



Aug., 15 2008

<http://www.libertybears.net>

Bear Essentials

The Official Newsletter of the Liberty Bears of Philadelphia

Thanks sent from Calcutta House, Mountain Meadow and Mazzoni Center

The Liberty Bears of Phila. received three letters of thanks acknowledging our recent donations to Calcutta House, Mountain Meadow, and Mazzoni Center.

Joseph H. Tozzi, Calcutta House Grants Officer, wrote: "On behalf of the residents, staff, volunteers and Board of Calcutta House, I wish to express our most sincere appreciation to Liberty Bears Philadelphia for its recent generous gift of \$1,000.

"We are deeply grateful for the funding your organization has provided to help us meet the special housing and supportive services we provide to vulnerable, homeless adult men and women living and dying of HIV/AIDS. Through their participation in Calcutta House's programs and services, these individuals are learning to live independently again. For those who come to Calcutta House in the end stages of AIDS, compassionate care is provided.

"Again, our grateful thanks to your wonderful organization."

Steve Duffy, Executive Director of Mountain Meadow, wrote: "Thank you for your continued support of Mountain Meadow. Your contribution of \$1000 is greatly needed and appreciated, and reflects your collective commitment to supporting youth with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) families.



"Our new membership program at Mountain Meadow will recognize the cumulative gifts of individuals, groups and businesses. We will forward information on your cumulative gift some time soon.



"Our programs make a huge difference in the lives of young people growing up in LGBTQ families. Your generous support truly makes our

work possible.

"Thank you so much!"

Editor's Note: See "Just Ask the Badger" on p. 2 for more info on Calcutta House and Mountain Meadow.

6-11-08

Dear Liberty Bears -
Thank you for your generous donation to our client transportation fund! We have already put your donation to good use!!!

The HIV/AIDS Case manager of Mazzoni Center

upcoming events:

SAT., Sept. 6, 2008: NEW CLUB YEAR BEGINS!*

General Meeting, 5pm-6pm in the PIT at the Bike Stop;

SAT., Sept. 6, 2008: Social, 6pm-10pm at the Bike Stop, main bar; Beach Blanket Bingo!

SAT., Nov. 1, 2008: General Meeting, 5pm-6pm in the PIT at the Bike Stop;

SAT., Nov. 1, 2008: Social, 6pm-10pm at the Bike Stop, main bar; theme to be announced.

*Just a reminder to full members and associate members: Yearly Club dues is payable at our Sept. meeting.



Gotta Question? Just Ask The Badger

Dear Badger,

Can you tell me a bit about the three organizations to which The Liberty Bears donated funds in June. Nosy

Dear Nosy,

This year, The Liberty Bears donated \$500 to Mazzoni Center and \$1000 each to Calcutta House and Mountain Meadow. Here's a bit about each:

The Mazzoni Center's mission is to "To provide quality comprehensive health and wellness services in an LGBT-focused environment, while preserving the dignity and improving the quality of life of the individuals we serve. (For more info go to www.mazzonicenter.org.)

Calcutta House provides "a clean, comfortable, accepting and supportive place for those often ostracized individuals with end-stage AIDS to spend their final months in peace and comfort" as well as serving the "significantly poorer individuals, many with a history of homelessness and often with significant substance abuse and mental health issues... to recover much of their functional ability..." Calcutta House has two facilities, one at 45th and Walnut in West Phila. and the other at 16th and Girard on the northern edge of Center City. (Learn more at: www.calcuttahouse.org.)

Mountain Meadow "is a progressive and diverse community dedicated to providing a supportive and safe space for all children of LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer) and other non-traditional families and their allies. Mountain Meadow creates a safe and supportive community where children of LGBTQ families are empowered to affirm and appreciate family diversity... Through the cultivation of multi-generational relationships, Mountain Meadow will enhance communication skills and cultural acceptance while providing programming specific to awareness and celebration of non-traditional families and their allies. Mountain Meadow instills our children with the confidence to be competent in the face of ignorance and intolerance." (Additional info at: www.mountainmeadow.org.)



Interested in being associated with the Liberty Bears? Come to our general meeting, Sat., Sept. 6, 5pm in the PIT at the Bike Stop.

For New Club Year: >New Executive Committee...

At our June 7, 2008 meeting, The Liberty Bears elected a new slate executives for our club year beginning September 2008 as follows: President, John Blase; Vice President, Gavin Schiffert; Treasurer, Braheem; Secretary, Dave Warden; Social, Dr. Ben North; Road Captain, Dusty Fasanella; Sergeant-at-Arms, Abner Garcia.

We thank our outgoing executives for their hard work and commitment to The Club and the community, and we wish our new executives much success.

>...And New Events Schedule

The schedule of events for The Liberty Bears' 2008-09 year is as follows:

- Sat., Sept. 6, 5pm, Bike Stop, Gen. Mtg.;
- Sat., Sept. 6, 6pm-10pm, Bike Stop, Social; Theme: **Beach Blanket Bingo!**
- Sat., Nov. 1, 5pm, Bike Stop, Gen. Mtg.;
- Sat., Nov. 1, 6pm-10pm, Bike Stop, Social;
- Sat., Jan. 3, 5pm, Bike Stop, Gen. Mtg.;
- Sat., Jan. 3, 6pm-10pm, Bike Stop, Social;
- Sat., Mar. 7, 5pm, Bike Stop, Gen. Mtg.;
- Sat., Mar. 7, 6pm-10pm, Bike Stop, Social;
- **Fri., Apr. 24 & Sat. Apr. 25, Top of the Bike Stop, Liberty Bears' 4th Annual Art Show;**
- **SUN., May 2, 5pm, Bike Stop, Gen. Mtg.;**
- **SUN., May 2, 6pm-10pm, Bike Stop, Social;**
- **Fri., May 15-Sun. May 17, various venues, Bears on Liberty Weekend VII;**
- Sat., Mar. 7, 6pm-10pm, Bike Stop, Social;
- Sat., Jul. 11, 5pm, Bike Stop, Gen. Mtg.;
- Sat., Jul. 11, 6pm-10pm, Bike Stop, Social;

***Bingo! Prizes! Beer Specials!
Sat. Sept. 6, 2008, 6pm-10pm
in the Main Bar at the Bike Stop***