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“A People Without History Is Like A Tree Without Roots” – Marcus Garvey

The decade of the 2010's began amidst a global financial crisis, which was responsible for an increase in bankruptcies, foreclosures, loss of revenues, effects of job losses and unemployment. The City of Tucson, State of Arizona, and United States Federal Government all struggled to try and manage the crisis in their jurisdictions. Other economic issues such as inflation, large cuts in grant funding money, and the increase in the costs of everyday items further affected Tucson's LGBT Community in many different ways as the population within the 228 square mile Tucson city limits had reached 552,247 while at the same time the United States population had reached 308,754,538.



Around the world, the economic squeeze sparked immense unrest in many lower-income countries. In some countries this unrest evolved into socio-economic crises which set off numerous revolutions, such as in Kyrgyzstan in 2010, and Tunisia, Syria, Egypt, and Libya later in 2011. LGBTQ Teen Suicides related to Bullying (aka Gay Bashing for LGBTQ teens) by their peers during the early 2010's across the nation surged along with a new awareness of the true face of bullying's potential damage in all United States school systems. Under the leadership of President Barack Obama (Democrat), the Don't Ask - Don't Tell Act of 1993 (see 1990's) military policy was repealed by a 2010 Federal Statute allowing Gay's & Lesbian's to openly serve in the United States Military for the first time.

Also in the early 2010's Trans Woman Amanda Simpson of Tucson, was appointed by the Obama Administration as a Senior Technical Advisor (Senior Technical Advisors are highly respected experts chosen for their skills and industry proficiency who assist the committees in their work and often provide new ideas and perspectives) to the Department of Commerce, working in the Bureau of Industry and Security.



2011 Congresswoman  
Gabrielle Gifford's Memorial In Tucson, Arizona

In January of 2011 at the town of Marana, Arizona, Arizona's 8th Congressional District Congresswoman Gabrielle Dee (Gabby) Giffords (Democrat), survived an assassination attempt when she and others were shot at a Town Hall Style Meeting being held there. One congressional intern working on her staff, the openly Gay twenty one (21) year old Daniel Hernandez, a Certified Nursing Assistant (C.N.A.) and Gay Rights Activist, while waiting for help to arrive applied pressure to the gunshot wound on Gifford's head, and made sure that she did not choke on her own blood. Hernandez actions were credited with saving Gifford's life. Hernandez was honored by both the then Governor of Arizona Jan Brewer and then President Barack Obama in separate ceremonies that same year.



2011 Congressional Intern  
Daniel Hernandez (center)

On Valentine's Day February 14, 2011 between 7:30 PM – 8:00 PM, twenty three (23) year old Tucson Gay man George Ignacio Soto Jr. while walking on Stone Avenue was punched and beaten to the ground by Christian Guana-Castillo and then stabbed numerous times in the chest in front of 3344 N. Stone Avenue by unemployed 18 year old Gabriel Isreal Soliz who had just gotten off probation for illegally carrying concealed weapons, sporting a tattoo with the #5 on the right side of his neck, and a reported member of the 'A' Mountain Crips Gang, who only later under a court order finally revealed his address as 7710 S. Beehive Avenue in Tucson. Soliz, Castillo, and a third man Luis Ira Cheta were captured after a chase by police ending at the Desert Tree Apartments in Unit #137 located at 3450 N. Stone Avenue directly across from Amphitheatre High School.



2011 George Ignacio Soto Anti-Gay  
Hate Crime Murder Victim Memorial - Tucson, Arizona

Soliz was the only one charged in the murder and at one of his court hearings he could be seen grinning at some members of the audience in the courtroom while represented by his attorney Vincent J. Frey (who had represented the Hells Angels in another case) who would later resign from the case.

At another hearing later on September 13, 2011 after his examination by doctors showing him fit to stand trial for First Degree Murder the trial date was set for Tuesday April 24, 2012 however that trial was continued (changed) to Wednesday September 5, 2012 at 1:30PM in Room # 375 and then again postponed until Wednesday February 5, 2013 at 1:30PM in the same room of the Pima County Court with the Honorable Teresa A. Godoy presiding. During the interim as more witnesses and mounting evidence came forward in the case, Gabriel Isreal Soliz on Thursday January 24, 2013 changed his plea to Guilty Of First Degree Murder thus waving his rights to a trial and going directly on to sentencing by Judge Teresa A. Godoy on Monday March 25, 2013 at 10:30AM. On that date being convicted of Murder In The 1st Degree, Gabriel Isreal Soliz (a.k.a. Little G, Pica Chu, Gabriel Obregon, Gabriel Bustamonte) was sentenced to Life Without The Possibility Of Parole After Serving Twenty Five Years (25) Calendar Years, commencing on Monday March 25, 2013.



Ajia Simone – Ajia's Gospel Brunch – Tucson, Arizona

Around Tucson at the bars in the early part of the 2010's, Colors Food & Spirits located at 5305 E. Speedway offered fine meals and a lounge atmosphere, Coyote Moon Pub at 915 W. Prince Road brought them in with dancing and shows, It's 'Bout Time (I.B.T.'s) bar at 616 N. 4th Avenue catered to the younger and college crowd, The Biz bar at 2900 E. Broadway Boulevard, Venture-N bar at 1239 N. 6th Avenue hosted the Bears of The Old Pueblo and many other events in a men's atmosphere, Woody's bar located at 3710 N. Oracle Road offered many events and shows including the over the top performances of the Ajia Simone who produced and starred in the "Sunday Gospel Bible Brunch" held there monthly welcoming a wide spectrum of customers, Brodies bar which opened in August of 2010 and later held its Grand Opening on Saturday October 23, 2010 welcomed patrons with a neighborhood atmosphere and grew quickly in popularity.

