Gay History Month

October is Gay History Month so in this issue we are taking a look at our local gay history. We will peek at very personal gay history via an interview with Phyllis Rhodes about her beginnings and an interview with Stef Gingrich about growing up gay, most of which was in Alaska. Mel Green will share some local political history in her article about the upcoming survey. We have an old community center calendar and Pride Week schedule so you can see what LGBT folk were doing in 1979 and 1980, over thirty years ago! Last, but certainly not least, we have to say good bye to valued community members who have passed on into our history except as we hold them in our hearts.

PRIDE CONFERENCE
SATURDAY • OCTOBER 9 • 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
APU Campus • Carr-Gottstein Building
4225 University Drive

Phyllis Rhodes

Come for the food and conversation; come for the report of Senator Mark Begich; and come for the workshops including “Showing Alaska that Equality Works,” “So you want to run for office,” “Activism through Volunteerism,” “Change Your Handwriting, Change your Life,” Gail Smoke’s “This Is Family,” plus many others. Register at the door. Breakfast and lunch provided. Also join us for Sunday Brunch at Out North with panel discussion at 10:00 am.

GLBT Film Screening
Friday, Oct, 8 • Sunday Oct, 10

In connection with Pride Conference, join us at Out North on Friday evening and Sunday afternoon for a benefit double feature screening of the internationally acclaimed films I Can’t Think Straight and The World Unseen. The first screening will be Friday, Oct 8, 6:30 – 10:00 pm and the second screening Sunday, Oct 10, 1:00 pm. Sheetal Sheth, co-star of both films, continued on page 2

Job Offer

Position: NorthView Editor
Position Open: Now
Salary: 20 good karma points, 15 angel points, 27 thank yous, and 3 bows per month. Bows may be on one knee, from the waist, nod of head, with or without gay hand flourish, or combination of styles at candidate’s discretion.
Qualifications: The ideal candidate must be able to read and write, know how to spell or have a computer continued on page 16
LGBT History in Alaska

Pride Conference continued from page 1
will be joining us at Out North. A portion of the mon-
ey raised from these screenings will go to Anchorage’s Gay & Lesbian Community Center. Tickets are on sale at Metro Music. Visit www.enlightenment-productions.com for more information about the films.

Meet Film Actress Sheetal Sheth
Saturday, Oct 9 • 5:00-8:00 pm

Hang out with actress Sheetal Sheth! You are warmly invited you to Hang Out with Sheetal, a lot of your good friends and have some great snacks and beverages. Please join us at Amy Young and Jean Craciun’s place at 1334 K Street, near City Market. $25 suggested donation will go toward screening ex-
penses and to benefit the Gay & Lesbian Community Center.

Mark your calendars now – a lot is going on!

Fried Green Tomatoes
An Interview with Phyllis Rhodes

Editor’s note: During lunch months ago (Tofu Curry at Ray’s Place), Phyllis very briefly shared with me the story of her beginnings. It sounded like a Fried Green Tomatoes love story. With some coaxing, Phyllis has agreed to share her personal history with all of us in honor of Gay History Month.

Editor: As I remember, Phyllis, this story began when your mother was just a child.

Phyllis: Yes, my mother, Marie, came to this country from France after World War I as a displaced person. She was just 12 years old. She was placed with a family in Kansas who had a daughter named Florence and that is where she grew up.

Editor: Marie and Florence eventually became lovers?

Phyllis: In those days they were called “roommates.” Marie and Florence were roommates for 10 years. They had a café in Chickashaw, Oklahoma, where they lived and worked.

Editor: This is sounding very Fried Green Tomatoes. What happened next?

Phyllis: Marie learned she had an uncle living in Arizona. She very much wanted to meet a living blood relative, so she left Florence to slowly make her way to Arizona. Along the way, Marie met and married a not-particularly-nice man and got pregnant with me.

Editor: What was Florence doing during this time?

Phyllis: When Marie went to Arizona, Florence moved to Texas. Marie gave birth to me and became ill with complications from the pregnancy and birth. Marie called for Florence when I was 10 days old and Florence went to Marie in Arizona. Marie asked Florence to take and raise me and Florence agreed. Marie died and her funeral was held when I was less than a month old. Florence bought a headstone for Marie’s grave and took me to Amarillo, Texas, to raise.

Editor: That is so sad! This story is the very definition of the word “bittersweet.” What happened next?

Phyllis: When I was 2 years old my paternal grandparents filed a lawsuit for custody of me. The judge decided I had to be put in an orphanage in Amarillo, Texas, during the custody trial. In that place, in those days, orphanages charged fees. Florence paid the orphanage fees for me; I still have some of those receipts. During the trial, paternal family members and my father’s ex-wife came and testified I should not be given to my father or paternal grandparents. The judge agreed and awarded Florence legal custody of me. She immediately filed for adoption. In 1939, when I was 2 years old, Judge Gee granted Florence’s petition to adopt me. It was the very first adoption allowed to a single woman in the state of Texas.

