

# PRIDE CENTER NEWS



## No More. NO LESS!

E-mail: [pride\\_center\\_news@pobox.com](mailto:pride_center_news@pobox.com)

Volume 2, No. 9

### From the President...

Well, I had hoped that I would never have to do this, but *it looks as if we will have to close the Pride Center no later than the end of this year, unless we see a significant change in the next 1 – 1½ months.* Despite repeated pleas to those on our mailing list as well as the community at large, we still do not have even close to the level of operating income that we need on a monthly basis. Renewed and new members count about 50 now and I would estimate that our monthly pledge total now stands somewhere around \$400.00. Seeing as our monthly operating expenses are close to \$2,000.00, we are far short of the monthly pledge level that we need.



It saddens me to think that the people in our community are really this apathetic and unwilling to support such a valuable resource as the Pride Center. But, I can come to no other conclusion. Not only has it been difficult to obtain the needed money for operation of the Pride Center, it has been next to impossible to find good volunteers to work even 1 night a month. That

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appalls me, particularly when I consider the amount of time that I have put in this year. What also saddens me is that people who were formerly involved with the Pride Center seem to have no interest in it's continued success. Whatever may have caused you to leave,

please consider how important it is that you renew your support of the Pride Center.

We currently have a mailing list for the newsletter of approximately 280 individuals, households, businesses and organizations. If each of the 280 made a donation of \$10.00 per month, we'd have \$2,800 every month, in addition to one-time donations. That would cover our monthly expenses and also give us money to pursue other important endeavors and activities. And, when you consider that about 10 people are responsible for the approximate \$400.00 already pledged, that might require a little less of every one else. Additionally, if ½ of the 280 would volunteer to work 1 hour each month, we could cover all of the times that the center is currently open with no one having to work more than 1 hour each month.

Once again, in those terms it seems like we should easily be able to support the Pride Center and TOHR, especially since there a several people in our community for every person on our mailing list. I think part of the problem is that too many people think, "Oh, my little \$10.00 a month won't make a difference." *But you're wrong.* As I said above, *\$10.00 a month from each individual, household, business and organization would put us well over what we need to operate.*

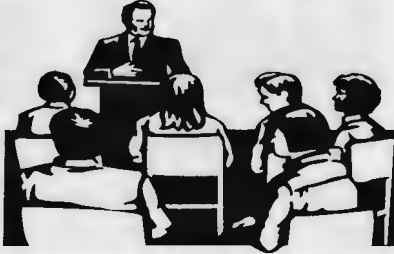
We are forming an *ad hoc committee to look at fundraising options* for the Pride Center. The committee will *meet weekly on Tuesdays at 6:30 PM* at the Pride Center. Please come and join the meeting if you have any ideas on what we can do to raise funds or if you just want to pitch in and help.

Just in case you didn't already know, we have several groups and organizations that meet at the Pride Center

(Continued on page 2)

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on a regular basis:

- The *Coming Out Group* meets weekly,
- Two *Alcoholics Anonymous* meetings are held weekly,
- *PrimeTimers* has monthly board and membership meeting,
- *T.U.L.S.A.* has its monthly membership meeting,
- *NOW* has a monthly membership meeting,
- *Free Anonymous HIV Testing* is now offered twice weekly,
- *Community Movie Night* is held weekly,
- *PFLAG Movie Night* is held monthly,
- *Sports / Game Night* is held weekly,
- *Rainbow Business Guild* meets quarterly,
- A *Women's Event Night* has just started monthly,
- The *Pride '99 Planning Committee* meets monthly and
- *TOHR* has monthly membership and board meetings.



If all of that isn't enough justification for keeping the Pride Center open, we also have other irregular events that occur at the Pride Center; and our help line has become increasingly busy. We now take over 100 calls a month for various information during the limited hours that we are open and when we have a volunteer. Many other calls are missed or picked up by the answering system.

So, you see, the Pride Center *does* have an important place in our community; it serves a purpose. If the

Pride Center is forced to close, we will look for a smaller space that might afford some opportunities, but some groups would surely be out of a place to meet and we would have to further fight the recognition of where we are in the

community. But wouldn't it be better and easier if everyone just dug in and supported the Pride Center as it is?

