



# The newsletter of Men of All Colors Together Philadelphia

## August 2008

# Challenger

A Gay Multiracial Organization for All People – Now Celebrating 27 Years



### Hillside Camping August 15 - 17

***Fantasy / Fetish & Uniform Weekend***  
Live out your fantasies on this special “excuse” weekend. Also, it’s more guys in their uniforms. Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. the Mid Atlantic Uniform League (MAUL) sponsors its second annual *“Report for Duty” Uniform Party* at the Rec Hall.

Contact Aaron to reserve your camp site at 215-455-6038

### A New Co-Chair

In May at our anniversary votes were cast, tallied and the 2008 – 2009 Steering Committee was presented to the gathering. Because we had some vote getters that declined to take on the task, we only had one of the two co-chair positions filled. Corbett Klein our newly elected co-chair put out a call for any interested and qualified member to step forward to fill the second position. At the July 11 Steering Committee meeting by a unanimous vote the position was filled by Tim Majors. Tim is new to the chapter but with a resume like his the committee felt honored to bring him on board as co-chair. Below is a brief synopsis of his background.

Tim is originally from and grew up in Joplin Missouri. He graduated from Missouri Southern State College in 1993 with a B.A. in Spanish. While attending MSSC he was involved in several organizations. He was the Vice President of the International Club which consisted of over 100 students/members many of them being exchange and international students. The main vision of the organization was to create cultural awareness and promote diversity on the campus.

Tim was also involved in the Hammonds Big Brother/Big Sister program. It was a unique mentoring program that targeted junior high school

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### The Story That Must Be Told

taken from the  
2008 AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition  
(AVAC) report

The American statesman, scientist and inventor Benjamin Franklin said, “Success has many parents, but failure is an orphan.” More than two centuries later, in the age of global communications, failure is, in many instances, an orphan who makes headlines and becomes fodder for naysayers and commentators with 20-20 hindsight.

It’s now been nearly nine months since the public announcement of the failure of the Merck AIDS vaccine that had generated the

See AIDS of page 3



### Bring your own picnic to Brigantine

**Saturday,  
August 9 from  
Noon to 8:00PM**

This is our second  
BYOP this summer.  
This time we are going  
to the New Jersey

shore. So pack that picnic basket with your favorite goodies. Jerry will have his grill ready. See page 3 for directions.

### Pot Luck in Delaware at Patrick's house

**Saturday, August 23  
from 7:30 PM to 11:00 PM**

We are keeping busy this summer with plenty of places to go. Patrick’s home in Delaware is a great spot to relax with your MACT brothers. See directions on page 4



## 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**

## 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.

## Happy Birthday

Robert H.	08/08	Jerry B.	08/15
Michael D.	08/16	Troy B.	08/30
Anthony F.	08/31		

## Directions to Aaron's house

Take I-76 to the Roosevelt Expressway North. Follow the expressway approximately 3 mile and turn slightly left onto North 9th street. Follow North 9th to Aaron's home, 4919 North 9th street.

Phone 215-455-6038 for other directions

**Hi this is Stevie...** We are in the middle of summer now. Hope everybody is having a good time. As you all know this organization is under construction. As for me that means making the group better. Working in the community, learning about ourselves, learning how to be positive, learning from our mistakes, and living the statement of purpose. We as an organization have to make sure that we are all on the same page. Does this mean fixing this group or getting rid of this group and starting all over again? It would really be a shame to fix something that isn't broken. What do you think? One of the things that we started doing as a membership committee is to try contacting each member and ask them what committee they

would like to be on. The main purpose of this is to get everyone involved. Now if you can't for some reason that's all right too. We are all busy. Specially now a days. Some of us have three jobs and then some of us are still looking. A lot of our members are bringing to retire and some of us are preparing to retire. This reminds me of one of our founding members, John Speer, he's been in this group since 1981, he's one of our retired members and he's busier now than he ever was. I do understand it, it's kind of hard to do nothing after working for so long. It's very easy to get bored. Let me tell you about the change. Let me tell you what the committees are: 2009 Convention, 2009 Gay Pride,

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AIDS continued from page 1

most consistent enthusiasm throughout the field in recent years. Overall, this vaccine neither prevented infection nor lowered viral set point, and in some individuals, receiving the vaccine was associated with an increased risk of acquiring HIV.

