



March, 2010

## Club Mixer Set for Oly

Join the GASS gang for an evening of fun at Jakes' on 4<sup>th</sup> in Olympia this Saturday night March 6. This month's Club Mixer starts at 8PM for eating, drinks, and dancing. We have some great times at Jakes' with good turn-outs and lots of laughs.

<http://www.myspace.com/jakeson4th>

311 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, Olympia, WA



## GASS Does Movie Nights!

A member hosts a potluck and movie night in their home on the third Saturday of the month. Having between 5 and 10 folks show up makes for an intimate, relaxing and fun evening get together. Movies shown have ranged from The Cockettes and Surrender Dorthy to the epic, El Cid. Won't you join us in March?



## "Changing Room" Could Work in Tacoma

Submitted by Lacey Underall <http://transpace.transg.org/>

Do you need a place to change clothes that isn't your house? I know I sure do! We are gauging the interest out there from folks in the South Sound TG community that would be interested in paying a small fee for a discrete place to change/store clothes. This would be a facility based upon a similar concept in Seattle called "Transpace".

Monthly fees would probably be similar to Transpace, something like \$25 per month for access to the space and \$40 for access w/ secure closet. If you think this is a good idea (no need to commit right now), please send a brief email to me at [laceyunderall@hotmail.com](mailto:laceyunderall@hotmail.com) and indicate if you would be interested in "Access Only" or "Access w/Closet" and if you are interested in helping to organize and/or fund the start-up venture. GASS membership will not be required.



## One Word at a Time

Here's the final list of our forum members' response to "One Word?". You know, we never specified "one word... what?" Yet each person provided a profound concept expressed with a single word. We have some very thoughtful and good-hearted people.

- Independent
- Consent
- Reborn
- Empowerment
- Confidence
- Truthfulness
- Diversity
- Acceptance
- Integrity
- Committed
- Compassion
- Perseverance
- Community
- Courage
- Virtue
- Solidarity
- Hope
- Humor



## Court Hits One Out of the Park!

A check for \$405 was presented to the GASS board of directors by Debuante XV, Steele Eyesli Duall of the Imperial Sovereign Court of Tacoma. The money was raised at the **Midnight at the Oasis** event in Tacoma on Feb. 6 where the LGBT community and its' supports gathered for an evening devoted to "Freedom for the Body and Mind". More than a thousand dollars was raised for three charities, the Rainbow Center, the Imperial Court, and GASS. Thanks to everyone that was involved with putting on the successful endeavor and special thanks to all that attended and donated to these causes. **Good Job!**



## Transgender Youth on Dr. Oz Show

This is a positive treatment of the subject and a well made production involving two (an MtF and a FtM) trans youth, their parents, and doctors. Check out this link to a video of the program.

<http://lorisrevival.blogspot.com/2010/02/transgender-kids-on-dr-oz-show-video.html>

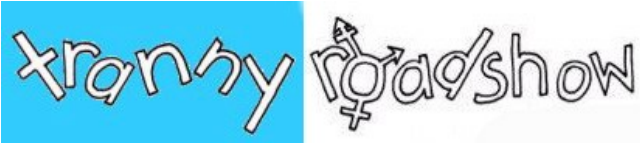


## GASS Winter Party Report

Executive Chef Brianna knows her trade. I might add she was very happy to help me with my makeup and clothes. Brianna treated us to chicken Marsala, Alaskan white fish with beurre blanc sauce, and ratatouille with side dishes of rice pilaf and sauteed asparagus in minced garlic plus salads and desserts. Yummy! I am trying to recall the level of satisfaction on the faces in the crowd but was distracted trying to find more food to fill my tummy. I would say the satisfaction level was high based on the scarce morsels left on my second time through.

The music started, the lights began flashing and people began dancing. I am not much of a dancer but I do love good music, flashing lights, and seeing others enjoy themselves. Lacey Underall set the mood just right with her selection of songs and lighting almost prying me out of my chair. I remember watching one of the girls dance with her spouse and child. The feelings that washed over me at that point were mixed with sorrow and joy. I felt the loss of my spouse by my side and yet the mood was set just right enabling me to see others' happiness. The power of music can be an awesome thing.