The Pride Center *can* remain open, but not without your support, both monetarily and volunteering. The strength of our community center is dependent on the convictions of the people involved. Please support it **TODAY!!**



## Community Responds to Calendar

The *Community Calendar* is now being produced. You'll find it included in this issue. Whether it will continue as a part of the newsletter is still to be decided, but we'll do our best to keep you informed. You can always call the help line to find out what's on the calendar.

Not everyone that we sent information to is participating in the calendar at this point, but hopefully more of you will once you see it. The look of the calendar is sure to change over time due to the over- and under-burdening of some days on the calendar.

If you'd like to assist with the calendar, we can use help mailing out the calendars and information, following up with businesses and organizations, and compiling and producing the calendar itself.

Let us know if you have any suggestions or comments or would like to be involved.

**Our Community!**





## Letter to the Editor

On the rainy evening of Saturday, October 17th, TOHR and PFLAG hosted a candlelight vigil for Matthew Shepard.

It rained all-day and showed no signs of letting up. I decided to relax in the warmth of our home thinking the vigil will probably be cancelled. At 9:00 PM, I started reading the morning paper. It explained how the rain poured on the funeral attendants in Wyoming and how the rain did not phase their devotion. The protestors and supporters attended even though the rain was merciless. The 10-second coverage that television gave the vigil hit my guilty bone.

I felt like a heathen or spineless snake. I felt this way not because the Westboro Baptist Church says that I am (because of my sexual orientation); but because I didn't attend the vigil. How selfish! Even if the vigil was cancelled, I should have been there insisting that it took place.

My point is this, Matthew Shepard unwillingly lost his life. This is similar to the struggle that racial minorities have endured over the centuries. GBLT rights will eventually be tolerated or accepted but only if we willingly endure multiple small inconveniences and sacrifices throughout our lives. I.e., getting off the couch and showing the world that we do care about hate crimes even if it means that we will mess up our hair or get wet in the rain!

Losing a friend, rejecting a friend, rejection from family, replacing a barber and standing in the rain because of our morals are small prices to pay. Enduring these may be difficult tasks. But if only one person notices your actions it will affect them. That person may not agree with your beliefs or actions but they will in some form respect you for it in the future. When that person encounters a situation involving GBLT discrimination, they will think a moment longer before acting, and you have done some good.

Ned Bruha

## Texans To Challenge Sodomy Laws

The 119-year-old law that makes homosexual oral and anal sex a misdemeanor worthy of a maximum \$500 fine in Texas will be put to the test by two men who were arrested in the apartment of one of them. Houston police officers were responding to what turned out to be a false report of an armed robbery September 17, when they came upon Ty-

rone Garner and John Geddes Lawrence engaged in sex. The pair were taken to jail and later released on \$200 bail. Now Garner and Lawrence plan to challenge the law with exactly the kind of case state gay and lesbian activists have been waiting for.

Prosecutions for private consensual sex acts are so rare that the laws are difficult to challenge, although their impact is frequently felt when they are cited in regards to other issues, such as discrimination, employment and adoption. Texas activists tried to raise a civil challenge to the sodomy law in 1994, but the state Supreme Court ruled that it did not have jurisdiction in the case because the plaintiffs had not been prosecuted under the sodomy law. In fact, only two or three sodomy cases have been prosecuted over the last 30 years in the state, and all those involved sex acts that took place in public jails in view of witnesses. Ironically, the infrequent enforcement of sodomy laws has also been used to justify leaving them on the books. Attorney for Garner and Lawrence Mitchell Katine, can now say, "For all those people who have said over the years that this statute is never enforced need to realize that that's not true."

So Texas activists, while outraged about the circumstances of the case, are enthusiastic about its potential. "We certainly hope to move this forward, and we'd love to see it move all the way up the ladder and be declared unconstitutional," said Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus president Clarence Bagby. "We need to get this [sodomy law] off the books." Harris County District Attorney John B. Holmes Jr. agrees with the strategy. Although he intends to prosecute Garner and Lawrence under the presumption that the law is constitutional, he said, "But I've always said that the best way to get rid of a bad law is to enforce it."

That wasn't the way it worked out in the infamous Georgia case of "Bowers v. Hardwick," in which the U.S. Supreme Court in 1986 upheld that state's sodomy law, however. "Bowers" began much like the current Texas case, when police discovered Michael Hardwick engaged in sex with another man in his own bedroom, after the officers had entered the house in connection with an unrelated investigation of Hardwick's roommate. In the end, former Georgia state Attorney General Michael Bowers successfully defended the right of states to regulate private sexual conduct.