In the weeks and months that have followed, the phrase “more questions than answers” has all but worn out its welcome. There are, for the moment, more questions than answers about the cause of the apparent increase in susceptibility to HIV in some volunteers. There have also been more questions than answers about the best way for the field to move forward scientifically in the wake of this setback.

Some critics and provocateurs have used this opportunity to offer definitive answers to some tough questions, like “Is an AIDS vaccine even possible?”

Yes, an AIDS vaccine is possible. We have no secret insight, no crystal ball, no scientific breakthrough waiting in the wings to put behind this statement. But the world must continue to operate as though the answer is yes because the indicators are still there, and still good. We just don't understand them well enough as yet.

The AIDS vaccine we believe is possible is not necessarily one that provides sterilizing immunity – the holy grail of complete protection. It could be a vaccine that reduces viral load or protects against some modes of exposure but not others. Moreover, when we look at elite controllers – those who are infected and maintain low or undetectable viral loads for many years – we see evidence that the immune system can control the virus. We believe it is possible that a vaccine can create this immune profile, even if it may be a long way off.

Will an AIDS vaccine be possible in the next ten, twenty, thirty years? In the lifetime of a physician who saw the first AIDS cases on the wards in the 1980's? Maybe not. Or in the lifetime of an infant being born today, perhaps one who is being protected from HIV infection through the use of antiretrovirals for prevention of parent-to-child transmission? We hope so. We wish the time horizon were shorter and hope we will figure out how to abbreviate them in the future. In the meantime, we must be as clear about its merit. Looking across the world at rates of new infections and at the proven prevention strategies, we still say: We need an AIDS vaccine, no matter how long it takes.

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### **Directions to Jerry Winokur's place in Brigantine**

Take NJ-42 south the Atlantic City Expressway to Exit 1 toward Convention Center / Marina / Brigantine. Stay to the left on the ramp and follow the signs to Brigantine. After crossing the Atlantic City / Brigantine Connector bridge turn slightly right onto Brigantine Blvd. / NJ-87. Follow Brigantine Blvd. approx. 2.3 miles to circle. Take the 3<sup>rd</sup> exit off the circle onto CR-638. Follow CR-638 approx. 1.5 mile and turn left onto S. Roosevelt Blvd. Follow Roosevelt Blvd. approx. 1 mile (becomes N. Roosevelt) and turn left onto Sheridan Blvd. Cross the golf course and turn right onto Vardon Rd.; then left onto Ray Ave. House is the second on the left.

1300 Ray Ave., Brigantine, NJ

STEVIE continued from page 2

2009 Anniversary Celebration and Awards, Publicity, Membership, Newsletter, Fundraising and T-shirts, General Meeting Refreshments, Social (pot lucks, camping, beach), Program, Welcome, and the Web Site. My committee is Membership and the members at this time are myself, Corbett and Bob. We will be talking to you more about this. If you have any questions you can call or e-mail me. Now I want to talk to the members that live out of state. Maybe something that you could do is write something for the newsletter. All opinions are important. If you agree or disagree say so. And of course with the reason why. It's about solutions. Always remember that.

Nate and John are our national reps. They are at convention right now. They will be coming back with information and I hope they come back with stuff that we can use. I got a phone call from Nate at convention and he told me “Congratulation to Art, he won the NA Newsletter Award again.” I wonder how our presentation went. So the next newsletter will be very interesting.

We have 61 members with only 17 renewals at this time. If you paid \$15.00 membership, it's time to pay again. If you have any questions about that, call me. Our fiscal year is from July 1 to June 31. I remember talking to one of our members, Jeff Keith who also has been in this group since 1981, what he does is pay all his yearly bills in June. All the gay organization he's in that is. Since June is gay pride month, maybe you guys can try that next year. I think that's a good way to remember.

Congratulations to Tim who got voted in to be our other Co-chair. He's part of the change (see his profile in this newsletter). The word change is funny. Sometimes it takes a long time and other times it's fast. But it's always challenging.

