

The Harmonizer

Volume 1, Issue 9

October 2002

Mission Statement:

Music City Couples is an organization in which the members are committed gay and lesbian couples in the Greater Nashville and Middle Tennessee area.

The organization serves to provide a forum for those member-couples to strengthen their own relationships while also providing a social and supportive structure for their fellow member-couples. Music City Couples holds no religious or political affiliations and makes every attempt to respect the privacy of its members.

Message from the Chair Couple

By Steve & Scott

Thanks again to ALL that attended our Business Meeting on September 7th. Several issues were discussed allowing for a wide range of topics to be decided on. Music City Couples has come a long way in seven months. To continue to grow and be able to meet your social needs, we, the Operating Board) would like to ask for your continued involvement. It can be as simple as sending us ideas for activities or you can choose to be more involved and actually host an event. From this point forward, we will be announcing the Operating Board meetings on the message board so that more of you can get involved and stay informed. Our meetings in the past have never been closed, however, our focus was on trying to get the four Operating Board Couples together. This often proves to be more difficult than we ever expected. Many times the location and time are decided at the last minute to get the most attendance with all of our ever changing schedules. We will ask that if you would like to come to an upcoming Operating Board meeting, to please contact us ahead of time to get the details and allow us to provide a meeting space large enough to accommodate the group size.

During our last Business Meeting, we formed our Valentine Celebration Committee. The Committee consist of Duane & Greg, Becci & Paige, Barb & Holly, and Donald & Jeffery. They are in the beginning stages of searching for a location, planning, and forecasting costs. We are seeing this Valentine Celebration as the largest event we will have the entire year! Anyone with ideas, expertise, or connections should please feel free to come forward and get involved. The Message Board has a Valentine Celebration topic started and ANY ideas are welcome. Lets BRAIN STORM and make this event one to remember.

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Rainbow Community Center Events

The Rainbow Community Center is once again busy planning several events for October and November. On Sunday, October 6th starting at 4 pm at Tribe, the RCC will be holding the first of their annual auction. Since it is a "football weekend" with the Titans playing, the theme of the auction this year is "Touchdowns and Treasures: The Super Bowl of All Auctions." If anyone has items, services or artwork to donate, or needs further information, contact Jim & Gary at 333-8941, Keith Kidwell at 824-5584, or email tdandtreasures@comcast.net.

Also, mark your calendars now and plan to attend the annual Rainbow Community Center Dinner! It will be held Saturday, November 16 at St. Ann's Episcopal Church. Wouldn't it be great to have a table from Music City Couples? More details to follow.

For this and more events within the gay community and at the Rainbow Community Center, go to WWW.MUSICCITYCOUPLES.ORG and click on the link to the them, or contact Jim & Gary at the above number.

Evite.com TEST happens soon!

If you have not heard of it, look for it to appear soon as a way to RSVP to group events. This handy little site will provide the hosts or hostesses with all the "CRITICAL" information needed to make their event a success! It will show time, cost, location, and who will be attending and who will not be. This system will also include a map so that the ever changing locations of our events can be found.

Let us know your thoughts on this "test". Please note, we will only send these invitations to "member couples" since they will at times include personal information.

CONGRATULATIONS to Don Tanner (Russ) for being recently recognized at the Circle Players Community Theatre annual awards dinner. Don won Best Set Design 2001-2002 season for his set for "An American Daughter".

Message Board Changes

Hopefully by the printing of this newsletter we will have secured the MSN Message Board to be accessible to "Member Couples" only. Only members in good standing will be allowed entry so that we can feel safe in posting personal information including: addresses, phone numbers, photos, etc... to other fellow members. If you come in contact with interested couples that would like to know more about Music City Couples, please advise them to check out our website at *www.MusicCityCouples.org* or to contact any Operating Board member.

In addition, please contact Larry & Bobby, our Web Services Couple, if you are having any difficulty with the services of the MSN Message Board.

Russ & Don Married in P-town

In an extraordinary step in their relationship, Russ & Don, (Finance Couple) celebrated their commitment to each other during a ceremony in Provincetown this week. Officiating the ceremony was another Music City Couples member, Greg, of Greg and Ken. Ken also attended and witnessed this milestone event. Please join us in offering Russ & Don our best wishes! Even though we couldn't be there, we were with you in spirit. CONGRATULATIONS!

Nashville has a new Gay and Lesbian publication! "Out & About" is scheduled to publish its first edition on October 1 and Music City Couples is in it. We will post where it can be found!

