

Nip and tuck

Improvements bring great value to our community and our advertisers

November marks the anniversary month of *Just Out*, and this year we celebrate 22 years of publishing accomplishment. I'll tell you how and where this year finds *Just Out*, but before tooting our own horn, I'd like to acknowledge a few achievements and honors bestowed upon others this month.

Over at her favorite venue, Holocene, organizer Shoshannah Oppenheim celebrated the second anniversary of Tart, her monthly "swank soiree where the queer girls play." This event has become very popular with a wide cross section of Portland's lesbian community, drawing in hundreds of women monthly. The success of this event has set the stage for an energetic new flurry of events and activities hosted by women, for women. It's clear that the women's community is ready to attend a wide assortment of events, and it's gratifying to see the faces of new organizers such as Cruise Control PDX, Girls on Gay, Barb Beck and Gabriela Kandziora stepping up to showcase their events and venues.

Pictures from the anniversary fete at Tart can be found on our photo gallery at www.justout.com.

On a note of literary achievement, former *Just Out* columnist Marc Acito was a recipient of a 2005 Oregon Book Award. His first novel, *How I Paid for College: A Novel of Sex, Theft, Friendship and Musical Theater*, was selected from five finalist nominees for the Ken Kesey Award for the Novel. Acito is working on his second novel.


Portland's beloved grande dame, Darcelle XV, celebrated her 75th birthday Nov. 16 at a celebration attended by hundreds of friends, relatives and well-wishers. A notable highlight of the festivities included a respectful and detailed historical article in the Nov. 13 issue of *The Los Angeles Times Magazine* celebrating the life and times of Portland's long-reigning drag queen. Darcelle is a treasure of our community, and it is rewarding to see appreciation bestowed from both near and afar. Please turn to Page 45 of this issue for more highlights of the birthday bash.

Turning back to *Just Out*, it is indeed our 22nd anniversary—and we come bearing gifts for you. Two are of great significance. Turn please to Page 9 for details on the first recipients of the *Just Out* Scholarship Fund, which is slated for annual distribution. *Just Out* looks forward to reaching across the state in search of outstanding candidates for these awards—serving the community of tomorrow as well as that of today. Our second gift is the debut of our long-awaited new Web site, www.justout.com. This project has been months in the making, and it was my goal to announce, with this issue, that it is finished and ready to go. But as I learn more and more about this new venture, I can honestly tell you now that it will never be done. There is always going to be something new to add, something old to

improve and enhance, something tired to remove. We have directories to build and archives to add, we have www.justoutpersonals.com to launch, and there are thousands of photos yet to take. Are we new, are we improved, are we bringing great value to our community and our advertisers? Yes! Are we finished? No! Keep checking back; there'll be something new waiting for you.

Did you notice our new logo, our redesign, our new look? With this issue we're shaking things up a bit—moving this, moving that. It's a sign of the strength and stability that we celebrate and bring to you with this anniversary issue. The *Just Out* staff abounds with skill and expertise, and we start our 23rd year of publishing by being the strongest we've ever been. Coincidentally, the area's largest alternative paper, *Willamette Week*, also acknowledges its publication date anniversary in November, and this year, as in the past, publisher Richard Meeker gives an overview of the status of his paper, not unlike I'm doing here. One familiar theme: a new technological monster chomping away at the profits of alternative media. Our new nemesis? Craigslist. No doubt this Web site powerhouse is a valuable tool; I myself admit to using it to post help-wanted ads. But the money I'm saving with these free postings doesn't begin to compensate for the dollars leached away by its free classified ad programs. This has been a big financial hit to all papers, including *Just Out*. But I'm up to the challenge, and with our new Web site I'm confident that we'll find a way to shore up our standing in the marketplace. What does this mean to you? Continued improvement, greater value and the knowledge that your community paper is striving to be the best that it can be. Looks for changes soon.

I'll be stepping into the online personals market with the launch of www.justout-personals.com Dec. 1. The first event to celebrate the site will be for women seeking women Dec. 7 at Zaytoon. We'll have computer demonstrations of the new online profile format, music, door prizes, food and special guests. Co-hosting this event are Cruise Control PDX, Zaytoon and singer/songwriter Ashleigh Flynn. Complete details can be found in the Dec. 2 issue of *Just Out* and, you guessed it, at www.justout.com. An event for men seeking men will be announced soon.

