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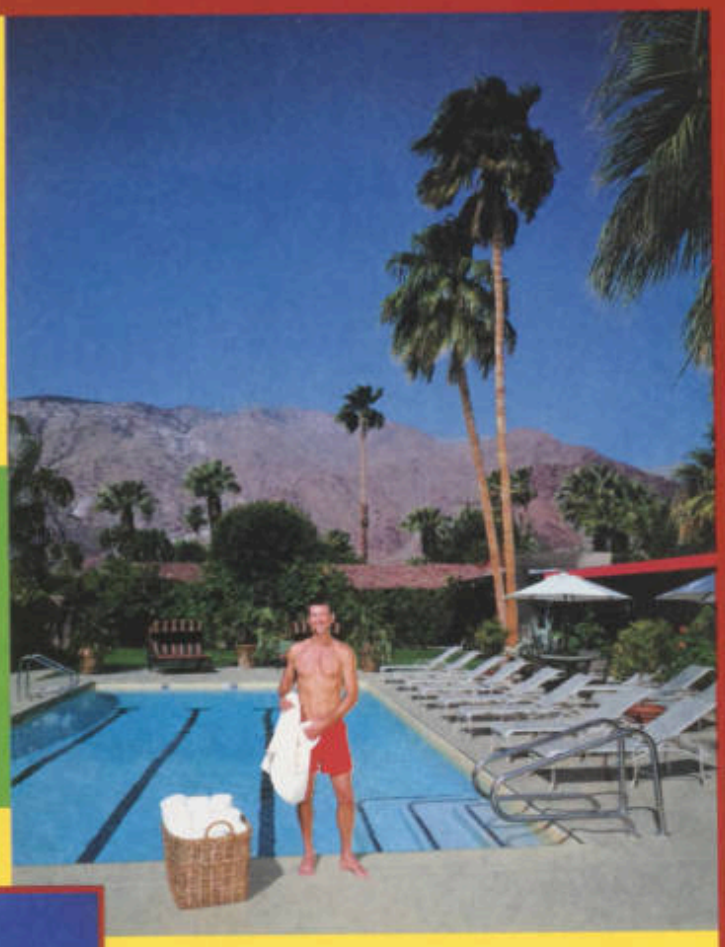
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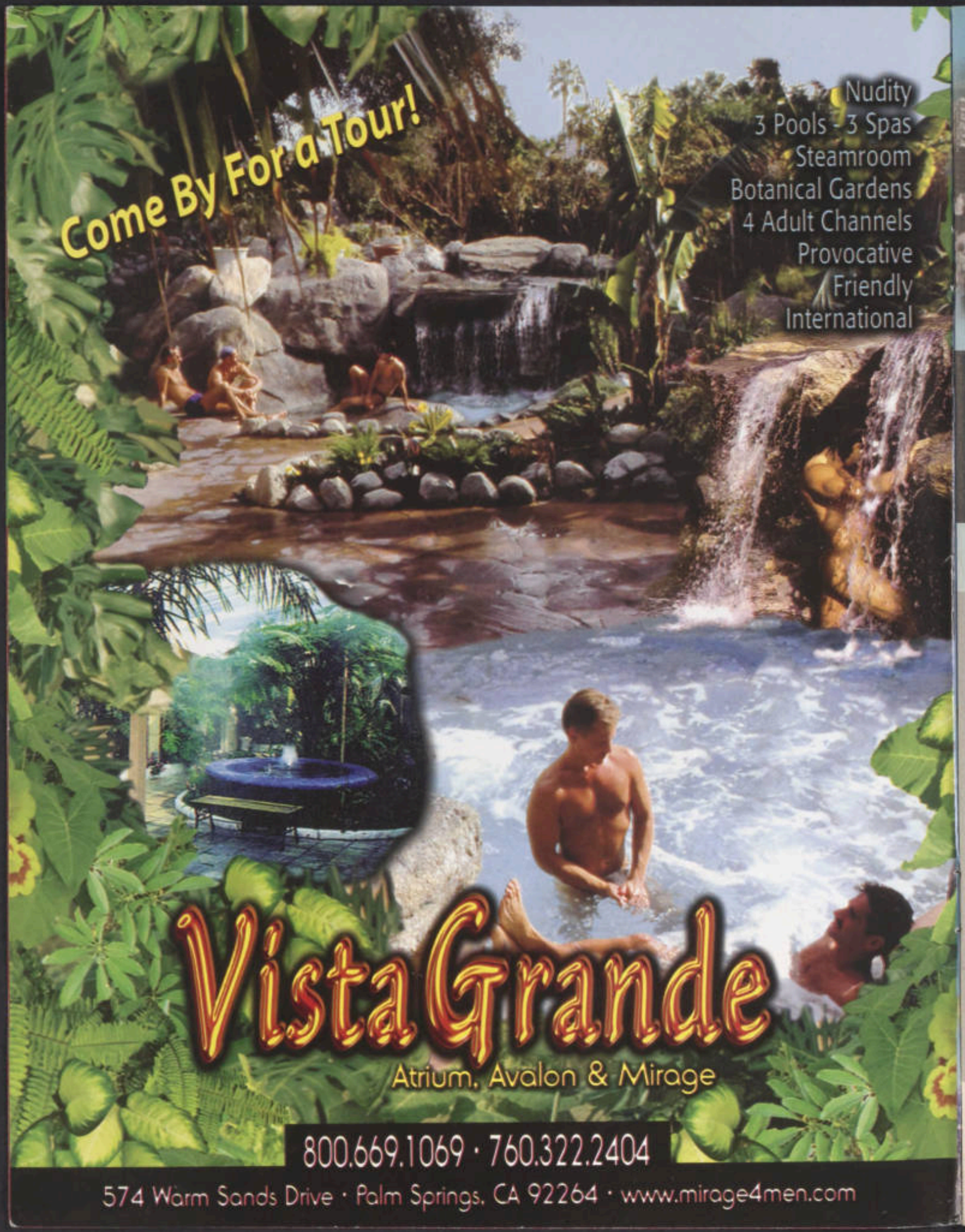
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NOVEMBER 2 - 3, 2002

OFFICIAL PROGRAM

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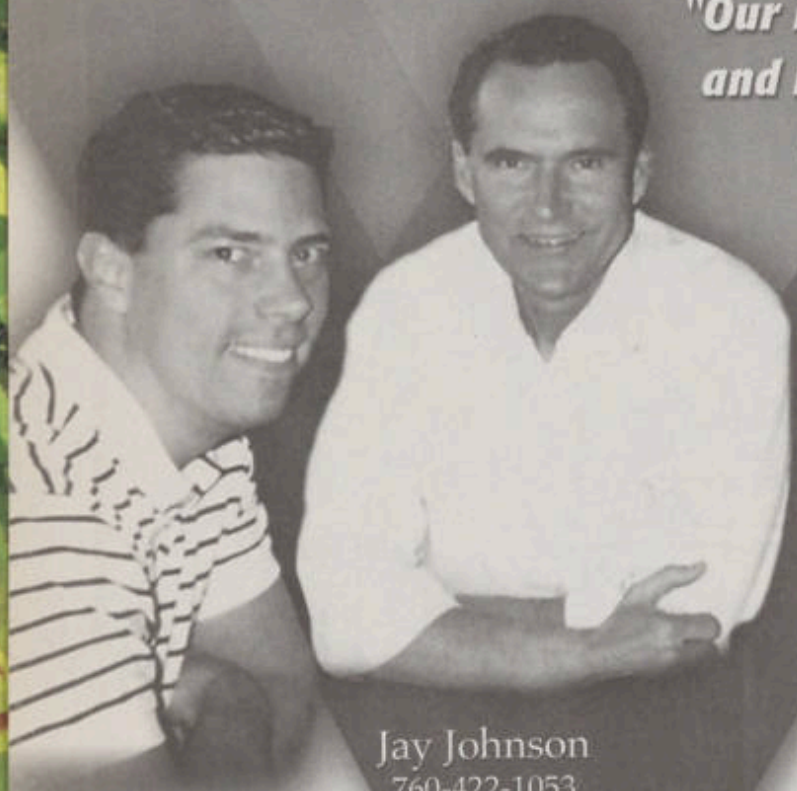
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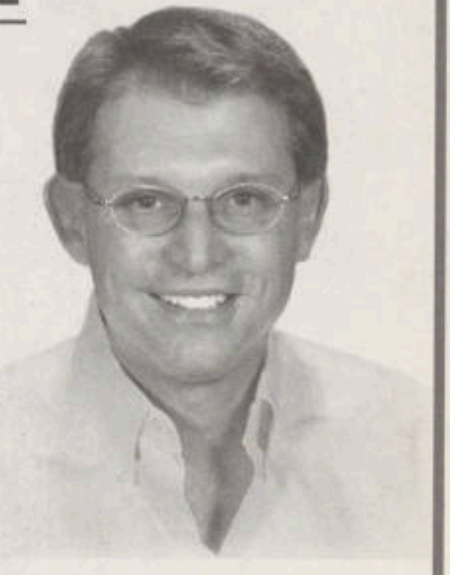
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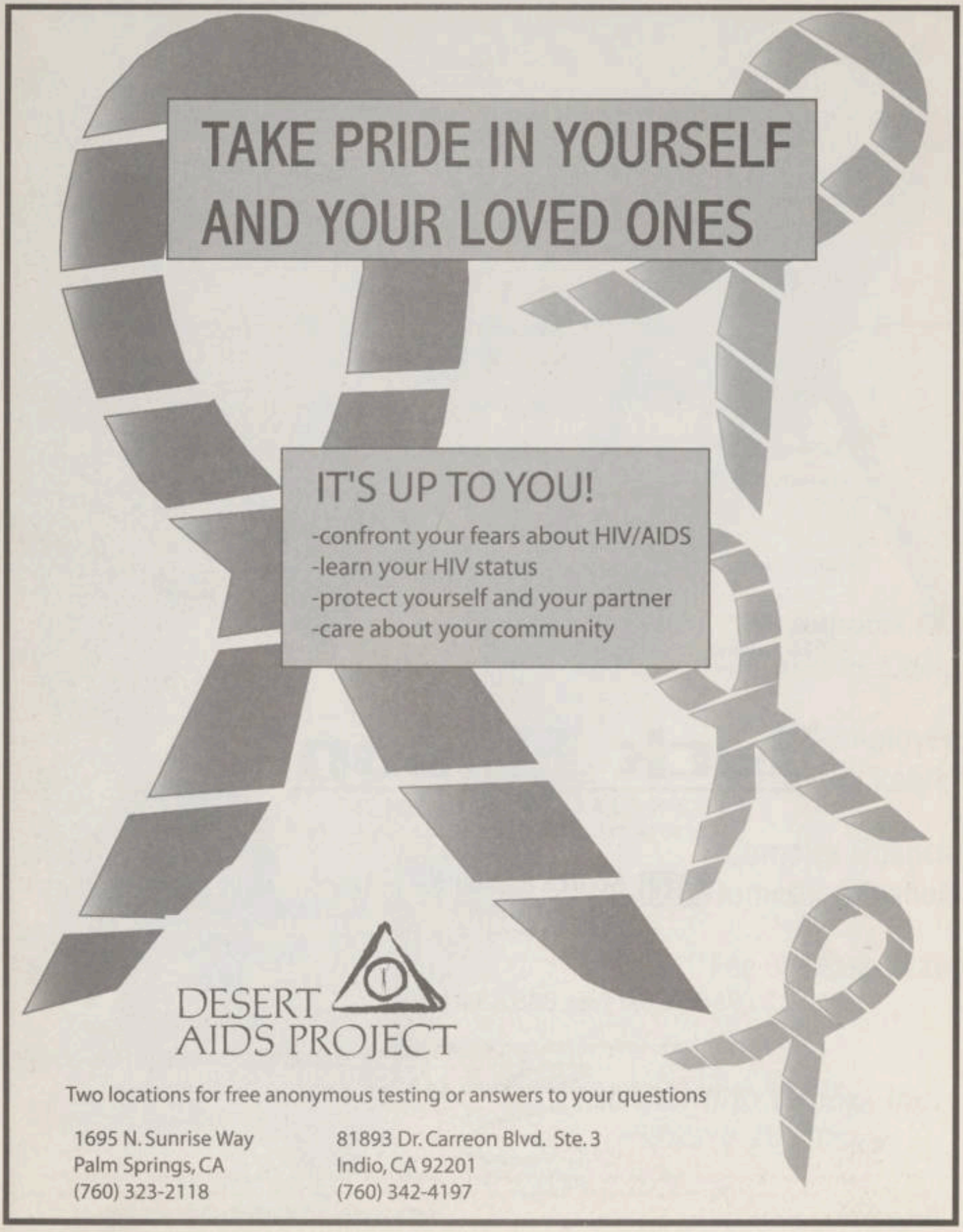
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WELCOME

World Pride: It Starts With You

Once again, we welcome you to the Palm Springs Pride Festival and Parade, to the community of Palm Springs, and to the Coachella Valley. The theme for this year's Pride celebration is World Pride: It Starts With You. Each of us has unique gifts that we bring to those we touch in our lives, and to our local communities. I believe it is in this simple sharing that gains are made and those we come in contact with realize we are not so different after all. But by coming together at this and other Pride events, we commemorate our heritage, celebrate our accomplishments, and confirm our commitment to building Pride on a worldwide scale.

This year, as in the past, we have striven to make our 2002 Pride celebration better, bigger, and more encompassing than the last. For the first time, we have a Family Garden for Festivalgoers and their children; a juried art show and competition; the Desert Business Association's Salute to Pride Exposition; and a greatly expanded Author's Village. We have also worked hard to increase the quality and content of the festival itself. We hope you will be pleased with what you experience during the festival, and know that by attending, each of you will have helped make Pride a celebration – of our unity, our visibility, and our ability to be Out With Pride wherever we may be in the world.

It is our hope that each and everyone of you is touched by the energy, fun, enthusiasm, teamwork, generosity, talent, compassion and love that exists in Palm Springs. The quality of life in our City and Valley would not exist as we know it, without the many gifts that our residents and visitors, gay and straight, old and young bring to the table.

Thanks for participating in our celebration. And let us remember the words of Denise Goolsby of Palm Springs, who wrote:

> "When the music from the Main Stage has faded into the night, and the last Parade participant has journeyed down Palm Canyon Drive, take a moment to look back upon the scene. It is YOU who have left a mark upon Greater Palm Springs Pride, by your presence and your dedication to YOUR community."

Sincerely,
Jack Schloeder, President
Greater Palm Springs Pride

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World Pride – It Starts With You!

The theme for this year's Pride celebration is particularly accurate. In the end, Pride for each of us will be the result of what each of us puts into it. We are touched by, and extremely grateful to, all the individuals, businesses and organizations who have come forward and chosen to participate as "Friends of Pride".

The Friends of Pride Program was initiated this year to offer an alternative method of participating in our event and our organization. These donations enable us to work toward achieving the goals in our mission statement as well as the goals of our Board. If you would like to consider becoming a "Friend of Pride," please contact Greater Palm Springs Pride at the contact information listed below.

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GRAND MARSHALS



Leslie Jordan

He may be best known in Palm Springs for his hilarious portrayal of "Brother Boy" in the long-running smash hit *Sordid Lives*, but Leslie Jordan, a self-proclaimed "shtick specialist" is a very familiar face in television, film and on the stage.

In addition to his acclaimed performance as "Brother Boy" in Del Shores' film version of *Sordid Lives* and his portrayal of "Peanut" in Del Shores' play *Southern Baptist Sissies*, Mr. Jordan has appeared on numerous TV shows, including *Will and Grace, Ally McBeal,* and *Boston Public*. He also co-starred for two seasons with John Ritter and Markie Post in *Heart's Afire*. Other memorable TV guest appearances include his roles as public defender Clifford Sizemore opposite Mark Harmon on *Reasonable Doubts*, Resplendent Man on *Lois & Clark*, Kenny on *Dharma & Greg*, and the dim-witted ex-con Kyle on *Murphy Brown*. Los Angeles theater credits includes *Cheatin', Found a Peanut, Wall of Water,* and his own *Lost in the Pershing Point Hotel*.

Mr. Jordan won Best Actor at the New York Film and Video Festival for his portrayal of "Brother Boy" in *Sordid Lives*, and several Best Supporting Actor Awards for his work as "Peanut" in *Southern Baptist Sissies*, from the Los Angeles Drama Critics' Circle, L.A. Weekly, a Backstage West Garland, a Maddy, a Robby, and the Ovation Award.

State Senator Sheila Kuehl

Sheila Kuehl is now in her first legislative term in the California State Senate after serving for six years in the State Assembly. She was the first woman in California history to be named Speaker pro Tempore of the Assembly. She is also the first openly gay or lesbian person to be elected to the California Legislature. A former pioneering civil rights attorney and law professor, Ms. Kuehl represents the 23rd Senate District in Los Angeles County.

In her six years in the Assembly, Ms. Kuehl has authored seventy-three bills that have been signed into law, including legislation to overhaul California's child support services system, establish nurse to patient ratios in every hospital, make HMO's legally accountable for denying treatment; further protect domestic violence victims and their children, prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender in the workplace and sexual orientation in education, increase the rights of crime victims, safeguard the environment, and fund after school programs for at-risk youth.

Prior to her election to the Legislature, Senator Kuehl was a law professor at Loyola, UCLA and USC Law Schools and co-founded and served as managing attorney of the California Women's Law Center.

In her youth, she was known for her portrayal of the irrepressible Zelda Gilroy in the television series, *The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis*.

