



Pyramid Project

TOHR's

# Pyramid Project News

"Building a Home...Funding the Future"

www.PyramidProject.org

Quarterly No. 7

November 2002

## A letter from the President & Pyramid Project Chairs

The end of the second year of TOHR's Pyramid Project capital campaign is drawing to a close. It has been an exciting and productive time for TOHR and the Pyramid Project. We wish to thank those who have so generously donated and pledged already! Please join us in our year-end goal of having \$150,000 CASH in Pyramid Project's Tulsa Community Trust Fund. Just \$20,000 is needed to reach this goal.

For over 22 years now, TOHR (Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights) has established itself as the service organization for the entire GLBT and allied community in Northeast Oklahoma. During the last seven years, in cramped leased space, over 4600 persons each year have been served at the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center. Over 4200 calls a year have been made to the helpline.

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center is an integral part of our entire GLBT community. It is a visible cultural presence that educates Tulsa and surrounding areas. It provides a safe and affirming environment for all who enter. It provides access to critical services and positive social outlets for many in our GLBT Community. It is a member of the National Association of GLBT Community Centers.

### Some of the numerous services and groups offered at TOHR's GLBT Community Center are:

- Information Line – Offers peer counseling, referrals to medical, legal and financial services
- TOHR Pride Store – Largest selection of Pride merchandise, gifts and decorative items in NE Oklahoma
- Nancy McDonald Rainbow Library – Over 3000 volumes used for research and leisure
- Blue Room – Comfortable, TV, game and pool lounge, when not in use for meetings
- Meeting room – Can accommodate a larger audience for speakers and membership meetings
- Cyber Café – Provides free internet access to the community
- Advocacy in Action – Helps educate local government on important issues facing the GLBT community
- Gender Outreach – Provides support and education for transgender persons of all ages
- Generation Connections – Brings together GLBT persons to discuss issues surrounding aging
- HIV Testing – Free, anonymous and confidential testing provided twice a week by HOPE
- Lesbian Connection – Weekly meetings discuss social and business issues facing women and lesbians
- Men's Coming Out Group – Qualified facilitators address numerous issues surrounding coming out
- Rainbow Families – Provides support, understanding and activities for GLBT parents and their children
- Soulforce of Oklahoma – Uses Martin Luther King, Jr's teachings to end spiritual violence against GLBTs
- Tulsa Area Primetimers – Founded in '93, mature gay men meet for fellowship, support and discussion
- Sooner State Rodeo Association – Enthusiasts plan events, including Tulsa's 2003 International Rodeo
- Center Cinema – Thursdays present new movies shown on the big screen TV with microwave for popcorn

As you can see, the Community Center is well used. With a better equipped permanent facility, more of our community and friends, young and old, will be served. The Pyramid Project capital campaign seeks to raise the funds needed to purchase, refurbish and sustain a permanent facility for the GLBT Community Center. Capital campaigns take several years to complete. The goal of the Pyramid Project is 1 million dollars to purchase and endow a facility. There is a need. Won't you help us provide the solution? Please send in your first donation, pledge or additional gift today, by using the form in the enclosed brochure. Together we can reach this important goal.

T h a n k Y o u !  
Brent Ortolani - TOHR President, Kerry Lewis and Sue Welch - Pyramid Project Co-chairs

### Inside this issue:

**WILD HEARTS BALL** 4  
3 "Ring Circus"

Out OK Fall Film 2  
Festival!

Lawyers with heart! 2  
Yes, REALLY!

FOUNDERS LIST 3  
Thank You!

Ticking Clock... 3

Our Mission 4  
Statement

Member Profiles 4

PYRAMETER 1

## The Pyrameter

"Building a Home...  
Funding the Future"

**\$1,000,000 GOAL**

Pledges and  
donations to date  
**\$218,000+**



**Tulsa Women's Tea Dance 2002 Success!**

This year's women's tea dance raised \$11,100.00 for the Pyramid Project!

Over 300 women were in attendance.

