

Castro Lions' Leader Jon Wright, Dies

He Led Fight For Acceptance

by Jay Newquist

Jonathan Wright, 44, past president of the Castro Lions Club, died on Aug. 16 after a valiant one-year fight against AIDS. His body was cremated and his ashes scattered at sea off Bodega Bay.

A real estate broker who was better known for his passion for orchids, Jon arrived in San Francisco 15 years ago from New York City.

He took the reins of the fledgling Castro Lions Club in 1985 and he was a critical force for acceptance of the gay chapter by the straight Lions International membership.

"Jon was there as our first president at a critical time," recalled his roommate, Mike Newell, "and he explained what the Castro Lions were, and the importance of the hospice concept."

Wright was also a potent fundraiser, especially for Coming Home Hospice. He raised \$10,000 for the hospice while serving as President of the Lions. He entered the hospice one week ago to die among loving and caring people. His friends Steve Ernst and Robert Griese were in attendance at this death.

Wright was born in upstate New York on May 4, 1943. His friends in the Bay Area remember him as apolitical, not a joiner to just any cause, but an activist who concentrated his energies toward the Castro Lions and the Orchid Society.

"He didn't like work, but he was always gregarious, and he was everyone's friend," said Newell, who described their house in the Haight as full of friends and conversation.

Wright leaves his San Francisco family as well as Margaret and Stan Wright, his mother and father of Tampa, FL; two brothers, Phillip, of Rochester, NY and Jim of Gilroy; and nieces and nephews. There is no official memorial service, but his friends will gather informally at a later



Jon Wright

date.

A contribution to Coming Home Hospice, Hospice of San Francisco or the Castro Lions will gratefully be accepted in Jon's memory.



See p. 2
 Contact:
 Cal. Bus. Roundtable
 Mary M. Anderson
 Exec. Dir.
 575 Market St.
 Room 1948
 SFO, CA 94105
 415-974-5721.

THE CLOUT CLUB

The California Business Roundtable has fewer than 100 members. Yet it wields a big stick — because the exclusive club admits only top executives of the state's largest companies.

By ED SALZMAN

The organization doesn't lobby, doesn't give campaign contributions and has a staff that literally could function in a telephone booth.

Yet, in only 10 years of existence, the California Business Roundtable has built a reputation as perhaps the most potent public-policy organization in California.

The reason for the Roundtable's influence is its exclusivity. Its membership is limited essentially to the state's 100 largest corporations, and key executives in each firm must participate personally.

Put the state's captains of industry on the same wave length, and they can raise a ruckus in a hurry — to say nothing of an enormous bankroll.

All of these firms also belong to the state Chamber of Commerce and other business organizations. Yet they saw a need a decade ago to form yet another organization to make corporate muscle felt in the political world.

Modeled after the National Business Roundtable in Washington, the California organization is designed to avoid the internal conflicts and problems of scale encountered in larger business associations.

The foundation of the Roundtable is its membership rules. According to executive secretary Mary M. Anderson, membership is limited to the principal officers of the state's 100 leading com-

panies. Eligibility is determined essentially by listing of California-based companies in the *Los Angeles Times'* annual ranking of California firms. National firms also can join if they are listed in the *Fortune* 500 and employ at least 5,000 Californians.

The Roundtable's influence comes from the rule that requires that the member be the chief executive officer or other principal officer of the firm. Each member can designate one deputy. (See listing.) Other organizations rarely get regular participation from CEOs.

If all the companies belong to other organizations, why was the Roundtable formed? According to Rocco C. Siciliano, last year's chairman, the Roundtable came into being at a time when the perception of business by the public was "generally negative." Jerry Brown, who was disliked by most business leaders, was governor. And some business leaders at the time were not on especially good terms with the top hands at the state Chamber.

(The founding fathers were Ben Biaggini, then Southern Pacific chief executive; David Packard, co-founder of Hewlett-Packard, and the late Justin Dart, then chairman of Dart Industries.)

Kirk West, the current president of the Chamber, maintains excellent relations with the Roundtable. He says he makes it a point to remain in close

contact with the Roundtable because he recognizes the power of the chief executives of the major corporations. Roundtable leaders praise West profusely, but have few kind words for his predecessor, John Hay, who represented the formation of the new organization, even though it came about as a result of a Chamber meeting.