Garner and Lawrence are set to be arraigned before Justice of the Peace Mike Parrott on November 20. Their case must go through the county court and into the criminal court system before the constitutional issues can be argued.

The call that led to the arrest of the two Houston gay men

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# THE PRIDE CENTER

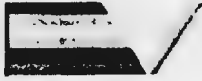
**1307 EAST 38th**  
TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74105

**... for all of TULSA!**

**SERVING the LGBT COMMUNITIES AND OUR FRIENDS**

# Commur

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>St. Jerome's - HOLY EUCHARIST - 11 A INQUIRER'S CLASS - 6 P</p> <p>House of Holy Spirit Ministries - SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 A WORSHIP - 10:45 A</p> <p>Community of Hope - WORSHIP - 6 P</p> <p>Fellowship Congregational Church - CHURCH SCHOOL - 9:30 A WORSHIP - 10:30 A</p> <p>Prime Timers - MEMBERSHIP MEETING - Pride Center - 4 P</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>PFLAG - CHAT - 6:30 P</p> <p>SUPPORT GROUPS - 6:30 P</p> <p>EDUCATIONAL MEETING - 7:30 P - Fellowship Congregational Church</p> <p>Pride Center - SPORTS NIGHT - 7 P</p> <p>HIV Outreach Prevention Education - HIV TESTING BY APPT - 9 A-6 P HIV WALK-IN TESTING - 6 P-8 P</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>HIV Outreach Prevention Education - HIV TESTING BY APPT - 9 A-6 P</p> <p>COMING OUT GROUP - Pride Ctr - 6 P</p> <p>Red Rock Testing Clinic - HIV TESTING - PRIDE CTR - 5 P-8 P</p> <p>Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights - MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 7:30 P</p>	<p>OK Spoke Club - NUTRI SEMINAR - Ziegler R</p> <p>Free Spirit Woman's Cntr &amp; CONVERSATION</p> <p>House of Holy Spirit Minis FELLO BIBLE</p> <p>HIV Outreach Prevention HIV TESTING BY Lambda AA - Pride Center</p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>St. Jerome's - HOLY EUCHARIST - 11 A INQUIRER'S CLASS - 6 P</p> <p>House of Holy Spirit Ministries - SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 A WORSHIP - 10:45 A</p> <p>Community of Hope - WORSHIP - 6 P</p> <p>Fellowship Congregational Church - CHURCH SCHOOL - 9:30 A WORSHIP - 10:30 A</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>PFLAG - BOARD MEETING - Fellow- ship Congregational Church - 7:00 P</p> <p>Pride Center - SPORTS NIGHT - 7 P</p> <p>HIV Outreach Prevention Education - HIV TESTING BY APPT - 9 A-6 P HIV WALK-IN TESTING - 6 P-8 P</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>HIV Outreach Prevention Education - HIV TESTING BY APPT - 9 A-6 P</p> <p>COMING OUT GROUP - Pride Ctr - 6 P</p> <p>Red Rock Testing Clinic - HIV TESTING - PRIDE CTR - 5 P-8 P</p>	<p>Free Spirit Woman's Cntr &amp; CONVERSATION</p> <p>House of Holy Spirit Minis FELLO BIBLE</p> <p>HIV Outreach Prevention HIV TESTING BY Lambda AA - Pride Center</p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Council Oak Men's Choral - HOLIDAY CONCERT ** - All Soul's Unitarian - 3 P</p> <p>St. Jerome's - HOLY EUCHARIST - 11 A INQUIRER'S CLASS - 6 P</p> <p>House of Holy Spirit Ministries - SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 A WORSHIP - 10:45 A</p> <p>Community of Hope - WORSHIP - 6 P</p> <p>Fellowship Congregational Church - CHURCH SCHOOL - 9:30 A WORSHIP - 10:30 A</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>PFLAG - CHAT - Fellowship Congregational Church - 6:30 P</p> <p>Pride Center - SPORTS NIGHT - 7 P</p> <p>HIV Outreach Prevention Education - HIV TESTING BY APPT - 9 A-6 P HIV WALK-IN TESTING - 6 P-8 P</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>HIV Outreach Prevention Education - HIV TESTING BY APPT - 9 A-6 P</p> <p>COMING OUT GROUP - Pride Ctr - 6 P</p> <p>Red Rock Testing Clinic - HIV TESTING - PRIDE CTR - 5 P-8 P</p> <p>PRIDE '99 - PLANNING MEETING - Pride Center - 7:30 P</p>	<p>Free Spirit Woman's Cntr &amp; CONVERSATION</p> <p>House of Holy Spirit Minis FELLO BIBLE</p> <p>HIV Outreach Prevention HIV TESTING BY Lambda AA - Pride Center</p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p>St. Jerome's - HOLY EUCHARIST - 11 A INQUIRER'S CLASS - 6 P</p> <p>House of Holy Spirit Ministries - SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 A WORSHIP - 10:45 A</p> <p>Community of Hope - WORSHIP - 6 P</p> <p>Fellowship Congregational Church - CHURCH SCHOOL - 9:30 A WORSHIP - 10:30 A</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Pride Center - Sports Night - 7 P</p> <p>HIV Outreach Prevention Education - HIV TESTING BY APPT - 9 A-6 P HIV WALK-IN TESTING - 6 P-8 P</p>		<p>** Contact Aleta C</p>



# Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>11</b></p> <p><u>NUTRITION</u>            Center Rec Park - 7:00 P  <u>CNTR-COFFEE</u>            SATIATION-Call for Time  <u>Ministries</u> -            FELLOWSHIP - 6:00 P            BIBLE STUDY - 7:00 P  <u>Prevention Education</u> -            BY APPT - 9 A-6 P            Center - 7 P</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><u>HIV Outreach Prevention Education</u> -            HIV TESTING BY APPT - 9 A-6 P            HIV WALK-IN TESTING - 6 P-8 P  <u>Pride Center</u> - CENTER CINEMA -            "Love! Valour! Compassion!" - 7:30 P</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p><u>RAIN</u> - 1ST NEW VOLUNTEER            TRAINING SESSION - 10:00 A - 5:00 P  <u>HIV Outreach Prevention Education</u> -            HIV TESTING - PRIDE CTR - 4 P-8 P  <u>Lambda AA</u> - Pride Center - 5:30 P  <u>N.O.W.</u> - Pride Center - 12:30 P  <u>Pride Center</u> - GAL-A-VANTING            DANCE - 8 P</p>
<p><b>18</b></p> <p><u>CNTR-COFFEE</u>            SATIATION-Call for Time  <u>Ministries</u> -            FELLOWSHIP - 6:00 P            BIBLE STUDY - 7:00 P  <u>Prevention Education</u> -            BY APPT - 9 A-6 P            Center - 7 P</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><u>RAIN</u> - 2ND NEW VOLUNTEER            TRAINING SESSION - 6:00 P-10:00 P  <u>HIV Outreach Prevention Education</u> -            HIV TESTING BY APPT - 9 A-6 P            HIV WALK-IN TESTING - 6 P-8 P  <u>Pride Center</u> - CENTER CINEMA -            "Stonewall" - 7:30 P</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><u>HIV Outreach Prevention Education</u> -            HIV TESTING - PRIDE CTR - 4 P-8 P  <u>Lambda AA</u> - Pride Center - 5:30 P</p>
<p><b>25</b></p> <p><u>CNTR-COFFEE</u>            SATIATION-Call for Time  <u>Ministries</u> -            FELLOWSHIP - 6:00 P            BIBLE STUDY - 7:00 P  <u>Prevention Education</u> -            BY APPT - 9 A-6 P            Center - 7 P</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>THANKSGIVING DAY</b>  <u>RAIN</u> - OFFICE CLOSED  <u>Pride Center</u> - CLOSED</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p><u>RAIN</u> - OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p><u>HIV Outreach Prevention Education</u> -            HIV TESTING - PRIDE CTR - 4 P-8 P  <u>Lambda AA</u> - Pride Center - 5:30 P</p>
<p>eta @ 583-3443 for tickets</p>			

# Were You There...

## TOHR November Meeting Officer Elections

Officer elections for TOHR were held at the November membership meeting on November 10, 1998, at 7:30 PM. Officer candidates for 1999, presented at the October membership meeting were:

President – Steve Hohn  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President – Greg Gatewood  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President – Ken Draper  
Secretary – Mary Schepers  
Treasurer – Lynn Mostoller

## First Vice-President, Greg Gatewood

Greg Gatewood is the candidate for First Vice-President of TOHR. Currently serving in the same capacity as he is nominated, Greg is also the Volunteer Coordinator for the Pride Center and the Pride Store. Greg is also instrumental in the daily operations of the center.