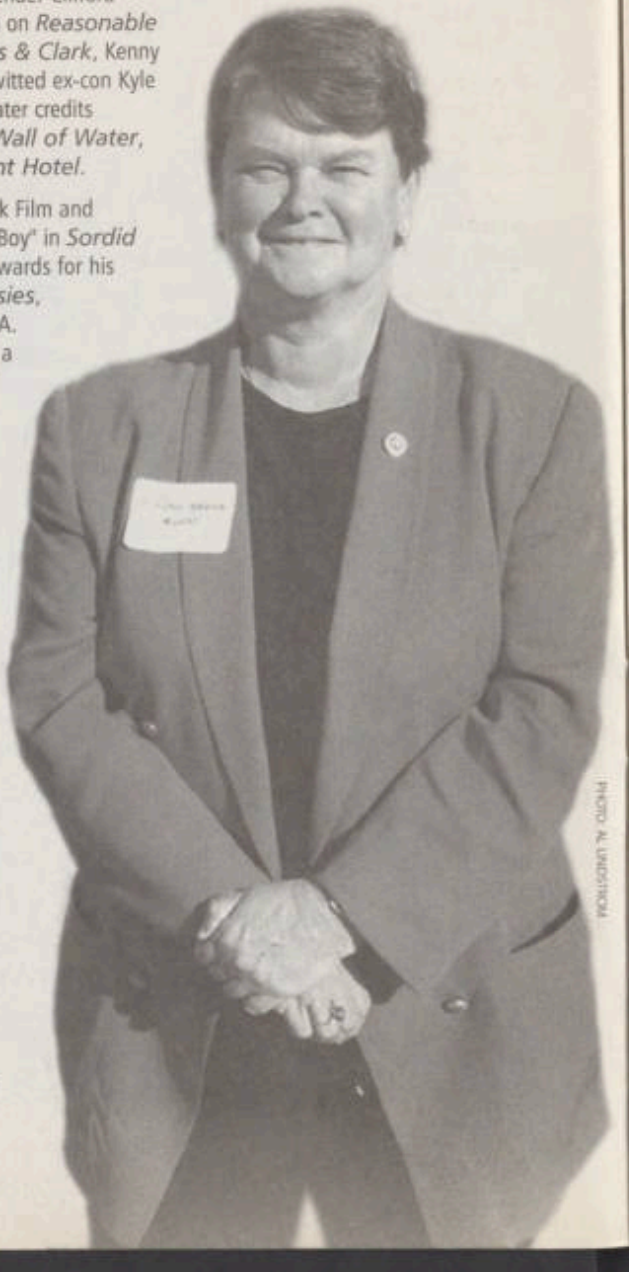


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GRAND MARSHALS

Tom Tews, Milan Tojagic & Jorge Villabona



Tom Tews, Milan Tojagic & Jorge Villabona, owners of the restaurants Shame on the Moon and Blame It On Midnight, are this year's Community Grand Marshals.

Tom & Milan opened the original Shame on the Moon in 1985 in Cathedral City, where Milan did the cooking and Tom waited tables. In 1994, Tom & Milan formed a partnership with Jorge Villabona, then Sous Chef at Wally's Desert Turtle, to open the "New" Shame on the Moon in Rancho Mirage which became known throughout the desert for consistently outstanding food and exceptional service. In the fall of 2000, the partners opened Blame It On Midnight, a fun, high energy, constantly evolving restaurant.

Tews, Tojagic & Villabona are proud to be part of the Desert's Gay Community—supporters of many desert charities and organizations, including The AIDS Assistance Program, The Desert AIDS Project, Shelter from the Storm, The Palm Springs Desert Museum, Martha's Kitchen, The Desert Rainbow Foundation, Gay Associated Youth and The American Cancer Society.

The Rancho Mirage Chamber of Commerce presented its "Award of Excellence" to Shame on the Moon for several years. The Desert Business Association, awarded Shame on the Moon their Business of the Year Award in 1999. Last year The AIDS Assistance Program honored Tom Tews, Milan Tojagic & Jorge Villabona with the Jeannette Rockefeller Humanitarian Award.

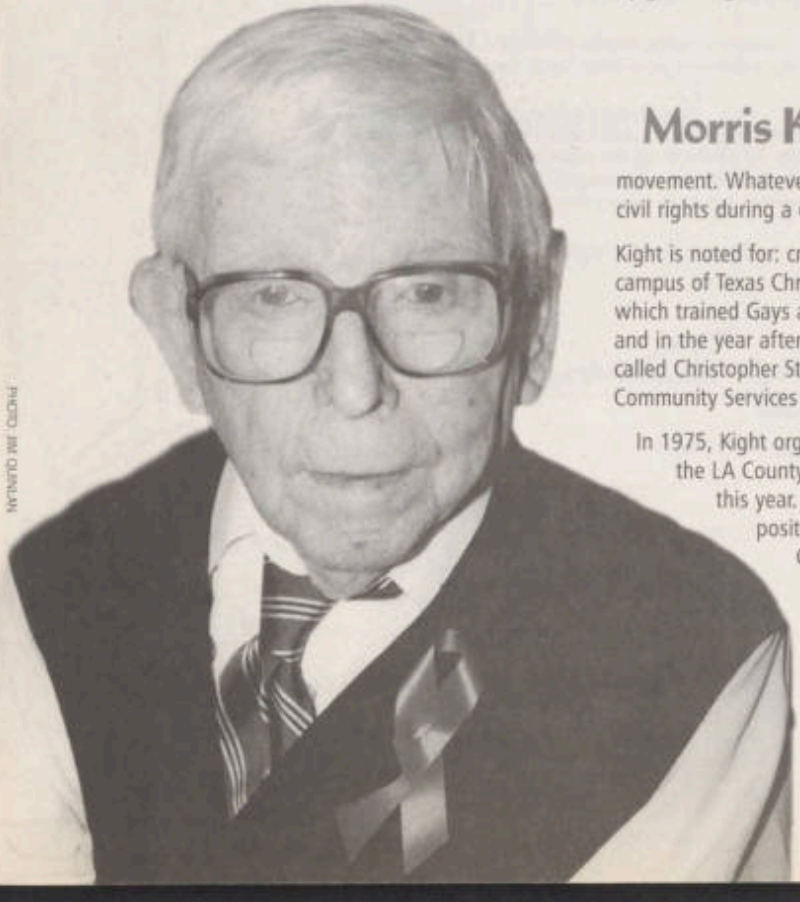


PHOTO: JIM QUINLAN

Morris Kight

Morris Kight is called by many the father of Gay Pride and the grandfather of the Gay and Lesbian civil rights movement. Whatever his titles, Kight has been a fearless and pioneering campaigner for civil rights during a career that spans over 60 years.

Kight is noted for: creating the Oscar Wilde Club, the first openly Gay college club, on the campus of Texas Christian University in the 1940s, forming the Gay Liberation Resistance, which trained Gays and Lesbians in the tactics of non-violent resistance, in the 1950s, and in the year after Stonewall, founding the first Gay Pride parade in Los Angeles (now called Christopher Street West). He also helped found the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center.

In 1975, Kight organized the Stonewall Democratic Club, and in 1979 was appointed to the LA County Human Relations Commission, on which he served until July 15th of this year. His appointment made him the first Gay appointee to a high-level position in county government in the U.S. At his instigation, the Commission made hate-motivated violence against GLBT people illegal in California. In 1980, recognizing that the Asian-American community was becoming a force in the Los Angeles area, Kight founded Asian Pacific Gays and Friends, which eventually became the Gay Asian Pacific Network.

On June 19th of this year, the City of West Hollywood planted a Chinese magnolia tree in West Hollywood's Matthew Shepherd Memorial Triangle in Kight's honor.

GOVERNOR GRAY DAVIS

Gay Pride Celebrations 2002

I am pleased to welcome all who have gathered throughout California for this year's Gay Pride Celebrations. I commend the organizers of this year's events for their hard work and ongoing support of California's diverse communities.

The tragedy of September 11 has reminded us of the price of intolerance and the true blessings of freedom. The victims and heroes of America's tragedy were brothers and sisters of every race, creed, religion and sexual orientation. They embodied the American ideals: liberty, humanity, unity and diversity.

Gay Pride events are a celebration of those American ideals. They are an inspiring symbol of California's commitment to defend the cause of freedom and justice. As we vigorously renew our dedication to a country that is a beacon of tolerance, it is our obligation to ensure that every citizen enjoys full and equal protection under the law, regardless of who they are, where they live or who they love.

Our pledge to respect the basic human dignity of every Californian would be impossible without the dynamic and determined efforts of our gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. Through principled political leadership, and effective grassroots activism, California has established an enviable human rights record:

- We banned discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in housing and employment.
- We enacted legislation to protect our schoolchildren from discrimination and harassment.
- We ended the statewide ban on adoption by unmarried couples.
- We appointed more lesbians and gay men than any administration in California's history.
- We enacted the nation's first statewide domestic partners registry in 1999.

And, in 2001, we were victorious in our battle to expand the rights, responsibilities and benefits of domestic partners. When I signed AB25, we created the strongest domestic partnership law in the nation, second only to Vermont.

This landmark legislation strengthens families, promotes responsibility, and marks a meaningful advance for the gay and lesbian community in California. I extend my thanks to all the organizations that have worked so tirelessly to register thousands of domestic partners since the law was enacted. We can all take pride in our collective accomplishments in the fight to defend freedom and create opportunity for all Californians.

On behalf of the people of the State of California, I extend best wishes for successful Pride events.

Gray Davis

Governor Gray Davis

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October 1, 2002

Greetings!

On behalf of the City of Palm Springs, I extend a warm welcome to the attendees of the Greater Palm Springs Pride Festival.

Greater Palm Springs Pride has given generously to the community through donations to organizations such as Desert AIDS Project, AIDS Assistance Fund, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Gay and Lesbian Alliance of the Desert Crisis Line, and Palm Springs Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Veterans of America, and has worked diligently to educate the general public about Gay and Lesbian issues. Your support of events such as this allows this organization to continue its work in our community.

While you are here enjoying the Pride Festival, I hope you can take the time to fully experience our beautiful city. Whether you play golf or tennis, take a ride up Mount San Jacinto on the Aerial Tramway, or enjoy our fabulous restaurants and shopping, I am confident you will enjoy your time spent in Palm Springs.

Sincerely,

William G. Kleindienst
Mayor

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November 2002

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Our friendly restauranteurs and shop owners will strive to make your visit memorable so you will return home with pleasant memories of our valley and come back often.

Cathedral City joins the Coachella Valley in welcoming you and wishing you a fun-filled weekend at Greater Palm Springs Pride.

Sincerely,

GEORGE STETTLER
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Christopher Michael, *Competition Coordinator*

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Robert Menifee, *owner Galaria Dos in Palm Springs*
Carolyn Miller, *Assistant to the Director for Projects Administration, Palm Springs Desert Museum*
Christine Giles, *Associate Curator of Art at the Palm Springs Desert Museum*

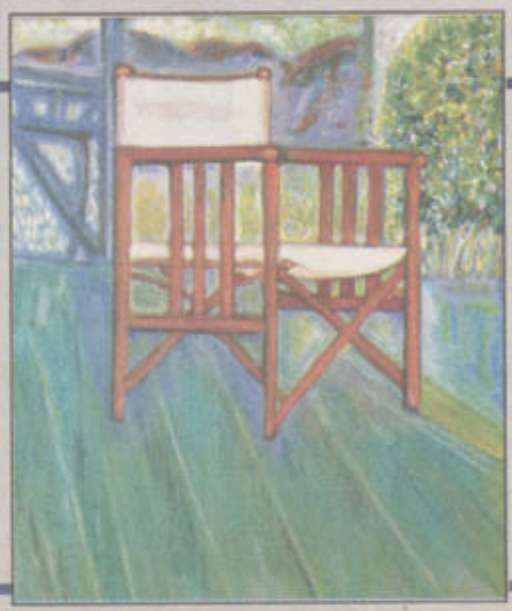
Helen Armstrong







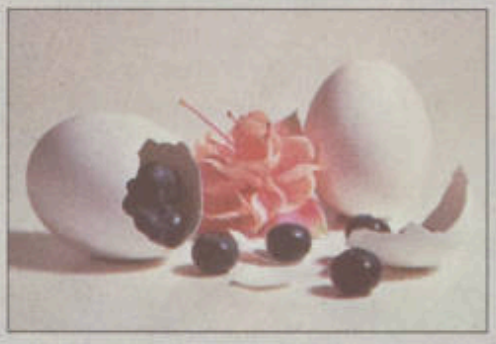




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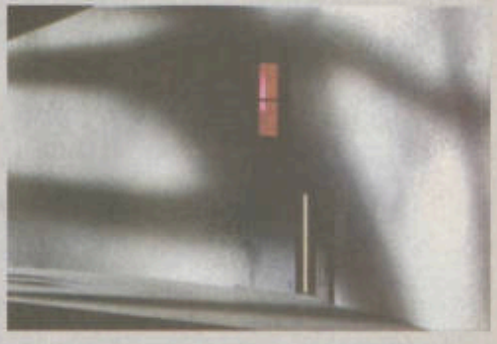
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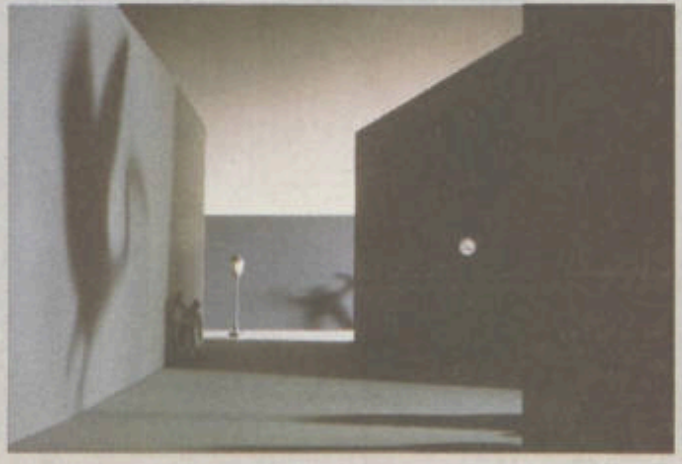
Jurying a show can be daunting, but it is always pleasurable. The response to this year's competition was great. Forty-seven artists submitted slides, photographs, or in a few cases the actual pieces. We viewed approximately 200 images. There was a lot of excellent photographs submitted, followed by paintings and drawings and a few sculptures. Many of the entries were quite strong and it was difficult narrowing it down to three winners. I think Robert Menitee said it best with: "It's not crap!"

Art is about ideas. Regardless of style, subject, or media, a successful artwork conveys an individual aesthetic and a balance between conceptual and formal elements and context. The three winners were selected based on their body of work, not a single artwork, however, it was usually a single piece in a group submission that stood out to us. Perhaps next year we could include honorable mentions, as we would have selected at least three other artist's works that could be in this category.

We would like to thank Jack Schloeder and Christopher Michael for all their hard work in organizing the art competition. We think this program is a "keeper," and will continue to grow each year.









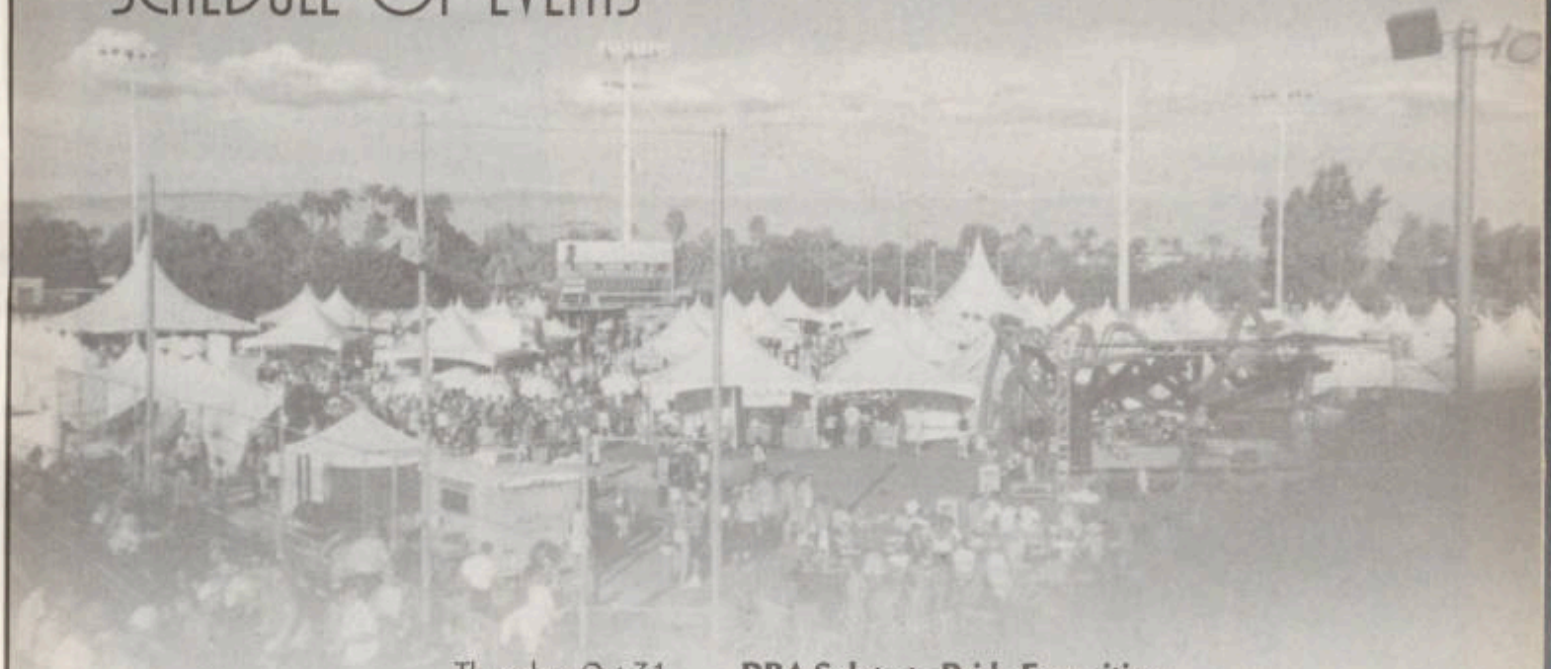
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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



Thursday, Oct 31

DBA Salute to Pride Exposition
Angel Stadium (Festival Grounds) 4-7pm
Food - No host bar - Open to the Public

Pride Kickoff Party - Blame It On Midnight
Benefit for Pride and AIDS Assistance Program - 7pm

Saturday, Nov 2

Greater Palm Springs Pride Festival
Angel Stadium , Sunrise Park, Palm Springs, 10am - 8pm
Wide Array of Entertainment - See Entertainment Section
Exhibitors • Food and Beverages • Authors Village • Art Exhibition
Dance Tent with DJ Sheldon Vicks • Country Western Entertainment
$5 Admission at the Gate

Sunday, Nov 3

Greater Palm Springs Pride Festival
Angel Stadium, Sunrise Park, Palm Springs, 10am - 6pm

Greater Palm Springs Pride Parade
Downtown Palm Springs • Palm Canyon Drive from Ramon to Alejo
Steps off 11am

NEW - FAMILY GARDEN

The Family Garden is a child-friendly, family-positive space on the Festival grounds for children, their parents and families. The Family Garden is located on the perimeter of the Stadium, and is staffed with special volunteers and a supervisor. It offers games, toys, craft activities, clowns and face painters, an art project, snack food and beverages, and a sheltered area for rest and relaxation. This is not a babysitting service for parents attending Pride, and parents or guardians must stay with their children at all times when they are in the Family Garden. The Family Garden is open Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

ENTERTAINERS

Holly Heaven & The Issue
Cheer LA
Cheer San Diego
Denise Carter
Ladies with Attitude
Mona Caywood
Mara Getz
Dana Adkins
Geninne Jackson
Irene Soderburg
Denise Carter
Bodies in Motion
Desert Winds Freedom Band
Jenifer More
Angel Paige
Rudy Delamore
Sire
Sebastian
Leslie Jordan
Digital Soldiers

And many more!
Various Country Western artists at the Country Western Area

DJ Sheldon Vicks at the Disco area
Surprise guests on main stage and throughout the festival!

