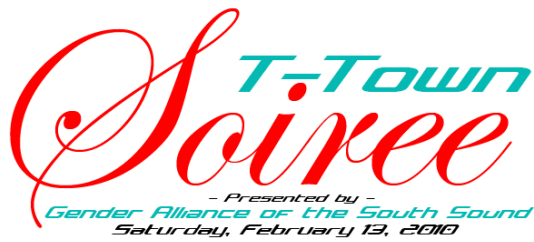




**LOVE THE ONE YOU'RE WITH. .  
INCLUDING YOURSELF!**



**OBJECTIVE:**

In conjunction with the Gender Alliance of the South Sound's goals of support and education, a Scholarship Fund designed to recognize outstanding transgender students and promote their educational goals has been created. Opportunities for gender identity minorities are in short supply, and the need for positive role models acute. This fund is intended to celebrate the achievements of individuals with "gender identity" minority status. The amount of the award(s) will be determined by funds available at the time they are granted and shall be at least \$500.

**SELECTION PROCESS:**

A panel of community members will review the applications and make preliminary selections for finalists based on their collective judgment of each applicant's overall qualifications, as well as financial need. The selection panel may request interviews of the finalists. This scholarship is awarded to transgender individuals and is based on a combination of achievements in the areas of academic excellence, citizenship, leadership, extra-curricular activities, and financial need.

**MORE INFORMATION:** Go to:

[Scholarship](#)

Join the members of the Gender Alliance of the South Sound as we celebrate **Valentines Day** 2010. A gourmet banquet with music and dancing will get the love flowing.



Tickets will be only \$20 each in advance or \$25 at the door. Click on this link to the GASS website to learn more and how to reserve your place at this year's winter party and fund raiser.

**T-Town Soiree INFO**

February 13, 7-10PM  
Surprise Lake Village  
2800 Queens Way  
Milton, WA 98354



## New Grants Support Pierce County Nonprofits

Pride Foundation/Pierce County has just announced the five nonprofit agencies they will be supporting with \$9,150 in grants. These organizations were selected by local volunteers, who carefully weighed how to make the most significant impact for the greatest number of people in Pierce County's LGBT community. The committee had received six applications for funding, totaling \$21,123 in requests.

Pride Foundation/Pierce County's 2010 grant recipients are:

**Pacific Lutheran University**, \$750 for the Queer Ally Network Project

**Pierce County AIDS Foundation**, \$3,000 for Oasis Youth Center

**Good Samaritan Behavior Health**, \$4,000 for Teen Sexual Minority Group

**Gender Alliance of the South Sound**, \$1,100 for T-Town Tacoma's Transgender Stories, Art Project

**Rainbow Center of Tacoma**, \$300 for Tacoma QPOC

Pacific Lutheran University and Gender Alliance of the South Sound, are receiving their first Pride Foundation grants.



## Freedom for the Body & Soul

- Belly Dancing with Lessons
- Henna Body Art
- Free HIV and STD Screenings
- Themed Presentation Basket Auction
- Beautiful Professionally Created Floral Center Pieces for Raffle
- Professional Dominatrix for Hire
- Event for All Ages- Bring the Family
- So Much More. . .

Join Miss Debuante XV, Steele Eyesli Duall of the Imperial Sovereign Court of Tacoma, Diamond Empire of the Cascades for a fund raiser to benefit the Rainbow Center and **GASS** on the evening of February 6th, 7 till 10PM in downtown Tacoma.

A suggested donation of \$5 at the door  
Tacoma Rainbow Center  
741 Saint Helens Avenue

[www.MySpace.com/CourtOfTacoma](http://www.MySpace.com/CourtOfTacoma)



## GASS Helps Local Trans Family

In December, a GASS member posted on the Yahoo forum about a trans family with four kids that was having a difficult time. The other members rallied by putting out the call and it was answered with generous donations of cash to help these children have a little brighter Christmas.

R. A. posted this in January:

Hi Group,

Thank you for helping out my close friend and her family. It is really hard to swallow your pride but Sara and her family have had to do this in the rough time they are having now.

I do appreciate this group gathering together and helping out this family. I hope there is more helping each other to come in the future.

Thank you group,

R. A

G.A.S.S. Organization and its Members,  
I am writing a letter of thanks, and gratitude for the donation made to my family for Christmas. This year, as many know, has been a difficult year for our family. There has been at times crushing stress, and a great financial burden placed on us for many reasons, and the strain had reached its peak in late November as we were evicted from Seattle Housing.

