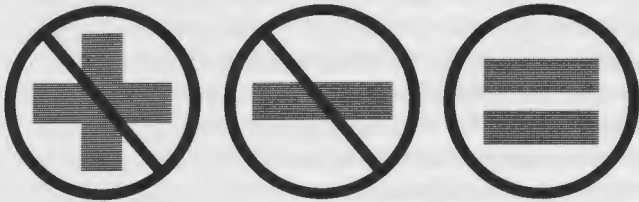


PRIDE CENTER NEWS



No More. NO LESS!

E-mail: pride_center_news@pobox.com

Volume 2, No. 8

From the President...

Hello everyone!!



I have to apologize for the lateness of the newsletter. Ken has been waiting for me to get this to him for a couple of weeks and it just never seems to get done. It's time for an update on the state of TOHR and the Pride Center. Things have improved a bit since I called the emergency membership meeting in July. We are currently in the middle of our membership renewal drive. We've had quite a few renewals already, but those of you who haven't renewed already should do so soon! Membership renewals serve as a base income to help us cover the expense of producing and mailing out a newsletter every month as well as covering other basic administrative costs. Those of you who haven't been members in a while may be dropped from our mailing list soon, simply because we cannot afford to continue mailing to you if you really have no interest in TOHR and/or the Pride Center. I hope that's not the case though...

Not only do we need memberships, however, we also need pledges and donations!!!

who has contributed and pledged. However, please understand that we **MUST** increase the monthly pledges that we are receiving or the Pride Center will not be able to remain open. We need a **minimum** of \$1,200.00 in monthly pledges if we want to remain open. And while I understand that unexpected expenses arise for everyone occasionally, we also need those who pledge to follow through on their pledges, or at least let me know that they cannot. If someone doesn't intend to follow through on a pledge, I'd rather that they not even make one. That way we won't be depending on money that will never arrive.

Elsewhere financially, we have almost paid off the merchandise in the store, so all profits from the store will begin to go to support the Pride Center. Sales have dropped off somewhat for the last couple of months, however, so we really need sales to increase in order to make any real contribution. If you don't want to make a pledge or donation to the Pride Center, at least come in and buy something from the store! You'll still be helping to support the Pride Center and you'll be getting something in return. Also... if you're a member of TOHR you'll receive a 10% discount in the store just by showing your membership card. So renew your membership today!!

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We are now in "do or die" time at the Pride Center. We probably have the financial ability to make it through the end of the year, but not much past that. Several people have made nice one-time donations to the Pride Center and our monthly pledges are currently up to about \$230. First, I want to say that I am very grateful to everyone

You'll also notice a few changes at the Pride Center recently. Greg Gatewood has designed a new sign for the front door to announce who we are. It's not quite as big as the previous sign above the door, but this one is on the inside of the glass, so at least it can't be stolen. We've also added a rainbow flag above the door. Again, it's inside to prevent theft, but it's still very visible from outside. We also have a vending machine in the Pride Center now, offering an assortment of drinks and snacks to our visitors. Many thanks go out to Greg and to Frank Porter for their legwork and persistence in getting the vending machine in place. They've also been working on getting a pool table for the Pride Center. It looks like we should have that in place very shortly.

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I would also like to welcome a few new groups meeting at the Pride Center now. For those who haven't noticed, we now have a movie night, the *Center Cinema*, on Thursday nights at the Pride Center. Movies start at 7:30 PM. I'd like to thank Tim Gillean for spearheading that effort and keeping the movie night going. Tim is also starting a PFLAG movie night, to be held the first Monday of each month at 7:00. Family of Faith MCC has offered to sponsor a game and sports night on Mondays at the Pride Center. Thank you to Sue Knause and Family of Faith for sponsoring the activity. We've also added a new organization meeting at the Pride Center. The local NOW chapter will be meeting at the Pride Center on the second Saturday of each month at 12:30 PM. They join the growing number of groups meeting at the Pride Center. PrimeTimers, T.U.L.S.A., Lambda AA, Coming Out Group, Rainbow Business Guild, and (of course) TOHR all meet at the Pride Center on a regular basis.

All organizations and individuals in our community are welcome to use the Pride Center for meetings and/or events. Just call to let us know when you need the space and we'll do our best to accommodate you. All we really ask in return is that you make a donation to the Pride Center for use of the space. Most organizations accomplish this by passing the hat at their meeting/event or by hosting some sort of fundraiser for the Pride Center. There's no set amount or requirement. We simply need everyone's support.

Steve Horn

Thanks!



A big thank you is owed to Jason, one of our volunteers, and John, a member of TOHR. Jason diagnosed and fixed the electrical problem one evening while volunteering at the Pride Center. John did the same for the TOHR office. Both are very much appreciated. Now if we can only find a plumber...



Umm...I think he needs some help...

National Coming Out Day-October 11

National Coming Out Day is the culmination of the National Coming Out Project's year 'round activities. Held every year October 11, National Coming Out Day commemorated the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The Human Rights Campaign organizes events and conducts a national public education campaign on radio, television and in magazines. With hundreds of events in all 50 states, National Coming Out Day increases visibility and raises equal rights for lesbian, gay and bisexual people.

Coming out can mean many things to different people, from having your first same-sex experience to becoming actively involved in the community. Whether you're coming out to yourself or others, it takes courage. However, by being honest about who we are, gays, lesbians and bisexuals can begin to erase the misunderstanding and bigotry, and eliminate stereotypes.