On Tuesday June 15, 2010 the Tucson LGBTQ Community lost one of its own with the passing of 56 year old Gary Neil Clark, a highly talented artist, tireless LGBTQ activist & supporter, Co-publisher & Arts-Graphics Director of the original Tucson Observer publication since its start in 1984, and other Tucson and Phoenix owned LGBTQ related publications dating back his arrival to Tucson in the 1970's (see 1970's). Gary Neil Clark, one of the early staff members of the *Seattle Gay News*, came to Tucson in the 1970's for just a one week vacation after writing a letter to the local Gay Publication for information on Tucson, and stayed after a chance meeting and employment offer on a hot summer afternoon at the Hair Tiz bar located at 343 E. Toole Avenue with then Co-Publisher of the Arizona Gay Newsletter, Robert (Bob) Bailie Ellis who would later become his lifelong partner and had ironically been the one who had answered Gary Clark's letter asking for information about vacationing in Tucson. A Celebration of Life for Gary Neil Clark was held with hundreds in attendance passing through during the day at I.B.T.'s bar in Tucson, Arizona.



Gary Neil Clark – Tucson, Arizona

In 2010, Wingspan's Puertas Abiertas project's Tucson Latino Gay Pride event offered its 3rd Annual events at various local locations around the Old Pueblo, the Tucson Pride Corporation group produced the successful 5th Annual Pride Parade held on Friday October 8, 2010 and the 2010 Pride In The Desert held at Reid Park on Saturday October 9, 2010, the 22nd Annual AIDS WALK Tucson to support the benefits and services at the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (S.A.A.F.), that offered anonymous HIV Testing in 15 minutes, was successfully held on the University of Arizona Mall on Sunday October 17, 2010. Out in the world, on May 2, 2011 Osama bin Mohammed bin Awad bin Laden, founder of the al-Qaeda terrorist group and leader of the 9/11 Attack on the United States and other attacks around the world was killed by U.S. forces at his million dollar luxury compound hideout in Pakistan. Around Tucson, The Pulse Tucson show bar located at 915 W. Prince Road under the management/lease agreement of Lucinda Holiday (Larry Moore) opened on Wednesday April 20, 2011, however was forced to close 33 days later on Sunday May 22, 2011 due to economic related factors. True to the old show biz adage The Show Must Go On, Lucinda Holiday a.k.a. Larry Moore was soon promoting another of her popular business ventures Moore Jerky Please, LLC around Tucson until opening Made For A Queen which featured show performance related jewelry items.



The owners of the bars liquor license then re-opened the bar operation within days at the same location under the name of the New Moon bar again as a Gay bar in late May of 2011. On May 25, 2011 Oprah Gail Winfrey retired from her TV Show with the words, Until We Meet Again. The Wingspan group announced that on July 1, 2011 their program director of fourteen (14) months Linda Thomas, a board member & retired Air Force Colonel who was later named the Phoenix Publication 'n Touch News Woman Of The Year For 2012, would be stepping down to accept another position and Oscar Jiménez, the Assistant Program Director and Anti-Violence Manager who had first started working with the group in June of 2006 and had been a member of the Queer Voice Youth Group in 1996 (see 1990's), would take over the reins as the top hired staff post of Program Director.

Seven (7) months later on Friday February 17, 2012 the Wingspan group announced that Oscar Jiménez would be leaving the group on Friday March 2, 2012 to further his education, and pursue his long term goals. On the Gay Marriage front New York City legalized Gay Marriage on June 26, 2011 with a city spokesman announcing it would bring an additional \$184,000,000.00 (One Hundred Eighty Four Million Dollars) of yearly income to New York City as the LGBTQ Community celebrated out in the streets.



2011 IBT's Bar – Tucson, Arizona

Nationally in the United States, a strike by the NFL Players Association ended on July 25, 2011 as club franchise owners agreed to share more of the profits from fans and advertising with them, and later that year then President Barack Obama signed into law the order allowing Gays & Lesbian to openly serve in the country's military that became effective September 20, 2011. The downtown youth collective known as Skrappy's located at 191 E. Toole Avenue in Tucson which had first begun in 1995 provided services and a safe place for youth of all backgrounds and Genders continued its programs. On Monday August 29, 2011 the Woody's bar business located at 3710 N. Oracle Road closed its doors due to financial problems while under management/lease of Danny Scott, and re-opened five (5) days later at 11:30 AM on Friday September 2, 2011 under management of its original corporate owner of the liquor license the Post Grad Corporation.

The 15th Annual Turnabout For TIHAN (Fiesta 2011) fundraiser show, first held at the Stonewall-Eagle bar (see 1990's) which had been located at 2125 N. 1st Avenue in 1996 (see 1990's), was presented on Sunday September 4, 2011 to an enthusiastic packed crowd of 517 in attendance at the Doubletree Hotel located at 445 S. Alvernon Boulevard raising fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) and topped off a total of just over one hundred seventy nine thousand dollars (\$179,000.00) raised over the fifteen (15) years of their Turnabout Fundraiser Shows. Around Arizona during the Labor Day the Alcohol Enforcement period running between Thursday September 1 to Tuesday September 6, 2011 authorities statewide arrested six hundred seventeen (617) drivers for being under the influence of alcohol while driving, the information resources-charitable group 'Tucson LGBTQ' remained active with their online Answer Line providing information to the LGBTQ Public and its 12th Annual Gay Student Scholarships in 2011, the Tucson GLBT Chamber of Commerce (T.G.L.B.T.C.C.) continued very actively with regularly scheduled meetings of its members and programs meeting for Networking Breakfasts at the historic Manning-Johnson House located at 450 W. Paseo Redondo and other venues around the city.



2010 Tucson Latin@ Gay Pride – Tucson, Arizona

Tucson LGBT Commission met on the third Tuesday of each month for public meetings examining local policies and practices relating to the LGBTQ Community. The Puertas Abiertas project presented its 4th Annual Latin@ Gay Pride with seven (7) days of events from Friday September 16 to Wednesday September 21, 2011. A phone app for locating where the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (S.A.A.F.) and other groups nationwide distribute their condoms in their community was offered free to the public in September of 2011, Tucson Weekly readers in 2011 chose Wingspan located at 430 E. 7th Street as the best local activist-advocacy group and IBT's bar located at 616 N. 4th Avenue as the best Gay Bar in town that year, the military policy of Don't Ask Don't Tell officially ended Tuesday September 19, 2011 at midnight opening the way for Tucson residents 33 year old United States Navy Lieutenant Gary Ross assigned to Ft. Huachuca in Arizona to be the first to marry his same sex companion of eleven years, 49 year old Dan Swezy in Vermont by Justice of the Peace Greg Trulson at exactly midnight Eastern Standard Time.