Editor: You made history. You were the first baby in Texas adopted to a single woman. How old were you when you learned about your beginnings?

Phyllis: I always knew. Florence raised me with the knowledge I was adopted. I grew up knowing continued on page 3
Growing Up Gay  
An Interview with Stef Gingrich

Editor’s note: In this interview Stef Gingrich agreed to share his memories, as accurate or faded as they may be, of our community and GLBT Alaska, or at least the part of it lived by him. Our hope is that you will recognize and remember some of your own experiences and share them with others as well.

Editor: Stef, were you born in Alaska?
Stef: I originally come from Florida. I first came to Alaska in 1964 when I was 7 years old to visit my dad who lived in Cape Chiniak. After high school I worked in a cannery in Kodiak to save money for college.

Editor: Did you know you were gay then?
Stef: Yes. I had crushes on cute boys when I was 5 years old so I always knew I was gay.

Editor: So, you were coming into young adulthood in the early 1970’s. What sort of gay community existed then? How did you learn about being gay?
Stef: There was a small GLBT community. My uncle, Mack Miller, was gay and he introduced me to people. There was a small group of about 7-8 people who mostly met at each other’s homes for social events. My uncle started the first gay A.A. in Alaska. It was called “Live and Let Live” and met at the community center. In those days there were no Gay Studies sections in bookstores or classes in school. So in high school I got some mail order books on the subject to read. One of the first I got was written by John Paul Hudson. He was FKen Freedman’s partner. I also got The Other Face of Love by Raymond DeBeck.

Editor: Were there any openly gay bars in Anchorage then? Did you go?
Stef: There was The Bonfire. It was located in a tiny house on 5th Avenue and I think it was the first gay bar. I probably walked back and forth on the street a few times before I got the nerve to go inside. I didn’t know people went to bars at night so I went in the afternoon. I sat alone, had a coke, and left without talking to anybody. That was my first bar experience.

Editor: Where did you go to college?
Stef: I went to college in Fairbanks and studied art and history. I came out to my roommate.

Editor: How did you come out?
Stef: I got a mail order copy of the book Sexuality and Homosexuality: A New View by Arno Karlen then I put it on the bookshelf and waited for him to notice it.

Editor: How did that work out?
Stef: Actually, not well. I ended up getting a single continued on page 4
room out of it. My roommate outed me to the school counselor who, in turn, connected me with “the other gay guy” so I found some community.

Editor: Were you at all politically active, yet?
Stef: I was part of starting the gay students group at UAF. The Gay Co-op, The University Gay Community...we never really could decide on a name for it. It wasn’t an official UAF recognized group but during those times we did not really see the importance of pushing for official recognition. We did send a letter to NGTF (National Gay Task Force), which later became NGLTF, for advice on how to get UAF to recognize us, but not to do activism. It was about wanting social connection more than an awareness of specific political goals, although some of the men had political goals.

Editor: What happened after college?
Stef: In 1978 I was back in Anchorage. The community center, then called Alaska Gay Community Center (AGCC) was going and I volunteered. It was in an alley in a little rented house at, I believe, 837 ½ I Street. The center had its own printing press and put out the “Gay Alaska” newsletter, the precursor to NorthView. There was a very active rap (the talk, not the music) group every Saturday night and Live and Let Live on Friday nights. The SOGS were active, Slightly Older Gays, as well as the YAGS, Young Alaskan Gays. We did things like have monthly pot lucks.

Editor: What was Pride week like?
Stef: The Intra Community Council organized Pride week. It was more of a march than a parade and the gathering on the park strip was more of a rally. There was a conference in conjunction with Pride week. We had “Mr. Groovy Guy” which was the precursor to Mr. Gay Alaska. We had t-shirts for Pride week but we made two versions, one for people who were out and one for people who were still in the closet. In 1979 the design was a puffin and the theme was “Anatomy is not destiny.” I designed the shirt in 1980 and it was an artic Phoenix with “Gay Pride Week” on top and “Alaska 1980” on the bottom. The theme that year was “We are family.”

Editor: Who or what was the Intra Community Council?
Stef: It was a group made up of the community center, MCC, Mount McKinley Non-ascent group, Knights of Malta, which was a gay motorcycle group, Imperial Court, Privy Council, and the bars, The Village and The Jade Room, which was a block away from the community center. There were probably others involved as well that slip my mind right now.

Editor: What else was happening in the LGBT community during these years?
Stef: I think it was the summer of 1980 when the Catholic Pope came to Alaska. The community center had a banner made which read “Alaska Gay Community Center welcomes Pope John Paul 2nd to Anchorage” and we hung it out for the parade for the Pope. I still have the banner. There was the National March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Rights October 14, 1979. The community center raised money to help fund those who needed it. I think Koala Van Duff, Pepper Shaykin, Nan Harty, and Yogi Morgan went. There were about 8-10 people from our community. I believe GLCCA still has the video “Before Stonewall” which shows about 4-5 seconds of our Alaska contingent in the march. Nan Harty was the first paid executive director of the community center. She and Yogi Morgan had an apartment with a sign that read “Lesbian Arms” and they threw a great Groundhog Day party there each year. Gene Dugan started Out North with his partner and Chuck Eggan was producing a 15-30 minute gay news program on KSKA and then KTOO continued on page 5

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When you buy rippies at Mad Myrna’s, Identity wins gaming income - Myrna’s wins your business - You earn good karma & maybe a fortune!
In the 1980s, Identity, Inc. conducted two major research efforts to profile Alaska’s lesbian/gay/bisexual community and to document sexual orientation bias in Alaska.

