



# Tradewinds

November 2009

Monthly Newsletter

## Gay News Home and Abroad *Submitted by Roy Liebman, Publications Chair*

### WASHINGTON, D.C.

An estimated tens of thousands marched in Washington to call for full GLBT equality. The National Equality March took place a day after President Obama pledged at a Human Rights Campaign gala to pressure Congress to end the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) policy and the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). A study shows that a majority of those service people discharged under DADT are women. There is some discontent that Obama is moving too slowly. He himself has come out against gay marriage, and the administration is still arguing to uphold DOMA in court even though it claims it wants to repeal the law.

The Senate voted 68 to 29 to add violent crimes against GLBT people to the list of Federal hate crimes. All but one of the senators who opposed this bill were Republicans. Previously the House had voted 281 to 146 for the measure; again most voting no were Republicans. The South Carolina Congressman who had shouted "You lie" at the President accused the Democrats of "pushing their partisan legislation." The measure, which is named for the murdered gay man Matthew Shephard, is expected to be signed into law by the President.

### THE CHURCH

Episcopal Church leaders in Los Angeles have nominated two gay priests to be among six candidates for two open bishopric positions. The Archbishop of Canterbury decried the move as unsanctioned while affirming his opposition to persecution of GLBT people.

The country's largest Lutheran denomination of 4.6 million members has reversed a ban on the appointment of non-celibate gays to the clergy. It will be up to individual congregations to select such clergy as long as they are in "lifelong, monogamous relationships."

### TELEVISION

The number of GLBT characters on network TV is slightly up this season for a total of 18 roles out of an estimated 600. The number on cable channels (excluding the gay-themed LOGO and Here!) has declined to 25

from a high of 40 in 2007. The Modern Family is one of the new shows that feature a gay couple.

## CALIFORNIA

The late San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk has been inducted into the California Hall of Fame by Governor and Mrs. Schwarzenegger. The Governor had previously vetoed a bill to proclaim a Harvey Milk Day but has now reversed himself and declared May 22 to be a day of recognition. The bill encourages schools to consider commemorating his life..

Leaders of the gay rights group Equality California have stated they will wait until 2012 to attempt a constitutional amendment to allow gay couples to marry.

## MASSACHUSETTS

The state of Massachusetts, which was the first to pass a gay marriage law, is now the first state to challenge the Defense of Marriage Act in court.

## TEXAS

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission has fired the two agents and their supervisor who were involved with the raid on the Fort Worth gay bar Rainbow Lounge. Law enforcement officials clashed with hundreds of patrons on the 40th anniversary of the seminal Stonewall riots in New York.

A Texas judge has cleared the way for two gay men to get a divorce in that state even though it does not recognize gay marriage. The state plans to appeal the ruling.

## WASHINGTON STATE

Those who signed the petitions to repeal the gay rights law in Washington cannot keep their names secret. Protect Marriage Washington had asked the courts to keep the names of signers confidential to avoid a Proposition 8-type backlash, but an appeals court ruled that the names had to be made public. After the decision the U.S. Supreme Court issued an injunction that will keep the names secret until after the November election.

## WISCONSIN

The Attorney General of Wisconsin has said that he would not defend a new law that grants same-sex couples dozens of spousal benefits already available to other couples. He says only by amending the state constitution can such benefits be offered. A conservative group has asked a court to invalidate the law.

## INDONESIA

In one conservative Muslim province of Indonesia a law permitting stoning to death for adultery was unanimously passed. The law also provides for public lashings and more than eight years in prison for homosexuality.