A special thank you to the sponsors, performers and exhibitors: Budweiser, A Class Act, St. Michael's Alley, Café Ole, Bill & Ruth's, The Wild Fork, TW's AFAB Catering & Supper Club, American Express, Camp Fire Girls, Tulsa Opera, Soulforce, NCCJ, PFLAG, Wells Fargo, Copper Cello, Out of the Box, OK NARAL, League of Women Voters, Tulsa Hot Glass, Broken Arrow Electrology, Willowood, Out OK, TOHR, Herland, HRC, Women of Council Oak, All Souls Unitarian, C.M. Quinn P.C., and JMAC Design

Plans are already under way for the 2003 Women's Tea!



**Fast Fact:**  
In 1996 TOHR opened the

**first ever GLBT Community Center in Tulsa. Today the Center is in use every weeknight and all day on weekends! Visit!**



VISIT THE OUT OK WEBSITE:  
[www.OUT-OK.com](http://www.OUT-OK.com)

Opening Weekend: OKC, November 15-17, OU Meacham Auditorium  
Closing Weekend: Tulsa, November 22-24, Fontana 6 Cinema

GALA Films: Women's Gala Film: *Notorious C.H.O.* - Margaret Cho  
Men's Gala Film: *Circuit* - Dirk Schafer  
Check the website for Gala Party tickets and info.

**Festival film list:** *AKA, All the Queens Men, Family Fundamentals, Friends & Family, Girl King, Iron Ladies, Lan Yu, Rick & Steve, The Happiest Little Gay Couple in all the World, Treading Water, This I Wish and Nothing More, The Trip*

**Thank you 2002 Festival Sponsors!**

If you have any questions re. sponsorship or if you have questions re. the film festival, please contact Philip Au by email at: [pau@Out-OK.com](mailto:pau@Out-OK.com) or by telephone at: 918-682-4654 ext. 2.

Did we mention...**ORDER YOUR ACCESS PASSES NOW** via the website:  
[www.OUT-OK.com](http://www.OUT-OK.com)

**OUT OK**, Oklahoma's inaugural International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival is coming to OKC and Tulsa this MONTH!

**ADVANCE VIP ALL ACCESS** pass price is \$150 for Tulsa, \$120 for OKC. Tulsa is having more films.

Individual movie tickets on sale for \$10 each one week prior to festival.

**ORDER FORM is on the website!**

Learn about the films, venues, festival parties and more on the site.



**LAW FIRM DONATES UP TO \$5000, challenges others to match**

The Pyramid Project is seeking donations from attorneys or firms that will be matched by the law firm of Rhodes, Hieronymus, Jones, Tucker & Gable, PLLC.

The Tulsa law firm has graciously donated up to \$5000 to match any gifts to the Pyramid Project made by attorneys or law firms until the end of the year.

Simply send in your check or donor card, with the word "matching" denoted, to: The Pyramid Project, P.O. Box 2687, Tulsa, OK 74101.

Founded in 1931, Rhodes Hieronymus today stands as a national leader in civil trial and appellate practice. Working at the cutting edge of litigation in such diverse areas as:

products liability, professional malpractice, employer liability, workers' compensation, ADA, ERISA, toxic torts, aviation, environmental law, suretyship, admiralty and general negligence.

The Pyramid Project thanks Rhodes, Hieronymus, Jones, Tucker and Gable for their strong support of this important capital campaign.

# THANK YOU Pyramid Project FOUNDERS!

**Diamond - \$25,000 or more**  
Mitch Savage & Michael Smith

**Ruby - \$10,000 or more**  
The Gill Foundation,  
Mark Bonney,  
Dennis Neill & John Southard

**Topaz - \$5,000 or more**  
Bob English & Craig Wood,  
Kaye Smith (Parent Challenge)  
Sue Welch & Marcy Smith,  
Rhodes, Hieronymus, Jones, Tucker  
& Gable

