

Tim Curtis



GP Celebration '83

a night with Friends at the Summit.

The Summit Awaits Us June 26

You and your friends are invited to:
**The Biggest Celebration
 in the History of
 Houston's Gay Community.**
Date: Sunday, June 26
Time: 7 p.m.
**Place: The Summit
 Entertainment:**
Tina Turner, Pamala Stanley
 More? Yes.

As you can see, the Gay Political Caucus is planning a rather big party to top off Gay Pride Week. We're celebrating who we are and what we can become. What better place for the annual rally than the Summit? No more mud and mosquitoes at Spotts Park. We'll be cool and comfortable in the Summit with dancing, entertainment, plenty of refreshments and no long speeches.

Special invited guests include Gov. Mark White and First Lady Linda Gale

White, Mayor Kathy Whitmire, City Controller Lance Lalor, State Rep. Debra Danburg, City Councilman George Greanias and National NOW Secretary Kathy Webb.

Honored guest will be Virginia Apuzzo, director of the National Gay Task Force.

The electrifying Tina Turner, who helped the Vietnam War generation get their minds off marching, is hot on the comeback trail. The Acid Queen of Ken Russell's *Tommy* will bring her rhythm and blues-rock style into the headliner's spotlight.

The first act will be Pamala Stanley. The 27-year old singer describes her style as "high-energy dance with a rock flavor." In 1979, her single *This is Hot* rose to No. 16 on the Billboard chart. She has toured Europe and performed in major discos, including several in Houston. Her new single is *I Don't Want to Talk About It*.

The Montrose Symphonic Band, under the direction of Andy Mills, will play the *National Anthem*.

Tickets go on sale June 1 at all Ticketron and Ticketmaster outlets, including Joskes and Sound Warehouse. They will also be available at the Summit box office. The price will be \$9, with an additional charge (65 cents) for Summit parking and a service charge (75 cents).

Reserved seating is limited for this event.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. with dancing from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Videotapes of that afternoon's Gay Pride Week Parade will be shown on the Summit's giant screens as people are seated.

The Summit celebration will be signed for the hearing-impaired.

Volunteers are needed to help make GP Celebration 83 a night to remember. If you'd like to help, call 521-1000.

A letter from the president

On June 26 the Gay Political Caucus will present it's annual Gay Pride Week Celebration. This event has become a traditional thank you party for you and the community. June 26 will mark five months of intense activity - to provide you with the thank you you deserve.

We have attempted to provide the type of entertainment that we feel will complement the feeling of pride that 80,000 gay people and their friends experience after the Gay Pride Week Parade. In bringing this feeling of pride to the Summit we hope to provide you with a memory that will last forever.

We have gone all out to make the ground floor level of the Summit a huge dance floor. We have obtained video screens so you can view scenes from the Gay Pride Parade '83 and the best video entertainment available - such as Michael Jackson. Add to that TINA TURNER live and strutting!

We have accomplished this feat at an investment cost of over \$35,000. We're offering this celebration to you at the lowest cost possible - \$9 per person plus parking and service charge!

Political figures on the state, local and national levels have confirmed

their participation in our celebration. However, there will be no lengthy speeches; they will party with us.

All we need to make this event the huge, historic success we all hope it will be is for you to participate and to encourage your friends and family to be at the Summit June 26. It will be the place to be! Encourage everyone to join us in our first celebration as FREE citizens of the State of Texas.

With the energy and pride developed that night, we can continue to build a better city, state and nation.

Larry Bagneris Jr.

GPC asks for additional AIDS research funds

GPC members passed a resolution May 18 asking Congress to allocate more funds for AIDS research.

Copies of the resolution, which is similar to the one passed by the San Francisco City Council, will be sent to the mayor, City Council members and the Harris County congressional delegation.

"The mayor is personally committed" to doing all she can, and GPC-endorsed council members are "150 percent supportive," GPC President Larry Bagneris said as he introduced the resolution.