## ISRAEL

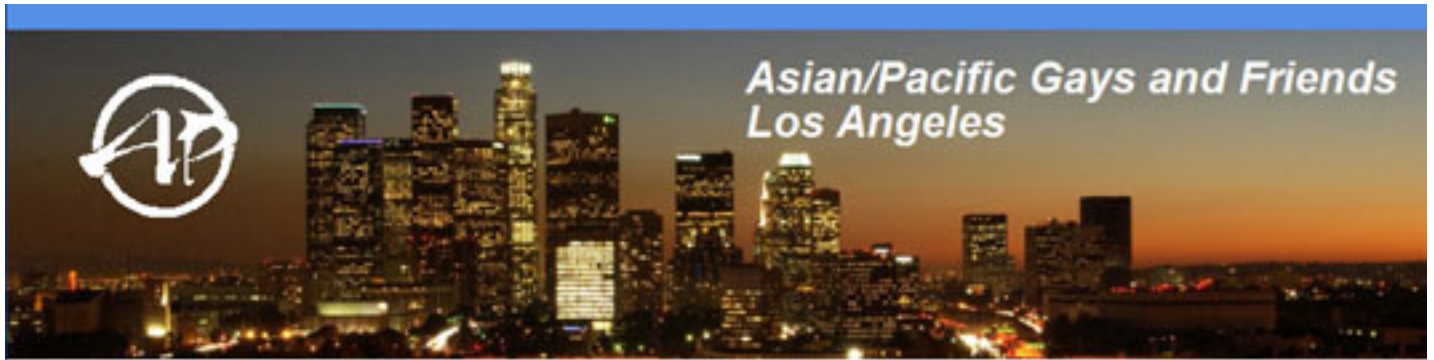
A broad spectrum of people all over Israel, including top government leaders and members of the Orthodox Jewish community, condemned the murderous attack on the Tel Aviv Gay and Lesbian Association. Two young people died and eleven were injured in the attack. Tel Aviv is considered the most hospitable Israeli city for GLBT people.

## URUGUAY

Despite opposition from the Catholic Church, Uruguayan lawmakers by a vote of 40 to 13 approved a bill allowing GLBT couples to adopt. If passed by the Senate, which has already approved a version of the bill, it will be the first Latin American country to allow such adoptions.

---

NEW LOOK FOR APGF.ORG



Home
Calendar of Events
Membership Information
Join or Renew Membership
Guest Policy
HIV Support Group
A/PGF History
Our Mission
Board of Directors
By-Laws
Photo Gallery
Bowling Winners
Newsletter
Classifieds & Personnels
A/PGF T-Shirts

**A/PGF Halloween Costume Party**  
Friday, October 30th from 9 PM to 2 AM

A/PGF will be providing the snacks and non-alcoholic drinks  
Prizes for Best Costume

Members \$5  
\*\*Non-Members \$10  
Join that night and receive a membership good till Sept 30, 2010 and your Admission will be FREE.

