

FREE POOL!

The Tulsa GLBT Community Center offers **FREE** pool Tuesday thru Friday, 6-9 PM
2114 S Memorial



The Quest for Equality!

Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights has worked for equality for the Gay, Lesbian, Bi and Transgender (GLBT) community of NE Oklahoma for 22 years. See how you can be a part of it. Page 8



Be a Fairy!

The 2nd annual TOHR Holiday Fairy Tree, helping those in need, is in the Tulsa GLBT Community Center. Page 7

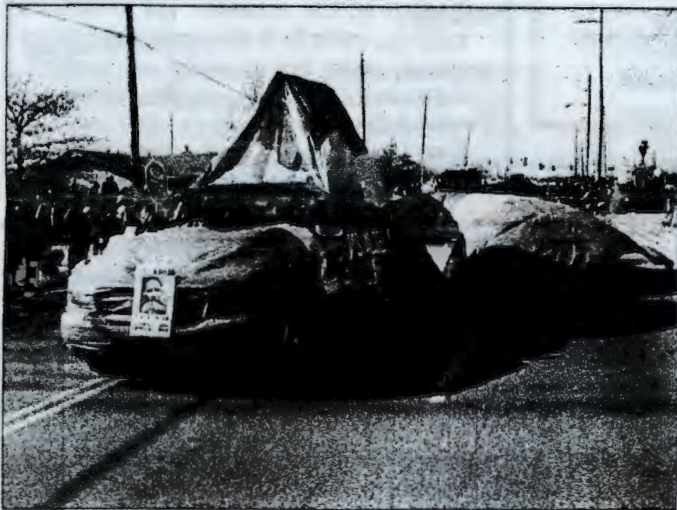
the TORCH

tulsa oklahomans

WINTER 2002/2003 for human rights quarterly news / volume one / issue two

Live Martin's Dream ...

TOHR and local GLBT organizations to participate in annual Martin Luther King Jr. Parade: JANUARY 20, 2003



the answer my friend...

Oklahoma's largest Pride Flag, a staple in the Tulsa and OKC Pride Parades, blows in the wind during Tulsa's 2001 Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade. TOHR and other GLBT allied community organizations march in the annual Parade, one of the states largest - demonstrating the GLBT allied community is alive and well in Tulsa - and supports equality for all. Join us on Monday, January 20, 2003 and live the dream.

Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights (TOHR), along with several other local organizations, will once again represent the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) allied community in Tulsa's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Parade, scheduled for Monday, January 20, 2003.

Over 350 entries are expected for the 2003 Tulsa MLK Parade with thousands of spectators lining the route.

The route begins at Pine and Cincinnati and travels to the historic Greenwood District, ending at Greenwood and Archer.

All those interested in riding and/or marching with the TOHR contingent are encouraged to be at Pine and Cincinnati no later than 9:00 AM or call TOHR at 918.743.4297

Advocacy begins with Education

TOHR developing relationship with Mayor LaFortune's office

Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights (TOHR) is developing a new partnership with the Office of Tulsa Mayor Bill LaFortune.

The TOHR Advocacy Committee, in conjunction with the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Tulsa and Tulsa Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (Tulsa PFLAG), held its third meeting with the mayor's staff at City Hall in November.

The team of Brent Ortolani, Marty Newman, Nancy McDonald, and Tom Neal met with the mayor's staff to encourage them to add sexual orientation and gender identity as protected classes under the city's human rights ordinances.



Educating Tulsa leaders on GLBT issues is a priority of the TOHR Advocacy committee.

Representing the mayor's office were Deputy Mayor Steve Sewell, mayor's assistant Clay Bird, and diversity director Rebecca Marks-Jimerson.

SUPREME COURT ON SODOMY

Decision will directly affect Oklahoma's sodomy law

(PlanetOut) The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear the case of Lawrence and Garner v. Texas, a sodomy challenge that has the potential to overturn the 1986 precedent of Bowers v. Hardwick.

The Supreme Court's 5-4 opinion in Bowers v. Hardwick, ruling that Georgia and other states had the right to criminalize sodomy on grounds of public morality, set the gay civil rights movement back on its heels. Although the decision has since been eclipsed by the pro-gay ruling in Romer v. Evans, (striking a Colorado amendment that prohibited gay civil rights laws or policies), conservative courts still cite Bowers v. Hardwick to support anti-gay rulings on a range of issues.

