



GAMMA

Raps

May 2010

Spa Day for the Boys

Kip S. and Tim L. would like to invite GAMMA members to experience free services at their salon/spa, Barney's Brother, on Friday, May 28th, 2010, from 6 to 8 p.m. Mini manicures, mini pedicures, express facials and spray tanning will be offered, along with wine and appetizers, and the traditional party atmosphere of all GAMMA events. An RSVP is requested to make an appointment for your first service – after that services will be offered as time allows. So come and have fun with your GAMMA friends, meet the charming staff of Barney's Brother Salon/Spa, and have spa services done for free to get you ready for summer.

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GAMMA NEEDS YOU!

Marketing & Recruitment Update and Plea

After being appointed to the board in January, I was asked to head up marketing and membership recruitment for GAMMA. After getting a better understanding of our mission and our target market, I felt my first responsibility was to make the GAMMA organization more visible. So, in February we updated and reprinted 500 GAMMA brochures and placed them for distribution throughout the area where our target market, who are looking for alternatives in their social lives, are located. You will now find GAMMA brochures at the LGBT Community Center, the Gay Arts Center, Outbound Bookstore, and a number of churches catering to our target market.

Next, in March, press releases were sent to all the local press in our area that once again caters to our community. It has been printed by some, as seen in the recent issue of Quest. Another effort to let our target market know about us is GAMMA sponsorship of the Pot Luck Dinner and Open Mic Night at the Gay Arts Center in April. Flyers were distributed and an online ad was run. The online ad on www.wisconsin gazette.com will continue after the April 10th event, just promoting membership in GAMMA. This will give us a chance to monitor the response to online advertising.

While all of this promotion and advertising are important, our best results for recruiting new members still come from word of mouth. Therefore, my first plea to all of our current members is to talk up GAMMA to your friends who are not members, and to bring them as guests to our events to encourage them to join. Also, when you encounter guests or new members at events, please make them feel welcome and comfortable.

The next big marketing and membership recruitment event will be PrideFest. In addition to being a volleyball sponsor, we will have a booth to promote GAMMA, and will also be in the parade. Which brings me to my next plea – please HELP, HELP, HELP – let's make this event special. In all the year, there is no other event at which we can reach so many potential members. We need help organizing and putting together the booth and parade, so please join the GAMMA PrideFest committee. We also will need participants to work the booth on Saturday June 12th and Sunday June 13th between noon and 5:30 p.m., and to be part of the parade on the 13th. Please contact us to let us know of your support and involvement. It should be great fun.

If any member has ideas or suggestions for ways to market GAMMA or increase membership, please contact me. I am always open to suggestions.

In conclusion, I can say that our efforts are paying off, as membership has increased every month since February, and I hope to see this trend continue as we move forward. As the numbers increase, we all have an opportunity to make new friends. GAMMA is a great organization – TALK IT UP!

Kip S. – Membership Recruitment & Marketing

New Members

Tom C.

Handsome Is As Handsome Does

From time to time, as our membership changes and widens, it is a good idea to direct members to the Gamma's Code of Conduct which is to be found on our website. Members engage in GAMMA sponsored events and non-GAMMA sponsored events; the Code applies to GAMMA sponsored events.

In brief, members should be conscious of the image of GAMMA that they project at group and public events and act in such a way as not to reflect negatively on our organization. Courtesy should be practiced toward fellow members as well as toward those who receive and serve us at sporting, cultural and public venues. Rudeness and demands for personal attention are not acceptable. Members are encouraged to report inappropriate behavior or problems to the event coordinator or to a board member, and it is protocol for the event coordinator to address those concerns.

Now that GAMMA has a presence on the internet, prospective new members contact us and question who we are. Our officers, from time to time, have corrected the misconception that GAMMA is a dating service or place to "hook up". GAMMA continues to be a social organization which, like such groups as a sporting organization, women's club or other clubs, should be a place where members can share mutual interests and form friendships. At group events where alcohol is consumed members should be aware of their tolerance level so as to maintain appropriate behavior. Members should respect customary boundaries of intimacy and not make remarks or overtures to fellow members or others that would cause discomfort or embarrassment. Sexual innuendo and remarks of a personal nature toward those who serve us in public places should be avoided.

In the last few decades the LGBT community has made tremendous progress in the way it is perceived. We are now generally free to express ourselves openly and without reservation among family, colleagues and in public. Let's enjoy ourselves while making sure our actions always reflect favorably on GAMMA.

The GAMMA Board

Dining Out At Thirst & Vine

Dining Out will take place May 21st at 7:00 PM at Shorewood's newest restaurant, Thirst and Vine, a bistro-wine bar, at 4330 N. Oakland Ave.

