



The newsletter of Men of All Colors Together Philadelphia

JANUARY 2007

Challenger



Winter Pot Luck

At Jerry Winokur's
Saturday, January 20
7:30 PM to 11:00 PM

Baby it's cold outside but it's warm at Jerry's. So pack up your favorite entree and come on over for some great food and warm conversation.

See directions on page 4

The NABWMT 26th Annual Convention

As reported by Ollie Lee Taylor Part 4 of 4

The "Madam X No Talent/Talent Show" was staged at Choice's on the shore just north of downtown Long Beach. Former co-chair Paul Raymond Cloutier and Paul Sears were co-masters of ceremonies as is usual. Wesley Root played his usual "Change Queen" role assisting with the donations.

Starting the twenty-one act program was none other than Madame x (Leroy Scott) all adorned in black and white with feathered garlands. There were layered vertical strands embedded in her gown. She held blue and white roses in one arm and a hand held mirror in another performing a mime to "A Tisket, A Tasket." The audience joined in with staccato clapping.

The show also included performances by Brianda (Brian Carrington-Price), William Harvey, Corbett Klein, Thomas Whelan, Gene Fitzgerald, Patrick Journet, Nat Martin, Echo Chambers (Michael Ross), Ralph Wallace, Ralph Ewers, Ronald Pattin, Nate O'Neal, Ken Baron & Mack Scott and Lee Usher. Nat Martin returned for the finale.

It is customary for awards to be made honoring persons and organizations that make noteworthy contributions to the NABWMT Statement of Purpose and the community as a whole.

Personal Achievement awards are tendered for

See NABWMT on page 3

From the Co-Chair

As you read this we are beginning the New Year. I wish you all the best for this coming year. There is much to be done and much to be improved. December saw a lot of activities for our chapter. The new year shows no signs of slowing. Before we know it it'll be time for new elections and our anniversary. Think of nominees (yourself included). What type of anniversary are you interested in? Can you help plan it? Future topics to be covered at our General Meetings include: violence (with speakers from the Million Mom March and NOW), Dolph speaking on WWCC and MACT. Our January meeting will feature a participant in the HIV/AIDS gene therapy program. You may have read about it in the Inquirer. It should prove to be interesting. Many thanks to Corbett, John B., Joshua and Jerry & Al for making this a December to remember! The activities they hosted were top drawer. Also, I want to welcome Sam's recovery. Good luck to Chris in his new apartment. Condolences to Bob H. on the loss of his aunt. Well, I hope I didn't forget anyone.

Aaron

Gene therapy may block HIV spread



Three people with HIV have had a new experimental treatment to try to help them fight the disease.

Scientists in the United States have used gene therapy techniques to try to boost their immune

systems. Initial results from the trial have been promising, according to a report in New Scientist magazine. VIRxSYS, the company

This is probably the most exciting of the anti-HIV strategies around at the moment says Professor Alan Kingsman of Oxford BioMedica

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Membership Application

If you are not a member of MACT/Philadelphia, why not join us?

Please fill out and mail this form to:
 MACT/Philadelphia, PO Box 42257, Philadelphia, PA 19101
 Make check payable to **MACT/Philadelphia**

Take a \$5 discount on full year membership when you become a member of the NABWMT

Renewal / Full year – couple \$45 – individual \$30 (July 1 through June 30)
 Individual (10/1 – 6/30) \$22.50 – Individual (1/1 – 6/30) \$15
 Individual (3/1 – 6/30) \$7.50

Name (1) _____
 Second Person _____
 Of couple (2) _____
 Street Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Telephone _____
 e-mail _____
 Birthday (1) _____ Birthday (2) _____

Periodically we use images of our members in the newsletter and on our website.
 Please indicate below your willingness to allow these images to be used.
Group Picture YES / NO Single Picture YES / NO

Signature _____

Unless checked applicant's name will be added to our Membership directory that is sent to all MACT/P members.

