steve Shiflett, both of whom introduced the guest speakers. The speakers' respective topics addressed the issues of the time. The speakers included Tony Lazada, commenting on the 10th anniversary of Stonewall; Kathy Whitmire, making an appearance to vie for the gay vote; Jean O'Leary, co-founder of the National Gay Task Force, speaking about the national organization; and Midge Costanza, a former White House advisor to President Carter, commenting on the affluence and strength of the American gay minority. *This Week in Texas* (TWT) noted Costanza as saying, amusingly, that she had sat in the president's chair and that "it fit!"

Following the rally, \$2,500 worth of fireworks were launched above the gathered mass of onlookers.

This year's pride celebration is bound to give previous years' events a run for their money, declares Brian Keever, Pride Committee of Houston, Inc. board member and banner district chair. "To me," he says, "Pride Week is just as important to our community as Thanksgiving or Christmas or anything else."

On the important function that pride serves within the community, Keever noted: "We have another generation of young gay men and lesbians that have

no clue what 'Stonewall' is unless you educate them.

"It also helps people 'come out' because they see other people having a good time, it might give them the nudge to say, 'Wow, I could actually do that.'

With that, Happy Pride, Houston! To quote Larry Bagneris, once again: "Remain gay, proud, and most of all, yourself."

Steve Poruban is a community writer and newly dubbed TimeOut historian. He can be reached care of this publication.

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Pictures of Pride

NAME: Bruce Burgner **AGE:** 36

HOMETOWN: Houston

GAY OR STRAIGHT? Gay

YEARS OUT: 8

MOM AND DAD KNOW? Yes

GAY HERO: Mitchell Anderson

ADVICE FOR NEWLY OUT:

Take your time and explore all the facets of gay culture. **PET**



PEEVE: Those who do not realize that "gay" is a culture, equal to that of any other. **RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL?**

Lutheran **Y2K:** **HYPE OR HELP?**

Hype **GAY STEREOTYPE THAT FITS YOU BEST:**

Southern preppy **GAY PREDICTION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM:**

That gays and straights will be governed by the same laws. **Bruce** is the host with

the most for one of Houston's hearty restaurants.

NAME: Kathy (Joe) Marie Goodwin **AGE:** 19

HOMETOWN: Houston

GAY OR STRAIGHT? Lesbianic

YEARS OUT: Little over a

year. **MOM AND DAD**

KNOW? Yes, yes, oh yes! I

have gay pride. **GAY HERO:**

Ellen **GAY ZERO:** Bush or Clinton (take your choice) **ADVICE FOR NEWLY OUT:**

Follow your heart. Homosexual people exist everywhere, and keep on comin'! **PET PEEVE:** When someone says "Uh, hey Kathy Joe, umm...do you umm...uh, never mind." **RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL?** I don't believe in organized religion, but I'm very spiritual. **Y2K:**

HYPE OR HELP? Hype, help—only the future knows. **GAY STEREOTYPE THAT FITS YOU BEST:**

The reason why I have my tongue pierced, soft butch, I scare Republicans. **GAY PREDICTION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM:** We will rise from oppression. **Kathy** is a "starving artist" working at Toopees, where she should eat something.



NAME: Daniel Impastato

AGE: 44 **HOMETOWN:** Buffalo, NY

GAY OR STRAIGHT? Gay

YEARS OUT: 26

MOM AND DAD KNOW? Yes. They are very

supportive and loving. **GAY HERO:**

James D. Sapienza, my best friend who died in

'89. **GAY ZERO:** Fred Phelps

ADVICE FOR NEWLY OUT: Dance your ass off. Play safe and don't be in a

hurry to couple up. **PET PEEVE:** Gay citizens who do not vote. **RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL?** Spiritual

Y2K: **HYPE OR HELP?** Hype. I've got a Mac! **GAY STEREOTYPE THAT FITS YOU BEST:**

Interior decorator **GAY PREDICTION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM:** First openly gay mayoral candidate in

Houston (no, Sylvester Turner does not count!).

Daniel educates you adults in bilingual education.

Light Up the Nite!



HOUSTON'S GAY & LESBIAN PRIDE MONTH EVENTS

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

Houston Gay & Lesbian Pride Week

Executive committee meeting, open to public, 7-9 pm, Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 W. Gray. More info: 713/529-6979. E-mail: info@pridehouston.org.