Tucson's 6th Annual 2011 Pride On Parade was very successfully held Saturday October 8, 2011 at 7PM at a new venue in the Congress Street downtown area coinciding with the Tucson Second Sunday's event and the Pink Party held at the Sapphire Lounge 61 E. Congress Street with a very festive and supportive crowd. Venture-N bar hosted the Night of The Bears 2011 later in the evening on the same night in a well-attended and playful event. Within days the 2011 Pride In The Desert (see article) was held for its first time at the spacious Kino Memorial Veterans Stadium on Saturday October 15, 2011 starting at 11am located at 2500 E. Ajo Way in Pima County which marked only the second (2nd) time in history (see 1980's for the first) that a Tucson Pride Week's main event was not held in the city of Tucson.



2011 Tucson 'Pride In The Desert' – Pima County, Arizona

2011 Pride In The Desert included a noticeably very enthusiastic event staff-volunteers-numerous entertainers-attendees along with the pop singer headliner & Tucson native Dario whose career on stage was gaining momentum and God-des & She. The next day on Sunday Tucson's Annual '2011 AIDS Walk Tucson' was held on the Mall at the University of Arizona the morning of Sunday October 16, 2011 beginning at 7:30 AM with a large fun spirited crowd of all ages in attendance including numerous local personalities along with the events walk, booths, musical presentation by Reveille Men's Chorus, and 10K Run's First Place Winner Emillio. The busy month of events brought out very enthusiastic crowds in attendance, which included a noticeable amount of LGBTQ Allied people from Tucson and the surrounding as well as out of town areas.

The *Tucson Weekly* publication's growing coverage of local LGBTQ related events, items, and listings of resources for the community continued to expand. The publications Pride Supplement of October 13-19, 2011 during the 2011 Pride In The Desert week ran as its lead article entitled "The Bi Life" exploring the often misunderstood world of Bisexuals (a.k.a. Pansexuals often referred to as Omnisexuals, Freeseexuals, and sometimes other variations).

Tucson Weekly's article presented in depth interviews of local members of the LGBTQ community which included multi-talented local activist-musician drummer-writer-producer-film maker, and AIDS/HIV educator at the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation Jerry Diaz, Leslie a Tucson resident, Transgender author-musician-public speaker-Tucson Commission on LGBT Issues member, and founder of Eshelon Editorial & Publishing Services C. Michael Woodward (a.k.a. Morphing Michael) along with Wingspan's Anti-Violence Coordinator Kristi Smith a local anti-violence activist and performer with local performance troupe Rotten Apples.



University of Arizona researchers in October of 2011 announced receiving the award of part of a \$2,800,000.00 (\$2.8 million dollars) three (3) year federal grant for studying the factors, effects of LGBT Bullying (a.k.a. Gay Bashing) in school and elsewhere, and prevention of both related LGBTQ teen and those in their 20's suicides along with self-destructive behaviors in conjunction with the New York University in the Manhattan section of New York City and Widener University in Philadelphia.

The study hoped to pinpoint factors including the youths increasing younger ages when coming out, young teens and adults in their twenties (20's) increased use of public media to express themselves through social media web sites, along with school, home, peer group, and workplace considerations. The LOSTBOYS Southern Arizona motorcycle group formed on Monday October 17, 2011 as a mature group enjoying the freedom of motorcycling and being themselves, while on the same day another source of enjoyment, the local bar Ain't Nobody's Business under ownership of Robin Muller and Lisa Oberstar located at 2900 East Broadway Boulevard closed its doors forever due to declining profits.

In the latter weeks of November of 2011, *The Observer* publication owner and publisher Robert 'Bob' Bailie Ellis was injured as the result of a fall at his home and *The Observer* ceased publication while the LGBTQ and Allied Community wished Robert 'Bob' Bailie Ellis a very speedy recovery. In 2011 the Tucson Gay Museum© (a.k.a. Tucson LGBT Museum©, Tucson LGBTQ Museum©, Tucson Queer Museum©) was recognized by Wikipedia as the World's First All Virtual LGBTQ Museum. Ironically however, in Tucson on Thursday December 8, 2011, Pima County Public Library employee Jen Maney denied allowing the Tucson Gay Museum being linked to the library's LGBTQ resources page stating that local LGBTQ resources links were "no longer being posted" on the Library's web pages.



Woody's Bar – Tucson, Arizona

Tuesday December 20, 2011 in Tucson saw the change of ownership again for the Woody's bar business when the corporate entity Krism LLC also owning I.B.T.'s bar located in the Arts District area at 616 North 4th Avenue completed the takeover and took business ownership control of the N/W side bar formerly owned by Post-Grad, Incorporated. Amidst the ever growing competition from numerous local Straight Bars & Clubs for the LGBTQ crowd as levels of acceptance and feelings of safety in the new generations continued blurring the lines between Straight & LGBTQ patrons. Remodeling at the Woody's bar location at 3710 North Oracle Road began in January of 2012 and continued into the year. Nationally on Monday January 2, 2012 The Advocate Magazine named Salt Lake City as the #1 Gay City in the United States.



La Fiesta de Los Osos – Bears of the Old Pueblo – Tucson, Arizona

The Bears of the Old Pueblo group held their Annual La Fiesta de los Osos event between Thursday January 12 and Monday January 16, 2012 headquartered at the Hotel Tucson City Center with events both in various locations around town and other Southern Arizona locations. On Friday January 20, 2012 at the United States Conference of Mayors, the Freedom To Marry Group comprised of eighty (80) mayors from around the United States came out in support of same sex marriage in a public announcement carried by news service throughout the nation.

Southern Arizona Congressional Representative Gabrielle Gifford's website announced on Sunday January 22, 2012 that she had more work to do on her recovery after an assassination attempt in 2010 and would resign from her congressional seat the coming week in a video release, saying that she was getting better but wanted to do what was right for her constituents. On Sunday February 5, 2012 the 46th Annual Superbowl Football Game and Half Time Show were both widely enjoyed across the nation by millions as Madonna entertained in a memorable performance.

