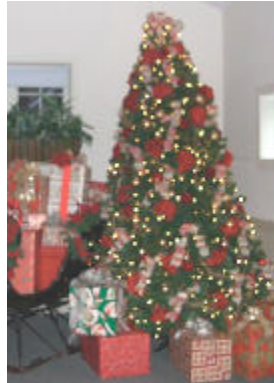




The newsletter of Men of All Colors Together Philadelphia

DECEMBER 2006

Challenger



Christmas
Dinner
on the farm is
always the
best of times.

Put together your
best holiday entrée
and join us for dinner
at 3:00 PM.

To coordinate the meal, give Aaron a call
at 215-455-6038.

Carl and Victor's Commitment Ceremony

On October 14th, 2006, our dream came true to have our commitment ceremony on our one year anniversary. Our commitment ceremony was held at the Quaker Meeting House in Bristol, Pennsylvania. The Quaker Meeting House was built in the 1600's.



As I stood at the altar waiting for Victor to arrive, I looked out the window and saw that he was crying tears of joy. Upon seeing Victor crying, I started to cry as well.

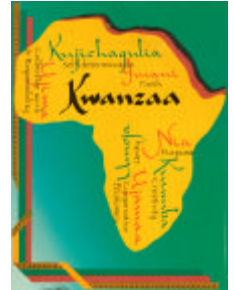
The ceremony was very intimate, with our friends and family there to witness the love we have for each other. When Victor entered the sanctuary, Ken started the recording of the wedding march. I was smiling from ear to ear as I watched my sweet Rican boy come down the aisle. As he came closer to me, I extended my hand and drew him close to me.

Victor's brother-in-law Andy gave Victor away. My "Poppa" Aaron gave me away. Maria Crosman,

See WEDDING on page 5

KWANZAA is a unique

African-American celebration created by Dr. Karenga in 1966. Dr. Karenga studied the cultures of the Yourbas, the Ibos, the Ashantis, the Zulus, and other African tribes combining the different ancient customs into a seven-day



African-American cultural holiday. Please join us as we come together to honor the traditions of the past, the present, and the future of African-American culture.

Saturday, December 30
7:30 PM to 11:00 PM
in Edison, NJ at Al & Jerry's home

See page 4 for directions

Hi this is Stevie...

This has been a very exciting month. November is always exciting. This is the month of our new members pot luck. It's a chance for you to see, meet and talk to our new members. This is our way of thanking them for joining this organization. This one of our traditions. We do this every November. The party was at Roger's house. Nice atmosphere, nice music, wonderful food and of course the hospitality of the members. Our membership is now 54. I would like to apologize for not having my list with me at the party. I don't want to miss any one so I have the complete list right here. So I am please to announce our new members and there names are - Matthew B., Ron C., couple Jay D. & Wendell S., Robert H., Willard L., William M., William N., Gerald K. S., Ronald S., Freddie T., Michael D., Charlie G., Jeff I. and Gregg S. Welcome to our group. We hope to see a lot of you. We hope you support everything the group is doing. When you guys made your wish and blew out the welcoming candle I wished you all well and I brought an

See STEVIE 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

Sam F.	12/01	Wendell S.	12/03
Michael D.	12/05	Jeff I.	12/12
Chris B.	12/15		

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!

Winter Get Together Sunday, December 17 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM

John has invited MACT to his annual winter get together. Come, bring a guest, and enjoy meeting new friends and lots of great food.

Directions to John Barefield's house:

From Center City take Broad Street north to West Ruscomb Street. Turn right on Ruscomb to 13th Street.

Address: 4943 North 13th Street
 Phone: 215-455-3860

The NABWMT 26th Annual Convention

As reported by Ollie Lee Taylor Part 3 of 4

Friday 4 August 2006 was workshop day at "Riding the Waves of Diversity." Sociologist Emeritus Dr. John E. Bush, was up for a session. In it, Bush expressed a concern about the lack of BWMT growth. It acts as a whip on the negative aspects of society. "We're antithetical. There's nothing in our culture or social norms to support us." He decried lip service. "Unless we promote it, it's not going to get done. We're swimming against the tide. Nobody wants old, tired meat."

