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"Celebrating 20 Years"

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PWACU affiliate

Turn Your Vacations
into Donations

Cross-Resistance
& Durability

Regular Features: Dates, Thanks, Tickets, Web Corner,
Resources, Case Management, Groups, Global Update



Utah's Community
HIV / AIDS Newsletter

Published by the
People With AIDS Coalition of Utah



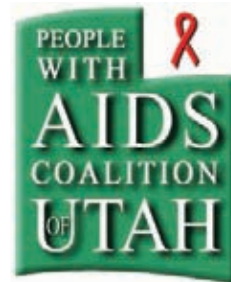
January is named for Janus, the god of the doorway; the name has its beginnings in Roman mythology, where the Latin word for door (ianua) comes from - January is the door to the year.

February, in Finnish, the month is called helmikuu, meaning "month of the pearl"; when snow melts on tree branches, it forms droplets, and as these freeze again, they are like pearls of ice.

*a note of
gratitude* 

Thanks to our volunteers for their
efforts and help every day!

The PWACU would like
to thank all who help in
the mission of providing
service to those affected
by HIV / AIDS.





"Tickets! Tickets! Tickets!"

Thank you for donating tickets in 2007!

Academy of Performing Arts, The

Ballet West

Castle of Chaos

Children's Theatre & School of the Arts

Desert Star Theater

Egyptian Theatre Company

Equality Utah

Gallivan Center

Kingsbury Hall

Living Planet Aquarium, The

Megaplex Theatres

Repertory Dance Theatre

Ririe Woodbury Dance Company

Salt Lake Bees

Salt Lake Men's Choir

Utah AIDS Foundation

Utah Cyber Sluts

Utah Museum of Natural History

Utah Symphony

Our Recreation Program strives to offer people living with HIV/AIDS the opportunity to create social support networks in a positive and safe environment. Our program provides access to cultural and community events that people affected by HIV/AIDS may not otherwise be able to attend. We also sponsor several events such as barbeques, holiday parties and a river trip each year. Membership in the program is confidential.

Please help us to maintain good relations with those who donate tickets by attending the events for which you accept tickets. We apologize for any errors or omissions.



2008 Calendar



“Celebrating 20 Years”

March 15, Saturday – Seminar

March 23, Sunday – 6th Annual Spring Fling

May 17, Saturday – 8th Annual Food for Life Garden Party

July 19, Saturday – Seminar

August 7 - 10, Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday – 20th Annual River Trip

September 14, Sunday – 10th Annual End of Summer BBQ Bash

October 18, Saturday – 20th Annual Living With AIDS Conference

December 14, Sunday – 6th Annual Holiday Party

Please note: The Calendar is subject to change.

The People With AIDS Coalition of Utah is Celebrating 20 Years. For twenty years the People With AIDS Coalition of Utah has held its annual Living With AIDS Conference in October (AIDS Awareness Month). The Conference covers an array of subjects for a variety of persons; including providers, people living with HIV/AIDS, friends and family members. In addition to its educational role, the Conference offers a supportive and open environment in which those whose lives are affected by the disease can interact with others who are facing similar issues. From September - November PWACU holds its annual Poinsettia Fundraiser to raise money and awareness for people affected by HIV/AIDS in Utah. For information on these and other events visit www.PWACU.org.



15th CROI Webcast and Satellite Community Update

From the 15TH Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI)

ABOUT CROI:

CROI (the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections) is the pre-eminent annual international conference on HIV/AIDS. CROI is a scientifically focused meeting of the worlds leading researchers working to understand, prevent, and treat HIV/AIDS and its related complications. The purpose of the annual conference is to provide a forum for translating laboratory and clinical research into medical applications. This year the conference will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, February 3-6, 2008, and is expected to draw over 3,800 leading researchers from all over the world.

ABOUT “Treatment Update 2008”:

Treatment Update is a series of televised panel discussions surrounding the significant findings and presentations at the CROI. The Treatment Update 2008 program will be very similar to past Treatment Update programs. The Update panelists will discuss what they believe to be the most important works from CROI that might translate into clinical care for people living with HIV/AIDS or Hepatitis C. The program will include excerpts of interviews with some of the leading scientists in the world. The program will include the following segments:

“Antiviral Treatments” hosted by Matt Sharp-TPAN, Chicago. With Paul Sax, MD (HIV Program Director, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston, MA; Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA), Rick Elion, MD (George Washington University, Washington, DC), Martin Delaney (Founding Director, Project Inform, San Francisco, CA)

“Metabolic Issues” hosted by Nelson Vergel, PoWeR, Houston, Texas. With Pablo Tebas (MD, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA), Donald Kotler (MD, St. Lukes Roosevelt Hospital, New York, NY), Kathy Mulligan (MD, University of California, San Francisco, CA).