**Citrine - \$1,500 or more**  
Dan Burnstein & Martin Marti-  
nez, Greg Gray, Glenn Jones,  
Dave Collins, Doug Campbell,  
Fernando Este & Don Glass,  
Joe & Nancy McDonald (Parent  
Challenge), Rick Martin &  
Daniel Schneider, Greg Gate-  
wood, Tim Williams & Randy  
Ritter, Kerry Lewis, Dick Miller,  
Steve Aberson & Brent Ortolani,  
Joel Cousins & Frank Madearis,  
Theresa Barnard & Tamara  
Thompson, Carol I. Crawford,  
The Williams Companies

**Emerald - \$1,000 or more**  
George Kravis II, Mark Argo,  
Rita & Don Newman, Camille  
Quinn & Susan Kamphaus,  
Scottie Hale, Jack Camden,  
Howard Nix & Robert Babcock  
(in memory of Gary Durst),  
Dwight Kealiher, Catheryn Ma-  
son & Dr. Laura Belmonte,  
Ph.D., Renee Bruce & Libby  
Bender, Marcus Rice & Mark  
Henry w/ 100% corp. match,  
Vanessa Welch, Michael Green,  
Jeff Cherblanc & Wes Schultz,  
Marc B. Fitzerman, The Charles  
& Lynn Schusterman Founda-  
tion, The Maxine & Jack Zarrow  
Foundation

**Sapphire - \$500 or more**  
Lynn Mostoller & Kathy  
McKnight, Russ McCarty, Tulsa  
Area Primetimers, Pat Gordon,  
Cindy Marinella, Cisar-Holt, Inc.,  
Mona Pittenger, Lindy Kroenert,  
Angela Bruce, Kathleen Wil-  
liams, Gina Bradford, Cathy  
Furlong, Ron Toulouse,

**Sapphire cont'd.**  
Jeff E. & Josh C., Bernd Oehler,  
Doug Hartson & Don Wilkes,  
Vance Reed, Dale Todd, Rick  
Phillips, Hope Savage, Liz Harris  
& Debbie Jensen, P.J. Lassek,  
Vikki Duke, Wil Bruner, Judy  
McHenry & Suzanne Knott, David  
Parsons & Al Triggs, Harry  
Crampton & John Cutright, Larry  
James, Paul Allen, Martin R.  
Wing, David Garrett, Damon Vick,  
Michelle Hoffman & Heather  
Harp, Mary Bundy, Sharon  
Thoele

**Business Founders - \$500+**  
Broken Arrow Electrolgy,  
International Tours of Claremore,  
Compulogs  
TW's AFAB Catering

**Amethyst - Up to \$499**  
Steve Wright, Don Eagleton,  
Gary Allison & Barb Henke, La-  
mont Lindstrom & Devre Jackson,  
Tom Dombuowski (in honor of  
T.U.L.S.A.), Jennifer Jones, John  
Madigan, John Mercer, Dwight  
Holden & Ted Eudy, Lisa Temple,  
Diane Newhouse, Phillip Miller &  
Dan Hale, Mary Schepers, Neal  
Family Trust, Marty Newman,  
Whitney Price, Milton Nunley,  
Mark Biggs, Cherblanc Paint & Reno-  
vations, Stewart Scott, Jane Bar-  
nes, Terri Bond & Debra Fish,  
Mike Tedrick, Deborah Karns,  
Pat Oetjen, Sol Smith, Stitch-  
with, Renegades, Joe Rackley,  
Troy McGoveran, Don Rush, Dr.  
Lora Larson, Bill & Kathy Hinkle,  
Jonathan Stanley, Shelly Ledford,  
Bridget DeGraffenreid, Shirley  
Riggs, Sharon Thoele, Rex Ball &  
Stephen Edwards, Janet Gearin,  
Vanguard Business Consulta-  
tions, Carol Schaefer, Mike Keys,  
Beth Persac, Gary Wasson, Anita  
Randza, George Phelps & Ed  
Alaniz, Marianna Blackwell, Tim  
Sanders, Toney & Melinda Fos-  
ter, David Privett & Mark Owen,  
Chris Morrison, Charles Pearce,  
Carrie Fleharty, Mike Eslick,  
iGive.com, Elisabeth Fuller,  
Gerald Miller, Christy Coker,  
Beverly Fyffe, George Boyce,