Outlining other aspects of concern, Bush stated: "People tend not to be involved in organizations that don't speak to their personal and social concerns. Despite many interracial mixtures, the organization tends not to support black/white couples." Of twenty-eight people near the workshop's beginning, only one acknowledges in the 30s age cohort. Bush cited BWMT as an avocation in that "time with NABWMT must be shared with other aspects of our lives. We're largely middle-aged persons out of touch with younger groups. It is a case of the non-mixture of careers, relationships and aspects of the hip-hop culture."

Bush went on to say, "if we don't do something more, I'll give this group ten or fifteen more years. Sociologically speaking, we an average age forty-eight." From James Baldwin, he cited: "This is a racist country. Every institution is racist. The white man sees only the nigger he wants to see. White people don't know who they are or where they are from." Ridding oneself of a vocabulary doesn't match reality.

"We've done some programs. I don't know if we've moved ahead. Mostly, we're concerned with our own group. We're not at peace with each other. We're more successful at social events than situations like this. I see three workshops this week. I recall conventions when we had more like nine."

"As for relationship choices," Bush commented, "that white males tend to choose black males who appear nurturing, caring over sexual genitals. Black males tend to choose white males with a power dynamic in mind. BWMT can be serious in addressing racial confusion but not social or sexual assignments. Local groups are ever changing panorama of faces. Many show no long lasting interest and don't return."

Steven R. Earley, CFP, Investment Specialist, steven.earley@mmfn.com offered a workshop on "How to Inventory Your Income," six steps to financial success were outlined by the certified financial planner. He depicted to his workshop audience how gay men can "ride the diverse waves of finance."

The six steps were: protecting what one has with top insurance concerns of medical, disability and life insurance. Taking control of one's cash flow by assessing and taking control of one's current situation. This means answering the question: "What are you spending money on now?" One should build a cash or emergency fund sufficient to cover expenses for three to six months. Pay down or keep minimal balances on credit cards to control high-interest debt. The third step is to invest wisely. This means one should diversify investments. Assess risk tolerance. Manage one's portfolio on a regular basis. The fourth step is management of taxes. One should examine one's tax

return. Tax favored investments noted were municipal bonds and Roth IRAs, which are tax exempt. Traditional IRAs, Employer-sponsored retirement plans and annuities are tax deferred. The higher one's income, the more one can benefit from tax-advantaged alternatives. The fifth step is to save for retirement. Before doing so, a careful assessment needs to be made to determine how much one will need to fund the desired retirement lifestyle. The sixth step is that of creating a legacy. Two challenges to be faced are probate and estate taxes.

Items to bring to any financial consultation would include a will, durable power of attorney for finances, durable power of attorney for health, health care surrogate for the living, an advance directive and a domestic partnership agreement. These items can vary according to state laws and, of course, individual circumstances. Specific attention is required for LGBT couples and support arrangements.

While finance was going on, Corbett Klein offered a seminar with the idea of getting participants to know one another in a humorous, informative and no pressure setting.

Roland Wilkins reports participants were divided into groups and one person was designated as a secretary to record the group response. Several questions were asked and each person gave an answer to the question that was recorded by the secretary. Each person's answer was identified by race, i.e. black, white or Latin. A sample of the questions included: What attracts you to a man? What turns you off about a man? Each person's response was recorded.

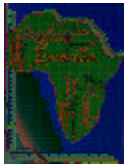
About halfway thru the workshop, the group members changed bringing new members to the groups. Questions were answered until time for session expired. There was time set aside for discussion with the results pouring forth from "Corbett's data analyzer." People felt this workshop was a good way to meet people, discuss openly some points on men, race relations and what serves as attractions.

The Bush-Mallon Institute was to feature "Learning to Walk the Talk: Mobilizing Your Organization to Do Long-Term Anti-Racism Work." A modification session was held, due to only nine appearing for the session. After the welcome, a two-part discussion was staged. Participants spoke of their personal journey around racism and secondly, they were asked how this journey could make a difference in NABWMT.

CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

To the 2007 Directory

Nate O'Neal	E-mail – natephil@verizon.net
Charles McLean Jr.	E-mail - Mcbuffet2005@yahoo.com
Robert Hooks Jr.	E-mail – rbrthooks@yahoo.com
Addition –	Dorrell Biddle Birthday – 07/27 701 Washington Ave. Palmyra, NJ 08065 Phone – 856-829-0748 E-mail – dell2733@aol.com



Directions of Jerry and Al's

From New Jersey / New York / Pennsylvania Via Turnpike:

Take the NJ Turnpike (North or South) to Exit 10 (route 287/ Metuchen / Edison Township). Once you pay the toll, follow signs for route 287 north. Take 287 north to exit 2B, 27 south, New Brunswick. At the 3rd light on 27 south, turn right. This is Talmadge road, and your landmark is the Clairon Hotel on your left, Pine Manor on your right. Follow Talmadge road until your 3rd light. At this light, make a right into "Village Gate at Edison" (Orosz Blvd.). Continue around the bend to the end of the complex. The pool is on your left - PARK HERE or anywhere along the OUTGOING side of Orosz Blvd. (opposite side of the road you drove in on). Follow the signs once you park to 92 Kelly drive.

Via the Garden State Parkway:

Take the GSP south to exit 129 (440 / 287 / 9) and follow the signs for route 440 south, which will turn into 287 north. Follow the 287 north directions above. From the northbound side, below the Driscoll bridge, take the first exit off the bridge (exit 127) and follow to 440 south, which turns into 287 north. Phone 732-906-7870 if you're lost

Co-Chair Chat:

Lots of favorable response to the Nov. general meeting. Our thanks to Vanessa Luyando of American Cancer Society and Wallace Young, a volunteer at the Fox Chase Cancer Center. This should be the beginning of informative sessions for our members and friends. It was well attended.

I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving. Thanks again to Stevie and Art for hosting. Now - we need to know who is planning to come to the Christmas Day dinner at Joshua's farm. And if you are coming - what are you bringing? Please contact me - Aaron @ 215 455-6038. Needs include side dishes, desserts and beverages.

HELP WANTED - We need a volunteer or nominee to serve as recording secretary at steering committee meetings.

If you are interested in planning for our next anniversary weekend please contact me. We will meet at least once before the year's end. Also, don't forget the National convention (anniversary). It'll be in Cleveland (not too far). Rates go up after 12/31/06. Regards from Shelton W. in Colorado. He's doing fine except for getting over a cold. Also, he just got a job working for a cab company. Besides singing in a choir he is scheduled for two operas this spring.

Wishing all the best of the Holiday Season and a good New Year!!

Aaron

An essay by psychotherapist Gerald Schoenewolf, a member of the National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality, an "ex-gay" group wrote, "There is another way, or ways, to look at the race issue in America. Africa at the time of slavery was still primarily a jungle.... Life there was savage.... and those brought to America, and other countries, were in many ways better off."

Any thoughts out there?

Send them to ajmartin-chester@juno.com

STEVIE continued from page 1

award, which was our Chapter Action Award that our group won for the fifth time. I did that to show you how important our group is and how we are respected for working in the community for over twenty-five years. I would like to thank Ron S. for the invitations to the Jaded Lounge. The Jaded Lounge is part of ASIAC's out reach to the community. We have an out reach also. Ours is the Theatre of Understanding. I think Ron said that the Jaded Lounge happens the second Friday of each month and we are all welcome to come. They remodeled the 12th Air Command since I was there last and it is beautiful. Most of all NO SMOKING. I loved it.

We are now working with the American Cancer Society. Our first thing was the November General Meeting. That went very well. Thank you again Aaron, Nate and everyone else who was involved. I have a suggestion that we do a health fair with them. Helping men learn about getting tested for Prostate cancer and other diseases. We can make sure that all our members know about it and we can help making sure that all the men in the community know about it.

Thanks to all those that came to our house for Thanksgiving. It was wonderful to have you here. We hope to see you all at Joshua's Farm for a pot luck on Christmas day for MACT/P's celebration of Christmas. We will have a good old fashion Christmas.

The directory is out now and there will be corrections in the newsletter when necessary. In fact, there are corrections in this newsletter. 25 members already have their directory. We will give them out at events. But I'm also going to be sending some out so that you will all have them. If your information changes be sure to notify Art.

Of course we are celebrating Kwanzaa this year also. Another tradition of our group. We have some real good things coming up. 2007 looks interesting as well as exciting.