Members are encouraged to join one or more committees.
 Please circle your committee choices

**Membership ♦ Rap/CR ♦ Social ♦ Newsletter ♦
 Political Action ♦ Health Education**

Happy Birthday

James C. 01/09 John O. 01/15
 Jerry M. 01/26 Jeff K. 01/30

Hi this is Stevie... I hope everybody had a wonderful holiday. I know we did. We went to Connecticut to see my stepson and it was wonderful. I'm to the age now that I don't really need anything. As long as I have Art and my friends I'm fine. So this is the first article of the new year and I'm wondering if our members realize how important it is to be involved in some way. I want to make something perfectly clear. Any little thing that you do to support this organization, supports the organization. We decided a long time ago to pay dues. I don't understand why anyone would have a question about that because we have bills just like anybody else. If you're a single member you pay \$30.00 and if you're a couple you pay \$45.00. Our fiscal year is from July to June. I want to

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Men of All Colors Together Philadelphia, is a gay multiracial, multicultural organization committed to fostering supportive environments wherein racial, social and cultural barriers can be overcome and the goal of human equality realized. To these ends, Men of All Colors Together Philadelphia, engages in educational, political, cultural and social activities as a means of dealing with racism, sexism, homophobia, heterosexism, HIV/AIDS, ageism, ableism, classism, and other inequities in our communities and in our lives.

clear-up any doubts or any questions. Starting with dues. The money that comes in is divided in many ways. We pay William Way Community Center for space to have our General Meetings, we pay postage for mailings like the newsletter and the directory, and space to have the Theatre of Understandings. So we won't be taking money out of the treasury all the time we pass the hat around at General Meetings. We have a convention once each year and the group pays the registration for our two National

See STEVIE on page 5

With dates set of 31 July thru 5 August 2007, People of All Colors Together will host the 2007 NABWMT convention, the 27th, in Cleveland, OH. The theme: "Diversity: A Mosaic in Motion." The Host hotel is the Wyndham Cleveland at Playhouse Square. Host committee co-chair Dr. John Bush reports: "We got the convention practically ready to go." There will be national/international major speakers. The North Coast Men's Choir will perform at the opening. There is to be a joint cruise with the Black Gay Alliance on Lake Erie and the Cuyahoga River.

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outstanding internal contributions to the NABWMT statement of purpose. Regis D'Angiolini received one. This New Jersey-based member is the outgoing corresponding secretary and editor of *The Quarterly*, NABWMT's newsletter. Detroit's Tom Lascardies and Lamar McGinty received the second one jointly.

Chapter Action awards are made when chapters make outstanding contributions to the NABWMT statement of purpose. People of All Colors Together (PACT) Cleveland was honored. Among other tasks, it sponsored multiple hostings of the BMI.

The Major Donor award goes to an individual or organization making significant financial contributions during the fiscal year. William "Bill" Bua, was this year's recipient.

Two website awards were tendered. This award is for Internet websites that are indicative of a chapters presence in form, content and style. Bradley Green was the recipient of one award. (He is working on and enhancing www.nabwmt.org the NABWMT website. BWMT Detroit's website was deemed worthy of the second award.

National Action awards are for outstanding tasks or projects outside of the immediate chapter that have a large-scale impact. The 2005 Silver Anniversary convention committee, chaired by Paul H. Hawkins (NABWMT's office manager) and Nat Martin (NABWMT co-chair) was lauded for its staging of that convention in Pittsburgh, PA this past year.

Certificates of Appreciation were given to outgoing directors Les Everett and Douglas B. Noble. In addition, Noble received special laurels. He was elected to the Board of Directors in 1989 at the ninth convention. After seventeen years, Noble chose to step down. Noble is noteworthy for yeoman work on awards, elections and by-laws committees. He also facilitates the NABWMT Legacy and Archives Project. A plaque and decorative clock was presented to him before the appreciative audience at the climatic banquet.