Since Hardwick, the composition of the Supreme Court has changed dramatically. With six new justices, only justices Rehnquist, O'Connor and Stevens remain from the Hardwick Court. The 1996 Romer court, however, is unchanged from the day when it ruled 6-3 that the Colorado amendment trampled on the gay community's right to equal protection by treating gay Coloradans differently

(Continued on page 8 - see "AND JUSTICE FOR ALL")

(Continued on page 3 - see "ADVOCACY")



The TOHR Board of Directors would like to thank each and every member of the Equality Fund and all Contributing members for supporting the work of TOHR through advocacy, education, leadership and unity. Equality Fund donors provide a home for the GLBT community - the Tulsa GLBT Community Center - a home for all GLBT and allied individuals and organizations. Equality Fund donors help secure legal equality and social acceptance for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender & allied community of Northeast Oklahoma.

tulsa oklahomans
for human rights

Equality Fund

securing tomorrow's equality today

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

\$1,200+ annually
\$100+ monthly

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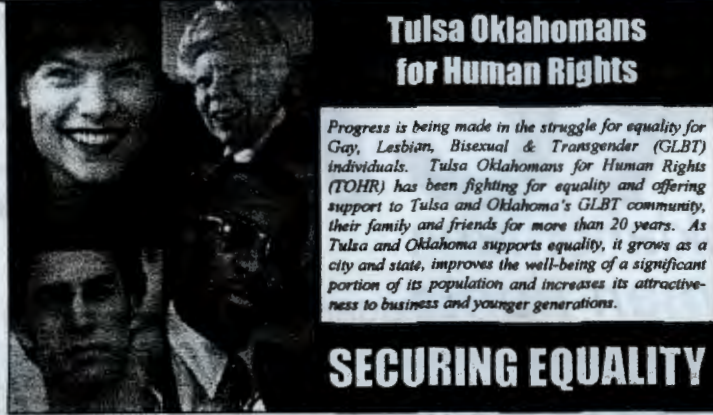
\$600+ annually
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\$120+ annually
\$10+ monthly

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Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights

Progress is being made in the struggle for equality for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender (GLBT) individuals. Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights (TOHR) has been fighting for equality and offering support to Tulsa and Oklahoma's GLBT community, their family and friends for more than 20 years. As Tulsa and Oklahoma supports equality, it grows as a city and state, improves the well-being of a significant portion of its population and increases its attractiveness to business and younger generations.

SECURING EQUALITY

Greg Davis
Consulting, Inc.
Dr. Vicki Duke &
Diana Baxter
Michael Eslick &
John Myers
Melissa Fell &
Travis Anderson
George Matarazzo &
Bill Ferguson
Sue Minshall &
Carla Hinkle
Cathy Rousseau
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CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

\$30+ annually

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Sharmilee Worley

Please accept our apologies if your name is not listed as a donor or contributing member and it should. We are currently installing a new database system.

Please notify TOHR at 743-4297 to report discrepancies and/or additions. Thank you for your support of Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights (TOHR).

the TORCH

published by
Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights (TOHR)
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Tulsa, OK 74129

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TOHR's Capital Campaign

the Pyramid Project
pyramidproject.org

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and Sue Welch

Committee Members

Theresa Barnard, Mark Bonney, Marc Frieden,
Greg Gatewood, David Hoot, Rick Martin, Brent
Ortolani, Marcy Smith and Tim Williams.

TOHR is a 501(c)3 organization operated completely through donations and non-paid volunteers. Contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of current United States of America tax laws.

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the Pyramid Project



tulsa oklahomans
for human rights

NEWS

Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights (TOHR) works to secure legal equality and social acceptance for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered (GLBT) and allied community of Northeast Oklahoma through advocacy, education, leadership, and unity.

TOHR Board Report LEADERSHIP

Tulsa GLBT Community Center operating hours changed

The TOHR Board of Directors has taken several steps to increase the operational efficiency of the Tulsa GLBT Community Center.

Effective December 13, 2002, operating hours at the Center will be slightly amended. The Center will be open from 6-9 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 3-9 p.m. on Saturdays. The Center will be closed on Sundays and Mondays.

All community groups that meet at the Center must hold their meetings during regular hours at the Center. Groups will not be able to meet at the Center after hours.

Only members of the Board of Directors and key volunteers will be provided keys to gain access to the Center. Board members and key volunteers will be at the Center during all operating hours. (Key volunteers have tenure and receive special training.) That means a board member or key volunteer will be at the Center to provide supervision at all times.

"These new measures will ensure a maximum amount of efficiency and security at the Center," said Brent Ortolani, TOHR president. "We apologize for any inconvenience that these new rules may cause for groups that meet at the Tulsa GLBT Community Center."

All groups that meet at the Center were contacted prior to Dec. 13 to schedule new meeting dates and times if necessary.

New groups that wish to meet at the Center should call 743-4297 during operating hours to schedule meeting times. However, due to high Center demand, meeting times may be limited.

The Center will be closed from Dec. 24 through Jan. 2 for the holidays.

The TOHR Board of Directors also adopted a new policy to reply to all voice mail and email messages left at the Center within 48 hours. "This is an effort to better serve our members and the community," Ortolani said. "If someone in our community needs information, we plan to quickly respond."