Basically, the resolution "urges that significant new funds be reallocated immediately within the Department of Health and Human Services to greatly increase" AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) research.

To help increase funding, the resolution suggests that the National Institute of Health and the Center for Disease Control "immediately solicit" more proposals for AIDS research and evaluate and fund them "with the dispatch and generosity which this health emergency requires."

The resolution points out that AIDS is a "grave threat to the health of the general population" that will claim an increasing number of victims without "immediate, massive and intensive research efforts."

"Hopefully, this resolution will help speed up funding for AIDS research," Bagneris said after the meeting. "It is part of GPC's continuing efforts to lend support to the fund-raising and educational efforts of the KS/AIDS Foundation." Several weeks ago the KS/AIDS

Committee changed its name to the KS/AIDS Foundation, Inc. of Houston.

Bagneris told GPC members GPC became heavily involved in the AIDS issue in February when he, Vice President Marion Coleman and Political Action Coordinator Terry Harris met with Mayor Kathy Whitmire.

"It was the No. 1 item on the agenda," he said. After receiving the mayor's commitment, the group gave elected officials time to work on the problem, Bagneris explained.

Since that time, he explained after the meeting, the mayor has directed the city health department to look into the AIDS problem. An AIDS Task Force, consisting of Controller Lance Lalor and Council members George Greanias, Dale Gorczynski and Eleanor Tinsley, has also been established. Whitmire also reaffirmed her support in a letter read at the May 2 AIDS vigil.

The GPC president emphasized after the meeting that the caucus has taken other action on the local level:

- formally endorsed the goals of the KS/AIDS Foundation at a recent board meeting.
- collected signatures at the AIDS vigil on a petition seeking more federal funds for AIDS research.
- appointed a GPC liaison to the KS/AIDS Foundation board.
- set a June 7 joint board meeting with the KS/AIDS board.

Efforts are also under way to include \$71,000 for an AIDS data-gathering project in the new city budget. The funds will be used to improve reporting of AIDS cases in the city so requests

for funding at higher levels will be based on figures that more truly reflect the magnitude of the health crisis, Bagneris told the audience.

He said GPC is also working on the national level. GPC has approved donating \$10,000 from the June 26 Summit rally profits to the National Gay Task Force. NGTF Director Virginia Apuzzo is scheduled to appear at the rally as honored guest. The \$10,000 would be well-spent, Bagneris said, if the caucus earmarked it for NGTF's AIDS project. The project is designed to raise enough money for a full-time lobbyist to work full time on AIDS funding.

Bagneris also told GPC members he discussed AIDS funding with U.S. Rep. Mickey Leland several months ago. Leland recently became a co-sponsor of the Waxman bill, which seeks to set aside \$40 million for emergency health crisis research.

At the meeting, Bagneris briefly referred to GPC's work on the state level. Most of this effort, he explained later, is through the caucus' participation in LGRA (Lesbian/Gay Rights Advocates). LGRA is the board which guides the state gay rights lobby effort. Two GPC representatives serve on the board.

During this session, LGRA lobbyist Bettie Naylor has devoted much of her time to fighting HB 2138, the new sodomy statute introduced by Rep. Bill Ceverha, Bagneris said. He pointed out that Naylor has also been directed to ask state legislators to write their congressional counterparts about the need for more AIDS funding.



Our own show

The *Wilde and Stein* radio program can be heard from 7:30 - 9 p.m. every Thursday on KPFT, 90.1 FM. The show is for and about the gay community of greater Houston. Featured within the program is *Intergay*, a news program highlighting national and international items. Co-producers Ray Hill and Jack Valinski discuss weekly events and conduct interviews with gay leaders. The program is a public service of the gay community and anyone interested in contributing is welcome. Call 526-4000.