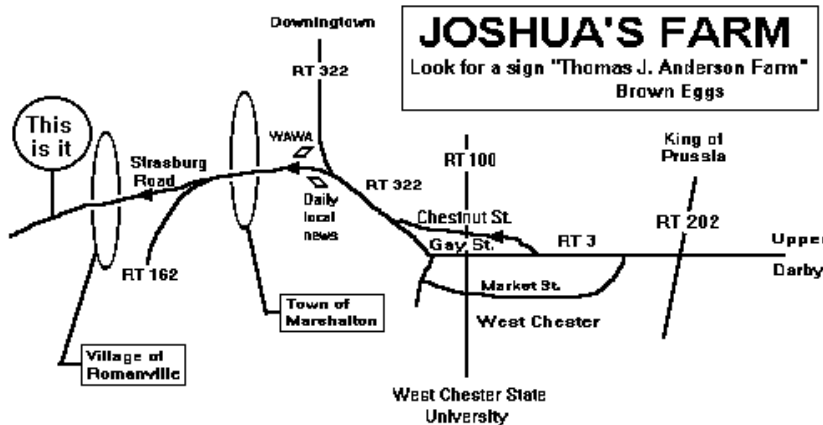
I want to talk to the new members now. Just a reminder. You joined this organization for friendship and support. I hope this group does that for you. What I would like you to do for this group is to support it. Think about leadership and think about what you could do. The Steering Committee is planning a lot of good things. We group take donations, we are always open for new ideas and we always try to have fun in the process. The group is only as good as you make it. We are about making things happen. I think that is one of the reasons we have been around for more than twenty-five years. Remember I told you all that we are a non-profit organization that is educational, political, cultural, supportive, and social. We do these things by having events. This is your organization, be proud. Well that's it for now. Stay positive and stay strong. Stevie

PS - Art and I would like to wish you all a happy holiday and happy New Year.

Directions to Joshua's farm

Take Rt-202 to Rt-3 west toward West Chester. Follow Rt-3 to the right and to the left. Turn right onto Rt-322 and left onto Rt-162. Where Rt-162 bares to the left, continue going gayly forward on Strasburg Road. Pass State Police Facility on left, through the Village of Romanville. The farm is on the right, look for the sign "Thomas Anderson Brown Eggs"

Address: 2057 West Strasburg Road
 Phone: 610-486-0774



become. From this day forward may each page bear the word of love I have for you.

Carl's Wedding Vows

On a chilly day on October 14th 2005, I met the man of my dreams when I introduced myself to him. I first noticed his beautiful brown eyes and his lovely eyelashes. I love the way your eyes light up when you smile. I am very much in love with you victor. You are very charming, gentle and very kindhearted. You really swept me off my feet. When we are not together I find myself missing you and thinking of the special love we have for each other. I love you and my new family dearly. When you met my father for the first time I was very touched when you asked my father for his blessing. There is a song that I love which reminds me of you.

"It must have been cold there in my shadow, to never have sunlight on your face, you've been content to let me shine, you always walked a step behind, I was the one with all the glory, you were the one with all the strength, only a face without a name I never once heard you complain. Did you ever know that you're my hero. You're everything I'd like to be. I can fly higher than an eagle

You are the wind beneath my wings. It might have appeared to go unnoticed, I've got all here in my heart, I want you to know I know the truth, I would be lost without you. Did you ever know that you're my hero, you're everything I'd like to be I can fly higher than an eagle, you are the wind beneath my wings You are the wind beneath my wings

My handsome Rican boy, I give you this ring as a token of my love to you. I will honor you and cherish you until the end of time. I look forward to us growing older gracefully together as we journey through life together hand in hand. I am honored to be your soul mate

Love always your Papichulo

WEDDING continued from page 1



minister from the George School run by the Quakers performed the ceremony. Victor and I wrote our vows from our heart. I sang my favorite song to Victor, "You are the wind beneath my wings."

My heart leapt with joy, when I looked out at the audience and saw my sister Kim, my niece Lauren and Terry in attendance. After we said I do and sealed our commitment to each other with a kiss, prayer was said by the minister, recessional was played as we descended down the aisle hand in hand. The reception was very lovely with a wide variety of foods prepared by Rosie and her Husband Andy. His

daughters, Jesmarie, Alejandra and Jessica helped with the decorations.

We thank our friend Bill for the scrumptious wedding cake designed with the pride colors, and his beau Steven for videotaping the ceremony for us. Our honeymoon was spent at The Wishing Well Bed and Breakfast in New Hope, Pennsylvania in the blue room. Our hosts Daniel and Kati were very pleasant and gracious.