As always, more volunteers are needed to operate the center. If you are interested in volunteering, please call the Center at 743-4297.

tulsa
gay, lesbian,
bi & transgender
community center
2114 S MEMORIAL
a program of tulsa oklahomans for human rights

NEW HOURS
TUESDAY - FRIDAY: 6:00-9:00 PM
SATURDAY: 3:00-9:00 PM

ADVOCACY BEGINS WITH EDUCATION

(Continued from page 1)

The ordinances in question are Sections 100, 104, 105, and 110 of Title 5 of the City of Tulsa's Ordinances. These ordinances prohibit discrimination in housing, public accommodations, and employment based on a variety of criteria including race and religion, but not sexual orientation and gender identity. The ordinances can be viewed on the web at www.cityoftulsa.org/General+Information/Ordinances/05_01.htm.

"The mayor's office is very interested in studying the possibility of changing the city's human rights ordinances to protect GLBT persons," Ortolani said. "After three long meetings with the mayor's staff this fall, they have become more educated on GLBT issues and seem convinced that GLBT persons face discrimination in Tulsa.

"We have developed a very positive working relationship with them. They now see us as credible resources on GLBT issues," he added.

During the last 20 years, more than 200 cities in the U.S. have amended their ordinances to protect GLBT people, including Dallas earlier this fall.

In 1994, the Committee on Sexual Orientation of Tulsa's Human Rights Commission submitted a formal recommendation to then-mayor Susan Savage's office. After several rancorous public hearings, the exhaustively researched report recommended that the City of Tulsa add sexual orientation to its anti-discrimination ordinances. The committee was chaired by TOHR



TOHR's Capital Campaign

the Pyramid Project

TOHR's Capital Campaign, the Pyramid Project, has a purpose of raising funds to purchase and sustain a permanent, visible presence and safe and affirming home for the Tulsa Gay, Lesbian, Bi & Transgender (GLBT) Community Center.

The campaign is well on the way to its goal. The TOHR Board of Directors and Pyramid Project steering committee would like to thank the GLBT allied community for contributing over \$200,000 to date. That's 1/5 of the goal!

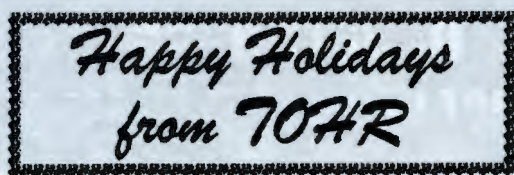
While we work on the goal for a permanent home, the existing Tulsa GLBT Community Center, 2114 S Memorial, serves the purpose. You're invited to visit the center and discover the difference you can make immediately with your time or contribution to the Equality Fund.



did you know

1. Who once said, "If a bullet should enter my brain, let that bullet destroy every closet door.?"
2. What was the first lesbian organization in the United States?
3. What city was the first in the U.S. to provide benefits to 'domestic partners' of its employees?

Answers: 1) Harvey Milk 2) Daughters of Bilitis 3) Berkeley, CA



co-founder Dennis Neill, and TOHR members Nancy McDonald and Bill Hinkle were members of the committee. Mayor Savage chose to take no further action.

"Since then, the report has only gathered dust," Ortolani said. "The new mayoral administration has certainly been more responsive and concerned about these issues. We hope they will move forward to amend the ordinances soon."

On the docket this spring for the TOHR Advocacy Committee: working to establish more Gay-Straight Alliances at Tulsa-area high schools, and providing GLBT-friendly speakers on the issue of corporate non-discrimination policies to area human resources organizations.

THE TULSA GLBT COMMUNITY CENTER WISH LIST

The Tulsa Gay, Lesbian, Bi and Transgender (GLBT) Community Center is able to meet the needs of the community because of you, your friends and your family. Numerous people have donated items ranging from books and videos to couches, the pool table, TV's, chairs, etc. all making the Tulsa GLBT Community Center a comfortable, safe and affirming environment for everyone and we thank those who have made those contributions.

However, as the Center grows and reaches more individuals, it is evident updates, and sometimes redecorating, is in order. We ask you to please consider donating one or more items off the "wish list" to help fulfill the mission of social acceptance for the GLBT allied community.

- 8' FOLDING TABLES
- LIBRARY SHELVING
- BULLETIN BOARDS
- FOLDING CHAIRS
- STORAGE CONTAINERS
- MINI-BLINDS
- MONETARY DONATIONS
- STORAGE SHELVING

- LOUNGE CHAIRS
- CLEANING SUPPLIES
- MONETARY DONATIONS
- VOLUNTEER TALENT

Please contact TOHR at 743.4297 or email at: community@tohr.org for specifications of the wish list. Thank you for your support.

ALL OVER THE RAINBOW AND MORE!
get some at **the TOHR PRIDE store**

JEWELRY
men's and women's rings, necklaces & more!
CLOTHING
t-shirts, novelty socks, caps
GIFTS
candle sets, license tags, flags, mugs, pictures, books, cards, and yes...
DISCO BALLS!!!



where do they stand? where do you stand?