Volunteering since June of 1997, Greg has served on the Pride '98 Committee; Special Events Committee and is currently involved with planning for Pride '99. He also assists with promotional and advertising materials for TOHR.

A Tulsan since 1990, Greg is a graduate of Oklahoma State University and is employed with a local architectural firm.

## Treasurer, Lynn Mostoller

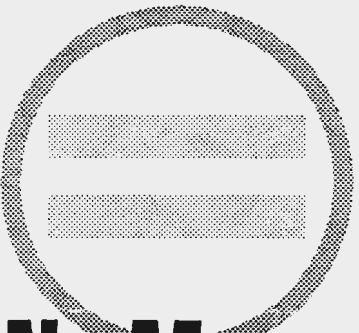
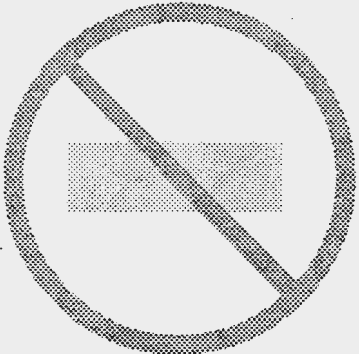
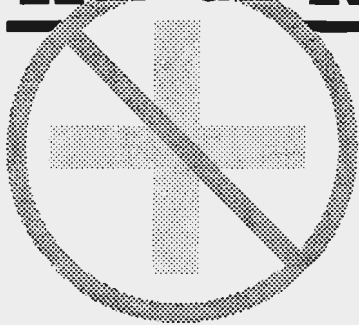
Lynn Mostoller moved to Tulsa in September 1991 to accept the position of principal trombonist with the Tulsa Philharmonic. She has been an active of PFLAG since 1993. Lynn has served as Newsletter Editor for the Tulsa chapter of PFLAG, and is currently Vice-president.

## Secretary, Mary Schepers

Mary Schepers is a local poet, journalist, and co-founder of "Gal-A Vanting-Ms Adventures for Women", an activities group for lesbians. She is committed to building a stronger lesbian com-

# Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights

1307 E. 38th Street, 2nd Floor ▼ Tulsa, OK 74105



**No More.  
NO LESS!**

November 11, 1998

To all local gay and gay-friendly businesses and organizations –

First of all, I would like to thank those who participated in the November Community Calendar for sending in their information. I apologize for the lateness of getting the calendar and this letter out, but we are still learning.

I hope that you are all as excited about this opportunity as I am. We can do so much as a community if we only know what everyone else is doing. I want to encourage those of you who were unable to participate this month to do so next month.

Once again, we are proposing that each business and organization in the Tulsa area forward a calendar of events for the next month no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month to TOHR/the Pride Center. We will then compile the information into one calendar of events that we will send back out to each business and organization before the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. We will also forward a copy of the calendar to the newspapers that serve our community to better keep them informed on what is happening. *Enclosed you will find a calendar for December that can be used to write in dates and events/activities.* We will try to call you shortly should you have any questions.

Should you have groups and/or events that you do not wish to have placed on the calendar but for which we can provide referrals, please do not write them on the calendar. Instead, write a note on the back of the calendar indicating the name and nature of the group/event with the date and time. We will keep a separate list as a resource for the information line.

I hope that you too can see the tremendous value to be gained from such a venture. Please assist us in making this happen. *Complete the enclosed calendar and return it to us no later than November 20, 1998.* The 20<sup>th</sup> of each month will be held as a strict deadline.

Please return to:  
TOHR – Community Calendar  
P O Box 2687  
Tulsa, OK 74101

Or bring it by the Pride Center:  
TOHR – the Pride Center  
1307 E 38<sup>th</sup> Street  
Tulsa, OK 74105

Thank you for your time and assistance. Please feel free to share this letter and information with anyone we may have inadvertently forgotten.