Entertainers are subject to change without notice. Live entertainment will run continuously at Main Stage from 12PM to 8PM on Saturday, and immediately after the parade (12:30PM approximately) until 6PM on Sunday.





Gennine Jackson

Mona Caywood

Holly Heaven & The Issue



ENTERTAINERS



Mara Getz



Denise Carter



Irene Soderburg



Paige Williams

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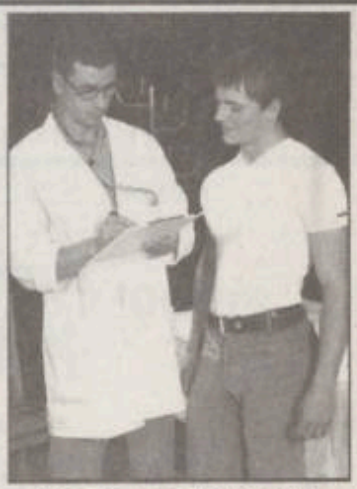
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10:45 (ish) Queer Duck

11:00 pm Queer As Folk

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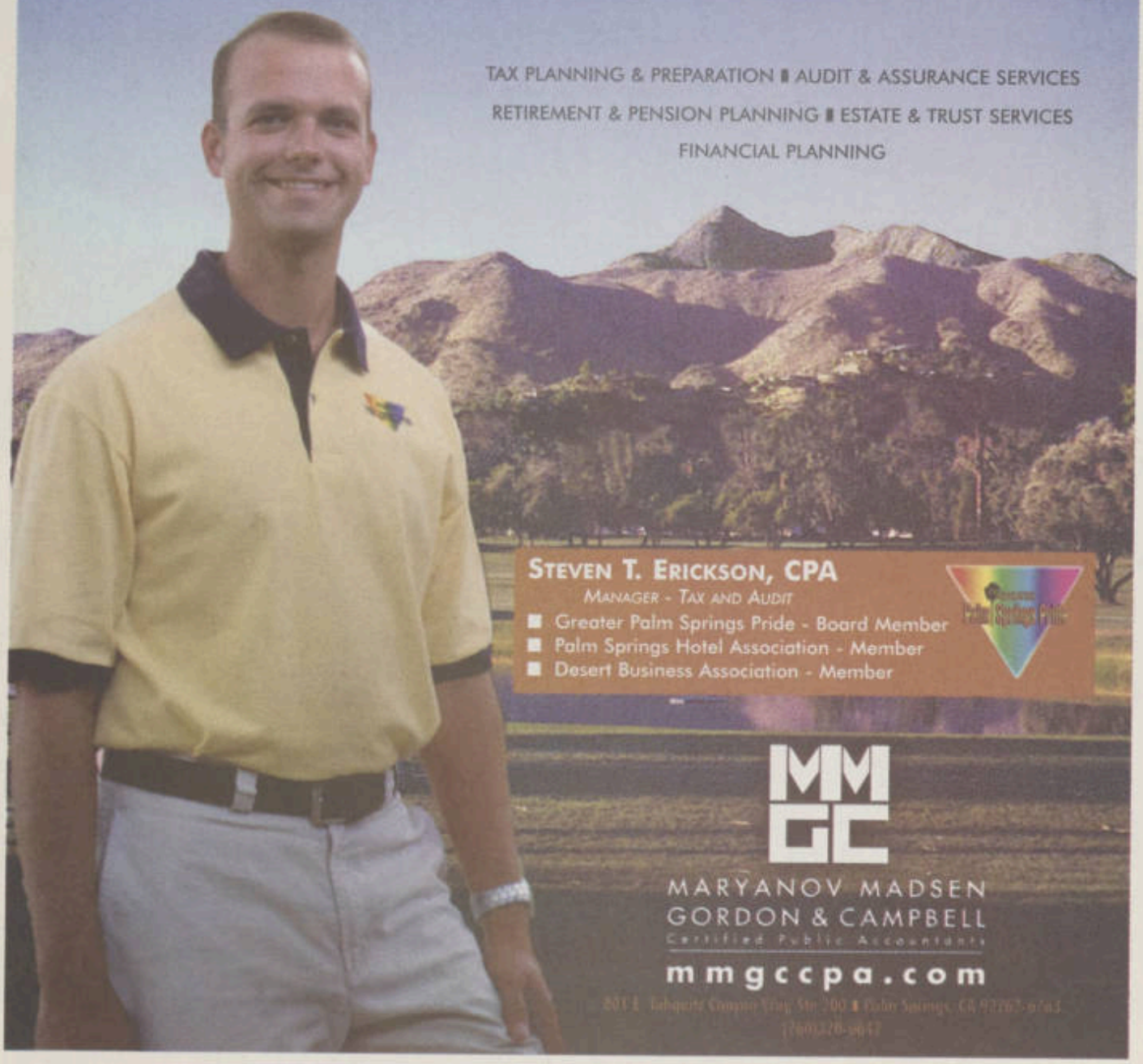
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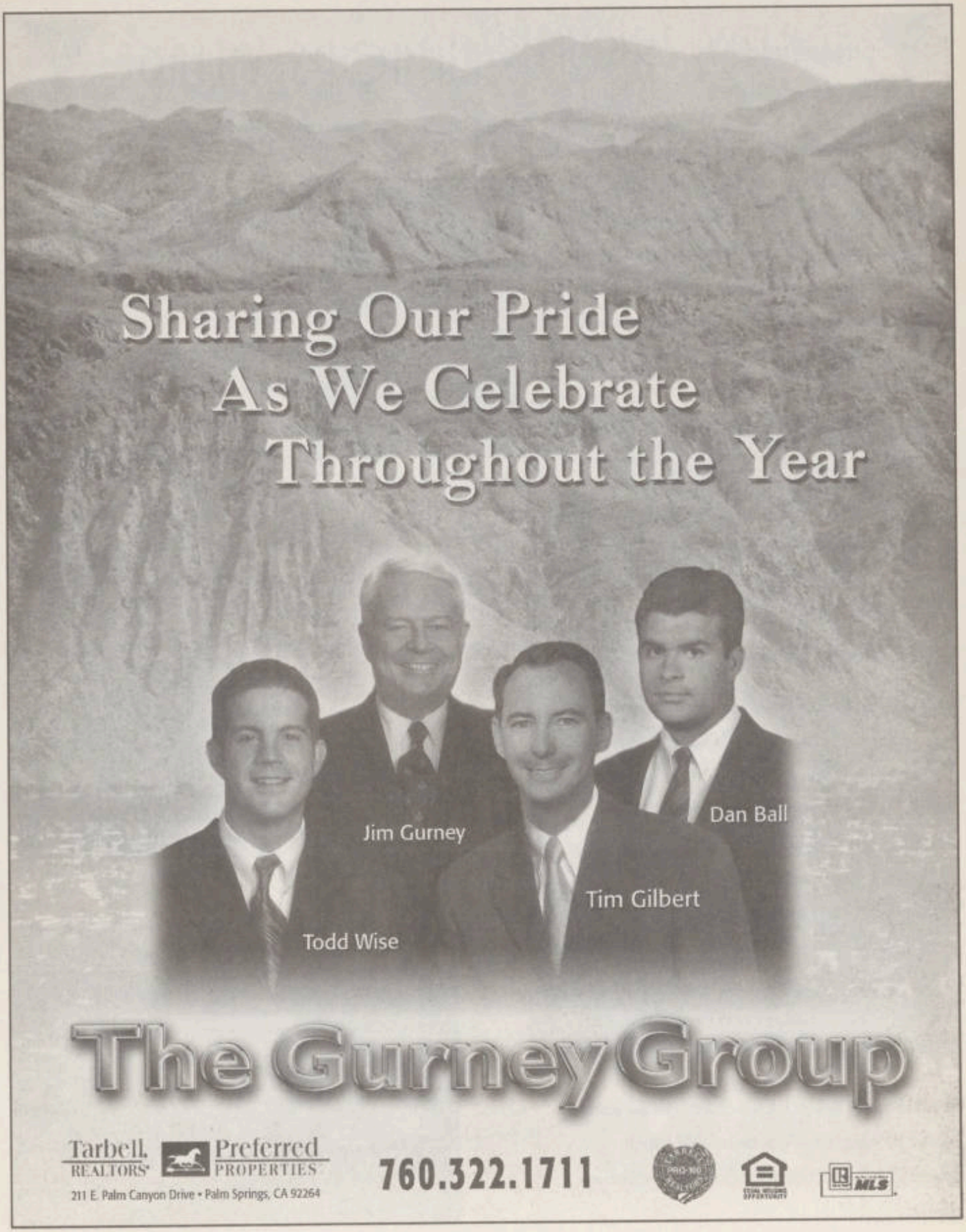


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AUTHORS VILLAGE

Palm Springs Pride Celebrates Authors

Once again, Greater Palm Springs Pride is proud to sponsor the Author's Village throughout Pride Weekend. The breath and diversity of GLBT writing is both impressive and inspiring. As GLBT writers march more and more into the mainstream of the publishing world, readers are finding the themes of these writers reaching them. Hope-inspiring, funny, touching, awakening, it's not just "gay literature'. Writers in every genre are breaking molds, stretching limits, and reaching out to new audiences.

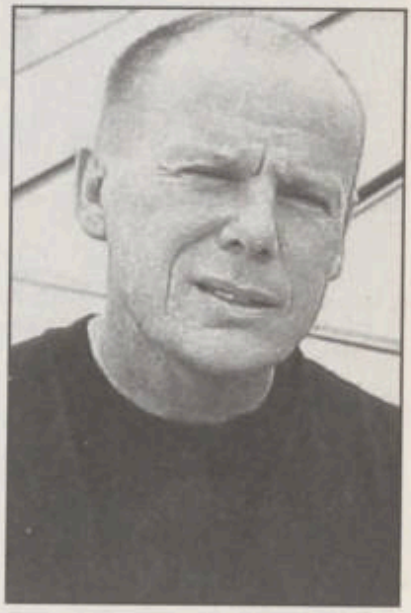
Author's Village is proud to welcome Chastity Bono Sunday afternoon at 1PM. Her recently published her memoir, *The End of Innocence*, has become a bestseller. Chastity will be reading from her book, fielding questions and autographing books.

The publishing world is undergoing dramatic changes. The challenge of "getting published" has never been greater. Yet new opportunities are also presenting themselves. Navigating these challenges will be the subject of a very special workshop by Patricia Nell Warren on Saturday at Noon. Her recently re-issued early novel *One in the Sun* has been welcomed by readers everywhere. Patricia will be leading a workshop for budding authors on getting a manuscript published. She has a wealth of experience and insight to share with aspiring authors.

Donald Reuter's newest book is about to hit the stores: *Gaydar*. He has previously authored and edited *Gaborabilia*, a celebration of the Gabor sisters; Shirtless,

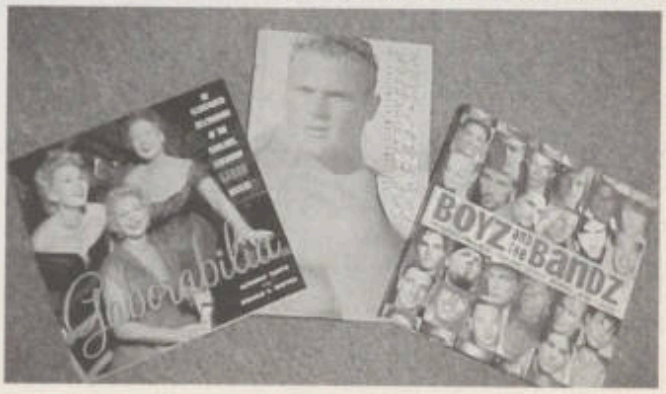


Chastity Bono



David Stukas
Author of Going Down for the Count *and*
Someone Killed His Boyfriend

Books by Donald Reuter, *Author of* Gaydar



a wonderful photo collage of our favorite actors; and *Boyz and The Bandz: The Hottest Men in Music From Elvis to Nsync*. Donald will be signing books on Saturday at 4 PM

Greg Hinton and David Stukas add local color to the event with their newest books celebrating the lure and mystery of the valley. Greg followed up his highly successful *Cathedral City* with *Desperate Hearts*. In addition to writing he has produced several films including Circuit. David's newest mystery, *Going Down For the Count*, is another wild mystery ride. For those who loved *Someone Killed His Boyfriend*, this new book is sure to entertain.

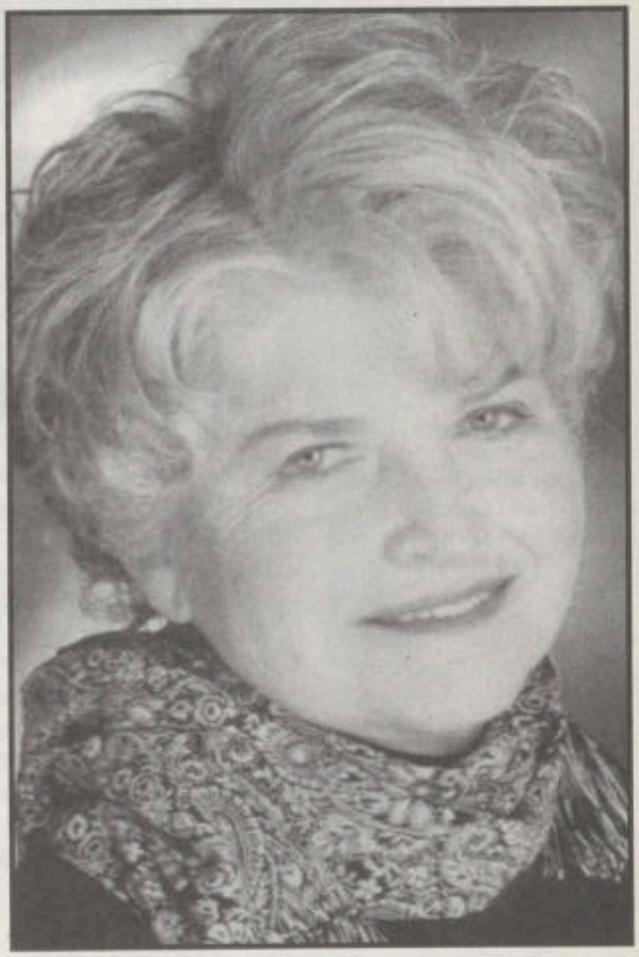
Dr. Carl Marlinga will be discussing his new book *Mind Trek: My Journey From Panic to Peace* on Saturday at 1:30. He explores the nature of panic and stress and how to overcome these on the road to fulfilling one's dreams.

Valley artist, photographer and celebrity, Michael Childers, will discuss the art of photographing the male and sign copies of his book, *Hollywood Voyeur*. Michael always leads a lively discussion with his stories of photographing the famous and the infamous!

These are just a few of the authors and artists to appear over the weekend. Be sure to stop by the Author's Village pavilion to pick up a complete schedule. Books will be available for purchase so that you can take home signed copies of each authors' works.

A healthy GBLT publishing world needs active readers to support this endeavor. There is something for every taste and subject matter. Readers are always needed. Celebrate pride; read a book!