COMPARING the PARTIES



First in a series of articles comparing the major political parties. Next quarter - THE DEMOCRATS

TULSA COUNTY REPUBLICAN PLATFORM



HIGHLIGHTING THE ISSUES
AFFECTING THE GLBT COMMUNITY

PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE

- We support treating HIV/AIDS as a public health threat like hepatitis or syphilis instead of a disability, a matter of civil rights matter, or an exception to our immigration laws.
- We call for the federal National Centers for Disease Control to study the public medical costs of the homosexual lifestyle and its effect on life expectancy.
- We believe Judeo-Christian moral values should be used as the basis for law, order and lifestyle in accordance with our nation's founding and heritage.
- We support President Bush's faith-based initiatives for social services as an example of community involvement rather than bureaucratic growth. We have confidence that there will be no discrimination because of religious beliefs and that programs will be funded solely on their effectiveness.

FAMILY & INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS

- We support agendas that are pro-family and that promote traditional Judeo-Christian values.
- We resolve to overturn Roe vs. Wade.
- We believe that the right to adopt children should be given in this order: to parents of a traditional family unit, then to extended family and then to heterosexual individuals.
- We believe all laws should be applied equally and justly to all citizens and especially to our elected officials at all levels. Therefore, no law, regulation or policy shall grant minority protection or special status to any person based on sexual preference or lifestyle choices.

FEDERAL

- We support the traditional, historical values of our military and reject the use of the armed forces for social engineering and nation building.

The above are excerpts from the 2001 Tulsa County Republican Party Platform. Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights (TOHR) does not endorse the above. TOHR wishes to educate the GLBT allied community of the NE Oklahoma area.

**NEXT QUARTER:
FOCUS ON THE DEMOCRATS**

REGISTER TO VOTE - THEN VOTE!



PFLAG Muskogee
3531 E 93rd Street South
Muskogee, OK 74403

Join PFLAG Muskogee; the 1st Monday of each month
6:00 PM
Muskogee Public Library; 800 W Okmulgee Avenue
Email us at PFLAG4Muskogee@aol.com

in the tulsa GLBT allied COMMUNITY

tulsa oklahomans
for human rights

(a complete listing of scheduled happenings at the Tulsa GLBT Community Center is to the left)

SUNDAYS

- Community of Hope (COH)
Worship
6:00 PM
- Community Unitarian
Universalist Congregation
(CUUC)
Worship
11:00 AM
- Diversity Christian Fellowship
(DCF)
Worship
11:00 AM & 6:00 PM
- Fellowship
Congregational Church (FCC)
Church school; 9:30 &
Worship; 10:30 AM
- MCC United
Worship
11:00 AM
- St. Jerome's
Holy Eucharist
11:00 AM

MONDAYS

- Council Oak Men's Chorale
(COMC) and
Women of Council Oak
Rehearsal
6:50 PM
- All Souls
Unitarian Church
- Anonymous HIV Testing
H.O.P.E. Clinic
6:00-8:00 PM
- Lambda League
7:00 PM bowling
Riverlanes

1st MONDAY

- PFLAG Muskogee
General Meeting
6:00 PM
Muskogee Public Library

1st & 3rd MONDAYS

- Soulforce in Oklahoma
Royal Dragon Chinese Restaurant
6:30 PM

2nd MONDAY

- PFLAG 101
PFLAG Tulsa
6:30 PM
Fellowship Congregational Church

2nd MONDAY

- PFLAG Tulsa
General meeting
with program
7:30 PM
Fellowship Congregational Church

4th MONDAY

- PFLAG Tulsa Support Session
6:30 PM
Fellowship Congregational Church

TUESDAYS

- AA
Community of Hope
7:30 PM

2ND TUESDAY

- Regional AIDS
Interfaith Network (RAIN)
Driver Training
1:00 - 4:00 PM

WEDNESDAYS

- Diversity Christian Fellowship
Worship
7:00 PM

- Lambda AA
CUUC / COH
7:00 PM

3rd WEDNESDAY

- Womyn's Supper Club
Tulsa area restaurants
call 902.5714 for monthly location
7:00 PM

2nd THURSDAYS

- HIV/AIDS Support Group (M)
Tristesse Center
6:30 PM

SATURDAYS

- Lambda AA
CUUC / COH
5:30 PM

- Narcotics Anonymous (NA)
Community of Hope
11:00 PM

2nd SATURDAY

- Dignity / Integrity
Worship
5:00 PM
St. Dunstan's

IF YOUR ORGANIZATION WOULD LIKE TO BE LISTED in "the TORCH" calendar and/or "This Week In Tulsa" - the weekly electronic information program of TOHR, please contact us at community@tohr.org or call 918.743.4297 during the Tulsa GLBT Community Center's regular operating hours. Thank you.