Several significant decisions were made during the business meetings of the convention. The Board of Directors approved the establishment of an endowment fund for NABWMT. The start of the fund will begin with \$15,000 drawn from the Michael Smith Trust. Details on how the membership and others may remit funds into the endowment are to be developed and made known.

A motion was approved to remand funds donated by directors to the New Orleans Aids Task Force. Those funds were to be used in light of 2005's hurricanes Rita and Katrina.

The board approved remittances of \$250 each for outreach for two activities. One was to "In The Life Atlanta" for their Black Gay Pride event in late August 2006. The second was in support of the Midland regional meeting due in Detroit, MI this coming September 29-1 October.

Four presentations were made for the 2008 convention. After a nearly two-hour discussion, a sense of the board resolution was reached with a single dissenting vote that Chicago be pursued for

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behind the technique, says it will test it on another two patients shortly, before embarking on a larger trial.

Re-engineered cells

The technique involves taking T cells from patients and re-engineering them so that they can destroy HIV. T cells are a type of white blood cell that can identify and destroy invading viruses.

These cells are treated with a "gutted" form of HIV in the laboratory, which has been genetically engineered to stop HIV in the body from replicating and spreading. After the cells have been treated in this way, they are re-introduced into the body where they lie in wait until HIV attacks. The idea is that the re-engineered cells will paralyse HIV and prevent it from spreading to other cells. It does this by cutting up the virus and inserting its own genetic material, which is designed not to spread. The three patients who have received the treatment so far have all been resistant to some of the drugs normally used to treat the virus. The first patient was treated last July. The company was recently given the go-ahead to try it on two more people.

Scientists at VIRxSYS hope their VRX496 treatment will prove to be effective. The current trial is designed to find out if the treatment is safe. The initial results suggest it is. "No adverse events related to VRX496 have been observed in the first three patients," said Boro Drupulic, the firm's chief scientific officer. "We are similarly encouraged that, to date, the viral load results are not above pre-dose levels and CD4 counts have remained stable." The second phase of the trial, which will only begin when all the results from the first have been collated, will start to show how effective it is.

'Exciting strategy'

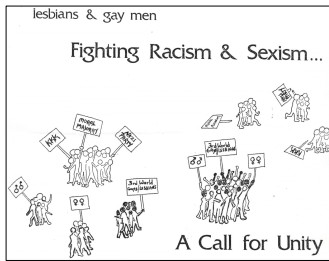
Professor Alan Kingsman, chief executive of Oxford BioMedica which has carried out research in this area in the past, said the trial was promising. "This is probably the most exciting of the anti-HIV strategies around at the moment," he told BBC News Online. "They are using a well-established technique to chop up HIV. It is an interesting approach"

Don't miss our General Meeting on Friday, January 19 at 7:30 PM, when we will have as our special guest someone that is in this Gene Therapy trial.

CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

To the 2007 Directory

Bob Williams	E-mail – robert_williams2@bellsouth.net
Kirk Stevens	E-mail – kasenterprise60@yahoo.com
Addition –	Leonard Stanton, Jr. Birthday – 09/24 1103 North 40th Street Philadelphia, PA 19104 Relay 1-800-654-5988 Phone – 215-222-5035



Gay Pride Week Community Conference on Racism & Sexism

Thursday, June 25, 1981

Workshops: Consciousness raising on racism and sexism
Developing a plan of action against racism & sexism within the lesbian/gay groups
Developing a plan of action against racism & sexism within gay religious organizations
How can lesbians and gay men fight racism & sexism inside and outside the lesbian/gay communities?

On June 25, 1981 a small group of community activists met to discuss a proposed NGLF statement around the deplorable murders of young black children in Atlanta. They agreed that while they could not directly stop these murders, they could affect the climate of racism which exists in Philadelphia. The discussion broadened to include concerns about sexism in the lesbian and gay community, which like racism, continues to divide and weaken our power and strength.