**Amethyst cont'd**  
Edie Schneegerger & Gail Gar-  
loch, JoAnne Ritchey, Dayna &  
Carl Glanz, Allana Davenport,  
Discount Wrecker Service, Karen  
Weldin, Susanne Bain, Marc  
Frieden, Gary Lawson, Paula  
Russo & Mary Regan, Jeff  
Cowan, Robert Holland, Carolyn  
Ridgeway, Blane Snodgrass,  
Woods-Gallardo Allstate Insurance,  
Mary & Justice Waidner, Paul  
Betow, Barbara Mitchell,  
Stained Glass Designs, Marvin  
& Reba Hoot, Bruce Clemens,  
Tim Grogan, Jeff Potts, David  
Hoot, Anthony & Jones, P.C.,  
Robin Tait & Mark Lackey, Nina  
Reinecke, Dwight Holden & Ted  
Eudy, Michael Reed, David  
Paddock & Phil Cyr, Charles  
Peterson, Shariisse O'Carroll,  
James Wheeler, Mike O'Meara,  
Carol English, Rick Fortner,  
Richard Groendyke, Cathy Elli-  
ott, Dave Rosebeary, Tamalie  
Heimerdinger, Marilyn Ihloff, Inc.,  
Fred Bassett, Josh Stroman,  
Judy Crumrine, Drs. Gordon &  
Jane Purser, Greg Johnson,  
John Massie, Top Hat Magic &  
Fun Shop, Inc., Sue Dulaney,  
Murrel Wilmoth, Sherry Stinson,  
Lee Dunning, Wanda Patrick,  
Jay Ferraro, Steven Hall, Susie  
Thornton, Gene Pelizzoni, Tom  
Williamson, Jim Firth, Steve  
McCurley, Jessie Engle, Barry  
Hensley, Rebecca Howard,  
Cathy Rousseau, Fred Naifeh,  
Charles Duran, Maureen  
Lawler, Johna Abbott, Derrick  
Henry, Deanna Ogez, Bruce  
Hartnitt, Betty Vanaltenburg,  
Adam Erlewieen, Kathie Fite, Jeff  
Spragens, Greg Smith & Kevin  
Burleson, Dan & Nancy Lynn  
Roberts, James Vore, Bud  
McMullen, Kathleen Anne Reed,  
Brad Phillips, Robert & Carol  
Skib, James Moore, John Sim-  
mons & Doug Nelson, Justin &  
Linda Gardner, Michael  
Redman, James Craven,  
Patrick Hobbs, Norma & Rich-  
ard Small, Ann Simmons  
Alspaugh, Sharon King Davis,  
Jeannine Hunter, Theresa &  
Perry Collins, Greg Davis,

**Amethyst cont'd.**  
Robert Odell & Paul Saladin,  
Tammie Blancett, Sharon  
Parker, Tracy Graham, Rick  
Craig, Suzanne Everage,  
James Davis, Michael & Chris-  
tine Lance, Gwen Hampton,  
David Selstad, Mary Issacson,  
Ray & Nancy Feldman, Peggy  
Buerge, Paul Greever, & Ste-  
ven Lockheart, Carolyn Taylor,  
J. Mac Troy, David Halpern &  
Sue Gunterman Halpern,  
Debra Hall, Wendy Thomas,  
Marc & Linda Frazier, Brent &  
Susan Lang, Dr. Carol Dillard,  
Brandy Miller, Evelyn Thomp-  
son, Teresa Simmons, Nick,  
Georgopoulos, Judy Cash,  
Shelly McGoffin, Pamela  
Hodges, Maureen Lawler,  
Linda, Paschal, Linda Duncan,  
Kara Gae & Ken Neal, Jim  
Trotter, Jerry Jackson, Interior  
Designers Supply, Betsy Mar-  
tin, Terry & Amy Michael, Can-  
dice Merifield Johnson, Diane  
Gawey, Jack & Lou Hodgson,  
Suzanne Thompson, Kerrylyn  
Hooper & J.E. Black, Van  
Wilde, George Matarazzo, Jr.,  
Anna Dodwell & Connie  
McCorley, Betsy Myers &  
Stacy Takacs, Steven & Leslie  
Penrose

