

Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/

celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country

Pride Pages

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PRIDE PAGES!

July 2002
Volume 1, Issue 7
FREE!



Waterloo Wellington
Regional Pride
Committee

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N2H 6M0

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We're on the Web!
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Circulation:
750 copies monthly

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Photo courtesy of: Tab A Slot B Productions

WWRP 2002

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This newsletter is produced by volunteers on a monthly basis to keep everyone informed about what's going on in regards to the Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride Committee's celebration PRIDE 2002: There's No Place Like Home and other LGBT events in and around our area.

750 copies of this newsletter are produced monthly and distributed in Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge, Guelph, Stratford, Toronto, London, Hamilton and St. Catherines.

This is the official newsletter of the WWRP and is not restricted to any one sexual orientation or set of views. This newsletter, although representative of WWRP, does not necessarily reflect the personal views of the Steering Committee. Publication of names, photos of any persons, organizations, events or businesses does not and should not be taken as an indication of sexual preference. Items submitted for publication are subject to editing by the current Managing Editor (Jay Moore) in the interest of space.

**All proceeds go to
The W.W.R.P.**

**Next deadline
is July 20th**

Pride Workshops A Success!

by Ron Welker

For those of you who like to discuss issues of pertinence to our local GLBT community, your WWRP Committee hosted a series of educational workshops of constructive sharing. They took place in the comfortable and "safe" surroundings of the Conestoga Room at the Kitchener City Hall.

Committee member Rick Sickinger was the initial driving force for the workshops. They were planned and co-ordinated by Vice President Kathy Frey. Coffee and doughnuts were provided by Tim Horton's.

Workshops were well attended with different participants coming for the different topics that were featured during the day. Given that transgendered issues are still negatively received in some gay and lesbian circles, it was especially pleasing that Roberta Robinson's discussion about transgendered issues had the highest attendance.

Barbara and John Butters of Guelph represented PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians

and Gays). The group discussed the strengths and weaknesses of straight and GLBT relationships with family members.

Guelph marriage and family therapist Dave Vervoort explored the resources or lack thereof available for the GLBT community in this area. Factors affecting LGBT people and their associates include fundamentalist religious traditions, the corporate and business worlds, government and homo/trans/lesbophobia.

"Unitarians and the LGBT Community" was hosted by Lee Dickey and Lee Horton of the Waterloo Unitarians. Unitarians incorporate commonalities of all the world's religions as a guide for living. No one is expected to conform to a single set of norms, and different religions are used to facilitate that growth. The validity of one's personal experience is stressed so the Unitarian Universalist congregations tend to be places of welcome and acceptance for GLBT persons.

Patti Moses of Anselma House presented "Abuse in Lesbian Relationships". Anselma House and its Cambridge sister Haven House provide a 24-hour crisis support line and safe shelter, support groups, and one-on-one support, children's programs, and public education presentations. Interpreters are available.

Roberta Robinson hosted "Learning about Transgendered Issues." We could have heard a pin drop in the room as Roberta proceeded to talk about her personal life from early childhood to the present. Having lived openly as a woman for the past seven years, she was happy to tell us all the ups and downs in her life to help someone else who might not have to go through the same thing in the same way and to educate the rest of us about the transgendered reality.

The day concluded with a spectacular slide-tape presentation from ACCKWA (The Aids Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener, and Waterloo Association). Safe sex fatigue is a danger with youth becoming tired of constantly hearing about AIDS and the "safety" of taking the cocktail. A new AIDS campaign from AIDS Vancouver will hopefully reach as many people as possible.

Thanks go to all of our speakers for presenting a wonderful and varied series of enjoyable and informative workshops!

