



PRIDE PRESS

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Aurora Diamonds Named New Pride Bag Lady Queen

Indianapolis – On Sunday, October 21, the Pride Bag Ladies will host a Pride Bag Lady Pageant at Talbott Street. Contestants were judged in two categories: evening gown and an interview.

The new 2007 Queen, Aurora Diamonds, was crowned at the end of the Pride Bag Lady Bus Tour. This year’s Bus Theme was *One Night Only – An Evening of Mischief & Mayhem!* Approximately 100 people actually rode on two charter buses and the special Jiffy Lube sponsored bus! The buses left Gregs at approximately 7:00 p.m. and made 15 stops at various bars, restaurants, bathhouses and the Circle before ending up back at Gregs around 2:30 a.m.

Those “ladies” who were still on at the end of the tour were introduced as they made their way across the stage at Gregs at the end of the tour. Pride Board Member, Andy Gilliland (*aka Smokey Redhead*) was presented with the Blossom Award for special service to the community. LaDonna was named Miss Coty Fashion.



Pride Bag Lady Bus Tour Raises \$7,000 for DEFA Fund!

Indianapolis – On Saturday, October 27, two charter buses, a special Jiffy-Lube bus, approximately 100 drag queens, a few straight people, and a Special Guest set out on the 27th Annual Bag Lady Bus Tour.

Registration for the event began at 5:00 p.m. on the dance floor of Gregs. At approximately 6:45 p.m., Cadillac Barbie (Gary Brackett) welcomed the crowd and invited Queen Mother Blossom (Coby Palmer) to give a short history of the Bag Lady organization. Coby related that the Bag Ladies began with a group of friends in 1981 who decided to dress in “campy” drag and crash a Halloween party to ask for donations for a new “gay” disease which would later be called HIV/AIDS. The 27th Annual Tour included Shirley Zimmer, who drove that original group and several of the early buses, as a Special Guest.

Following the brief history lesson, 2006 Pride Bag Lady Queen Sequoia Pentecost (Jeremy York) swore in the virgins before the buses were loaded. Cadillac Barbie thanked the bus sponsors and Phil Denton and the managers and staff of Gregs for providing the registration space and dinner before the buses departed.

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GLBT HISTORY

Part of the mission and purpose of Indy Pride, Inc. is "to educate the GLBT Community about GLBT history, of the issues which affect it, both social and political and of the resources which are available to its members within the community."

Roy Cohn



Cohn confers with Senator McCarthy at the Army-McCarthy Hearings

Roy Marcus Cohn was an American lawyer who came to prominence during the investigations by Senator Joseph McCarthy into alleged Communists in the U.S. government, especially during the Army-McCarthy Hearings. A highly controversial figure, he wielded tremendous political power at times.

Cohn was born on February 20, 1927 in New York, New York. Cohn was the only child of Dora Marcus and Albert Cohn, a New York judge who was influential in Democratic Party politics. Cohn lived with his parents until his mother's death in 1969, after which he lived in New York, the District of Columbia, and Greenwich, Connecticut.

A 1946 graduate of Columbia College, Cohn graduated from Columbia Law School at the age of 20, and began working for the office of United States Attorney Irving Saypol in Manhattan, a position many have attributed to his politically connected father. Although he was registered as a Democrat, Cohn supported most of the Republican presidents of his time and Republicans in major seats across New York.

As Saypol's assistant at the U.S. Attorney's office in Manhattan, Cohn helped to win a number of high-profile anti-Communist cases. He was known for his zealous prosecution of William Remington (a former Commerce Department employee convicted of perjury relating to his membership in the Communist Party), for the prosecution of 11 Communist Party leaders for sedition under the Smith Act, and for his work in the Alger Hiss case.

Cohn was most famous for his prominent role in the 1951 espionage trial of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg. Cohn's direct examination of Ethel's brother David Greenglass produced the testimony (in which the brother later claimed he perjured himself) that was mostly responsible for the Rosenbergs' conviction and execution. Cohn took great pride in the Rosenberg case, and claimed to have played an even greater part than his public role: he said in his autobiography that his own influence had led to both Saypol and Judge Irving Kaufman (a family friend) being appointed to the case, and that Kaufman had imposed the death penalty on Cohn's personal advice.

The Rosenberg trial brought the 24-year-old Cohn to the attention of Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) director J. Edgar Hoover, who recommended him to McCarthy. McCarthy hired Cohn as his chief counsel, choosing him over Robert Kennedy, reportedly in part to avoid accusations of an anti-Semitic motivation for the investigations. Cohn soon gained power nearly equal to McCarthy's own in the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, becoming known for his aggressive questioning of suspected Communists. Cohn tended to be disinclined to hold the hearings in open forums. This mixed well with McCarthy's preference for holding "executive sessions" and "off-the-record" sessions far away from the Capitol in order to minimize public scrutiny and to question witnesses with relative impunity. Cohn was given free rein in pursuit of many investigations, with McCarthy joining in only for the more publicized sessions.

