

The Harmonizer

Volume 1, Issue 11

December 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.

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Goin' to the Dogs

Brrrrrrr!

That is one way to describe this November event. However, much fun was had by the 9dogs and 11people that were in attendance at Dog Day afternoon. Julia had to move her previously made fire pit that was under 6 inches of water slightly to the right. She did a great job as it kept us warm and allowed us to make plenty of s'mores. Thanks to Angela and Risa for bringing the s'mores kit. Thank you to Joe and Micky D's for providing the hamburger buns. The novel dog of the group appeared to be Elaine's greyhound, Phantom. Of course, there was one shy dog who would not leave her daddy's side, er come out from under his coat. That would be Scott's (Steve) Chi-Chi. She much preferred the warmth and safety under his coat. Of course, at 3.5lbs, I can't say I blame her.



Bill with Scott's Chi-Chi

We plan on trying this again in the spring. We look forward to everyone attending that can make it, dog or not!

Dinner Night Out

Once again, dinner night out has proven to be a fantastic event as they come. Dinner was held at Tribe with 24 people in attendance. We were privileged to have a member of Florida's Gold Coast Couples group join us. He join us with a big smile and some information for us from the East. We want to thank you Tony (Finance Couple) for attending our event while in town. We were also joined by one of our newest couples of Music City Couples, John and Herb.

December's dinner night out will be held at Monell's on December 17th. Hopefully, some interested couples that would like to join our organization will be in attendance.

Dinner will be at 7pm. Please RSVP to the message board or Tara and Julia. We would also like to welcome any members from other COUPLES affiliates that might be in town to join us. We look forward to seeing you there!

Greg and Ken would like to extend an invitation to an Open House at their place on Christmas Eve. They will be posting specifics and directions to their place on the message board shortly. Stay tuned!

Recipe of the Month: Apple Crisp

Filling:

15 to 20 apples in a variety of brands, peeled and sliced
1/2 cup cinnamon and sugar mixture
1/2 to 1 cup apple cider or orange juice

Topping:

2 cups bleached flour
2 cups sugar
2 sticks cold margarine

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F

Layer sliced apples into an ungreased 13x9 by 2 inch pan. Sprinkle cinnamon and sugar mixture in between each layer. Use enough cinnamon and sugar to cover each layer. Once apples are to the top of the pan, cover with final layer of cinnamon and sugar and then pour either your apple cider or orange juice over the entire mixture.

Mix the 3 toppings ingredients together with a mixer until it is crumbly. Cover the apples with the topping. Bake for 45 minutes. Cool and serve.

Law Offices
KEVIN T. SOMMERS



Nashville 615-386-7007
Dickson 615-446-4882
Kingston Springs 615-952-9882
Fax: 615-952-5621
Mail: P.O. Box 399
Kingston Springs, TN 37082
www.sommerslawoffice.com



Nancy Robison
Proprietor

2800 Bransford Ave.
Nashville, TN 37204
Phone (615) 383-0038
Fax (615) 383-0607



Scott (Steve) 12/06




Jon & Cliff 12/18
Paul & Michael 12/26

The Nashville Storms Saturday Trio Bowling League will begin on January 6th. The season is 15 weeks.. Three persons per team are allowed with the cost either \$10-\$12 per week (as voted on by the league). Contact Darrin Sylvera at darrinsylvera@comcast.net or at 885-8103. It certainly would be nice to

Russ and Don have so graciously opened their home to us for this years Christmas Party.

The date is Saturday, December 14th and is set to begin at 7pm. Directions will be posted by Russ & Don along with more specifics to this event. There will be a white elephant gift exchange. Stay tuned for more information on what is sure to be a fun evening for all!



Message from the Chaircouple

As the Holidays grow near and the end of the year craziness is upon us, we are also realizing that our time as leaders of this organization is coming to an end. It has been an amazing experience and we both are "stepping down" with mixed emotions. We would like to think of it more as passing the baton. As you can tell by the ballot most of the Operating Board is choosing not to be re-elected. I think I can speak for the rest of the Board in saying, it's **not** because we do not believe in or feel this organization has value. We all have received more from the group than we ever expected. There is no doubt that Music City Couples has a place in Nashville and is needed because of the interest we ave received. Look at the people you each have met through it. As we have often said, G&L couples are often living in a vacuum. Bars don't help, society doesn't support our relationships, and it is difficult to meet other couples to build friendships with. There are amazing, wonderful people in this organization and we want to see the next group of leaders take it to the next level. A different group of leaders, with different ideas, talents, resources and perspectives will move this group in ways yet not thought of. Diversity can mean many things, but we think diversity in leadership of this group has and will continue to help it grow. We often did not agree, but we always respected those different perspectives and turned the variety of views into a strength. We are not leaving the group either. We are planning to be the first to pay our 2003 dues and obviously will help transition the new Operating Board into their new roles. Scott and Steve have a personal interest in seeing this group succeed, grow and reach out to more couples. If you are interested please step up and nominate yourself, call it volunteering if you like. Finally I would like to ask that those of you who will be nominated for positions on the Operating Board please consider it an honor and privilege. Don't decline your nomination without knowing that all of the 2002 Operating Committee found it a very rewarding experience, and we all have made friends for a lifetime be-

Listed is the nomination form for the Couples Operating Board positions for the 2003 calendar year. The continued strength of the organization depends on those willing to step forward and give a small amount of their time. Any member couple interested in one of these positions should feel free to nominate themselves. If there is another prospective couple that you have in mind, please nominate them for any of the positions.