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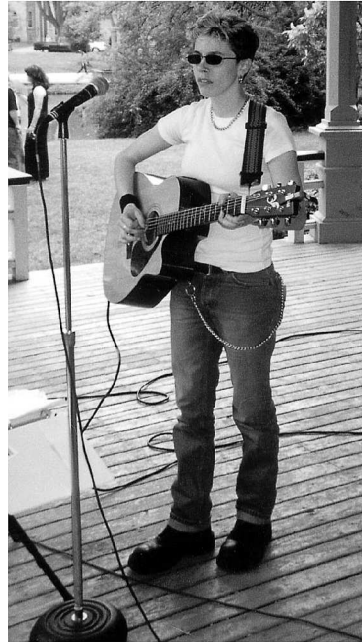
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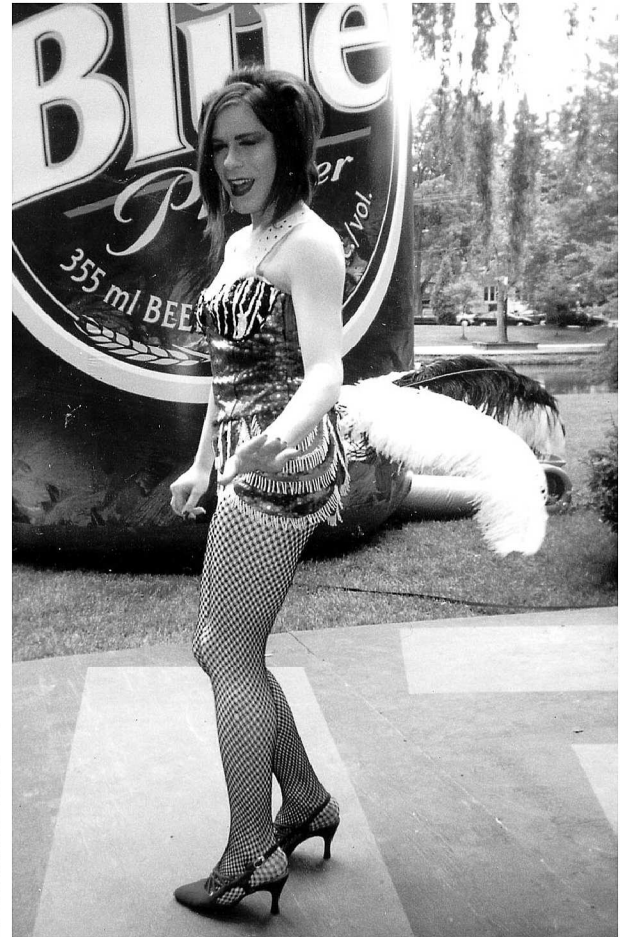
Wide Variety of Performers Rock Roos Island on Pride Day 2002!



Drag King Hector pumped up the testosterone level on Roos Island!



Local singer sarah colleen dillon brought her guitar and silky voice.



Local drag performer and radio celeb Muffy St. Bernard shook her tail feathers and wowed the crowd before being named Queen of Pride Day. Other local drag talent also included performances by the lovely and extraordinarily talented Victoria Park!



The Strap-Ons, a London, Ontario based band were the hit of the day! The Strap-Ons consist of Wanda Butler (lead singer), Pam Armstrong (guitarist and songwriter), Deanna McNeil (bass guitarist) and Eva Havaris (drummer)



The Woman to Woman Chorus closed the Pride Day 2002 Celebrations with an amazing set showcasing their great vocal harmonies and range.

Special thanks go to our lovely and gracious hosts for Pride Day 2002: Enza "Supermodel" Anderson and Morgan James!

Thanks For The Memories: Pride 2002

by Craig Hunter

There's No Place Like Home seemed like a good slogan when it was selected. In fact, it grew into a festival that everyone could be proud of. Following the highly successful introduction of the Pride Art Show, Film Fest, Columbia Lake Bonfire and the Community Dance, this year well over 2000 participants attended our Pride Day celebration in the park.

The WWRP expanded the venue to include the entire grounds of Roos Island and have received many thanks from participants and attendees about the layout. We were able to include many more vendors and for the first time ever a Children's area. I don't believe the island has ever looked as festive as this year and I have to thank Dave Oleson and his crew of volunteers. They did an incredible job of decorating the grounds. Thanks also go to HireTech and DJ Bad Weather. Jay Moore ran the vendor and info area and should get kudos for expanding this part of the

event and the smooth organization for all involved. I also have to thank Stephanie Woodland for her efforts to create the Children's area. She engineered games based upon the ideas of diversity and LGBT issues and gave the young participants an enjoyable experience while following ECE guidelines and providing an educational edge.

Richard Sickinger organized the entertainment, which was top of the line. He was able to include a diverse mix of performers, all of a level to be proud of. Whether it was bands, singers, word artists or drag, all the artists were enjoyed by the audience and raised the bar on live entertainment for the WWRP. Special thanks to Bruno for his work managing the performers all day. We were proud to crown Muffy St. Bernard the 'Queen of Pride Day' for her untiring support of the efforts of the WWRP. We also have to thank Enza 'Supermodel' Anderson for hosting more of the day than planned and Jay

Moore (aka Morgan James) for filing in as host for the remainder of the day.

