



PAGE 3 by Marty Davis

That's a Wrap

A challenging year of publishing comes to a close as Volume 27 looks bright

Thank you for picking up and reading the October 16, 2009 issue of *Just Out*. I appreciate each and every reader of this publication.

There are a couple of points to be made about this issue. First, a reminder that *Just Out* publishes, in print, on the first and third Friday of each month. October is a month with five Fridays, so we won't appear in print again until the first Friday next month, November 6. For the most part, the *Just Out* staff will be on vacation the week of October 19. Daily news updates will still be posted at www.justout.com.

Just Out is sponsoring two community events to be held before we next appear in print, so I want to take a moment to invite you to them. Monday, October 19 is our monthly Gay Skate night, held at Oaks Park Roller Rink. October is Halloween month and Gay Skate will be the kick-off event for all your festivities. We'll be judging costumes, with separate prizes for adults and children. Gay skate is family-friendly and everyone is welcome. Admission is only \$6 per person; that amount gets you a pair of roller skates and an evening of fun and exercise. Bring us your Halloween best.

Gay Skaters are a generous group and we fill several boxes monthly with donated canned foods for Esther's Pantry. With the onset of colder, wetter weather the need for food assistance becomes even greater. These are not the best of financial times for many; food bank donations can be gentle on your wallet while still allowing you to make a valuable contribution to someone in need. I'd love to see Portland's GLBT community work together to make many more of our events into collection points for food donations. If you are an event promoter or sponsor or perhaps a business owner who would like to work with *Just Out* and Esther's Pantry on becoming a donation point, please get in touch with me. We'll partner together to get the word out about your event and the opportunity for folks to bring food donations. Thanks to the women of Motherlode for making their November 14 concert available for food donations. Please contact me if you'd like your event to be next.

The second event is the return of **Women Seeking Women Bunco Night**, or as we call it at *Just Out*, "All The Single Ladies, All The Single Ladies." Bunco was a popular event for many months until suddenly, no one was single any more--now what was up with that? Ah, time passes, relationships, um, alter, and new

single ladies are now looking for Bunco again. So Bunco it will be. We'll meet at the new Q Center at 6 p.m. on Sunday, October 24. This is a definite "the more the merrier" event, so if you're single, looking to meet new friends and have some fun, join us for an evening of laughter and whatever. Admission is a mere \$5 plus, you guessed it, a donation of canned food for Esther's Pantry. No prior Bunco experience is required; all the single ladies are encouraged to attend.

What's the second item of interest about this issue? Well this almost escaped my attention, but this issue is Volume 26, issue Number 24 of *Just Out*. What does that mean? It means that with this issue *Just Out* has completed our 26th year of publishing, and with the next, we will begin our 27th.

Exactly one year ago we were sending out invitations for the *Just Out* 25th anniversary party, hosted and organized by Ron Mitchell of Red Cap and Boxes, a man to whom I shall be eternally grateful for his kindness, generosity and incredible organizing skills. One year ago, as we were planning what turned out to be the best anniversary party ever, I already sensed that the wolf was knocking at the door. I optimistically thought we'd scare him away with hard work and good intentions. The wolf, however, had different plans. I don't think I need to recap what happened to America financially in the last quarter of last year. Things got rough. Really rough.

Following a tough year's end, in January 2009, newly elected and openly gay Portland Mayor Sam Adams held a press conference and announced that he'd not been forthcoming with voters when questioned about a personal relationship. *Just Out* issued a call for the mayor's resignation. All hell then broke loose. The following months brought a nonstop barrage of threats, intimidation, vandalism and plain old nastiness from those with a differing point of view.

In March the damn wolf nearly took down the door. Advertising income dried up completely. The business community drew its purse strings tightly shut. Stress levels in the office were high and unmanageable. Daily articles heralding the death of America's newspaper industry added to the pressure. When I thought it couldn't get worse, it did. On March 13, I arrived at work to discover that the editorial staff had quit during the night.

This, finally, was too much. I gave up. I

was done. Portland no longer had a newspaper serving the gay, lesbian, bi and trans community. I had been beat.

My self-pity lasted about an hour.