Patricia Nell Warren
Author of The Frontrunner, Harlan's Race *and* The Wild Man



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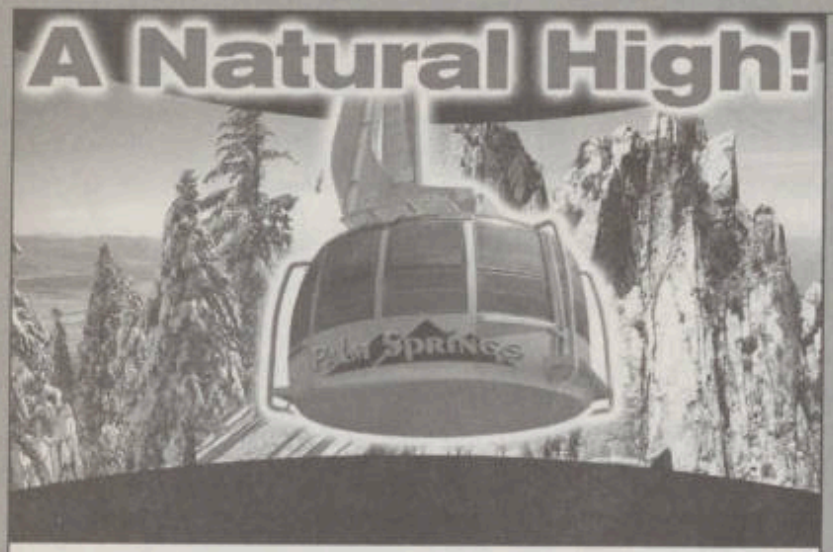
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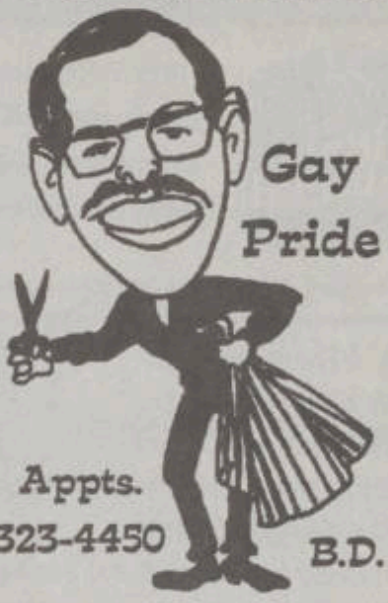


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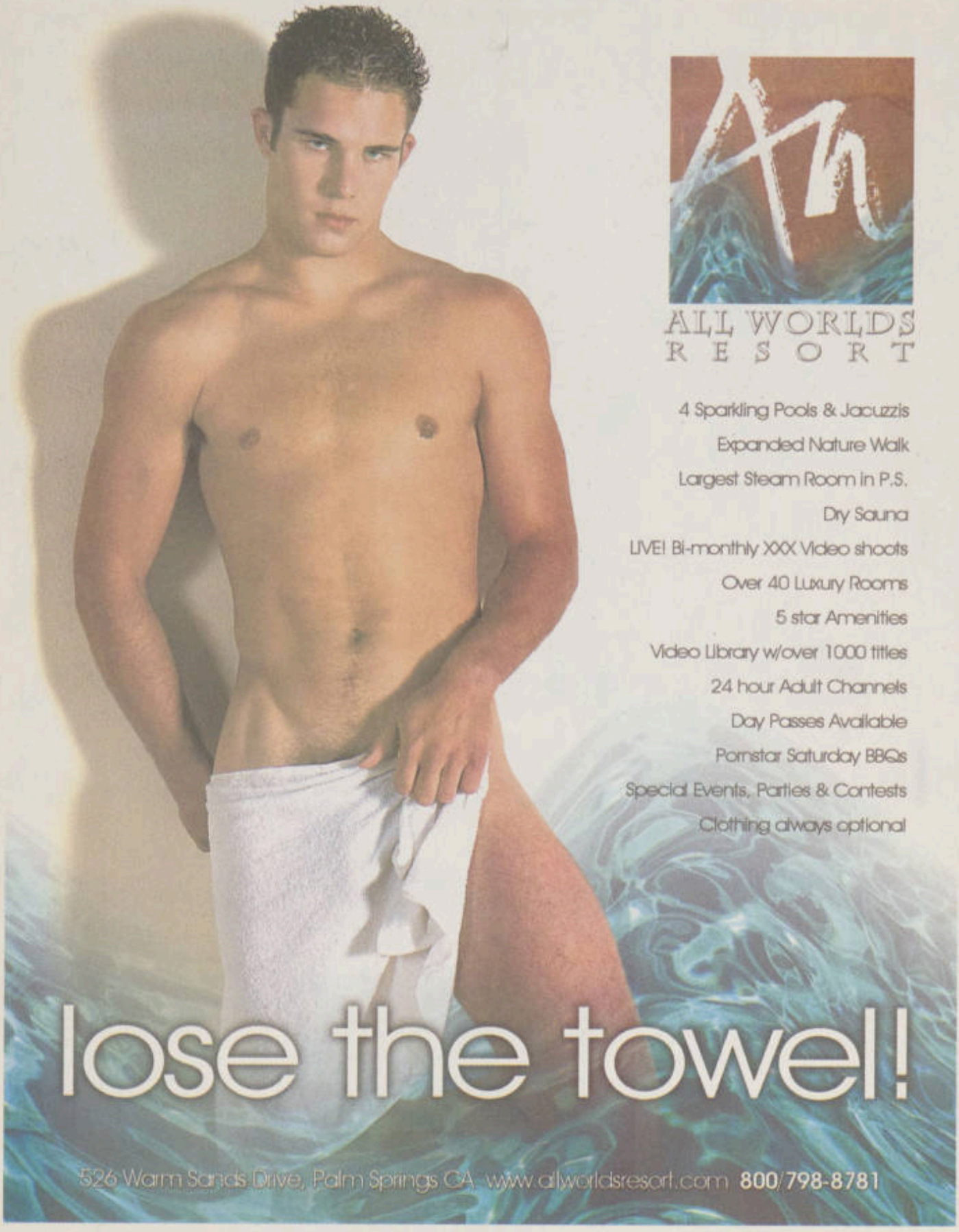
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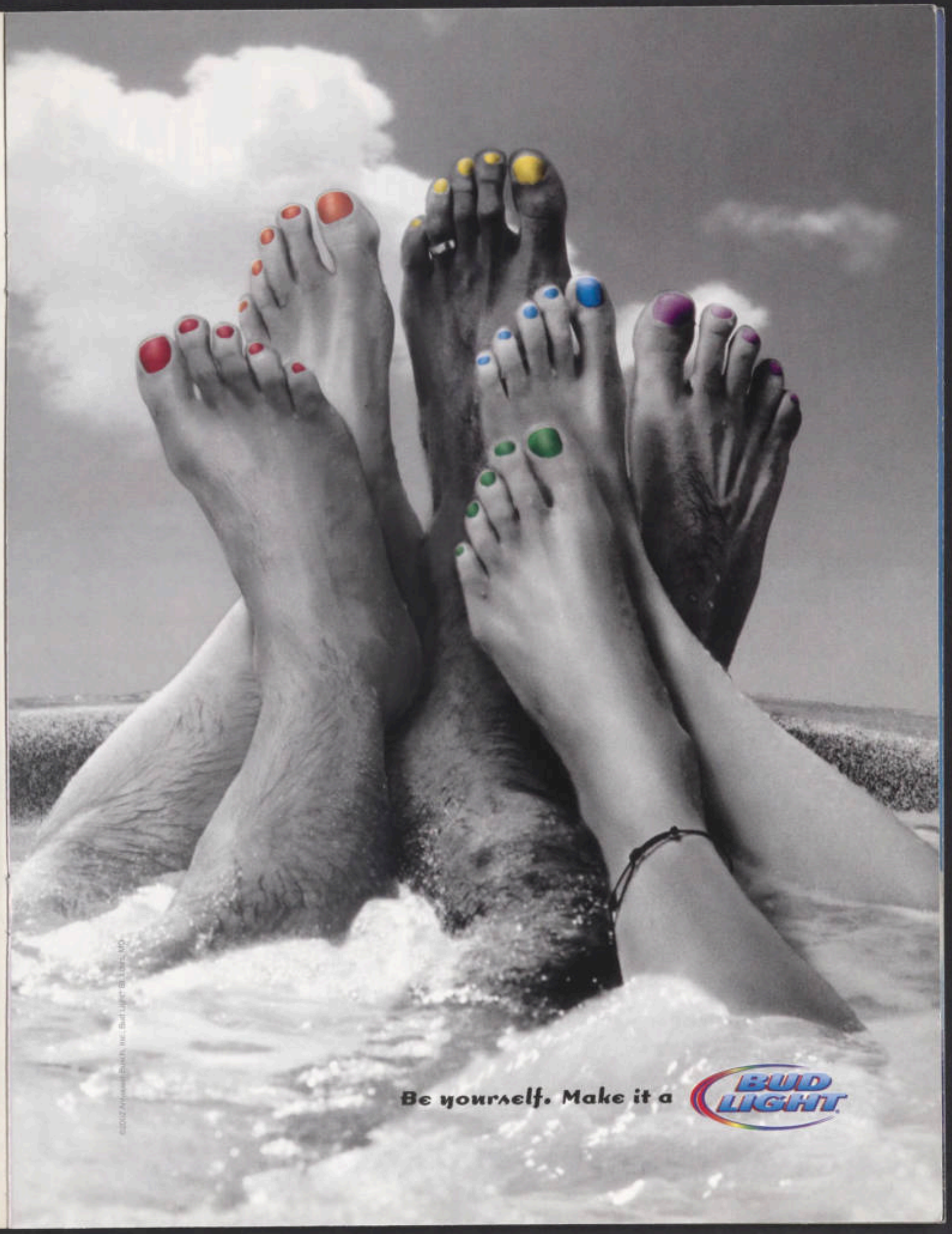
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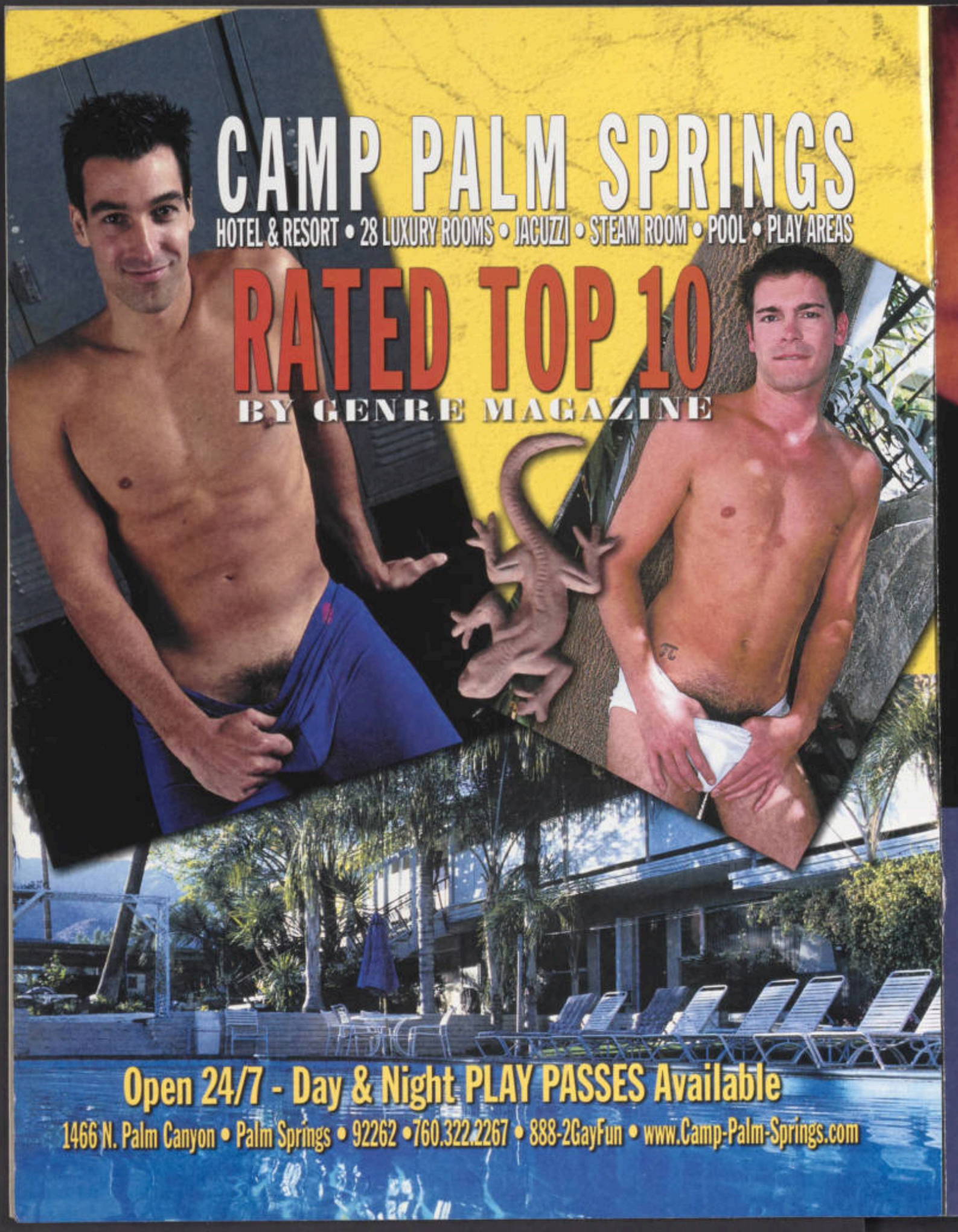


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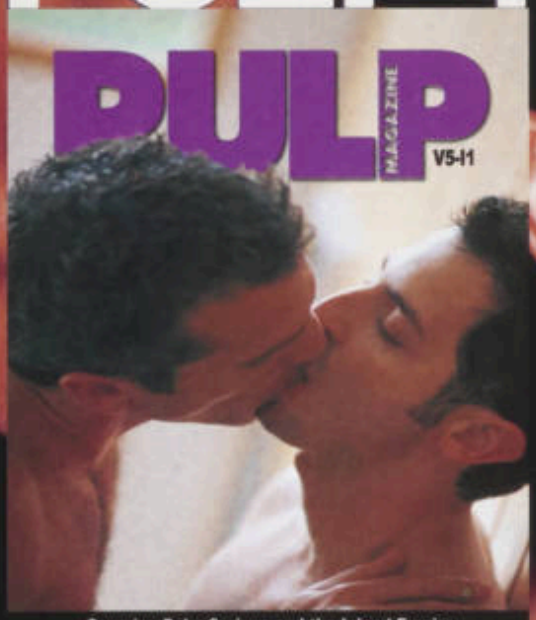
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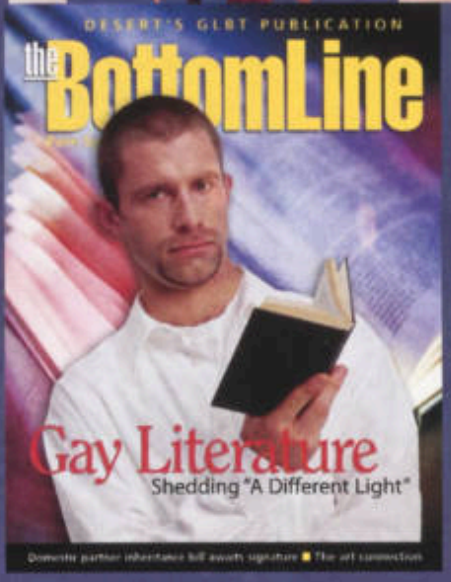
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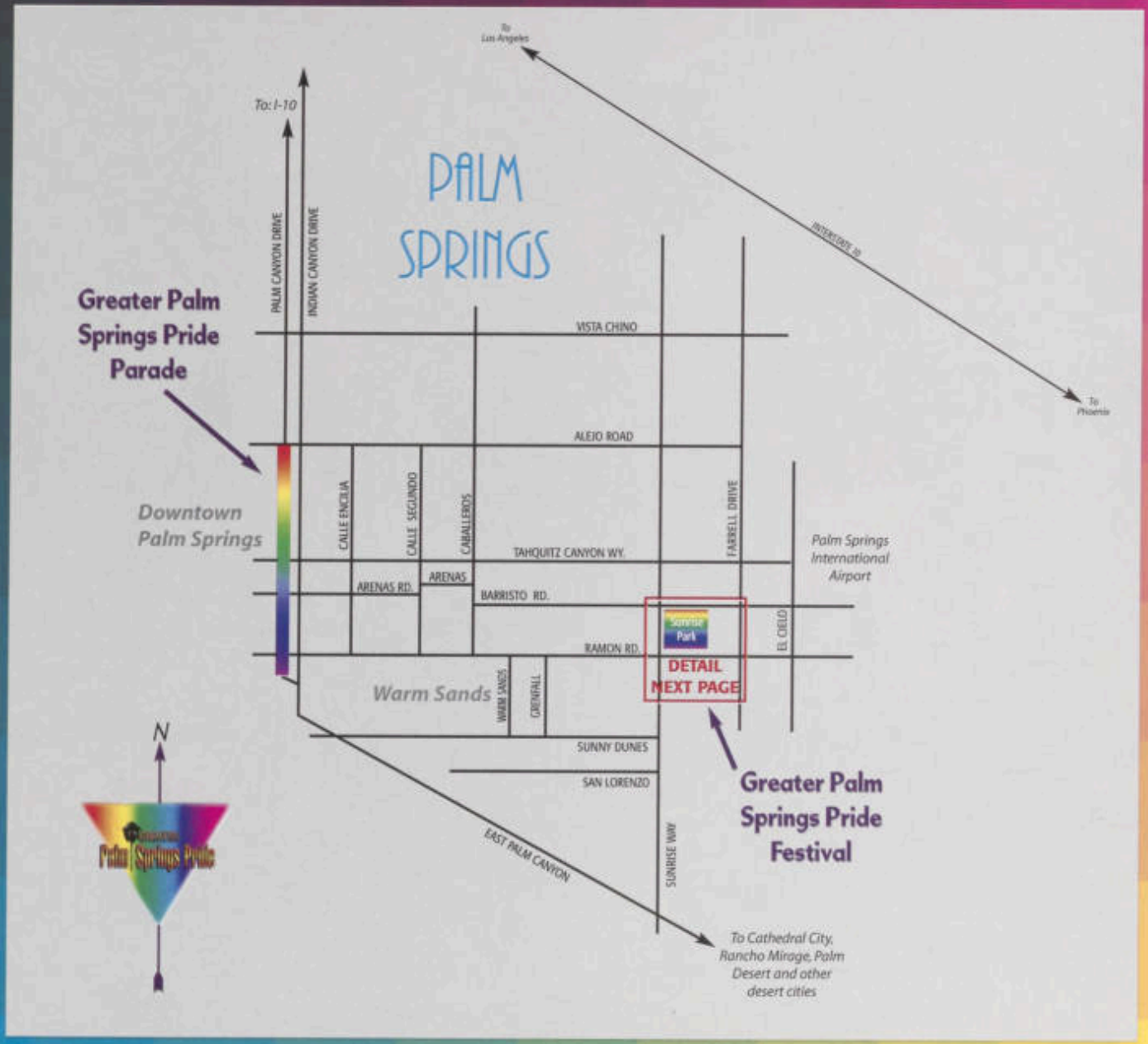
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Angel Stadium/Sunrise Park in Palm Springs ▼ SATURDAY, November 2: 10am - 8pm ▼ SUNDAY, November 3 ▼ 10am - 6pm
Admission: $5.00 per day. Tickets available at the Festival entrance only.