**House Parties**  
Dwight Kealiher & Mike Tedrick  
\$5,400  
Dave Collins and Doug Campbell  
\$4,490  
Rex Ball & Steven Edwards  
\$5,000  
Mitch Savage & Michael Smith  
\$3,300  
David Hoot's Birthday Party  
\$2200

**Events**  
Wild Hearts Ball I \$6,000  
Women's T-Dance I \$6,820  
Dollars from Dubya \$4,200  
Helga's Rocky Night \$4,700  
Wild Hearts Ball II \$10,000  
Diary Opera \$10,000  
Women's Tea Dance II \$11,100

(Corrections may be e-mailed to:  
committee@PyramidProject.org)



## What is our time worth?

Can we put a price on time or moments in our lives? Many professionals place a "price" on their time. A plumber may charge \$50 an hour to repair a leak. A massage therapist charges \$75 for an hour massage. Attorneys, accountants and doctors' fees can run into hundreds of dollars per hour. We've all seen the commer-

cials putting a price on moments in our lives. We ask you to consider the value of the following: An Hispanic, hearing impaired youth comes to the Center one night asking for help. You see, he was being discriminated against at school not because he was Hispanic or deaf, but because he was gay. He found help and acceptance. Priceless! A professional woman moves back to Tulsa after being away for nearly

20 years, to care for her aging parents. She arrives at the center seeking a sense of community, a way to re-connect. Priceless! Nearly 20 groups meet at the Tulsa GLBT Community Center monthly. Priceless! Having a Community Center free from lease or mortgage. Priceless! Having a permanent, visible presence for the GLBT Community in Tulsa. Priceless! As a Pyramid Project donor, you are helping

TOHR make history for the Oklahoma GLBT Community. You're Priceless! With your continued support, the Pyramid Project Capital Campaign will soon be "Building a Home...Funding the Future" of the Tulsa GLBT Community Center. Please consider increasing your donation in 2003. Encourage others to partici-  
**It's time!**

**Pyramid Project Steering Committee**

**Co Chairs**

Kerry Lewis / Sue Welch

**Legal**

Mark Bonney

**Finance**

Theresa Barnard

**Grant Development**

Nancy McDonald, Director  
Theresa Barnard  
Greg Gatewood  
Kerry Lewis

**Financial Development**

Theresa Barnard  
Mark Bonney  
Kerry Lewis  
Sue Welch

**Needs Assessment**

Mark Bonney  
Greg Gatewood

**Marketing**

Marc Frieden  
Marcy Smith  
Tim Williams

**Events**

Greg Gatewood  
David Hoot  
Marcy Smith  
Sue Welch

**Parliamentarian**

Marc Frieden

**TOHR Board Liaison**

Brent Ortolani, President

**Advisory Board**

Dwight Kealisher, CPA  
Nancy McDonald  
Dennis Neill  
Rick Phillips  
Vance Reed

**Announcements and Contact Info:**

**Wild Hearts Ball 3 "Ring Circus" - The Gayest Show on Earth:**

Save the DATE: Friday, February 28th, 2003, 8pm - midnight  
PLACE: Greenwood Cultural Center

Party announcements will arrive in your mailbox in January!

**Calling all Online Shoppers - Giving \$5 is as easy as "buy":**

Don't forget, you can donate to the Pyramid Project by holiday shopping online! A bonus donation of \$5 will be given for each new shopper until November 30, 2002. That's right. Our friends at Igive want you to change online shopping for GOOD!