One in Ten: A Profile of Alaska’s Lesbian & Gay Community by the volunteers of Identity, Inc. (1986) provided the first statewide portrait of Alaska’s lesbian and gay (and to some extent bisexual) population, describing our experiences of coming out, of discrimination, our physical and emotional health, religious and political affiliations, demographic characteristics, and a general needs assessment. Identity Reports: Sexual Orientation Bias in Alaska by Melissa S. Green and Jay K. Brause (1989) focused on discrimination and bias, documenting 84 actual instances of antigay bias, discrimination, harassment, or violence (including three murders) around the state, as well as the positive willingness of 20% of landlords and 31% of employers in the Anchorage area to discriminate against persons who were — or were perceived to be — gay or lesbian.

continued on page 6
A lot has changed in the two-and-a-half decades since. There’s a lot more live-and-let-live, a lot more acceptance of lesbians and gays. Yet the continuing legacy of antigay prejudice and discrimination persists. Arguably, prejudice against transfolk is even more virulent — often even within our own community.

One of the chief arguments used by opponents of last year’s Anchorage Ordinance 64 — which would have added sexual orientation and gender identity to the Municipality of Anchorage’s equal rights code — was that there was no evidence of discrimination against LGBT people. This claim was made in spite of the weight of evidence provided in One in Ten and Identity Reports. But of course, that evidence was two decades old, so ordinance opponents found it easy to ignore. They found it just as easy to close their ears to the public testimony of Anchorage LGBT residents who stepped forward to testify to very recent experiences of discrimination and bias — even as one opponent openly told the Assembly that he’d once beaten a gay man so badly that he put him in the hospital.

And so — we’ve decided to bring One in Ten up-to-date by conducting a new statewide survey — the Alaska LGBT Community Survey. Like its predecessor, the Alaska LGBT Community Survey aims to create a profile of our community in all its diversity and with all its diverse concerns. As we did in 1985-86, we hope to also use the survey as vehicle to solicit case histories to document our community’s continuing experiences with discrimination, harassment, and violence. Unlike One in Ten, the Alaska LGBT Community Survey will include transfolk as well as gay, lesbian, and bisexual folk, in the design of the survey questionnaire as well as in filling it out.

We’re in a very early stage right now. On September 27 we held the first meeting of the Community Survey Task Force, where we were fortunate to have Dr. Brad Myrstol and Khristy Parker of the Justice Center at University of Alaska Anchorage join us to help in the initial stages of developing our research design in order to ensure that it will be a high quality, reliable, and credible study. It quickly became clear that one of our goals — to have at least some data on the incidence of sexual orientation and gender identity bias and discrimination in the Municipality of Anchorage by the first half of next year — would not be possible with a statewide survey. We decided, therefore, to conduct (at least) two surveys: the Anchorage Discrimination Survey, to be completed in the next year, and a far more expansive Alaska LGBT Community Statewide Survey of the LGBT community to occur over a longer timeline.

Even as we roll up our sleeves to begin designing our questionnaires, we’re working on continuing and expanding our outreach to LGBT and allied organizations and individuals throughout the state, both to alert people who we hope will eventually be willing to take part in answering the survey, and to recruit volunteers and organizations to collaborate with us in conducting it. Because the Alaska LGBT Community Survey is not simply a survey of our community — but also a survey by our community.

Early stages, as I say. But you can keep up with us as we progress by following our blog at alaskacommunity.org. We can also be found on Twitter (@alaskacommunity) and on Facebook. If you have questions or concerns or would like to help, please write to us at alaskacommunity@gmail.com.

Dan Carter-Incontro

Until We Meet Again

Steven Cook

Republican, Democrat, lay leader, hockey fan, Board(s) Member, organizer, creator, friend, and most important, husband to Al, Dan Carter-Incontro’s life was all of this and much more. Raised in Lake City, Florida, and later living in Biloxi, Mississippi, and Shemya, Alaska, before finally settling in Anchorage, Dan was an ever-present force in the political, religious and LGBT communities.

Dan served in many capacities within the Democratic Party as District and Region chair, attended
state and national conventions, and was involved in several candidate and issue campaigns.

Dan also served the local Metropolitan Community Church. At various times he was a member, greeter, lay leader and treasurer.