Siciliano emphasizes that the Roundtable is non-partisan and does not attempt to attain unanimity. The organization has a small staff — Anderson and an aide — because most of its work is conducted through task forces which conduct research on key issues and then recommend organizational positions. A few examples:

✓ **Education.** The Roundtable takes credit for the educational reform program enacted in Sacramento during Gov. George Deukmejian's first term. Siciliano said the legislation was based on a Roundtable study headed by Cornell Maier of Kaiser Aluminum, and members of the Roundtable helped create the political climate for agreement between the governor and the Legislature.

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qualify for next June's ballot, and Roundtable members are expected to help finance the campaign. Ironically, the Roundtable will be headed next year by Paul Miller, chairman of Pacific Lighting Corp., a dissenter on the Gerken initiative.

✓ **Tort reform.** A task force headed by Paul Hazen, president of Wells Fargo, played a major role in the planning for a tort-reform initiative for the 1988 ballot. Hazen says flatly that the Roundtable's role in the campaign will be "most fundamentally money." The top companies in the state have a large stake in the cost of insurance, he explains, and he estimated that the member companies might contribute \$6

million or more to the reform campaign.

Every year, the Roundtable establishes a series of task forces. Typical subjects: transportation, health, water, immigration, energy and waste management. This year's health study is concentrating on AIDS, a subject that for a while the members didn't want to tackle.

Siciliano, who pushed for the AIDS task force, reports that some members failed to see how the disease was a business problem. As chairman last year, he brought a San Francisco doctor before the group to explain the ramifications of the disease. It didn't take long for his colleagues to realize that AIDS is "the most serious social prob-

lem facing our society in this century."

This year's chairman, Donald E. Guinn, holds out great hope for a long-range project designed to develop "a different concept for K-12 education." A research contract for \$130,000 has already been awarded for the first of several phases, reported Guinn, chairman of Pacific Telesis.

The Roundtable came under heavy fire in 1981 when it commissioned an extensive reapportionment study. That endeavor was viewed by Democratic leaders as an attempt to produce a Republican majority in the Legislature and more GOP seats in Congress. The result was that the Roundtable was in danger of losing its non-partisan im-

These are the Knights who meet around

The following is a roster of the members of the California Business Roundtable, which allows only the state's biggest corporations under its umbrella:

Advanced Micro Devices, Inc., 901 Thompson Place, Sunnyvale 94088; Jerry Sanders, Chairman and CEO; Clifford E. Jernigan, Director of Government Affairs.

Allied-Signal Inc., 11255 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla 92037; Forrest N. Shumway, Vice Chairman; Christopher C. Rhoades, Assistant to the Vice Chairman.

American Health Properties, Inc., 414 N. Camden Drive, Beverly Hills 90210; Rocco C. Siciliano, Chairman and CEO; Andrew J. Demetriou, attorney with Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue, Los Angeles.

American Medical International, Inc., 414 N. Camden Dr., Beverly Hills 90210; Royce Diener, Chairman; Kirk E. Miller, VP and Associate General Counsel.

American President Companies, Ltd., 1800 Harrison St., Oakland 94162; Bruce Seaton, Chairman; Richard L. Hill, Senior VP of Corporate Development.

Amfac, Inc., 44 Montgomery St., San Francisco 94104; Ronald R. Sloan, President and CEO; Raymond K. Pope, VP-Government Affairs.

ARCO, 515 S. Flower St., Los Angeles 90071; Robert E. Wycoff, President and Chief Operating Officer; Stephen J. Giovanisci, VP-Public Affairs.

AT&T, 353 Sacramento St., Suite 1600, San Francisco 94111; William Woods, VP; Timothy L. Porter, VP-Government Relations, Western Region.

Avery International, 150 N. Orange Grove Blvd., Pasadena 91103; Charles D. Miller, Chairman and CEO; Diane B. Dixon, VP-Corporate Communications.

BankAmerica Corp., 555 California St., San Francisco 94137; Thomas A. Cooper, President;

Fred J. Martin Jr., VP and Director of Government Relations.

The Bank of California, 400 California St., San Francisco 94104; Osamu Yamada, Chairman.

Basic American Foods, P.O. Box 1140, Vacaville 95696; William J. Hume, Chairman; Douglas G. Allen, Director of Corporate Personnel.

Bechtel Group, Inc., 50 Beale St., San Francisco 94105; Alden P. Yates, President; Thomas G. Flynn, Manager of Public Relations.

Bergen Brunswig Corp., 4000 Metropolitan Dr., Orange 92668; Emil P. Martini Jr., Chairman and CEO; John T. (Jack) Fay Jr., VP-Corporate Affairs.

