

# The Common Thread

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The Newsletter for *FIGHTING AIDS CONTINUOUSLY TOGETHER*  
Serving the Lehigh Valley and Pocono Area For 25 Years!

Winter ~ 2011

[www.factlv.org](http://www.factlv.org)

P.O. BOX 1028  
ALLENTOWN, PA 18105

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## 24<sup>th</sup> Annual FACT Snowball & 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner

The cold evening temperatures on December 5, 2010, did not have an affect on the warm atmosphere and elegant surroundings of The Meadows in Hellertown, the new venue of the FACT Snowball for 2010 and the celebration of FACT's 25th Anniversary! Upon entering the Mainball room of the Meadows, guests were greeted by the soft piano music of Stevie Z and the warm glow of the roaring fires that burned in the fireplaces that flanked the room. A scrumptious never ending table of Hors-d'œuvre were the talk of the night as one dish would empty and a server would replenish the supply! The invocation and blessing was given by Rev. Eugene Hamilton, a Methodist Minister and new FACT board member. Dinner was served equally as impressive as each course was brought out in what seemed to be perfectly timed to the pace of the evening. The Silent Auctions tables were busy throughout the night and appeared to run very smoothly. The auctions closed just before dessert and winning bids were tabulated. Auctions items were made available immediately at the end of the evening and claimed as people left the event. As dinner progressed, attendees were also serenaded by the sounds of KATO! KATO has performed at FACT events in the past and this year their music and assistance as MC, kept everyone's feet tapping and the dance floor

moving! This year's recipients of the Annual Presidents Award were Liz Bradbury and Patricia Sullivan in recognition of their support of the HIV/AIDS community. The Annual Rainbow Award was presented to Joey Zapach for his service to FACT and the HIV/AIDS Community! After expenses FACT made over \$5000. at this years Snowball! We are grateful to all of the donors and attendees who helped us celebrate our 25th Anniversary in grand style! We also thank the staff of The Meadow's who seemed to go the extra mile in making our evening such a great celebration!

**Below are Photo's of The Snowball!**



### More pictures of the FACT Snowball!



### FACT WEEKLY SUNDAY BINGO AT DIAMONZ!

FACT will be sponsoring a weekly, FACT Bingo, every Sunday afternoon, beginning at 4:00 p.m. The BINGO's will begin on Sunday February 13, 2011, and weekly thereafter! Each game board will be \$1.00 and you may purchase as many boards as you like for each game! There will be cash prizes available! There will be one Special Grand Prize Game played each week with a progressively building Jack Pot! Food will be available for purchase from the kitchen at Diamonz and FACT Raffle Tickets will also be available for purchase! FACT is grateful to Lenora and the staff of Diamonz for providing the opportunity for this weekly BINGO benefit for FACT to take place! As FACT continues the celebration of our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year, consider coming out to Diamonz for a Sunday afternoon of BINGO! Diamonz is located at 1913 West Broad Street in Bethlehem. There is plenty of parking in the lot behind the Club!

### The FACT 25th Anniversary Raffle!!!

The FACT 25th Anniversary Raffle is now underway! In mid-November everyone on our mailing list was sent two raffle tickets and the returns have been coming in! This is a really exciting time for FACT and this raffle is being looked on not only as a great fundraising opportunity for FACT, but also a way for everyone to be involved in celebrating our anniversary by participating in the Raffle! The great prizes that have been arranged have certainly created quite a buzz especially with the grand prize choices of the 6 DAY CRUISE For Two, or 4 day weekend in DUBLIN IRELAND or the \$1200. Cash Prize! Other Prizes include: 2nd. 19" HD TV, 3rd. 250. Savings Bond, 4th. \$100. Savings Bond, 5th. \$50.00 gift Certificate to PRIME Restaurant in Bethlehem. Tickets will be on sale at FACT Events through April. If you still have Raffle Tickets please send them into FACT as soon as possible! If you need additional tickets please call FACT at 610-820-5519 or email Lou James at LJFD1997@aol.com. Tickets are \$5.00 each. Only 3000 tickets will be sold!

