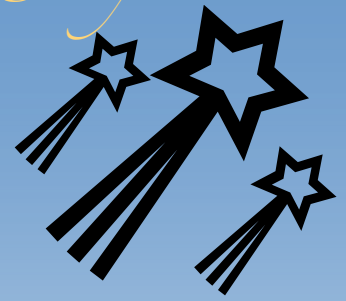


Jon's View

July 2005



I hope you all had a happy gay pride month and are now looking forward to a great summer and all the events it holds. The first one that comes to my mind is the AIDS WALK in San Francisco. I have mentioned before in past articles about giving back and how important it is that we, in some way give back to anyone who needs help. I have been doing the walk now for several years and each time I get a different experience from it - I also see just how powerful it is to all those people out there walking through one of the most beautiful parks in the world to help out with the fight for AIDS. Along the walk you can stop and view the quilt and read the past history of all our lost brothers and sisters who died from this disease because they did not have the knowledge yet to keep them alive. You're also close to so many other people who have been touched in some way by this disease and by doing so you share your story about your loved one(s) and they tell you with great love in their eyes for the person that they lost. In some way it gives us all a chance to bring up not only the sad, but especially the happy memories of the one(s) we lost. This disease has come at me in so many different ways. Having been around since the beginning of it, I still marvel at the power of what people have done to change its course.



Please Donate

We see the entire African continent still suffering from the horror and power of this ramped epidemic. Money is the ONLY thing that is stopping these people from living. If you happen to be either born in the right country or you have the money to buy the medicine it takes, you live - if not, you die!!! It's that simple. Hard to imagine someone you know who is HIV positive, and having to say good-bye to that special person just because they could not swing the cost for medications. Let me tell you, the cost per year per patient is sky high, no matter where you live or what your country offers for health care. The blood work, lab work and the pills alone, even if you've never been sick one day of the year, is never the less, financially staggering.

So I am asking each and every one of you to, in some way help wipe out this disease by opening your wallet in any way you can and support someone who is walking in the SF AIDS WALK. The club has a number (Team Club 1220 #9470) you may donate to, or even better, get your application and join us, with support from where you work and walk with us. I would love to see you all there. My big mouth will be at the head of the parade and I am

sure being the ham that I am you won't miss where I'll be. I would love to see each and every one of you out there. We will be filming it also for those of you who cannot make it, so look for the clips of us and how much we raised. Our goal is \$5,000.00. Please, take a look at all that is going on down at Club 1220 to help us make that goal. You may even see some of the butchest bartenders doing some good old town drag to raise some funds. Again, I cannot tell you how good you will feel to help someone else out by giving back.

And, I can't share enough to those of you who may still be having unsafe sex. Please, take the time to meet with someone, anyone who is on HIV meds and see what their life is really like before you think it's just popping some pills and going about your day... be safe in all areas of your life. Thank you

Jon & Champ
July 2005

Our Goal
\$5,000!

