



# Tradewinds

August 2008

Monthly Newsletter

## A/PGF members Adam and Larry announce their wedding plans



When the California Supreme Court struck down the state's ban on same-sex marriage in May, A/PGF members Adam Pai and Laurence Spear announced their wedding plans for this fall. The ceremony will be conducted at the All Saints Church, located at 132 N. Euclid Avenue in Pasadena on Saturday, November 8th at 4 PM

Adam and Larry would like to extend a personal invitation to all A/PGF members and friends to attend their wedding this fall. If you would like to attend, please contact them at [paikang2@yahoo.com](mailto:paikang2@yahoo.com)

For more information about the happy couple, please visit their personal website at <http://www.geocities.com/paikang3/index.html?1216983684625>

Best wishes to Adam and Laurence on their upcoming marriage.

## Deputy Margaret Cho Performing Gay Marriages



Margaret Cho is getting into the wedding business.

The funnily lady was recently deputized by the city of San Francisco to perform gay marriages there.

Cho actually married two couples during the Bay Area's gay pride festivities, she announced at the opening of the Outfest film festival in downtown Los Angeles in July.

"It's a very empowering thing to be able to preside over these ceremonies. We've been working on this for such a long time."

The California Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriages in May. (An initiative on the November ballot seeks to amend the state Constitution to prohibit same-sex unions.)

Cho is currently in the process of being deputized in West Hollywood so she can do the same in the L.A. area.



"I'm very happy to preside over all the ceremonies that I can," says Cho, whose new VH1 series, *The Cho Show*, debuts next month. "I'm going to make sure I have the right certification to do it."

So what does the fashion-forward Cho wear while officiating?

"That's when you really have to wear really serious clothes," she says with a laugh. "I'm all about the suits—supersnug ones. And then, you know, little pearl earrings for a little bit of class."

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## GAY NEWS AT HOME AND ABROAD *Submitted by Roy Liebman, Publications chair*

### UNITED STATES

Even though gay marriage is now legal in two states the 2010 census will not acknowledge it as such because the 1996 Federal Defense of Marriage Act bars the Census Bureau from recognizing gay marriage. The census will instead list such married couples as unmarried same-sex partners.

Scientists are still trying to establish "markers" for gayness. It is known that gay men tend to have more older brothers than straight men and that each older brother increases the chances of a younger brother being gay by 33%. Being left-handed increases men's chances of being gay by 34% and women by an astonishing 90%. A less formal study found that gay men's hair is three-and-a-half times more likely to grow in a counterclockwise direction than that of straight men. There is also a study on penis size but it is less scientific because it is based on the statements of the men themselves and some men may have a tendency to exaggerate!!!

### THE CHURCH

As a sign of possible evolution in its thinking, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church overturned a longstanding ban on the ordination of GLBT people by a 54% to 46% margin. This decision still faces approval by regional presbyteries and may be rejected. At the same time the Church's national governing body reaffirmed marriage as a covenant between a man and a woman. This is symptomatic of the internal struggles of many mainstream churches over the issue of homosexuality.

National leaders of the United Methodist Church reaffirmed a prohibition against ordination of GLBT people. On the other hand the California-Pacific Annual Conference of the Church, which represents some 82,000 Methodists, voted to support gays who marry and opposes the California anti-gay marriage amendment.

South Africa's Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a Nobel Prize winner, apologized on behalf of the worldwide Anglican Church for its treatment of GLBT people. He said he could not stay silent when "people were frequently hounded, vilified, molested and even killed as targets of homophobia for something they did not choose--their sexual orientation."

### MASSACHUSETTS

The archaic 1913 Massachusetts law that was invoked by then-Governor Mitt Romney is about to be repealed. It says that non-residents cannot obtain marriage licenses in the state if their marriages would not be legal in their states of residence. It was originally passed in 1913 to keep interracial couples from marrying and was revived by the Romney administration to prevent non-resident gay marriages. A recent poll shows that more than half the people of Massachusetts support gay unions. A state government study estimates that once the 1913 law is repealed marriages between couples from nearby states could bring \$37 million a year into the state as well as nearly \$2 million in increased tax revenues.

### OREGON

Attempts to put ballot measures up for a vote that would have repealed GLBT rights laws have failed to win enough signatures. The measures would have repealed laws relating to domestic partnerships and discrimination based on sexual orientation.

## BULGARIA

Onlookers threw bottles, rocks and gasoline bombs to disrupt Bulgaria's first gay pride parade. Only 150 people were brave enough to march in the capital of Sofia and luckily no-one was injured. Right-wing elements had called for open resistance to the parade with the slogan "Be intolerant, Be Normal" and the orthodox church wanted to ban the march because, it claimed, the country's Christian traditions were undermined. Homophobia is rampant in the former Soviet bloc states.

## GREAT BRITAIN

Great Britain's Defense Ministry has announced that Army and Air Force personnel may wear their uniforms at gay pride parades and events. The Royal Navy already had such permission. Gays and lesbians have been allowed to serve openly in the military since 2000. The announcement stated that "The Armed Forces are committed to establishing a climate where every individual's contribution is respected and valued regardless of sexual orientation...". It also stipulated that "behavior of the highest order will be expected of them at all times."

## INDIA

The largest gay pride turnout in its history took place in three large cities in India where homosexual acts are officially illegal. The events were staged a few days before the Indian High Court begins to hear arguments on overturning a law criminalizing homosexual acts. This law, which is not widely enforced, dates back to the days of the British Raj.

## NORWAY

It looks as if Norway is about to join the hopefully growing number of European nations allowing gay marriage. By a vote of 23 to 17 the upper house of parliament voted to allow gay couples to marry, adopt children and undergo artificial insemination. The lower house had approved the law by a larger margin of about two-to-one: 84 to 41.

## SINGAPORE

The operator of Singapore's cable service has been fined about \$7,200 for a commercial that showed two presumed lesbians kissing.

This was a violation of the government's television advertising guidelines that forbid ads condoning homosexuality.

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***Announcing the party of the year!!!***



## RESERVE THE DATE

Don't miss the party that everyone talks about!!!

### **A/PGF's Annual Summer** **"Splash" Pool Party**

Sunday, August 24th

San Vicente Inn in West Hollywood

12 Noon to 5 PM

Gourmet Chinese Food

Non-Alcoholic Beverages

EXOTIC ENTERTAINMENT

Clothing Optional Pool

This is a Membership Benefit Event - FREE for All A/PGF Members  
Non-Members - \$25 (includes a 1 year membership)

***This is a RSVP Event - please reserve your space today by clicking [here!](#)***

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Check our Event Calendar on our website [www.apgf.org](http://www.apgf.org) for complete details on any of our events

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