

Jon's VIEW



News Letter

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"HOW COULD THIS BE HAPPENING?"

Sorry for being late with this months view. I knew that I was going to be on the road during the month of August and had planned on getting my view out early, but as we all know events have come up with the disaster of Hurricane

Katrina that has hit our country. My first thought was to raise money and send out a letter asking each of you to give something, anything to the Red Cross or Salvation Army. As this tragic event continued to unfold I sat like most of us watching the TV and staring in shock at what we were seeing. As I made my way home after being gone for five weeks, I was so glad to not only see my home, but my dog that had only been with me on the first half of my trip. I turned on CNN - I was sure that after a day of being in air ports that by now people would be much better off and at

least have water, food, and shelter. I was not only wrong, they were WORSE off than when I had left the tube. I found my brother in the same frame of mind as to "HOW COULD THIS BE HAPPENING?" I know that there is a time and a place to start blaming for all this murder, however now may not be that time. But, it just strikes me as very odd that we forged into a country to take it over just because their leader had killed his own people by poison gas that took a matter of seconds. Now if you think I am saying that this was the right thing to do, NO WAY, but I sit here watching MY government starve and kill the young and old and our President just fly's over and keeps going on to the White House and waits two more days before going back. I

could go on and on with my anger but none of that would accomplish anything to help all the people who are still in great need of many things – things that

we all have and can share. I was watching the local TV news here when the Red Cross came on. I watched an older couple packing and heading out to Texas after one day of training and they would be gone from one to three weeks. My brother immediately picked up the phone and put his name on the list to go and volunteer. He has since taken his training course and will soon be

deployed to the Gulf Coast to help in whatever capacity that may be needed. I also was moved by seeing on the news a lesbian couple in a motel room with their two dogs - they were looking for a place to stay that had a yard and

space for their dogs until they could find a permanent home. I know that having been around for many different types of disasters such as the first cases of AIDS - the families would have about three weeks before their son or daughter would pass. It took the hearts and souls of many good people to start up many different types of needed services and fundraising. I think this is one of those times in our history that each and every person has the obligation to do what ever it is they can to help. Money, time, your home, what ever it is that you think anyone could use right now you need to find that avenue and get it to them.



We are going to be having a few fundraisers at the club.

I would like to use this site "Jon's View" for the next few months to reach out and see if I can get a fire under everyone to do what ever it is they can.

I called my local Red Cross chapter and put my name down for them to see if they could find a gay or lesbian couple that had a dog and needed a place to stay. I also have offered my motor home to be used for a family member that might have a cat or dog and need some place to temporarily rest their heads. I know that it is money that they are looking for the most, but I also know that many of us have spare bedrooms in our homes and plenty of space to take in one of our own. This is something that could happen here in our state if we ever were to be hit with a big earthquake. I know that I would want my dog Champ to be in a safe, clean place and have water and food. I ask each of you to please contact your local chapter of the Red Cross and tell them you are looking to open your house up to a GLBT person or anyone for that matter. I know being gay I would be much more at home in

another gay or lesbians home but would take what ever was offered. We are going to be having a few fundraisers at the club and I hope you will stop by, but if not, please send a donation of any amount to help out.

Thank you. I know that most of you are way ahead of me as I have heard some great ideas already. However, please continue to send your idea(s) to us here (jon@club1220.com") so we can get it to the press or to the Red Cross. When you go home tonight and hug your animal or family member please know that many, many people do not have that luxury, so I ask you, if you have not done anything yet, please do so NOW.

Thank You,
Jon & Champ
September 2005

Hurricane Katrina



**American
Red Cross**

Donate to Help Hurricane Katrina Victims