As in French Bistros, a limited menu includes such small plate offerings such as Soups, Four-cheese Macaroni and Cheese, Pizza, Mixed Salads, O.M.G. Chicken Fricassee, Italian Pan Seared Shrimp, Chipotle Beef & Cilantro Tacos, etc. The menu offerings change, but the signature Mac & Cheese and tasty Paninos remain a staple.

This restaurant doubles as a wine boutique, and diners benefit from being able to order quality wines to accompany their food at very reasonable prices – not the 2X or 3X markup encountered in most restaurants. Consequently one can enjoy a much better wine – or beer – than one would be able to obtain in other restaurants, at

a range of price levels.

I have spoken with John Nehring, the owner, and Jenna, his vivacious hostess, and they are eager to receive our GAMMA group.

The group size will be limited to 20. Please RSVP by May 17 to Ned.



Jim and Lee Visit "The Bobs"

Jim T. and Lee S. vacationed in Florida this past winter and stayed a night at GAMMA members Bob T. and Bob Z. (the Bobs) residence in beautiful Margate, FL which is just west of Ft Lauderdale. The Bob's have a wonderful 3 bedroom, 2 bath open concept home which allows the Bobs to easily entertain.

It was great to get caught up with the Bobs on their latest life events, including Bob Thompson getting an excellent book titled, "To Touch The Land", a story about their son Daniel, published by Xlibris. Bob Z. also has studied the art of massage therapy and gave us a great mini massage to demonstrate how we were out of alignment and the methods used to properly re-align. This felt great after the plane ride to Florida.

Their son Daniel and boyfriend Scott also came over to visit. We had a wonderful dinner and great conversation and it was good seeing the two of them doing so well. The Bobs made a wonderful salad and tomato basil soup, followed by a delicious Shepard's pie. Brownies were served for dessert and we were all stuffed, so they continue their tradition of fine dining brought from Wisconsin. The next morning, the Bobs took us to their favorite casino where they have a very reasonable and tasty breakfast buffet. We also stopped in the Casino and Lee won enough to cover our entertainment for that day.

We certainly can see why the Bobs love their home and the area where they live. We did reminisce about the old days at their home on Lake Brittany in WI. Having seen how happy they are in Florida, we don't blame them for not missing Wisconsin and the wonderful winters. Although they say they do miss all the wonderful people in GAMMA.

Speaking of, the Bobs asked us to say hi to everyone and pass on an invite to their home for anyone traveling down to Florida.

Thanks to the Bobs for their wonderful hospitality and we hope to see them sometime soon again.



Jim T. & Lee S.

Thanks A Bunch!!!

Tony S. - Volleyball
 Jack L. & John S. - Monthly Party
 Reed M. - Board Meeting
 Richard G. - Blue Plate Special
 Open Mic & Pot Luck
 Richard C. - Cribbage
 Joe C. - Game Night
 Cliff H. - Make A Promise
 Michael H. - Sheepshead
 Bill M. - Dining Out

Happy Birthday

5/04 Roger T.
 5/05 Jeff K.
 5/07 Bill W.
 5/11 Patrick B.
 5/14 Ric F.
 5/19 Edwin Z.
 5/20 John C.
 5/22 Jack L.
 5/23 Gene B.
 5/24 Bil R.
 5/26 Ned T.
 5/27 Jerry G.
 Thomas B.
 Larry W.
 5/31 Patrick O.



BOARD BRIEFS

One of the primary responsibilities of the Board of Directors is to ensure the financial stability of GAMMA and the continuity of our organization. Our annual audit is part of making this happen, and I'm happy to report that the audit of our 2009 records has been completed without any problems to report. Allan Hodnett (Certified Internal Auditor) performed our 2009 audit, and a copy of his audit statement appears in this issue of GAMMA Rays.

You may notice that the ending balance for 2009 is lower than it was at the end of 2008. The main reason for this was a delay in depositing the revenue from our Annual Meeting & Banquet until the start of 2010, which was after the books for 2009 were closed. Once this money was deposited, our balance quickly jumped to well over \$4,000. The other reason for the drop in our balance is due to a slightly smaller membership this year. Although we weathered the recent economic crunch fairly well as an organization, we have faced a reduction of revenue and an increase in expenses and need to plan accordingly.

There are a few things in the works to ensure we continue to enjoy financial stability and strength in the coming years. First, we are going to be taking a look at our budget process to be sure we spend our money where we will get the most bang for the buck. Second, we are in the midst of a big membership recruitment drive designed to grow our membership and add to the number of people joining in on the fun. And finally, the board is exploring other steps which we can take to keep us on sound financial footing in the years to come. It's actually quite amazing what we are able to accomplish given our very limited budget, and I am committed to making sure this continues into the future. I will be reporting to you more about this in the coming months.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you have, as well as with any suggestions you have.