Dan was involved in many organizations. To name a few: Free Voices, ACLU, Alaskans for Civil Rights, Bartlett Democratic Club, PFLAG, Identity, Mt. McKinley Non-ascent Club, EQUAL, Alaska Women’s Political Caucus, The Names Project, Four A’s, Bridge Builders, Healing Racism, No on 2 Campaign, and The National Stonewall Democrats. Tired? This just got Dan going more. He even “road” the People Mover buses with his Cat in the Hat hat and read to the kids on National Reading Day.

Years later, when the Identity Community Center was reborn and a new Executive Director was needed, Dan stepped up to the plate again and led the rallying cry and became the driving force. Never one to let the ball drop, as retirement and a move to Florida loomed, Dan made sure the Community Center would continue as he recruited our present Identity Executive Director, Phyllis Rhodes.

We bade a fond farewell to Dan and Al as they pulled up stakes and resettled in Florida. A warmer climate and greater travel opportunities beckoned for the years ahead.

Sadly, after only a few shorts years, health issues arose and the great and tireless force that was Dan Carter-Incontro left us this past April. Anchorage, the state of Alaska, and the entire LGBT community is deeper and richer for the contributions of this special man.

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**Ken Freedman**

*We Miss You*

*Steven Cook*

“I don’t have a gay bone in my body. At least I didn’t until I had my surgery.” This line was sure to get a roar of laughter from those within hearing distance of Ken. In a more serious moment, he would often refer to “The Tribe,” his method of fondly referring to the LGBT community at large and all that we had to offer each other and those beyond.

Ken was a man of many facets, talents, loves and caring. Every community has people of diverse ways of reaching out and Ken was the extended hand helping to lift up, soothe, empower, and gently nudge people forward on a clearer and stronger path. Another life gone from our presence much too early, Ken was a quiet but driving force in the LGBT community.

In the early days, before computers and when dittos and spirit masters ruled the day, the NorthView was a once monthly publication of forty-plus pages of typewritten, Sunday-deadline-induced controlled panic creation that was rushed to the copy shop on Monday to be later collated, stapled, folded, and stamped in Ruth’s living room with great camaraderie and good food and drink. He was the driving force and roaring co-editor of a publication much loved throughout Alaska.

Later, Ken finished a degree in counseling and formalized what he had been doing for many years. Helping people of all walks of life, especially LGBT persons, discover and celebrate who they were and move forward in a brighter self. Leading people along the path to bring out their inner strength and smile was a talent that Ken shared with numerous persons in Anchorage and far beyond.

Light and color, especially rainbows, paintings and sculpture, were all parts of the eclectic make-up of Ken. His home was a mini-gallery and delight to the eye. You could not sit in his home for long before some story would be told about this painting or that object and how it had arrived in his life. Later on photography would become a joy during his days and cards made from one of his many shots arrived in the mailboxes of friends.

Whether on the board of Identity or a phone call away, Ken was a kind touch that reached far and wide.
### ALASKA GAY COMMUNITY CENTER
837 "I" STREET, ANCHORAGE  
(Behind the Bread Factory)  
Open 6-10pm Saturday-Friday  
& 1-10 pm Saturday  
24 HOUR INFO/HELP: 276-3809

**JUNE 1979**

**GAY COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**LISTEN TO**

**GAY NEWS REVIEW**

**On**  
**KSKA Radio FM 103**  
**WEDNESDAYS 7PM**  
**Produced by AGCC**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
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</table>
| MCC - Metropolitan Community Church, 429 Barrow St., Rev. Gary Wilson: 272-1715  
PFOG - Parents & Friends of Gays, meet Parks & Rec. 6th & G, rm. 114: 243-3429  
SOGS - Slightly Older Gays (35+) meet in members homes: 275-4070  
YAGS - Young Alaska Gays (under 25) meet in members’ homes: 278-4070  
Imperial Court of All Alaska: 276-9863  
Knights of Malta: 276-9672  
Dignity (Gay Catholics): 279-9863  
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: 278-9047  
Alaska Women’s Resource Center, 602 West 10th Avenue (on Park Strip): 278-9047 |
| **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** |
| 2pm MCC  
7pm Movie & Meal  
At Disco Den  
7pm Popcorn & TV  | 8pm Gay AA  
GAY ALASKA (J June)  
now on sale  | 7pm Games Night  
8pm Feminist Night Downstairs Village  | 7pm KSQA Gay News  
7:30 Coronation Ball Committee Downstairs Village  | 7pm AGCC Board  
7:30 SOGS  | 8pm Gay AA  | 7pm Rap Group  
7:30 YAGS  |
| **10** | **11** | **12** | **13** | **14** | **15** | **16** |
| 2pm MCC  
4pm Potluck  
7pm Movie & Meal  
At Disco Den  
7pm Popcorn & TV  | 8pm Gay AA  | 7pm Games Night  
8pm Feminist Night  
Downstairs Village  | 7pm KSQA Gay News  
7:30 Privy Council  
Downstairs Village  
8-12 Christmas Party at Village  | 7:30 PFOG guest  
Dr. Lindeman  | 8pm Gay AA  
Deadline for filing for Emperor & Empress  | 7 pm Rap Group  
7:30 YAGS  |
| **17** | **18** | **19** | **20** | **21** | **22** | **23** |
| 1pm MCC Memorial Service followed by Potluck Picnic  
7pm Popcorn & TV  | 8pm Gay AA  
Noon - Press Lunch  
5pm-3am Bartenders Madness - all bars  | 7pm Games Night  
8pm Feminist Night  
Downstairs Village  | 7pm KSQA GN  
7-10 UAA Panel:  
Public Forum  
Gay Mvmt History  
7pm Hals Hobo Nite  | 7:30 SOGS  
Wet Shorts/Shirts  
& Spagetti Feed  
At Village  | 8pm Gay AA  
7pm Banquet OddFel  
10pm Western Wear  
KofM at Disco Den  | 7pm Rap  
7:30 YAGS  
2pm Hals Carnival  
7-10 UAA Panel:  
Gays & Mental Health  |
| **24** | **25** | **26** | **27** | **28** | **29** | **30** |
| GAY FREEDOM DAY  
12N Parade from AGCC followed by MCC Worship  
7pm Ball OddFel  | 8pm Gay AA  | 7pm Games Night  
8pm Feminist Night  
Downstairs Village  | 7pm KSQA Gay News  
10th Anniversary  
Stonewall Riots, NY  
7pm Potluck  | Gay Pride Day  
10th Anniversary  
Stonewall Riots, NY  
7pm Potluck  | 8pm Gay AA  | 7pm Rap Group  
7:30 YAGS  |

