



# NEWSLETTER

October 2008  
Annual Meeting Issue

In official relations with the American Public Health Association

## Elections

*By Richard Trevino, MPH - Caucus Chair*

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The first Annual Meeting of APHA that I attended was in November 2003 in San Francisco. During the meeting the Massachusetts Supreme Court's ruled in *Goodridge v. Department of Public Health*. The ruling was on November 18, 2003. November 18<sup>th</sup> is the anniversary of when my husband and I first met. I took it as a good sign. The state began issuing marriage licenses on May 17, 2004. During that time there was an abundance of opposition - organizations rushed to install a ballot question that would ban same-sex marriages. With the formation of The Freedom to Marry Coalition of Massachusetts, and large-scale support from the community, there was an inspiring amount of action that prevented such a ballot question to enter the election - one that would have potentially prevented/rescinded a civil liberty that had already been decided upon by the state Supreme Court.

California is now facing an even battle. We must collectively support positive political action, no matter what state we are from. To do so, we must take advantage of what many in the world today do not. To have our voices be heard, and to make a difference in the states we live in, and the country we call home. I encourage all our membership to go out there and vote. If you are someone that votes on a regular basis, it's always a good time to encourage others in your social circles to vote. Try making it a goal to get at least 5 friends, family, colleagues, or neighbors that haven't voted in the past to go out there and cast their vote. Have a registration field trip, hold voting party, or pick a location for everyone to congregate after hitting the voting booths. Every vote counts - let's stand up and be counted!



## 'Thirty three Years of Fighting Health Disparities' presented at Spirit of 1848 Caucus Event

By Seth Welles, ScD PhD - Program Chair

Dr. Seth Welles will represent the LGBT Caucus of Public Health Workers at a special APHA meeting session sponsored by the Spirit of 1848 Caucus-- 160 years of the Spirit of 1848: Critical reflections, celebration, and inspiration. This session which will take place at the American Public Health Association 136th Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA on Monday, October 27, 2008, in the 4:30 to 6:00 pm. Dr. Welles' presentation, entitled '33 Years of Fighting Health Disparities in LGBT Communities: The LGBT Caucus of Public Health Workers.' In his presentation, Dr. Welles will present the history and mission of our caucus, outline our accomplishments over three decades, and briefly discuss current political/public health challenges facing our communities.

## National Survey on Transgender Discrimination

The National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE) and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force recently launched a comprehensive national survey to measure/record discrimination against transgender people. Data will be collected regarding discrimination in housing, employment, public accommodations, healthcare, education, family life and criminal justice.

"We know that transgender people face discrimination on multiple fronts," said Mara Keisling, executive director of NCTE. "This data will help us sort out the combination of forces that leave transgender people vulnerable to unemployment, homelessness and violence."

<https://online.survey.psu.edu/endtransdiscrim/>

## What happened in 1848?

- *World-wide cholera epidemic*
- *Uprisings in Berlin, Paris, Vienna, Palermo, Milan, Naples, Parma, Rome, Warsaw, Prague, and Budapest; start of Second Sikh war against British in India*
- *In the midst of the 1848 revolution in Germany, Rudolf Virchow founds the medical journal Medical Reform (Medicinishe Reform), and writes his classic "Report on the Typhus Epidemic in Upper Silesia," in which he concludes that preserving health and preventing disease requires "full and unlimited democracy" and radical measures rather than "mere palliatives"*
- *Revolution in France, abdication of Louis Philippe, worker uprising in Paris, and founding of The Second Republic, which creates a public health advisory committee attached to the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce and establishes network of local public health councils*
- *First Public Health Act in Britain, which creates a General Board of Health, empowered to establish local boards of health to deal with the water supply, sewerage, and control of "offensive trades," and also to conduct surveys of sanitary conditions*
- *The newly formed American Medical Association sets up a Public Hygiene Committee to address public health issues*
- *First Women's Rights Convention in the United States, at Seneca Falls*
- *Henry Thoreau publishes Civil Disobedience, to protest paying taxes to support the United State's war against Mexico*
- *Karl Marx and Frederick Engels publish The Communist Manifesto*



## San Diego LGBT Community and Labor Movement Calling for boycott of the San Diego Manchester Grand Hyatt

**UNITEHERE!**

Letter Written by UNITEHERE!

