

connections

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CENTRAL CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE

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JUNE 2003

Mission Statement:

The Central California Alliance is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting positive change, equal rights, social and networking opportunities for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people through programs of community service and philanthropy.

Purpose & Objectives:

- To provide quality social events and educational activities for the lesbian/gay community and to promote the positive images and aspects of lesbian/gay culture throughout Central California.
- To provide a resourceful arena for professional and business networking within the lesbian/gay community.
- To provide and promote programs for community education, for all persons of Central California, which will project positive, healthy and inclusive images of lesbian and gay life.
- To provide a forum for social and political advocacy which shall assure full civil rights, access and equal opportunity.



Central California Alliance
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Celebrating 10 Years of Pride & Service
www.ccafresno.org

THE PRIDE MONTH ISSUE!



13th Annual Pride Parade Saturday, June 7th

Fresno's 13th annual Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade and Festival takes place on Saturday June 7th at 9:30 AM in the Tower District. [Photos shown left are from last year's event.]

Two longtime CCA members, Robin Greiner and Ellis Vance, have also been selected as Grand Marshalls for the parade. They were given this honor for their tireless efforts on behalf of the entire community.

Vance and Greiner, partners for 37 years, have been active members of CCA for seven years. They were also instrumental in getting Valley Public Television to broadcast "In the Life." [See Page 3.]

CCA will also be participating in the parade and at the festival. To assist, please contact John Beacham at 960-4152 or at jbnpt@bigplanet.com.

Volunteer parade monitors are still needed!

Parade entry forms, festival booth information and applications, program advertising and donation information are available by calling 486-3464 or online at www.communitylinkfresno.org.



About CCA:

Founded in 1993, the Central California Alliance [CCA] is a Fresno-based community-service organization supported through membership dues, as well as fundraising events. CCA is registered as a 501[c]4 non-profit organization with the IRS.

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Opinions expressed in "Connections" do not necessarily represent the views of CCA, its Board of Directors, nor its membership.



President's Circle Reception Saturday, June 7th

CCA President's Circle Single and Household members, as well as past CCA Presidents, have been invited to a private reception honoring and thanking them for their support on Saturday evening, June 7th. Past presidents invited are Gary Smith, Ken Hamm, Sally Jones, Jeff Crews, Kathryn Stephens and Ellis Vance.

CCA Accepting Board Nominations

The Central California Alliance is accepting nominations to the Board of Directors. Currently, there are three positions available. The only requirement to serve is to be a member in good standing. Members may be nominated or self-nominated with elections to be held on Thursday, June 26th at 7:00 PM.

If you or someone you know are interested in serving on the Board, please send an e-mail with a 50-word bio and photo saved as a JPEG to:

CCAexecutive@yahoogroups.com.

CCA Welcomes 31 New and Renewing Members:

New:

Single:

Elena Tsuchiya [Planned Parenthood- Mar Monte]

Renewing:

Single:

Anonymous [4 single]

David Stone [David & Co.]

Roy McMeen [Rodgers Instruments, LLC]

Todd Wolfe [www.screamifyoucan.com]

Household:

Anonymous [4 couples]

Erica Hasenbeck & JJ Johnstone

Catherine Campbell & Tom Quinn

President's Single:

Sue Stone [Holistic & Integrative Family Medicine]

Michael MacLean [Tulare County]

Lee Halkias

President's Household:

Anonymous [3 couples]

Jeff Crews & Bill Ickler [Merrill Lynch]

Special Thanks to CCA



Expression Not Suppression, the first ever LGBT and Straight Ally youth conference was held in Fresno on March 29th. More than 100 students of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities from throughout the valley attended! The GSA Network thanks CCA for the generous financial support and on-going companionship in this common journey. [Submitted by Diana Bohn]



Brian Isbell [left] of the California Transplant Donor Network. Additional details: www.ctdn.org or 226-9002.

More Special Thanks to CCA

Dear Central California Alliance,

The California Transplant Donor Network expresses sincere gratitude for being chosen as one of the 2003 CCA grants.

Your generous grant provides us the funds to develop materials specific to the needs, information and education of the GLBTQ Community.

Again, thank you for all your hard work and for providing us this wonderful opportunity of partnering with you and the GLBTQ community.

With our sincere appreciation,

Brian Isbell
Manager of Clinical Services

Keri Pasalakis
Community Outreach Coordinator



Tour of the Downing Planetarium

Thursday, August 28th

Operated by the Department of Physics within the College of Science and Mathematics at Fresno State, the Downing Planetarium opened three years ago.