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

Short Works

Three short subjects will be shown: *Scent Uva Butch*; *Goodnight, I Love*

You; *Sleep Come Free Me*. These films are part of the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival 3. \$5 suggested donation, 7:30-9:30 pm, Aurora Picture Show, 800 Aurora St. More info: 713/868-2101

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

French Twist

Smash 1995 hit returns to Houston. This film is part of the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival 3. \$5, 6-8 pm, Rice Media Center, 6100 Main. More info: 713/527-4853.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

Homo Heights

A hilarious comedy set in a rarefied dream world of drag queen glitter and lovelorn lesbian longing. This film is part of the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival 3. \$5, 8-10 pm, Rice Media Center, 6100 Main. More info: 713/527-4853.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

Lone Star Hate

Story of the gruesome gay-bashing death of Nicholas West in Tyler, Texas. This film is part of the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival 3. \$5, 6-8 pm, Rice Media Center, 6100 Main. More info: 713/527-4853.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

Relax, It's Just Sex

Lesbians, gays, and heterosexuals who all frequent a local bar struggle to accept each other's lifestyles. This film is part of the Gay and Lesbian

Film Festival 3. \$5, 7-9 pm, Rice Media Center, 6100 Main. More info: 713/527-4853.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

Hallelujah

The controversial career of performance artist Ron Athey is explored in this documentary that depicts his intense, grueling, and dangerous public pieces. Mature audiences only. This film is part of the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival 3. \$5, 9:30-11 pm, Rice Media Center, 6100 Main. More info: 713/527-4853.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

Quac, Mix-Up Video!

Quac's mixed-up video. \$6, \$5 members and students, 9-11 pm, DiverseWorks, 1117 East Freeway. More info: 713/228-0914 or <http://freeweb.pdq.net/quac>.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

Fairytales and Fireworks

Short films: *Fireworks*, *Pink Narcissus*, and *The Story of the Red Rose*. These films are part of the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival 3. \$6, \$5 members and students, 9-11 pm, DiverseWorks, 1117 East Freeway. More info: 713/228-0914.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

Fairytales and Fireworks

Short films: *Fireworks*, *Pink Narcissus*, and *The Story of the Red Rose*. These films are part of the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival 3. \$5, \$4 seniors, members, & students, 7-9 pm, DiverseWorks, 1117 East Freeway. More info: 713/228-0914.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

Homo Heights

A hilarious comedy set in a rarefied dream world of drag queen glitter and lovelorn lesbian longing. This film is part of the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival 3. \$5, 7:30-9:30 pm, Rice Media Center, 6100 Main. More info: 713/527-4853.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

Dykes in Wonderland

Short films include: *My Cunt; She's Real, Worse Than Queer, Twisted Sheets; Nice Girls Don't Do It*. These films are part of the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival 3. \$6, \$5 members and students, 9-11 pm, DiverseWorks, 1117 East Freeway. More info: 713/228-0914.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

Dykes in Wonderland

These films are part of the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival 3. \$6, \$5 members and students, 5-7 pm, DiverseWorks, 1117 East Freeway. More info: 713/228-0914.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

Homo Invisibility—Film Festival Comes of Age

Panel of prominent Houstonians will rate the film festival. \$6, \$5 members and students, 7:45-11 pm, DiverseWorks, 1117 East Freeway. More info: 713/228-0914.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

Film Festival Closing Party

\$6, \$5 members and students, 8-11 pm, DiverseWorks, 1117 East Freeway. More info: 713/228-0914.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

Empower 99 Kickoff

Kickoff of the annual Empower event, which includes community organizations and businesses targeting our community. 5:30-7:30 pm, Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 803 Hawthorne. More info: 713/523-7576 or e-mail: info@ghglcc.org.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

Sharon Hayes - The Lesbian

Sharon Hayes drove across the United States on The Lesbian Love Tour to discover "lesbians in their natural habitat." Hayes stopped in 41 cities and towns, performing in 45 living rooms and encountering over 700 lesbians. With hundreds of photographs, hours of videotape, a myriad of interviews, and pages of notes, Hayes presents her finding in *The Lesbian*. Utilizing several characters, *The Lesbian* takes place in and around a natural history museum exhibit, only the exhibit is conspicuously absent. \$7 general public, \$5 members, runs until June 12, 8-10 pm, DiverseWorks, 1117 East Freeway. More info: 713/228-0914 or e-mail: omfp@diverseworks.org.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

First Friday of Pride Party

Pride kickoff party with complimentary hors d'oeuvres and give-aways. 6 pm, JR's Bar and Grill, 804 Pacific Street. More info: 713/521-0195.