One of the primary obstacles in overcoming racism is that many people, who condone and empower discrimination through the support of racist and sexist institutions, do not consider themselves oppressive people, or even realize consciously that they act in a sexist or racist way.

As a community we need to examine ourselves, our institutions, our community services, our civil rights organizations to transcend our past differences and insecurities. We need to use our diversity to forge a new unity rather than remain separate and vulnerable to increasing right wing forces that would destroy us all.

The previous was brought to you in 1981 by the following:
Black & White Men Together/Philadelphia
Philadelphia Lesbian & Gay Task Force

How well do you think we have done our job over the past twenty-six years? Do you think our goal of unity for the LGBTQ communities has been realized? If not, what more can be done?

Write me at ajmartin-chester@juno.com

T-Shirts

The MACT Philadelphia Steering Committee is planning to make T-shirts this year both for fund-raising and to raise awareness. If you would like to submit a design please contact either Corbett Klein (609-530-1726) or Nate O'Neal (215-848-8532). Your creativity is needed and appreciated!



Directions: Take Roosevelt Blvd. (route 1 north) from I-76. Continue up Roosevelt Blvd. about six (6) miles and turn left onto Bustleton Ave. Continue up Bustleton Ave. past Cottman Ave., past Rhawn Ave. and past the Philadelphia Gas Co. You'll pass Jack's Deli on your left and about one-half block further make a right onto Mower St. About 100 feet turn right and continue onto Caster Ave. (which becomes Evarts St.) Then turn left onto Tolbut St. Jerry's house is the 3rd from the corner on the left. Come up the walk on the left side of the building.

Public Transportation: Take the Market-Frankfort line to the end (Frankfort and Bridge or Bridge and Pratt)... then take the #58 bus to Bustleton and Mower. At Mower, walk the same route as above.

Address: 8524 Tolbut St., Philadelphia

Phone: 215-745-3043

DON'T FART IN BED

If this story doesn't make you cry for laughing so hard, let me know and I'll pray for you.

This is a story about a couple who had been happily married for years. The only friction in their marriage was the husband's habit of farting loudly every morning when he awoke. The noise would wake his wife and the smell would make her eyes water and make her gasp for air. Every morning she would plead with him to stop ripping them off because it was making her sick. He told her he couldn't stop it and that it was perfectly natural. She told him to see a doctor; she was concerned that one day he would blow his guts out. The years went by and he continued to rip them out! Then one Thanksgiving morning as she was preparing the turkey for dinner and he was upstairs sound asleep, she looked at the bowl where she had put the turkey innards and neck, gizzard, liver and all the spare parts and a malicious thought came to her. She took the bowl and went upstairs where her husband was sound asleep and, gently pulling back the bed covers, she pulled back the elastic waistband of his underpants and emptied the bowl of turkey guts into his shorts. Some time later she heard her husband waken with his usual trumpeting which was followed by a blood curdling scream and the sound of frantic footsteps as he ran into the bathroom. The wife could hardly control herself as she rolled on the floor laughing, tears in her eyes! After years of torture she reckoned she had got him back pretty good. About twenty minutes later, her husband came downstairs in his blood stained underpants with a look of horror on his face. She bit her lip as she asked him what was the matter.

He said, "Honey, you were right. All these years you have warned me and I didn't listen to you."

"What do you mean?" asked his wife.

"Well, you always told me that one day I would end up farting my guts out, and today it finally happened. But by the grace of God, some Vaseline, and two fingers, I think I got most of them back in."

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Representatives. We also pay dues to the national organization. Corbett, who is our treasurer does a very good job of paying the bills and he makes a report at every Steering Committee meeting that we have. We have 56 members who live all over the place in Philadelphia, New Jersey and Delaware. We also have two member in Florida and two in Tennessee. You must agree that getting information out is important. Art and I donate a lot of the publicity like the fliers that are put up in Woody's, Giovanni's Room Bookstore and William Way Community Center. We have about 15 pot lucks every year and that's for free, the member's do those. Again I say ALL our meetings are open to the membership. If you look on the back of your newsletter you will see the calendar of events and like I told you all, you can go to every meeting if you want too. I think in my opinion the Steering Committee does a wonderful job at keeping everything on the up and up. Now as a member, if you don't know this or if you're wondering about this, ask! DON'T ASSUME!

