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gaapor.affinitygroup@gmail.com

# GAAPOR News

===== American Association for Public Opinion Research =====



## ABOUT US

GAAPOR is the social affinity group for LGBTQ AAPOR members. We organize conference sessions on topics including LGBTQ politics and measuring sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). We also organize social events for our members at the annual conference, including a dinner outing in the gayborhood of our host city.

## IN THIS ISSUE

### Member Updates and Accomplishments

#### 2023 Conference Recap:

- All-Chapter Mixer
- Annual Dinner

## MAILING LIST

If you'd like to receive updates on GAAPOR events and activities, please send an email to [gaapor.affinitygroup@gmail.com](mailto:gaapor.affinitygroup@gmail.com) to sign up.

## FACEBOOK GROUP

Are you a member of the LGBTQ community and want to stay connected? [Click here to join our Facebook Group!](#)

## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

Amy Djangali, RTI  
Brad Edwards, Westat  
Michael Lenmark, Stony Brook University

# MEMBER UPDATES

GAAPOR's founding member, **Murray Edelman** will celebrate his 80th birthday this August and his 53rd year living as an openly gay man. Murray has lived his life out and proud even when doing so could have social and economic challenges. Murray is still working as a consultant with CBS News where he came out in 1970. He joined AAPOR in 1981 and has been proudly out during his entire tenure with the organization, including his stint as AAPOR President (2000-01). Murray organized the conference Friday night dinners for other LGBTQ colleagues long before we were christened as the affinity group, GAAPOR. Thank you, Murray for fostering such a lovely and welcoming group of researchers, colleagues, and friends.

**Charles Lau** started a new role at GeoPoll this past January. He is now the Chief Research Officer overseeing quantitative and qualitative research in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Congratulations, Charles!

This fall, the American Political Science Association's (APSA) Annual Meeting will present a special round-table discussion honoring the 50th anniversary of **Ken Sherrill's** seminal "Leaders in the Gay Activist Movement: The Problem of Finding the Followers." For those in attendance, the session takes place on Friday, September 1 at 8:00am and is titled "Celebrating Fifty Years of Queer Scholarship at APSA Mini-Conference: 50 Years of Queer Scholarship in APSA". See the conference program for more details. In addition to the conference session, there will also be an article in one of APSA's upcoming journals honoring the anniversary. Congratulations, Ken!

Several of our members have authored a new white paper report in collaboration with the Williams Institute out of UCLA. **Ilan Meyer, Michelle Johns, Christopher Hansen, and Stuart Michaels** along with their co-authors have published [Public Attitudes Toward the Use of Religious Beliefs to Discriminate Against LGBTQ People](#) which uses data from a "nationally representative survey of U.S. adults, researchers from the Williams Institute and NORC at the University of Chicago examine the public's attitudes toward allowing businesses, medical professionals, and employers to use religious beliefs to deny services and employment to LGBTQ people." Thanks for sharing, Michelle!

# WELCOME RECEPTION

GAAPOR's table was festive Wednesday night, with a rainbow of whistle giveaways and a raffle for two gift certificates worth \$100 each for dinner at a Nobu or Capital Grille restaurant. Many thanks to the scores of visitors who put their email addresses in the donkey can. **The winners were Marcus Berger from Census and Elisa Shearer from Pew – both chose Nobu.** In addition to these prizes, GAAPOR made donations to two Philadelphia organizations that have served the LGBTQ community for decades: The William Way LGBT Community Center and the Mazzoni Center. The former is a nonprofit organization serving the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender population of Philadelphia and nearby communities, and is located in the heart of the Gayborhood. It has served the LGBTQIA+ community and its allies since 1975. From social groups, networking events, and counseling and support services to art exhibitions and cultural experiences, the Center consistently strives to provide new and innovative programs for LGBTQIA+ people. The Mazzoni Center's mission is "to provide quality comprehensive health and wellness services in an LGBTQ-focused environment, while preserving the dignity and improving the quality of life of the individuals we serve." Their website notes that "the LGBTQ healthcare landscape has changed since we opened our doors in 1979, but our commitment to providing compassionate, competent LGBTQ-focused health and wellbeing services has remained the same. We are proud of our history of responding to the HIV epidemic and providing care to the most vulnerable and under-served members of the LGBTQ+ community."

For more information on these organizations serving the Philadelphia LGBTQ community, click on their logos below.



# ANNUAL DINNER



For our annual dinner, our GAAPOR crew headed out to KNOCK, located in the heart of Philly's Gayborhood in Center City. About 20 GAAPOR members came together for dinner, drinks, and some signature KNOCKtails. It was a great occasion to see old friends and meet new ones in KNOCK's cozy and inviting atmosphere.



# FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

Our next newsletter will contain information for all GAAPOR activities at the May 2024 conference in Atlanta, as well as member updates and accomplishments.

Are you interested in contributing? Please reach out to us at [gaapor.affinitygroup@gmail.com](mailto:gaapor.affinitygroup@gmail.com) for more information.