

GLAD Chat

Volume 20 Issue 10

October 2013



WEINER ROAST AT RANDY'S ON TAP FOR OCTOBER 12TH SOCIAL

The October 12th GLAD Social will be held at Randy W.'s again this year. Last year we had a great time visiting around the bonfire at Randy's that we thought we would do it again this year.

This year we will also be joined by a few of our Bloomington friends, who will have information and tickets (including \$25 festival passes) for the upcoming

ing Your Normal LGBT Film Festival (Oct. 16 - 20)

We will also be holding GLAD's annual board elections at the October Social. The slate of candidates appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

GLAD will provide hot dogs, buns, lemonade and all of the condiments. GLAD will also provide plates, napkins, cups, and

eating utensils. We are asking that you bring a covered dish to share as well as a lawn chair or two for sitting around the bonfire. We are asking for a \$5 donation (more if you can, less if you cannot) to help defray costs covered by GLAD.

The fun begins at 6:30. We hope to see you there! Directions to Randy's are on page two.

STATE-WIDE MARRIAGE EQUALITY MARCH OCTOBER 22ND!

It's almost time! The March on Springfield for Marriage Equality will begin at noon on Tuesday, October 22nd.

The march will begin at the Old State Capitol, 401 S. 2nd Street, with entertainment from noon to 1 p.m. followed by guest speakers, and then marriage equality supporters will march around the state capitol from 2:30 to 3:30.

The rally is being held on the first day of the Illinois Legislature's Fall Veto Session. It is a grassroots effort to secure passage of the Religious Freedom and Marriage Fairness Act. The Illinois Senate has already passed the bill. Gov. Quinn has said he will sign the bill if the legislature passes it.

For complete details, you can check out the event website: marchonspringfield.org

Springfield Parking Options:

- ALPLM - Ramp 7am-7pm \$1.50 Hr./\$9.75 Day
- 7th & Capitol - City Library 9am-9pm \$1.00 Hr./\$6.50 Day
- 525 W. Jefferson* 7am-3pm \$.50 Hr./\$3.00 Day
- 6th & Capitol - Ramp 7am-7pm \$.75 Hr./\$5.25 Day
- 4th & Washington - Myers Bldg 7am-5pm \$.75 Hr./\$4.50 Day
- 9th & Adams 7am-5pm \$1 Hr./\$10.00 Day
- 7th & Washington - PCCC Ramp 24 hrs/day \$.75 Hr./\$7.00 Day
- 7th & Monroe - Hilton Ramp 24 hrs/day \$.50 Hr.
- Old State Capitol* 7am-7pm \$1.5 Hr./\$9.75 Day

October 11
National Coming Out Day

October 12
GLAD Social Weiner Roast, 6:30

October 13
Just Flicks, 6 p.m. First Presbyterian

October 16 to 20
Your Normal LGBT Film Fest

October 22
March on Springfield, Noon

For more information or questions on any events please join us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/GLAD1/

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GLAD Chat welcomes submissions. Send your material GLAD.newsletter@mchsi.com

DECATUR MARCH FOR EQUALITY: A BIG SUCCESS



Mother Nature smiled brightly on Decatur's March For Marriage Equality on September 14th. The sun shone brightly and mild temperatures graced the 100 plus folks who came out to demonstrate their support for the pending Marriage Equality bill in Springfield.

The event featured a multitude of speakers including march organizer Linda Ryherd- Schroeder. The crowd was also addressed by LGBT activists Scott Cross, Buff Carmichael, Rick Garcia, and Drew Duzinkas. Several local ministers also spoke in support of the issue, as well as GLAD Co-chair Rene Verry.

The first part of the rally took place at the Stephen Decatur statue near the Decatur Civic Center. Supporters listened to guest speakers before heading out to the Macon County Courthouse. Franklin Street was festooned with colorful signs proclaiming the right that same-sex couples should have the right to marry.

After rallying at the courthouse, some of the participants picketed the office of Representative Sue Scherer.

