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## local news

### RTP hosts Garden Party, seeks board members

Right To Privacy Inc. will hold its fourth annual Garden Party on July 30 from 3 to 6 pm. The event will be held in Sherwood, Ore., and will feature guest speakers Portland Mayor Vera Katz, U.S. Rep. Elizabeth Furse, and state Reps. Gail Shibley and Chuck Carpenter. A celebrity hat auction will also be held. Tickets for the event are \$25 and are available by calling RTP at 228-5825.

RTP's political action committee, meanwhile, is accepting applications for positions on its 19-member board of directors. RTP PAC is seeking board members with bookkeeping and fund-raising skills. Contact the above number for an application.



Right To Privacy is a statewide organization dedicated to advancing human rights for sexual minorities in Oregon. RTP Inc. is the group's educational and lobbying arm; RTP PAC raises and contributes money to political candidates and ballot measures supportive of the group's goals.

### Pride Foundation awards grants to 22 projects

The Seattle-based Pride Foundation has issued \$50,000 in grants to 22 Pacific Northwest community organizations for its spring 1995 granting cycle. The organizations funded benefit gay men and lesbians and allied communities in a variety of areas including youth and family services, AIDS education, the arts, and women's health.

The recipients and awards include: the Portland-based Lesbian Community Project, \$2,000 to support the group's Lesbians of Color Caucus; Rural Organizing Project, \$3,000 to mail monthly informational packets to more than 60 small groups working against discrimination in rural Oregon; Community Outreach, \$3,000 to fund Lesbian Health Matters!, a grass-roots project that will hold two clinics in Corvallis in the next year designed to provide medical exams and health education to rural lesbians; and the Intertribal Two-Spirit Nation, \$2,400 to print and distribute a quarterly newsletter for Native American lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. The newsletter, which goes to urban- and reservation-dwelling Native people in Washington and Oregon, has doubled its circulation in the last year.

The Pride Foundation targets the needs of the lesbian and gay community in rural and urban areas of the Pacific Northwest. Since 1987, Pride has awarded more than \$600,000 to a wide range of projects. The group plans to award an additional \$50,000 through its fall granting cycle. Applications for the fall cycle will be available Aug. 15 and due Oct. 15. For more information, call (206) 323-3318 or 1-800-735-7287.

### Phoenix Rising dinner a success

An estimated 175 people attended Phoenix Rising Foundation's inaugural Lesbian and Gay Pride Dinner held June 15 at the Portland Hilton. The event celebrated the life of Jack Abele, who helped found Phoenix Rising, one of the few counseling centers nationwide specifically de-

signed to serve the needs of sexual minorities. Abele died in January.

According to Allanya Guenther, Phoenix Rising's executive director, about \$8,000 was raised through ticket sales and donations stemming from the event.

"I'm totally impressed with the foundation's board of directors and dinner organizing committee. They broke all convention by turning the event into a moneymaker. Typically, a first-year event will break even at best. I especially commend the dinner's co-chairs, John Baker and Karen Lamica, along with the development committee chairman, Matthew Nelson, for their tireless efforts and leadership."

An award bearing Abele's name was presented posthumously and was accepted by his life partner, Warren James.

### Portland Leather Pride Weekend set

The Portland Leather Pride Weekend is slated for Aug. 11-13. The celebration, which is sponsored by the Greater Portland Leather Association, kicks off on Aug. 11 with a Meet 'n' Greet reception at PDX Eagle, 1300 W Burnside St. in Portland. Several other events will be held throughout the weekend, including the Tacky Titles Awards and a "Leather Tastings" demonstration at Panorama, 341 SW 10th Ave. in Portland. The demonstration, slated for Aug. 13 from 1 to 4 pm, is described as a "fetish sampling" which offers participants a chance to try out their "secret fantasies" under the guidance of "celebrated masters and mistresses."

Rounding out the weekend will be the selection of the next titleholders to represent the National Leather Association's Portland chapter. The selection will be held Aug. 13 at Darcelle XV, 208 NW Third Ave. in Portland. Admission is \$8; doors open at 7 pm. This year's contest will be produced by RB/H productions. San Francisco personality Andy Anderson and Jeff Rose, Mr. Portland Leather 1993, will host the program. Headlining the entertainment will be Tonya Rose, Ms. Gay Oregon 22.



ILLUSTRATION BY E. ANN HINDS

Contestant applications are available at Darcelle XV; Tim's Hideaway, 4429 SE 82nd Ave.; Hart Video, 330 SW Third Ave.; or candidates can obtain applications by calling NLA Portland at 727-3148. Applications must be received by NLA Portland no later than Aug. 5.

The Mark Spencer Hotel, located at 409 SW 11th Ave. (at Stark) in downtown Portland, is the host hotel for the weekend. For reservations, call 224-3293; outside the Portland area, call 1-800-548-3934. Special rates are available for those who request the Leather Pride Weekend rates when making reservations. For more detailed information about celebration events, contact NLA Portland at 727-3148 or write PO Box 5161, Portland, OR 97208.

Compiled by Inga Sorensen



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