Dear American Public Health Association,

On Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008, the San Diego community has united together to stand up against injustice. A coalition led by the LGBT community and the labor movement in San Diego is bringing attention to San Diego hotelier Doug Manchester and calling for a boycott of Manchester's San Diego hotel, the Manchester Grand Hyatt.

As a customer of the Manchester Grand Hyatt, PAHA is caught in the middle of this contentious labor dispute. It is impossible to predict what will happen under these circumstances and the dispute will continue to escalate as will picketing, demonstrations and other actions outside of the hotel. We are writing to provide you with an update regarding the dispute, so that you can take appropriate measures to protect the 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and ensure a successful stay in San Diego.

Manchester's contribution has brought the LGBT community and the Hotel Workers Union together to fight against all forms of discrimination that Manchester funds and that exist at his Hyatt hotel. In fact, Manchester's funding of the initiative that discriminates against lesbian and gay couples is mirrored by a longer record of discrimination against workers, women and immigrants at the Manchester Grand Hyatt.

- **Against lesbian and gay couples.** Manchester funds (\$125,000) Proposition 8 that discriminates against gay couples' and workers' right to marry.
- **Against women.** Manchester's Hyatt forces housekeepers to clean more rooms than housekeepers at other Hyatt hotels in San Diego.
- **Against immigrants.** Manchester funded President Bush's and former California Governor Pete Wilson's campaigns. Bush campaigns and discriminates against immigrants and so did Wilson when he was Governor.
- **Against all workers.** Manchester's Hyatt does not have a job security guarantee for workers if the property is sold. Other Hyatt hotels have signed that guarantee to protect their workers.

The LGBT community and labor movement in San Diego are calling on Hyatt to fire Manchester for this discrimination. We will not allow our communities, our organizations, and our hard earned dollars to fund injustice.

## UNITEHERE! Letter (continued from page 3)

The American Public Health Association has the ability to do the right thing and not patronize a business that fuels injustice and discrimination within our community. Your business is what allows the injustice to continue and sends a message of tolerance of discrimination and oppression. We urge you to stand with all those fighting against discrimination: San Diego's hotel workers, women, immigrants and LGBT community and honor the boycott.

Sincerely,



Powell DeGange  
(510) 410 5154  
UNITE HERE - Local 30  
3737 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 300  
San Diego, CA

## Faculty Positions Available

*UCSF SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY*  
*UCSF SCHOOL OF MEDICINE*  
*UCSF SCHOOL OF NURSING*  
*UCSF SCHOOL OF PHARMACY*

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UCSF seeks candidates whose experience, teaching, research, or community service has prepared them to contribute to our commitment to diversity and excellence. Faculty are appointed to one of five faculty series, depending on the candidate's academic profile.

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<http://academicaffairs.ucsf.edu/acapers/jobs.php>. If interested in a particular position, please contact us at [academicdiversity@ucsf.edu](mailto:academicdiversity@ucsf.edu)

UCSF is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply. Further information about the University of California, San Francisco, is available at [www.ucsf.edu](http://www.ucsf.edu)



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## Response by Several Caucuses to UNITEHERE! Letter

September 9, 2008

Georges C. Benjamin, MD  
Executive Director  
American Public Health Association  
800 I St, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Dr. Benjamin,

The Labor; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender; Peace, Socialist, and Spirit of 1848 Caucuses in Association with the American Public Health Association and the Occupational Health and Safety Section would like to raise an issue of great concern regarding the upcoming Annual Meeting. We are aware that one of the hotels where meetings are being held, and where participants are staying, is currently involved in a labor dispute with the local hotel workers' union, UNITE HERE! Local 30, AFL-CIO and its members. A coalition led by the San Diego GLBT community and the labor movement is calling for a boycott of the San Diego Manchester Grand Hyatt during APHA.

UNITE HERE! Local 30 and the San Diego LGBT community are asking groups to boycott the hotel because of practices that force housekeepers at the Manchester Grand Hyatt to clean more rooms than housekeepers at other Hyatt hotels in San Diego and its lack of a job security guarantee for workers if the property is sold. Other Hyatt hotels have signed that guarantee to protect their workers. They are also asking for a boycott because of San Diego hotelier Doug Manchester's support for politicians and voter initiatives that are opposed by immigrant, labor and GLBT organizations in San Diego (See the materials about the boycott on UNITE HERE's Sleep with the Right People website at this link: <http://www.sleepwiththerightpeople.org/pages/boycotthyatt/>). We are writing to bring this issue to the APHA national leadership's attention and to ask that APHA take action to honor the request by UNITE HERE! Local 30 to boycott the hotel.