Richard G. 414-530-1886

Milwaukee GAMMA, Inc.
Statement of Revenue and Expenses
For the Two-Year Period Ended December 31, 2009

	2009	2008
Beginning Cash Balance:	\$ 5,059.58	\$ 7,265.32
Revenue:		
Membership	3,576.94	4,425.48
Volleyball	183.00	268.74
Outdoors	180.00	339.00
Social/Cultural	492.72	2,079.99
Administration	125.00	-
Total Revenue	\$ 4,557.66	\$ 7,113.21
Expenses:		
Membership/Publicity	243.31	-
Volleyball	175.00	200.00
Outdoors	165.00	309.00
Social/Cultural	4,443.10	5,857.47
Newsletter	1,459.19	2,191.48
Administration	462.87	761.00
Total Expenses	\$ 6,948.47	\$ 9,318.95
Revenue Over (Under) Expenses	\$ (2,390.81)	\$ (2,205.74)
Ending Cash Balance:	\$ 2,668.77	\$ 5,059.58

Basis of Accounting:

The Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the two-year period ended December 31, 2009 has been prepared on a cash basis.

Report of Certified Internal Auditor:

March 29, 2009

To: Board of Directors, Milwaukee GAMMA, Inc.

I have audited the Statement of Revenue and Expenses of Milwaukee GAMMA, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2009. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Board of Directors of Milwaukee GAMMA, Inc. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. These standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the Board of Directors, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Milwaukee GAMMA, Inc. as of December 31, 2009, and the results of its activities for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Respectfully,


 Allan L. Hodnett, CIA

PRIDE UPDATE

There is lots of activity around Pride celebrations this year. Peter & Tony are working to organize our volleyball courts at PrideFest and could certainly use your help in volunteering to work the courts during open play. Since we are also partnering with the Milwaukee Gay Volleyball Association to hold a tournament, there are fewer hours for open play. We still need volunteers to help and are counting on your support.

Kip is putting together what we are certain will be our most exciting GAMMA booth at PrideFest ever. Please contact Kip if you are able to help him in our booth to tell the world about GAMMA. He will be glad to have you help in any way you can.

Reed is taking charge of GAMMA's presence at this year's Pride Parade. We are looking forward to having a great time participating in the parade, and Reed is hoping to have as many members participate as possible. Please contact Reed to offer your help.

May Events

FRONTRUNNERS MILWAUKEE RUN/WALK SATURDAY MORNINGS

TIME: 9 am (Saturdays)
PLACE: Start from water tower at
east end of North Ave
FM: John S.

Rain or shine, each Saturday we meet
in friendship for some exercise. All
are welcome to join in. Breakfast
afterward.

MONTHLY PARTY MAY 1st

TIME: 7 pm
PLACE: Glendale
HOST: Jim H.

BRING: Dish to pass and your
beverage of choice.
RSVP: Optional

VOLLEYBALL MAY 2nd GAMMA VS SCRATCH'N SNIFF

TIME: 5:45 pm
PLACE: Beulah Brinton Center
255 S Bay St., Milwaukee

CRIBBAGE MAY 6

TIME: 7 pm
PLACE: Racine
HOST: Ed H.

VOLLEYBALL MAY 9th GAMMA VS WOODY'S

TIME: 5:45 pm



BOARD MEETING MAY 11

TIME: 7 pm
PLACE: Milwaukee
HOST: Gerry O.

BLUE PLATE SPECIAL MAY 12th

TIME: Noon
PLACE: The Glen Cafe 6823 N
Green Bay Ave, Glendale
www.glencafe.com
EM: Richard G.

Directions: The Glen Café is located on N.
Green Bay Avenue just north of W. Green Tree
Road. Take N. Green Bay south from Good
Hope or north from Silver Spring to get there.

GAMENIGHT MAY 15th

TIME: 7 pm
PLACE: Milwaukee
HOST: David S.

DINING OUT DEADLINE MAY 17th

SHEEPSHEAD MAY 18th

TIME: 7 pm
PLACE: Milwaukee
HOST: Marty B.
BRING: \$1 and beverage
RSVP: Recommended

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE MAY 20th

DINING OUT MAY 21st

TIME: 7:pm
PLACE: Thirst & Vine
4330 N Oakland
Ave, Shorewood
EM: Ned T.



RSVP: Mandatory May 17th

Directions: I43 north to Capitol Drive east exit.
Continue east across the Milwaukee River and
under the railroad bridge. Turn left (north) on
Oakland Avenue. Proceed 7 blocks to the
restaurant on the right.

SPRING HIKE & BRUNCH MAY 23rd

We'll hike north along the Milwaukee
River through Estabrook Park and
follow along the paved bike trail as far
as Lincoln Park Lagoon and return.
After the hike, weary walkers may
wish to gather at nearby Culver's for
brunch or just an ice cream. Not
interested in the hike? Just join the
group for brunch at 1pm. WAIP

TIME: 11 am
PLACE: Estabrook Park
EM: Tod T.

