FTPT needs your help this year to sustain this great tradition. For more information email friends@thepinktriangle.com or call Patrick Carney at 415-247-1100 x142.

THE TRIANGLE NEEDS YOU

Where else but in San Francisco, can you put a huge pink triangle on a prominent hill that is reported to be visible from 20 miles away? It started in 1996 as an underground project and has now become an official part of San Francisco’s Gay Pride celebration. While festive and fun, the triangle has a dual mission to celebrate and educate people about the history of the symbol, a badge gay prisoners were forced to wear in Nazi concentration camps, just as Jews had to wear yellow stars. "Pink triangle prisoners were treated as the lowest of the low, apart from the Jews," said Geoffrey Giles, a history professor at the University of Florida and scholar-in-residence at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. "And their death rate was higher than other groups, apart from the Jews." About 60 percent of the pink triangle prisoners didn’t survive the war, he said. Gays and lesbians continued to be persecuted under Paragraph 175, the German law barring homosexuality, until 1969. Gay activists appropriated the triangle, transforming it into a symbol of defiance and resilience sometime in the early ’70s, Giles said.

San Francisco’s Gay Pride Triangle is now 10 times as big as the first year. It consists of a patchwork of 12-by-15-foot tarps painted “Mardi Gras pink.” Each year a crew of workers gathers early in the morning on the Saturday of Pride weekend to attach their pink tarps to the hillside. With 40 volunteers, it takes about 3 1/2 hours to install. The yearly budget of Friends of the Pink Triangle is about $4,000. The triangle is now funded by a small group including the Pride Celebration Committee, the Castro Lions Club, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and Gardner Pond, and individual supporters.

PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT
MAKING A DIFFERENCE
Lion Barnett

Project Homeless Connect was started by Mayor Gavin Newsom as a way to move homeless people off of our streets and into housing and services. Hundreds of volunteers gather on the assigned day and proceed to walk thru a designated area of the central city, encouraging and escorting clients to a central location. These locations have moved from several Tenderloin hotels, the Folsom and 6th Street Rec Center, and currently we are using the Bill Graham Auditorium at Civic Center. Volunteers from various departments and agencies have tables at the auditorium where incoming clients are connected to medical services, mental health services, General Assistance and SSI applications, VA benefits, food stamps, even legal help if they are dealing with warrants and other problems.

This is the first mayor who has taken a dramatic hands-on approach as a way to begin to address the problem. Every time there is a Project Connect day dozens of people are placed in housing, and get involved with much needed services. As someone who has been incredibly frustrated by the homeless on our streets, and especially in our own neighborhood, I find volunteering at these events to be very exciting. I would love my friends and neighbors to devote some time and energy to this ongoing project. Currently these days are happening every other month. I know I get quite energized (and tired) after a day of volunteering, but there is a very good feeling about actually doing something to help instead of just complaining.

Take a look at the Project Connect website www.projecthomelessconnect.com/index.html and if you have any questions you can call the contacts listed there, or you can call me. My work phone number is 255-36524.
EVPA PROCLAMATIONS
ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS!!!!

EVPA Proclamations are awarded to businesses and individuals who have been nominated by the EVPA membership as deserving of recognition for their contributions to the neighborhood. EVPA members can nominate businesses or individuals by emailing or talking to an EVPA board member, who will then bring that nomination to the board. The EVPA board will bring no more than five (is it five or is it three now?) nominations to the EVPA general membership, who will vote to award one deserving recipient. The EVPA Proclamations are awarded once per quarter (i.e. four times per year).

Since EVPA began recognizing deserving members of our neighborhood, seven Proclamations have been awarded. The first round of awards recognized three recipients each in the third and fourth quarter of 2004 (a subsequent motion passed by the EVPA membership limited the number of awards to one per quarter beginning in 2005).

The list of recipients recognized with an EVPA Proclamation are:

EVPA Member and Pink Triangle Park Volunteer: Diane Nutting
Local specialty grocer: Ferrari Foods
Local destination and landmark: The Castro Theater
Coordinator of the EVPA Volunteers at the Castro Street Fair: Adam Hagen
SFPD Police Officer: Lisa Frazer
San Francisco Patrol Special Police Officer: Jane Warner
Rose expert and Pink Triangle Park Supporter: Greg Lowrey

The next round of nominations are being accepted now for the June 2005 award recipient. Please email EVPA or talk to a board member to nominate the next deserving recipient.

EVPA MEMBERS CONTINUE TO SERVE AT CITY HALL

Supervisor Bevan Dufty has appointed EVPA member Rick Galbreath to the Arts Task Force. The Arts Task Force is established to publicly discuss, investigate and make recommendations to update or restructure the various elements of the City's agencies, programs and policies concerning the arts in San Francisco.

