GUIDE 198

The Carousel II

Starting our 2nd 16 years
Spend Pride Week with a legend

SUNDAY

Knoxville Pride Pageant

TUESDAY

India Dupree's Viva Variety

WEDNESDAY

Talent Night and Beer Bust with Champale Denise and Ajahli

THURSDAY

Gay Pride Bare as You Dare Party hosted by the Viva Variety Theatre Cast

FRIDAY

Masqurade Ball with Special Guest Tasha Kahn

SATURDAY

Special Guest Asha Starr

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Prides of the Southeast

Guide

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A Short Story Of Pride

The Pride movement first started in 1969 at a bar called The Stonewall Lounge in Greenwich Village, NY. The police entered to harass and arrest, led the gay patrons and the drag-queens, who were sure to be the first arrested, led the clientele in a revolt which carried out into the streets. For the next two days (June 25-27) would come to be known as the Stonewall Rebellion.

The next year they held in New York City a parade and rally to commemorate the Riots, this was the first Pride event. Today hundreds of cities all over the world hold Pride events, drawing in crowds of millions, and boosting sales and revenue of area businesses as well as uniting the community.

Pride events for Knoxville started as far back as the early 1980's by various individuals and then culminating in an organized events schedule by Knoxville's Ten Percent. KTP was an organization of Gays and Lesbians that held a variety of events throughout the year. They made a very positive impact on this community (the Helpline, and the Womyn's Dances are done by former members of this organization). KTP had a subcommittee called the Gay Pride Week Committee and they organized events during a certain week in June. These events were a masquerade tea-dance and an art exhibit at the Candy Factory, a keynote speaker one year was Sue Hyde from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and a coffeehouse at the Carousel II. Even back then the Metropolitan Community Church of Knoxville held a potluck picnic and they have continued that tradition even until today.

They also had themes for their Pride Weeks, but alas time's wells are deep and much of that revolutionary organization has been lost. If anyone has any information or articles please bring copies to Knoxville Pride. So much of what we at KPI would like to be is based on Knoxville's Ten Percent. If you can help with this goal please speak up.

Knoxville Pride as an organization was born in 1991, by Michael Smith (a volunteer at ARK), James Tallent (a deacon at MCCK), and Corkey Reese (then Executive Director of ARK). They were sitting at a bar called TRUMPS during Happy Hour. James was recounting how Pride was next month and how various cities would be celebrating it. Then Michael suggested they hold something like that around here, and both Corkey and James looked at him like he was crazy. They both protested stating that the

fanatics of the City would fight it and that Pride could never be held here.

Well Michael didn't listen to those arguments and the next day he called the Knoxville News Sentinel and announced that there would be a Pride celebration in Knoxville. James and Corkey became involved, deciding that they'd better do it after all or look bad in the community. The three then recruited Sam Lowe (a Co-Bar Manager at the Carousel II), and a few others that are unknown. Thus Pride Week was started here and Knoxville Pride, Inc. as well. The theme that year was "Unity and Diversity".

Sam Lowe hosted Heritage Night that year, giving a history of the bars in Knoxville. The first Pride Pageant was held as well, Mallory Bishop became the first Miss Knoxville Pride '91. The Parade that year drew record numbers for the state of Tennessee, because of verbal attacks by white supremacists (500+ turned out to support human rights in Knoxville and Knox County, the County Executive also issued a proclamation of support).

In 1992, Ted Bandy (a.k.a. Brandy Davis) became President and held the second annual Knoxville Pride Week. The theme was "True Colors Shining Through". He did an outstanding job of organizing the female-impersonators and transgendered members of our community behind Knoxville Pride. The Parade drew in two-to-three hundred people and the Rally saw Drag performed on the steps of the City-County Building for the first time.

In 1993, James Tallent assumed leadership and came up with the idea to have male and female co-chairs. The Pride Committee that year sponsored a bus trip to the Gay March on Washington. They also held the second Pride Pageant that year, Tina Chandler became Miss Knoxville Pride '93-96. James Talent and his co-chair Gary Elgin were involved in the formation of a state-wide organization called Volunteer Pride which coordinated Pride events on a state wide basis. James was also one of the plaintiffs in the antisodomy lawsuit against the State of Tennessee and received an award from Liberty and Justice.

In 1994, Gary Elgin became Pride Director and this was also during the 25th Anniversary of Stonewall, his theme was "It's About Time!" and the rally was at The Court of Flags. Gary was the first to use Pride Guides and to give Knoxville Pride a polished and more professional look, drawing in

community sponsors and more agency networking and involvement.

Gary headed Pride again in 1995 with the theme "Passport to Freedom". During Gary's two years of leadership, he instituted an awards presentation to a Gay and Lesbian individual who demonstrated outstanding service to our community. In 1994, the "People With Pride" awards were given to Randi Hoffman of Random Productions (the Womyns' Dances) and Jim Richards of Metropolitan Community Church of Knoxville.

In 1995, the award recipients were Dani Cohen (an outstanding UT volunteer) and Jan Lynch whose photos captured so much of the heart and soul of our community (and he was at every single Pride Parade and Rally to photograph), his photos were on display in New York City and made it as far as Europe as well.