“Hepatitis Issues” hosted by Jules Levin or Tracy Swan, TAG New York, NY. With Doug Dietrich, MD (Chief Medical Officer, Dept of Medicine, The Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York, NY), Ken Sherman, PhD (Gould Professor of Medicine, Director, Division of Digestive Diseases, Cincinnati, OH), and Jay Kostman, MD (Head, Division of Infectious Disease, Presbyterian Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA).

Special Note: The “IFARA CROI Media Project 2008” also includes a program entitled “Treatment Issues for Women” (one-hour program) and “Actualización de Tratamientos 2008” (Spanish language one-hour HIV update program), which will only be available on delayed DishNetwork broadcast, the IFARA website and on DVD.



15th CROI Webcast and Satellite Community Update

From the 15TH Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI)

Continued from previous page.

“Treatment Issues for Women” will be hosted by Cathy Olufs, CorrectHelp, Los Angeles, CA. With Kathleen Squires, MD (Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, PA), Vicki Cargill, MD (Office of AIDS Research NIH, Bethesda, MD), and Kimberly Smith MD, MPH (Associate Professor of Medicine, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL).

“Actualización de Tratamientos 2008” will be hosted by Rob Camp. With Pedro Cahn, MD (Chief ID’s, University of Buenos Aires Medical School, Buenos Aires, Argentina), Bonaventura Clotet, MD, PhD (fundacion “Irsicaixa” Hospital Universitari, Badalona, Spain), Fernando Dronda ME, PhD (Hospital Ramon y Cajal, Madrid, Spain), Esteban Martinez MD (Senior Specialist, Infectious Diseases Unit, Hospital Clinic, Barcelona, Spain).

CROI Press Conferences and interviews with researchers in the fight against AIDS will be available at: www.IFARATV.org

The People With AIDS Coalition of Utah is hosting a 2 hour viewing of “Treatment Update 2008” on Tuesday February 6th, 2008 at 4:15pm. Location TBA. Please contact us at 801-484-2205 if you are interested in attending.

VOLUNTEER:

The People With AIDS Coalition of Utah offers volunteer opportunities for anyone from the community who is concerned about HIV/AIDS. Our volunteer opportunities give individuals the chance to help and get to know others impacted by the virus.

Volunteers are very special people, without volunteers we would be unable to provide the services we offer. We need volunteers to help with general office support, special projects and events.



1055 E. 2100 S., Suite 208, Salt Lake City, Utah



Do you kiss & tell? Or tell & then kiss?

By Rebecca Denison

HIV is not transmitted through saliva. So should you tell someone you have HIV before you kiss? WORLD asked a handful of HIV+ women what they do. Here's what they said:

I kiss first, then tell later

I kiss first, then tell later on in the relationship. That way I can get to know the guy and he can get to know me. I asked one guy I dated how he felt about people who have HIV and whether he'd ever dealt with it before. Well, it turned out that his brother had it. Then I told him I had it too. He was surprised, but he didn't get mad. We're still dating. - M.C.O.G.

I tell first

I haven't kissed anyone without telling them first, because it's less worry about whether they'll freak out. If you tell afterwards, you're not giving them a choice about what feels safe to them. One person I dated knew I had HIV when she kissed me. It wasn't a tongue-drilling kind of thing, but she called me later all freaked out. I told her to call the AIDS hotline. That was the only bad reaction I got. - Harriet

Sometimes I didn't tell

In the past I would kiss and tell. Sometimes, I didn't tell. I didn't want to be giving this very private information to someone where the relationship might not even go anywhere. I was in one relationship where the person knew, but we had unsafe sex and there was blood involved. We both felt terrible and I carried a lot of guilt. Now I have a partner who is also HIV+. - Nan

I got dumped

I had gone out with this guy for a month and was absolutely crazy about him when I told him I have HIV. He held me and wanted to make love to me. I said "not yet." The next day he called me, freaking out. He was angry that I had kissed him before I told him. He dumped me and I was heartbroken. From then on, I told first. That way if a guy was going to dump me, it would be before my heart was in it. I was amazed how many guys said "that's OK" or "you're going to have to educate me." Eventually, I got to a point where I realized I could pick and choose instead of feeling grateful for anyone who would have me. Soon after, I met the man who's now my husband. - M.