I really hope you all will help. Specially now. We have a convention coming up in 2009. Remember, they are going to need your help also. You are going to get more details about that in the next newsletter. Aaron and Tyrone are working hard to help make all that happen. I'm not worried, we did this in 1999 and when you've done it once the second time is usually easier. This is the time when you use your allies and we have many. Hopefully they will be involved somehow, we will see.

You know that one of our members died in June, Rev. Frederic Guyott. His boy friend, Festuf Wambi, who I talk to. He was very appreciative. I told him if he needs someone to talk to he can call me. I invited him to our cookout, which went well by the way but he didn't show up. Of course I understand. I think the relationship was new. Frederic told me they were neighbors and one thing lead to another and there they were. I wish they were together longer. But God knows best. That's what I told Festuf. I also said to him that Frederic is in a better place. And that you'll see him again and that will be forever. That made him feel a little better. I didn't know about the funeral arrangements because he died in June. I hope it was nice. I'm not sure where Frederic was from but I do remember that he came to a Theatre of Understanding that we had in 2000. He joined right after that. He was a retired Reverend. I think I put

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TIM continued from page 1

and high school minority students. The program required a one-on-one mentoring relationship between successful minority college students and the high school student. If the student maintained a 3.0 or higher GPA throughout the entire time in high school, then the student would be granted a college scholarship which would cover their entire tuition for the four years at MSSC.

He was also involved in ROTC my junior and senior year, in which he served as the operations officer. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the military intelligence branch of the Army. Tim served on active duty for eight years in the military. He left the army in 2001 as a Captain.



He then went to work for Honeywell in Minneapolis, Minnesota as a production manager. While in Minnesota he volunteered for an organization called Twin Cities Rise. The organization's mission was to introduce disadvantaged individuals back into the workforce as productive members of society. The backgrounds of these individuals were very diverse. Some of them may have been recovering addicts, former convicts or just housewives who wanted to get into the work force. Twin Cities Rise

would take them through a two year training program which would introduce these individuals to everything from basic skills classes such as typing and computers to self esteem courses to mock interviewing. Upon graduation, these individuals would be set up with interviews with many of the local companies with a high success rate.

While in Minnesota, he was also a member of the Pillsbury House men's brunch, which was an organization geared to gay men. We would meet every other Saturday for brunch, and at that time we would invite a speaker who would speak on GLBT topics.

Tim left Minnesota in 2007 to move to Philadelphia and he is currently working in human resources for Sears Holding Corporation/Kmart. He is attending Unity Fellowship Church (UFC) in Philadelphia where he serves as the minister of music and chair of hospitality.

Please take the time to welcome Tim as our new co-chair.

## Hate Crimes Amendment Struck Down



In 2002 then Governor Mark Schweiker signed into law the "Ethnic Intimidation and Institutional Vandalism Act". This was a bill the Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Right, now Equality Advocates Pennsylvania fought hard to enact. The bill added sexual orientation, gender identity, ancestry, gender, and mental and physical disability to the hate crimes law. On July

23, 2008 the Pennsylvania Supreme Court upheld a Commonwealth Court decision striking down this amendment. The law was overturned based on the procedural way the legislation was passed by the legislature, not the content of the law.

### Directions to Patrick Lewis'

Take I-95 South to I-495 South continue on I-495 South to Governor Printz Blvd/Edgemoor Rd. (Exit 4A)  
At the end of the ramp turn left at the light and go to the next light (Edgemoor Rd). Turn right at the light onto Edgemoor Rd. and continue downhill through the light. Continue driving ahead and just before the street begins to curve is the entrance to "The Paladin Club", turn left into the development. After entering the development, drive straight ahead and go over the speed bump and turn right, drive all the way back past the 2 car garage on the right. Park anywhere in this area. My unit is at the foot of the walkway.

My address and telephone number are:

6003 Highland Court  
Wilmington, DE.  
(302) 762 - 6166

There is not a whole lot of parking in this area of the development so please car pool if possible. If you get here and cannot find parking, come to my door and I'll try to find a spot in another part of the development. Also, please remember, do not park in front of anyone's garage, you may be towed.