Blue Shield of California, 2 North Point, San Francisco 94133; Thomas C. Paton, President and CEO; Cleo Donovan, Sr. VP-Corporate Relations.

J.G. Boswell Co., 333 S. Hope St., Los Angeles 90071; James W. Boswell, President and CEO; Edward C. Giermann, Corporate Counsel.

CalFed Inc., 5670 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90036; Robert R. Dockson, Chairman; Jerry A. St. Dennis, Executive VP and CFO.

Carter Hawley Hale Stores, Inc., 550 S. Flower St., Los Angeles 90071; Edward W. Carter, Chairman Emeritus; Philip M. Hawley, Chairman and CEO; Andrea L. Van de Camp, Director of Public Affairs.

Chevron Corp., 225 Bush St., San Francisco 94104; Kenneth T. Derr, Vice Chairman; John R. Grey, President, Retired; David T. Van Camp, Manager of Public Affairs.

The Clorox Co., P.O. Box 24305, Oakland 94623; Charles R. Weaver, Chairman and CEO; David L. Goodman, VP-Public Af-

fairs and Marketing Services.

Coast Savings & Loan Assn., 1000 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90017; Ross M. Blakely, Chairman; Marilyn Roen, Assistant VP-Public Affairs.

Consolidated Freightways, Inc., 3240 Hillview Ave., Palo Alto 94304; Raymond F. O'Brien, Chairman and CEO; Henry A. Schmitt, Assistant VP, Director-Corporate Relations.

CooperVision, Inc., 17701 Cowan Ave., Irvine 92714; Parker G. Montgomery, Chairman and CEO; John H. Burton, VP-Public Affairs.

DHL Airways, Inc., 582 Market St., San Francisco 94104; Charles A. Lynch, Chairman and CEO; Jed T. Orme Jr., General Counsel.

Di Giorgio Corp., One Maritime Plaza, Suite 2300, San Francisco 94111; Peter F. Scott, Chairman, President and CEO; Christine D. Timmerman, VP and Treasurer.

Earle M. Jorgensen Co., 10700 Alameda St., Lynwood 90262; Earle M. Jorgensen, Chairman; John F. Watkins, Senior VP-Administration.

Federated Department Stores, Inc., 800 S. Hope St., Los Angeles 90017; James E. Gray, President; Jack W. McCauley, VP-Public Affairs.

Fireman's Fund Insurance Companies, 777 San Marin Dr., Novato 94998; William M. McCormick, Chairman and CEO; Francis W. (Bud) Benedict, Senior VP.

First Interstate Bancorp, 707 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90017; Joseph J. Pinola, Chairman and CEO; Paul D. Minch, Senior VP-Corporate Communications.

Fluor Corp., 3333 Michelson Dr., Irvine 92730; David S. Tappan Jr., Chairman and CEO; J. Robert Fluor, VP-Corporate Relations.

FMC Corp., 881 Martin Ave. Box 58123, Santa Clara 95052-1201; Robert N. Burt, VP; John D. Hassell, Manager of Public Affairs.

General Electric Co., 201 Spear St., San Francisco 94105; R. Howard Annin, VP; Earl E. Spencer, Manager-Western Regional Relations.

General Telephone Co. of California, One GTE Place, Thousand Oaks 91362; David E. Anderson, President; Jim J. Parrish, VP-Public Affairs.

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, 2029 Century Park East, Suite 400, Los Angeles 90067; William French Smith, Senior Partner; Mary Laura (Chee) Davis, Partner.

Hewlett Packard Co., 3000 Hanover St., Palo Alto 94304; David Packard, Chairman; William Terry, Executive VP; Gary Fazzino, Manager of State Government Affairs.

Hilton Hotels Corp., 9336 Civic Center Dr., Beverly Hills 90210; William H. Edwards, Vice Chairman; James R. Galbraith, Senior VP-Corporate Affairs.

Homestake Mining Co., 650 California St., San Francisco 94108; Harry M. Conger, Chairman and CEO; Robert A. Reveles, VP-Government Affairs.

Hughes Aircraft Co., 7200 Hughes Terrace, Los Angeles 90045-0066; Donald H. White, President and Chief Operating Officer; James D. Hurt, Director of Public Affairs.

IBM, 5600 Cottle Rd., San Jose 95193; Raymond AbuZayyad, President, General Products Division.

Industrial Indemnity Insurance Co., 255 California St., San Francisco 94111; Robert A. Pucinelli, Chairman and CEO; Thomas F. Conneely, VP-Government Relations.