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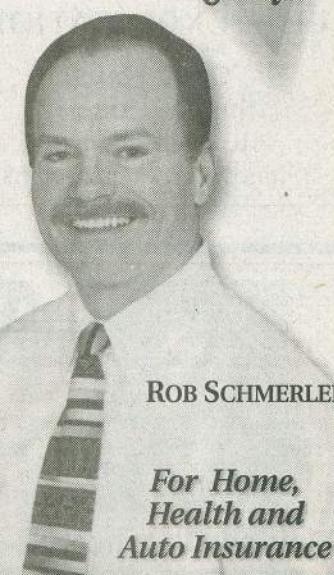
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FRIDAY, JUNE 11
Lesbian and Gay Voices
A radio show featuring community activists and many segments, including interviews with both community leaders, national leaders, and just the ordinary gay and lesbian activist. Also included each week: a segment of music, reviews of gay and lesbian cultural events, and a few comments along the way. 8-9 pm, KPFT 90.1 FM. More info: 713/526-4000 or e-mail: LGVoices@aol.com.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11
Pride Committee of Houston - Pride Kickoff
Get Pride 1999 starts with a free buffet and dancing 'til dawn at Picasso. Meet the Pride Parade grand marshals and other stars of the community. 8-11 pm, Picasso, 2151 Richmond. More info: 713/529-6979 or e-mail: info@pridehouston.org.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12
1999 Gay Pride 5K Fun Run
\$12 and \$15, 7:45-11 am, Sabine at Memorial. More info: 713/523-5791 or e-mail: silentranner@rocketmail.com.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12
Genye Allen Softball Tournament
Fourth annual women and co-ed softball tournament, benefiting PWA Coalition. \$100 per team, free admission for the public, 8 am-7 pm, Memorial Park, softball fields 2 and 3. More info: 713/861-9149.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12
A Night for Lovers With Roberta Flack
Seven-time Grammy winner and "Songstress of Love" Roberta Flack. Tickets available through Ticketmaster. 8 pm, Arena Theater, 7326 Southwest Freeway. More info: 713/988-1020.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13
God for Us
Sanctuary choir performance, at 9 am, 11 am, and 6 pm. Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection, 1919 Decatur St. More info: 713/861-9149 or e-mail: mccr@neosoft.com, or <http://www.mccr-hou.com>.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13
Commitment Ceremony
Join us in affirming your relationship with your partner. Following this non-denominational ceremony a reception will be held including a champagne toast. \$25 per couple, 4-6 pm, First Unitarian Universalist Church, 5200 Fannin. More info: 713/313-1600.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13
Pride Barbeque
A barbeque/open house is being planned at the community center—an informational social event to celebrate our accomplishments. 3-7 pm, Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 803 Hawthorne. More info: 713/527-8347.



1998 Human Rights Campaign Walkers

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

Interfaith Worship Celebration

Worship service celebrating the diverse faith traditions which form the spiritual backgrounds of the glbt community. Interfaith worship service with diverse lay and clergy celebrations. 7 pm, Grace Lutheran Church, 2515 Waugh. More info: 713/528-3601 or e-mail: vschill@stic.lib.tx.us.

MONDAY, JUNE 14

Employee Turnabout Show

Benefit show to raise money for the 800 Pacific Ave. Employee Emergency Fund. 9 pm, JR's Bar and Grill, 804 Pacific St. More info: 713/521-0195.

TUESDAY, JUNE 15

1999 Pride Parade Participant Mandatory Meeting

Mandatory meeting for Pride Parade participants. 7-8:30 pm, Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 W. Gray. More info: 713/529-6979 or e-mail: info@pridehouston.org.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

Tim Miller - My Queer Body

Tim Miller brings to Houston his critically acclaimed one-person show. \$20, runs until June 20, Theater Lab, 1706 Alamo. More info: 713/868-5516 or e-mail: geraldslabita@worldnet.att.net.