One of the information tables was for M.L.T. (Mr. Leather Toronto) and while I had a moment to speak with them, I was surprised when they expressed their thanks for showing them what Pride really means. While they certainly were not willing to give up on the corporate glitz and glam of TO's Pride, they were touched by the inclusiveness and real community spirit of our Pride. They have already requested a table for next year and their only regret was that they were not able to stay for the nighttime party at Club Ren (they say that will also be changed for next year).

Once again, the WWRP has to thank Cheryl, Fran and the Renaissance staff for running the beer garden and PFLAG gets a huge thank you for again shopping for and running the Pride food tables. Thanks to everyone who

volunteered, be it over the last few months or for an hour on the island – none of this could happen with out you.

This could go on and on but the people who deserve thanks and never seem to be the members of the LGBT communities of our area and our supporters from the community at large. You are the reason that these events are run and in the final accounting, you are the reason for their success.

If you have any suggestions, concerns or issues with this year's Pride or the planning of Pride 2003, please contact the WWRP directly at (519) 584-

In closing, I have to say that the highlight of Pride 2002: *There's No Place Like Home* came for me personally, when I was taken aside by a woman I had never met before. She wanted to express her thanks to the WWRP for this year's Pride events. She said, "I have attended every Pride event held over the years in Kitchener, and I want you to know, that this is the first time I have felt Pride."

There is no higher praise and no better reason to get involved.

Plans for Pride 2003 have already begun. Why not call (519) 584- to see how you can be involved!



Well Hung: The 2002 Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride Art Show

As an addition to the fantastic events planned for Pride 2002, the Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride Committee hosted the first Pride Art Show and Exhibition. Muses Café and Mostly Organic Juice Bar Café were the locations that generously offered to showcase local LGBT artists.

A number of people attended the kickoff

reception at both locations on Thursday, June 6.

Work in the show came from the following artists: Sally Gray, Melanie Gillis, Robert Ihrig, Scott N. Schau, Craig Musselman, Glenn Elliott, Michael Gianfrancesco, Craig Hunter, Wynn Paquette and Gerard Brender a Brandis.

The WWRP would like to thank everyone involved!



Patrons at Mostly Organic discuss the merits of various art pieces in the WWRP's recent Pride Art Show, part of the great events during Pride 2002.



Suzanne Botsford takes a moment to reflect on several paintings during the Art Show kick off reception.

Aussie Tough Guy's Single Foray Into Man-Love

submitted by Sydney Brenshaw

The last two films to win the Best Picture Oscar were *Gladiator* (2000) and *A Beautiful Mind* (2001), both starring that strapping Australian man's man, Russell Crowe. A-list actor Crowe, who lives and works on his own ranch, has a tough-guy image and is known as something of a womanizer. He's the epitome of an old-fashioned straight guy, a kind of 21st-century Humphrey Bogart.

So, imagine my pleasure and surprise when I came across *The Sum of Us*, a 1994 Australian production in which Crowe plays a 24-year old gay man who lives with his father. The movie's focus is the relationship between Jeff (Crowe) and his dad Harry (Jack Thompson), and it's not the type of relationship one might expect to see. Harry, a widower who is currently consulting a dating agency, is all man, as straight as they come. Yet, he is not only tolerant of his son's homosexuality, he is entirely accepting of it, and he involves himself in Jeff's life like any father would. The main problem in this father-son dynamic is that Harry is

a bit too nosy when it comes to Jeff's love life.

When it comes to Jeff's romantic endeavors, many of his motivations stem from a childhood memory of his grandmother. As a boy, he happened upon his Gran in bed with her female companion, the two women wrapped sleeping in each other's arms. The sight of them was the most natural thing in the world to Jeff, and he says of it, "It looked like love." Years later, it is this idea of love that he tries to re-create and apply to his own life.

Throughout the movie, both Jeff and Harry address the camera directly, a device borrowed from the play by David Stevens on which the film is based. Used in films, this device can often be awkward and distancing, but these scenes are written and acted confidently enough to actually draw the viewer a little deeper in. The story's filled with frank humour, tenderness, and lots of cool Aussie

slang. Did you know that a gay virgin is a 'woolly woofter'?