**GAY PRIDE WEEK:** Contact Alaska Gay Community Center for up-to-date information on all events.
### Lesbian and Gay Pride Week

#### 1980

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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| SAT. June 21 | LaPaula Turner - Pastor. 276-1715  
Art Exhibition and Auction  
Presented by Metropolitan Community Church  
Northern Lights Inn, 598 Northern Lgts. Blvd.  
Exhibition - 7:00  
Auction - 8:00  
Wine and Cheese Tasting  
House Party  
Open to all members of any gay organization and their guest  
See organ. heads  | -  | -  |
| SUN. June 22 | Picnic at Lynn Ary Park, Turnagain  
12:00 - 5:00  
Softball, Volleyball, Tug-a-War  
Park is right near the inlet  
Bring your own food and beverage  
Non-denominational Communion Service  
Principal Minister - T. Wilkinson  
Turnagain Methodist Church  
7:00 Sharp  
Coffee and sherry following  | -  | -  |
| MON. June 23 | Roller Skating Party  
Arctic and Benson Roller Rink  
7:00 - 9:30  
Admission (incl. skates) $1.75  
Children welcome  
Pool Tourney  
Hal's Place  
6 P.M.  
See Deno  | -  | -  |
| TUES. June 24 | Multi-media Slide Presentation  
By Rolfe Bazzel  
Purpose: To put women and men in touch with their feelings about maleness  
NOT FOR MEN ONLY  
Turnagain Methodist Church - 7:00  | -  | -  |
| WED. June 25 | Community Open House  
Alaska Gay Community Center  
837 l St. (Behind the Bread Factory)  
7:00 - 10:00  
Information, Discussion, Sharing  
Pool Tourney  
Hal's Place  
6 P.M.  
See Deno  | -  | -  |
| THURS. June 26 | Bartender Swap  
5 P.M. - 12:00  
All would-be bartenders welcome  
Contact: Rose 276-2986  
Pool Tourney  
Hal's Place  
6 P.M.  
See Deno  | -  | -  |
| FRI. June 27 | Feature Film  
"Outrageous"  
Turnagain Methodist Church  
7:30  
Rock-n-Roll Sock Hop  
Village Lounge and Disco  
10:00  
50's dress suggested  | -  | -  |
| SAT. June 28 | Carnival  
Presented by Mt. McKinley Non-ascent Club  
Hal's Place  
2 P.M.  
YOGI Morgan Concert  
Turnagain Methodist Church  
8 P.M.  
$2.00  
(tentative)  | -  | -  |
| SUN. June 29 | Pre-Parade Gathering  
Alaska Gay Community Center  
10:00 A.M.  
Parade (begins at ACCC)  
Noon sharp  
Rally immediately following parade  
Park Strip  
Gay Freedom Day Ball  
Odd Fellows Hall  
Northern Lights Blvd.  
7:00 - doors open  
Adm. $6 and $5  | -  | -  |

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** Call 276-3909 or Contact  
Nan Harty  
Wayne Knock
GLBTA Hands are Making History
GLBTA Hands are Making History
2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Identity owes its success and longevity to our invaluable Volunteers, Members & Donors with whose assistance we are able to provide our programs to the GLBTA Community in Alaska.

To each and every one, the members of the Board of Directors wish to express our heartfelt appreciation for the time and contributions given to Identity.