The Irvine Co., P.O. Box 1, Newport Beach 92658-8904; Thomas H. Nielsen, Vice Chairman; Robert Shelton, Consultant, former Sr. VP.

Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., 251 S. Lake Ave., Pasadena 91101; Joseph J. Jacobs, Chairman

age. And Siciliano, for one, thinks it would be a mistake for the organization to enter the redistricting battle in 1991, especially since Roundtable members and their deputies are anything but unanimous in their ideological and political views. They come together on positions perceived as good for the entire California business community.

What will be the accomplishments of the Roundtable in its second decade? Hazen feels that the issues of the '90s cannot now be predicted and that the organization must remain flexible. To Siciliano, who spent many years in Washington working on policy problems, the challenge of the future is



Chairmen Siciliano, Guinn

clearly visible — providing a place in California for the emerging minorities.

"We've got to give these minorities their place in the sun," he emphasizes, "and this means in the business life of the state."

Chairman Guinn believes California a decade from now will be "a substantially different place" because of Roundtable efforts. He said the organ-

ization expects to lead the state in producing improvements in water, education, tort reform, transportation, toxic waste disposal, jobs and immigration, and public finance. Like his predecessor, he feels it is vital that California provide upward mobility for the waves of new workers migrating into the state from Asia and Latin America.

Siciliano also hopes that before the next decade ends, there will be no "omissions" in the Roundtable roster of eligible companies. "Not every CEO has an understanding of the need to participate in public affairs," he says. "That's a tragedy. There's a second bottom line in business — and that's the public out there." ■

the California Business Roundtable

and CEO.

Kaufman & Broad, Inc., 11601 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90025-1748; Eli Broad, Chairman and CEO; Jana W. Greer, VP-Corporate Affairs.

Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp., 300 Lakeside Dr., Oakland 94643; Cornell C. Maier, Chairman and CEO; Richard L. Speer, VP-Public Affairs, Western Region.

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., One Kaiser Plaza, Oakland 94612; James A. Vohs, Chairman, President and CEO; James A. Lane, Senior VP-Policy and Planning.

Levi Strauss & Co., P.O. Box 7215, San Francisco 94120; Peter E. Haas, Chairman; Robert H. Dunn, VP-Corporate Communications and Community Affairs.

Litton Industries, Inc., 360 N. Crescent Dr., Beverly Hills 90210; Fred W. O'Green, Chairman; John L. Child, Director-Civic Affairs.

Lockheed Corp., 4500 Park Granada Blvd., Calabasas 91399; Roy A. Anderson, Chairman of the Executive Committee; Stephen E. Chaudet, VP of Public Affairs.

The Luckman Partnership, Inc., 9220 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles 90069; Charles Luckman, F.A.I.A., Founding Partner; James M. Luckman, Managing Partner.

Lucky Stores, Inc., P.O. Box BB, 6300 Clark Ave., Dublin 94568; John Lillie, Chairman and CEO; Raymond H. Sweeney, VP-Industrial Relations.

MCA, Inc., 100 Universal City Plaza, Universal City 91608; Lew R. Wasserman, Chairman and CEO; George A. Smith, VP.

McKesson Corp., One Post St., San Francisco 94104; Neil E. Harlan, Chairman; David L. Ringler, Director of Public Affairs.

Mervyn's, 25001 Industrial Blvd., Hayward 94545; Michael M. Pharr, Vice Chairman and CAO; Sandra Salyer, VP-Public Affairs.

Metropolitan Life Insurance

Co., P.O. Box 3872, San Francisco, 94119-3872; Stephen T. Bow, Senior VP; Jack D. Wickware, VP and Counsel.

National Medical Enterprises, Inc., 11620 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90025; John C. Bedrosian, Senior Exec. VP; Thomas J. Dey, VP-Government Relations.

The Newhall Land & Farming Co., 23823 Valencia Blvd., Valencia 91355; James F. Dickason, Chairman and CEO; W. Baird Marble III, Project Manager.

Northrop Corp., 1840 Century Park East, Los Angeles 90067; Thomas V. Jones, Chairman and CEO; Lily Ring Balian, Director-Civic Action.

Occidental Petroleum Corp., 10889 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90024; Dr. Ray R. Irani, President and Chief Operating Officer; Norman D. Alexander, Vice President-Corporate Affairs.

Pacific Gas & Electric Co., 77 Beale St., San Francisco 94106; Richard A. Clarke, Chairman and CEO; John E. (Jack) Koehn, VP-Government Relations.

