

# The Common Thread

Phone: 610-820-5519

Fax: 610-820-8363

The Newsletter for *FIGHTING AIDS CONTINUOUSLY TOGETHER*

Summer Edition ~ 2009

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

P.O. BOX 1028  
ALLENTOWN, PA 18105

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### FACT/Pride Disco Bowl!!!!

FACT and Pride of the Lehigh Valley, joined forces in a bowling fundraiser, on Saturday, May 30, 2009! The fun filled evening was held at the AMF Parkway Lanes, 630 S. 12<sup>th</sup> Street Allentown. This exciting event raiser over \$2200! "It was a great time!" said Eddie Gumina, a co-chair of the event. In addition to Bowling, were raffle prizes and a 50/50 drawing as well as fellowship and fun shared by the attendees!

### FACT SUMMER GAMES 2009!!!

It's Almost time for The FACT Summer Games 2009!!! The Summer Games will be held on Sunday, September 13, 2009, at Rainbow Mountain Resort in the Pocono's! This will be our 24<sup>th</sup> year for the games and this year's event promises to be one of our best. We have had enquiries from groups interested in forming teams and we have an expanded our program and opportunities for fun. If you and your friends would like to form a team and compete or if you have a team and need a business to sponsor your group, contact FACT at 610-820-5519 and let us know how we can help you! We are registering teams right now! So, don't procrastinate!

Get your team together and start practicing now! Watch your mail for additional information regarding the Summer Games. Announcements will be sent out in early August!

### AIDS Memorial Quilt Display At the FACT Summer Games 2009.

In early June 2009, FACT received word that our request to display 5 blocks of the AIDS Memorial Quilt was granted. As has become tradition, It will be displayed at the FACT Summer Games 2009. "we received several requests for local panels to be displayed this year and we have been assured that the NAMES Project will do it's best to fulfill those requests" said, Lou James, Quilt chairperson.

If you know someone who has died from HIV/ AIDS and you would like to create a panel in their memory, Please contact Lou James at the FACT office, 610-820-5519 or email him at [LJFD1997@aol.com](mailto:LJFD1997@aol.com) He will provide you with the paperwork and instructions on how to make the quilt panel and arrange for it's display at the Summer Games. New panels will be dedicated at The closing ceremony of the games and sent to the NAMES Project to be added to the AIDS Memorial Quilt. The NAMES Project requires an honorarium for all displays of the quilt which help in it's storage and maintenance. If you would like to sponsor a portion of this honorarium, please contact , Lou James.

### KRAZY KARAOKE DRAWS A CROWD TO DIAMONZ IN BETHLEHEM!!!

Sunday, May 17, 2009, Bethlehem was rocked by the sounds of Krazy Karaoke! This was a joint fund raising event co-sponsored by FACT, LVGMC and PDN! The evening was hosted by Brian Marks of the LVGMC, Liz Bradbury of PDN and Pearl E. Gates of FACT! The fun filled musical evening went by quickly as the contestants were judged for best soloist, duo and group. There was also even an award for worst rendition! In all the event was a lot of fun and everyone enjoyed the efforts of the contestants as well as the entertainment provided between sets by our hosts and those just wishing to sing! The event raised over \$1100. for the three groups! A fabulous buffet was prepared compliments of

Diamondz! FACT is most grateful to Lenora and her Staff at Diamondz hosting the event and for her efforts to make the event a success!

long time dedication to the community and his activism and fund raising efforts.



Judges prepare to vote as they listen intently to the Karaoke Singers!



Brian Marks (left) receives his award by PDN

## TAKEOVER LEHIGH VALLEY Sponsors FACT Fundraiser!

A Beach Party took place in Bethlehem as TAKEOVER converted American Hairlines, Bethlehem, into a tropical paradise! The event sponsored by TAKEOVER and assisted by FACT took place on June 19, 2009. A scrumptious buffet along with wine and beer greeted guests who made a \$15. donation to FACT. A 50/50 raffle was also held through the night and proceeds donated to FACT. FACT is grateful to TAKEOVER and to American Hairlines for providing this great opportunity for FACT to not only raise funds, but also to make people aware of who FACT is and the importance of supporting our all volunteer organization.



Best singing group award was won by Lee Gribbin's on Main in Emmaus. Here the group poses with their award.