The election of our 2003 officers will take place on Saturday, January 17, 2003. The time and location is yet to be determined. Please submit your nomination as soon as possible. Remember this is your club, and by giving a little bit of yourself can we continue to offer our members the kind of organization we deserve.

Please complete the form and submit it by mailing to Music City Couples, **P.O. Box 330717, Nashville, TN 37208** or you may hand deliver it to any of the Operating Board members.

We hereby nominate the following couples for positions on the Operating Board for 2003 (please print clearly).

Chair Couple Nomination: _____

"Serve as Chief Executive Officers of the organization, preside at all meetings of the Operating Board and general membership, whose responsibilities are to generally supervise, direct and facilitate the business of Music City Couples." Position currently held by Steve and Scott-They respectfully decline nomination to the Operating Board for 2003.

Vice-Chair Couple Nomination: _____

"Serve as secretaries of the organization maintaining all the minutes and a yearly record of all proceedings and actions, maintain membership roster, and preside at meetings and carry out the duties of the Chair Couple in their absence or in case of vacancy of said office." This is a new position for the Operating Board for 2003.

Finance Couple Nomination: _____

"Serve as the financial officers of the organization, receive, deposit, and disburse all funds while maintaining appropriate financial and fiscal records, comply with the requirements of Couples National Network, present a written and verbal financial statement and a proposed annual budget." Position currently held by Don and Russ-They respectfully decline nomination to the Operating Board for 2003.

Media Couple Nomination: _____

"Prepare, publish, and distribute a monthly newsletter, maintain media communication with the community and the media regarding Music City Couples purposes, activities, and services." Position currently held by Bill and Jerry-They respectfully decline nomination to the Operating Board for 2003.

Events Couple Nomination: _____

"Plan the program for social events and activities of the organization, coordinate community events, promote and encourage member couples to host events." Position currently held by Julia and Tara-They respectfully decline nomination to the Operating Board for 2003.

Member Services Couple: _____

"Serve as liaison with new members and prospective members, responsible for mailing new member packets, contact inactive member couples to encourage participation." This is a new position for the Operating Board for 2003.

Financial Report

Revenues Year To Date

Membership Dues:	\$988.00		
Couples National Donation	\$100.00		
Newsletter Advertising	\$ 50.00	Total Membership Dues Collected	\$988
Total Revenue	\$1,138.00	Total Couples :	28

Expenses Year to Date:

Bank Service Charges	\$ 77.00
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
Couple National Dues	\$ 56.00

Expenses Committed but Unpaid

PO Box Annual Rent	\$50
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Total Expenses	\$ 885.42	Net Funds after Committed but	
Net Funds Available	\$ 252.58	Unpaid Expenses	\$202.58
Membership Dues Collected	\$ 988.00		

November 8th several of us got together for an evening of painting pottery. A great time was had by all, especially if you don't mind 12 adolescent girls squealing three feet away. Everyone painted lovely items that will soon be on display at the Frist Center for visual arts. From Steve's Christmas ornament for his tree he bought from Barbara Mandrell to Julia's "official" Music City Couples chip and salsa bowl. The next time we do this hopefully we will be able to rent the private room they have for parties, thus eliminating the screaming girls, well at least not adolescent girls! Anyway, a big thanks to all who attended this event, and we hope to do it in the near future.



Folks, don't forget our Valentine's Day committee is hard at work to make this day special for us. However, they are not able to do so if they get no help from us! They want this party to be as cost effective as possible but yet memorable. They need your help in the area of flower arranging, music, photography and catering. If anyone is interested in providing these type of services or knows someone email Barb and Holly at barbandholly@msn.com. Let them know also is you plan to attend this event they are working so hard at planning. You can let them know via email or through the message board.

**2002
Music City Couples
Operating Committee**

Chair Couple
Steve & Scott

Finance Couple
Russ & Don

Media & Member Services Couple
Bill & Jerry

Hospitality Couple
Tara & Julia

Web Services Couple
Larry & Bobby

December 2002

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Fantasy in Ice
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Xmas Party Russ & Don 7p
15	16	17 Dinner Nite Out 7pm	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Happy Holidays	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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)

For sale: 3803 Syfert Ln, 3BR./2BA 1275 square foot home in Nashville, TN. Contact Donald or Jeffery for more info. (615) 781-1506 or Grace Denny of Remax Realty at (615) 777-5550.

January 2003

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Bowling	25
26 Superbowl Party	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.