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- No bottles, coolers, or back packs at Festival. All bags or other containers will be subject to a security check.
- ALL persons over 21 will be banded, according to ABC regulations, upon entrance to the Festival.
- No tossing or throwing of items from Parade entries into the crowd, in accordance with Palm Springs City Ordinance.
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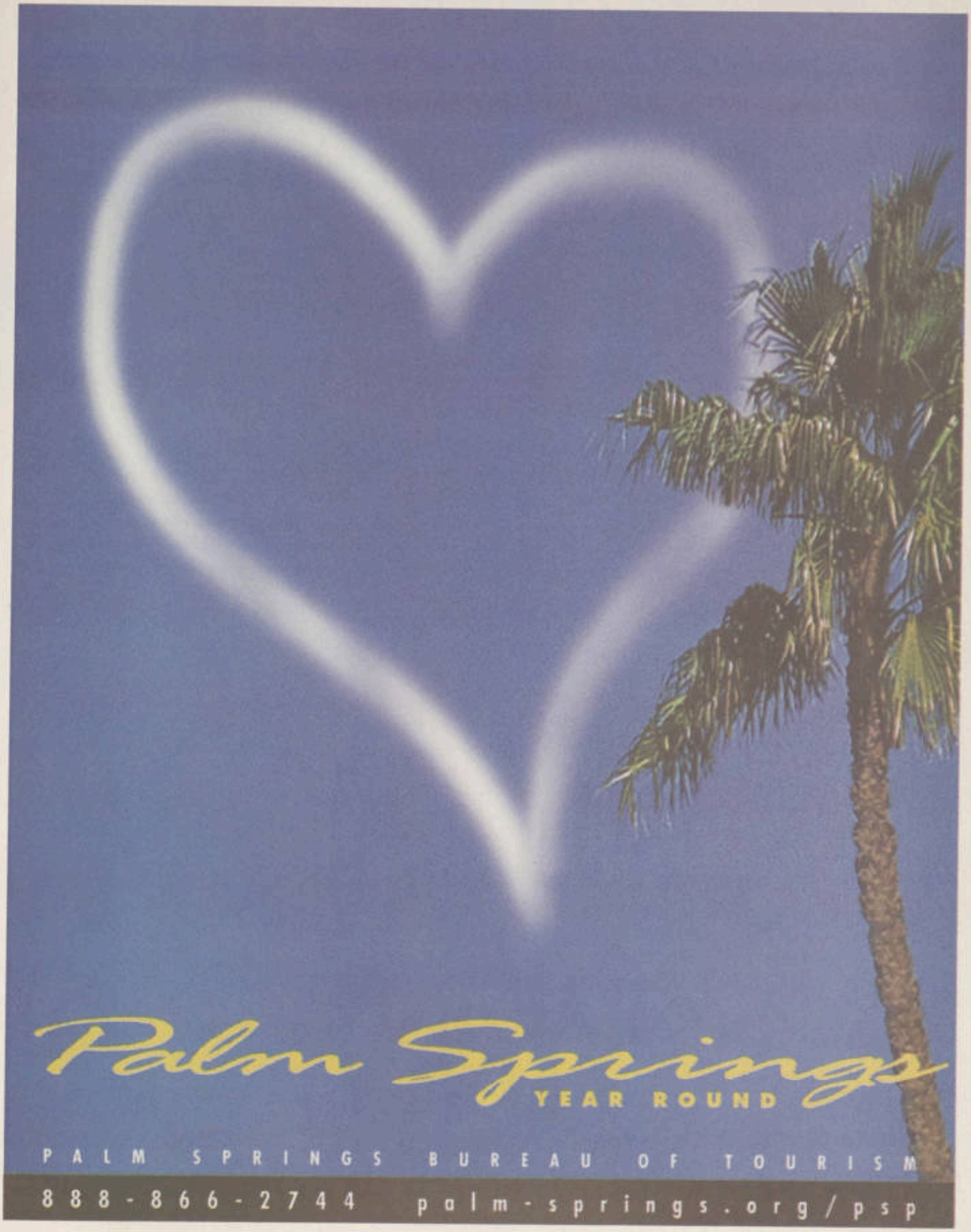


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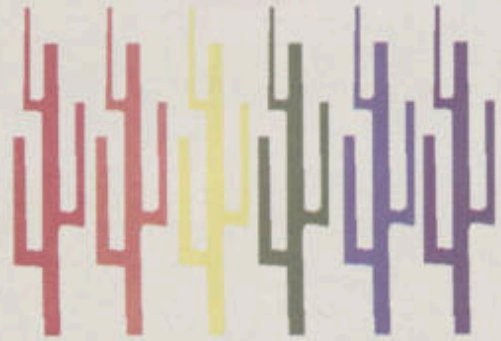


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PATHFINDERS OF THE DESERT GAY COMMUNITY

An Interview with Bob Parrott & Paul Bacon

If two people can be identified as being active participants in the gay Palm Springs renaissance of the last few years, it is Paul Bacon and Bob Parrott, Community Grand Marshals of Greater Palm Springs Pride 2001. Bob and Paul moved to Palm Springs in 1977 from Los Angeles to escape corporate and urban life, purchasing the Vagabond Inn. Since that time, with their participation, leadership and generous giving, they have witnessed and played a part in making our desert gay community what it is today. Recently, GPSP President Jack Schloeder and Pride Program Editor Tim Bridges asked Bob and Paul to share their observations and insights.

What were your first impressions as gay people when you moved to Palm Springs?

Bob: The hotel association at that time was a group within the Palm Springs chamber where we would get together to discuss our business—just a few hoteliers, maybe 10 to 15. When we decided to go to our first meeting, we were a little nervous, you know— new kids on the block—they didn't know who we were. We overheard the executive director of the chamber (now dead) talking to another member there about the "two faggots that bought the Vagabond Hotel." That's how gay people were perceived in this city as recently as 1977. And we never went to another meeting for years.

So we just went into the 'work closet' and worked 24 hours a day. They didn't care about us, so we just started paving our own way—our own future. Then the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) became valley-wide and more and more gay hotels began to appear. There weren't many here in 1977—I'd say five, and five would be a lot. One of the first was El Mirasol Villas on the corner of Ramon and Warm Sands.

However, as the CVB became more involved in tourism and some of the bigger places started opening up out in Rancho Mirage, that's when things started to change and we became very active and started arguing for gay rights and that gay hotels be accepted. We were doing pretty well by then so we could make waves. But the people who started coming here about ten years ago—they're the ones that opened the flood gates to change and as more gay hoteliers came in and more gay hotels opened, efforts were made to promote tourism, including gay advertising. This brought more and more gays to this area. And it's because of gay tourism, in my opinion, that we have the numbers that we have in the gay community today. Gay people just kept moving here and it's the numbers that get people's viewpoints to change, especially the politicians.

So it's really been within the last 10 years that we have seen a lot of the change in gay rights. Twenty-five years ago, there was a lot to be done—but there's still a lot to be done today.

Paul: We have numbers, now. This is the gay capital of southern California.

Going back to when you first moved here, were there many bars or places gay people met?

Bob: There was Oilcan Harry's, The Carriage Trade, the Desert Palms Inn and The Villa—that was about it—in Cathedral City.

Cathedral City was the gay mecca of the valley. The city of Palm Springs didn't have a very large gay population—not until the proliferation of the gay hotels. And then the bars emerged here and the focus seemed to shift. And again, it was the influx of gay tourism that made Palm Springs the gay mecca that it is today.

Paul: When you look at what were relatively run down residential areas and gays moved in—all of a sudden the houses are worth $100-400 thousand. Today in Palm Springs, you can say that there are gay neighborhoods practically everywhere, and look what that has done for the economy.

Bob: I would say there is not a street in this city where nearly half the residents are gay, which has helped change the minds of a lot of straights and they love the way the values of their own homes are going up, so in that respect, as far as real estate goes, we're accepted quite well. Our straight neighbors across the street just love us, and we love them—they're just wonderful.

Compare 1977 to now—would you feel as open letting your neighbors know you are gay when you first moved here?

Bob: No. We tried. They didn't know we were gay—they saw us as two guys who lived together and bought this hotel, who were "faggots." So we never told a soul we were gay for three or four years after that.

Paul: We never really talked about it. But we developed a gay clientele in the hotel. There were not many gay hotels or places gay people could be comfortable to stay in. We had a lot of women guests because there was no place for women to stay—they weren't accepted anywhere. The Dinah Shore started and the word got around that the Vagabond welcomed women with open arms.

Since you moved here from Los Angeles—an urban area—did you have a hard time adjusting to gay life here compared to LA?

Bob: Oh, absolutely! It was totally different—totally. Now, this was in the late 70's and Los Angeles had a lot of problems, but also had numerous gay bars and it was after Stonewall and things were starting to change. We came out here and it was totally different. Also, we had just started the business and had an uphill course, so we had our nose to the grindstone. In that way it was good because we developed a good business. But today, I would say there may not be much difference between gay life here and in LA, it's just that LA is much bigger. But we have a better quality of life here, in my opinion.

Paul: People come from different areas of the country, where, if two guys are seen driving around in a car, people will talk. Here it's much more accepting. Nobody thinks anything of it. And that's why so many gay people move here, because it's more accepting.

Would you say that a lot of the progress made in the area of gay rights in the desert was derived through the efforts of businesses or business organizations?

Paul: Yes. Banding together and fighting for our rights.

Bob: The Desert Business Association (DBA) was very instrumental. A few years ago when it was at its peak—doing all the networking—that was the only organization that we had. The mayors of Palm Springs and Cathedral City would attend our functions. They wanted our votes and our money. The DBA spawned many of the stronger gay organizations today. Then came the Desert Gay Tourism Guild, then the Prime Timers, Desert Dyners, Frontrunners and many more new organizations. And with that came political clout.

This last election—this special election—as far as voting, the gay community came to fruition in a bloc and I was so proud of that, and I don't think the politicians will ever be able to walk on us again. We are a force here and they know it now.

Paul: We worked at the entrance of the Stater Brothers Market for Deyna and banged doors for three weekends in a row, feeling this is the time to put up or shut up.

That's quite a change from 1977 and being intimidated to go to a meeting of the chamber of commerce, to such a major political statement as the last election.

Bob: Well, there were other gays around, but none of them were out. You'd try to talk to them—drop hair pins, you might say—and nobody would talk. Not like today! You walk up and give somebody a kiss.

Paul: I remember being at a hotel association convention in Dallas at that time, and the head of our own local tourism bureau walked up to me and told me he was gay. I had no idea.

Paul: My goal would be to pick one day of the year—any day—where every gay person would put out a rainbow flag just to show everybody in this town what a force we are: it would scare them to death. We are a

major force here, but it's hard to get any group to go in any one direction. But Deyna's candidacy did just that.

You moved here when you were still very much involved in your careers and are now retired and involved in senior gay organizations. Have you seen a great influx of senior gay people in Palm Springs?

Bob: Oh yes! A great influx of retirees.

Paul: I attribute it largely to the gay hotels. They come out here, like the climate and friendly atmosphere, prices are reasonable and you get value for your money here. The word spread and they came flocking.

Bob: Again, you go back to gay tourism—it was the driving force. The gay hotels brought them here in the first place. When we go away and come back here, we say "god, this is a great place!" You recapture that moment when you first came to Palm Springs. People come here and decide to come back next year and pretty soon, they decide they're going to live here.

You were both instrumental in beginning the Prime Timers Foundation. What are it's goals?

Bob: Looking to the future for the care of the senior community. There are a lot of senior gay people here who didn't sell their house for a million dollars, but can live here comfortably. But they're on tight budgets and want to live the same quality of life, and where we need to improve is in gay senior services.

What services do you see a need for?

Bob: Well, what is dear to my heart is a gay senior center. It would be a start to have outreach programs to determine where the needs are. And it would serve as a social outlet during the day, like the Mizell Senior Center. Many gay seniors I know think they do a good job, but just don't feel comfortable there. Remember, that's our peer group. Those were the ones that were laughing at us in our twenties and may still be laughing at us behind our backs. They haven't changed. We have a large enough population and hopefully a senior gay center will come to fruition in the next couple of years. The Prime Timers Foundation will hopefully get that together.

Paul: We've moved here to be around our own people and when it's time to be in a nursing home, we want to be around our own people too.

Bob: And I hope we can achieve an assisted living facility. There's more abuse against gays in assisted living than one can imagine. And a senior center can have outreach people, to go visit those that are home-bound. As your peers—your friends—start dying off, you can get to the point of having virtually no one.

Paul: When you're retired, if you have money and you need care, it's not that much of a problem. But when you don't have money, it's a major problem. That's what we're looking to address down the road. That any gay person have quality of life in their final days, the same as someone wealthy who can have nurses living in the home. Bob and I would like to leave a legacy toward that end. and we would like to see people in our community give more to the future in this way. Often they can't see that it pays dividends down the road. Everyone is going to be "there" one day, sooner or later.

So, in your time here, have you seen changes in our Pride celebrations?

Bob: Oh my—yes, we're on the main drag! It reflects the changes that have happened in the gay community itself. Compare what it was five years ago and today, it's fantastic. And they'll never take us off the main drag, either! And look at the festival, the grounds and everything—it's huge. You ask me has it changed? We love it—it's a coming together that allows us to celebrate who we are and how far we've come.

What do you think is the single most important thing that brought us to today in the community?

Bob: We wouldn't be here today without gay tourism—it exposed our way of life in the desert to the gay world.

When you say "gay mecca" what is special about out this place as compared to other gay meccas?

Bob: In addition to the climate, we are a community of business people, retirees, tourists, who have all come together and all get along. And it's a giving community. Look at our AIDS organizations, the many successful fundraisers.

In addition to the need for a senior gay community center, what do you think this community needs?

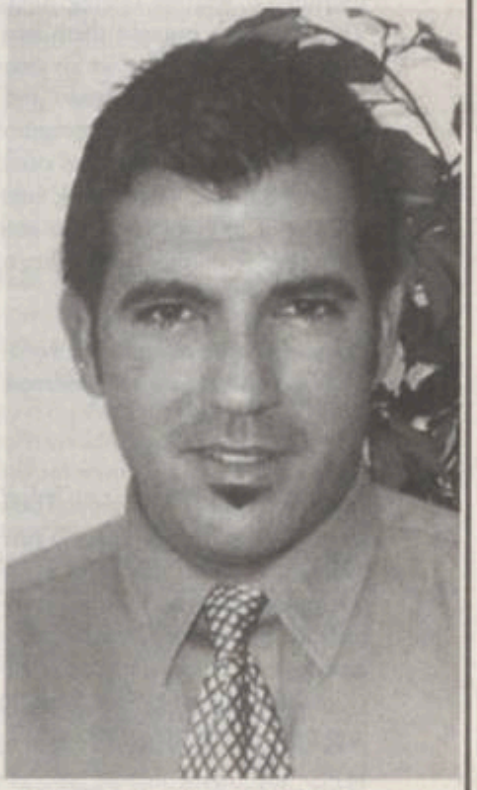
Bob: I think one of the things that we need, we may have actually achieved in the last few months, and that is registering to vote and making your vote heard. All the different groups in the community have joined in the last election, registered to vote and we made a difference. But there is so much more to be done.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT



Josie and her partner, Andi

by JOSIE BERMUDEZ

It's hard to believe a year has passed since our last Pride! How time flies when you're having fun! I'm looking forward to seeing the many of you who said you'd be joining our weekend party. But in speaking to some, I was surprised that they had little or no interest in coming to Pride. When I asked "why?", the response was almost like "Why should I?" Well, here's a little food for thought:

Although the freedom gay people enjoy today leaves much to be desired, we have to admit we enjoy a level of freedom that those before us could not. We can proudly display our gay stickers on our cars, wear our rainbow jewelry, enjoy the company of our brothers or sisters at gay bars, register as domestic partners, and a lucky few are able to insure their partners on his/her insurance provided by their employers. We openly gather together without nearly the amount of fear of persecution that our gay forbearers endured. Think of how indifferent things would be for us today, had those before us chosen to be indifferent or passive; had they been "takers" instead of "contributors." History proves that the community has accomplished much by standing together in support of each other and what we stand for.