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

Houston Comets Pride Pre-Game Party

Enjoy a Mexican buffet dinner and drinks before the Houston Comets vs. Utah Starrz Game. Special performance by Girls with Guitars. \$40 includes dinner, drink ticket, and game ticket, 7-11 pm, The City Club, Greenway Plaza. Info: 713/524-2840 or e-mail: arden@centerfor aids.org.

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

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FRIDAY, JUNE 18

Lesbian and Gay Voices

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Tim Miller - My Queer Body

Tim Miller brings to Houston his critically acclaimed one-person show. \$20, runs until June 20, Theater Lab, 1706 Alamo. More info: 713/868-5516 or e-mail: geraldslabita@worldnet.att.net.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Women With Pride, Power & Pizzazz: A Day of Empowerment and Health

Workshops on women's health issues, massage, nurturing ourselves, safer sex, and more. Will also offer the well women clinic which includes pelvic exam, pap smear, labwork, referrals; booths featuring crafts, and other interests. Pre-registration for exam only by calling 713/830-3075. \$15 exam and \$15 other testing, no one will be turned away, 10 am-3 pm, Montrose Clinic, 215 Westheimer. More info: 713/529-0037 or e-mail: mccc@neosoft.com.

Pictures of Pride



NAME: Ken Claude **AGE:** 43 **HOMETOWN:** Nashville, TN **GAY OR STRAIGHT?** Homo! **YEARS OUT:** 23 **MOM AND DAD KNOW?** Oh yes! **GAY HERO:** Annise Parker **GAY ZERO:** "If you can't say anything nice..." **ADVICE FOR NEWLY OUT:** Be yourself. Always play safe, sane, and consensual. **PET PEEVE:** Gossips and those who live in glass houses but continue to throw rocks. **RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL?** Spiritual **Y2K: HYPE OR HELP?** Hype—"Who crashed my computer, ATM, etc..."? **GAY STEREOTYPE THAT FITS YOU BEST:** Cowhide junkie (leatherman) **GAY PREDICTION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM:** Broader acceptance of our community—gay, lesbian, bi, and transgender. Ken is manager of retail operation at Basic Brothers.

NAME: Thomas Chelena (right) **AGE:** 56 **HOMETOWN:** Fredericktown, PA **GAY OR STRAIGHT?** Gay **YEARS OUT:** 30 **MOM AND DAD KNOW?** Both deceased, but parents "knew" and accepted **GAY HERO:** Elizabeth Taylor, my nieces, friends, Greg Louganis, Ellen DeGeneres, and other gay entertainers **GAY ZERO:** Gay clergy who are antigay **ADVICE FOR NEWLY OUT:** Enjoy life; foster self-esteem and self-worth **PET PEEVE:** Gay Republicans, religious right/misguided Christians, gays who want uniformity **RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL?** Spiritual **Y2K: HYPE OR HELP?** Hype **GAY STEREOTYPE THAT FITS YOU BEST:** "girlfriend," gender-bender from the '60s **GAY PREDICTION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM:** More people will find their spiritual selves; there will be a balance of respect between gays & straights who are free of religion. *Thomas is an office supervisor and recently celebrated 24 years with his partner Daniel.*



NAME: Daniel Malachowski (left) **AGE:** 55 **HOMETOWN:** Detroit, MI **GAY OR STRAIGHT?** Gay **YEARS OUT:** 30 **MOM AND DAD KNOW?** deceased, but mom and dad knew and loved me and Tom **GAY HERO:** Greg Louganis **GAY ZERO:** J. Edgar Hoover **ADVICE FOR NEWLY OUT:** Be yourself. **PET PEEVE:** Older gays are left out of most magazines and newspapers; gay Republicans and gay Christian right **RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL?** Spiritual **Y2K: HYPE OR HELP?** Hype **GAY STEREOTYPE THAT FITS YOU BEST:** "Mother," "Queen-mother" **GAY PREDICTION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM:** Some form of gay marriage will happen. *Daniel is a contract administrator and recently celebrated 24 years with his partner Thomas.*