As public health professionals in this country, we understand the importance of opposing discrimination and supporting workers' rights. Our request is consistent with APHA's commitment to these issues as a national public health organization. The hotel workers' labor union has specifically requested that the Caucuses and the Section meetings that are scheduled for the Manchester Hyatt be moved, whether to the other two locations (San Diego Convention Center & San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina) or simply to another location, in honor of their boycott.

In 1999, APHA passed resolution #9922 outlining "Use of Union Hotels for Conventions and Major Meetings". Contained within the resolution, clause #3 "urges organizations, to the extent feasible, to insert a clause in their contracts with hotels asserting the right to cancel its contract to use a hotel if that hotel is placed on the "Do Not Patronize" list by the local labor body....". We hope APHA has such language in their contract with the Manchester Grand Hyatt, and if so, we urge the APHA to exercise its option and cancel its meetings and room blocks in Manchester Grand Hyatt.

## Response Letter (continued from Page 5)

If APHA is not able to cancel the room blocks due to lack of appropriate contract language or inability to relocate the scheduled sessions to another facility in such a short time, we urge APHA to at least inform the Annual Meeting participants who may have reservations at Manchester Grand Hyatt of the boycott, so they can decide as individuals whether to stay in another hotel not involved in the labor dispute. The Labor, LGBT, Peace, and Socialist Caucuses, the Spirit of 1848, and the Occupational Health and Safety Section are willing to work with the national organization to educate APHA members about the issues involved in the labor dispute.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. We look forward to a response from the national leadership very soon.

Sincerely,

Pamela Wilson  
Labor Caucus

Andy Miller, MHSE, CHES  
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender  
Caucus of Public Health Workers

Patrice Sutton, MPH  
Peace Caucus

Martha Livingston, Ph.D  
Socialist Caucus

Nancy Krieger, Ph.D  
Spirit of 1848

Robert Harrison, MD, Ph.D.  
Occupational Health and Safety Section

### Meetings to be Held in the Manchester Grand Hyatt

Academic Public Health Caucus  
Alternative and Complementary Health Practices  
SPIG  
Asian and Pacific Islander Caucus  
Caucus on Homelessness  
Caucus on Public Health and the Faith  
Community  
Caucus on Refugee and Immigrant Health  
Community Based Public Health Caucus  
Community Health Workers SPIG  
Ethics SPIG  
Family Violence Prevention  
Genomics Forum  
Gerontological Health  
Health Equity and Public Hospitals Caucus  
Health Informatics Information Technology (HIIT)  
Health Law Forum  
Injury Control and Emergency Health Services  
Laboratory SPIG  
Mental Health  
Social Work  
Trade and Health Forum  
Vietnam Caucus



June 2008 AJPH Cover

## A Few Articles in the June 2008 *American Journal of Public Health*

### Sexual and Gender Minority Health: What We Know and What Needs to Be Done

We describe the emergence of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) health as a key area of study and practice for clinicians and public health professionals. We discuss the specific needs of LGBT populations on the basis of the most recent epidemiological and clinical investigations, methods for defining and measuring LGBT populations, and the barriers they face in obtaining appropriate care and services. We then discuss how clinicians and public health professionals can improve research methods, clinical outcomes, and service delivery for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. Correspondence: *Requests for reprints should be sent to Kenneth Mayer, MD, Infectious Diseases Division, The Miriam Hospital, 164 Summit Avenue, Providence, RI 02906 (e-mail: [kenneth\\_mayer@brown.edu](mailto:kenneth_mayer@brown.edu)).*

### "If You Know You Exist, It's Just Marketing Poison": Meanings of Tobacco Industry Targeting in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community

In the public health literature, it is generally assumed that the perception of "targeting" as positive or negative by the targeted audience depends on the product or message being promoted. Smoking prevalence rates are high among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) individuals, but little is known about how they perceive tobacco industry targeting. We conducted focus groups with LGBT individuals in 4 US cities to explore their perceptions. Our findings indicated that focus group participants often responded positively to tobacco company targeting. Targeting connoted community visibility, legitimacy, and economic viability. Participants did not view tobacco as a gay health issue. Targeting is a key aspect of corporate-community interaction. A better understanding of targeting may aid public health efforts to counter corporate disease promotion. Correspondence: *Requests for reprints should be sent to Ruth E. Malone, PhD, RN, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of California, 3333 California St, Suite 455, San Francisco, CA 94118 (e-mail: [ruth.malone@ucsf.edu](mailto:ruth.malone@ucsf.edu)).*