Then I got up, kicked myself in the butt, along with a few others, and went back to work. I put out the call for help. Help arrived, some unexpected, all appreciated. *Just Out* did not miss an issue.

Experienced new staff was hired. Creative, enthusiastic, passionate new energy and ideas flowed into the pages. Late spring brought ad income trickling back in. Dear readers, if you think your job is difficult, try selling newspaper ads in a recession. It's not easy; it's not fun. Thank you, Larry, Justin and Lynda for doing nearly the impossible; you kept this paper going.

Now, at the close of our 26th year of publishing, the future looks most definitely brighter. In response to the quality of *Just Out*'s content, new advertisers are entrusting us with their ad dollars. I ask you, our readers, to please spend what you can with *Just Out* advertisers. Seriously, they're the nicest people around. Please, please, support our advertisers.

In short, our 26th year kinda sucked. I can tell you, though, the new year is looking marvelously better already. We start our 27th year as we have the previous 26, by being here. By being here every month, every week, and every day. By telling your stories, honoring your achievements, archiving our history and supporting events and community. Not now and then, not once a year, not just at Pride. *Just Out*, every day, every week, every month, every year, for 26 years, and many more to come.

There is no shame in deserved self-promotion. *Just Out* is a damn fine paper produced by a dedicated, excellent staff. We are justifiably proud of the work we do.

Thanks for
26 years.
Portland.
Here's to us
all for making
it through the
last year.

just out

VOL. 26 NO. 24

OCTOBER 16, 2009

INSIDE »

» FEATURE

16 TRACKS STARS

Sound Off on the Fun, Frustration and Future of the Local Dance Scene

» NEWS

5 LETTERS

6 NORTHWEST BRIEFS

14 FOCUSING ON THE FAMILY

Three October Q Center Events Foster Community and Family Building

» PROFILES

13 KOIN-ING AN IDENTITY

It's Sunny Skies for Openly Gay Meteorologist Tim Joyce

29 GENDERF**K. YEAH!

New Organization Elects to Help Those in Need of Gender-Related Surgeries

» ARTS & CULTURE

23 OUT & ABOUT

30 REANIMATING REBELLION

The Wonderful World of Abby Denson's *Dolltopia*

31 STRAIGHTLACED

A New Documentary Explores How Gender's Got Us All Tied Up

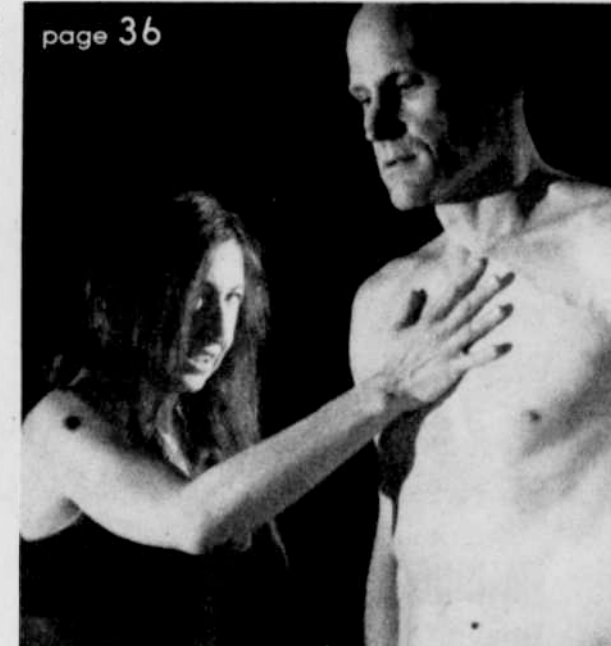
34 OUT OF A COMA

Surging Indie Trio Girl in a Coma Rocks Portland

36 THE SUM OF ITS PARTS

Dancemakers Explore Surrealist Concepts in "Exquisite Corpse"

page 36



GORDON WILSON

» COLUMNISTS

28 LIVING OUT LOUD

37 LADY ABOUT TOWN

38 REMEMBER TO BREATHE

44 MS. BEHAVIOR

» PHOTOS

32 PEACOCK AFTER DARK

46 AIDS WALK PORTLAND '09

47 BRO DINNER