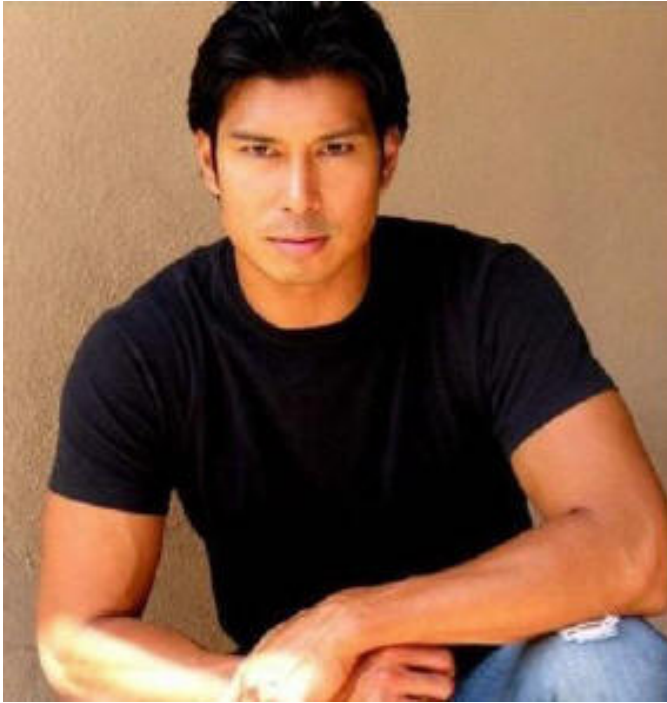




Tradewinds

September 2008

Monthly Newsletter



Sunday Social/Potluck

Guest Speaker
Keo Woolford

Actor/Musician/Singer/Writer

Sunday, September 7th at 2:30 PM
West Hollywood Plummer Park
Community Building - Rooms 3 & 4

NOTE: Room Change - This Month ONLY

At the September 7th Social we will have the pleasure of hosting Keo Woolford, who was the subject of Roy Liebman's (Publication Chair) interview in the [April 2008 A/PGF Newsletter](#).

Keo, a native of Hawaii, is an accomplished actor, musician, singer and writer who starred in his own one-man show ***I Land*** which many of you have seen. He is also the co-producer of, and appears in, the award-winning documentary ***Na Kamalei: the Men of Hula*** which will be screened at the social. The documentary shows Keo's hula troupe preparing for a male hula competition in Hawaii. Do they win? You'll have to see the show! Keo will talk about the film and perhaps about his own burgeoning career as well. His appearance deserves a big turnout.

[Click here to see a short video of Keo](#)

GAY NEWS AT HOME AND ABROAD *submitted by Roy Liebman*

POLITICS

At a time when the Presidential candidates agree with each other in defining marriage as between a man and a woman, former candidate, now Nobel Prize winner, Al Gore came out in favor of gay marriage. He said "Gay men and women ought to have the same rights as heterosexual men and women...to join together in marriage. I don't understand why it is considered by some people to be a threat to heterosexual marriage."

THE CHURCH

A lesbian who has tried for almost twenty-five years to become a Presbyterian priest came a step closer to her goal. Previously rejected in her bid because of the church's ban on gay ordination, she was supported by the San Francisco Presbytery on a close vote of 167 to 151. Opponents expressed fears of a schism in the Church over gay rights, such as already occurred in the Episcopal Church. In a later ruling the high court of the Church ruled that all candidates for the priesthood must abide by the Church's standards for sexual behavior, even if that violates an individual's conscience.

A leader of the Episcopal Church said it was well-known that V. Gene Robinson was not the only gay Episcopal bishop nor even the only gay-partnered bishop, but the only the first open one. Even though no official prayer has been developed by the Episcopal church for the blessing of same-sex couples many such ceremonies are being performed within the Church.

CALIFORNIA

The State Supreme Court ruled unanimously that doctors can't discriminate against gays and lesbians even if treating them goes against their religious beliefs. The suit on which the Court ruled was filed by a lesbian who had sought an insemination procedure from a medical group in Vista. She claimed the doctor would not treat her because she was a lesbian. The doctor denied it, stating that her religious beliefs prevented her from performing the procedure for any unmarried woman. When asked if she would treat a married lesbian she said she didn't know.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The city council of Columbia, South Carolina unanimously passed that state's first municipal ordinance prohibiting discrimination in public accommodations and housing on the basis of sexual orientation. Other Southern cities which have passed similar ordinances include Atlanta and New Orleans.

WISCONSIN

Although it may seem that the battle for equal rights for GLBT people is just starting, the first gay rights law was actually signed back in 1982 by Republican Governor Lee Dreyfus of Wisconsin who has just died. The law made it illegal to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation in housing, employment and public accommodations. He stated at the time: "Government ought not to intrude in the private lives of individuals where no state purpose is served, and there is nothing more private or intimate than who you live with and who you love."

CANADA

For the first time Canadian military personnel were allowed to march in a gay pride parade in Toronto. Canada, which recognizes gay marriage, allows gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military, and since 2003 military chaplains have been able to perform same-sex unions on bases.

ICELAND

The National Church of Iceland has begun to confirm the cohabitation of same-sex couples. If a couple can confirm that they are officially cohabitating then they are eligible for such rights as adoption and maternity /paternity leave. An Icelandic man and his American partner are expected to be the first couple to achieve such confirmation. A Church spokesman said "We live in a society where we [don't] just tolerate other people but respect them and their lives". Marriage in Iceland is still defined as being between a man and woman.

SCOTLAND

A senior Roman Catholic bishop in Scotland has accused the gay community there of a "huge and well-orchestrated conspiracy" to compare gays to Holocaust victims. He claimed that gays always attend Holocaust remembrance services in order to create the image that they are persecuted. The head of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust pointedly stated that the day is to "tackle all forms of prejudice, including homophobia."

Spotlight on A/PGF Member - Kaidy

Many of you know Kaidy - but perhaps are not aware of the many creative artistic talents he possesses. Just recently he appeared in a Domino's commercial promoting their Brooklyn Style Pizza. In March, not only did he direct, he also performed in the hit production of **"Soldiers Don't Cry"**

Kaidy latest accomplishment was with the winning commercial in a contest conducted by Oreo Cookies. CONGRATULATIONS! You can see it on YouTube by clicking [here](#). Watch for more of Kaidy's projects in the near future.



International Friendship Weekend (IFW) in Berlin *contributed by Bill Tom*



This was IFW-ICON's second time in Europe. The Long Yang Club-Berlin did a outstanding job of preparing for the conference. It started with a 2 day street fair and ended with the annual gay pride parade, one of the largest in the country. During the week, the committee planned seminars, city tours, boat tour, and meals for us. They even commissioned a new poster, designed by Muskboy, who can be seen in front of his handiwork.

We had attendees from as far as Malaysia, England, Canada, and the U.S. So members of both groups, Asian Pacific and Long Yang Club were well represented. We were also joined by LYC members from Berlin.

The highlight of the weekend, was the parade, which started near the Brandenburg Gate and proceed through the center of town. The parade ended at the Victory Monument, where the festivities continued until late in the evening. We were able to travel the parade route on a float, where we could observe the bystanders, the floats, and the colorful costumes.

Next year's IFW-ICON event will be in Atlanta and held during the Labor Day weekend. Flyers on the event and a website will soon be available.



Thanks to the 100 + people who attended this event making it a
BIG SUCCESS

Check our Event Calendar on our website www.apgf.org for complete details on any of our events

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