Identity strives to be the face and voice of our diverse gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. Our board is made up of GLBTA community organizations, as well as community-wide representatives not attached to any one organization. This inclusive board structure helps us foster a community vision and create and maintain strong relationships between Anchorage’s GLBTA sister organizations to ensure core programs are available to GLBTA Alaskans.

2009 BOARD MEMBERS AT-LARGE

SCOTT TURNER, CO-CHAIR  MICHAEL FRENCH  PHYLLIS RHODES
ANNE MARIE MOYLAN, CO-CHAIR  STEPHEN GINGRICH  JULIE SCHMIDT
GAYLE SCHUH, SECRETARY  MICHAEL HAASE  SAGE TREMBERTH
MARY LOGOMASINI, TREASURER  JOHNATHAN JONES  SHELLY WOZNIAK
VICTOR CARLSON  TIFFANY McCLAIN

All LOCAL GLBT groups participated in the design of the current Gay & Lesbian Community Center and at its opening in 2002; each of those organizations was invited to have a representative of their organization sit on the Identity, Inc. Board of Directors.

Organization Representative Board Members 2009

BRYCE MAHN, YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE  NORMAN SCHLITTLER, PFLAG
ANNE DERTHICK AND DJ WALTER, METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ANCHORAGE
ALEX BARROS, ALASKAN AIDS ASSISTANCE ASSOC.
PAULA BUTNER, ICOAA
Dear Community Members,

As your GLBT organization in Alaska, Identity, Inc. has continued in its mission to build the infrastructure for a strong Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Allied community in Alaska.

I am proud to report we continued to expand our volunteer base to provide essential services to Alaska’s GLBTA community and make the most of sponsorship and grant dollars we received from the Pride Foundation and others. The Alaska Journal of Commerce in 2009 recognized Identity, Inc. as Alaska’s tenth largest nonprofit organization based on number of volunteers. Identity’s dedicated volunteers keep the GLCCA open daily, answer the Helpline every evening, publish a quarterly newsletter, advocate for GLBT recognition and rights, and annually produce PrideFest and Pride Conference. Add to that this year’s increased volunteer involvement in supporting GLBT youth.

To assure a long and healthy continuation of our mission, The Identity, Inc. Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Allies Agency Endowment accepts tax deductible contributions of “current” dollars, securities, stock, real estate, personal property, etc. through the Alaska Community Foundation. This very important Endowment Fund continues to grow and is also being supported by planned giving by members of our community. Identity’s tax ID is 92-0091087.

Identity, Inc. remains committed to serving Alaska’s diverse GLBTA community, and we will continue to use wisely any and all funds we receive in support of this goal.

You are invited and encouraged to continue your role, whatever form that may take, as our community moves ever forward in our quest for equality in every arena of our lives and the lives of those who count on our leadership.

Phyllis Rhodes
Executive Director

2009 In Review

Identity, Inc. revenues for fiscal year 2009 totaled $54,416; total expenses totaled $36,573. Our end of year net assets are valued at $122,021 (from IRS 990 www.networkforgood.org).

Identity, Inc. spends money on critical programs that are essential to the community. From youth programs, to advocacy initiatives, to community building – we fund programs that improve the quality of life for Alaska’s GLBT community.
When possible, Identity tries to use events like Pride Conference, PrideFest and merchandise sold at the GLCCA to create self-supporting initiatives. As an all-volunteer organization, all of the income we generate is put back into our programs and services.

**Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage:** The GLCCA continues to be open daily with a dedicated group of staff volunteers. A number of organizations and groups utilize The Dan & Al Carter-Incontro Conference Room for community meetings and organizational meetings. In 2009 the GLCCA recorded 4,900 visits, a 42 percent increase over 2008.

**Identity Gay & Lesbian HelpLine:** GLBTA community and GLBTA friendly services are often hard to find. The Identity HelpLine is a resource and referral service answered by a volunteer every evening from 6:00 to 11:00 pm; toll free access is provided Alaska wide.

**Identity newsletter:** For many years Identity has published a newsletter. *NorthVIEW* serves as a link between Identity and the various individuals, groups and organizations that make up our diverse community. It helps Identity reach out to those unfamiliar with our organization and the programs and services we provide. The newsletter is produced by an all volunteer staff, and is published quarterly. Copies are mailed to our members and supporters and made available at special events and local venues to aid in our outreach. *NorthVIEW* is also available on the Identity, Inc. web page [www.identityinc.org](http://www.identityinc.org).

**Anchorage PrideFest 2009:** The Annual Pride Celebration in June attracted 1,000 Alaskans in Anchorage, some for the very first time and more youth than ever before. Identity co-sponsors Anchorage’s annual pride celebration each June. We continue to receive positive feedback from participants who had not heard of Identity and our Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage prior to PrideFest. We saw many new faces at the community center in the weeks following PrideFest, so we know the funds provided by our many sponsors were a sound investment. Major sponsors of PrideFest 2009 included: The Imperial Court of All Alaska, Mad Myrna’s, Kodiak Bar, Pride Foundation, ACLU and Great Land Infusion Pharmacy.
Youth Programs:
In April, Identity assisted the youth from local high schools in putting on their annual Pride Prom. Youth and supportive adults held several meetings to bring to a reality the Youth Drop-In Center at the Gay & Lesbian Community Center. Identity, Inc. supported youth in building a float for use in both the Pridefest 2009 Parade and the City of Anchorage Fourth of July Parade. We have also reached out and are supporting the glbt youth organizations at both Alaska Pacific University and the University of Alaska at Anchorage.