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF THE

tulsa
gay, lesbian,
bi & transgender
community center
2114 S MEMORIAL



tulsa oklahomans
a program of for human rights

TULSA GLBT COMMUNITY CENTER
THE TOHR PRIDE STORE

2114 S MEMORIAL

OPEN: 6-9 PM T-F & 3-9 PM SATURDAYS

TUESDAY

- **Primetimers Board meeting**
1st Tuesday; 6:00 PM
- **Primetimers Membership meeting**
1st Tuesday; 7:00 PM
- **TOHR Board meeting**
2nd Tuesday; 6:00 PM
- **H.O.P.E. Anonymous HIV Testing**
6:00-8:00 PM
- **Rainbow Families**
1st & 3rd Tuesday; 7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

- **Gender Outreach OK**
Drop-in Day; 7:00 PM

THURSDAY

- **Generations Connection**
1st & 3rd Thurs; 7:00 PM
- **TOHR's Capital Campaign; the Pyramid Project,**
Steering Committee Meetings / pyramidproject.org
- **DIVERSITY CELEBRATION 2003**
Planning Meetings / 12.17 / 1.21 / 2.18 / 7:00 PM
- **Center Cinema**
Movies for everyone / 3rd Thursday; 7:00 PM

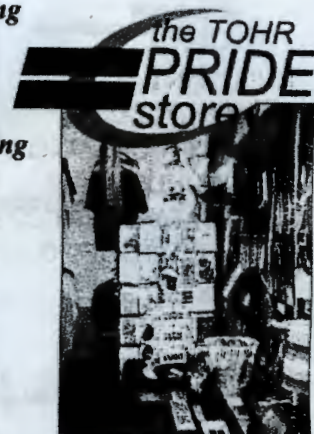
FRIDAY

- **Lesbian Connection**
Women's Movie Night; 7:00 PM

SATURDAY

- **Tulsa Uniform & Leather Seekers Association (T.U.L.S.A.)**
Board meeting; 1st Saturday; 4:00 PM
- **T.U.L.S.A. general meeting**
1st Saturday; 5:00 PM
- **H.O.P.E. Anonymous HIV Testing**
4:00-7:00 PM
- **Gay Veterans of America (GVA)**
2nd Saturday; 5:00 PM
- **Gender Outreach OK Meeting**
2nd Saturday; 7:00 PM

Please contact TOHR at 743-4297 or community@tohr.org if your organization or group would like to meet at the Tulsa Gay, Lesbian, Bi & Transgender Community Center.



REACH OVER 16,000 PEOPLE EVERY YEAR!

advertise in "the TORCH"

call 918.743.4297 or email TOHR at community@tohr.org

TORCHlistings

ADVOCACY

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

EDUCATING TULSA
TULSA OKLAHOMANS FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS
PO BOX 2887
TULSA, OK 74101
TULSA GLBT COMMUNITY
CENTER

2114 S MEMORIAL
918.743.4297

CIMARRON ALLIANCE GROUP
PO BOX 18794
OKC, OK 73154
405.810.9599

HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN
1107 E 18th
TULSA, OK 74120
918.582.4873

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
METROPOLITAN TULSA
3338 E 32nd STREET
SUITE 234
TULSA, OK 74135-4442

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION
FOR WOMEN (N.O.W.)
PO BOX 692057
TULSA, OK 74134
918.365.5658

OKLAHOMA NARAL
PO BOX 9165
TULSA, OK
918.365.5658

PARENTS, FAMILIES &
FRIENDS OF LESBIANS & GAYS
(PFLAG)-TULSA
PO BOX 52800
TULSA, OK 74152
918.749.4901

SAY NO TO HATE COALITION
A VOLUNTEER ORG DEDI-
CATED TO PRESERVING
THE DIGNITY AND FUNDA-
MENTAL FREEDOMS OF ALL
PEOPLE

SOULFORCE IN OKLAHOMA
RT. 4 BOX 3534
STIGLER, OK 74462
918.587.3248 (SUE) or
918.452.2761 (KAREN)

TULSA OKLAHOMANS for
HUMAN RIGHTS (TOHR)
PO BOX 2687
TULSA, OK 74101
918.743.4297

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TULSA, OK 74101
918.743.4297

TULSA OKLAHOMANS for
HUMAN RIGHTS (TOHR)
PO BOX 2687
TULSA, OK 74101
918.743.4297

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HUMAN RIGHTS (TOHR)
PO BOX 2687
TULSA, OK 74101
918.743.4297

TOOL BOX II

1338 E 3RD STREET
TULSA, OK 74120
918.584.1308

YELLOW BRICK ROAD PUB
2630 E 15TH STREET
TULSA, OK 74104
918.749.1563

COUNSELING

CALL THE TULSA GLBT INFOR-
MATION LINE AT 918.743.4297
FOR PRIVATE COUNSELORS

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTER-
VENTION SERVICES, INC.**
(DVIS)

1419 E 15th STREET
TULSA, OK 74120
918.585.3143

TULSA POLICE DEPARTMENT
918.586.2824 OR 911

FINANCIAL

CALL THE TULSA GLBT INFOR-
MATION LINE AT 918.743.4297
FOR PRIVATE FINANCIAL SER-
VICES / ACCOUNTANTS

GLBT ORGS

BISEXUAL, LESBIAN, GAY

TRANS ALLIANCE OF TU

Brian-Cortex@tutulsa.edu

COUNCIL OAK MEN'S

CHORALE

PO BOX 1062

TULSA, OK 74104-1062

918.748.3688

OK SPOKES CLUB

PO BOX 9165

TULSA, OK 74157

TULSA AREA PRIMETIMERS

PO BOX 52118

TULSA, OK 74152-0118

918.582.6557

TULSA GLBT COMMUNITY

CENTER

2114 S MEMORIAL

MAIL: PO BOX 2687

TULSA, OK 74101

918.743.4297

TULSA OKLAHOMANS for HU-

MAN RIGHTS (TOHR)

PO BOX 2687

TULSA, OK 74101

918.743.4297

TULSA UNIFORM & LEATHER

SEEKERS ASSOCIATION (T.U.L.