Pacific Lighting Corp., 810 S. Flower, Los Angeles 90017; Paul A. Miller, Chairman and CEO; J. Patrick Garner, VP.

Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Co., 700 Newport Center Dr., Newport Beach 92660; Walter B. Gerken, Chairman; Robert G. Haskell, Assistant VP and Director of Corporate and Public Affairs.

Pacific Telesis Group, 140 New Montgomery St., Room 618, San Francisco 94105; Donald E. Guinn, Chairman and CEO; John F. Parkhurst, VP-Governmental Relations.

Potlatch Corp., Maritime Plaza, San Francisco 94111; Richard B. Madden, Chairman and CEO.

Rockwell International, 2230 East Imperial Highway, El Segundo 90245; George F. Jeffs, President, North American Space Operations; Patti Mancini, VP, North American Space Operations.

Rohr Industries, Inc., P.O. Box 878, Chula Vista 92012; Harry W. Todd, Chairman and CEO; Gerald F. Broening, Director Public Affairs.

San Diego Gas & Electric, P.O. Box 1831, San Diego 92112; Thomas A. Page, Chairman, President, and CEO; Ronald K. Fuller, VP.

San Jose Mercury News, 750 Ridder Park Dr., San Jose 95190; William A. Ott, President and Publisher; John Hammett, Senior VP.

Santa Fe Southern Pacific Corp., One Market Plaza, Room 200, San Francisco 94105; Benjamin F. Biaggini, Director and Consultant; Alan C. Furth, Vice Chairman; Robert W. Taggart, VP-Public Affairs.

Security Pacific Corp., 333 S. Hope St., Los Angeles 90071; Richard J. Flanson III, Chairman and CEO; Richard A. Warner, Executive VP.

C.J. Segerstrom & Sons, 3315 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa 92626; Henry T. Segerstrom, Managing Partner; Thomas S. Santley, Director of Public Affairs.

Shaklee Corp., 444 Market St., San Francisco 94111; David M. Chamberlain, President and CEO; Evelyn Jarvis-Ferris, Director of Government Relations.

Southern California Edison Co., P.O. Box 800, Rosemead 91770; Jack K. Horton, Chairman of the Executive Committee; Paul E. Shay Jr., Executive Assistant.

Syntex Corp., 3401 Hillview Ave., Palo Alto 94304; Albert Bowers, Chairman and CEO; Dr. Gwynn Akin, Director of Health Policy.

Thrifty Corp., 3424 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90010; Leonard H. Straus, Chairman.

Ticor, 6300 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90048; Winston V. Morrow, President and CEO; E. Peter Miller, Senior VP.

The Times Mirror Co., Times

Mirror Square, Los Angeles 90053; Robert Erburu, Chairman and CEO; Donald S. Kellermann, VP-Corporate/Public Affairs.

Tosco Co., 2401 Colorado Ave., Santa Monica 90406; Clarence G. Frame, President, Chairman and CEO.

Transamerica Corp., P.O. Box 7648, San Francisco 94120; James R. Harvey, Chairman and CEO; James B. Lockhart, VP-Public Affairs.

TRW Inc., One Space Park, Redondo Beach 90278; Dr. George E. Solomon, Exec. VP; Maureen S. Frisch, Manager-State Government Relations, Western Region.

Union Bank, 445 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles 90071; John F. Harrigan, Chairman and CEO; Pat Y. Trendacosta, VP and Manager of Government Relations.

Unocal Corp., 1201 West Fifth St., P.O. Box 7600, Los Angeles 90051; Fred L. Hartley, Chairman and CEO; Karen A. Sikkema, Director of Corporate Communications.

Wells Fargo Bank, 420 Montgomery St., San Francisco 94163; Paul Hazen, President; Robert L. Joss, Vice Chairman.

Westinghouse Electric Corp., P.O. Box 1268, Lafayette 94549; A. Richard Whitemore, VP-Western Region; Roy L. Morrow, Manager, Western Public Relations.

Whittaker Corp., 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90024; Joseph F. Alibrandi, Chairman and CEO; Ronald W. Johnston, VP-Financial Management.

Wickes Companies, Inc., 3340 Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica 90405; Sanford C. Sigoloff, Chairman, President, and CEO; Wilhelm A. (Bill) Mallory, VP and CFO.





SAN FRANCISCO

THE CASTRO LIONS CLUB

September 15, 1987

Roger Scroggs
Program Assistant
AIDS Resource Program
Institute for Health Policy Studies
1326 3rd Avenue
San Francisco, California 94143-0936

Dear Roger,

Here is the article of which we spoke the other day. I hope that you find it of interest and please feel free to share it with those who could benefit from the information.