Alaska Pride Conference 2009: Identity, Inc. has sponsored the Alaska Pride Conference for the last fifteen years. By continuing to partner with Alaska Pacific University at Anchorage and GLSEN, we were able to focus more on youth involvement. We developed a more proactive approach to cultivating qualified workshop presenters and keynotes from the Alaska GLBTA community. We made a concerted effort to provide workshops with stronger appeal to younger community members and minority GLBTA members. In addition to the university, we cultivated partner groups and organizations who supplied in-kind contributions to help us stretch sponsorship dollars even further. Partnering organizations this year included The Last Frontier Men’s Club, MCC Anchorage, the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association, and the Anchorage chapters of GLSEN and PFLAG.

The Identity Advocacy Team: In 2009 the IAT represented our GLBT population by providing panels and speakers to classes at the University of Alaska Anchorage, Alaska Pacific University, East High School, Service High School, Colony High School, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Alaska Public Health Nurses Conference, Alaska Parent & Youth Foundation – Lead-On Youth Conference, the UAA Residential Advisors orientation program, S.T.A.R. volunteer training, Alaska Center for Resource Families, UAA Women’s Studies Program, and the Annual Conference of Alaska Chapter of National Association of Social Workers. A full listing of the Advocacy Team’s activities is available on the Identity, Inc. web site.

Many, many Identity, Inc. members and allies attended and spoke on their own behalves at Anchorage Assembly hearings on a proposed amendment to the local code to include “sexual identity” in the current municipal protections provided other classes as to housing and employment. After countless hours of testimony the Assembly Passed AO 64.

Although the ordinance was adopted by an Assembly that heard all testimony, it was later vetoed by the Mayor.

The conduct and tone of the hearings resulted in many new GLBT allies.
Kodiak Bar & Grill Sells Pull Tabs for Identity

New Volunteer
Welcome to Identity’s newest volunteer Samantha Mann. We are very happy to have you join our team.

Samantha Mann

Greetings everyone, my name is Samantha. I would say I love all the outdoor activities this great state has to offer. I love to snow machine, fish, camp, and go berry picking. I tried to catch my King Salmon all summer but seemed to only catch twigs and bug bites. I grew up in Anchorage, Alaska, and I love it here. I have been around the lower 48 but nothing is like Alaska. Well, Oregon is second runner up. I love the beautiful big pine cones they have there. Well, take care and I hope to see you around.

Mad Myrna’s Sells Pull Tabs for Identity

Job continued from page 1

with spell check, and have a basic understanding of English grammar, though it is not necessary that you know or care whether or not “anal retentive” is hyphenated. Perfection is not a requirement. The successful candidate must be involved enough to know what is happening in our LGBT community or nosy enough to ask. The successful candidate must be Southern enough to know that you catch more flies with honey than vinegar and Alaskan enough to know when to forget the honey, get out the shotgun, and threaten a beat down for information, interviews, articles, and pictures. Being able to beg earns extra credit. Ideally, the successful candidate must be motivated to use NorthView to inform, to build bridges, relationships, and community, and to support the mission of Identity. The ideal candidate must be mature enough to present our community and individuals within our community kindly and constructively and in a positive light no matter how much ammo and/or motivation some individuals may provide to do the opposite (refer back to the building bridges and relationships part).

Position Description: The successful candidate will be responsible for creating one NorthView per quarter with information, articles, pictures, interviews, or whatever else you want that is informative, versus creative writing, to our community. You may choose the theme or topics and write the articles and take the pictures yourself or sweet talk or brow beat others to contribute. You will be provided with a support team to do the layout as you direct. As a bonus, you will have e-mail and telephone access to the departing editor (that’s me!) for guidance and support along the way.

Contact: Please contact Phyllis Rhodes at (907) 929-4528 or e-mail Phyllis@identityinc.org.

Editor’s Note: In September I left Alaska for grand adventures in other parts of the world and that is why we need a new editor. I am only able to do this issue of NorthView because computers are magic. The very air around mine is sparkling and twinkling as I write. I want to offer my heart felt gratitude to all the members of our GLBT community who have been so willing to write articles, give me information, sit for interviews, share their stories, offer me advice, and help in so many other ways. I feel so privileged that so many of you allowed me to be your voice for a little while.
Adopt- A –Day
We want to thank all you fabulous caring wonderful people who have adopted one or more days in this up-
coming quarter. We thank you from the bottom of our bottoms and that is a lot of thanks because our bottoms
are much bigger than our hearts.