Could it be that something as simple as attending a parade or festival could positively impact, if not our lives, those in future generations? You bet! Even the smallest gesture is hugely important if we're going to show the world that we are a force to be reckoned with. Each and everyone's support matters because there is strength in numbers. It's easy to be content and comfortable in our own little circle. But how much better it is to show onlookers, "Look how large a part of this community we are!" "Feel the power of our spirit when we come together!" "We are not going away and we will fight for out rights!" We can further show our strength by supporting gay businesses and voting on issues that affect us directly and indirectly.

Pride affords us an opportunity to express solidarity and unity, while acknowledging the different ways we express our lifestyle and sexuality. It warms my heart to see gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, transsexuals, transgenders, etc. embracing each other and celebrating. Like many of you, I lost my natural family because I am gay. When at Pride, I'm moved to tears when I look around and see all the many members of my new family who love each other so unconditionally. It's exquisitely beautiful.

After living 35 years in the straight world, I finally found my soul-mate three years ago. She's amazing! I've never felt such pure love, respect, trust and passion with anyone. I remember thinking while falling in love with her: "I knew it! I knew this kind of intense connection existed in places other than never-never land. I knew I wasn't being unrealistic to think that true happiness and contentment can be mine for the taking." And as I reached out to grab her extended hand, so soft but so strong, I thought: "I will grow old with her. I'm finally home!" Since I've been with her, I feel as if I'm in a constant state of smiling. We're expecting our first child in April. We think about our child's future and wonder if and how things will be different for him or her. We wonder if the choice to be gay or straight, Christian or atheist, etc. will not just be tolerated but, more importantly, accepted and respected. We ask ourselves, "What are we doing personally to make that happen?" because society's mentality won't change by itself. So Pride for us this year has special meaning as we embrace our brothers and sisters and do what we can, even in small ways, to elevate awareness in our community and say to each other: "I accept you. I respect you. *I love you*!"

If you see me at Pride, come up and say "Hi!" I'd love to meet another member of my family. It won't be hard to miss me—I'll be the only big, roly-poly pregnant Puerto Rican lesbian there wearing a yellow "Palm Springs Pride polo shirt (if it still fits me, that is!).



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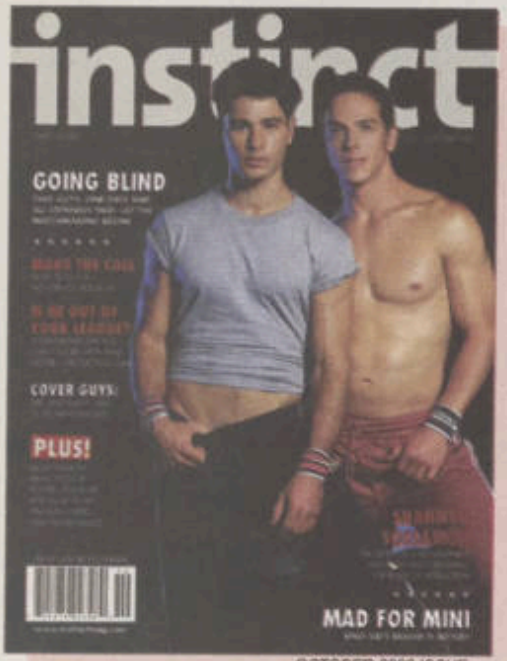
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The primary mission of Greater Palm Springs Pride, Inc. (GPSP), Inc., is to promote the public education and public awareness of the personal rights and civil liberties of the Lesbian/Gay/Transgender/Bisexual community, and to engage in activities that foster this mission.

One of GPSP's major activities is sponsoring the annual two-day Pride festival and parade in November. But GPSP also actively works to bring Pride to Palm Springs and the Coachella Valley by being visible, active, contributory and supportive within the local community, not just during Pride weekend but throughout the year.

GPSP regularly attends and supports many local events and projects sponsored by other Palm Springs organizations, most of which are listed in this program. We also work with the City of Palm Speings, Palm Sprngs Chamber of Commerce, Cathedral City Chamber of Commerce, Desert Business Association, CAPE, Palm Springs Village Fest, and many other organizations on numerous projects and programs.

GPSP also reaches out to other Pride organizations and communities as an active member of the International Assn. of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Coordinators (InterPride), and the Consolidated Association of Pride, Inc.(CAPI).

InterPride is a nonprofit organization that offers support to over 180 groups that plan Pride events around the globe.

CAPI is a California non-profit corporation composed of Pride coordinators in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah and Mexico. CAPI encompasses a range of Pride organizations, from some of the largest in the world (San Francisco and Christopher Street West) to some of the smallest. CAPI is an extremely active association which provides numerous services to its members.

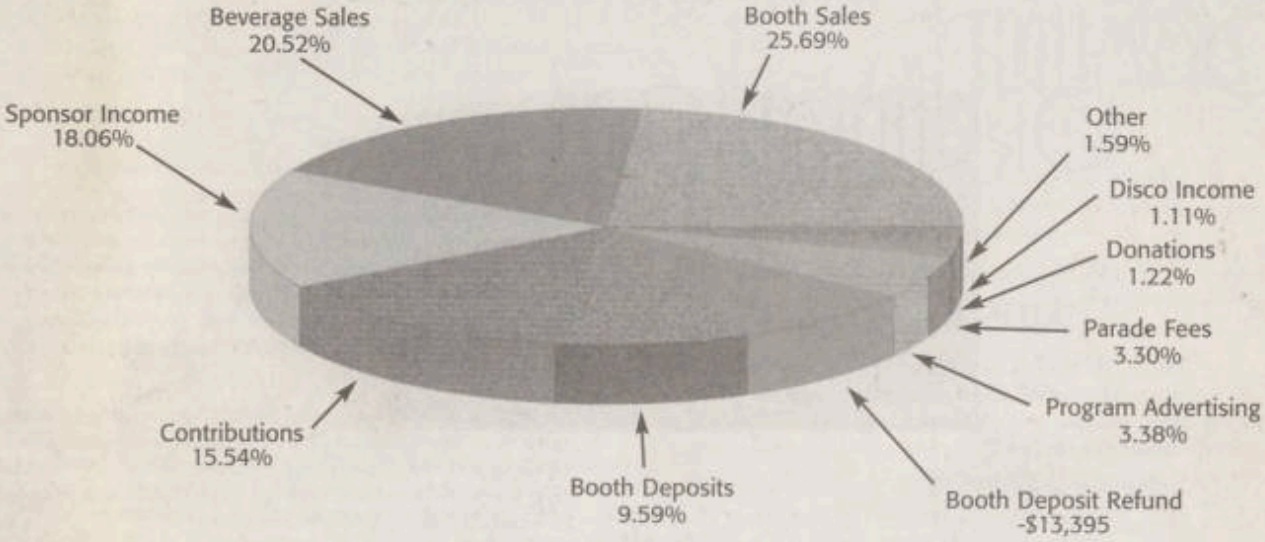
As an active member of CAPI, GPSP has worked at, supported and attended other Pride celebrations, including those held in Phoenix, Long Beach, Las Vegas, Christopher Street West (Los Angeles), Ventura, San Diego, and the Inland Empire. On December 6, 7 and 8 of this year, Greater Palm Springs Pride, Inc., is honored to be hosting the annual CAPI convention here in Palm Springs.

GREATER PALM SPRINGS PRIDE FINANCIALS

January – December 2001

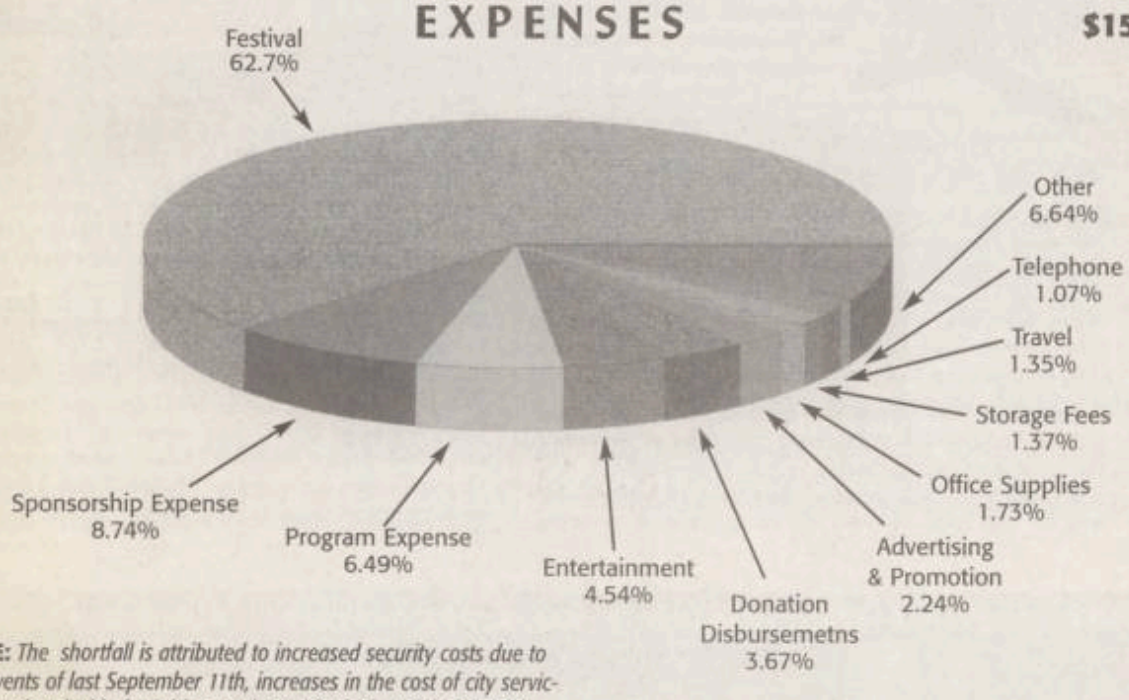
INCOME

$131,925.26



EXPENSES

$156,367.49



NOTE: *The shortfall is attributed to increased security costs due to the events of last September 11th, increases in the cost of city services associated with the Pride parade and festival, and to required public health and safety measures at the stadium.*



COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

AIDS Assistance Program

The AIDS Assistance Program (AAP) is a non-profit volunteer organization which sponsors programs supporting low-income men, women and children living with HIV/AIDS in the Greater Coachella Valley.

AAP is now in its 11th year of providing services as a grass roots, community-based, volunteer-driven, non-profit organization with 460 active clients. Each month, AAP distributes close to $40,000 in redeemable food vouchers which can be used for anything but alcohol, tobacco or pet products (in accordance with Ryan White Title 1 Fund national guidelines). AAP has distributed more than $2.4 million to over 1,000 low-income valley residents living with HIV/AIDS since it was launched.

AAP has added on average 50 new clients each year over the past three years, growing from 300 clients in 1998 to 460 clients this year. Last year, the AAP saw 113 new applicants for service, an 11% increase from the previous year. Over 53% of clients have been accessing AAP's Food Voucher Program from three to eight years, a trend that will continue as new drug developments lead to better health and longevity.

Because many AAP clients now enjoy improved mental and physical health and have expressed an interest in re-entering the work force or returning to school for re-training, AAP offers seminars to help people understand their benefits, deal with the fears associated with re-entering the work force, and become aware of the various resources and programs that exist to help them in this area. AAP also sponsors a privately funded 18-hour training program for volunteers, clients and interested community members who can help AAP clients on an ongoing basis by providing them with current information about their benefits, return-to-work issues, and returning to school for re-education.

Over 80% of AAP's operating budget comes from contributions from the Valley's residential and business communities, the program's own fundraising initiatives, and private foundation grants. AAP operates with a 14-member volunteer board of directors and 1.5 full-time employees.

For information about AAP and its programs, call (760)325-8481.

Caballeros

Although young by the standards of most other gay choruses, Caballeros—The Gay Men's Chorus of Palm Springs—has established itself quickly as one of the premier singing groups in the Coachella Valley and is in demand by groups outside the gay community. Perhaps this early popularity came from the fact that many of the members are transplants to the desert and gained chorus experience performing with larger and more established groups elsewhere. The group performs three main concerts each year: a holiday performance, a spring concert, and a summer concert.

This year's spring concert, entitled "American Masters," celebrated selections by American composers. The summer concert, "Desert Stars," featured works of noted composers who have spent time in the desert. "Holiday Lights," a program of traditional and contemporary holiday music, will be per-



formed at the Annenberg Theater on Dec. 14-15, 2002.

The group currently includes 50 members in five sections. Four of the sections—Tenor I, Tenor II, Baritone, and Bass—are singing members. Section Five is comprised of volunteers who work to make the concerts a reality, many of them behind the scenes.

Artistic Director David Stowell, a resident of Palm Springs since 1995, taught both vocal and choral music in New York State for 33 years. He holds a bachelor's degree in voice and a master's in organ performance.

Facilitating the work of the chorus is a nine-person board of directors, which includes both singing and non-singing members. Caballeros is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

Caballeros also holds several fund-raising activities during the year to support its artistic endeavors. The chorus has also been the recipient of numerous gifts, ranging from individual contributions to group donations, such as the new risers presented to Caballeros by the Palm Springs Front Runners & Walkers group.

Caballeros always welcomes new members and donations from the community. For more information, write to Caballeros GMCPS, P.O. Box 8057, Palm Springs, CA 92263-8057, or visit us online at www.pscaballeros.org.

Club 300

Prime Timers of Greater Palm Springs recently changed the club's name to CLUB 300. The change was made in order to relieve the confusion with the Prime Timers of the Desert. The name change also describes the make-up of the group, since membership is limited to 300 members, which include mature men and the admirers.

A monthly newsletter is sent to each member's household. It reminds people of certain dates to remember, provides a financial statement for the organization, summarizes notes from the Board Meeting, lists members' birthdays, and includes a message from the President. Each month, there is at least one social event such as a dinner, lunch or mixer aimed at singles and couples. Members are assessed annual dues.

While CLUB 300 has reached its membership level, anyone wanting to join can notify us by email and will be put on a waiting list. Those invited to join will pay pro-rated dues.

For membership information, write PO Box 5442, Palm Springs, CA 92263-5442, or e-mail bousquet1333@aol.com or gedwarddou@aol.com.

Desert AIDS Project

The Desert AIDS Project provides comprehensive medical care, educational and support services to people living with HIV and AIDS living within an 11,250 square mile radius of Palm Springs. From the San Gorgonio pass to Blythe, and from Yucca Valley to Imperial County, this immense service area is recognized as the fifth largest concentration of people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States.

Medical care is provided through a fully staffed HIV Health Center. The goal of the HIV Health Center is to provide access to high-quality, comprehensive HIV primary medical care for all HIV-diagnosed clients who live in our service area. Professional, diagnostic and therapeutic services are delivered by physicians, physician assistants, nurses and a nurse practitioner in an outpatient, community-based setting. All physicians are certified by the American Academy of HIV Medicine. The Center accepts many preferred provider insurance plans.

DESERT AIDS PROJECT

HIV Prevention/Education programs are designed to prevent new HIV transmission. Programs are conducted in both English and Spanish and are directed at youth, adults, the prison population and persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Comprehensive support services for people living with HIV/AIDS include case management services, wellness programs, housing assistance, transportation and food. The food program provides supplemental nutritional support twice a month, and is conducted on-site through the Morris and Lila Linsky Food Depot. Free, anonymous HIV testing is available, as well as counseling, home health services, and assistance with medications, re-employment, and more.

A Public Policy Department was created recently to advocate for the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS locally, in Sacramento and in Washington D.C.

A committed staff of dedicated volunteers forms the backbone of the Desert AIDS Project. These volunteers are an extremely important component which allow DAP to provide the highest quality of care and support services to its clients.

The Desert AIDS Project also operates two thrift stores, Revivals, in Cathedral City and in Palm Springs, to raise money for the organization. For more information on services, to volunteer, or to make a donation, call (760) 323-2118 or visit our website at www.desertaidsproject.org.

Desert Business Association

The Desert Business Association (DBA) is the Coachella Valley's "Gay chamber of commerce," a network of Gay, Lesbian and Gay-friendly businesses which have joined togeth-



er to promote and support each other, and to educate the community about the many services and products available through our GLBT-friendly stores, hotels, restaurants and other business ventures.

The organization began in 1979, and over time, the DBA connected with mainstream Chambers of Commerce. Today, the DBA serves as the Valley's readily recognized GLBT business organization. New businesses are eager to affiliate, to participate in the many benefits of membership and to share in the responsibilities for networking with other business organizations and associations across the valley.

Due to the political and business acumen of the elected officers and board members who have served the DBA over nearly a quarter century of public service, the Association has successfully ingratiated itself within the larger community and has contributed to creating a remarkably Gay-friendly business atmosphere in the greater Palm Springs area.

Palm Springs is now internationally recognized as a popular Gay and Lesbian destination in addition to its traditional reputation as a first class golf and spa resort. Tourists, visitors, and future residents from around the world come to the Coachella Valley surprised to discover a community steeped in sexual diversity and playfully seasoned with an apparent ease of human tolerance.

Today's DBA is both a business and social organization composed of a large cross- section of Gay-friendly businesses and individuals. Membership is primarily from the Coachella Valley, Morongo Basin, Blythe, Idyllwild and the San Gorgonio Pass, although the DBA's mailing list includes a growing number of members across the country, from San Diego to Washington D.C.

For information, contact the DBA at 777 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Suite #200, Palm Springs, California 92262, or by calling (760) 416-5193.

Desert Dyners

Desert Dyners is a women's social club that meets monthly for dinners, mixers, dancing and much more in the Palm Springs area. Singles and couples are welcome!