Financial Report

Revenues Year To Date

Membership Dues:	\$968.00
Couples National Donation	\$100.00
Newsletter Advertising	\$ 50.00

Total Revenue \$1,118.00

Membership Dues Collected

Becci & Paige	\$16
Herbert & John	\$16
Total Membership Dues Collected	\$936

Total Couples : 27

Expenses Year to Date:

Bank Service Charges	\$ 55.00
Check Charges	\$ 13.00
Misc. Pride Expenses	\$323.41
Pride Booth Rent	\$120.00
Newsletter Printing/Expenses	\$ 33.63
"Get to Know You" Potluck	\$136.25
Website Hosting & Domain	\$ 98.40
Misc. Copy Expenses	\$ 27.73

Total Expenses \$ 807.42

Net Funds Available \$ 310.58

Membership Dues Collected \$ 968.00

Expenses Committed but Unpaid

PO Box Annual Rent	\$50
Quarterly Dues to National	
(\$2 per couple)	\$54

Net Funds after Committed but

Unpaid Expenses \$206.58

Couple of the Month: Joe & Andrew

By Julia

Joe and Andrew defy any characteristics that have to do with typical couple behavior. I had to stop at one point and ask, **"Where's the love here guys?"** It's there in the way *Joe* verbally smacks *Andrew* with every word spoken as if it's a lie. It's there in the way *Andrew* lovingly pokes at *Joe's* belly, while *Joe* is eating *yet again* and says, "You know I'm not really sure why you can't lose weight *Joe*." All said with a smirk on his face. With these two you have to look below the surface of what's being said.

This January they celebrate seven years of marital bliss. I did ask, **"guys where do you see yourselves 5 years from now, is this a forever thing?"** *Andrew* say's to *Joe*, "yeah, I'll be around changing your diapers. We bought a house together didn't we?" *Joe*, "I thought we bought it for the backyard." *Andrew*, "we bought it so we could throw parties."

So what is it that you like most about each other? *Joe* says to me, "Andrew's the nice guy. I like the fact that *Andrew* sees the good in everyone, but it drives me nuts too." For *Andrew*, well he just likes *Joe* b/c he's *Joe* and b/c he's a softie." *Joe* admittedly said, "before I met *Andrew* I was a real ass, I'm the bad guy, *Andrew* makes me a nicer person."

This is a continuation of the above question. I guess *Joe* really wanted to make me see something significant about their relationship. *Joe* keeps on going by saying, "we're totally different, I'm cheap *Andrew* spends too much. If I could I'd nail down the furniture it would stay there until I die. *Andrew* rearranges the living room too much. *Andrew* says, I move the furniture just to piss him off. *Joe*; I'm an early riser, a loner. *Andrew* likes to sleep late. *Joe*; I grew up in the country where our closest neighbors were a 1/2 mile away. *Andrew* grew up in NY in an Italian Puerto Rican neighborhood where he ran around with a group. He (*Andrew*) likes to be around a lot of people, I'd rather have it quiet. *Joe* keeps on going and says to *Andrew*, you were fat I got you to the gym. *Andrew* says, yeah who's shirt are you wearing now? You're wearing my Fat clothes." Seems as if their relationship has seen some role reversal. I ask again, **"where's the love guys?"** *Joe* says, with a shy look, "I can always count on him."

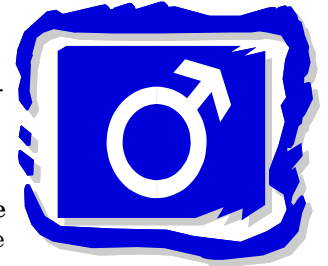
What makes you guys want to come home at night? *Andrew* pipes up, "I miss my dog. *Joe's* a wonderful person, he just likes to air that he's an ass. I know that he will always be there for me." That's when *Joe* commented, "I see *Andrew* and I together 50 years from now."

What is you ideal job? *Joe* says, "I'd like to be a Park Ranger." *Andrew* snaps back and says, "You just want to bust those little boys that's all." Strangely enough *Andrew* also wanted to be a Park Ranger but according to the interviewers, "he wasn't introverted enough." *Joe* just looks at me and shakes his head as if to say, "see I told you it would be a good job for me, I like to be alone."

Any parting thoughts? *Joe*, "It's there, it's been there, and it'll always be there." *Andrew*, "Even though we're bickering, we still love each other."

I just have one question, **Who was it that put the curtains on his shoulder and ran up and down the steps acting as if he was Priscilla Queen of the Desert?** According to *Andrew* it was *Joe* and of course if you ask *Joe* it was *Andrew*. I fear we will never know.

What a trip these two guys are, stay tuned for next months couple, Greg and Duane.



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NJW Second Annual Fundraiser

On September 29th, from 6:00pm to 10:00pm, the Jazz Workshop will hold their annual fundraiser. It will be held at Cafe 123. Jody Faison will be providing good eats and a cash bar. This year's entertainment will be performances by NJW faculty and students.

Here's the lineup: Beegie Adair, Don Aliquo, Charles Dungey, Jim Ferguson, Rod McGaha, Jeff Hall, Chester Thompson, Kirk Whalum, Lori Mechem, Roger Spencer, Jim White, Bruce Dudley, Denis Solee. Our featured student groups will be the Wayne Shorter Ensemble and vocalists Krystine Mylls, Christina Watson and Rachel Price. George Yanok will be our Master of Ceremonies for the night. This year we will have a silent auction to generate more funds for the school. There will be lots of really great items such as dinners, artwork, specially designed lamps, autographed cd sets and more. There will be a \$15.00 donation at the door. All proceeds will go to NJW. Silent Auction will start at 6:30 and will close at 8:30pm. So mark your calendars and come out and show your support for the Nashville Jazz Workshop. See ya there!!!