### FACT Warehouse Party!!!!

In the Early 1990's, FACT sponsored an event call the Winter Games which was held on the 4th Floor of the Rob-Win Press Printing Company on Trump Street in East Allentown. The event was always a lot of fun and for a while the event was discontinued in order for other events and venues to be utilized. As this is the 25th anniversary for FACT, it was suggested that we revisit one of FACT's favorite venues and through the generosity of Rob-Win Press we will be sponsoring a grand Warehouse Party on April 3, 2011 from 2-6 p.m.!!! The FACT 25th Anniversary Raffle drawing will take place at this event and it will be the last opportunity to purchase your raffle tickets! The raffle drawing will begin at 4:00 p.m. and will continue periodically through the rest of the afternoon! A live band is being arranged for the afternoon and there will be plenty of great food and fun! There will also be an additional 50/50 raffle drawing taking place as part of this event! As event planning continues, watch your mail and the FACT Website for more information as we come closer to the event! Admission to the event will be \$15.00!

### FACT ELECTS NEW BOARD For 2011 and Looks forward to Change with the times!

In November at the annual membership meeting the 2011 board of directors were elected. Our executive board members are: President - Skip Scheetz; Vice President - Lou James; Treasurer - Bryon Reynolds; Secretary- Shawn Deppen. The following board members were elected or will continue to serve: Dan Friedman, Chris Banko, David Moyer, Chris Criswell, Ed Gumina, Carl Mancino, Rev. Eugene Hamilton, Brian Marks.

The face of FACT and the needs the HIV/AIDS Community have changed over the years, as have the communities and economic levels of those who have supported us in past years. Understanding these changes, as well as the suggestions from all of you about making changes to some of our trade mark events, The board has decided to incorporate some of these ideas into our program. In the coming months, you will see a number of changes taking place in some of our events and the venues where events have taking place! This is an exciting time for FACT and the changes that you will be seeing, we hope you will continue to support. FACT will continue to fight until there is a cure. We will continue to be an all volunteer organization and we will continue to be the agency of last resort for people with HIV/AIDS in need. We have never turned down a substantiated request for aid and we will continue, with your help, to grant that help to those in need.

### FACT SUMMER GAMES TO MOVE TO THE WOODS CAMP GROUND!!!

For 25 years FACT has been blessed to be able to hold the FACT Summer Games at Rainbow Mountain Resort in Marshall's Creek. Angelo and his staff have been very gracious to us and FACT owes a very great debt of thanks to Rainbow Mountain for everything they have done to host the FACT Summer Games. In the last 5 years people who attend the Games have made the recommendation that FACT should look at other venues for the Games. The Board has considered moving the Games in the past, but really there were no other facilities in the area that provided the space needed by FACT. Recently a group had made a formal request to FACT to be considered as a possible site for the FACT Summer Games. After much discussion the Board voted to move the location of the 2011 FACT Summer Games to The Woods Camp Ground in Lehigh, PA! This will promise to be an exciting time for FACT And the 26th Annual FACT

Summer Games as this event will now become a weekend event beginning of Friday evening September 9th with opportunity to come to the Woods for a cocktail party/carnival atmosphere, followed by a carnival day of games of chance as well as raffles, silent auctions and food and fun presented in a way only the Woods Can present! Sunday of course will continue to be the traditional team events and it is hope that we will be able to reach out to the area colleges to form teams to participate in the Games! Admission prices for the Games on Sunday, which will be our main day of events, will continue to be purchased for \$15.00 prior to the Summer Games and \$20.00 at the gate on the day of the games. We hope you will support FACT in this move to The Woods and look forward to seeing you at the event! Please watch your mail and the FACT Website for more information closer to the Summer!

### **Board Members Wanted!**

FACT is always looking for new members to serve on our board! If you would be interested in serving on the board of FACT, please contact, Carl Mancino, at the FACT office: 610-820-5519 or email him at Carlmancino@aol.com. He will explain to you what would be necessary and how much time would be required. You will be asked to submit a general summary explaining to the board who you are and why you would like to come onto the board. We are always looking for new fundraising ideas and new ways of spicing up our regular events! The FACT Board is an all volunteer working board. It is an awesome way to give back to your community and make new friends in the process!

