

SCGLPM E-Bulletin - Special Edition:
Columbia Black/Latino Pride Week

South Carolina Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement &
the Harriet Hancock Community Center

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In This Issue!!!!

Editor's Note:

- **Columbia Black/Latino Pride Week**

South Carolina News

- **Defeating the Marriage Amendment in SC**

Submission Guidelines for SCGLPM E-Bulletin

Editor's Note:

Columbia Black/Latino Gay Pride

June 19-25

All the talking is done. It is time for the event of the year!!!

Hope to see you all on Monday.

Monday, June 19
6:00 pm

Volunteer Training & Social
South Carolina HIV/AIDS Council Board Room, 1115 Calhoun St.

Tuesday, June 20
6:00 pm

Vigil to End AIDS Crisis
Garden of Grace United Church of Christ, 1020 Atlas Rd
(803) 695-9664

Wednesday, June 21

11:00 pm

Kick-Off Party
Club Fusion, 920 Lady Street
(803) 765-1574

Thursday, June 22

7:00 pm

Town Hall Meeting
"State of Emergency in the South Carolina LGBT Communities of Color"
University of South Carolina's Law School Auditorium
10:00 pm

Mr. and Ms. Columbia Black/Latino Gay Pride Pageant
PTs Cabaret, 1101 Harden St
(803) 758-6090

Friday, June 23

5:00 pm

Black/Latino Gay Film Showcase
Nickelodeon, 937 Main St
(803) 254-8234
Featuring Black Aura on the Angel, Just Between Us, Keith & Greg, DL Chronicles, Walk
In the Light, Brooklyn's Bridge & Strange Fruit.

10:00 pm until...

The White Party
Club Colors, 6729 Two Notch Rd
Come dressed to finesse in ALL White
Featuring Male & Female Erotic Dancers

Saturday, June 24

10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Black/Latino Gay Pride Expo
Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center - Downtown Columbia
Vendors from all over the nation;
local and national entertainment!
Kidz Corner, Pride Souvenirs, Author's Square, Wellness Fair,
Free Samples & Promotional Giveaways!

8:00 pm

Tongues Untied
Club Colors, 6729 Two Notch Rd

Official pride parties to be held at: Colors, Pt's Cabaret, & Club Fusion

Sunday, June 25
11:00 am

Pride Worship Service & Picnic
Garden of Grace United Church of Christ, 1020 Atlas Rd
(803) 695-9664

For more information about the Columbia S.C. Black/Latino Pride Week of Events, log onto www.carolinasblackpridemovement.com or www.freewebs.com/palmettoumoja

In addition, you can contact the following for more information:
Jermaine Nakia Lee: (704) 713-6948
Robert-John Hinojosa: (803) 269-1496
Alvin McEwen: (803) 898-2859

-----**Defeating the SC**
Marriage Amendment

What the Amendment Says:

Article XVII of the SC Constitution would be amended by adding:

A marriage between one man and one woman is the only lawful domestic union that shall be valid or recognized in this State. This State and its political subdivisions shall not create a legal status, right or claim respecting any other domestic union, however denominated. This State and its political subdivisions shall not recognize or give effect to a legal status, right or claim created by another jurisdiction respecting any other domestic union, however denominated. Nothing in this section shall impair any right or benefit extended by the State or its political subdivisions other than a right or benefit arising from a domestic union that is not valid or recognized in this State. This section shall not prohibit or limit parties, other than the State or its political subdivisions, from entering init contracts or other legal instruments.

What You Can Do to Help Defeat the Amendment

Be an Active Voice

Talk to your family, friends, and neighbors, including writing letters to editors of magazines and newspapers. See Ed Madden's info below on what to say and how to do it. Don't avoid discussing the amendment because you think you will out yourself. Discussing political issues and the amendment doesn't have to out you; if you can't come out, you are still a concerned citizen who cares about others. Remember straight people are against the amendment too, so just be that.

Be aware of what others are saying about you, your lifestyle, your children and family, and the amendment. Campaigns like this work on increasing people's fear, and writers will create images and say things that do not reflect our reality or that focus on insignificant details and facts, all to increase their readers' and listeners' fears. Only you can correct the misconceptions and misinformation.

Come out to someone if you can. Studies show that the more folks who know about lesbian, gay, bi, and transgendered people the less likely they are to have negative feelings about people who identify as such.

Donate money or time to SCEC, one of the major organizations helping organize efforts here in SC. If you are donating, give it to a SC Organization working on educating South Carolinians. Money is needed for advertisements, TV and radio spots, billboards, etc. Unfortunately, in the political arena, money is most often the key to victory.

Tips for Writing Letters and Discussing the Amendment

Ed Madden's suggestions on writing letters you would like printed and read by the public:

You can email your letter (do not send as attachment but in the body of the email) to the State at stateeditor@thestate.com or fax it to 803.771.8639. You can mail it to Letters to the Editor, The State, PO Box 1333, Columbia SC 29202. Include your name, address, and daytime phone number.

A few points to remember:

- KEEP IT SHORT! 200 words or fewer!
- KEEP IT FOCUSED! Focus on one or two points.
- KEEP IT SIMPLE! Short sentences and short paragraphs.
- KEEP IT TIMELY! Refer to a recent news story or event.
- SEND IT NOW!!

A few talking points for letters or conversations:

- This amendment is about a lot more than marriage. It should more accurately be called a family discrimination amendment rather than a marriage amendment because it defines what kinds of families matter and what kinds of families deserve recognition.
- The first sentence (the first 23 words) define marriage. The other 114 words prohibit civil unions and domestic partnerships and any form of legal protection for same-gender families and their children.
- According to the 2000 U.S. Census, South Carolina is fourth in the nation for same-sex couples raising children. These are real South Carolina families, and it is these families and these children who will be devastated by this amendment.
- Media coverage should recognize that this amendment is about a great deal more than marriage. This amendment will make it constitutionally impossible for many South Carolinians to legally protect their families and their children.

Help us educate south carolina and the news media about this amendment! Send a letter today!

Ed Madden
Chair, SC Equality Coalition
For more information visit www.SCEquality.org

Submission Guidelines

The SCGLPM E-Bulletin is scheduled to be distributed on Wednesdays.

All materials that you would like included in that week's edition must be received at msharon1957@aol.com by Mondays at 11:59 pm (midnight).

Announcements and articles received after the deadline will be published in the subsequent edition if the article or event is still timely.

If you are not sure what to include in your announcement or article, just remember to cover these basics: knowing what, who, when, where, why, and how will let readers act on your request or news, or attend an event.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sharon
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