As far as sex is concerned, this one's not explicit at all. You do get to see Russell Crowe's ass for a second, but those of you hoping to see him bent over and taking it like a man will be disappointed.

The Sum of Us is available on VHS but, alas, the studio is currently not producing this title on DVD.

Want to share your Pride 2002 pictures with the world? The WWRP is looking for photos from the local Pride Celebrations to add to our website.

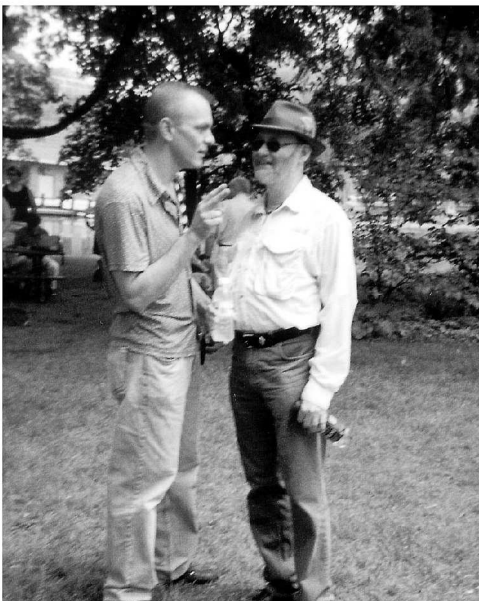
Please send your photos to wrrp@rainbow.on.ca

Say Cheese! Photos From Pride 2002 Island Celebration!

photos by the WWRP



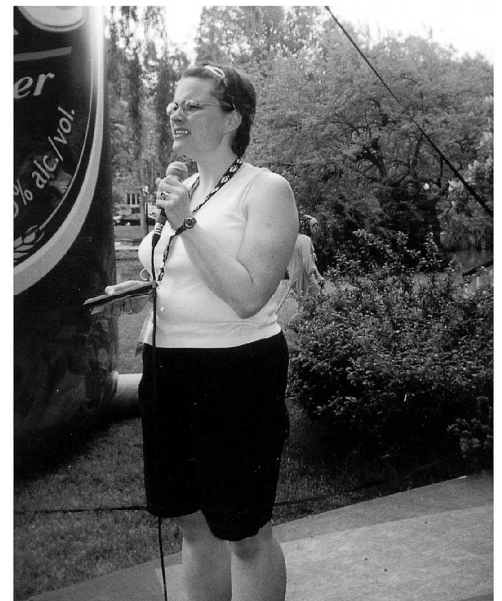
The fabulous Enza "Supermodel Anderson (left) shares a quick laugh with the Mayor of Waterloo, Lynne Woolstencroft (right)



Dave Olesen (left) accepted a 2002 Community Award on behalf of the Robin's Nest. He is seen here speaking with Jim Parrott (right).



Pride 2002 saw tons of people sitting on the island, enjoying the sunshine and the great line up of entertainment!



Stephanie Woodland proudly accepted a 2002 Community Award on behalf of Bread and Roses Co-operative Homes (Kitchener) Inc.

Pride 2002: There's No Place Like Home! Island Fun in the Park!



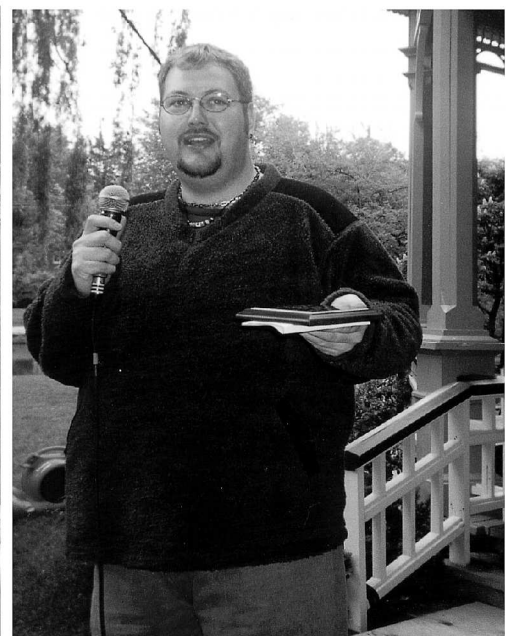
Everyone had a blast in the Children's Area, including our cheerful volunteers! Special thanks to Stephanie Woodland and her staff for coordinating our first ever Children's Area. It was a hit with everyone – young and old(er) who stopped by for a visit!