It's safer to tell first

I think it's a whole lot safer to tell first, because some people might not be as comfortable with you being HIV+. I had one experience where I kissed and then told. It turned out that she had already known I had HIV, but she was upset that she didn't hear it from me, and that I didn't tell her before I kissed her. The reason I didn't was that I didn't know how to say it. Now I think that if you're not comfortable with telling someone you're HIV+, it may be better to wait until you're more comfortable with it yourself. - Alice

Source: WORLD (Women Organized to Respond to Life-threatening Diseases)
Newsletter, November 1999 Issue.
Reprinted courtesy of www.PositiveWords.com
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Super Big News!

We are pleased to announce that The Righteously Outrageous Twirling Corps-SLC (ROTC-SLC) has become an Affiliate Program of the People With AIDS Coalition of Utah. ROTC-SLC is now under PWACU's 501(c)3 umbrella. ROTC-SLC maintains separate management but is now guided by PWACU's non-profit status.

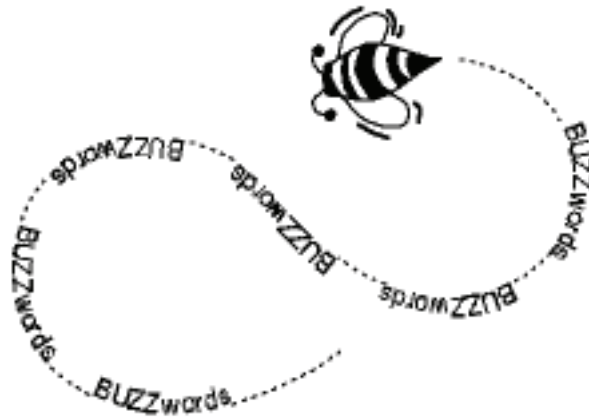
THE ROTC-SLC MISSION STATEMENT:

Our mission is to develop and uphold a open volunteer color guard performance corps that is challenging and FUN for its members while producing the highest quality entertainment within our means to help build a strong community.

The Starting of ROTC-SLC

The foundations for ROTC-Salt Lake City, "The Righteously Outrageous Twirling Corps", was modeled after similar groups in the United States and Canada. ROTC-Chicago, Illinois, St. Petersburg, Florida and Toronto Ontario, Canada just to name a few. ROTC-SLC cofounders Logan Brueck and Kaye Christensen thought of it as a way to "pep-up" the Salt Lake City Gay Pride Parade, but it has become a greater dream for them and the corps. ROTC-Salt Lake City is a performance-based organization, centered in the lesbian and gay community. Comprised of both men and women, straight and gay, we come together to form a modern-day color guard – twirling flags, spinning rifles to create a stunning visual production, choreographed to some of today's hottest sounds and occasionally the classics of times gone by. While we look forward to participating in events within our own community, we also hope to take our "show on the road" and proudly become ambassadors for the lesbian and gay community of Salt Lake City throughout Utah, as well as the United States and Canada.

Visit their website www.rotcslc.com



Cross-Resistance

by David Pieribone

When a drug becomes less effective against HIV, we say that HIV has become “resistant” to that drug (usually caused by mutations or changes in HIV's genetic material). Sometimes resistance to one drug also causes resistance to other drugs. This means that not only will the drug you are taking stop working, but certain other anti-HIV drugs you have never taken will not work either. This is called “cross-resistance.” For example, if your HIV becomes resistant to the protease inhibitor Crixivan, it will probably also be resistant to the protease inhibitor Norvir. This does not necessarily mean that all the other drugs in that class will not work for you. It just means you have to be careful when picking your next combination to make sure you include drugs that are still effective against your virus. Cross-resistance is troublesome for people taking anti-HIV medications since it may reduce or eliminate future treatment options. Increasingly, healthcare providers are carefully planning a patient’s treatment strategy, so if resistance develops, there will be other options available. Although there are several ways resistance can develop, it most often occurs when medications are not taken correctly (non-adherence). Skipping doses of your drugs or not taking them as they are prescribed is a sure way of developing resistance. If you have questions about how to take your medications correctly, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

David Pieribone is the Associate Director of Education at AIDS Project Los Angeles. Reprinted courtesy of www.PositiveWords.com. © 2001 by Dallabrida & Associates

Durability

by David Pieribone

Something that is durable lasts a long time. We usually think of products as durable – such as a car, a home appliance or a good pair of shoes. When doctors or researchers talk about durability, they are referring to how long a drug or therapy is able to do what it is supposed to do. In other words, how long it will last. Anti-HIV drugs are durable if they suppress or reduce the amount of the HIV virus in the blood for a long time. When used alone (monotherapy), anti-HIV drugs are not durable; they do not suppress HIV for very long. The virus is constantly changing (mutating) and is able to escape the effects of any one of the currently available anti-HIV drugs. However, when used in combination (combination therapy or HAART), the anti-HIV drugs work better and have greater durability than when they are used alone. Many things can affect the durability of anti-HIV medications. Certain combinations of anti-HIV medications can enhance or extend their durability. For instance, adding the protease inhibitor Norvir to other protease inhibitors can boost blood levels of the drugs and give them better durability. The durability of an anti-HIV drug or therapy can be reduced by not taking medication on time or in the right dose or by mixing anti-HIV drugs with certain other medications.