Join hundreds of LGBT baseball fans, non-baseball fans and our friends and family at:

## 6th Annual Gay Community Night at the Phillies

### Citizens Bank Park Philadelphia

Tuesday, August 19th at  
7:05 PM

**Phillies vs. Nationals**

Hatfield Franks Dollar Dog Night!

Tickets - \$24

To order tickets:

Go to [www.phillygaydays.com](http://www.phillygaydays.com)



**New!**

T-Shirt

Now available!

Only \$15--includes free shipping!

<http://www.gaytshirt.com/philly-days-p-913.html>

23, 2008 the Pennsylvania Supreme Court upheld a Commonwealth Court decision striking down this amendment. The law was overturned based on the procedural way the legislation was passed by the legislature, not the content of the law.

A spokesperson for Equality Advocates Pennsylvania said in a brief statement, "We are extremely disappointed that some of the most vulnerable people in Pennsylvania are now unprotected by our state's hate crimes law. I urge the legislature to once again pass this legislation with all deliberate speed. Equality Advocates will work to reinstate these groups to the Pennsylvania hate crimes law."

## Volunteer on a Subcommittee!

In order to leverage our membership effectively to build MACT -Philadelphia, I would like to ask every member to serve on at least one subcommittee. I have listed below the subcommittees that the steering committee agreed to at our last meeting. To be effective, I think each subcommittee should have at least three members. Many of our members have already stepped up to the plate to volunteer. Please add your name to theirs by emailing me at [corbett\\_klein@merck.com](mailto:corbett_klein@merck.com). Your support is much appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Corbett Klein  
MACT –Philadelphia Co-Chair

I will be making a personal phone call/appeal to everyone who hesitates to sign up for at least one subcommittee!

**2009 Convention:**

Tyrone\* Aaron\*, Ron, Roger, Troy, Nate, John S., Chuck, Bob, William

**2009 Gay Pride:**

John S., Troy, Al, Les, Joe

**2009 Anniversary Celebration and Awards:**

John S., Troy

**Publicity:**

**Membership:**

Stevie\*, Corbett, Robert

**Newsletter:**

Art, John McN, Stevie

**Fund raising and T-shirt:**

John S., Aaron,

**General Meeting Refreshments:**

Aaron, Robert, Chuck

**Social Committee (potlucks, camping, etc.)**

Frank, Tim, Jerry B., Jerry L., Tony F.

**Program Committee:**

Ron, Corbett, Nate

**Website:**

John S., Nate

**Welcome:**

\*Chairs

STEVIE continued from page 3

some of this information in last months newsletter but that's all right it can be repeated again. Ron, our Correspondence Secretary sent Festuf a sympathy card on behalf of the group. I just called him today and Fred's voice is still on the answering machine. So let's keep him in our thoughts and prayers.

Now on a happier note. Happy news. Shelton is back. He's looking well and been attending my church, Metropolitan Community Church of Philadelphia. Shelton has been in MCC for a while. He told me Rev. Troy Perry, the founder, was his Pastor out in California. It's really good to see him, it brought back some wonderful memories. All the shows that we did, he produced and directed. I remember the first one. It was a T-shirt

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## Join Men of All Colors Together/NY as they host Sea Tea on the Queen of Hearts!

(You'll have a Gay Old Time)

Sunday, August 17, 2008  
Board at 6:00 PM  
Sail from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM  
Pier 40 – West Side Highway at Houston Street

Music provided by DJ DeMarco

Tickets - \$20.00 per person in advance ONLY  
Ticket price includes a sumptuous buffet and a live show!  
Under no circumstances may beverages be brought on board  
(they will be confiscated)  
**There will be a cash bar!**

Call 212-330-7678 for more information or  
Send check or money order to:  
MACT/NY, PO Box 237107, Ansonia Station  
New York, NY 10023

Mail order deadline – August 8, 2008

## A message from your Convention Planning Committee(CPC)2009

### We are looking for...

- Master Planners
- Fundraisers
- Entertainers
- Graphic Designers
- Programmers
- Facilitators

...to share your talents with your MACT/PACT/BWMT and NABWMT brethren as MACT-Philadelphia host the 2009 National Convention.