Revelers enjoy the evening at Takeover Fundraiser for FACT

## FACT Board Member Honored For Service to the Community!

On June 23, 2009, the Pennsylvania Diversity Network (PDN), honored member of the GLBT Community in it's second annual awards ceremony, held at the Allentown Brewworks! Among those honored this year was FACT President, Brian Marks! He received an award for his

## How Can I Help FACT???

Anyone is welcome to help FACT! With the Summer upon us, one way to help FACT is by hosting a FACT House Party. All that is requested is that FACT be notified of the benefit. A Fact House Party does not need to be anything elaborate. Sometimes, just a simple fishbowl placed for attendees to place a donation or a set minimum donation is all that is needed. More elaborate events are also welcome! All you need is a

little imagination! Holiday time or summer barbeques are great times to hold a house party. Remember, the money you raise for FACT may help to put food on the table, assist someone with a rent payment or pay for a life sustaining medication of someone infected/affected by HIV/AIDS. Please contact FACT for further information or questions on how to hold a house party.

### **Inner-City Health Fair Success!**

An Inner-City Ecumenical Health Fair was held on May 2, 2009, at the Cumberland Gardens Boys Club in Allentown. FACT provided an information table and an opportunity for residents to ask questions about FACT and the services that we provide to people infected with/by HIV/AIDS. Confidential HIV testing was also available, as well as blood pressure, body fat index, cholesterol and other tests provided at no cost. The event was sponsored by the Allentown Health Bureau.

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

We need your help!!! As you can see, we have had a very busy spring and now summer! We can not possibly accomplish what we need to without your help! FACT is an all volunteer organization. If you are planning to attend an event please volunteer an hour 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. If you would like to volunteer 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). Currently, FACT is in great need of volunteers for The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual FACT Summer Games! If you would be interested in selling raffle tickets or would like to help out on the day of the Summer Games, please Contact Bryon Reynolds!

### **Welcomes New Board Members!!!**

FACT recently welcomed two new members to our board! Theresa Whitney, was voted onto the board in May 2009 and Joe Lesko was voted onto the board in June 2009! Theresa and Joe will be a welcome addition to our board and bring with them a wealth of experience and enthusiasm. When you see them at a FACT event, please make them feel welcome. If you would be interested in serving on the board of FACT, please contact Carl Mancino at the FACT office at: 610-820-5519. He will explain to you what would be necessary and how much time would be required. You will be asked to submit a copy of your resume or a summary explaining to the board who you are and why you would like to come onto the board.

### **SNOWBALL 2009 Has A New Venue!**

Snowball 2009 will be held Sunday, December 6, 2009. This event has always been a favorite of supporters of

FACT and with the newly expanded planning committee for the event a fun time pretty much a guarantee! The event will be held at the historic Hotel Bethlehem on Main Street, in Bethlehem. A roaring 20's theme is being looked at! Please watch your quarterly Newsletter and your mail for more details!

### **FACT - LEHIGH VALLEY AIDS WALK**

FACT-Lehigh Valley AIDS Walk 2009, will be held in Bethlehem, on October 4, 2009, beginning with registration at 11:00 a.m., in the Bethlehem Rose Garden on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue between West Broad Street and Union Blvd. If you need information about individual or team walkers or would like to help, please contact Dave Moyer at FACT: 610-820-5519!

### **FACT BINGO At Pride in The Park!**

Lehigh Valley Pride will be on Sunday, August 16, 2009, from 12 noon to 6:00 p.m. in Cedar Beach Park, Allentown. Please join FACT for a game of BINGO while you show your pride and help support FACT, as well as those infected with or by HIV/AIDS!

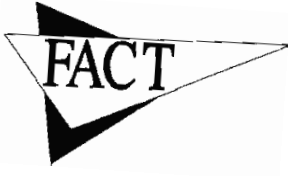
### **TONS of FUN AT The Woods Camp Ground Raises Money for FACT!**

Tons of fun was hosted by the Woods Camp Ground on Saturday, June 20, 2009! The benefit was sponsored by the Woods Camp Ground and hosted by Dame Betty, Pearl E. Gates and Silvia Silverberg! \$560. was raised in the benefit! Free HIV testing was provided earlier in the day as well as educational opportunities for campers. Thank You Woods Camp Ground! Your support for FACT and efforts to provide education and care for people who come to your camp ground brings home what it means to Fight AIDS Continuously Together!

### **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.



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Allentown, PA 18105

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## *Watch for our Upcoming Events*

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August 16, 2009 ~ BINGO at Pride in The Park  
September 13, 2009 ~ FACT Summer Games  
October 4, 2009 ~ FACT Lehigh Valley AIDS Walk  
November 16, 2009 ~ FACT General Membership Meeting  
December 6, 2009 ~ Snowball

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