In 1996, Chris Hollifield stepped in to fill the vacuum left by Gary's departure and continued many of the traditions of his predecessors. He took the Pride Pageant and revitalized it, turning it into a vibrant fund-raisor for the oragnization. The theme for that year was "Stepping with Diversity Towards Freedom" and the pageant title holder became Kitty DeVille, Miss Knoxville Pride '96. In 1997, Chris was also President and Knoxville Pride adopted the International theme "Equality Through Visibility" and the Pageant title was passed to India Dupree, Miss Knoxville Pride '97. The "People with Pride" awards for 1996 were presented to Ginni Barter (office manager at MCCK) and Michael Arve (of ARK and Rainbow Theatre), and in 1997 they were presented to Beth Picon (of Violets and Rainbows) and David Vogel (of Community Television). Under Chris, Pride started it's first webpage and through which we've been able to reach not just on a local and state level, but to a regional and international level as well.

This Document was published by Knoxville Pride, Inc. P.O. Box 10439
Knoxville, TN, 37939-0439
(423) 522-2530
www.knoxvillepride.com



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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

GAY AND LESBIAN PRIDE CELEBRATION, 1998

Warm greetings to everyone taking part in the 1998 Gay and Lesbian Pride Celebration.

As Americans, we can be proud of our diversity. Striving together, people of different ethnicities, backgrounds, races, beliefs, and sexual orientation have contributed to the success of our nation, reflecting the profound truth that this rich diversity is one of our greatest strengths. But we must face the reality that sometimes our differences divide us; sometimes the voices of hatred and prejudice drown out the harmony in our national life. Events like the Pride Celebration help us to recognize anew that working in a spirit of community is not a hope but a necessity, and that our individual dreams can only be realized by our shared efforts.

Our ideals and our history hold that the rights guaranteed us as Americans are inalienable. They are embedded in our Constitution and amplified over time by our courts and legislature, and I am bound by my oath of office and the burden of history to reaffirm them. Our nation stands to lose if we let prejudice and discrimination stifle the hopes or deny the potential of a single American. And we stand to lose when any person is denied or forced out of a job because of sexual orientation.

I commend each of you for your dedication to working for an America that celebrates our diversity, builds on our strengths, and fulfills our fundamental values of mutual respect and compassion. Working together, I am confident that we can enter the 21st century as One America.

Best wishes for a wonderful celebration.

Prin Christons

From the Board of Directors, At Knoxville Pride, Inc

We would like to take this time to welcome everyone to the Eighth Annual Pride Week Festivities for Knoxville and encourage everyone to attend as many events as possible. We hope everyone enjoys the events that have been planned and comes out to show their support.

We at Knoxville Pride believe that pride should last more than a week or a month but should last all year long. So with that in mind we have also been a cosponsor of the Candlelight Memorial and World AIDS Day observances and also a corporate sponsor of the AIDS Walk Knoxville benefiting ARK, as well as providing volunteers and donations to area AIDS agencies, and promoting a "Toys For Tots" Drive in December. KPI is also an honorary observer on the East Tennessee Regional Advisory Committee and members of the Prides Of The South East (POSE) and InterPride (IAL/GPC) Conferences.

We at Knoxville Pride would like to do so much more for our Community but it takes your support and commitment. Every one is welcome at KPI and encouraged to become involved in our community. General Meetings are the first Monday of every month (with the exceptions of July and September when they're on the third Monday) at the Candy Factory on the World's Fair Park at 7:30PM. As well as hosting a coffee social at JAVA in Homberg Place on Kingston Pike.

Our theme this year is "Unity Through Diversity!" Adopted from the International Association of Lesbian and Gay Pride Coordinators. This is a chance for all of us to reflect what Pride and their community means to them. This is a time for all of us to remember that we are all one people; of one heart, of one mind, and of one soul. But not just for this one week or month but all year round.

CoChairs Joseph Camber **Directors**

Joseph Camber Dee Crumm Debra Honeycutt Angela Minor

Mike Owen

Treasurer Gene Nutter Becky Riley
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Secretary Alan Stogner And a host of volunteers and interested

members of our community

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13-YMdYN

Unity Through Diversity

Please join us as Knoxville celebrates these Pride Events:

Sat. June 6 male & female dancer auction
8 to 10:30pm at Electric Ballroom to benefit Knoxville Pride

Sun. June 7 Ms. Knoxville Pride Pageant at The Carousel II II pm

Mon. June 8 LAMBDA Book Discussion at Barnes & Noble 7 pm free admission

Tues. June 9: Heritage Night, Food and Entertainment at the Candy Factory
7 pm Free admission

Wed. June 10: Spirituality Night, A clergy panel will discuss homosexuality & the church.

Catered buffet supper at the Candy Factory.