Participating in the arts from an early age, Rick initially majored in music in college before receiving his B.A. in Government from the University of Texas. Combining his love for the arts with political activism, Rick joined the Gay Mens Chorus of Los Angeles where he served as a singing member, Executive Director and Board Member from 1988 until moving to San Francisco in 1997. He currently sings with the San Francisco Symphony Chorus while remaining politically active, most recently directing the field campaign for the "Yes on A" supportive and affordable housing bond measure Of November, 2004.

With an ongoing interest in City Hall, Rick regularly attends Board, Committee and Commission hearings and caught the attention of Supervisor Dufty while both were making comments before the Entertainment Commission to inquire whether he had already made his District 8 appointment to the task force. Supervisor Dufty, familiar with Rick's continuous involvement in and around City Hall, invited Rick to submit his resume for consideration and subsequently made the appointment.

"I am excited at the prospect of serving my community and really thrilled by this, my first, appointment. To be able to combine my love of the arts with my expertise in government is a great opportunity for which Supervisor Dufty has my sincere thanks," remarked Rick.

Rick joins our own former president, Gustavo Serina, in public service as EVPA members continue to serve the City on various boards and commissions. Those interested in volunteering can find the vacancy notices at: http://www.sfgov.org/site/bdsupvrs_index.asp?id=4386.

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
Castro Meeting Room, 501 Castro Street, San Francisco

By: Frank Weiss, Secretary
Date: March 17, 2005  Start Time: 7:30PM  End Time: 8:33PM
Number in Attendance: 22  Number of Voting Members: 20

Motion #1: Approval of February 2005 General Membership Meeting minutes. Moved and seconded. Motion carried.

Motion #2: Approval of $200 expense for publication of April issue of Eureka newsletter. Moved and seconded. Motion carried.
An official selection of the San Francisco International Film Festival, PURSUIT OF EQUALITY will make its premiere on Sunday, April 24, at the Castro Theatre at 6:30PM. This emotionally charged film puts a face on American citizens who strive for equality and for their marriages to be accepted by the rest of the nation. Given historic access, the filmmakers, even before the press is aware, invite the audience to witness as the first same-sex couple exchange their vows and ignite the most controversial civil rights topic in recent history.

Handy Resources for Home
Report Litter  28-CLEAN
Report Graffiti  241-WASH
Police Non-Emergency  553-0123
Police/Mission Station  558-5400
Help A Homeless Person  431-7400
(Mobile Assistance Patrol dispatched)
Street Cleaning  695-2017 or 695-2020
S.F. Supervisor Bevan Dufty's Office
Bevan Dufty  554-6968
bevan.dufty@sfgov.org

2005 EVPA OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS
President: Adam Hagen
Secretary: Frank Weiss
Treasurer: David Weiss
At-Large Board Members: Mike Babbitt, Lion Barnett,
Joe Foster, Gustavo Serina

EVPA  P.O. Box 14137
San Francisco, CA 94114-0137
Address Service Requested
www.EVPA.org    www.PinkTrianglePark.org

Join EVPA by Sending Us This Completed Membership Application

Name:_______________________________________________________________
First                                             Last

Name:_______________________________________________________________
First                                             Last

Organization: _________________________________________________________

Address:________________________________________________________________________ Apt. ________
City:    San Francisco, CA                         Zip Code

Day Phone: (____)_______________  Evening Phone: (____)_______________

Email Address:_________________________________________________________

(EVPA does not share your contact information with other groups)

My concerns for the neighborhood include___________________________________________

I am interested in working on the following issues:
___City Planning/Zoning ___Transportation, Utilities & Neighborhood Commerce
___Public Health/Safety ___Education/Recreation ___Membership & Promotion
___Finance ___Internal Affairs ___Pink Triangle Park

___Renewing membership.     ___ New membership.

___ I wish to receive my copy of the Eureka! Via the internet rather than by US Mail

Annual Membership dues are $15 per calendar year for individuals or $24
for households, businesses or nonprofits in Castro, Upper Market, and
Duboce Triangle (Eureka Valley).  EVPA is a non-profit California corporation.
Please return this form with your check payable to EVPA to:
EVPA, PO Box 14137, San Francisco, CA 94114-0137.

General Membership Meeting
Thursday April 21, 2005 7:30pm
Castro Meeting Room
501 Castro (Above BofA)

AGENDA
Introductions
Approve minutes
Guest speakers & discussion - Hattie/Market intersection & traffic problem
Committee reports
Budget & membership dues
501c3 status
Community Benefits District
Castro Street Fair volunteers
Castro Station public phone situation
Possible EVPA social events