RSVP Required to receive the address of the event

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN**

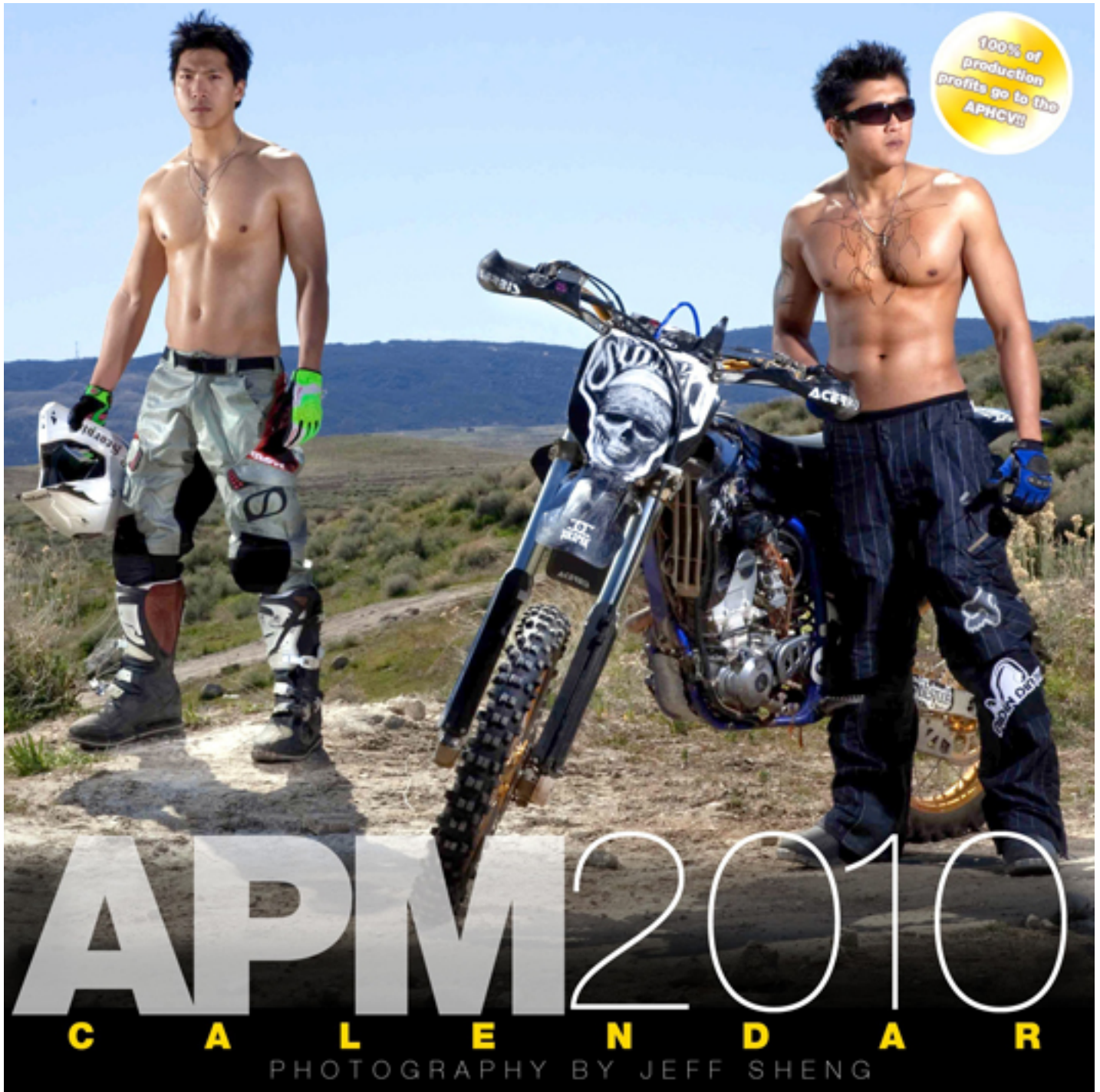
Click here for more information

A glowing skull graphic is positioned on the right side of the event announcement, partially overlapping the text.

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING**

Check out the new look for our website. [www.apgf.org](http://www.apgf.org)

Asian Pacific Male charitable calendar



The Asian Pacific Male charitable calendar has recently been to benefit the Asian Pacific Health Care Venture, a non-profit community health center in Hollywood that provides low cost medicine to the working poor and uninsured in over ten, mostly Asian languages. 100% of the production profit goes directly to the center - EVERYONE on the project donated their time, energy and resources to produce the calendar.

The calendar features former Survivor-winner Yul Kwon, filmmaker Edward Gunawan, Iraq War vet Frank Chan, and actors Thomas Livezey, Ji Han and Daniel Ichikawa. Photography is by Jeff Sheng, a Harvard grad and UC professor of Asian American male identity at UCSB.

The calendar is available for sale at retailers in Hollywood, West Hollywood, Los Feliz, Silverlake, Chinatown and Little Tokyo - as well as at stores in Washington, DC and Rehoboth, Delaware. This calendar is also available through amazon.com and Fridae.com (the gay.com of Asia!).

You can purchase the calendar online at: [www.amazon.com/](http://www.amazon.com/) for \$14.99

---

## Can you help?

HOSTS NEEDED: Can you open your home to host an event? If so, please write to [webmaster@apgf.org](mailto:webmaster@apgf.org) . We NEED your help!!!

---

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

---

## Support Our Sponsors



**Prudential**

**California Realty**

JOHN AAROE DIVISION

*David Lao & Pei Chang*

Phone: (626) 922-4268

[www.davidandpei.com](http://www.davidandpei.com)





[www.apgf.org](http://www.apgf.org)

**Asian/Pacific Gays and Friends**

Advertise your business here

Reasonable Rates



inquiry: [webmaster@apgf.org](mailto:webmaster@apgf.org)