Photos are on [Facebook](#)

DIRECTIONS TO RANDY'S: 10/12 GLAD SOCIAL HOT DOG ROAST

From Decatur: Either take Franklin Street South or take Highway 51 South. From either direction, when you come to the Elwin Road, turn left (going East towards Mt. Zion). When you come to Cornthwaite Rd., (this is the next road going South once you turn off of Franklin St Rd unto the Elwin Road, so be prepared), turn South or to your right. Once you are heading South on Cornthwaite, you will go about a mile. When you come to Wells Rd., you will turn back towards the East (take a left) and Randy's home is the first home on the left hand side of the road (North Side of the road).

From Mt. Zion: Take the Elwin Rd going West. After you are out of Mt. Zion, the second road to the South is Cornthwaite Ro. Turn South or to your left here, go about 1 mile then turn left again (going East) on Wells Rd. and Randy's home is just after the intersection on the north side of the Road (to your left if you are heading East).

Randy's cell phone is 853-5781 or Jim's is 412-4749 if you get lost.



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***"GLAD says "Thanks" to an outstanding
business & community member."***

The film A Separation will be the next offering in the local social justice film series Just Flicks. It will be shown at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 13th at First Presbyterian Church. The 2012 Iranian film won the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film.

GLAD sends best wishes to Rev. Tony Thieman-Somora, who will be leaving Bloomington and heading to Lubbock, Texas to serve as their interim pastor of their Metropolitan Community Church this month. The Bloomington congregation held a reception for the popular minister on October 6th.

Congratulations to the University of Illinois' LGBT Resource Center. They are celebrating their 20th anniversary this month. The commemorations included several social activities, a campus tour and a history program.

What YOU Can Do: Contact Your State Representative!

We need to start flooding the offices of key undecided House members with messages of support for the Religious Freedom and Marriage Fairness Act. Even supportive House members must understand that denying couples full access to 1,138 federal and 648 Illinois benefits of marriage must end as soon as possible.

1. Identify and call your local representative with action.ilunites.org
2. Get friends, relatives and acquaintances to also call their House members with action.ilunites.org

COUNSELING SOLUTIONS

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GLAD BOARD ELECTIONS THIS MONTH

This month, we will be having our annual board elections. The following offices are up for two year terms: Female co-chair and Treasurer. For one year positions, we have two at-large-directors positions as well as the Historian.

The following members have announced for these positions:

- Female Co-Chair – Rene Verry
- Treasurer – Robert Lowery
- Board Member at Large (two positions) - Daniel Martin, John Wylder, & Mary Lynn Feltes
- Historian: Charla Stone

YOUR NORMAL LGBT FILM FESTIVAL OPENS OCTOBER 16TH

The line-up has been secured and the curtain is about to go up on the Fourth Annual Your Normal LGBT Film Festival to be held October 16th through the 20st at the historic Normal Theatre in Uptown Normal.

This year's event will feature a festival pass for \$25. The pass will be good for all the festival screenings.

The 10/17 showing of Pedro Almodovar's I'm So Excited will be followed by an after party at Medicis in Uptown Normal.

Films begin at 7 p.m. and tickets are \$7 per film. You can see the complete lineup and watch trailers for all the films at yournormalfilmfest.com/shows

ON THE JUDICIAL FRONT

In September there was a ruling in the case brought by 25 same-sex couples (including GLAD members Bert Morton and Lee Korte) in regards to the validity of the lawsuit. Equality Illinois reports:

"While we await action in Springfield, there is movement elsewhere. In Chicago, Circuit Court Judge Sophia Hall ruled that the Illinois court case challenging the state ban on same-sex marriages should continue. Equality Illinois believes the ruling creates greater urgency for the Illinois House to act this fall on the freedom to marry."

BLOOMINGTON & SPRINGFIELD PFLAG CHAPTERS PLAN OCTOBER MEETINGS

Dee Calcari recently let us know that the Bloomington-Normal PFLAG Chapter is meeting monthly.