Desert Dyners began about six years ago as a monthly dining opportunity for the Lesbians of the desert to dine out and get acquainted. It has since evolved into an entire realm of functions for our women of the desert and visiting Lesbians. Newsletters are available at the women's resorts as well as information in the Gay magazines with email, website, and phone numbers to contact. The organization offers social functions for the Gay women of the desert and visitors who wish to participate in networking, meeting new people and sometimes catching up with people of the past. Dating opportunities include mixers, lunches and dinners, wine tasting parties and an occasional dinner and dance evening as well as sporting events. Members and non-members may attend these functions, which usually are held twice a month, sometimes more often.

A newsletter is currently distributed to over 300 recipients once every other month. It covers social functions for the coming months, articles of interest, plus information pertinent to the community. Standing committees address events, membership, the newsletter and finance.

During the coming year, Desert Dyners is considering new and different activities, including day trips, pool parties, bowling, golf and holiday parties. Of course the interest and attendance will dictate what type of functions our women desire, so input is a factor in planning.

For information, contact Desert Dyners at P.O. Box 3056, Palm Springs, CA 92263-3056, by fax at (760)416-0061, or e-mail us at desertdyners@aol.com.

Desert Pride Community Center

The Coachella Valley is well on its way to having a Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center.

Incorporated as a California non-profit Corporation, Desert Pride Community Center is dedicated to serving Lesbians, Gay men, Bisexuals and Transgendered Individuals in a safe and caring environment. The Center began as an idea under the auspices of the Desert Business Association (DBA) in 1999. In 2001, the formation committee became an independent entity. At that time, it was decided to expand to a community-wide effort.

Structured interviews were conducted with individuals ranging in age from 22 to 83. Groups that participated in the structured interviews included AA Recovery Groups, Caballeros, the DBA Board, Desert Dyners, Front Runners, Gay Associated Youth, Great Outdoors, Gay Catholics, Greater Palm Springs Pride, Rainbow Foundation, Stonewall Democrats, Unity Church and the Writers Guild.

The Board of Directors for the Center has male and female co-chairs, and the initial board is making every effort to present a balanced board representative of the community. In fact, five out of the 11 board members will be elected by members of the Desert Pride Community Center to make sure the community continues to have a strong voice in the organization. The Center has filed for a 501(c)(3) exemption and is awaiting IRS approval.



Your help is needed if the Community Center is to become a place instead of a dream. Funds are needed to open a store-front center so residents of, and visitors to, the Valley will have a safe and available meeting space. This is an opportunity to create a central information resource, a place we can call our "own."

Membership is just $25 per year. If you join this year, you can be a Founding Charter Member. Your membership not only helps support the center but also gives you a voice in selecting members for the board.

For information about the Center and becoming a member, call (760)218-3700, or write the Desert Pride Community Center at 100 S. Sunrise Way, #446, Palm Springs, CA 92262.

Desert Winds Freedom Band

The Desert Winds Freedom Band is a diverse group open to all Gay and Gay-friendly people who like to play concert band music. The Band was founded by Gary Moline, who was a charter member of the then called "San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps" in the mid 1970s. The first organizational meeting was held October 6, 2001. In November 2001, four band members marched with the LA Band in the Greater Palm Springs Pride Parade, and members staffed a recruitment booth at the Pride festival. In January 2002, bylaws were adopted and the Band's first Artistic Director, Harry Patten, was appointed to the Board.

The Band's first public performance was at the 1st Annual Rainbow Festival of Flags at the Desert Palms Inn in Cathedral City in March of this year. Appearances followed in April in Palm Springs at the Jayne Behman Art Gallery during the First Friday Festival, and at the Desert AIDS Walk. The Band gave its first full concert at the Church of St. Paul in the Desert in Palm Springs in June, and is looking forward to many future concerts, including participating in this year's Greater Palm Springs Pride Parade and Festival.

The Desert Winds Freedom Band has incorporated as a not-for-profit organization and is applying for 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. The Band also has joined the Lesbian and Gay Bands of America (LGBA). Many musicians from LGBA member bands participated in Gay Games activities in Australia in October/November 2001. One of our band members was there to represent us in LGBA meetings and to participate in Gay Games entertainment activities.

Currently, we have about 20 dedicated musicians who love to make music together. Some are professionals and others haven't played since they graduated from high school many years ago. Prospective band members must be able to read music, have basic skills playing a band instrument, attend rehearsals one night each week, and regularly participate in concerts. One of our goals is to double the present number of musicians and achieve a full instrumentation. This will allow us to offer a complete range of symphonic concert band music. We also need support members who can help at events and assist us with recruiting and publicity.

For more information about Desert Winds Freedom Band, phone (760)202-1549; send an e-mail to PSBand@earthlink.net, or write to Desert Winds Freedom Band at PO Box 1978, Cathedral City, CA 92235-1978.

Executive Women's Golf Association

The Executive Women's Golf Association is an international, individual membership organization with more than 16,000 members in over 100 chapters. Its mission is "to promote and foster a spirit of acceptance, dignity and respect for career-oriented women golfers." The organization continued to grow and had reached 14,500 membership in 95 chapters by 2000, and celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2001. Locally, the EWGA Palm Springs/Desert Cities Chapter has more than 130 members.

EWGA's objectives are to motivate and educate women to use golf for personal growth and career advancement; to create opportunities for women of every ability level to bond, network and enjoy golf; and to serve as the communications advocate on issues affecting women golfers. The area chapter organizes monthly golf outings, twilight play, clinics, seminars and networking events for its members.

In addition to holding an annual conference and championship, EWGA also provides leadership opportunities and training to members. The annual Leadership Award is presented to women who have made longtime and outstanding contributions to women's golf by paving the way for female golfers, and whose dedication to the game has inspired others. Past recipients include LPGA tour professionals Kathy Whitworth and Michelle McGann, plus two area women, Marlene Hagge Vossler and Shirley Spork, who were among the 13 founders of the LPGA in 1950.

EWGA also presents the annual Founders Award to a member who displays exceptional long-term leadership and service to the organization. Annual membership awards are also given at chapter and sectional levels.

The Chapter Excellence Awards Program, launched in 2001, is underwritten by American Express Diverse Business



Partnerships-Global. It recognizes EWGA chapters for excelling in areas of management and service to members, and to help leaders focus their efforts and energies in ways that have proven to help chapters succeed. In 2001, three California chapters won this award.

The EWGA also supports LPGA-USGA Girls Golf, which teaches the game to girls aged 8-18. Chapters are encouraged to hold fundraising events for this organization. The EWGA Palm Springs/Desert Cities chapter held such an event in April 2002, and raised $510 for the local LPGA-USGA Girls Golf group.

For more information about EWGA locally, visit our website at www.ewgadesert.com, or call (760)776-6262

Gay Associated Youth

Gay Associated Youth (GAY) provides support for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning youth (LGBTQ) in the Coachella Valley and surrounding areas through the provision of guidance, education, advocacy and necessary resources. We envision a safe, integrated community with social integrity and appropriate support systems for Gay youth, where they can develop a positive self-image.

Gay Associated Youth is nearing 18 years as the only organization working with LGBTQ youth in the Coachella Valley and surrounding communities. In late 1999, GAY established itself as a nonprofit charity, allowing tax deductions for all donations. GAY operates a large drop-in youth center in Palm Desert across from the College Of the Desert. The center is open five days a week for LGBTQ youth and their allies and provides a place for them to relax, study, watch videos, play video games, play pool, surf the Internet, get tutored and socialize in a safe and secure place.

GAY offers support group meetings every Friday evening and health education, including HIV/AIDS prevention and confidential testing on site. Youth in need are referred to prescreened professional and community resources that always promotes alcohol, tobacco and drug-free living and activities promoting a healthy lifestyle. GAY also provides outreach to all schools in the community including support and advocacy for Gay Straight Alliances (GSA) on local school campuses. We also publish the STEREOTYPED Zine monthly, which is distributed free to the community.

Gay Associated Youth is overseen by 12 involved community members who make up our Board of Directors, and are assisted by a large and very active Advisory Board. The GAY Center in Palm Desert is run by two staff members.

For information, contact GAY at (760) 202-7510 or e-mail psgaycenter@aol.com

Great Outdoors of Palm Springs

Great Outdoors is the largest Gay outdoor recreational organization in the West. It was founded in the 1980s by gay leaders who believed that the time had come for a viable, healthy alternative to the bars.

In addition to the Palm Springs chapter, there are five Great Outdoor chapters in the Southern California area: Inland Empire, Los Angeles, Orange County/Long Beach, Santa Barbara/Ventura County, and San Diego. Outings include camping and hiking in the best wilderness areas as well as river rafting, canoeing, skiing and social activities.

Members receive a newsletter and a periodic calendar featuring a schedule of all chapter activities. Members also receive a membership card and discounted rates on activities sponsored by Great Outdoors. In addition to general meetings, each chapter also has a once-a-month business meeting called a CORE group meeting.

Those who join in our hikes and outdoor activities don't have to own expensive gear, since many camping stores in the area rent everything you need in the way of tents, sleeping bags, and other gear. And Great Outdoors sponsors outings that suit everyone – from mountain climbers to those who want to drive to a campsite. Each outing has a trip leader who provides participants with a set of trip notes. These notes include information about the outing, including clothing, directions, cost, carpooling opportunities, and the kind of gear needed for the outing.

For information, contact Great Outdoors at P.O. Box 361, Palm Springs, CA 92263, e-mail psgocraig@aol.com, or visit our website at www.greatoutdoors.org/ps.

Log Cabin Club of Riverside County

Log Cabin Club of Riverside County (LCCRC) is an organization of Gay and Lesbian Republicans whose purpose is to educate the men and women of the Gay community about Republican ideals and philosophy, and to educate the Republican Party about the concerns and needs of the men and women of the Gay community.

The Riverside County chapter of Log Cabin was started in 1991 and is one of the eight active chapters in California. There is a state Log Cabin California organization, and, as part of thousands of activists in 38 states, we maintain a lobbying



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office in Washington, D.C. where we lobby members of Congress, the Senate and the White House staff on relevant matters.

We believe the struggle for our civil rights is too important to rely entirely upon one political party. The staunchly Democratic identification of Gay activists has caused us to persistently fail to muster the bipartisan support necessary to pass anti-discrimination legislation. We believe an allegiance between Gays and the Republican Party is a natural expression of a shared desire to prevent government intrusion into the private lives of Americans. This Republican tenet, often disregarded during Republican administrations at the demand of the Religious Right, shows some hope of reemerging in recent years. When President George Bush invited members of the California Log Cabin Federation to the White House in 1990 to sign the Hate Crimes Bill and the American with Disabilities Act, he became the first U.S. President to invite openly Gay people into the White house because of, not in spite of, their sexual orientation.

President George W. Bush has openly hired five Log Cabin members to his administration, and has openly appointed Gay ambassadors to posts with their partners around the world. Our progress has been steady and has always held true to our philosophy of furthering the rights of Gays and Lesbians in the U.S. and around our world.

For information, contact Len Olds, President, by phone at (949) 497-1716, fax at (949) 497-5726, or by e-mail at oldsrouse@aol.com.

Long Yang of the Desert

Long Yang of the Desert is one of 30+ local chapters of an international Gay Asian and Pacific Islander organization. The Palm Springs chapter was officially launched on Jan 1, 2002. It is the only organized group in Palm Springs serving the Asian and Pacific Islander communities and their admirers.

As a club, Long Yang encourages members to share their cultures and views of the East. The club works to educate the public about the myths of the Orient by sponsoring cultural journeys, Asian movies, appreciation of ethnic foods and outdoor activities. The Club regularly celebrate festivals, visit local communities and museums, shares recipes among members, engages in show & tell handicrafts, and raps about member's concerns. The goal of each event is to enable everyone to inhale the cultural aroma and have fun.

Long Yang of the desert sponsors a monthly potluck, movie nights and quarterly trips. Among sponsored events this year have been a celebration of the Chinese New Year, a visit to the Zen Buddha in Mountain City, a month-long celebration of Thai culture, and a showing of the films of Ang Lee and Kinji Fukasaku.

Members from Long Yang chapters in San Diego and Los Angeles are regularly invited to attend to local Palm Springs events, and members from Long Yang of the Desert regularly attend events sponsored by the San Diego and Los Angeles chapters. Chapter members also participate in regional, national, and international Long Yang events. Membership is $10 per individual, $15 for couples.

For information, call (760) 324-9534, e-mail psinfo@longyangclub.org or psmember@longyangclub.org, or write Long Yang of the Desert at P.O. Box 1325, Palm Springs, CA 92263. Visit our website at www.longyangclub.org/palm-springs.

Metropolitan Community Church

Metropolitan Community Church of the Coachella Valley is much more than just a "Gay- friendly church." MCC is one of over 350 congregations worldwide, which were born within and primarily serve the needs of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Transgendered community. At MCC, we believe that there are no second-class citizens in the Kingdom of God, and unlike other "gay friendly churches," MCC offers Gays full participation at every level of leadership and service in the church. Although some other churches perform "Holy Unions," our doctrinal statements establish this as a Rite in our denomination, and we have been performing commitment ceremonies for same-gender couples for well over 30 years.

MCC began here in Palm Springs in March of 1997 and has continued to grow and expand its impact throughout the community. Through the congregation's non-sectarian service projects like the Food Closet and the Community Crisis Line, other service organizations have been created which continue as independent agencies working to improve the quality of life for all the citizens of our community. Our mission at MCC is "to promote harmony in body, mind and spirit," and our church programs, events and activities are all designed with this goal in mind.

Sunday worship, Tuesday evening Bible Study, and Thursday choir practice are held weekly. Please call the church office at (760) 318-2865 for times, locations and directions. Our Church Annex is located at the Courtyard, 777 E Tahquitz Canyon Way. We provide free meeting space for the Desert Rainbow Foundation, Greater Palm Springs Pride, the Prime Timers of the Desert Foundation, the Caballeros, Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus, as well as many other community groups.

MCC is first and foremost an ecumenical Christian church. We draw together many people from various faith traditions and have created a working faith community, which supports each and every individual in their own spiritual growth, evolution



and progress.

Our pastor is the Rev. David M. Pelletier, the first openly gay student to graduate with a M.Div. from a Lutheran Seminary in 1978. Our associate pastor, the Rev. Tracy L. Barber, received her M.Div. from Fuller Theological Seminary and is from a charismatic church background. Many dedicated lay ministers, providing guidance, pastoral and peer counseling, support our professional staff.

To find out more about MCC, call the church office at (760) 318-2865, e-mail us at mcccv@gte.net, or visit our website at www.palmspringsmcc.org. Better yet, drop by on Sunday. In a real way, every Sunday is PRIDE Sunday at MCC!

New Thought Church of Today

The Palm Springs New Thought Church of Today is now in its 7th year of providing an opportunity for the Palm Springs community to experience deeper levels of success and fulfillment in every area of their being: mind, body and spirit. It is a church for those who want Spirituality, not organized religion.

New Thought is not new. It is as old as our search for truth, a correlation of the laws of science, opinions of philosophy, and revelations of religion. We call ourselves Religious Science because we encompass Science of Mind (not Scientology) as well as other time-tested principles of successful living. Ours is not a closed system of thought. Rather, we are unbounded by superstition, dogma or worn-out concepts.

Sunday Morning Celebrations are conducted at the Palm Springs Hilton (across from the Spa Casino) at 11 a.m. The service includes modern messages, moving meditations, and marvelous music. The church blesses holy unions and weddings, conducts workshops, and offers counseling and accredited classes. Everyone is welcome!

The spiritual director and founder of the church is the Rev. Richard Drasen, M. Div., who was ordained in 1993.

For information, contact the Rev. Drasen at (760) 320-2129, by e-mail at revrfd@usa.net, or visit www.palmspringschurch.org.

PFLAG

PFLAG Palm Springs/Desert Communities is a chapter of PFLAG National, one of the nation's oldest and largest GLBT advocacy organizations, with nearly 500 chapters nationwide. In addition to providing support and peer-group assistance for parents, families and friends of Lesbians and Gays, PFLAG PSDC also numbers many Lesbians and Gay men among its membership.

Our parent members are also interested in meeting other parents whose children have recently come out to them. A large part of our mission is to provide support to such parents in what can often be a difficult time. PFLAG PSDC meets on the third Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Cathedral City Library.

PFLAG members encompass parents, families, and friends of Lesbians and Gays, as well as Gay men, Lesbians, Bisexuals, and Transgendered persons. We come from all corners of the earth, from all cultural, religious, and ethnic groups. We know that a person's sexual orientation is neither chosen nor something which has been taught, and it is not simply a "phase" individuals go through.

We view rejection of a Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual or Transgendered person by his or her family as a tragedy. We are members of close-knit, supportive and loving family units. We respect the truth; we recognize the reality of individual differences and honor the right of each person to be who he or she authentically is. We love and affirm all our family members, and we are committed to full civil and human rights for everyone.

For information, contact PFLAG at (760) 202-4430.

Prime Timers of the Desert

Prime Timers was founded in Boston in 1987 by Woody Baldwin. Woody and his partner, Sean O'Neil, were of the retirement age and were wondering what kind of social life they would have once they retired. And they didn't like what they saw.

It seemed that the bars, restaurants and magazines all catered to the young and offered very little for seniors. Being a creative person, Woody launched a initiative among his friends to discuss social options for Senior Gays. From this initiative came Prime Timers, a social club for Seniors and their admirers.

Today there are 55 chapters all over the world. The largest of these, Prime Timers of the Desert, has 1,400 members and is located here in the Coachella Valley.