### Lifetime Prevalence of Mental Disorders and Suicide Attempts in Diverse Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Populations

Past studies have reported little about variability in mental disorders among lesbians, gay men, and bisexual individuals. We assessed the prevalence of psychiatric disorders in 388 lesbian, gay, and bisexual Black, Latino, and White individuals. Black lesbians, gay men, and bisexual individuals had lower prevalence of all disorders than did Latino and White individuals; younger cohorts had fewer mood disorders than did older cohorts; bisexual persons had more substance use disorders than did gay men and lesbians; and Latino respondents attempted suicide more often than did White respondents. Correspondence: *Requests for reprints should be sent to Ilan H. Meyer, PhD, Department of Sociomedical Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, 600 W 168 St, 9th Floor, New York, NY 10032 (e-mail: [im15@columbia.edu](mailto:im15@columbia.edu)).*

[See the June AJPH for more LGBT related articles](#)

## Census Will Not Record Same-Sex Marriages

NY TIMES: July 18, 2008

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Same-sex marriage is legal in two states, but not a single one will show up in the 2010 census.

The Census Bureau says the federal Defense of Marriage Act bars the agency from recognizing same-sex marriages, even though they are legal in Massachusetts and California.

The agency's director, Steven H. Murdock, said Thursday that the marriage act, passed in 1996, affected the bureau because it was a federal agency. "We are restricted by it," Mr. Murdock said.

The Census Bureau does not ask people about their sexual orientation, but it does ask about their relationships to the head of the household. Many gay couples are listed in census figures as unmarried, same-sex partners, though it is an imperfect tally of all gay couples.

Mr. Murdock said the bureau would strive to count same-sex couples in the 2010 census, just as it has in the past. But those people who say they are married will be reclassified as unmarried, same-sex partners.

Same-sex couples with no children will not be classified as families, under the bureau's policy. Those with children who are related to the head of the household will be classified as families.

Gay rights advocates complained that the Census Bureau was depriving them of a hard-fought legal recognition.

"To completely whitewash us out of existence is hurtful, discriminatory and shameful," said Molly McKay of Marriage Equality USA, a California-based group that advocates for same-sex marriage. "It's like the federal government is trying to say that we don't exist."

Ms. McKay said an accurate count of same-sex married couples would help policy makers determine the costs of providing benefits.

Same-sex marriage was not an issue in the 2000 census because it was not legal in any state. The Census Bureau's policy on counting the marriages was first reported in The San Jose Mercury News.

## Executive Board Positions Available

We have a number of upcoming available positions on the Executive Board. Nominations will be solicited and voted upon during the LGBT Caucus Business Meeting held on Sunday, October 26 in San Diego (Please check the schedule for location and time). Positions becoming available are:

- Chair-Elect (1 year term and assumes the position of Chair 2 years following)
- Treasurer (2 year term)
- Newsletter Editor (2 year term)
- Program Chair-Elect (2 year term and assumes the position of Program Chair 2 years following)
- Webmaster (2 year term)
- Student Liaison (1 year term)
- Student Chair (1 year term)
- Booth Chair (1 year term)

Those interested in filling one of these positions should make every effort to attend the Business Meeting. If you are interested, but will not be attending APHA's Annual Meeting in San Diego, please contact me at: [rptrevino@mac.com](mailto:rptrevino@mac.com) If you have any questions regarding specific duties for any of the positions, I will be happy to supply any information you may need.

## Annual Meeting Schedule at a Glance

All LGBT sessions and meetings will be held in the San Diego Convention Center or the San Diego Marriott Marina  
Please check the APHA meeting schedule for room numbers.

