NEWSNOTES

Gotham Ball at Cyclorama Sept. 17

Be sure to mark your calendar Sept. 17 for AIDS ACTION's **Gotham Ball** (formerly Dynasty Ball) at Boston's Cyclorama from 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. Tickets are $12 in advance and are available at **Copley Flair**, **bodybody** at Club Cafe, **Fritz**, **Odeon**, **Box Office Video** and **Glad Day Bookstore**. Admission is $15 at the door. For more information, contact **Steve Huber**, Special Events Coordinator, (617) 437-6200, ext. 258.

Save the Date! Artcetera Auction Nov. 5

Mark your calendars today for AIDS ACTION's annual ***Artcetera*** auction of fine works of art and other goods and services to benefit AIDS care and services. This year's event takes place Saturday, Nov. 5, at Boston City Hall, beginning at 7 p.m.

All auction items will be on display Oct. 18 - Nov. 3 in an auction preview at the **Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Art Gallery** (near South Station). Show your support for AIDS ACTION by attending this important and exciting annual event!

AIDS ACTION Seeks Gay Male Educator

AIDS ACTION is seeking a full-time Educator to design and implement educational programs aimed at incorporating risk-reduction behaviors in the gay male communities. Duties include planning and producing innovative materials, educational forums, and public presentations to educate gay men and sexually active at-risk individuals about risks and alternative behaviors.

To apply for the position, send a cover letter and resume to: Human Resources Manager/GHE, AIDS ACTION, 661 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116.

Prayer and Discussion Sessions Scheduled

In an effort to respond to the AIDS crisis, members of the **Christ Church** at Zero Garden Street, Cambridge, are sponsoring a series of Tuesday **Evenings of Prayer, Meditation & Discussion For All Affected by AIDS**. The events, which will be held Oct. 11, Nov. 1, and Dec. 13, take place from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Christ Church. All are welcome to come to participate, lend guidance, or just listen. For more information, call 876-0200.

Names Project Needs Your Help

The **Names Project** is holding gerneral meetings Sept. 14 and 28 to coordinate plans to bring the Quilt to Washington, D.C. Oct. 8 - 9. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. at City Hall/ Congress St. entrance, Piemonte Room, 5th Floor. Immediate needs are for carpenters, picture framers, and people to help obtain fabric. If you can help, please call **Tim Weekly**, 262-4831.

Continued on page 8

New departments to support advocacy, outreach

Continued from page 1

Policy and Community Services Planning — that AIDS ACTION is announcing the formation of two new departments and the appointment of two directors to lead them.

These two individuals have been providing leadership in the formation of public policy and community outreach for some time while managing their respective departments, education and client services.

Anne Marie Silvia joined AIDS ACTION as Director of Education in September 1985. In that position, she has supervised education staff and volunteers and spearheaded program development.

In addition, Silvia has consulted to other AIDS service organizations, community, social service and governmental bodies providing education and policy advisories.

Silvia has led lobbying efforts for increased AIDS funding and developed sound initiatives and responses to the brochure controversy and the pilot needle exchange program, for example.

In addition to her new appointment as Director of Government Relations and Policy, she will continue as acting Director of Education until a new director is recruited and trained.

"Part of AIDS ACTION's mission is education and advocacy," said Silvia. "This new department will provide both.

"This department will aid in the education of decision-makers and community leaders on such issues as needle exchange, mandatory testing, confidentiality, premarital counseling, and discrimination.

"Our efforts will be aimed at providing accurate information to be sure that policies and legislation are fair and compassionate in the areas of HIV infection and related issues," Silvia said.

David Aronstein joined AIDS ACTION in October 1985 and was appointed Director of Client Services in February 1986 to refine and expand AIDS ACTION's services to persons with AIDS and ARC.

In his capacity of managing demanding and rapidly increasing needs of clients, Aronstein has effectively collaborated with other agencies and care providers to not only expand a comprehensive response to the needs of our clients but to also ensure quality in services provided by other community organizations, social service organi-

Continued on page 6

AIDS ACTION *Update* is published by the AIDS ACTION Committee of Massachusetts, Inc. 661 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116, (617) 437-6200. It appears monthly, 12 times a year. Subscriptions are free.