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Pride Conference Workshops at a Glance

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<tr>
<th>SESSION 1</th>
<th>10:30a.m. to 11:45a.m.</th>
<th>Showing AK Equality Works: Room 201</th>
<th>Understanding Transgender: Room 202</th>
<th>Dynamics of Domestic Violence and the LGBT Community: Room 203</th>
<th>High School GSA: Room 204</th>
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<th>SESSION 2</th>
<th>12:00p.m. to 1:15p.m.</th>
<th>This is Family: Theater</th>
<th>Making Our Dreams A Reality: Room 201</th>
<th>A Lot Can Happen in 25yrs: AK’s Response to AIDS: Room 202</th>
<th>Civic Duty: So You Want to Run For Public Office: Room 203</th>
<th>APU/UAA Alliance: Room 204</th>
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<th>SESSION 3</th>
<th>2:15p.m. to 3:30p.m.</th>
<th>Exploring Queer Relationships: Room 201</th>
<th>Change Your Handwriting, Change Your Life: Room 202</th>
<th>Activism Through Volunteerism: Room 203</th>
<th>Trans Component to the AK LGBT Survey: Room 204</th>
<th>Complete Agenda on page 18</th>
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</table>
Farewell Mikel Haase

This summer we lost another loved member of our GLBT community, Mikel Haase. Mikel was a strong supporter of Identity and the community center. He was not only a Yellow Level Donor but additionally supported the Gay & Lesbian Community Center by adopting many days as part of the program to pay community center rent and utilities. Mikel was a great friend with a large “heart family” here in Anchorage and he, and his smiling face, will be sorely missed by many.

All Hail Our New Royalty

The Imperial Court of All Alaska has crowned our new royalty, Emperor XXXVIII Cory Crowder and Empress XXXVIII Paige Langit. We bow down to you and pledge our loyalty. May you have an active reign full of fun, charity, and parties.

Tentative Conference Agenda

8:00 to 9:00  Breakfast and Registration
9:00 to 9:10  Welcome/Announcements etc
9:10 to 9:20  State of the State on LGBT Equality from US Senator Begich
9:20 to 10:15  Guest Speaker: Democrat US Senate Candidate McAdams on the future of LGBT Equality in Alaska (please note that all AK US Senate candidates were invited).
10:15 to 10:30  Break
10:30 to 11:45  Workshop 1
11:45 to 12:00  Break
12:00 to 1:15  Workshop 2
1:15 to 2:00  Lunch: Yummy lunch from The Last Frontier Men’s Club plus a surprise drag performance.
2:00 to 2:15  Guest Speaker: Kim Mack – Equal and Unequal in Health Care
2:15 to 3:30  Workshop 3
3:30 to 3:40  Break
3:40 to 4:30  Panel: What’s Next For LGBT Equality in Alaska
4:30  Evaluations and Close
GLBTA Business Community
~ Let’s Support Each Other ~

Thank you to these businesses for their financial support of NorthView.

$ BUY $ PULL TABS

KODIAK BAR & GRILL
SELLS
PULL TABS FOR IDENTITY

$ BUY $ PULL TABS

MAD MYRNA’S
SELLS
PULL TABS FOR IDENTITY

$ BUY $ PULL TABS

MAD MYRNA’S
SELLS
PULL TABS FOR IDENTITY

$ BUY $ PULL TABS

Support Identity
Identity Donor and Pledge Form

Adopt-A-Day or choose your donor level and become a member of Identity today. Memberships expire in one year.

_____ Adopt-A-Day Donor, $50 per adopted day _____ Please specify # of days you wish to adopt

☐ Red Donor: $30
☐ Orange Donor: $100 or $10 per month for 12 months
☐ Yellow Donor: $250 or $25 per month for 12 months

☐ Green Donor: $500 or $50 per month for 12 months
☐ Blue Donor: $1,000 or $100 per month for 12 months
☐ Purple Donor: $2,500 or $250 per month for 12 months
☐ RAINBOW LIFETIME MEMBER! $5,000 or $500 per month for 12 months

NAME _______________________________________________________________________________
MAILING ADDRESS _____________________________________________________________________
CITY/STATE/ZIP ______________________________________________________________________
Telephone/e-mail (optional) ______________________________________________________________

Please check one: ☐ New membership ☐ Annual membership renewal ☐ Donation

I want to show my support for the GLBTA community by volunteering for:

☐ Anchorage PrideFest (June) ☐ GLCCA ☐ Fundraising
☐ Alaska Pride Conference (October) ☐ Helpline ☐ Youth programs

☐ I DO NOT wish to receive Identity’s newsletter or other mailings to keep me informed of community events.
☐ I DO NOT wish public recognition of my donation.

Please make check payable to Identity or charge this donation to: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

NAME (as it appears on card) ______________________________________________________________________
CARD NUMBER __________________________________________ Exp date ________________
SIGNATURE ____________________________________________________________________________________

Identity, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) Alaska corporation. Contributions are deductible to the full extent of the law.