I'm the membership chair and one of my responsibilities is to make sure the members know what is going on and to feel welcome. I'm paraphrasing, the full description of the job is in the by-laws, which you all have. I love the job. I'm very good at organizing. As you know I'm the one that gets all your information because all applications come to me. If your address, phone number or e-mail changes I need to know. We have a directory for the members and I repeat again, we do not sell our mailing list. What comes to the group stays in the group.

I don't like rumors and I would never be gossiping about anyone in the newsletter. If there is any gossip it would be about me and no one else. I said this before, I want this column to be up lifting. Not to put anybody down or to embarrass anybody. I am going to tell the truth and I'm going to try to share my wisdom because I also believe that knowledge is meant to be shared. I hope this clears up any question you might have.

Just a reminder we need more members for the anniversary committee. We have some but we need more.

We have a mystery about Carl and Victor's wedding. The word got out that their wedding story was in the PGN but we couldn't find it there anywhere. I think someone saw the December newsletter. Carl has been in the group a while now and he use to sing in the New Jersey chorus. But on the other hand it wasn't a secret because if it was it wouldn't have been in the newsletter. It really was a beautiful ceremony. I wish Art and I where there. The article was beautifully written. I think it is very important to be seen. Society needs to understand that we are just like everybody else. I'm glad the truth is finally coming out about that. That's one of the things Art and I always preach about. Be proud of who you are and especially be proud of who you love.

On behalf of the group I want to thank John Barefield for his Winter Get Together. It was wonderful. I always love to go to John's house. He is a wonderful host. I counted 45 people who where there and 20 of them were members of MACT. It was wonderful. This is a tradition that John has every winter. So thank you John for inviting us. I also would like to thank Tom

A. for having the Christmas dinner at his house. We were talking that he joined the group back in the 80's and we were remembering about how the group got started. John Speer, Jerry Winokur were also there in the 80's. We were talking about a lot of the members that are no longer with us.

I remember being around in 1982 coming to Philadelphia and having Regionals. A Regional, if you don't know is a 3-day convention. There are workshops, keynote speakers and a big dinner dance. Our Region was at the time Connecticut, Boston, New York, Baltimore, Washington DC and Philadelphia. We took turns meeting in one of these places. I loved it because you learned how to run a chapter. We would share knowledge about leadership, how to raise money and how to work a positive chapter in the community. I hope we get that back some day. I would love to go to New York or Baltimore to name some of the chapters in our regions just to see how they run their chapters. I think it's a wonderful challenge that we have been around for twenty-five years being Educational, Political, Cultural, Supportive and Social. It's a great challenge.

Thanks to Ron Sy we are involved with the Jaded Lounge again. That's a good story and maybe we can get Ron to tell it someday for the newsletter. You are all invited to go. That's wonderful too.

I'd like to mention once again about some of the traditions that we have in this organization. We know that depression, loneliness, drugs and suicide are very high around the holidays. So what we try to do is to make it a little easier for our members and their friends. Come and join our family. The celebrations are Christmas, Kwanzaa, Easter, Thanksgiving Pot Luck. Also every new members gets a party in their honor and that's called the New Members Welcoming Party. In the summer time we go to the beach and camping. Maybe next fall we will do a hay ride and apple and pumpkin picking. I'd like to thank all the members in this chapter for making these things happen.