Our children had a wonderful Christmas this year, thanks in great part to your generous donation. The donation was used to purchase items that the children enjoy on a daily basis. And the children are planning to create a HUGE thank you card to show their appreciation.

Thank you,

S.M. and family



## The View From the Chair

*The ignorance, neglect, or contempt of the rights of man are the sole cause of public calamities and of the corruption of governments. . .*

*Men are born and remain free and equal in rights.*

## Meeting Schedules

Tacoma - 2nd, 4th & 5th Fridays, 7pm

Rainbow Center

Olympia - 3rd Saturdays, 7pm

Fertile Grounds House



## Shine the Light

You can share The Lantern with folks that may be interested in what is happening in the South Sound.

Just click this link; [Send to a friend](#)



## GASS Facilitator Training Session

The dedicated moderators of our support meetings continue to sharpen their skills.

Module III Advanced Facilitator Skills

Rainbow Center, 11AM to 2PM, Saturday, January 16

If you are interested in attending this no charge class please email [vvickyhot@comcast.net](mailto:vvickyhot@comcast.net)



Did you know you can read past issues of The Lantern? Just take this link to the library at the GASS website.

[GASS E-Newsletters](#)



Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen, National Assembly of France,  
1789

We are at a pivotal period in human history and have the rare opportunity to witness major changes for our good. The information age, which began with the mass dissemination of news and the effects of public education on literacy rates after the Civil War, has propelled our ability to stay informed to the current level of instant reporting of every event. At an ever accelerating pace, human rights laws are being passed. Segments of society that have up until now been forgotten and ignored are demanding and receiving recognition of their basic right to happiness.

The hopes of those eighteenth century revolutionaries in America and France are finally coming to fruition. Our forefathers envisioned and worked for a world where each citizen is granted equality in their quest for a meaningful life and that no class of people is set above any other. We can look back at where the world has come from, marveling at our progress and we can look around us now and despair at the injustice. We have a long way yet to go and a great fight ahead but, we will keep pushing forward and this world will get better.

We will progress by changing the hearts and minds of individuals one at a time. This is the kernel at the center of the idea of our revolution. We can and will hear within ourselves a thrumming that is in tune with these ideas. Out of cacophony arises a joyful noise. The People begin to realize their potential and strive to work towards a common goal. Listen now and heed this call: We must work together for the greater good of all.

**Individuals can and are making a difference.**

The truths that we hold are spread by the way we live. Integrity, wholeness, and balance in our lives make for calm in the eye of everything that seems to swirl about us. We should not trample nature because we are part of nature; and should no more suppress others or our earth than we should damage our own selves.

Humanity is evolving and we are accomplishing this by rejecting the old ways of prejudice and division. Live and let live is the credo now. Gone is manifest destiny and work makes free. Each of us must enter into this struggle knowing that we shall not see the end in our lives but that we will make a contribution now and move our social revolution forward. If you are dissatisfied with life then change the way you live by showing the world the good that is in your heart. We will help others by leading exemplary lives. When we see the darkness of injustice we must stand up and declare the wrongness of it and shine the light of reason and acceptance.



**The electronic media is the most effective catalyst to our metamorphosis.**

We can share our ideas and discuss all manor of minutia. Analysis yields consensus and direction. Little is hidden in a free society and although it can be a harsh process, injustice is quickly brought to light. This crucible process can start with free-form brain-storming all the way to establishing new government policies. The new technology makes it easy to get involved at an individual level.

We do not enter into this process having to start at zero. Important ground work has been laid by those that have gone before us. Entire groups of people have received recognition of their inherent and absolute right to pursue happiness as equals, at least in the eyes of the law. It is now our turn to build upon this bedrock. We are marching alongside lesbian, gay, and bisexual brothers and sisters because we share many common goals. Transgender folks will branch out to fight for our specific rights in the near future with much preliminary work being done currently. There will be other groups after us that struggle as well for a truly free world.

Someday humans are going to learn to live in peace with each other and with our planet. It is amazing what we have done so far. Think of what we can and will accomplish. Join this revolution now by fighting for our rights. Transform yourself.

**Become a gender warrior!**

Thank you for reading,  
Victoria Quaintance