Good food and good company go a long way on the road I am traveling. Being new to the GASS community, I am a bit awkward, shy and afraid. So, learning to balance myself has been challenging But with help and support from my community, life has moved forward. I have been to a total of three meetings, a potluck, and the *T-Town Soiree*, There is just something about interacting with others as myself that brings great relief and joy. It warms my heart to such a point that it is almost possible to melt into myself. That is the point, becoming one's self. GASS is a wonderful, wonderful group that has fast become my place for growth and acceptance and as you can see I am in up to knees growing and being accepted



GASS is helping to sponsor a troupe of performers know as the **Tranny Roadshow** that are bringing their unique brand of humor and entertainment to the Evergreen State College in Olympia on Wednesday, April 14th, at 8PM.

<http://www.trannyroadshow.com/>

The show is a multimedia performance art extravaganza. It is composed of an eclectic group of artists, each one self-identified as transgender, and includes poets, rappers, filmmakers, storytellers, breakdancers, rock bands, comedians, actors, folk singers, photographers, zinesters, and more. Stationary art (i.e. photography and sculpture) is displayed, but most of the presentation is live, a unique variety show where the expression of gender and the expression of self are inseparable. The show is a fluid entity, changing to suit the artists and the crowd, but always it is full of intelligence, fun and humor.

Although the **Tranny Roadshow** is done entirely by transpeople, it is not exclusively for transpeople. It is a raucous evening of entertainment, open and accessible to people of all backgrounds. The performers' goals include challenging people and making them think, with their most important goals being to entertain them, make them laugh, and make them dance.

All people have multiple identities, which overlap, intertwine and impact each other in different ways. One of the aims of the **Tranny Roadshow** is to present transpeople as they are - as whole, multi-faceted people. And their art expresses many things, of which gender is only one. In the show, they present a wide spectrum of gender identities, a brilliant array of living art, and the ties that bind these identities to their artwork and to the world. Stay tuned for more details.



I would like to share with all a poem or the fixings of one. The idea behind the words is an outlook on life and the ever growing connection that is happening within ones self and the outside world.

*By Julie Stucky*

### Sun ripened tomatoes and the....

...salsa I make from them. All the cats I have had and have; Levi, Tee-toe, Socks, Kitty, Little Bit and Maria.

The smell of the ocean on a foggy day, the sound water makes,

All of them, the sun shining through moss covered trees in the morning when the dew shimmers and dances,

The endorphins after a 15 mile run, the smell of vanilla, teaching my sister to make pie crust, my mother and her accepting love for me,

Finding GASS and the new friends in my life. All of these things are good and bring happy thoughts to me.

It's hard for me to remember these things when life is moving at that furious pace with no end in sight and the seams unravel before my eyes. I have found that as time passes the seams mend, the pace slows and good things start to happen again.

So, hang on to all those good things in life and never, never, ever let them go.

having volunteered to write this article.



*By Julie Stucky*

Many smiles walked through the front entrance to the T-Town Soiree, close to forty, but I may be off a bit, as my focus was on not adding bits and pieces of myself to the salad I was tasked with making. I believe that a record was set for attendance and GASS did make some money for the coffers.

## Rainbow Center Launches LGBTQ Survey!

I'm writing to ask for your help in collecting data about the *local* LGBTQ community. The Tacoma Rainbow Center, throughout the month of March, is conducting a population survey for LGBTQ people in the general Pierce County area. At this time, there is lack of good data on this population. The survey results will provide a more detailed and comprehensive view of the LGBTQ community in the region. Data from the survey will be used to help get funding for programs aimed at the LGBTQ community, and will have the potential for other positive political and social implications for LGBTQ people.



A summary of survey results will be shared. The survey is anonymous, and takes about ten minutes to fill out. Here's how you can help us:

- if you are a member of the LGBTQ community, take the survey between March 1 and March 31 online,
- let us come and talk about this survey to your staff or constituents
- place a link to our survey on your website,
- write about our survey in your newsletter,
- send our survey information out to your listservs
- let us hang posters in your organization
- send any dates of events that you think will be good for outreach to our community during the month of March

We really appreciate any help you can offer. I look forward to talking with you about it soon!

Engage with us,  
Aimee Welch, bsw, mpa, jd, [aimee.welch@rainbowcntr.org](mailto:aimee.welch@rainbowcntr.org)  
Rainbow Center, Executive Director  
741 St. Helens Ave, Tacoma, WA 98402 (253) 383-2318

**CLICK THIS BANNER TO TAKE THE SURVEY RIGHT NOW!**



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=sYWvEENkAEb+lAb9Dr5HE/cMXzmfgoNAGE+IKd9oN34=&>



Gender Alliance of the South Sound | 741 St Helens St | Tacoma | WA | 98402 | US

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