7 pm Free Admission

Thru. June II: UnderWear party at Carousel II 9pm-3am

Fri. June 12: Masquerade Ball at Carousel II 9 pm to 3 pm

Thru. June II: UnderWear party at Carousel II 9pm-3am

Fri. June 12: Masquerade Ball at Carousel 11 9 pm to 3 pm

Sat. June 13: PRIDE parade & rally, World Fair Park 12noon to 7 pm 12:00pm Parade line up at Civic Coliseum

~prior to other publications this is the official parade route~
I:OOpm Parade up Church ST. to the Worlds Fair Park
I:3Opm Rally at Worlds Fair Park
O-7:OOpm Pride Fest~food, entertainment, crafts, information, street dance
8:OOpm Womyn's dance at Laurel Theatre
8:OOpm Electric Ballroom benefit for Hope Center Drag oil Wrestling

Sun. June 14: MCC Knoxville picnic & Worship Service
12:00noon to 7pm Concord Park (Bring a covered dish to share & something for the grill!

Note: Events at Candy Factory, Worlds Fair Park & Concord Park are chemical Free

Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors

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And thanks to all other sponsor of 1998 Pride Week.

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FORTH AND MAKE A PATH Hold your heads up high show some Pride !!! Knoxville, TN 37929 **Knoxville Pride coffee socials** ennessee Plaza Gay Street 3 rd. Monday of every month K. Harmon at JAVA in Homberg Place 7 pm Attorney

Knoxville Pride Committee Meetings 1 st. Monday of every month at The Candy Factory on The World's Fair Park

"Unity Through Diversity"

7:30 pm

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Individuals and Couples

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"Girls Night Out"

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(423) 523-6101 email: RFSawyer@prodigy.net June 5 at 8pm Come kick off Pride Week with us as, The Electric Ballroom and AIDS Response Knoxville Presents:

THE STAND! One Night Stand Mega Dance Party Proceeds donated to ARK!

Featuring Number One DJ in the World Lydia Prim! and DJ Rush and DJ RIP!

Speaker of Ceremonies: Bianca Page All star show at 10pm till 11pm with Bianca Page, Gabriel Alexis, Martina Dezera, Tina Chandler, Amanda Blake, and Regina Phillips

> 11pm to 3am Mega Dance Party! Open your hearts to a good cause!

Purchase tickets at ARK or Electric Ballroom Advance tickets are \$10.00 or \$12.00 at the Door

June 6 Doors open at 8pm

The Show Cast and Electric Ballroom Presents:

Male and Female Dancer Auction!

How much would you pay for a dinner date with your favorite Entertainer?

All proceeds of this auction to benefit Knoxville Pride, Inc.

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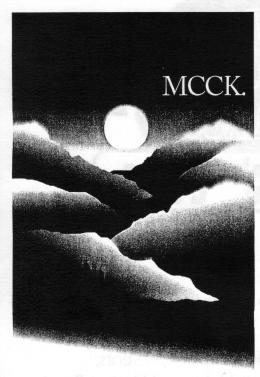
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June 13 The Electric Ballroom presents; Knoxville's First Annual Hottest Males and Hottest Females Oil Wrestling Doors open at 8pm

All contestants will be on stage at 9:30pm
We will raffle off tickets so that 5 Lucky winners will get a chance to oil down their Favorite contestant before the Match begins!

All proceeds will be donated to The Hope Center

If you would like to be a contestant see Martina Dezera or Terry



Exactly what do we stand for?

The Metropolitan Community Church of Knoxville, MCCK was founded over 20 years ago and is a member of the worldwide denomination called the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, UFMCC, with over 300 congregations in 19 countries.

We are a Christian church which preaches the Good News that God loves everyone, including gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people. The outreach of MCCK is not limited to the lesbian and gay community; many heterosexual people find a comfortable and supportive church home with us.

MCCK is a welcoming, inclusive congregation which provides a loving community for all backgrounds regardless of age, race, sex, gender, sexual orientation, ability, or ethnicity.

You are invited to share your Christian worship with us!



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Take the first small, unnamed road to the right (look for a split rail fence).

We are at 1059 Tranquilla (church sits back off road).



Past Masque Theatre Productions













Masque Theatre This Year

Heartland By Kevin Heeland

This wonderfully chilling psychological murder mystery, will leave the audience breathless with its spine lingling, shocking ending. More than just a murder mystery or "who dunnit", this play examines issues of acceptance, bigotry and revenge. (This Winter)

The Sisters Rosenswelg By Wendy Wasserstein

This 1993 award winning play is Wendy Wasserstein's witty and captivating portrait of three disparate siblings reuniting after a long separation and coming to terms with their differences, respect and love for one another This show is deliciously funny and wise. No one other than Wendy Wasserstein writes about women as cogently. (This Spring)

Oh Shi*1 I'm Going to Cive! By Cat Cohen

An original musical comedy from L.A. this delightful musical pokes delicious fun at topics which might be, by some, considered "un-funny", but it makes us come to terms with HIV/AIDS in the late 90's. (This Summer)

Cove! Valour! Compassion! By Terrance McNally

This is the winner of the 1995 Tony Award for "Best Play". It is a big, generous, haunted comedy that is both very funny and filled with Intimations of time's passage, of loss and death. It is an unambiguous play speaking difficult truths in the days of HIV/AIDS. (This Fall)

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