NAME: Lea Bogle **AGE:** 37 **HOMETOWN:** Chicago **GAY OR STRAIGHT?** Gay!!! **YEARS OUT:** 9 **MOM AND DAD KNOW?** Yes. Mom thought she would have a heart attack and now she's a PFLAG member. **GAY HERO:** I think every person who has ever come out of the closet against their deepest fears is a gay hero. **GAY ZERO:** Everyone on the Texas Legislature who voted AGAINST the Hate Crimes Bill **ADVICE FOR NEWLY OUT:** Congratulations! The world belongs to you. Enjoy the freedom that comes with being out, gently help those who are still in the closet come out, and above all respect yourself. **PET PEEVE:** People without tolerance and acceptance for others. **RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL?** Definitely spiritual **Y2K: HYPE OR HELP?** Oh s@#!!! **GAY STEREOTYPE THAT FITS YOU BEST:** Definitely a fem who really likes those cute butches out there. **GAY PREDICTION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM:** I believe acceptance will become the norm and the world will accept us for who we are. *Lea calls the shots at Premier Paging & Wireless.*



NAME: Tim Zirkle **AGE:** 43 **HOMETOWN:** Charleston, W.Va. **GAY OR STRAIGHT?** Gay **YEARS OUT:** 23 **MOM AND DAD KNOW?** Yes. **GAY HERO:** Barney Frank **GAY ZERO:** Closets **ADVICE FOR NEWLY OUT:** Speak out. **PET PEEVE:** Log Cabin Republicans **RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL?** Religious **Y2K: HYPE OR HELP?** Hype **GAY STEREOTYPE THAT FITS YOU BEST:** None **GAY PREDICTION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM:** The date's going to change. *Tim is a smarty research technician.*

In Concert at the
Wortham Center, Cullen Theater
the
Gay Men's Chorus of Houston
Directed by Dr. J. David Faber
in

It Happened in the Theater!

with

Mosaic —from The Women's Chorus of Dallas

ENCORE! —from Turtle Creek Chorale

New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus

Capital City Men's Chorus

Fort Worth Men's Chorus

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Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Community Church

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Tickets: \$16, \$22, \$28

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This event is funded in
part by a grant from
Thomas Moore
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SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Independent Billiard League of Houston

Annual pool tournament to help raise money for local community organizations. An amateur event open to everyone and the rules are Billiard Club of America. 12-10 pm, Slick Willies, 1200 Westheimer. More info: 713/522-4814 or e-mail: iblhoustan@hypercon.com.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

It Happened in the Theater

Twentieth Season Culmination—It Happened in the Theater. Sponsored by Gay Men's Chorus. \$16, \$22, \$28, 7-10 pm, Cullen Theater, Wortham Performing Arts Center. More info: 800/494-TIXS or e-mail: info@gmch.org <http://gmch.org>.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Wigs on Fire

Party with complementary well drinks featuring entertainment Bonnie Pointer of the Pointer Sisters. \$30, 7-11 pm, Richs, 2401 San Jacinto, 713/861-7877 or e-mail: rbalcerowicz@hotmail.com <http://mcar.org>.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Pageant

Delightfully funny, long-running off-Broadway musical comedy spoofing beauty pageants. All contestants are female impersonators. The audience determines the winner. \$20, 8 pm, New Heights Theater, 339 W. 19th Street. More info: 713/869-9827 or e-mail: rjones@nhmccol.edu.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

H.A.T.C.H. Prom

Social dance open to the public with entertainment and music. Everyone welcome to meet H.A.T.C.H. people. 8-11 pm, The Lovett Inn, 501 Lovett Blvd. Info: 713/942-7002 or e-mail: hatch@neosoft.com.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Tim Miller - My Queer Body

Tim Miller brings to Houston his critically acclaimed one-person show. \$20, runs until June 20, Theater Lab, 1706 Alamo. More info: 713/868-5516 or e-mail: geraldabita@worldnet.att.net.

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

Pride Day at the Park

Come play all day. Ticket includes all rides, shows, and adventures. Tickets available at Lobo and Basic Brothers, or by mail to the Pride Committee, PO Box 66071, Houston, TX 77266-6071 with self-addressed stamped envelope. \$20, 10 am, Astroworld, 9001 Kirby at Loop 610. More info: 713/529-6979 or e-mail: info@pridehouston.org.