Now if you still don't understand how Men of All Colors Together is run then you didn't read your newsletter. That's your responsibility. I'm only giving you the facts as I know them. I also would like to thank all the members who donated money this year to the organization. Like Nate says, Times are hard and I say they are probably going to get harder but this is why this group is necessary. I don't know how anybody can think that finance is not important. I wish I was a millionaire. I would love to pay for everything but the problem with that is it becomes Stevie's Colors Together and that's not good. It's very important to have all kinds of cultures and all kinds of idea like a rainbow coming together shining so beautifully for one cause.

For those who have been concerned about Sam we received the following from John Orandosh – Sam came home Wednesday night. I talked to him yesterday. He is feeling much better. He's taking reflux medication and his blood pressure medication is being checked on. He sounded really good. Thank You for your concern. I know he would appreciate it. Give Sam a call at 215-542-8665

JANUARY 2007

- Friday 05** **Steering Committee Meeting**
 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM
 at Aaron's house
- Friday 19** **General Meeting at WWCC**
 7:30 PM to 10:00 PM
 Gene Therapy and HIV/AIDS
 See page 1 for related story
- Saturday 20** **Winter Pot Luck**
 7:30 PM to 11:00 PM
 at Jerry Winokur's house
 See details on page 1 and directions on page 4

FEBRUARY 2007

- Friday 02**
 Steering Committee meeting
 at Nate's house
 7:30 to 9:00 PM
- Friday 09**
 The Jaded Lounge
 10:00 PM to 1:00 AM
- Friday 16**
 General Meeting
 7:30 PM to 10:00 PM
- Saturday 17**
 The RED Party Pot Luck
 7:30 PM to 11:00 PM

COMING EVENTS

**March 10... 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM – Volunteer at William Way
 Community Center**

Theatre of Understandings

**March & April... Topic – Immigration as a whole and how it effect the
 LGBTQ communities**

**May... Topic – The Queer Agenda: Creating Our Own Table and
 Solutions**

[Watch the newsletter for more information](#)

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I would like all of you to read your Statement of Purpose again, think about it and rededicate yourself. It's a new year and we have some real good things coming up. The December Steering Committee meeting at Art and my house was a very successful and full of progress and promise. I was amazed. We planned things all the way up to May. You will be reading all about it in future newsletters. I think that's it for now. Happy New Year everybody. Stay positive and stay strong. And remember you make this organization the way it is. It must mean something to you because if it didn't you wouldn't be in it and it wouldn't have lasted twenty-five years. Remember that. Stevie

Men of All Colors Together Philadelphia

PO Box 42257
 Philadelphia, PA 19101
 2006-2007 STEERING COMMITTEE

- Co-chairs
 Aaron Libson 215-455-6038
 Nate O'Neal 215-848-8532
- Recording Secretary
 Call Aaron if your interested
- Corresponding Secretary
 Ron Cropper 215-806-5016
- Treasurer
 Corbett Klein 609-530-1726
- NA Reps.
 Nate O'Neal 215-848-8532
 Corbett Klein 609-530-1726
- Social Chair
 Steering Committee
- Political Action
 Steering Committee
- Membership Chair
 Stevie Martin-Chester 610-277-6595
- Newsletter Editor
 Arthur Martin-Chester 610-277-6595
- Members-At-Large
 George Harris 215-875-8086
 Sam Fisher 215-542-8665
 Lenny Stanton Relay 800-654-5988
 215-222-5035
 Bob Hooks 215-223-1688
 Patrick Lewis 302-762-6166

Email address:
ajmartin-chester@juno.com

Web site:
<http://www.mactphila.org>

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 2008.

Elections were not contested. In fact, four of the directors' positions were filled by write-in votes. Co-chairs Tony Bridges and Nat Martin were returned to office. Steve Buckhalter was elected corresponding secretary. Jay Sun Howell won election by printed ballot. Gavin Morrow-Hall and Delmore Korte did not file for re-election. But when write-in votes were sufficient in number, they were asked by the elections committee and chose to serve another two-year term. Two others that received write-in votes accepted. They were Steve Ball and Adan Burnett.