"We meet @ 5:30 the 2nd Monday of each month at the Universalist Unitarian Church, 1613 East Emerson, Bloomington 61701. And we'd love to have anyone join us! J We can be followed: [facebook.com/pflagbn](https://www.facebook.com/pflagbn) or I can be contacted via email at cdcalc056@yahoo.com with questions."

The Springfield PFLAG Chapter is rocking and rolling as well. Gail Clodfelter let us know their next event is 10/21.

"Springfield PFLAG is meeting the 3rd Monday of the month, from 7pm to 9pm, normally at the Universalist Unitarian Church, 745 Woodside Road. Our next meeting is on October 21, 2013 at Lincoln Park. You can contact me at 481-0136, Penny Newton at 632-7322, or Rev Martin Woulfe at 726-8281, for further information. "



Martha [*Lesbian*] Living

By Martha Miller

“GAYDAR”

Yesterday a student asked me if I “partied,” and suddenly I realized that I don’t. I used to, but I just don’t want to anymore. When the heck did that happen? To be honest, I’m not even sure if he meant “go to a party” or “do dope.” I used to like to go to the bar and dance. And in my day, I’ve passed my share of bongos. But it seems like since I’ve entered the youth of old age (aka 60’s), I’m not the same person. I used to have sex on my mind quite a lot. It seemed like everything to me. Today, while I haven’t given up on it completely, I feel like there’s more to life and most of it is pretty darn good.

The thing that hasn’t changed is that my “gaydar.” It isn’t worth a damn. Last night I was reminded of that when the sportscaster at Channel 20, announced her upcoming wedding (to a man). I was reminded of all the time’s I’ve been wrong. Once I was in Columbus, Ohio, and I went to an AA meeting in a small town near there called London. I thought I was in a lesbian meeting because all the women looked like truck drivers. But as we started sharing, every one of them talked about their husbands and kids. Until then, I didn’t know that farm wives look like us. Then in the WNBA, there was only one player that I was positive was straight. Early on, married to a man, Cheryl Swoops had a baby and then returned to the Huston Comets. First thing I knew, Cheryl Swoops was coming out as a lesbian. So I guess you can’t count on those factors.

Sometimes I wonder if other lesbians have this trouble. I know that some of us are attracted to straight women and find a thrill in the chase, but like a dog that chases a car, it’s the chase they love, not the catching.

I used to be very in-your-face about my sexuality. I forced people to accept it, even at work. These days if I find there’s a reason for it, I let people know. But at school, I hold back. My colleagues know, but students are another matter—I see new ones every semester, so I would be forever coming out. However, if there’s a reason to share it, I do. Like the women in London, Ohio, I often tell stories about my ex-husbands and kids. There’s the one about the canoe trip that I count as the beginning of the decline of my second marriage. We were at Crawfordsville, Indiana. Never having canoed before, we’d dumped several times. We were tired, but we were between the bluffs coasting along, and I said, “Isn’t this a beautiful spot?” And he said, “Just get me off this f***ing river.” He followed it with, “And another thing, I don’t like your chili.” I’d been feeding him chili every Friday night for eight years. I counted that day the beginning of the end. It’s a funny story and I tell it to classes. In my own defense, my chili did win a SALO chili cook-off. But even Girlfriend, who is much more tactful, says she doesn’t want it every week. And she told me before we’d been together for eight years.

I’m not sure if I look like a lesbian to other people. When I go to music festivals, I notice that most lesbians look like someone at home. There seem to be certain body types: butches, femmes, athletes, earth mothers, and ones that always wear comfortable shoes. I count myself in that last group—me and a bunch of nuns. One of these days I’ll go nuts and let my hair go gray and get a buzz cut. That way no one would mistake me for straight or for a nun.

See www.marthamiller.net for “The Best of Lesbian Living.”

More about Martha’s writing and contact info on her web site www.marthamiller.net