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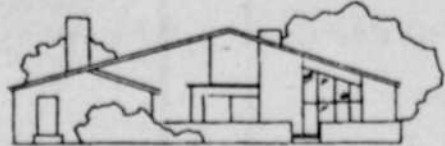


CHRISTMAS TEA BENEFIT

Wednesday
December 12, 1990
The Tea Court
Heathman Hotel
S.W. Broadway at Salmon
Portland, Oregon

First Seating
3:00 to 5:00 in the afternoon
Second Seating
5:30 to 7:30 at dusk
Limited Seating
Reservation deadline
December 10, 1990

Ticket - Fifty dollars
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local briefs

AIDS Memorial Quilt in Portland

Over 1,600 panels from the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, an international memorial to those who have died of AIDS, will be on display in Portland Friday, Nov. 30 through Sunday, Dec. 2 at the Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. The Portland showing is the largest Quilt display commemorating World AIDS Day, Dec. 1. The full Quilt, over 13,000 three by six foot panels, is now too big to be seen in one place.

The schedule is as follows:

▼ Friday, Nov. 30, 7-10 pm (Opening ceremonies begin at 7 pm, the Quilt will be unfolded at 7:30 pm)

▼ Saturday, Dec. 1, 9 am - 10 pm

▼ Sunday, Dec. 2, 9 am - 5:30 pm (Closing ceremonies begin at 5 pm) Admission is free, donations are welcome.

Founded in June 1987, the NAMES Project developed the Quilt in San Francisco as a personal response to the seemingly endless tragedy of the AIDS epidemic. "The Quilt serves as a positive and creative means of expression for those people whose lives have been touched by AIDS. It provides a way to educate the public by illustrating the impact of the epidemic and showing the humanity behind the statistics," said James Bryson, president of the NAMES Project Oregon Chapter. "More than 500 Oregonians - men, women, and children - have died of AIDS, and many of them have memorial panels included in the display," he added.

All donations collected at the Quilt showing will be distributed to local agencies providing direct services to people with AIDS and HIV and their loved ones. Recipients include Our House, The Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon HIV Day Center, The House of Light, Cascade AIDS Project Brinker Fund, and Esther's Pantry.

Committees forming for lesbian and gay pride celebration

Committees are now forming to prepare for this year's lesbian and gay pride celebration. People are needed to plan the parade, rally, the pride program, entertainment, security, publicity, and a speakers bureau. Energy and ideas are needed to make this the biggest lesbian and gay pride celebration ever.

"We don't require a lot of your time, just a commitment from people to do what they can," said Stewart Jolliffe, co-chair of the committee. He says that some ideas that have been bandied about are a big pre-pride book fair, a kick-off dance in early June, and outreach throughout the state. For more information or to volunteer, call 232-8233.

Leather politics and competition

The National Leather Association meeting here Oct. 25-28 elected Shannon Kennedy of Denver and Jim Richards of Dallas as their new co-chairs. The competition for Mr. and Ms. National Leather Association was won by Seattle's Howard Martin and San Francisco's Ruth Marks. On the political front, delegates called for angry letters to the Human Rights Campaign Fund exercise director Tim McFeeley in protest of an announcement of the HRCF community-service award to Michigan Womyn's Music Festival producers Barbara Price and Lisa Vogel, who restricted the activities of leatherwomen during this year's fest. In a prepared statement, HRCF responded: "Exclusion of, and discrimination against, the leather community is contrary to the goals of the HRCF. These are concerns which must be worked out within the women's community itself."

Buffet Flat update

The members of the Deschutes Board of County Commissioners have changed their minds. Gene Craven, Jr. and Mike Carsey opened Buffet Flat, an antique store, 14 years ago just north of Bend on Highway 97. The highway is now being widened and the store must move. At a public hearing in Sept., more than 20 people testified in favor of moving Buffet Flat across the highway. (See November 1990 issue) The Deschutes Commissioners said yes, now they say no.

Buffet Flat will close Dec. 24, 1990.

Hundreds send postcards

The lesbian and gay community responded enthusiastically to ACT UP Portland's "Postcards to the Stars" campaign at Pride celebrations in Portland and San Francisco. Five hundred people addressed postcards to over 70 different closeted entertainers, sports figures and politicians, urging them to join the struggle for lesbian and gay civil rights by coming out of the closet. Almost twice as many postcards were addressed to famous dykes than famous gay men. Jodie Foster, Tracy Chapman, and k.d. lang were the top three women addressees; Tom Cruise, Greg Louganis and Arsenio Hall were the most popular men.

"If every closeted queer in Hollywood came out imagine the challenge to damaging stereotypes and the change in people's attitudes that would have to take place in this country. Imagine if straight people realized that their idols and heroes and heart throbs were lesbians and gay men!" said Lori Kohler of ACT UP Portland. "It may be that many gay and lesbian entertainers feel locked in the closet; for some the closet may not be a matter of choice. We are sending those people a message that they have support. We are reminding them that in order to break down walls of homophobia they must come out," added Laura White of ACT UP Portland.

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