

**Gibbons asked, but not exactly telling, on civil unions (1:11 p.m., June 27)**

Contributed by Jo Mannies in St. Louis

State Senate President Pro Tem Mike Gibbons, R-Kirkwood, has joined the parade of GOP officeholders who have been addressing the Greater St. Louis Log Cabin Republicans.

Gibbons also appears to be on the fence -- sort of -- on the issue that the group says will be its top priority for the next legislative session:  
Legalizing civil unions.

Local Log Cabin president Charles Stadlander says the GOP gay-rights group will have at least one lobbyist at the state Capitol pressing legislators on that issue, when they go back into session in January.

Gibbons, who met with the group last week, said in an interview afterwards, "I really have not taken a position (on civil unions). But my natural position is to oppose it."

The resurrected Log Cabin group reports collecting more than 600 signatures over the weekend at Pridefest on its petition calling for an end to the military's "don't ask, don't tell policy."

But Stadlander was confronted with some protesters when he was formally awarded a \$1,000 scholarship Sunday from Pride St. Louis.