

Lambda Phoenix Center

MAY 2009

CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY IN MAY

Members of Lambda Phoenix Center celebrating recovery birthdays this month are:

Steve C. 5-13-08

Recovery birthday dinners take place at 7 p.m. on the first Sunday of the month. The cost is \$7 for non-members, \$5 for members and free for those celebrating their special day.

Our next birthday dinner, June 7 is BBQ Chicken!

Everyone who celebrated a birthday the previous month gets a chance to share their experience, strength and hope at the 8 p.m. speaker meeting following the meal.

Will your recovery birthday occur in June? We'd like to publish it in the June newsletter. It's a great way to show newcomers that recovery really works.

Send your last name, first initial and recovery date to newsletter@lambda.org by June. 7.

Development Director at 100 Days

Much like President Obama, I am a part of history. Of course, I am not the president, but I am the first to occupy the Development role at Lambda. So while it is not the same thing, it is very, very close! I hope you will indulge me as I share my perspective of Lambda as it has changed in the 3 short months that I have served. When I attended my first Board meeting, the never-ending topic of Membership came up, I said "what value do you offer people?" I now realize that the value is Lambda. Yes, I can go to other meetings in the valley but none that are primarily gay where I can share about my red hot love'. Even more so, since I began this role, people have asked me "what does Lambda do?" Quite, simply, they pay the bills so that Lambda can exist. Seriously, what if we just stopped paying the bills? Probably the biggest shock to me, and it should not be since I served on the Spring

Break committee in 2004, is the fact that Lambda is almost always facing a financial challenge. (Just so you know that is why Gail's announcements never go away). I know it doesn't seem possible since the lights always come on and we still look so good, but the facts are (in 2008):

- We have about 250 people who consistently attend 2-5 meetings per week and yet, only 55 are members. I have heard 5 main excuses as to why these regulars do not join, but I remind them, there is a Board list displayed near the East entrance and Membership forms on the safe and ways to join on the web. In the 9 years I have been going to Lambda, I cannot think of a person I know who cannot afford the \$65 to help ensure the organization can meet its financial obligations. *continued on the back...*

Entertainer Extravaganza: On Saturday night, May 30 at 7:30pm, Lambda Phoenix Center will host an Entertainer Extravaganza featuring The Best Drag King and Queens and a special appearance by Comedian Kim Hoke. The Mistress of Ceremony will be our very own Masquerade (Miss Gay Phoenix U.S. of A. 2008).

Here is a list of the performers:

Mya McKenzie, Miss Gay Arizona U.S. of A. 2009
Ebonae Shane, Miss Gay Phoenix America 2009
Affelya Bunz, Miss Queen of the Desert America 2009
Devina Ross, Miss Black National Capitol City 2009
T.C. Taylor, 1st Alt. Miss Cooper City America 2009
Phaedra, Miss Gay Arizona America 2001
Hollie Woods, Miss A.G.R.A.
Brandon Packer, Mr. Gay Pride 2008

For the low cost of \$10 per ticket, you can spend the evening enjoying the best of the best!!! All proceeds will go to Lambda Phoenix Center. The event is being held at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, which is located 1407 North 2nd Street, in Phoenix. For more information, contact Stevie B. at 602-689-2491.

Lambda Open House: May 29th from 1-4pm: Our goal is to increase Lambda's presence: to reach GLBT individuals who may not know about our open and loving facility. LPC will invite approximately 25 Community Recovery Programs into our building to tour the facility, socialize with our community, and network amongst themselves.

For more information, please contact:
Michael S. 602-299-9824
Karin F. 602-377-3733

Lambda Board Needs You: The Board is always in need of volunteers—and additional Board members. Currently, we have an opening for Communications Director—a position that also has the responsibility for the monthly newsletter. Please see any Board Member!

Board positions require two years of continuous recovery and is minimum of a two year commitment. Our Board meeting is held on the first Sunday of each month at 5:00. All LPC members are welcomed and encouraged to attend!

LPC Survey:

LPC is conducting a survey—if you haven't had the opportunity to fill out a survey form, please do so.

Survey forms are located on the safe in the main meeting room.

We'll be compiling the survey results and letting you know about them in an upcoming edition of the newsletter as well as on our web site: phxlambd.org

Lambda Thanks: The Lambda Board would like to extend their Appreciation to the following Recovery Meetings who graciously donated to Lambda in the month of April:
Saturday 10am BYOBB
Friday 8pm Reality
Tuesday 730pm Let Go and Let God
Wednesday 8pm Came to Believe
We continue to be humbled by your generous support of the work we are doing!

...continued from the front...

- Much of the reason Lambda can meet the monthly bills is because often Board members take drastic measures draining themselves and practically every family and friend they have obtaining donations to make up the needed amounts. Regular donations, say \$50 per month, are a great way to stop Board members from needing you at every meeting for tickets, donations, membership, etc! If you want to know how we are spending the money, it is on the wall, come to a meeting or ask a Board Member.
- There are some AMAZING members of the community who step up BIG (and you know who you are)! In my adult life, I have volunteered at 9 different organizations and all of them worked hard and often struggled to exist. Lambda is no different in that respect. What I am challenging the community to do is to be a regular contributor. For me, Lambda is like PBS, I don't watch it everyday, but I would hate for it not to exist.

Respectfully submitted,
Karin F. - Lambda Phoenix Center, Development Director

WISH LIST: Need another way to be of service? Make a donation. Lambda could use:

- Padded folding chairs for all meeting rooms
- Painting supplies for graffiti removal
- Exterior building paint and supplies
- OfficeMax or Staples gift cards (any amount)

Help: Do you have something to submit to the newsletter? Please let us know at newsletter@lambd.org

Lambda Phoenix Center serves members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community seeking recovery. We are a meeting place for 12-step programs for alcoholics, drug and nicotine addicts, family and friends of alcoholics, overeaters, and compulsive gamblers. As we look to the future, we see Lambda continuing to grow as the center's work evolves. We welcome all those who are seeking his or her individual style of recovery and thank all of those who contribute to this essential cause. Visit us at: 2622 N 16th Street, Phoenix AZ 85006, send us mail at: PO Box 80393, Phoenix AZ 85060 or call us at: (602) 635-2090.