Executive Director: Larry Kessler
Administrative Advisor: William Harris
Editor: Mike McDowell
Photographers: Daniel Gage, Linda Haas, Ellen Shub

The next issue of *Update* will appear Oct. 1, with notices of events happening from Oct. 15 through Dec. 1.

The deadline for the next issue is Sept. 14.

Top 'Walker' gives prize trip to PWA Ramos

Top *From All Walks of Life* pledge earner Larry Sperper (far left) presents his $2,000 travel voucher to PWA Elizabeth Ramos as AIDS ACTION Executive Director Larry Kessler (far right) and Victor Rios look on. Photo by Linda Haas.

Every now and again, through an article, a television report or perhaps through personal experience, most people are reminded of the remarkable human capacity for compassion and generosity. At AIDS ACTION, we are fortunate to be reminded every day.

A recent reminder grew out of this year's *From All Walks of Life* pledge-walk. Among the many generous contributions to the *Walk* was a trip for two to London for the walker who raised the most pledges, a $2,000 trip donated by Laurie King of Fresh Pond Travel of Sudbury.

In his first year participating in the *Walk*, Boston attorney and real estate developer Larry Sperber earned the top spot for pledges raised. By writing his clients and friends to express his strong feelings for the *Walk* and by asking them to sponsor him, Sperber single-handedly raised more than $10,000.

But Sperber's kindness did not stop there. "I didn't walk to win the trip," Sperber says. "When I learned that I had won, I decided it would be most appropriate to give the trip to someone with AIDS who would truly enjoy it."

Elizabeth Ramos, a PWA and mother of two who frequently speaks at AIDS ACTION events, was just that person. Thanks to Sperber, Ramos, who raised $2,000 herself for the *Walk*, will take a vaction this year with her children. They will be joined by Ramos' friend Victor Rios, who has ARC, and her "buddy" Bob Hayes, who will help take care of the children.

"I was in the hospital when I heard," says Ramos. "I couldn't believe it. I thought it was a joke. But later, I got really excited about it."

Due to her health, Ramos says she was concerned about going overseas. As a result, she traded the London trip for a one-week trip to Disney World in Orlando, Fla. "We tried to go once before, but I was unable to," she says. "With this trip, I can make it up to my kids."

Fresh Pond Travel's King says he couldn't be more pleased. "I think it's great, " he says.

"If anyone deserves the trip, Liz does for all she's done to advance the fight against AIDS."

Ramos says she plans to take the trip in October.

Aid & Comfort seats selling fast

Tickets are going fast for *AID & Comfort*, the Sept. 25 one-of-a-kind gourmet food and wine celebration to benefit AIDS ACTION.

More than 30 of Boston's most notable chefs will be combining their talents to create an elegant nine-course dinner for 800 guests to be served in the center of Boston Garden. The event is expected be the largest single AIDS benefit of its kind to be held on the eastern seaboard.

A concert featuring top-name entertainment will follow this unusual event and will be available to 12,000 ticket-holders. Don Law, the dean of entertainment in New England, has volunteered to bring the nation's top performing artists to the concert.

Famed restauranteur Michela Larson, owner of Michela's restaurant, and renowned Boston caterer Holly Safford, owner of A Catered Affair, will choreograph the dinner.

Tickets for *Aid & Comfort*, which cover the dinner as well as a cocktail reception, and the after-dinner concert, are $250.

To obtain tickets for *Aid & Comfort* , complete the form at left and mail to *Aid & Comfort*, c/o AIDS ACTION, 661 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116 or call (617) 266-6906.

AID & COMFORT
An Evening of Celebration
The Boston Garden
September 25, 1988

Please reserve:

_____ tickets at $250 per person

_____ tables for eight at $2000 per table

Please charge my:

___ AMEX ____ Visa ____ Master Card _____Exp. Date

Card Number_____

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State ____ Zip _____

Please return to: **AID & COMFORT, c/o AIDS ACTION**
661 Boylston Street, 4th Floor
Boston, MA 02116