David Pieribone is the Associate Director of Education at AIDS Project Los Angeles. Reprinted courtesy of www.PositiveWords.com. © 2001 by Dallabrida & Associates



Editorial Policy

The People With AIDS Coalition of Utah is dedicated to providing educational and support services that enhance the quality of life for all people impacted by HIV/AIDS. Information and resources included in the Positive Press are for informational purposes only and do not constitute an endorsement for or recommendation of any medical treatment decisions.

Note: This is not meant to serve as a comprehensive HIV/AIDS guide. Please contact your case worker or care provider for more information on comprehensive guides. If you are unable to find the resource you are looking for, please call the PWACU: 801-484-2205.

The publication of a name or image does not unless expressly stated, imply anything about a person's health status or sexual orientation. Opinions are those of the individual and do not necessarily represent official positions of the People With AIDS Coalition of Utah.

You can contact the editorial staff through the PWACU office or via email: director@PWACU.org

RESOURCES

Community Action Program

A nonprofit providing a variety of services aimed at helping low income people reach self-sufficiency (Assistance with deposits, rent, utilities, etc.).
764 S. 200 W.
SLC, UT 84101
801-359-2444

People With AIDS Coalition of Utah

Annual Living With AIDS Conference, bimonthly newsletter *Positive Press*, Seminars, Resource Library with free Internet access, Social and Support Groups, Recreation Program and a Thrift Room.
175 W. 200 S., Suite 2010
SLC, UT 84101
801-484-2205

Salt Lake Valley Health Department

HIV and STI testing, TB testing, immunizations, treatment, prevention and care information.
610 S. 200 E., Room 135
SLC, UT 84111
801-534-4666

Utah AIDS Foundation

HIV and STI testing. Prevention education, case management and meal services to people impacted by HIV/AIDS.
1408 S. 1100 E.
SLC, UT 84105
801-487-2323

Utah Pride Center

Community resources and referrals for lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and transgendered people of all ages.
361 N. 300 W.
SLC, UT 84116
801-539-8800

CASE MANAGEMENT

University Of Utah Clinic 1A

50 N. Medical Drive, SLC
SLC, UT 84132
801-585-2670

Utah AIDS Foundation

1408 S. 1100 E.
SLC, UT 84105
801-487-2323

Veterans Medical Center

500 Foothill Blvd
SLC, UT 84108
Karen Kone
801-582-1565

HIV POSITIVE GROUPS

Gay Men's Support Group

Contact Jerry Buie: 801-595-0666

Gay Men's Support Group

Contact Josh Bytendorp: 801-487-2323

Heterosexual Social/Support Group

Contact Toni Johnson: 801-484-2205

Spanish Speaking Support Group

Contact Amanda West: 801-487-2323

Strength In Numbers--Salt Lake City
<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/SINSaltLake/>

Utah County Support Group

Contact Dave Rich: 801-377-4629

Washington County Support Group

Contact George Stoddard: 435-656-5864

Weber County Support Group

Contact Robert Smith: 801-393-4153

Women's Social/Support Group

Contact Toni Johnson: 801-484-2205

Get Published:

We are always looking for personal stories and poetry to publish in the Positive Press. If you have something you want to share, contact us at the address on the opposite page.

Articles can be submitted anonymously. All articles submitted are reviewed by our editorial team before being included in the Positive Press.

Global Update

HIV/AIDS Statistics for the year 2007

Number of People Living with HIV/AIDS

North America	1.3 million
Caribbean	230,000
Latin America	1.6 million
Western & Central Europe	760,000
Eastern Europe & Central Asia	1.6 million
North Africa & Middle East	380,000
Sub-Saharan Africa	22.5 million
East Asia	800,000
South & South-East Asia	4 million
Oceania	75,000
Global Total	33.2 million

Total Newly infected people in 2007 2.5 million

Total People who have died of AIDS in 2007 2.1 million

Source: www.UNAIDS.org



the *Positive Press*
is published by
**The People With AIDS
Coalition of Utah**

Mission Statement:
The People With AIDS Coalition of Utah is dedicated to providing educational and support services that enhance the quality of life for all people impacted by HIV / AIDS.

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