### **Have you Moved or Are you on the FACT Email List???**

You can help FACT save money by notifying us if you move or change your address! Please call the FACT Office at 610-820-5519 and leave a message with your full name, old address and new mailing address or mail us a note to FACT, P.O. Box 1028, Allentown PA 18105. This will help us keep our mailing list up to date and keep you informed of the events and activities of FACT. FACT has also begun regular e-mailings with updates and reminders for events, as well as general news about FACT! If you would like to be on our Email List, please sign up by going to our website: [www.factlv.org](http://www.factlv.org). There will be a link on the page to join our mailing list. You can also add FACT to you Facebook account! Just look for FACT and add us! Updates and event reminders will also be sent through this service as well!

### **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!!**

With all of the changes FACT will be instituting in this coming year and with the changes in venue of some of our major events, we need your help! If you are planning to attend an event please volunteer an hour or two of your time while you are there! What a great way to not only help FACT, but meet new friends and show your support for people infected/affected by HIV/AIDS. FACT always has the need for volunteers outside of events also. Right now we need volunteers for the weekly Bingo's to be held at Diamonz in February. If you would like to volunteer, or to help with a mailing, or staff an information table or any other areas, please contact Bryon Reynolds at FACT: 610-820-5519 or contact him through our website at: [www.factlv.org](http://www.factlv.org)

### **Don't Forget to Renew Your FACT Membership for 2011!!!!**

There will be many great things happening in 2011 as we continue to celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> year!!! For a donation of \$15.00 or more, members will receive advance notice of all our F.A.C.T. sponsored events and benefits for one year. You will be added to or retained on our mailing list, and receive quarterly issues of our newsletter, Intentionally, F.A.C.T. does not offer items of value to it's members in exchange for membership so that 100% of your donation is tax deductible. Membership may be renewed at our website or at any FACT Event!

### **House Parties!!!!**

As we come closer to Spring, and summer, consider helping FACT by hosting a House Party or making a donation jar available for your friends to make a donation to FACT! A house Party to benefit FACT need not be anything elaborate. Sometimes just a container for people to make a donation to FACT is all that is necessary! If you would like more information on how to sponsor a party for FACT, please call the FACT office at 610-820-5519.

### **Watch your Mail and FACT Website For these Up Coming Events For 2011!!**

**February 13th** at 4pm each week BINGO at Diamonz!

**March** ~ Joint Bowling With Pride, location to be announced.

**April 3rd** ~ Warehouse Party and Raffle Drawing

**May** ~ Krazy Karaoke benefiting FACT, PDN & GMC

**September 9-11** ~ 26th Annual FACT Summer Games Weekend at The Woods Camp Ground

**October 2nd** ~ FACT Lehigh Valley AIDS Walk

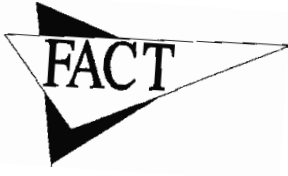
**October** ~ FACT BINGO date to be announced

**December 4th** ~ 25th Annual Snowball, location to be announced.

### **Our Mission Statement**

FACT is an organization of concerned people committed to raising money to assist individuals and families affected by HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, and to conquer the HIV/AIDS crisis within the Lehigh Valley and surrounding communities. FACT identifies, supports and monitors programs that provide direct and educational services within the communities. FACT's mission is to alleviate suffering and reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS and to provide an improved quality of life to those affected by HIV/AIDS.

FACT is a registered not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization. The official registration and financial information for Fighting AIDS Continuously Together may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free (within PA) 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



Fighting AIDS  
Continuously Together  
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## Watch for our Upcoming Events



February 13th at 4pm each week BINGO at Diamonz!  
March ~ Joint Bowling With Pride - Location to be announced.  
April 3rd ~ Warehouse Party and Raffle Drawing at Rob-Win Press, East Allentown  
May ~ Krazy Karaoke At Diamonz, benefiting FACT, PDN and GMC  
September 9-11 ~ 26th Annual FACT Summer Games Weekend at The Woods Camp Ground  
October 2nd ~ FACT Lehigh Valley AIDS Walk in Bethlehem  
October ~ FACT BINGO date to be announced  
December 4th ~ 25th Annual Snowball - Location to be announced.