S.A.)

PO BOX 33076

TULSA, OK 74102

918.299.6866

GOVERNMENT

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPOR-

TUNITY COMMISSION (EEOC)

405.231.4911

OKLAHOMA CORPORATION

COMMISSION CONSUMER

DIVISION

405.521.2331

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF

HUMAN SERVICES, AIDS CARE

COORDINATORS—TULSA

918.428.0366

HEALTHCARE

INDIAN HEALTH CARE RE-

SOURCE CENTER

550 S PEORIA

TULSA, OK 74119

918.582.7725

MORTON HEALTH CENTER

603 E PINE STREET

TULSA, OK 74108

918.587.2171

PLANNED PARENTHOOD

1007 S PEORIA AVENUE
TULSA, OK 74129
918.587.1101

RYAN WHITE TITLE IIIB MEDI-

CAL CLINIC

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVER-

SITY COLLEGE OF MEDI-

CINE

TULSA CITY/COUNTY HEALTH

DEPARTMENT

4618 E 15th STREET

TULSA, OK 74112

918.744.1000

HELPLINES

CDC NATIONAL PREVENTION

NETWORK

800.458.5231

CRISIS HELPLINE

918.836.4357

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

918.585.3143

GLBT INFORMATION LINE

918.743.4297

MAYOR'S ACTION LINE

918.598.2100

NATIONAL AIDS HOTLINE

800.342.AIDS

NATIVE AMERICAN AIDS LINE

800.283.AIDS

OKLAHOMA AIDS HOTLINE

800.535.AIDS

918.742.5904

PFLAG HELPLINE

918.749.4901

STD HOTLINE

800.227.8922

HIV/AIDS

AIDS COALITION OF TULSA

1430 S BOULDER AVENUE

TULSA, OK 74119

918.585.5551

AIDS WALK TULSA

18 E 16th STREET

TULSA, OK 74119

918.749.6956

HIV OUTREACH, PREVENTION

& EDUCATION (H.O.P.E.)

3503 E ADMIRAL

TULSA, OK 74115

918.834.8378

INTERFAITH AIDS MINISTRIES

PO BOX 691438

TULSA, OK 74169

918.438.2437

NAMES PROJECT - TULSA

3507 E ADMIRAL PLACE

TULSA, OK 74115

918.748.3111

OSU - COM

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVER-

SITY COLLEGE OF MEDI-

CINE

REGIONAL AIDS INTERFAITH

NETWORK (RAIN)

221 S NOGALES

TULSA, OK 74127

918.834.4195

TULSA C.A.R.E.S.

3508 E ADMIRAL

TULSA, OK 74115

918.834.4194

LEGAL

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES

UNION (ACLU)

800.875.8516 (PIN # 8516)

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND

EDUCATION FUND (LLDEF)

120 WALL STREET

SUITE 1500

NY, NY 10005-3904

212.809.0055

UNIVERSITY OF TULSA LEGAL

CLINIC

406 S HARVARD AVENUE

TULSA, OK 74112

918.584.2752

CALL THE GLBT INFORMATION
LINE AT 918.743.4297 FOR
PRIVATE ATTORNEYS

PERSONAL SERVICES

PERMANENT HAIR REMOVAL

B.A. ELECTROLOGY

918.455.9050

POLITICAL

CIMARRON ALLIANCE

405.810.9599

DEMOCRATIC HEADQUARTERS

3930 E 31st STREET

TULSA, OK 74135

918.742.2457

REPUBLICAN HEADQUARTERS

7947 E 50th STREET

TULSA, OK 74145

918.827.5702

RECREATION

LAMBDA BOWLING LEAGUE

MONDAYS AT RIVERLANES

LABOR-MEMORIAL DAYS

NANCY McDONALD RAINBOW

LIBRARY

TULSA GLBT COMMUNITY

CENTER

2114 S MEMORIAL

918.743.4297

WOMEN'S SUPPER CLUB

MONTHLY DINNERS OUT ON

THE TOWN - FOR WOMEN

CONTACT THE

LESBIAN CONNECTION @

PO BOX 2687

TULSA, OK 74101

RELIGIOUS

ALL SOULS

UNITARIAN CHURCH

2952 S PEORIA AVENUE

TULSA, OK 74114

918.743.2362

CHURCH OF THE

RESTORATION

1314 S GREENWOOD

TULSA, OK 74104

918.587.1314

COMMUNITY OF HOPE UCC

2545 S YALE AVENUE

TULSA, OK 74114-8300

918.585.1800

COMMUNITY

UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST

CONGREGATION

2545 S YALE AVENUE

TULSA, OK 74114-4837

918.749.0595

DIGNITY / INTEGRITY OF TULSA

2002 FAIRY TREE



BE A FAIRY!