On Saturday February 18, 2012 the Sheriff Paul Babeu of Pinal County, Arizona stepped down as a co-chairman of the Willard 'Mitt' Romney presidential campaign in Arizona after the Phoenix newspaper, Phoenix New Times OUTED him by publishing allegations that he had allegedly threatened to deport or cause his former boyfriend to be deported, who was later revealed as a Mexican Citizen named Jose Orozco who had also worked on the Romney Political Campaign with Babeu. Allegations also surfaced that Orozco had threatened to go public and OUT the Sheriff about their Gay Relationship.



2012 (L) Jose Orozco, (R) Sheriff Paul Babeu

In a press conference on Saturday February 18, 2012, Sheriff Babeu stated that he had had a personal relationship with Jose, but denied that he had threatened to get him deported. The accusations, he said, "are absolutely, completely false except for the issues that refer to me as being Gay. Because that is the truth. I am Gay."



Within days Jose Orozco's attorney filed a One Million Dollar (\$1,000,000.00) 'Notice Of Claim' required before a lawsuit against both the Sheriff and Pinal County for undisclosed reasons. In July of 2012 the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) threatened litigation against the Pinal County Jail (see exhibit) referring to the conditions in a special wing there used for federal prisoners as unconstitutional. Later in the year the State of Arizona after an investigation into the allegations stated on Friday August 31, 2012, "The Attorney General's Office will not file charges against either Babeu or Orozco," State of Arizona Solicitor General Dave Cole said in a statement. "The investigation determined that Sheriff Babeu did not commit any criminal violations and further concluded that, although Jose Orozco conducted himself in a manner that may constitute a violation of the law, there was no reasonable likelihood of conviction on anything more than a misdemeanor charge. Months later on November 6, 2012 Sheriff Paul Babeu was re-elected to the post of Pinal County Sheriff. Making LGBTQ history Lady Gaga on Wednesday February 29, 2012 officially announced the launch of the 'Born This Way Foundation' to assist in stopping the sometimes rampant Anti-Gay Bullying occurring in schools and communities around the United States.



2012 Oscar Jiménez Wingspan Programs Director – Tucson, Arizona

Wingspan in Tucson held a well-attended farewell event for its outgoing Programs Director Oscar Jiménez at the EON Youth Lounge facility located at 430 East 7th Street the evening of Friday March 2, 2012. The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation's 9th Annual Moda Provocateur Fashion-Style-Compassion Show fund raising event sponsored by the Udall Law Firm was held on Sunday March 4, 2012 in the Tucson Convention Center Grand Ballroom before a large and enthusiastic crowd with local KOLD Channel 13 Meteorologist Chuck George hosting as the event's Master of Ceremonies. The 27th Annual 2012 Miss Gay Tucson America Pageant was held on the evening of Sunday April 15, 2012 at Colors Food & Spirits located at 5305 E. Speedway Boulevard to an enthusiastic and fun loving crowd. Di Va was crowned as Tucson's 2012 Miss Gay Tucson America, with Trina Steele as the 2012 1st Alternative, and Dinah Frost named as 2012 Miss Congeniality. Many individuals and businesses were involved in presenting the memorable 27th Annual Event.

A wide variety of events in the early part of 2012 either entertained or experienced a sizeable involvement with different members of Tucson's LGBTQ Community including, the God-dess An She Concert, Stroke the Kitty Production, XXX A-CUPS Transgendered Fundraiser, individual performances, Take Back The Night, SAAF Stars Benefit, EON Youth Groups BB(LGBT)Q, March For Equality in Casa Grande, Way Out West by Desert Voices, Queen's for NLAAD, Shimmer, Ajia's Gospel Brunch, Second Chance Prom Promageddon 2012, and the 4th Annual Sense Of Style Fashion Show presented onstage in the open air on a beautiful Saturday April 28, 2012 evening in Tucson produced by The Art Institute of Tucson located at 5009 E. Grant Road were among many events of the time period.



2013 Venture N Bar – Tucson, Arizona

The First Lady of the United States, Michelle LaVaughn Robinson Obama visited Tucson on Monday April 30, 2012 as part of a \$150.00 to \$10,000.00 per person fundraiser at the Tucson Convention Center located at 260 S. Church Avenue for an upcoming November 4, 2012 national election in the United States in which her husband, then President Barack Huessin Obama 2nd would be a candidate in that year's Presidential Election. On Friday May 4, 2012 the 5th Annual Rainbow Graduation was held at the University of Arizona in the Poetry Center located at 1508 E. Helen Street with Tucson's own Lucinda Holliday providing the events entertainment in memorable fashion. The next evening on Saturday May 5, 2012, the 15th Annual Treasures For TIHAN Auction and Entertainment Fundraiser was held along with Emcees local weather newscaster Chuck George and journalist Mariela Gomez de Ell at the Double Tree Hotel located at 445 S. Alvernon Way.



2012 Treasures For TIHAN – Tucson, Arizona

Tuesday May 8, 2012 the voters of the State of North Carolina passed a state law making Gay Marriage Illegal in that states Constitution. The next day on Wednesday May 9, 2012 President Barack Obama made history by being the first United States President (see video exhibit) to openly support Same Sex Marriage. The Annual Reno Gannon Memorial JELL-O Wrestling Fundraiser Event was held on Saturday May 12th, 2012 at Kennedy Fiesta Park located at 3700 S. La Cholla Boulevard with the Pre-Party that began at 3PM, and action packed JELL-O Wrestling Matches along with the Fundraising Auction that started at 4:30 PM.