Monthly newsletter

GPC members are now receiving a monthly newsletter. The first newsletter was mailed in April, and this month's update is included in a special mailing for the Summit rally. Unfortunately, the cost prevents GPC from mailing a monthly newsletter to everyone. So the regular newsletter goes only to paid members. (That's \$15 a year, or more if you like. Contributions may be made through the pledge program in which a set monthly amount is automatically deducted from a member's checking account.)

Moved?

With the cost of postage going up, it's vital that GPC keep its 11,000-plus mailing list updated. If you've moved or know someone who has and still want to receive election newsletters and other special mailings, call 521-1000 and leave a message.

Committees keeping busy

Voter Registration & Membership

Officials of the Harris County Tax-Assessor's office swore in 22 deputy voter registrars at the May 18 meeting. Committee chair Tony Vega emphasized that you must be deputized to do voter registration work for the caucus prior to the November city elections.

About 60 people attended GPC's recent night at the Alley, featuring A. R. Gurney's *The Dining Room*. The cast and crew were guests of the caucus at a wine and dessert party after the show in the Alley green room. The GPC thanks all of the businesses and individual sponsors, and especially Gary Grant and Norman Guttman, who helped make the evening a success.

New signs featuring the plastic GPC membership cards are being printed for their debut at the GPCelebration '83 to attract attention to the voter registration/membership booths in the Summit lobbies.

Community Outreach

The committee is planning a cocktail party June 25 to welcome out-of-town visitors to Houston for the GPW Parade and GPCelebration '83 at the Summit. Committee members will also discuss beginning political caucuses in other cities where groups do not presently exist. More information will be provided in the next newsletter as details are finalized.

A "satellite meeting" in Galveston is also being planned for the near future. The committee asks for your ideas at their next meeting on June 15.

Political Action/Finance

Attorney Otis King will address the caucus June 1 on the proposed Westheimer Colony Art Festival ordinance. Festival spokesperson John Green and City Council member George Greanias have already met with the caucus and the board of directors to present their views on the proposed ordinance.

City Council member Anthony Hall announced his candidacy for the at-large Council seat presently held by Johnny Goyen at the May 18 GPC meeting. Hall asked the caucus for its support. The caucus voted to postpone consideration of Hall's request until regular endorsement screening sessions in August so all candidates for the council seat can be considered.

Media

Papers, pictures, maps and type-writer keys are flying as the committee shifts into high gear for the GPCelebration '83 media push. Press releases will blanket Houston and its suburbs, as well as other major cities in the state to encourage a sell-out at the Summit. Among other visual reminders will be a special poster designed by Dennis Dunwoody, which will be distributed to community bars and businesses. Dunwoody also designed the GPCelebration '83 logo.

Committee member Jack Valinski will be "on line" with the Gay Press Association wire service this week. The GPC will now be able to send timely information to major gay-oriented newspapers across the country.

The committee asks all members to save articles from general and gay-oriented newspapers, magazines and journals for a file in the GPC office. We will be able to monitor publications for favorable articles in order to develop better communication with reporters and editors. Publications which run negative articles will be targeted for letters and visits in an attempt to present factual, positive information. We are also developing the media watch file on gay-related issues to chart a flow of information in other states. GPC members are needed to work in an organized letter-writing campaign to respond to gay-related stories. If you would be willing to use your name publicly in this effort, please come to the next media committee meeting at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 15, or call 521-1000.

The committee is considering members of the caucus who are interested in becoming our media representatives. These spokespersons will represent GPC to the print and broadcast media, allowing caucus officials to work on GPC business without carrying the additional burden of being constantly available to the press. If you are interested in making a commitment to this time-consuming, important work, please speak to committee chairs at the next meeting.

The deadline for articles or letters for the next monthly mailing will be 5 p.m. Monday, June 6. You can give material to any committee member at the Wednesday, June 1 meeting or call 880-4866.