RSVP: No, but appreciated
BRING: Temperature appropriate
clothes, hiking shoes, trail
snack and water.

Directions: I43 north to Capitol Drive eastbound
exit. East on Capitol past river to Estabrook
Parkway. North into Estabrook Park and meet
in the parking lot at the base of the TV tower.



BARNEYS BROTHER SALON

SPA NIGHT FOR THE BOYS MAY 28th

TIME: 6 pm - 8pm
PLACE: BARNEY'S BROTHER SALON
777 E Michigan Ave
Milwaukee
EM: Kip S. & Tim L.
RSVP: Required May 26th
COST: \$0
BRING: Swimsuit if spray tanning

Directions: I94 to I-794 east. Exit at Van Buren. North on Van Buren there is street parking on the west side of street or turn left on Michigan where there is street parking on both sides of the street.

Enter at 777 E Michigan on the south side of the street. Take the elevator to the Galleria level. Follow signs to Barney's Brother.

BICYCLE RIDE MAY 30TH

Depending on the temperature & which way the wind is blowing, we'll ride the 76 trail either south to the lakefront or north along the Milwaukee River Parkway. After the ride, we'll visit Kopp's for snacks or custard. WAIP

TIME: 11 am
PLACE: Glendale
EM: Tod T.
RSVP: Appreciated
BRING: Bicycle helmet, snack money



Publishing Information

GAMMA Rays is published by Milwaukee GAMMA Inc. PO Box 1900 Milwaukee, WI 53201-1900. Articles for publication need to be to the editor by the deadline indicated on page 7. Participation is encouraged.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Please notify the club of changes in mailing and/or email address. Proper addresses insure prompt delivery of the newsletter. Address change notifications by the postal service increase costs.

LIABILITY WAIVER:

Event participants should understand that some activities can be physically demanding and even dangerous. Neither GAMMA nor the organizers of an event assume liability for any injury which may result from participating in an activity. Participants assume all liability for their own conduct and safety.

The membership directory as well as the personal information listed in the newsletter is for the private use of our members ONLY and should not be distributed or shared.

GAMMA's membership year is from July 1 to June 30, but join any time during the year and the dues are pro-rated. Annual dues are \$30 for individuals, \$48 for two persons receiving one newsletter, or \$15 for out-of-state members. Dues are not tax deductible. Call Richard G. at (414) 530-1886 for membership dues information.

GAMMA also maintains a web site complete with event information as well as digital copies of the newsletter. Please visit us on-line at www.milwaukeegamma.com.

GAMMA BOARD DIRECTORY



Richard G.	President
Ned T.	Vice President/Membership
Gerald O.	Secretary/Outdoor & Sporting
Brad R.	Treasurer
Reed M.	Newsletter & Calendar
David S.	Recreational & Monthly Parties
Kip S.	Membership Recruitment & Marketing
Kyle Paskey	Immediate Past President

ADDITIONAL MEMBER SUPPORT

Jim T.	Media and Press Contact
John S.	Front Runners
Michael H.	Sheepshead Coordinator
Dan L.	Mail Coordinator Camping Coordinator
Art S.	Cribbage Coordinator
Tony S.	Volleyball Coordinator
Peter S.	PrideFest Liaison
Ric F.	Dining Out
Bill M.	Dining Out
Todd S.	Dining Out



MAY 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 FRONTRUNNERS Run/Walk 9 am (repeats every Saturday) MONTHLY PARTY 7 pm
2 VOLLEYBALL GAMMA Vs SCRATCH'N SNIFF 5:45 pm	3	4	5	6 CRIBBAGE 7 pm	7 OPEN PLAY VOLLEYBALL 8 – 10:15 pm (every Friday) 	8
9 VOLLEYBALL GAMMA Vs WOODY'S 5:45 pm	10	11 BOARD MEETING 7 pm	12 BLUE PLATE SPECIAL Noon 	13	14	15 GAMENIGHT 7 pm
16	17 DINING OUT DEADLINE	18 SHEEPSHEAD 7 pm 	19	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21 DINING OUT 7 pm 	22
23 SPRING HIKE & BRUNCH 11 am	24	25	26	27	28 SPA NIGHT FOR THE BOYS 6 – 10 pm	29
30 BICYCLE RIDE 11 am	31 MEMORIAL DAY					

Submissions for the GAMMA Rays newsletter should be sent to the editor via email



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF MILWAUKEE GAMMA INC
PO BOX 1900 MILWAUKEE WI 53201-1900
WWW.MILWAUKEEGAMMA.COM

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly Party	June 5th
PrideFest	June 11th thru 13th
Milwaukee Pride Parade	June 13th
Barn Dance Square Dance	June 19th
Dining Out	June 25th
July 4th Party	July 4th
Open MIC 2	TBD