The 2002 Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights (TOHR) Holiday Fairy Tree is decorated and ready for your gifts at the Tulsa Gay, Lesbian, Bi & Transgender (GLBT) Community Center, 2114 S Memorial.

The Fairy Tree is adorned with ornaments describing three (3) wishes of local children and adults who will have a great Holiday season thanks to you.

Each ornament comes with 3 wishes of the recipient as well as their first name, age, sex, clothing size, shoe size and favorite color to help you make dreams come true.

Gifts for the Fairy Tree will be accepted until December 21, 2002 at the Tulsa GLBT Community Center. That evening, the gifts will be distributed to the recipients.

You can select the ornament of your choice at the Tulsa GLBT Community, go shopping and BE A FAIRY!



tulsa oklahomans
for human rights

THANKS
KELLY KIRBY,
CPA, PC

Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights (TOHR) is an all volunteer based organization with no part-time or full-time paid employees and operates through tax-deductible donations.

This being the case, TOHR relies on not only the financial gifts of contributing members and donors but donors of time and talent as well.

A big Thank You goes to Kelly Kirby, CPA for donating his time and talent in preparing the taxes (for numerous years) associated with the organization and it's programs, not to mention the volunteer hours put in as a past president.

Thank you Kelly, it's much appreciated.

Diversity Celebration 2003, Tulsa's celebration of the Gay, Lesbian, Bi, Transgender (GLBT) and allied community is only 6 months away!

The Diversity Celebration 2003 committee, headed by co-chairs Shelton Baker and Heather Harp, have been meeting monthly since August to ensure Oklahoma's largest pride celebration is once again successful.

Diversity Celebration 2003 is a celebration with purpose.

- Unifying the diverse Tulsa GLBT allied community.
- Reaching out to those within the community who may be struggling for acceptance.
- Educating the public on the

DIVERSITY CELEBRATION 2003

PEACE THROUGH PRIDE... DIVERSITY CREATES BEAUTY

need for equality for the GLBT allied community.

The annual logo and theme competition was recently held with the theme of "Peace through Pride...Diversity creates Beauty" being selected.

Seven entries were submitted in the competition and although all were excellent designs, only one could be chosen as this year's logo and theme. The Diversity

Celebration 2003 committee selected a design from a student at the University of Tulsa (name of artist and logo unavailable at time of printing).

Shelton and Heather are proud to announce that chair positions for the respective events have been filled and are as follows:

- Interfaith Service, chaired by Cathy Elliott.
- Art Exhibit and Silent Auction chaired by Scot-

tie Hale, Shelly Ledford and Anna Dodwell.

- Pride Parade chaired by David Hoot.
- GLBT Festival chaired by Tim Scott.

Numerous volunteer positions remain open for members of the community to get involved and be a part of the planning of Oklahoma's largest pride celebration.

Planning meetings are scheduled for:

- Tuesday, December 17, 2002
- Tuesday, January 21, 2003
- Tuesday, February 18, 2003

Everyone in the Tulsa GLBT allied community is invited and encouraged to get involved in Tulsa's 23rd annual celebration of the GLBT allied community. We hope to see you at the next meeting.

OUTside OKLAHOMA

LONDON

House of Lords votes to allow gay adoption

(Tulsa World) - Britain's upper chamber of Parliament voted to lift a ban on unmarried and gay couples adopting children, reversing its earlier defeat of the legislation.

The House of Lords approval came after the House of Commons voted for the measure, meaning it now is almost certain to become law. It will make Britain the fifth European country to allow gay couples to adopt along with Sweden, Denmark, Iceland and the Netherlands.

SAN FRANCISCO

Pioneering Gay Activist Dies

(Time Magazine) Harry Hay, 90, pioneering gay activist who founded the Mattachine Society, the first support net-work for homosexuals died in San Francisco recently.

At a time when few men and women dared to identify themselves publicly as homosexual, Hay pioneered the notion that the group was a minority facing prejudice and entitled to equal rights. Hay authored the gay-rights movement first political manifesto, later known as "the Call."

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

NFL Player Comes Out

(Time Magazine) He spent nine years in the NFL and played on five teams, but defensive tackle Esera Tuaolo never told a single colleague he was gay. He became one of the few retired athletes to reveal his homosexuality when he appeared on the HBO show *Real Sports*.

Tuaolo retired in 1999 because of failing knees and shoulders but also because of the discomfort he experienced hearing players make disparaging comments about gays. He says that withholding the secret made him so depressed he contemplated suicide. "I would make sure somebody saw me kiss a woman. I would do all of those things just to throw off the scent of the dogs," he reports.