The well attended event featured Comedian-Hollywood Script Writer Bruce Vilanch, and local personalities Tempest DuJour, Lucinda Holliday, and Holly Woodland, and Rosada Delano as the Mistresses of Ceremonies. It was publicly announced at the Saturday May 12, 2012 Annual Reno Gannon Memorial JELL-O Wrestling Fundraiser Event that the *Tucson Observer*, which had ceased publication the year before on Wednesday November 16, 2011, and would again begin publication under a new corporate ownership that had formed earlier in February of 2012 amidst cheers from the joyous crowd excited that a local Gay Themed publication was again to be available. On Wednesday May 16, 2012 the Tucson Observer began publishing starting with its first Issue #1425 and began distribution under the Masthead listed staff of Bob Ellis-Editor In Chief, Nicholas B. Jacobs-Executive Editor, Greg Miller-Senior Editor, Christine Beall-Assistant Editor, Christopher L. Pankratz-Assistant Editor, and Ronn Smith-Assistant Editor under ownership of the new Observer Publications Corporation.

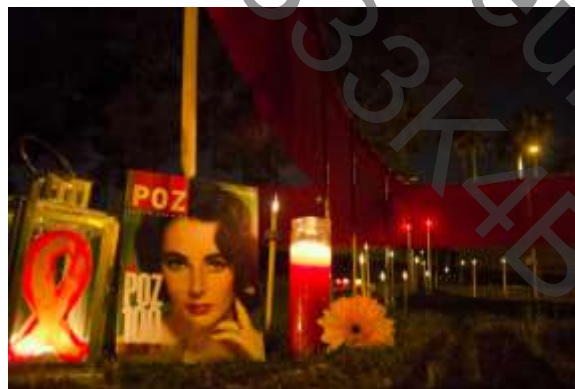
Amidst the backdrop of construction in the 4th Avenue and Congress Street areas downtown hindering the location of the 2012 Annual Tucson Pride Parade, the Tucson Pride, Inc. held a Community Feedback Forum attended by approximately 12 people on Saturday May 19, 2012 at the Armory Park Senior Center located at 220 S. 5th Avenue to discuss the future of the Annual Pride Events that the group had been annually producing. Tucson Pride, Inc. also conducted an online survey on its Facebook Page, through its newsletter and in emails to the public resulting in one hundred fifty seven (157) varied responses being received.



2012 Tucson "Pride In The Desert" – Tucson, Arizona

It was announced at the forum that other Community Feedback Forums would be held in the future to make preparations for the annual events. Later, in an open letter posted in the Tucson Weekly's June 14, 2012 Pride Edition by Karon Bohlender, the group's President, on June 14, 2012 explained Tucson Pride Incorporated had been steadily losing money starting in 2009 with a eighteen thousand dollar (\$18,000.00 loss), 2010 with an eleven thousand dollar (\$11,000.00 loss), 2011 with a five hundred dollar (\$500.00 loss). Tucson Pride Board Members had taken out personal loans to keep the Pride Events going with a loan balance still due at the time of \$2,200.00, and the only cash on hand being \$150.00 in a bank account. Pride Fundraiser Shows held in the Gay Bars and other venues mirroring back to the original Pride Picnic's funding methods were scheduled and very successfully held, along with the continuation of the "Big Gay Scavenger Hunt" held around Tucson on Saturday June 23, 2012.

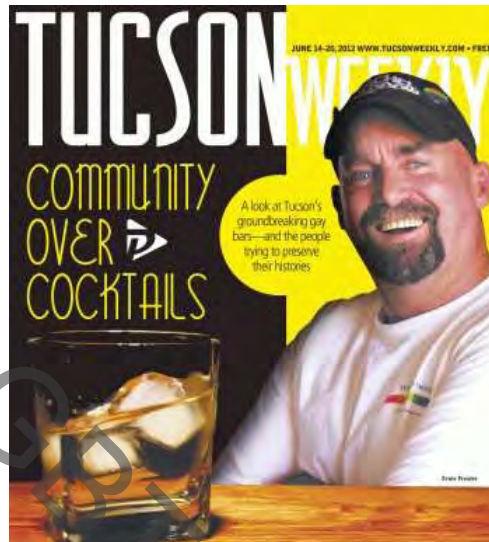
The 2012 AIDS Candlelight Memorial was held Sunday May 20, 2012 between 6pm-8pm coordinated by members and volunteers of Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (T.I.H.A.N.), Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, and the Tucson AIDS Ribbon at Himmel Park located at 1000 N. Tucson Boulevard. Friday May 25, 2012 witnessed the Space Exploration Technologies Corporation become the first private company to dock a unmanned spacecraft named the Dragon with the International Space Station, a distance of approximately 240 miles above the Earth as the first part of its one billion six million dollar (\$1.6 billion) contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to begin shuttling cargo to the space station. The first Openly Gay Officers at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado graduated with their Class Of 2012 on May 23, 2012 which included an address by President Barack Obama. A 1st Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston confirmed that the Anti-Gay 'Defense Of Marriage Act' was un-constitutional.



2012 AIDS Candlelight Memorial – Tucson, Arizona

In Tucson on June 12, 2012 after a heated campaign to fill the remaining Congressional seat that was left by assassination survivor House Representative Gabrielle Dee "Gabby" Giffords, one of her assistants working as her district director also shot during the attempt in the thigh and face who almost died due to lack of available blood for his transfusions during surgery, Ron Barber (D) (108,358 votes) born in Wakefield, England won the election over Jesse Kelly (R) (94,321) for the \$174,000.00 (one hundred seventy four thousand dollar) a year job.

The Thursday June 14, 2012 edition of the Tucson Weekly Cover featured the photo of local Gay Man, OUTWEST Tucson Cable Show Host, Tucson LGBTQ Historical Society Member, and LGBTQ Activist Ernie Freuler, along with an article in its Pride Section quoting him and some of his friends on Gay Bar History in Tucson. Friday June 15, 2012 witnessed the United States Department Of Defense Complex known as the Pentagon have its first (1st) Gay Pride Month observed along with a public announcement by the Secretary of Defense (and former Director of the CIA) Leon Edward Panetta.