Prime Timers of the Desert has a busy schedule. Each month, there are usually two mixers, a luncheon and a dinner. Prime Timers also sponsors trips to Las Vegas, San Diego and Pageant of Masters, to name a few destinations. On New Year's Eve, Prime Timers sponsors the famous Beaux Arts Ball, attended annually by between 700 and 800 hundred Gay men in black tie dancing the night away to a six-piece orchestra.



For information on Prime Timers of the Desert, call (760) 318-4299, or write to P.O. Box 5326, Palm Springs, CA 92263-5326.

PS Frontrunners and Walkers

Palm Springs Frontrunners and Walkers was started in March 1997 as the local chapter of an informal network of over 100 International Frontrunner Clubs world-wide. IFR began more than 20 years ago in San Francisco as a non-profit, running/walking and social club for Gays.

PSFR welcomes walkers and runners of all ability levels, whether beginner or accomplished. Our daily walks are non-competitive and promote health, fitness and friendship in a welcoming social atmosphere. We meet at the Sunrise Park, Mizell Center parking lot, located on Ramon Road between Sunrise and Farrell Streets in Palm Springs, every morning except Sundays at 7:30 a.m. in the summer months, and 8:30 a.m. in the fall, winter and spring months. We also meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

PSFR is dedicated to promoting health and fitness in the Gay community through regularly scheduled walks, runs, bike rides, hikes and other special and social events, as well as fundraisers to support organizations in our community. Members receive a monthly newsletter, a membership button, membership card, participation in daily and weekly runs/walks, monthly social events, as well as interaction with others sharing a common interest in fitness.

PSFR is a great way to meet new friends and be included in all the fun here in the Coachella Valley, plus great one-day getaways on a regular basis to interesting and fun places like Venice Beach, Catalina Island, Laguna, West Hollywood/Hollywood, TV show tapings and other fun places.

For information and to apply for membership, visit our website at www.psfr.org.

PS Gay Veterans

PSGV was founded nearly 10 years ago, when a few area Lesbian Gay Bisexual patriotic veterans learned that Clinton was planning to keep his campaign promise and Lift the Ban of Gays in the US Military. The Palm Springs Chapter is the busiest of all American Veterans for Equal Rights (AVER) chapters, of which there are 13 across the Nation. We have been very active in our attempts to expand the AVER membership base by visiting our surrounding area's Pride celebrations in hopes of starting Chapters in cities such as Long Beach, boosting the struggling Chapter in Los Angeles, and reaching out to otherwise isolated places like Salt Lake City and Las Vegas.

The Palm Springs chapter, under the leadership of President Randy Schecher, is proud of its accomplishments as regular contributors to like-minded national organizations, such as the Service-Members Legal Defense Network and the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), as well as state-wide organizations, including the California Alliance for Pride and Equality. PSGV has also been instrumental in the success of the PS Human Rights Commission's "Diversity Project," which spear-headed the Ramon Academy Student's Mural Project, comprised of a small group of students who painted their concept of "A Journey to a Hate-free Millennium" on the city-owned Leisure Center building. The mural, with the concept being drafted in the wake of the events of 9/11, celebrates unity while promoting equality and acceptance of our community's diversity.

Just two years ago, our chapter officers attended San Diego Pride, which initiated the beginning of one of the largest chapters in the nation. We are honored to have played a major part in forming the San Diego Chapter, which hosted the 2002 AVER national convention.

Palm Springs Gay Veterans will continue to involve itself in projects and activities of this nature in our area, and will remain supporters of state and national organizations who, through their work, further our own cause for equality and to Lift The Ban.

For information on PS Gay Veterans, call (760) 320-5646. End discrimination by visiting www.LIFTTHEBAN.com.

Stonewall Golf Association

The Stonewall Golf Association, founded in August 2001, is the premier Gay and Lesbian golf organization based in the Coachella Valley. We are a group of Gay and Lesbian golf enthusiasts, including all levels of players, from beginners to experienced. We are based in Palm Springs, acknowledged as one of the premier golf destinations, as well as one of the Gay and Lesbian resort capitals of the world.

Members play every other week, sometimes more often, at golf courses in the greater Palm Springs area. We try to keep the greens fee below $50. On occasion, we schedule golf dates out of town at golf courses in southern California.

For more information about the Stonewall Golf Association, visit our website at www.stonewallgolfers.com , e-mail us at info@stonewallgolfers.com, or call (760) 318-1328.

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EDITOR'S NOTE - The foregoing represents a part of the community's numerous and diverse gay or gay friendly organizations. The organizations featured are those that responded to Pride's solicitations and follow-ups for information to be included in this section of the program.





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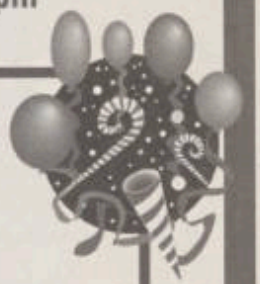
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Bill Beck said: "I want to run the kind of place that people will want to come to often, not just once a while, with a menu to suit every taste and almost every pocketbook. I want customers to feel full and that they got their money's worth."
— Maureen Daly, *Desert Sun*

"Bill Beck has created a small, comfortable room from his restaurant complex that offers a complete dinners at prices ranging from $10.95 to $19.95... This was our second visit and we will be back soon."
— Johnny Timberline, *Prime Timer Newsletter*

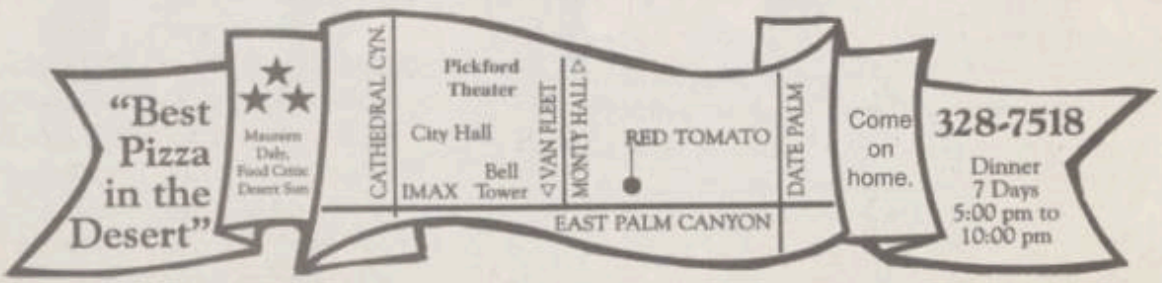
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TRIBUTE

Earlier this year, a valued member of our board passed away suddenly. The Board of Greater Palm Springs Pride, Inc. would like to remember Newt Dieter, and the many contributions he made to his community, to those closest to him, and to the many kindnesses he quietly made happen, some for people who did not even know him or know that he was responsible for some of the goodness that came their way. The dedication and energy Newt expended in making his world a better place through his work with so many organizations will not be forgotten. The Board would like to honor him by dedicating this year's Pride event to his memory.

We also would like to thank all of those who, over the years, through thousands of hours of volunteer efforts, and in their own diverse ways, helped make Pride in Palm Springs the success it is today. Those people are: CJ Pino, Skip Wilson, Jim Allen, Doug Geiger, Dorothy Thorne, Linda Decker, Denise Goolsby & Joane Garcia Colson, Cindy Chaisson & Paula Huettl, Melinda Tremaglio, Craig Lawver & Cecil Beare, Duke Branick, Brian Walter, Lee Spurgeon, Gregg Pettis, Larry Hughes, Jim Suguitan, Richard Black, Popp Joe, and Dale Jag to name but a few. Hundreds of people have given so much of themselves to the community by volunteering for "Pride." We are eternally grateful for their efforts, because it has brought us to where we are "today." We also acknowledge the help of organizations such as GLAAD, Long Beach Pride, and San Diego Pride for their years of support and assistance. Let us not forget those who have gone before us.

We include the following words, which were spoken at Newt's Memorial Service, with all those who gave of themselves in mind. We trust you might gain something from these words in your own way as well.

We Wait Too Long

Death has claimed someone we love,
and it reminds us of our own mortality.

It reminds us that our time on this earth is limited,
and we never know to whom tomorrow belongs.

Yet too often we postpone for tomorrow
things which should be done and said today.

We wait too long to show kindness,
to speak words of gratitude and concern.

We wait too long to set aside our anger and our hatreds,
to banish petty grievances and resentments.

We wait too long to forgive the hurts we have suffered,
and to ask forgiveness for those we have inflicted.

We wait too long to set aside selfishness,
to give of ourselves and to share our bounty.

We wait too long to make the most of our gifts,
to nurture those we love, and help those who are in need.

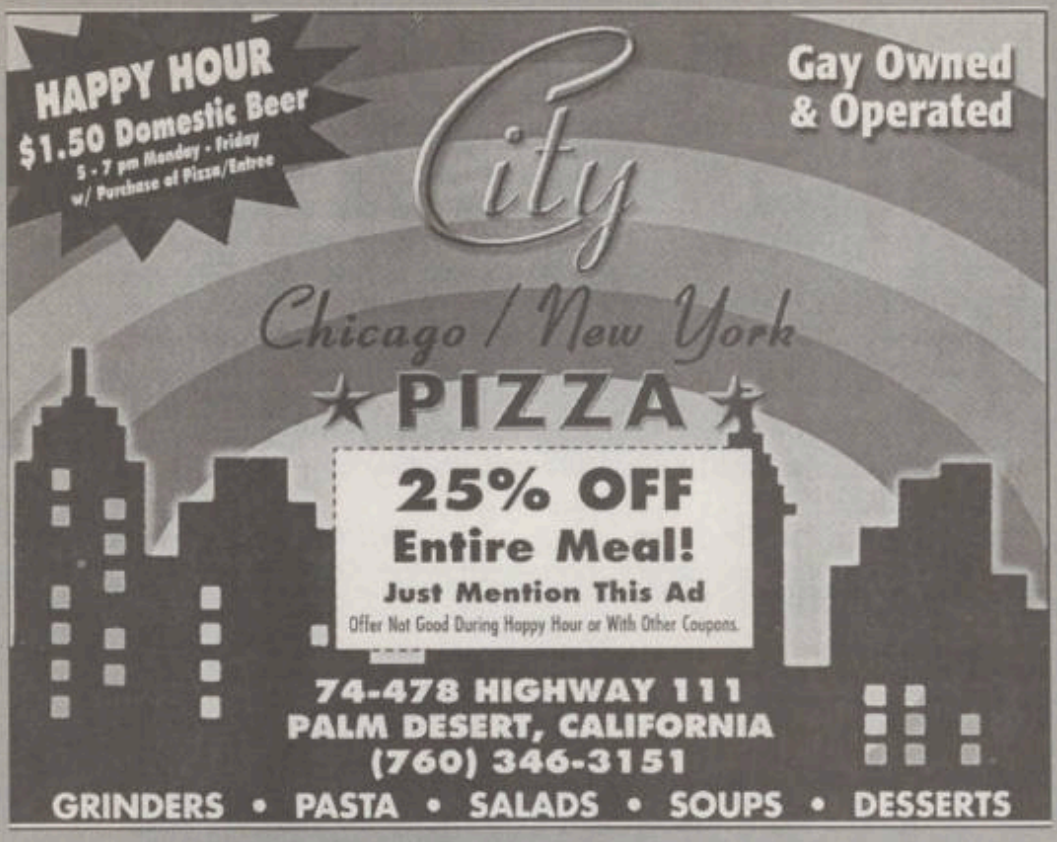
We wait too long to give and to share the love
which may no longer be needed tomorrow.

So in tribute to Newt Deiter and those no longer with
each of us, let us now resolve
to wait no longer, to delay no more.

Let us all begin to do now
those good things which can be done today.


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THANK YOU

The Board of Directors wishes to express its sincere gratitude to everyone who gave of him or herself to assist us in the production of Pride 2002, and all the previous years. Amazing and wonderful things are possible through working together. We are proud, honored and humbled that so many gave so much, so willingly, and so often. We salute the volunteers and sponsors and all of the unnamed, behind the scenes supporters who have made this production possible.

Blaine Duerr , Jack's partner of thirty years, who has put up with him all through the years.
City of Palm Springs Parks & Recreation
Michele, and all the folks of the Special Events Committee
Dick Haskamp
Jack Ellison, of Sentra Securities
Bob Parrott & Paul Bacon
The City of Palm Springs
Mayor Kleindienst
Joanne Plummer
Alan Seymour
Elizabeth Baker
Denise Goolsby and Joane Garcia-Colson
Mail Box Plus
Mitch, and all the men & women of the Palm Springs City Police & Fire Department
Craig & Rick at Q Trading
San Diego, Long Beach, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Ventura, Los Angeles, Inland Empire, and all the other Prides, and members of CAPI & InterPride

THE EYES OF PRIDE

by Jack Schloeder, President - Greater Palm Springs Pride

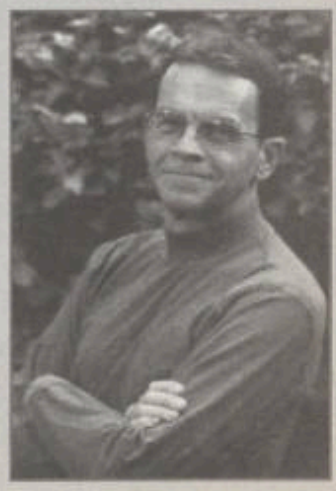


Loretta Vlach *(r)*
with partner in camera action, Maile

Last year, as I was standing in the stadium during set up, someone I did not know was carrying a camera. As I was about to eject her from the area, she explained that she wanted to do a camera project. Her efforts and generosity has allowed us to show what Pride is about. From Board Meetings to site set up and teardown, Dinners and Parties, Loretta was there to record the many faces and facets of Pride in Palm Springs. Without her, this program would not be possible, and we remain eternally grateful to have her with us, as well her contribution to this community.

Tim Bridges

Designer of the Pride Program



There are no words to express the gratitude of the Board for the efforts of Tim Bridges! His commitment to the creation of our Program, and to the overall success of our event cannot be assigned a monetary figure. His creative talents and professionalism have no equal.



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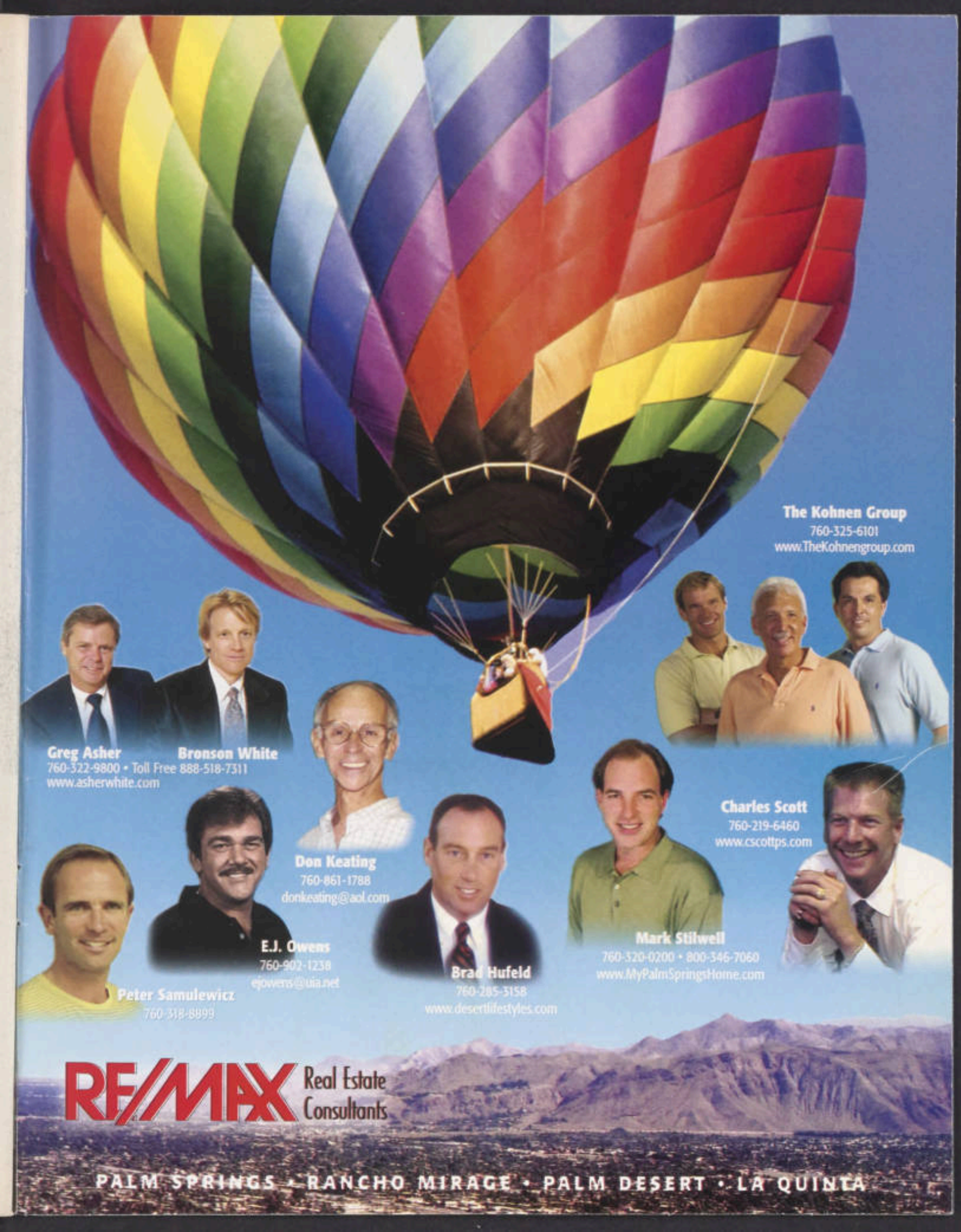


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