Thank you for your interest in the Castro Lions Club. Please feel free to call upon me if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

O. John Groebl
Secretary

ENCLOSURE

THE PRIDE OF THE CASTRO - WORKING HARD TO BE GREAT LIONS
By Jay Newquist and O. John Groebl

San Francisco is the home of a unique club in Lions International, the only club of its kind in the U.S.

The Castro Lions was honored by a Certificate of Appreciation from I.P.I.P. Sten A. Akestam at the end of his term. The Club was recently referred to as the "Cadillac Club" of District 4-C4 by I.P.D.G. George "Beef" Contos. And, by the way, the Club's membership happens to be predominantly homosexual men.

"We've always been very warmly received by the Lions, we were a bit surprised," says Gardner Pond, President of the Castro Lions.

"We've been able to get beyond the fact that we're gay. It really doesn't matter to the world of Lions nor to us." Pond hopes there will soon be many other gay-oriented clubs in the Lions, but he knows that until then the Castro Lions are very much in the vanguard.

The ideals of the global Lions are typified by the Castro Club's intense commitment to fight AIDS and to help Lions all over the world understand that there is, indeed, an epidemic in their midst, an epidemic that doesn't merely affect homosexuals and IV drug users.

"The people at the top of Lions leadership are very aware of the AIDS crisis, but I don't think the reality of the threat has reached the general membership," Pond says.

The Castro Lions hope to influence the international membership to take an active part in fundraising to combat AIDS and to lighten the burden of people with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions (ARC).

Needlesstosay, the Castro Lions were pleased that the Lions' Humanitarian Award of 1987 went to Dr. Luc Montagnier of the Pasteur Institute and Dr. Robert Gallo of the National Institute of Health, both leading AIDS researchers. These two men share the achievement of isolating the HTLV virus. These two pioneer researchers challenged the Lions to become leaders in service to

persons with AIDS, much like Helen Keller challenged the organization to become the "Knights of the Blind."

The Castro Lions Club was chartered in 1985. The Club takes its name from the predominantly gay Castro district of San Francisco. "AIDS is such an overriding crisis in our community, it's really the most important thing for us," Pond said. Sadly, within the past year, both of the Clubs Past Presidents, Lion Gary Moonert and Lion Jon Wright, have died of AIDS.

The Castro Lions have held many fundraising events, generating the large amounts of money that it takes to serve a community ravaged by a disease such as AIDS. The Club has also applied for matching grants from Levi Strauss and Bank of America. And still, the need has not been met.

These Lions have thus far contributed more than \$20,000 to the Coming Home Hospice. Pond is quick to explain that the Hospice is a home-like place where patients with AIDS and other illnesses, in their last days come to die in a warm, loving and supportive environment. Besides the Club's financial contributions, several members have donated time to the renovation of the Hospice building by scraping paint, sanding doors and other such remodeling tasks.

Tapped for funding during 1987 is the AIDS Emergency Fund, which provides funds for food, clothing, shelter and other essentials. The Club surpassed its goal of a \$10,000 contribution by sponsoring a "Groundhog's Hog Day" party, two garage sales and a couple of raffles.

More than 25 Castro Lions and friends also sold commemorative Bridge Walk tickets during the recent 50th Anniversary of the Golden Gate Bridge. They raised another \$2,000 for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Pond says that the Castro Lions also share the first priority of the International Lions - serving the blind and providing vision care. For example, the Club has an Eyeglass Program which

provides examinations and glasses for those in need, especially children of undocumented aliens.

Extra good works of the Castro Lions Club on the local level include an annual Christmas Day dinner for the Larkin Street Youth Center. The Center serves an area of San Francisco known for its transient teenager population. The Club also sponsors outings to Marine World and Great America for the youths of the Center.

Who joins the Castro Lions?

Pond says members are men and women of all ages and professions; lawyers, realtors, insurance brokers, chiropractors. He adds that the Castro Lions are proud to have been one of the first Clubs to invite a female member, when it invited Cynthia Neff to become a Lion.

The Castro Lions are quick to refute the claim that they are "martyrs" to the paths of glory or that the gravity of the AIDS crisis has sapped their energies. "We're a group of socially-minded men and women who enjoy life and bring a joy to helping others," they report in a brochure.

"We Serve" is the motto of all Lions, but Castro Lions also have fun. And, in this respect, as in so many others, the Castro Lions are identical to all Lions throughout the world.