Log on to the Pyramid Project website and click on the "Igive.com" link for easy instructions! [www.PyramidProject.org](http://www.PyramidProject.org)

**Capital Campaign Mission:**

The Pyramid Project is TOHR's capital campaign to raise funds to purchase and sustain a permanent visible presence, a safe and affirming home for the Tulsa GLBT Community Center. *"Building a Home... Funding the Future"*

**Address/Contact info:**

The Tulsa GLBT Community Center is located at 2114 So. Memorial Drive, Tulsa  
Hours of operation: Monday - Friday 6pm to 9pm / Saturday Noon to 6pm  
Phone: 918-743-4297

**Mailing address** for both TOHR and the Pyramid Project  
P.O. Box 2687, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74101



**TOHR Board and Pyramid Project Committee Member profiles.....**

**Get to know these people!**

**Name:** Brent Ortolani

**Occupation:** Higher Education Marketing & Public Relations

**How long you have been in your occupation:** 10 years

**Professional or Business Title:** Director of Public Relations, Rogers State University (two years)

**Positions of professional leadership held:** Assistant Director and Interim Director of University Relations, The University of Tulsa; Executive Editor, The University of Tulsa Alumni Magazine (eight years)

**Positions of other leadership held:** TOHR President; Member, Board of Directors, Tulsa chapter of the Public Relations Society of America; Member, Council for the Advancement and Support of Education,

**Organization affiliations:** Public Relations Society of America, American Marketing Association, Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights

**Where you are from:** Coffeyville, Kansas

**Other interests you have:** Certified Volunteer, St. Francis Hospice;

Animal Rescue; Kansas University Endowment Association; Coffeyville (Kan.) Community Foundation

**Why you are involved in TOHR's capital campaign, the Pyramid Project:** To help provide a permanent, safe place for GLBT youth and adults to receive peer support, and to enhance the visibility and equality of GLBT citizens of Tulsa.

**Name:** Theresa Barnard

**Occupation:** Financial Advisor

**How long you have been in your occupation:** 3 years

**Professional or Business Title:** Financial Advisor

**Positions of leadership held:** Financial Chair, TOHR's Pyramid Project; Board Member, Oklahoma Green Country Council of Camp Fire USA; Vice President of Western Financial Group, LLC

**Organization affiliations:** Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights, Oklahoma Green Country Council of Camp Fire USA

**Where you are from:** Tulsa, OK

**Other interests you have:** The arts, gardening, reading.

**Why you are involved in TOHR's capital campaign, the Pyramid Project:**

It's important for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community to have a visible and respected presence in the greater Tulsa community. A part of this presence is to have a permanent and suitable facility in which the members of the GLBT and allied community can be proud. As a member of Tulsa's GLBT community, I see it as my responsibility to not only financially support the campaign, but to also personally support the campaign by giving of my time and talent.

**Name:** Kerry Lewis

**Occupation:** Attorney

**How long you have been in your occupation:** 9 years

**Professional or Business Title:** Sr. Associate, Rhodes, Hieronymus, Jones, Tucker & Gable, PLLC.

**Positions of leadership held:** Pyramid Project Co-Chair, Past TOHR President, AIDS Outreach Co-Chair, Community Service Council of Greater Tulsa, Oklahoma Bar Association Young Lawyers Committee (1996).

**Organization affiliations:** Human Rights Campaign, Lambda Legal

Defense and Education Fund

**Where you are from:** Born in Benton, Arkansas. My family lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

**Other interests you have:** GLBT History, Diversity Issues

**Why you are involved in TOHR's capital campaign, the Pyramid Project:** A permanent home for the GLBT Community Center will solidify and unify our diverse GLBT community. Our community will have a place to meet our unique needs. The mere presence of a visible, permanent Center will remind Tulsans that we are an important part of the larger community.

**WANT TO HELP?**

If you would like to volunteer for TOHR or the Pyramid Project Steering Committee, call the Center at 743-4297 or

Email: [community@tohr.org](mailto:community@tohr.org)  
[committee@PyramidProject.org](mailto:committee@PyramidProject.org)