Finally, in the Oct. 21 issue of *Just Out*, under the heading "Media Watch," we reported that *The Oregonian* had indicated that Lou Beres, longtime chairman of the Christian Coalition of Oregon, was under investigation for charges that he had, years earlier, molested three family members. Well, *The Oregonian* reported Nov. 16 that the investigation has ended because the events allegedly occurred too long ago to be considered for prosecution. Likely we'll never know if there was credibility attached to the accusations, and as every good citizen knows, all Americans are "innocent until proven guilty." Rats. 

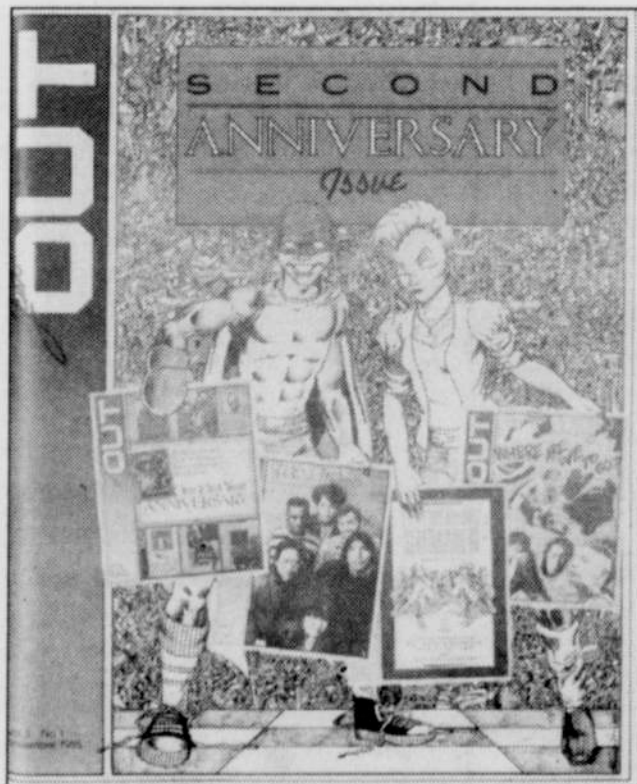
reflections

20 Years Ago in *Just Out*...
Vol. 3 No. 1, November 1985

- With this issue *Just Out* marks our second anniversary. In the scheme of things two years is a very short time, but we think it is pretty exciting and amazing that a gay/lesbian newspaper has been able to survive that long and prosper without the support of the most visible businesses in the community.
- Cascade AIDS Network, the newest member of Portland's service organizations family, is joining with AIDS service organizations nationwide in organizing a "Frost Watch" to encourage viewing "An Early Frost" Nov. 11 on NBC.
- Raymond M. Berger sees himself as part of a positive, important expansion at Phoenix Rising. Best known for his work with older gay men, the 35-year-old joined the staff five months ago. Berger has published more than 30 articles about social work practice, aging and gay and lesbian issues. He is listed in the 1985-86 volume of International Authors and Writers Who's Who.

• Oregon Public Broadcasting is airing **The Times of Harvey Milk and Silent Pioneers**... **Silent Pioneers** is a documentary about elderly gay and lesbians and the pioneering achievement they have made to our community.

• A landmark event for Portland's gay community will take place Nov. 30 when the Portland Gay Men's Chorus is included as an equal partner in the Choral Consortium's Gala Holiday Concert at Arlene Schnitzler Concert



featured at a meeting of Radical Women. Guest speaker Chayatha Phelps will discuss the impact of the revolution on women in the family and the labor force and as leaders in building a new society.

• National Gay Rights Advocates has filed a lawsuit challenging the validity of Nevada's sodomy statute. The suit charges the state with violating the constitutional rights of gay men and women. In Nevada, sodomy is a felony, punishable by up to six years in prison.



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Walking into the past, discovering the present

NEWS

9-17 NORTHWEST

Just Out scholarship winners; World AIDS Day events; Basic Rights Oregon responds to defeat; gay judge steps down; Gay Skate Night RIP; free weekly rapid HIV testing and STD screening nights; Washington Supreme Court gives lesbian parental rights; Poison Waters joins CAP; Pride Foundation gives local organizations money; TIRC online survey

19-21 NATIONAL

Campaign to End AIDS Caravan report; PlanetOut to acquire *Advocate*, *Out* publisher; Senate panel approves marriage amendment; gay candidates elected across U.S.; Texas approves marriage amendment; Maine gay rights law foes shift focus to marriage; Montana town hires gay liaison officer; California Appeals Court urged to uphold lower court's ruling allowing same-sex couples to marry; New Hampshire panel votes against civil unions; meth abuse on the rise in D.C.

20-21 WORLD

Polish prime minister to abolish office that advocates for gays; Saudi police raid drag pageant

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