The Mayor of Waterloo, Lynne Woolstencroft (right) took a moment to chat with WWRP President Craig Hunter (left) before presenting a 2002 Community Award in memory of her friend, Greg Cassidy.



The gang from the Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo & Area PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) chapter staffed the BBQ area. Special thanks go to Evie and friends for all their hard work at this year's event!

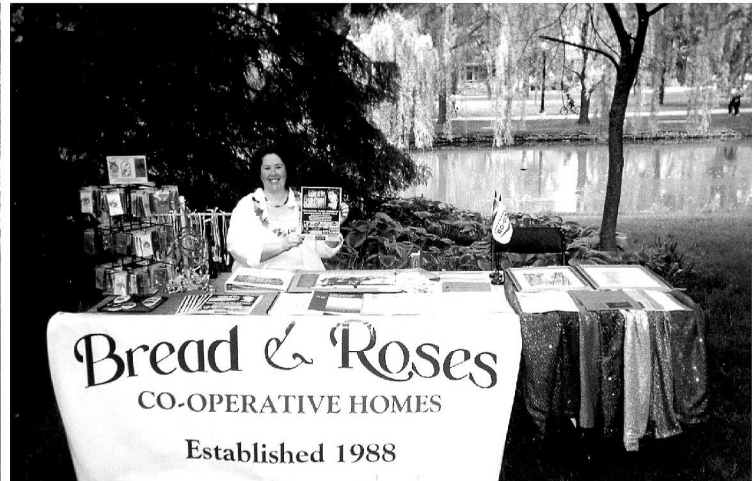


Scott N. Schau made a short speech while he accepted a 2002 Community Award.

Lions and Tigers and Bears – Oh My! More Snapshots from Pride Day!



ACCKWA was among the large number of Community Groups and Vendors represented at Pride 2002!



Bread and Roses Co-operative Homes, one of this year's Community Award Winners, also had a booth at Pride 2002.



The "chaps" representing Mr. Leather Toronto were on hand to keep WWRP President Craig Hunter under control!



Pride Day 2002 on Roos Island could not have been the success that it was without the efforts of the volunteers and our set up and tear down crews! An amazing job was done by these people – all of whom donated their time and energy. Thank you all so much!

The Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride Committee would like to thank all the Vendors and Community Groups who participated in Pride 2002!

Special thanks also go to everyone who volunteered during the Pride Celebrations.

Shaking Those Ruby Slippers At The WWRP Community Pride Dance!

The first ever Community Pride Dance held at the Bridgeport Community Centre was a smashing success. Approx. 150 people attended this event, many staying until the wee hours of the morning when we all looked like flying monkeys! Kudos to Richard Sickinger and his team of volunteers for the outstanding decorations and an amazing evening. DJ Bad Weathers kept the crowd on the dance floor by playing several amazing sets for the crowd, including requests.



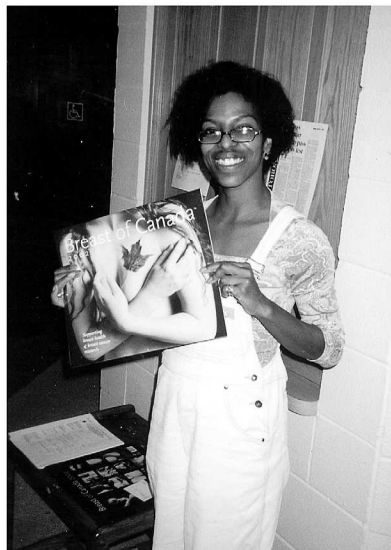
As you can tell from these photos, EVERYONE had a fun time!



George Coursey (right) takes a short break from his volunteer duties to pose for our cameras with one of three flying monkeys that "crashed" the WWRP Pride Dance.



Something tells me that's going to hurt in the morning!



Complimentary copies of the Breast of Canada calendars were available!

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2002 Committee Awards Presented at Pride Day

Each year, the Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride Committee takes the time to recognize those special individuals and groups that make a difference in our GLBT community.

In 2001, the Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride Committee recognized four groups last year with community service awards: GLOW (University of Waterloo), GLOBAL (University of Wilfred Laurier), Muses Cafe and Mostly Organic Juice Bar Café.

This year, the Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride Committee opened the Award Nomination Process to members of the community at large.

