



# ONLINE SURVEY LAUNCHES

GASS wants to hear from YOU! In conjunction with the Gender Alliance of the South Sound's continuing commitment to transgender folks needs, the organization is promoting a new online survey. This research will help determine strengths and where action needs to be taken to improve. GASS member Rick N. is running this project as part of a course leading to a masters degree this summer.

The survey is part of a system called Action Research which uses "a spiral of steps, each of which is composed of a circle of planning, action, and fact-finding about the result of the action". The goal of this data gathering is to provide the board with an accurate understanding of what trans people and their allies in the South Sound need and want. The information you give will be of great help and will be used as a guide in future decision making. We promise to listen to, and take action based on your input.

Send longer answers or questions to [lorrie2950@rocketmail.com](mailto:lorrie2950@rocketmail.com). All comments are welcome. The results of this survey will only be reported to us in combined form. No identifying information will be available to us or anyone else. Please respond freely.

Click this link to take the survey now.

# TDOR Memorial

Tacoma- The Rainbow Center was the site of this years Transgender Day of Remembrance. The solemn ceremony on November 19th marked the 11th year the event has been held all around the world to commemorate those taken from their families and their community by hate and violence.

Lori Buckwalter came from Long Beach, WA to play songs for the occasion and members talked about what the TDOR means to them.



*Annie R. extinguishing candles one by one.*

120 candles were lit at the beginning of the evening that represented those known to have died this year alone. As each name was read by GASS members a

<http://www.surveypirate.com/Survey.aspx?surveyid=7830&hash=c5QkCU856x61dsUTWjtS2Q%3d%3d>

Thank you for your time in completing this survey. The information you provide is important to the future of GASS.



## TG Student to Receive Education Grant

The Gender Alliance of the South Sound announces that it will award its first annual scholarship to a deserving transgender student in June 2010. With this award, GASS becomes one of the very few organizations providing scholarships anywhere in the US specifically to assist transgender students.

Scholars will be evaluated on academic achievement, personal goals, character references, community activism and service. GASS has committed a minimum initial amount of \$500 to its scholarship fund drive, and is hopeful that the greater LGBT and allied communities will assist in increasing the fund. The cash award will be applicable to the student's tuition, books and housing, and will be presented at Tacoma's Out in the Park in June. Applications will be available in January at the website.

Contribute to the GASS Scholarship Fund by visiting <http://www.southsoundgender.com/donate.html>

Thank You Very Much



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

candle was snuffed out. Reading the names and how they died was very sad and many were moved to tears.

GASS plans to take the 8-foot tall banner on the road this summer to Pride festivals with the the intention of raising awareness about hate crimes against trans people that happen everywhere.

## TRAINING MANUAL

### Available Now at No Cost

The latest version of the GASS facilitator training curriculum is in PDF format ready for down loading and printing at <http://www.southsoundgender.com/Training-Manual-9-09.pdf>

The 72 page book is divided into four modules designed to accompany classroom sessions for teaching moderators of support groups. The next class is on Module III, Advanced Moderator Skills I and will be at 11am, Saturday, January 16th at the Rainbow Center in Tacoma. This is book is free to anyone wishing to set up or improve a peer to peer, transgender support group. Teachers notes are available, as well. Just send a request to [vvickyhot@comcast.net](mailto:vvickyhot@comcast.net).

## Did you know we have GASS LINKS?

- Which local businesses support our organization.
- What the Washington State Law is and who enforces it.
- Helpful information sites from around the world.
- A listing of successful trans men and women.
- The Transgender Job Bank
- Northwest wide listing of Trans support groups.
- Our allies websites in the LGBT community.

Check out <http://www.southsoundgender.com/links.html>