***** GPC celebrates with DGA *****

The Dallas Gay Alliance celebrated its seventh year during its May 9 meeting. Attending the event were Houston GPC representatives Larry Bagneris, Terry Harris, Dale Beverly and Jack Valinski.

Bagneris addressed the meeting, extended best wishes on behalf of GPC, and noted the prominence that Dallas has maintained in local, state and national efforts to organize gay women and men. An invitation was also extended to the Dallas community to attend the Houston Gay Pride Week Parade and the GPC rally at the Summit June 26.

Dallas and Houston leaders met during the day to discuss common problems and strengthen the ties between the two gay organizations.

Upcoming events

June 1, 7:30 p.m. - GPC meeting, Holiday Inn, 4640 Main.

June 2, 7:30 p.m. - *Funny About Money*, a musical about comedy, will benefit Gay Pride Week. At the Comedy Workshop, 2105 San Felipe. Call 520-5214 for ticket information.

June 4, 1-5 p.m. - The Democratic wing of GPC will sponsor a booth at a fund-raiser hosted by the Harris County Democratic Party at Bavarian Gardens, 2936 Feagan. Proceeds will help retire debts of Democratic state officials. Gov. Mark White is scheduled to appear. Admission is \$2.50. Children under 12 are free.

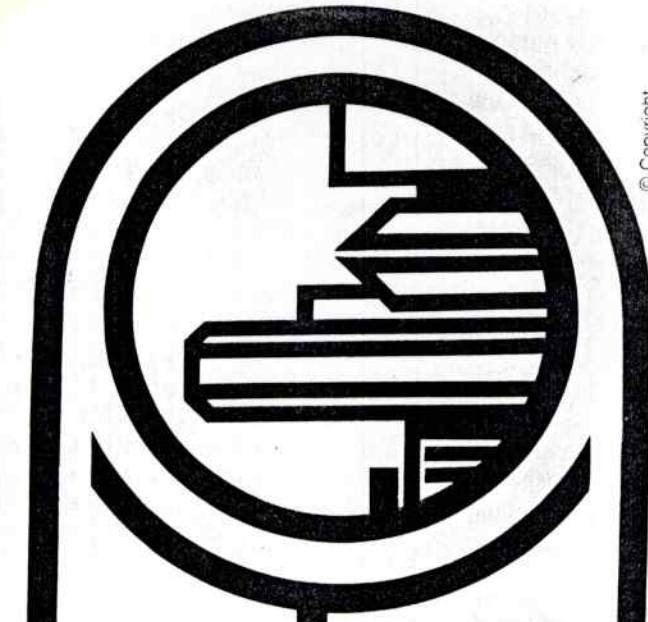
June 15, 7:30 p.m. - GPC meeting at the Holiday Inn, 4640 Main. Committees will meet early in the meeting.

Yes, we have ads

This mail-out includes paid advertising. GPC would like to thank the advertisers for their generous support.

A name for our newsletter also is being sought. Please toss your suggestions out at the next media committee meeting.

UNITY THROUGH DIVERSITY



© Copyright

HOUSTON GAY PRIDE WEEK 1983

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| June 16th Thursday Anniversary of the Raid on Mary's, 9:00 p.m. | June 17th Friday A Salute to Gay Businesses | June 18th Saturday Family & Friends of Gays | June 18th Saturday Montrose Sports Assn. Day | June 19th Sunday Juneteenth Celebration Black & White Men Together | June 20th Monday Montrose Art Alliance "An Evening of Art" | June 21st Tuesday M.S.A. Variety Show |
| June 22nd Wednesday Educational Forum | June 23rd Thursday Texas Bay Area Gay Day | June 23rd Thursday National Day of Remembrance | June 24th Friday Gay Latin Day | June 25th Saturday The Fred Paez Memorial Concert | June 26th Sunday The Parade, 5:30 p.m. | June 26th Sunday G.P.C. Rally, 7:00 p.m. |

**For more information,
call The Gay Switchboard at (713) 529-3223**