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

Tim Miller - My Queer Body

Tim Miller brings to Houston his critically acclaimed one-person show. \$20, Theater Lab, 1706 Alamo. More info: 713/868-5516.

If you're getting tired of picking me up...

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TUESDAY, JUNE 22

Make a Joyful Noise '99

Choir performance. 7:30-10:30 pm, Community Gospel Church, 4305 Lillian. More info: 281/686-7481.

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

Southern Country Open House

Country western dance and lessons. 7:30-9:30 pm, The New Barn, 2715 Waughcrest Dr. More info: 713/226-2228.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

Roller Ball '99

Great music, door prizes, and games. One of Pride's biggest events. Sponsored by Lambda Roller Skating Club. \$5 and \$1.50 skate rental, 8-11 pm, Zenith Skating Rink, 8075 Cook Road at Beechnut. More info: 281/933-5818.

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

Rainbow Ranglers—Night of Dance

Four one-hour dance workshops. Includes two-step, shuffle, waltz, and swing. Taught by members of the Rainbow Ranglers. Free, 8 pm-12 am, Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos. More info: 713/523-1807.

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

Star Search Gold Finals

Competition for singers with chance to win \$150 donation to charity. 9 pm, JR's Bar and Grill, 804 Pacific Street. More info: 713/521-0195.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

Pride Family Game Night in Katy

A night of games, fun, and fellowship to gather together families with children of all ages, as well as families of all types; singles and couples are welcome. 7-10 pm, 615 Park Knoll Lane, Katy, Texas. More info: 713/528-6756.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

Lesbian and Gay Voices

A radio show featuring community activists and many segments, including interviews with both community leaders, national leaders, and just the ordinary gay and lesbian activist. Also included each week: a segment of music, reviews of gay and lesbian cultural events, and a few comments along the way. 8-9 pm, KPFT 90.1 FM. More info: 713/526-4000 or e-mail: LGVoices@aol.com.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Day of Dance—Country!

Four one-hour dance workshops, including two-step, shuffle, waltz, and swing taught by studio professional instructors. 1-5 pm, Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos. More info: 713/523-1807 or e-mail: vvgb@swbell.net.



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SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Slider's Pre-Parade Party

Join us in the parking lot of Slider's Bar and Daquiris before the parade for cold drinks and spicy crawfish.
4-8 pm, Slider's Bar and Daquiris, 1425 Westheimer.



SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Free OraSure HIV Testing

A free HIV test without needles. Results available in one week. 5-8 pm, Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 803 Hawthorne. More info: 713/236-8818 or e-mail: jerial@aol.com.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Positively Proud

Pre-Pride Parade Party for positive gay men and lesbians. 6-9 pm, Center for AIDS, 1407 Hawthorne.
More info: 713/527-8219 or e-mail: arden@centerforaids.org.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride Week Parade

The annual parade, one of the largest in the city, starts at Woodhead and proceeds to Stanford, along Westheimer. 9-11 pm.
More info: 713/529-6979 or e-mail: info@pridehouston.org, or <http://www.pridehouston.org>.

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church

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ship service. 10:30 am at the Maranatha Fellowship MCC. More info: 713/528-6756.

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

Free OraSure HIV Testing

A free HIV test without needles. Results available in one week. 1-4 pm, Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 803 Hawthorne. More info: 713/236-8818 or e-mail: jerial@aol.com.

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

Goddess Pageant

Annual pageant to name the female impersonator of the year. Benefits PWA holiday charities and nightingale services. 8 pm, Picasso, 2151 Richmond. More info: 713/880-5741 or e-mail: cutter251@aol.com.

FRIDAY, JULY 2

Red, White and You II Reunited

Dual-CD release party and walk-through by billboard recording artist Jeanie Tracy and Marquis. DJ Ric Herrington (Dallas) at the turntables. \$15, 9 pm-4 am, Astroarena, 9001 Kirby at Loop 610. More info: 713/656-3038.



Pride Does Matter—OutSmart Float 1998

656-3038; email: charles.w.solomon@exxon.pvt.int; <http://redwhiteyou.com>.