2012 Tucson Weekly Magazine Cover  
James 'Ernie' Freuler

The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) which had packed up and moved from its 1011 N. Craycroft Road location between May 17-21, 2012 held a Grand Opening at the new location at 2660 N. 1st Avenue on Friday June 15, 2012 between 4:00PM and 6:00PM, on the same day the President of the United States Barack Hussein Obama in a Rose Garden Speech ordered that children who had been brought into the United States illegally (who had arrived before the age of 16, were currently under the age of 30 years old without a felony record, had been in the United States continuously for the prior five (5) years, and were in school or had Graduated High School, or were Honorably Discharged United States Military Veterans) from other countries would not be deported and could legally stay in the United States, continue their educations, and or join the workforce or military for jobs during a two (2) year deferment for them that could be renewed, "This Is A Temporary Stopgap Measure That Lets Us Focus Our Resources Wisely While Giving A Degree Of Relief And Hope To Talented, Driven, Patriotic Young People. It Is The Right Thing To Do," said the President. The Desert Voices chorus group performed a free concert on Sunday, June 17, 2012 at St Mark's Presbyterian Church located at 3809 E. Third Street.

Local Tucson news media reported on Monday June 18, 2012 that the Rio Nuevo Downtown Redevelopment Project financial records could not account for nearly forty million dollars (\$40,000,000.00) of taxpayers money spent on a few alleged projects seemingly never actually done on the west side of the I-10 Freeway on large empty naturally flat lots that remained basically untouched or merely had some desert soil removed. United States Immigration Records that were released on June 19, 2012 revealed that Asian Citizens from Communist China, India, and South Korea made up the largest group of those immigrating into the United States while the federal governments population records noted that four (4) million (4,000,000) babies were already being born in the United States every year.

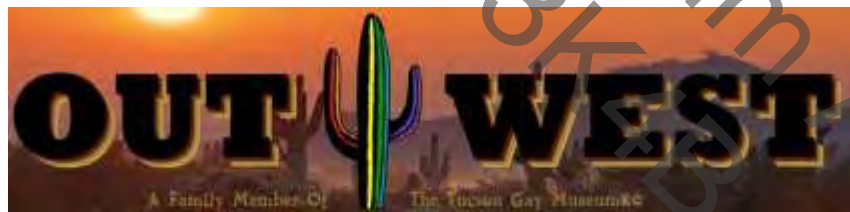
Saturday June 30, 2012 marked the end of a five (5) year Center For Disease Control federal funding grant to the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation for its MShape Lounge Program causing the end of the program as the federal government redirected its AIDS Prevention funding grant focus to the major city of each state such as Phoenix in the state of Arizona.

The choral groups Desert Voices and the Reveille Men's Chorus both performed in Denver, Colorado in July of 2012 from Wednesday the 11th to Tuesday the 17th at the GALA Festival 2012 (GALA a.k.a. the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses, Inc.) at its hosted choral conference held every four (4) years in which five thousand (5,000) singers who represented one hundred (135) choruses from across the United States, Canada, Great Britain, France, and Germany attending together to share their music, along with their lives.



Reveille Men's Chorus – Tucson, Arizona

The choruses performed for one another in fifteen (15) and thirty (30) minutes performances, then later all together in a large choral performance for the people and visitors in Denver. The camaraderie, support, and love shared was truly unbelievable with many Reveille Chorus Members noting the event was a truly memorable life altering experience. The Tucson Weekly publication in the July 19-25, 2012 issue featured a front cover and an in depth article titled 'Ticket To Nowhere,' following the plight locally of LGBTQ Youth homeless on the streets and those people and organizations that were trying to help them. On Tuesday July 31, 2012 the popular Eastside Gay venue Colors Food & Spirits bar-restaurant-show club combination owned by Colors, LLC closed its doors due to financial problems. The popular Gay Venue had also closed in 2011 during the November 10 to 17 time period re-opening with John Thomas Lochert as a principal corporate officer. In August of 2012 the LGBTQ Themed 'OUTWEST Tucson Show,' ceased production as its host pursued other opportunities.



The 'Out West Show' – Tucson, Arizona

The 16th Annual Turnabout For T.I.H.A.N. Fundraiser themed "Invasion Of the 50 FOOT GLAMAZONS" brought in approximately \$18,250.00 was held on Sunday September 2, 2012 to a packed enthusiastic crowd of the Tucson LGBTQ Community and their Allies at the Doubletree Hotel Grand Ballroom located at 445 S. Alvernon Way featuring Emcees Janee Starr, Tempest Du Jour, 'Turnabouts' of numerous employees from most of Tucson's local LGBTQ Bars along with other acts and special guest the 2012 Miss Gay Arizona & 2012 Miss Gay Tucson Di Va a resident of Tucson. The events stage manager and set designer for 15 years, David Zinke, was presented with that organizations '2012 Stonewall Award' by TIHAN Executive Director Scott Blades. Gold Sponsors of the TIHAN event were the Tucson Gay Historical Society & the Tucson Shopper Advertising Publication, Silver Sponsors were Tucson Pride, Inc., Smirnoff Vodka/Alliance Beverage Company, Tucson Urban League, Jacoby & Meyers Law Offices, and Janette A. Bunge C.P.A. PLLC.

Starting on Sunday September 16th, the 'Puertas Abiertas Outreach Program' 5th Annual Tucson Latin LGBTQ Pride Week ran between the 16th and 22nd of the month began with the screening of the documentary movie 'Tal Como Somos' (Just As We Are) which revealed what it was like to be Latino yet not fit into the Latin Cultural ideals of the man, woman, and family. The feature length documentary followed the lives of six (6) Latino Gay and Bisexual men and a Transgender woman capturing their shared realities and included a Potluck Meal and Discussion. The event was held at the House Of Neighborly Services from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM located at 243 W. 33rd Street in Tucson, Arizona and was the start of the 5th Annual Week Long Celebration and Sharing of Tucson Latin LGBTQ Pride held all week at numerous venues around the city. On Tuesday September 25, 2012 the Communist Chinese Government put its first Aircraft Carrier 'The Liaoning', a rebuilt 1980's Russian Navy ship, displaying a military vessel number 16 on the ship's bow which held up to thirty (30) fixed wing fighter aircraft into its naval service as the China News Service proclaimed, "This will have far-reaching influence on protecting China's Territory, Safety and Development and to Make the World More Peaceful." Originally the Chinese Communist Party had bought the vessel from the Russian Government for use as an "Amusement Park." In the September 26, 2012 "Best Of Tucson" edition of the *Tucson Weekly* publication, the LGBTQ and Allied friendly performance group Musical Mayhem Tucson, which had started up earlier that year was chosen by the public and recognized as the "Best New Stage Show" in Tucson.



