

letters

OCA faxback

To the Editor:

My name is David Hudson, I am an employee of a Portland area radio station. Recently the OCA faxed the station several press releases, concerning their boycott of two newspapers.

I have never been a big fan of the OCA. I returned my opinion of them, the boycott and the ballot measure, by fax...so to speak, knowing full well that they would not be amused.

My fax caught the attention of Scott Lively, and a colorful character he is too. Lively has assured me in writing that he will "...investigate to find out where I work and alert my superiors of my actions." The actions he refers to are those of mine and others to boycott any known businesses supporting the OCA.

Businesses that include The Heritage House Restaurant, King's Way Book Store, Floyd Beam Insurance, Instant Sign Centers of Oregon and The Wild Plum Restaurant.

I believe Lively's intent to seek out my employer, shows the true colors of the OCA, a vindictive, hate-filled organization who will stop at nothing to destroy those who publicly oppose them. My employer is aware of my views, and isn't concerned about my personal beliefs or actions on my own time. The OCA reminds me of Nazi Germany, as they started a hate campaign against the Jewish race, and ultimately murdered six million of them.

I am writing to you because I feel that you may be the best source I can think of, for information to fight these "people." Information (truth) is something the OCA is seriously lacking.

Groups like the OCA would limit one's freedom of choice, speech, and religion. That is what I feel they are trying to do. They scare the heck out of someone like me, in the broadcast industry. Other than that, my brother is gay. I don't like what the OCA wants to classify him or anyone else as.

I need to make one point clear, these are MY OWN PERSONAL OPINIONS. They DO NOT reflect the views of my employers. This is a personal thing for me, not professional.

David Hudson
Portland

Support gay pride

At this year's pride event I stated during the rally that I would be resigning as the co-chair of Lesbian and Gay Pride, after three years in that position. In early October I mailed over 450 fundraising letters to past and current supporters of Portland's Gay Pride Parade. In order for us to keep our office and phone for the next year we would have to raise \$1,200. We have received \$115. We have struggled to put on the best parade and rally yearly and I feel we've done an excellent job with the limited support from the community that we've had. Each year we've dealt with nothing but complaints from the community: not enough music, too many speakers, too many women, too inclusive, not inclusive enough, bad rally location, too many drag queens, not enough leather, too much leather...ad nauseam. If the lack of funds is any gage of the support in the community for our parade, I'm sorely disappointed. I wish my replacement chairs all the best this year as they try to put together Oregon's largest lesbian and gay event with a working committee of four people. I encourage each of you to do something: donate money, last year's event cost over \$7,000 to produce; volunteer, it takes thousands of hours of work to make this event happen.

Encourage your friends to come, with over 50,000 gay men and lesbians in this community, shouldn't we have more than six or seven thousand people in the streets? Please, we only have one day a year that is officially ours in this city...do something to make it the best day possible.

Stewart Jolliffe
Co-chair Lesbian and Gay Pride 1991
Portland

Cabbie racism

To the Editor:

In September, my roommate, a black man about my age (39) came home from downtown, late at night, on two different occasions with stories about how Broadway Cab drivers refused to take him home (near Lloyd Center). He told me that a total of five drivers refused to take him home. I remembered hearing similar stories from other black men I know regarding Broadway Cab. I wrote them a letter of complaint, and I called the company to see if they had received my letter and if they intended to follow up on it. I talked with a Roy Scott, a public relations person, he told me that he had not received the letter and asked me to send another copy to him personally. I did so, but not before putting him in contact with my roommate.

Then I received a letter from Scott. He assured me that the philosophy of Broadway Cab Company is to transport anyone who has the money to pay, anywhere they wish to go, in a professional manner. He also pointed out some drivers had reported being physically abused by some clients and therefore might tend to be a little "cautious." I felt that that excuse is a thinly veiled way of refusing to take black men to locations in North or Northeast Portland.

What I did not realize at the time is that, although he was willing to respond to me, (a white man) he had not made any attempt to respond to my roommate, who was the actual victim of the racism.

White people have a tremendous amount of power to do something about racism simply because they're white. I would be interested in hearing from other white people who are willing to make an impact on racism in Portland.

I would also like to hear about any incidents of racism experienced by any of your readers involving Broadway Cab. The time, date, and cab number or driver's name for each incident would be helpful. I figure if there are enough incidents reported that either he, or the bureau that licenses his company will investigate these incidents and do something about this racism. Call 287-8843.

Gregory Franklin
Portland

Phone home Allan

To the Editor:

I am sending this letter, hoping and praying I can get in contact with my son, Allan Gary Smith, who celebrated his 47th birthday Dec. 15.

It has been almost 12 years since I heard from him and I have no idea where he can be and I've tried almost everything. I would love to have him contact me at (503) 842-5812.

Please, Allan (Gary) contact your mother who loves you very much.

Janice A. Lindley
Tillamook

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