Former Green Bay teammate Sterling Sharpe said that had other players known Tuaolo was gay, "he would have been eaten alive."

the TORCH BACKDRAFT

MAKE A DIFFERENCE! VOLUNTEER

President George W. Bush has encouraged all Americans to make a difference in the next few years and volunteer in your community. The GLBT allied community sometimes does not get along with current administration, however, this is an area where W. and everyone should agree.

Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights (TOHR) is a volunteer based non-profit organization. There are no part-time or full-time paid employees. All TOHR programs for the community rely on the community to secure legal equality and social acceptance. Here's a few examples of how you can do your part and be a part Tulsa's largest GLBT organization.

Advocates in Action: TOHR is working with city and local officials and businesses in order to obtain the mission of legal equality and social acceptance.

Store & More: Do you have retail experience? Like to help people? The TOHR Pride Store can use your expertise. Volunteers operate the store and answer the Tulsa GLBT Information Line - and get a 10% discount off purchases! We work with your schedule to use your valuable time wisely.

Bar-Fly-R: Spread the word on TOHR programs and upcoming activities and events - and have some fun while doing it.

Diversity Celebration 2003: Tulsa's annual celebration of the GLBT allied community is nearly a year long process. Get involved with Oklahoma's largest pride event - you'll be glad you did!

Simply stop by the Tulsa GLBT Community Center, 2114 S Memorial, today or call 743.4297 or email us at community@tohr.org to find out how you can help. You'll be giving back to your community - and helping to secure legal equality and social acceptance.

TORCH LIGHT

IN THE PRIME OF LIFE

Tulsa Area Prime Timers

The Tulsa Area Prime Timers (TAPT) is a social and recreational organization for gay and/or bisexual men over 21 who live in Tulsa and the surrounding areas. Founded in 1993, TAPT has become a popular group in the gay and bisexual community.



TAPT is a group of friendly guys who organize and participate in events of special interest for mature men with the goal being to establish friendships and support through social interaction.

The strength of TAPT lies in the participation of it's members. A diverse program of activities are held at the Tulsa Gay, Lesbian, Bi & Transgender (GLBT) Community Center and in the homes of members - offering the freedom to be yourself among friends. Group activities and events are successful because members with special interests and expertise are involved in the planning and organizing of each event. However, each member participates in the events or activities only according to his interest and the time he has available.

Prime News, TAPT's monthly newsletter, provides a forum of expression by and for the members. Included in the newsletter is a calendar of events and special activities which range from Bridge to Bowling, Cooking to Computers, Nature Walks to Movies, Performing Arts to Photography and Walking to Weight Training among others.

Prime News also prints original work submitted by TAPT members, including reports of personal adventures, short stories, poetry, art, reviews and commentary.

The Tulsa Area Prime Timers hold regular monthly board and general membership meetings (followed by socializing or a pot-luck dinner) at the Tulsa GLBT Community Center, 2114 S Memorial (see calendar, page 4). Those interested in joining or learning more about TAPT are encouraged to call Owen at 627.2359.

AND JUSTICE FOR ALL!

(Continued from page 1)

under the law for no reason other than general hostility.

Unlike *Hardwick*, the Texas case rests both on the right to privacy and the right to equal protection. Texas's sodomy law applies exclusively to homosexuals, treating gay men and lesbians differently than straight Texans, and requiring the state to present the court with a rational reason for the disparity. "Animus alone," the *Romer* decision said, is not a good enough excuse.

The Texas case stemmed from the arrest of two Houston men who were having sex in their own bedroom when the police entered their home on a false emergency call. John



Lawrence and Tyron Garner were arrested, and jailed for a night.

The matter went up the ranks of the Texas courts, winning an appellate court ruling, but losing to the full appellate court of the Houston area. Subsequently, the state's highest criminal court declined to review the case, and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund petitioned the high court in July.

The Supreme Court accepts a small fraction of the petitions submitted, and does so generally with an eye towards resolving or clarifying an important constitutional issue.

Justices Rehnquist and Stevens would be expected to maintain the positions they took in *Hardwick*, the former in the majority and the latter in dissent. Justice O'Connor voted with the majority in *Hardwick*, but also voted with the majority in the equal protection case of *Romer*.

As for the rest of the court, Scalia and Thomas are staunch conservatives. Ginsburg, Souter and Breyer are likely on the gay rights side. And Kennedy, like O'Connor, is considered a swing vote - a swing vote who nonetheless authored the strong majority opinion in *Romer*.

Advocates for gay rights praised the high court's announcement.

"This is a significant step forward because it means the court has seen the serious constitutional problems with these (sodomy) laws and is willing to look at them closely," said Ruth Harlow, Lambda's legal director, in a written statement. "We now have an opportunity to convince the court to remedy the widespread harms to gay and lesbian people caused by Texas's law and others like it."

NOTE: The decision on this case, expected in 2003, could directly affect Oklahoma's current sodomy law which is similar to the Texas law, both of which apply only to the individuals of the same-sex relationship. Four (4) states, one of which is Oklahoma, specifically target same-sex relationships under their current sodomy laws.