Puertas Abiertas Group – Tucson, Arizona

Saturday September 29, 2012 in Tucson experienced the 2012 Wingspan Dinner Event with 358 in attendance held at the JW Marriot Starr Pass Resort located at 3800 W. Star Pass Boulevard featuring Emcee David Morden and Comedienne Shann Carr, along with the 36th Anniversary of Arizona and Tucson's first Gay Publication named the '*Tucson Gay Newsletter*' (see 1970's) whose first issue was published that date by its three (3) owners largely in response to the murder of visiting tourist and Gay Man Richard 'Dickie' J. Heakin Jr. in the parking lot of the Stonewall Inn Tavern located at 2931 N. 1st Avenue (see 1970's) and would eventually by the continued efforts of Robert 'Bob' Bailie Ellis along with other publications, investors, supporters, community fundraisers, and contributors later saw Ellis the owner of the 'Observer' publication which began its publication in 1984 (see 1980's). Wednesday October 3, 2012 saw the first of the televised debates held in Denver Colorado between Barack Hussein Obama (D) and Willard Mitt Romney(R) the two (2) prime candidates for President of the United States. In October of 2012 the 'Queer For Books' online resource center based in Tucson, Arizona opened as an all virtual entity.



2013 Tucson Gay Freedom Day Parade – Tucson, Arizona

The new Tucson Weekly Publication of October 11, 2012 Front Cover Story featured 'Meet six members of the LGBT Community who make Southern Arizona a better place to live for all' and its corresponding article in the 2012 Pride Section featuring interviews with Raúl Alcaraz Ochoa, Abby Hungwe, Sarah Gonzales, Dante Celeiro, Anton Smith, and Jaime J. Soto. On the same date, 2012 Pride Week kicked off with its 4th Annual Multifaith Pride Service 'Love Wins' at Grace St. Pauls Church 2331 E. Addams, on the 12th featuring Fluxx Studio Productions 'Queertopia' hosted by Ajia Simone at Arizona Riverpark Inn 350 S. Freeway, on a bright clear morning on the 13th with 'Pride On Parade' themed 'Pride Links Us Together' on 6th Avenue with Parade Grand Marshals David & George Ruder along with their daughter Marianna and the Pride In The Desert Festival hosted by Ajia Simone on stage at Armory Park 220 S. 5th Avenue, which all culminated later that evening with the Pride After Party themed 'Illusions - A Fool's Paradise' hosted by Fluxx Studio Productions.



2011 AIDS Walk Tucson – Tucson, Arizona

On a clear and cool Sunday October 14th 2012 morning the 2012 Annual AIDS WALK Tucson was held downtown around the area of the Joel D. Valdez Main Library at Jacome Plaza and along a route starting and ending on Granada Avenue. The related events started with presentations by Tucson media personalities from Kold Channel 13 Television News and FM Radio KROQ, Wendell Hicks SAAF Director, Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild, Reveille Men's Chorus, a 'Text In' Donation Moment with the excited walkers assembled, and a live musical performance. The event later ended with the uncovering of National AIDS Quilts, a Moment of Silence and an Emotionally Moving Performance by the Reveille Men's Chorus with Jim Cullen directing.

On Monday October 29, 2012 the San Francisco GLBT Museum was attacked and vandalized around 4:45 AM. The Museum Staff and the San Francisco Police Department responded immediately to the GLBT Museum located at 4127 18th Street in that city's LGBTQ Friendly and Popular Castro Neighborhood. Hurricane Sandy, a Category 2 Event, hit the East Coast of the United States on October 29, 2012 causing over 50 Billion Dollars in damages and affecting twenty four (24) states. On Tuesday November 6, 2012 Barack Hussein Obama was re-elected for a second (2nd) term as President of the United States over Willard Mitt Romney after an often heated campaign in which together both candidates spent over One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00) on advertising, while also for the first time in the United States the voters in the states of Maine and Maryland became the first states to legalize Same Sex Marriage by the voters instead of by court decisions.



2012 San Francisco GLBT Museum Attacked And Vandalized

Saturday November 10, 2012 saw the annual 'Festival Of Life' fundraiser event held by the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation at the Chinese Cultural Center located at 1288 W. River Road. November 20, 2012 Observer Publications Incorporated updated its dormant web page announcing that a new website was coming soon, and would provide an online version of the weekly newspaper, and since its start up the publications masthead had replaced Nicholas B. Jacobs with Nicholas K.M. Pafford as its Executive Editor. Brodies Tavern located at 2449 N. Stone Avenue served up a free Thanksgiving Dinner beginning at 2:00 PM on Thursday November 22, 2012 with customers encouraged to bring a food dish to add to that days feast.

World AIDS Day was observed in Tucson on Saturday December 1, 2012 with activities held at the Hotel Congress and other venues, the 2012-2013 Miss Gay Tucson America Pageant Contest was held on the night of Sunday December 2, 2012 at the New Moon Lounge located at 915 W. Prince Road before a fun loving crowd with Jasmine White winning the crown to represent Tucson for 2013, Bianca Solei as 1st Alternate, Holly Woodland as Miss Congenial, with Regine Ray-Dumay, Victoria Munroe, Monster Lopez, Bella Divine, and Alex Lopez as the other very talented contestants that evening. On Monday December 10, 2012 the Wingspan Community Center completed its search for a new director hiring Carol Grimsby, a former catering company owner, executive director of CASA an advocacy group in Kansas City, Kansas, board chairman of Women With One Voice advocacy group, and director of the Neosho Hospital Foundation in Chanute, Kansas. On Monday December 24, 2012 the Newsweek Magazine announced it had ceased publishing a paper version of the magazine after a Forty Million Dollar (\$40,000,000.00) loss a year, would lay off staff, and would instead continue as an All Virtual Publication on the Internet.