At the last convention we hosted, they definitely partied like it was 1999 and that put us "on the map" as an exciting Convention destination. Rest assured, while the final votes have not been tallied, 2009 is already poised to be one for the record books. We are forming our subcommittees on Fiscal/Budget, Fundraising, Programming and Marketing/Promotions. So come join us as we make arrangements by pledging your interest, thoughts, suggestions and support to help make this another smashing success and overall job well-done for MACT-Philadelphia at [CPCPhila2009@aol.com](mailto:CPCPhila2009@aol.com) and stay tuned for updates and other news regarding upcoming CPC-sponsored events.

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# AUGUST 2008

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- Friday 01**      **Steering Committee meeting**  
**7:30 PM to 9:00 PM**  
 at Aaron's home  
 See directions on page 2
- Saturday 09**      **Bring Your Own Picnic**  
**12:00 noon to 8:00 PM**  
 at Jerry's home in Brigantine  
 See details on page 1 and directions on page 3
- Friday 15**      **Hillside Camping**  
 thru  
**Sunday 17**      Call Aaron at 215-455-6038 to reserve your space  
 See details on page 1
- Tuesday 19**      **Gay Community Night at the Phillies**  
 Phillies vs Washington Nationals  
 Game starts at 7:05 PM  
 See page 4 for more information
- Saturday 23**      **Pot Luck at Patrick's**  
**7:30 PM to 11:00 PM**  
 at 6003 Highland Court, Wilmington, DE  
 See details on page 1 and directions on page 4

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# SEPTEMBER 2008

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- Monday 01**  
 Labor Day BYOPicnic  
 at Joshua's Farm
- Friday 05**  
 Steering Committee meeting  
 place Nate's home in Philadelphia
- Friday 19**  
 First General Meeting of the new season  
 at WWCC in the Classroom
- Saturday 20**  
 Pot Luck  
 at Troy's home in Philadelphia

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drive, I think it was in 1996, that's when we got the new banner and T-shirts and we put on a show at 12<sup>th</sup> AirCommand. He was talking to me about new T-shirts and a new logo. So we will see about that too.

We started working on the September General Meeting. We are going to be in a new room at WWCC. That's going to be nice. Before I close, let me remind you of some of the things that are coming up. The dates will be in the newsletter. Hillside, Pot Luck at Patrick's house, BYOPicnic in Brigantine at Jerry's house, Labor Day BYOPicnic at Joshua's farm and our Recording Secretary, Troy's first Pot Luck in September. One more thing could you do something for me, tell me about Jerry and Charles Pot Luck as well as Ron Sy's Pot Luck. Ron Sy belongs to the Long Yang Club and we didn't know the two Pot Lucks were on the same day.

## Men of All Colors Together Philadelphia

PO Box 42257  
 Philadelphia, PA 19101  
 2008-2009 STEERING COMMITTEE

Co-chairs	
Corbett Klein	609-530-1726
Tim Majors	215-342-2195
Recording Secretary	
Troy Bandel	267-402-0669
Corresponding Secretary	
Ron Cropper	215-806-5016
Treasurer	
Chuck McLean	610-918-0828
NA Reps.	
Tyrone Harvey	215-726-6876
John Speer	610-429-5265
Social Chair Steering Committee	
Political Action Steering Committee	
Membership Chair	
Stevie Martin-Chester	610-277-6595
Newsletter Editor	
Arthur Martin-Chester	610-277-6595
2009 CPC Co-chairs	
Aaron Libson	215-455-6038
Tyrone Harvey	215-726-6876
Members-At-Large	
Nate O'Neal	215-848-8532
Ron Sy	215-563-2420
Bob Hooks	215-765-2882
Steve Gilmour	610-355-0832
Lenny Stanton	Relay 1-800-654-5988 Phone 215-222-5035

Email address:  
[ajmartin-chester@juno.com](mailto:ajmartin-chester@juno.com)

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

Now the only reason why I'm bringing this up is because they live in the same neighborhood. I think it's three block apart. You could go to both. Now like I said before we don't usually plan things like this but we didn't plan it, it just worked out that way. Hope you had fun at both if went. So, that's the news for right now. This is a very exciting time right now so please be part of it. Bye for now. Stay positive and stay strong. Stevie