No matter which actions each of us takes in our individual coming out process, there are three basic steps we go through: accepting ourselves, telling others and integrating ourselves into the world around us. These steps do not necessarily go in order, nor do they happen only once. Coming out is a lifelong process, and there is no right or wrong way to do it.

A New Look...Pride Center News

Pride Center News is in the process of taking on a new look thanks to some talented individuals, Brad Gemmeindhardt and Greg Gatewood. Brad recently provided TOHR with new a new logo which has been utilized in letterhead, brochures and various other media. I am in the process of integrating the logo into the newsletter as well as other related materials. In addition, Greg has also put his creativity to work in many flyers and posters which you may have noticed around the center or out and about the community! These too will soon find their way into the newsletter. I hope you enjoy the newsletter and find it a useful resource as you read. Feel free to offer copy or suggestions. You can drop off anything you would like to see in print at the Pride Center.

Ken Southard
Editor

Community Calendar

As most of you are aware, TOHR operates the GLBT information line for Tulsa and northeastern Oklahoma. It's the same as the main number for the Pride Center. What you might not know is that every month we now receive over 100 phone calls in which we provide information of some kind. These are only legitimate phone calls taken by a volunteer and do not include hang ups or wrong numbers. This also does not include the phone calls received by the answering system when no one is available. The answering system allows callers to retrieve some basic community information on their own.

We are increasingly getting calls from people asking

what is going on in the community. Unfortunately, there is no one place where such information is available. The Pride Center seems to be a logical place to gather such information. So, we've begun a project in which we are asking local organizations and businesses to forward their calendars to the Pride Center on a monthly basis. Information received by the 20th of the month will be included in the next month's calendar, which will be included in the newsletter and sent out to all those participating.

This is quite an undertaking but it is so important for what we do. If you'd like to be involved or help out, call the Pride Center. Also, if you or your organization did not receive any information about the calendar, please call and we will forward you the information.

the Pride Center Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5	6 6:00PM COMING OUT! 7:30 TOHR BD. MTG.	7 7:00 PM LAMBDA AA	8 7:30 CENTER CIN- EMA "AS GOOD AS IT GETS"	9	10 12:30 N.O.W. 4-8 HIV TESTING 5:30 PM LAMBDA AA
11 4:00 PRIME- TIMERS MEMBERSHIP MTG.	12 7:00 SPORTS NIGHT	13 6:00 COMING OUT! 6:30 SOCIAL HOUR 7:00 PRIME- TIMERS BD.MTG. 7:30 TOHR MEMB. MTG.	14 7:00 LAMBDA AA	15 7:30 CENTER CIN- EMA "DESERT HEARTS"	16	17 4-8:00 HIV TEST- ING 5:30 LAMBDA AA
18	19 7:00 SPORTS NIGHT	20 6:00 COMING OUT! 7:30 LEATHER 101	21 7:00 LAMBDA AA	22 7:30 CENTER CIN- EMA "THE PRIEST"	23 7:00 GAL-A- VANTING ARTS NIGHT	24 4-8:00 HIV TEST- ING 5:30 LAMBDA AA
25	26 7:00 SPORTS NIGHT	27 6:00 COMING OUT! 7:30 PRIDE '99 PLANNING MTG.	28 7:00 LAMBDA AA	29 7:30 CENTER CIN- EMA "KISS ME GUIDO"	30 9:00 2ND ANNUAL "PRISCILLA BLOW-UP EX- TRAVAGANZA"	31 4-8:00 HIV TEST- ING 5:30 LAMBDA AA
1	2 7:00 SPORTS NIGHT 7:00 PFLAG MOVIE NIGHT	3 6:00 COMING OUT!	4 7:00 LAMBDA AA	5 7:30 CENTER CIN- EMA FILM TO BE ANNOUNCED	6 8:00 SAFE HAVEN	7 4-8:00 HIV TEST- ING 5:00 T.U.L.S.A. 5:30 LAMBDA AA

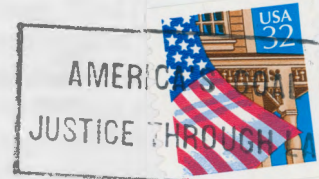
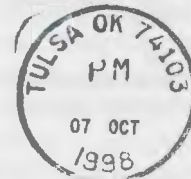
PRIDE '99 Plans Underway



A group of interested individuals recently met at the Pride Center to discuss events to take place at next years' picnic. Tentatively, the event will take place on June 12, 1999. Plans include a parade to commence at the Pride Center with the march ending at Veterans Park. Since Veterans Park worked well this year the planning committee felt it would be the ideal location for PRIDE '99. Lots of exciting events are being considered as planning continues. The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 27, at 7:30 p.m. If you would like to present ideas or suggestions, the meeting will be held at the Pride Center and anyone interested is encouraged and invited to attend.

Second Annual Priscilla Blow-Up Extravaganza Planned

That's right, this is the second year for this Halloween party. It will be held on Friday, October 30, 1998, starting at 9:00 PM at the Pride Center. The party will culminate with a showing of the already-a-classic, The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert starting at 11:00 PM. There will also be *dancing, fun & fellowship* for everyone. Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes (categories to be determined) and *door prizes will be given*. Snacks and beverages will be provided. A donation to the Pride Center is requested. Make plans now to attend. This is one party you don't want to miss!



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 Oklahoma City, OK 73112