2013 Alotta Whoremores (a.k.a. Brian Fox) Memorial Fundraiser – Tucson, Arizona



As directed by the Historical Trust set up in the 1970's to oversee the Tucson Gay Museum and its perpetuation, upon the passing of the last of the founders the Tucson Gay LGBT LGBTQ Queer Museum was completed in December of 2012 with its Web/Internet presence in whatever form into the future that would perpetually be provided for as Tucson Gaily Marched Onward Into 2013 and The Exciting Future Beyond with a population in Tucson of Five Hundred Eighty Three Thousand One Hundred Sixty Eight (584,168) and in the United States of Three Hundred Fifteen Million One Hundred Ten Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Four (315,110,464) people on January 1st, 2013.

Some of the Performers locally during the decade included, Bunny FuFu, Ajia Simone, Lucinda Holiday (a.k.a. Larry Moore), Tempest Du Jour (.a.k.a. Patrick Holt), Lady Ashley, China Collins, Janee Starr, Celia Putty, Veronica Chase, Tori Steele, Di Va, Jade Envy, Anya Foxx, Victorya Munroe, Katrina Fatale, Misti Malone, Rosie Cheeks, Ivanna Switchblade, Jenna May (a.k.a. Gregory Martin Lemmon), Felicity Jade Dumay, Natalia Flores, Vivika D' Angelo, Nicholas Earl, Desiraye Dimarco, Trina Steele, Rosada Delano, Aurora (a.k.a. Jamie Rangel), Giovanna Ray-DuMay (a.k.a. Jesse Leon), Dinah Frost, Jasmine White, Bianca Solei, Regine Ray-Dumay, Monster Lopez, Bella Divine, to name only but just a few.



Maurice Kenneth Grossman (1928-2010) – Tucson, Arizona

Passing in the decade of the 2010's were the ever cheerful and smiling Gay Political Activist & former University of Arizona Professor Maurice Kenneth Grossman who died on Thursday January 21, 2010, the Pulse Tucson Show Bar located at 915 W. Prince Road, 23 year old Tucson Gay Man George Ignacio Soto Jr. murdered by an 'A' Mountain Crips Gang member on Valentine's Day February 14, 2011 between 7:30 PM - 8:00 PM on Stone Avenue across the street from Amphitheatre High School, Gary Neil Clark local Tucson Artistic Director & Artist-Political Activist-Co publisher of the Weekly Observer died of Liver Cancer on June 15, 2010, 68 year old Raymond Castro the Gay man first taken out of the Stonewall Inn in New York City in 1969 and who fought back against the police died on Saturday October 9, 2010 from complications related to Stomach Cancer, former First Lady Betty Ford (Elizabeth Ann (Betty) Bloomer Warren Ford) an activist for children, the arts, breast cancer, arthritis and AIDS Research died on July 8, 2011, the LGBTQ civil rights pioneer Dr. Franklin (Frank) Edward Kameny who took on the federal government in 1957 after being fired for being a Homosexual and later in 1961 co-founded the Mattachine Society of Washington died on Tuesday October 11, 2011 of Atherosclerosis of the arteries, Ralph 'Bucky' Harry Lucarelli born on Monday September 23, 1940 a well-loved bartender at many Gay venues and the maker of Bucky's Famous Omelets at numerous Tucson Gay venues who was also gifted with a great sense of humor died of cancer at age 71 on Sunday December 4, 2011.

Also gone were Circuit City Stores, General Motors Hummer vehicles, Tucson Gay Business Man - Long Time Men's Social Network Member and Piano Maestro Lloyd Chapman, Tucson Gay Community Supporter - Men's Social Network Member Floyd Sullivan, actor Harry Morgan born Harry Bratsberg who had roles in numerous movies including Walt Disney Productions and numerous other prior movies such as the Flim Flam Man along with his final role as Colonel Potter on the TV Series MASH died peacefully in his sleep on Wednesday December 7, 2011 at 3 am at home of Pneumonia. Singer and LGBTQ supporter, 48 year old Whitney Elizabeth Houston died in her hotel room bath tub at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in California at 3:55PM on Saturday February 11, 2012, World Traveler-Wingspan Volunteer-Costume Designer David A. Devincenzo died in Tucson of Lymphoma on Monday July 22, 2012, Sally Ride the first known Gay Astronaut and First Woman to go into Space died of Pancreatic Cancer on Monday July 23, 2012 in La Jolla, California. Gay Actor Ronald Gabriel 'Ron' Palillo, best-known as the loudmouthed Arnold Dingfeld Horshack of the Sweathogs on the highly popular 1975 -1979 hit sitcom TV Show Welcome Back Kotter which included a young aspiring actor named John Travolta in the cast, died of a Heart Attack at age 63 on Tuesday August 14, 2012 at his home in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida and was survived by his Gay Partner of 41 years, Joseph Gramm, a retired actor.



AIDS Quilts On Public Display – Washington D.C.

Longtime volunteer and supporter of the Tucson Gay Museum Historical Preservation efforts Carla Maldonado born in 1928 in the Barrio Libre at her family's adobe in her parents' bedroom in Tucson died on Tuesday October 23, 2012 during a diabetic related amputation surgery at the age of 84. Roy Frederick Walz died at home in Tucson on Tuesday November 27, 2012 at the age of 59, Roy originally from New Jersey moved to Tucson in 1971, was an active Hot Air Balloon Pilot since the summer of 1982, and was a Founding Member of the Bears Of The Old Pueblo while also active later fundraising for the Pet Watch effort. A Celebration of Life was held for Roy at the VENTURE -N Bar located at 1239 N. 6th Avenue on Wednesday December 19, 2012. Longtime partners and former owners of the Stonewall Eagle Bar located at 2921 N. 1st Avenue in the 1990's Jerry Geller (died August 4, 2012) and Ken Sullivan (December 17, 2012) both passed away in 2012 in San Francisco. As the year 2012 ended there were new hard fought rights for LGBTQ citizens of the United States and those of other countries coming just over the horizon.

Tucson LGBTQ Museum Archives  
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