### Sunday, October 26

*4:00 PM-5:30 PM Business Meeting*

*6:30 PM-8:30 PM Social Hour*

### Monday, October 27

*10:30 AM-12:00 PM*

*3095.0 Racial/Ethnic Differences in Drug Abuse, Treatment Systems, Utilization, & Risk*

*12:30 PM-2:00 PM*

*3227.0 Gay and Bisexual Men's Health*

*2:30 PM-3:30 PM*

*3276.0 Poster Session: Special Topics*

*3273.0 HIV and Men Who Have Sex with Men*

*2:30 PM-4:00 PM*

*3358.0 GLBT Youth: Meeting the Health Needs of All Students*

*4:30 PM-6:00 PM*

*3415.0 Innovative Approaches to Reducing HIV among Men Who Have Sex with Men*

*3419.0 Transgender Health*

*3433.0 160 years of the Spirit of 1848: a critical celebration*

*3436.0 Women's Health without Social, Political, and Geographical Borders*

### Tuesday, October 28, 2008

*8:30 AM-10:00 AM*

*4044.0 Violence in the Home and Community*

*10:30 AM-12:00 PM*

*4104.0 Lesbian and Bisexual Women's Health*

*12:30 PM-2:00 PM*

*4178.0 Women's Health*

*6:00 PM-8:00 PM*

*Caucus Annual Dinner at Hawthorn's  
2895 University Avenue*

### Wednesday, October 29, 2008

*8:30 AM-10:00 AM*

*5060.0 LGBT Youth Research*

*5060.1 HIV/AIDS Prevention in LGBT Communities*

*10:30 AM-12:00 PM*

*5119.1 Sampling/Recruitment Strategies for LGBT Research*

*12:30 PM-2:00 PM*

*5171.0 Substance Use and Substance Use Treatment Issues Among LGBT Individuals*

## Caucus Annual Dinner

*By Richard P. Trevino, MPH - Caucus Chair*

This year our annual dinner will take place at Hawthorn's Restaurant Lounge, 2895 University Avenue in San Diego. Please plan on joining us on Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 6-8PM to catch up with members old and new. As always, we will be announcing this year's Walter J. Lear Outstanding Student Researcher Award recipient during the event. The cost is \$40/person. More information regarding entrée choices will be available at our booth (#622).

## No Local Organization Hosting - Social Chair Needed in the Future

*By Richard P. Trevino, MPH - Caucus Chair*

This year we did not have a Social Chair. As of the printing of the 2008 Fall Newsletter for the Caucus, we have not been able to confirm an LGBT organization in the San Diego area to host a social during the Annual Meeting. This usually takes place Monday evening during the event. In the past, the Caucus has worked very hard to ensure that our Membership and those who support us have something enjoyable for each evening during the Annual Meeting. This level of planning has always been a challenging task. Last year during our Annual Meeting in Washington DC, we had the good fortune of having Michael Plankey step up to the plate to take on this responsibility. Michael did an outstanding job and we are very thankful for all the work he did.

If interested in serving as the Social Chair for next year's meeting in Philadelphia, please attend the Business Meeting on Sunday afternoon in San Diego or e-mail [rptrevino@mac.com](mailto:rptrevino@mac.com).

### LGBT Caucus Officers

Chair - Richard Trevino, MPH  
[rptrevino@mac.com](mailto:rptrevino@mac.com)

Membership - Gus Turner, MPH(c)  
[guseturner@hotmail.com](mailto:guseturner@hotmail.com)

Past Chair - Andy Miller, MHSE, CHES  
[andy.miller@laf.org](mailto:andy.miller@laf.org)

Program Chair - Seth Welles, ScD, PhD  
[slw58@drexel.edu](mailto:slw58@drexel.edu)

Treasurer - John Grima, MHSA  
[jfjtg@aol.com](mailto:jfjtg@aol.com)

Program Chair Elect - Paul Gilbert, ScM  
[paul.gilbert@ucsf.edu](mailto:paul.gilbert@ucsf.edu)

Secretary - Emelia Lombardi, PhD  
[elombardi@stophiv.pit.edu](mailto:elombardi@stophiv.pit.edu)

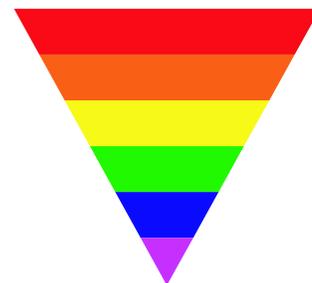
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Student Chair - Jason Gagnon  
[jgbumc@bu.edu](mailto:jgbumc@bu.edu)

Webmaster-Brandy Sinco  
[altotenor@comcast.net](mailto:altotenor@comcast.net)

Social Chair-Michael Plankey,PhD  
[mwp23@georgetown.edu](mailto:mwp23@georgetown.edu)

Booth Chair-Jay Harcourt, MPH  
[jayby@earthlink.net](mailto:jayby@earthlink.net)



<http://www-personal.umich.edu/~brsinco/aphalgbt/>