The criteria for the nominations this year was very simple: the individual or group must live/have lived in Waterloo-Wellington County, must be supportive of the GLBT community and must have made a positive contribution to the local GLBT community.

Awards were presented on Sunday, June 9 during our local Pride Celebrations on Roos Island in Kitchener's fabulous Victoria Park.

Here are the recipient's of the 2002 Committee Awards:

Gregory (Greg) Cassidy was a Residence Don at the University of Waterloo and active with student government as well as an undergraduate in Environmental Science. In 1991 he was elected to the ACCKWA Board of Directors. Between 1991 and 1993, he served as Vice President and President.

Greg also sat on the Board of KW Oktoberfest and on the Board of the Waterloo Public Library, where he was

instrumental in the *AdoptaMagazine* program (Chair in 1993). Greg worked as Circulation Manager for the Waterloo Chronicle (1983-1993) and was pursuing a Masters of Library Science at the University of Toronto. In 1994, he was named Class President.

Greg Cassidy died December 5, 1995, of complications due to AIDS. The Toronto Faculty of Library Sciences has since named a new computer lab after Greg.

The Robin's Nest is located in Cambridge at 26 Hobson Street and is open on Saturdays. The Robin's Nest is one of the area's longest running GLBT establishment boasting more than 20 years of service to the local community. Operating as a private members club open to members and their guests, Annie Nixon and the Robin's Nest have continued to provide a safe and enjoyable atmosphere for the GLBT community.

Call the Robin's Nest at 621-2688 for membership availability.

Bread and Roses Co-operative Homes, a 66 unit federal program Housing Co-operative in Kitchener's downtown core houses people and families of all types as a democratically run member-driven corporation entering their fifteenth year of operation. Based in an adapted historic site with a six-story tower, Bread and Roses has long been a supporter of the local LGBT communities.

When Bread and Roses was in the planning stages, the original Board of

Directors entered into an agreement with the AIDS Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo and Area to continually house a minimum of two families/people living with HIV/AIDS. To date, more than \$250,000.00 of Rent Geared to Income subsidies for persons with HIV/AIDS has been administered.

Bread and Roses Co-op is the only Housing Co-operative with this type of agreement in the Central Ontario Co-operative Housing Federation (covering the cities of Kitchener, Waterloo, Guelph, Cambridge and Brantford).

Scott N. Schau has played an active role in our community for several years. He was involved with the local Pride Committee from 1997 to 2000, and was very heavily involved from 1998 to 2000 when he served as Chair of the Committee. He has also been the organizing force behind the Rainbow Community Conversation Group over the last few years. Scott N. Schau was also one of the artists featured in the WWRP's Art Show and Exhibition this year.

The Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride Committee would like to thank everyone who took the time to submit a nomination. The Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride Committee would also like to congratulate the award winners.

Want to share your Pride 2002 pictures with the world? The WWRP is looking for photos from the local Pride Celebrations to add to our website.

Please send your photos to wwrp@rainbow.on.ca

The Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride Committee Wants to Thank:

All the great volunteers!!

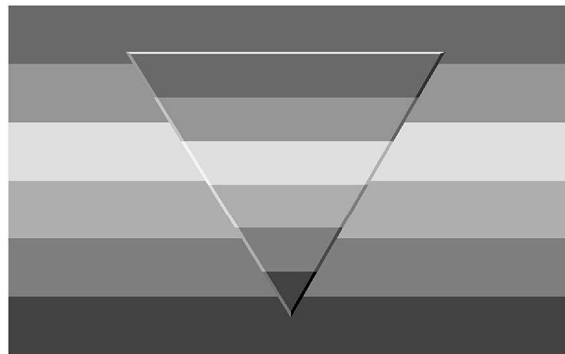
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 Bruno Gonsalves
 Canadian Labour Congress
 Carl Zehr, Mayor of Kitchener
 CAW Canada
 CAW London
 Cheryl Neill
 Chris Weathers (our DJ)
 Christina Edwards
 CLGRO
 Club Redevous
 Club Toronto
 COCHF
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 Country Hills Co-op
 Cowboys and Angels
 Craig Musselman
 Dani Roloson
 Dave Olesen
 Dave Vervoort
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 Jean Paul Pilon
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 Ken Seiling
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 KW Labour Council
 KW Sexual Assault Support Centre
 Kwik Kopy
 Labatt's
 Linda Reith
 Linda's Pawsitive Training
 Lynne Woolstencroft, Mayor of Waterloo
 M Bar
 Melanie Gillis
 Michael Gianfrancesco
 Millenium Signs & Banners
 Mostly Organic
 Mr Leather Toronto
 Muffy St. Bernard
 Nunn's Hollow
 OPIRG McMaster
 People's Car Co-op
 PFLAG