It was Cohn who invited G. David Schine, an anti-communist propagandist, to join McCarthy's staff as a consultant. When Schine was drafted into the army in 1953, Cohn made repeated and extensive efforts to procure special treatment for Schine. He contacted military officials from the Secretary of the Army down to Schine's company commander, and demanded that Schine be given light duties, extra leave and not be assigned overseas. At one point, Cohn is reported to have threatened to "wreck the Army" if his demands were not met. This conflict led to the Army-McCarthy Hearings of 1954, in which the Army charged Cohn and McCarthy with using improper pressure on Schine's behalf, while McCarthy and Cohn counter-charged that the Army was holding Schine "hostage" in an attempt to squelch McCarthy's investigations into Communists in the Army. Although the findings of the hearings placed the blame on Cohn rather than McCarthy, they are widely viewed as a key element in McCarthy's fall from power. After the Army-McCarthy Hearings, Cohn resigned from McCarthy's staff and went into private practice.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Listed below are upcoming Indy Pride Events. Mark your calendars to come out and join the fun!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 9-11

INDIANAPOLIS LGBT FILM FESTIVAL

LOCATION: LANDMARK KEYSTONES' ART CINEMA – KEYSTONE AT THE CROSSING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

INDY PRIDE BOARD MEETING

PLACE: PRIDE OFFICE – OLD CENTRUM
TIME: 7:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15

INDY PRIDE MEMBERSHIP MIXER

PLACE: AGIO RESTAURANT
TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

INDY PRIDE COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING

PLACE: ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH
TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29

PRIDE OF INDY JAZZ CONCERT

LOCATION: TALBOTT STREET
TIME: 8:00 PM.

ADMISSION: \$10.00 IN ADVANCE
\$12.00 AT THE DOOR

Roy Cohn Continued

Rumors of Cohn's homosexuality began to spread throughout Washington shortly after Joseph McCarthy appointed him chief counsel to McCarthy's subcommittee. When he brought on the wealthy and handsome G. David Schine as chief consultant, it became widely speculated that Schine and Cohn had a sexual relationship, although some historians have more recently concluded it was just a friendship. During the Army-McCarthy hearings, he denied having "special interest" in Schine or being bound to him "closer than to the ordinary friend."

Joseph Welch, the Army's attorney in the hearings, made an apparent reference to Cohn's homosexuality. After asking a witness if a photo entered as evidence "came from a pixie," he defined "pixie" for McCarthy as "a close relative of a fairy." The people at the hearing recognized the allusion and found it amusing; Cohn later called the remark "malicious," "wicked," and "indecent."

Cohn and McCarthy targeted many government officials and cultural figures not only for suspected Communist sympathies but - in a move of suspected hypocrisy on Cohn's part - also for alleged homosexual tendencies, sometimes using sexual secrets as a blackmail tool to gain informants. The men whose homosexuality Cohn exposed often lost jobs, families, and homes; some committed suicide. It is said that when Cohn learned that one of his victims had killed himself, he celebrated with a bottle of champagne.

During debates over New York City's first gay rights law, Cohn said homosexuals should not be allowed to be schoolteachers.

In 1984, Cohn was diagnosed with AIDS, and he attempted to keep his condition secret while receiving aggressive drug treatment. He participated in clinical trials of the new drug AZT, but reportedly used his influence to persuade the researchers to keep him out of the control group, which received inert substances rather than the experimental drug. He insisted to his dying day that his disease was liver cancer.

After leaving McCarthy, Cohn built a 30-year career as a high-powered attorney in New York City. His clients included Donald Trump, Mafia figures, Studio 54 owners Steve Rubell and Ian Schrager, and the Archdiocese of New York. He was known for his active social life, charitable giving, and combative personality.

He died on August 2, 1986, of complications from AIDS at the age of 59. He is buried in Queens, New York.

27th Annual Pride Bag Lady Bus Tour



Bag Ladies Raise Money for DEFA Fund (continued from page 1):

Tour stops this year included: Santorini's Greek Kitchen, the Circle for a photo opportunity, The Works, Downtown Ollys, English Ivy's, Varsity, Cosmos, Illusions, Unicorn Club, Metro, The Ten, 501 Eagle, Talbott Street and Greys. This year's Bus theme was *One Night Only – An Evening of Mischief & Mayhem!* The photos above attest to some of the mischief and mayhem! Bus sponsors included: BioScrip Pharmacy, Full Circle (An Aveda Salon), Wildflowers (An Aveda Salon), Human Rights Campaign (HRC), Jiffy Lube, and *The Word*. During the tour, the "Bag Ladies" received over \$3,000 in donations! The Pride Bag Lady Photo Party will be scheduled for later this month. Watch for details!



***Join Us for the Indy Pride Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday, November 17 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ, 416 East North Street
Co-sponsored by The Word***