It features a 74-seat Star Theater under a 30-foot hemispherical dome. It's Star Projector, a Minolta MS-8, can show the stars in the night sky as they would appear at any time of the year, from any place on Earth.

The Downing Planetarium, the only free-standing planetarium on any of the 23-campuses in the CSU system, has hosted 100,000-plus visitors since it opened.

CCA's "Night of Stars" at the Downing Planetarium is on Thursday, August 28th. Enter the Fresno State campus from Barstow and Maple Avenues. Park in Lot P. Program starts at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$10 for CCA Members and \$15 General. No-host pie and coffee follows at Marie Calender's.



"In the Life"

Monday, June 9th
KVPT Channel 18
@ 11:00 PM

Hosted by actor Denis O'Hare and special guests.

- Body Positive - examines direct-to-consumer advertising in the HIV/AIDS drug industry.
- The Golden Years - looks at care facilities for senior members of our community.
- Real to Reel: Simon & I - profiles a two black South African gay rights activists.
- Walk Like A Man - examines the leading threat to LGBT youth and physical effects of bullying.
- Take Me Out - an inside look at the hit Broadway play of the same name.
- Out Takes - wraps up with a tally of the LGBT movement's leaps and bounds over the past year.

Details:
www.inthelife.org



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CCA Events & Meetings

June:

- 7 - President's Circle Reception, 6-8 PM
For past Presidents and President Circle level members.
- 9 - "In the Life," 11 PM
KVPT 18 - Valley Public Television
Sponsored by CCA
- 26 - Annual Membership Meeting; 7:00 PM
Details: 265-7117
www.ccafresno.org

July:

- 7 - CCA Board Meeting

August:

- 4 - CCA Board Meeting
- 28 - Downing Planetarium at Fresno State
Details: 265-7117
www.ccafresno.org

September:

- 1 - CCA Board Meeting

Community Events

June:

- 7 - 13th Annual Pride Parade
Tower District, Fresno
Details: www.communitylinkfresno.org
- 21 - QVB: Queer Volleyball, 6 PM
Details: 486-3464
- 21 - "The Bridge Game"
Co-written and co-produced by CCA member Rhomie Thompson.
27th Annual San Francisco International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
Details: www.frameline.org

September

- 17-21 - 14th Annual Fresno REEL Pride International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
Details: www.reelpride.com

Community Meetings:

Ellos Latinos:

1st Wednesdays, Details: 229-2561

Fresno Stonewall Democrats:

3rd Tuesdays, Details: 292-4905

Imperial Dove Court:

1st Mondays, Details: 222-4056

PFLAG [Fresno Chapter]:

2nd Sundays, Details: 434-6540



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Stay informed!
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Member Profiles and Updates



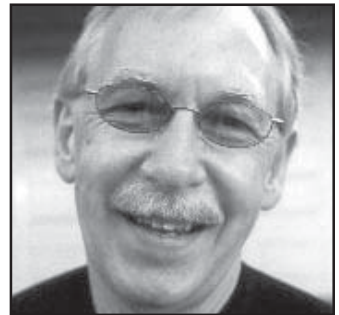
Robin Greiner has been a CCA member for seven years, a board member and the "Connections" editor for three years. He now serves on the events committee. Robin and Ellis Vance, his partner of 37 years, are registered as Domestic Partners [#272] with the State of California. Together, they are Grand Mashalls in the 13th annual Fresno Pride Parade!



A.J. Kruth recently accepted a new position with JPMorgan Chase as Vice President/Regional Sales Manager for Northern California, plus Oregon and Washington. AJ also serves as Treasurer for Fresno REEL Pride. He and his partner, Aaron Olson [CCA President] will celebrate 10 years together this October.



Mariano Tonatiuh Rodriguez is a May 2003 graduate of California State University, Fresno with a BA in Spanish and a minor in English. His writings have twice received 1st Place in the Mexican Consulate's literary competitions. His poem, "El Residuo en el Zapato" was also published in United Student Pride's "Coming Out Tales" last year at Fresno State. His future plans include attending graduate school.



Ellis Vance was the Past President of CCA for two years. Ellis has served as President of two statewide organizations: California Reading Association and the California School Library Association. Along with Robin, his partner of 37 years, they have been members of CCA for seven years. Together, they are Grand Mashalls in the 13th annual Fresno Pride Parade!