Pogo's Restaurant
 Princess Cinema
 Rainbow Chorus
 Reinhart Chiropractic
 Remington's
 Revival
 Robert Ihrig
 Sally Gray
 sarah colleen dillon
 Scott N. Schau
 She Devils On Heels
 Shelly Durocher
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 Southern Ontario Conference Centre
 Spartan Nutrition
 Stag Shop
 Stratford Festival Company
 Stratford Festival staff
 Stride Print
 Sue Richards
 Tab A Slot B Productions
 The 519 Community Centre
 The Black Eagle
 The Bookshelf
 The Chain Mail Guy
 The Embassy
 The Good Life
 The Pride of Niagara B&B
 The Princess Theater
 The Robin's Nest

The Strap-ons
 The Tallardians
 The Waterview Inn
 The WERX
 The Windsor
 Thom Ryan
 Tim Horton's
 Tony Wojnowski
 Wandering Minstral
 Waterloo Community Health Dept
 Waterloo Inn
 Waterloo Regional Library (main branch)
 Winfield Co-op
 Woman to Woman Chorus
 Wordsworth Books
 WOUF
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 Zehrs
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAYS

KW FRIENDS OF DOROTHY 10 PIN COSMIC BOWLING LEAGUE. The only Gay/Gay Positive Bowling League in the Tri-City Area meets every Sunday at 3:00pm at Fredrick Brunswick Lanes at 385 Frederick St., Kitchener. For more info, contact Jason Boyko at 578-██████████ or friendsofdorothy_kw@hotmail.com

THE CAFE AT THE END OF THE UNIVERSE READING SERIES is presented on the **first Sunday of the month** at The Dalby House at 143 Metcalfe Street in Elora. The group convenes in the historic and funky downstairs room known as The Coal Bin at 7:00 pm. For more information about the readings and/or The Cafe at the End of the Universe Reading Series, contact Gordon Gilhuly at (519) 576-██████████ or by email at ██████████

SHE DEVILS ON HEELS! A local radio show devoted to the joy of drag, music, entertainment, and current events hosted by the always civil and mostly entertaining Muffy St. Bernard and Venus Flytrap. Tune in to hear what's going on in the world as they know it. They also try to bring in surprise special guests! The show is broadcast **every second Sunday** from 10pm until midnight. You can hear it on CKMS FM (100.3 FM), or catch the web broadcast at: <http://watserv1.uwaterloo.ca/~ckmsinfo/webcast.html>

WEDNESDAYS

GLOW COMING-OUT DISCUSSION GROUP All are welcome to join us on the **first and third Wednesday of every month**. This group provides a safe and supportive environment to discuss coming-out experiences. Hagey Hall 373 - 7:00 pm. Social follows at 8:30pm at the Grad House on the UW campus, no cover.

POETS ON THE RUN - Part of the Freshly Squeezed Readings Series. Held **every Wednesday** at Mostly Organic Juice Bar Café (119 King St., downtown Kitchener) at 8:00 p.m. Hosted by James P. McAuliffe.

PINK COFFEE HOUSE meets **every Wednesday** from 9:30pm to 11:00pm at Muse's Cafe at King St in Kitchener. A place to meet and play games with other GBLT folks. Come for board games and cards, and socialize.

FRIDAYS

Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. Call the WWRP at (519) 584-██████████ for details.

OTHER EVENTS

London HALO Pride: **July 5-14**. Visit www.pride.london.on.ca for complete details.

The Imperial Court of Hamilton Wentworth presents a Beach Party at the WERX (121 Hughson Street N) in Hamilton on **August 3**

Check out the W.W.R.P. website at www.rainbow.on.ca and take the Pride 2002 Survey.

Tell us what you thought about Pride 2002: There's No Place Like Home!

If you would like your group or event listed in the August edition of Pride Pages, please submit your information to our email address wrrp@rainbow.on.ca

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Club Renaissance, ACCKWA, Mostly Organic Juice Bar Café, Muses Café, KW Bookstore, Kitchener Public Library (main branch)

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