SATURDAY, JULY 3

Red, White and You - Freedom

Benefit Dance Gals featuring remix artist/DJ and circuit diva Kitty Meow, with Billboard recording artist Jeanie Tracy. Lazer light show, flagging, roving characters. 9 pm-6 am, Astroarena, 9001 Kirby at Loop 610. More info: 713/656-3038.

SUNDAY, JULY 4

Body Positive's The Big Bang Party

Body Positive Wellness Center presents the annual Big Bang Party on the roof of the Sky Bar at 3400 Montrose. This Fourth of July party celebration. Cash bar, food and the best view of Houston's fireworks! 8 pm-2 am. Tickets (\$40) are available at Lobo's Bookstore and Basic Brothers. For more information or to volunteer, call 713/524-2374.

SUNDAY, JULY 4

Red, White and You - Ball II

Benefit Dance Gals featuring remix artist/DJ and circuit diva Kitty Meow, with Billboard recording artist Jeanie Tracy. Lazer light show, flagging, roving characters. 10 pm-4 am, Astroarena, 9001 Kirby at Loop 610. More info: 713/656-3038.

MONDAY, JULY 5

Red, White and You - Wet & Wild

Closing Party, poolside mixer featuring DJ Michael Tank. Enjoy an afternoon with friends and partake in water sports and games. 2-7 pm, Sheraton Astroworld, 8686 Kirby Drive. More info: 713/656-3038.

Have a safe & happy
Pride Month!

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OUT IN HOUSTON

On April 21, 1999, Evin Thayer Studios honored top beauty experts for their hard work and dedication which will help local AIDS organizations:

1 **Evin Thayer** and Houston Body Positive Wellness Center board members: (top, l-r) **Todd Ramos**, Thayer, **Pete Sharpe**, (bottom, l-r) **Shane McCardell**, **Amanda Barhorst**, **Anthony Bianchi**.

Houston's Lone Star Volleyball Association hosted the North American Gay Volleyball 17th Annual Championship at the George R. Brown Convention Center from May 21-23. On May 20, they held their sign-in at J.R.'s Bar & Grill. In the crowd:

2 **Mark Boring** (l) and **Stan Price**.

3 **Kristen Richards** (l) with **Jim Cain**, president of Lone Star Volleyball Association.

4 **Dan Zorich** (l) and **Daniel Shea**, who was selected as Outstanding Young Educator for the Year by HISD. Daniel teaches kindergarten at Cage Elementary in Houston.

5 The Atlanta Volleyball team included (l-r) **Bill Gannon**, **Rex Welch**, **Karl Broussard**, **Doug Lalicker**, and **Sanders Hulsey**.

On April 18, Halloween Magic held its annual "Let's Get Started Party" to announce the beneficiaries of the 1999 edition of Halloween Magic, to be performed Sat., Oct. 23 at the Edwin Hornberger Conference Center:

6 (l-r) **Steve Nettles**, **Greg Elzie**, and **Allen Glander** will chair Halloween Magic 1999.

7 **Joey Felice** (l) and **Marybeth Reuter**.

8 (l-r) **Marion Coleman**, **Gilbert Perez** (Halloween Magic president), and **Trudy Denny**.

9 **Rae Lynn White** (l) and **Marki McMillian**.

AIDS Walk Houston sets record during the 10th Annual AIDS Walk. The walk, which benefited 13 local HIV/AIDS organizations, raised more than \$300,000, an all-time high for the event:

10 (l-r) **Enrique Gonzales**, **Ken Malone**, **Scott Sawyer**, and **Eric Liston**.

11 (l-r) **John Sinnott**, **John Barrera**, **Alex Martinez**, and **David Arpin**.

12 **Joy Clayton** in the crowd of 150,000 walkers.

13 Landmark Theatre introduces **Maggie Perroni** as their new house manager for the Landmark Greenway Theatre.

14 **Clyde Williams** (l) & **Vickie McClanahan**, who have been a couple 10 years, were married May 8.

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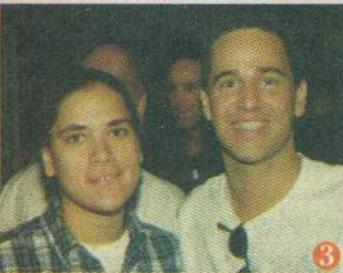
7



1



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3



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