Steven J. Horn, President

REFERRAL INFO  
FOR HELPLINE

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE AND/OR ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TOHR INFORMA-  
TION ONLY

CONTACT PERSON & PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

# December 1998

*PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY!! WE MAY  
NOT BE ABLE TO CALL FOR CONFIR-  
MATION ON UNREADABLE PRINT!!*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

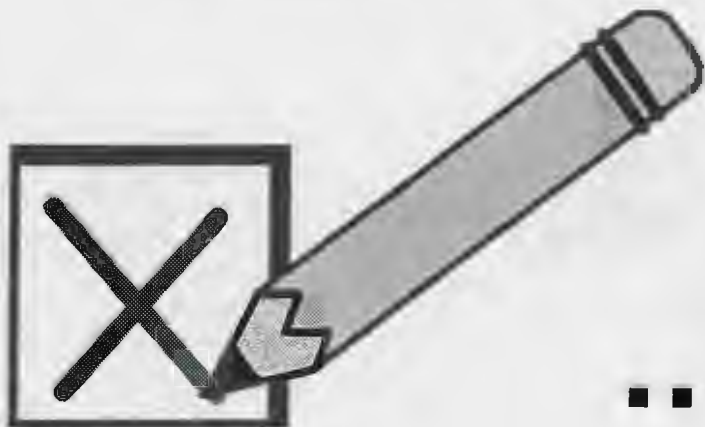
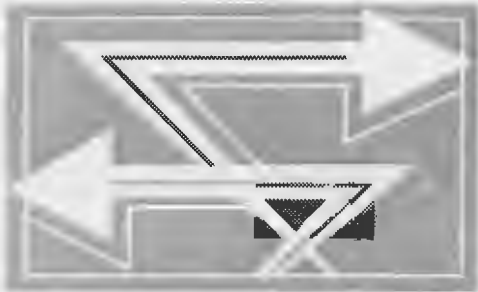
## President, Steve Horn

It's been quite a year. I am pleased to be nominated for a second term as president of TOHR. I have enjoyed the past year, although it has been very stressful at times. We've been through a lot, from the fantastic 1998 Pride Picnic to the broken door(s) at the Pride Center. We've come a long way this year. The separation of H.O.P.E. from TOHR has allowed us to refocus our energy on the Pride Center without having to worry about managing a second business in H.O.P.E. As a result, the Pride Center has begun to flourish. We receive a hundred legitimate phone calls every month, in addition to countless calls that utilize our answering system. We continue to have more and more activities each and every week at the Pride Center and we've recently started a community calendar to compile info from the entire community in one place.

We do still have a lot of work to do, however. First and foremost has to be the need for additional fundraising to support the Pride Center. We need funds every month to meet our operating expenses. We also need volunteers at the Pride Center to answer the help line and work in the Pride Store when the Pride Center is open. We need help with planning major events, especially the 1999 Pride Picnic. 1999 is going to be an incredible year for TOHR and the Pride Center. We can accomplish so much if we work together. Please get involved if you are not already. The efforts of everyone in our community are needed if we are to be successful.

## Second Vice-President, Ken Draper

Ken is the HIV Educator/Coordinator for Red Rock Behavioral Health Services in Tulsa. Ken has worked with youth in crisis for many years focusing on Les/Bi/Gay/Trans. youth. He is co-founder of the Rainbow Business Guild in Tulsa, has volunteered with Youth Services of Tulsa and been a PFLAG & T.O.H.R. supporter for many years. "I look forward to helping further develop the PRIDE CENTER/TOHR into a central resource agency for the Les/Bi/Gay/Trans. Community in Tulsa."



# ...To Vote?

(Continued from page 3)

came from Roger David Nance. Harris County Sheriff's Department officers responded to his report of an armed man in an apartment complex, and he directed them to the apartment where Garner and Lawrence were found. Nance pleaded no contest and served 15 days in jail for filing a false police report. David Jones, an attorney for the two men, cited Nance's motive as a "personality conflict between the caller and the people in the apartment."



**FREE**

## Testing

Come By *the Pride Center* For Your Copy!

- The Gayly
- Tulsa Family News
- Triangle News
- Community News Voice

Free & anonymous testing is available at *the Pride Center*.

Every Saturday  
4:00 - 8:00

**H.O.P.E.**

Tel: 918-834-8378

**TULSA  
OKLAHOMANS  
for  
HUMAN RIGHTS**  
The Pride Center  
PO Box 2687  
Tulsa, OK 74101