Victor and I are looking to become foster parents with hope of adoption to make our family complete. Victor and I look forward to our journey through life hand in hand, side by side.

God Bless

Victor's Wedding Vows

My Sweet Carl

Ever since the first day I met you there has not been a day that goes by that I don't thank God you came into my life. You take my breath away every second that passes by. When I look in to your eyes my heart sings with joy. When you smile at me I come alive. You've been my friend and partner in the best of times and in the bad times, and I will always love you. And in this book of my life, today I close one chapter, and begin another one with you. My handsome Carl I vow and commit here and now to share all I may be and all that I may

ATTENTION

The MACT Philadelphia Steering Committee voted that if you receive the E-Newsletter and you have not renewed by the end of December you will be placed on the inactive list and no longer receive the newsletter. Please contact Stevie at 610-277-6595 and make arrangements to pay your dues.

DECEMBER 2006

- Friday 01** **WORLD AIDS DAY**
and **Steering Committee Meeting**
7:30 PM to 9:00 PM
at Art & Stevie's home in Norristown
- Sunday 10** **MACT/P Field Trip to UPenn Museum**
Special Exhibit: "Amarna, Ancient Egypt's Place in the Sun"
Meet at the White Dog Café, 3420 Sansom St. for Brunch at 11:00 AM
or meet us at the museum, 3260 South St. at 1:00 PM
Contact Corbett at corbettklein@verizon.net if you are planning to
join us for brunch so that reservations can be made.
- Friday 15** **General Meeting at WWCC**
7:30 PM to 10:00 PM
- Sunday 17** **Winter Get Together at John Barefield's home**
1:00 PM to 7:00 PM
at 4943 N. 12th St., Philadelphia
See details and directions on page 2
- Monday 25** **Christmas Dinner Pot Luck**
3:00 PM to 7:00 PM
at Joshua's Farm
See details on page 1 and directions on page 5
- Saturday 30** **Kawanzaa Pot Luck**
7:30 PM to 11:00 PM
at Jerry & Al's home in Edison, NJ
See details on page 1 and directions on page 4

JANUARY 2007

- Friday 05**
Steering Committee meeting
at Aaron's house
7:30 to 9:00 PM
- Friday 19**
General Meeting
7:30 PM to 10:00 PM
- Saturday 20**
Pot Luck at Jerry Winokur's
7:30 PM to 11:00 PM



Tutankhamun, ancient Egypt's famous boy pharaoh, grew up 3,300 years ago in the royal court at Amarna, the ancient city of Akhet-aten, whose name meant the "Horizon of the Aten." This extraordinary royal city grew, flourished—and vanished—in hardly more than a generation's time. **Amarna, Ancient Egypt's Place in the Sun**, a new exhibition at the

University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in Philadelphia, offers a rare look at the meteoric rise and fall of this unique royal city during one of Egypt's most intriguing times.

Amarna, Ancient Egypt's Place in the Sun features more than 100 ancient artifacts, some never before on display—including statuary of gods, goddesses and

Men of All Colors Together Philadelphia

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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 you're interested	
Corresponding Secretary	
Ron Cropper	215-806-5016
Treasurer	
Corbett Klein	609-530-1726
NA Reps.	
Nate O'Neal	215-848-8532
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Steering Committee	
Political Action	
Steering Committee	
Membership Chair	
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<http://www.mactphila.org>

royalty, monumental reliefs, golden jewelry as well as personal items from the royal family, and artists' materials from the royal workshops of Amarna. Most of the show's artifacts date to the time of Tutankhamun and the Amarna Period, including many objects excavated almost a century ago from this short-lived royal city.

"The Amarna Period in ancient Egyptian history—circa 1353 to 1336 BCE—has long fascinated archaeologists, historians and the public—and not just because of Howard Carter's spectacular discovery, in 1922, of the intact tomb of the Pharaoh Tutankhamun," noted Egyptologist Dr. David Silverman, one of three curators of the **Amarna** exhibition and national curator of the blockbuster **Tutankhamun** exhibition. "It is during this period that a still somewhat mystifying, short-lived experiment in religious, artistic and cultural change was happening at Amarna, and, from that seat of the royal court, quickly extended throughout Egypt."