Survey Says????....

Attached to this month's newsletter is a survey. The purpose of this survey is to provide the Operating Board with the opinions, and attitudes of the members as to which activities you want to see more of and those you don't want to see. Your candid opinions are greatly appreciated. Please take a few minutes to answer the survey and return to us. The survey is pre-addressed and has pre-paid postage. Thanks for taking the time to fill this out and return it to our mailbox. Please have all surveys returned by Monday, October 14th. Results will be published in an upcoming newsletter. Any questions please contact any one of the Operating Board Members.



Alan (Glenn) 10/8
 Angela (Risa) 10/20
 Ana (Elaine) 10/22
 Ron (Jeffary) 10/23
 Kathy (Sunny) 10/28
 Risa (Angela) 10/31



Larry & Bobby 10/7
 David & Ken 10/10
 Sunny & Kathy 10/31



Becci & Paige
 Herbert & John

Monster's Ball

Saturday, October 26 from dusk till ???, make plans to attend Greg and Duane's Halloween Bash! You've got plenty of time to find the right costume for this fun event, although strongly encouraged, but not required. (Who says we need a reason to throw on a costume?) A costume contest will be held with great prizes to the winners!! Sorry kids, this weekend is for adults only, however, on October 31, stop back by Greg and Duane's with the kids and visit their haunted spook house for candy.

A table will be set up with lots of snacks and goodies. Feel free to bring your favorite snack if you wish. Just BYOB. Ice will be provided, along with several coolers to put your beer or mixes into. **DON'T MISS THIS PARTY!!** Please RSVP to Greg and Duane so they can plan this party accordingly! They can also accommodate some sleeping quarters for anyone that wishes to stay the night. Let 'em know!!

Interested in hosting an event? Got an idea for an event or activity for the group as the holidays approach and you want to help everyone get in the spirit? Well we want to hear from you, one way is by filling out and sending back your survey, and also to contact any member of the Operating Board with your ideas or interest in hosting an event. We will make sure it gets to the appropriate people. Or, you can just go to the message board and post your idea there and you will be contacted for more details.

Jugg Sisters Cookin' With Emeril

Remember those crazy ladies of Nash Trash tours? Brenda Lee and Sheryl Lynn? Yes, we are talkin' the Jugg sisters. If you didn't have the opportunity to go on the tour with us, then here's your chance to see them make their TV debut with some of their antics that made them popular here in Nashville. They will be on Emeril on the Food Network on October 1st. That is Channel 54 for Comcast, channel 231 for Direct TV and channel 110 for Dish Network. All at 7pm central.

Dinner Night Out

Our September Tuesday night dinner was a success again. Thanks to all of you who attended. We met in Antioch at the Casa Fiesta restaurant on Bell Rd. Risa and Angela were our Hostess's for the evening since they practically own this restaurant. Thanks to the two of you for setting it all up and for allowing us to meet your favorite waiter. I recommend this restaurant to anyone who wants to enjoy cheap tasty margaritas and fabulous dips. October's meeting place TBA.

Attention Bowlers!! Hey even if you are not a bowler who cares. Come out and join us for fourth Friday bowling starting this month. Now that the warm days of summer are fading behind us, step out of cool air into the warmth of the bowling alley. Any questions, contact Tara & Julia, the hospitality couple and they will provide more info. Time and place to be announced. The first night for this fall and winter event will be October 25th! Hope to see you there.

**2002
Music City Couples
Operating Committee**

Chair Couple
Steve & Scott
615-451-6409

Finance Couple
Russ & Don
615-867-8913

Media & Member Services Couple
Bill & Jerry
615-361-6894

Hospitality Couple
Tara & Julia
615-876-7945

Web Services Couple
Larry & Bobby
615-323-8822

October 2002

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4 Camp- ing Rock Island	5 Camp- ing Rock Island
6 Camp- ing Rock Island	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Din- ner Night TBA	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Bowling	26 Hal- loween Party dusk til ?
27	28	29	30	31		

AS OF PRINT DATE, THESE ARE THE MOST CURRENT EVENTS. PLEASE CHECK THE MESSAGE BOARD FREQUENTLY FOR UPDATES.

The Harmonizer is a monthly publication of Music City Couples. Production of the newsletter is the responsibility of the Media Couple. We encourage all members to submit articles to appear in the newsletter. The Media Couple reserves the right to select and edit all articles for publication.

CLASSIFIEDS

If you have anything you would like to sell and let the group or other affiliates know about, let us hear from you!

REAL ESTATE

For sale: 1210 Brentwood Pointe III, 2BR/2BA condo in Brentwood, TN. Carport and neat landscaping. Call David Parrish or Ken Sadler (615) 371-9257 (home) or (615)310-4360 (cell)

November 2002

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Din- ner Nite TBA	20	21	22 Bowling	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanks- giving	29	30