

GLAD Chat



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Hot Dog Roast Heating Up the October 11th Social

The October 11th GLAD Social will be held at Randy W.'s again this year. Last year we had a such great time visiting around the bonfire at Randy's that we thought we would do it again this year.

We will continue our dialogue about the future of GLAD. We had wide-ranging conversation about the subject at the September social. The board has condensed and codified the pathways that were suggested. Those suggestions will be discussed and voted on at our October Social. The suggestions discussed at the September social are included in the article below.

It is also that time of the year when elect new members of the board, open positions and current nominations are included on page three of the newsletter.

GLAD will provide chili, 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 included on page three.

Suggestions for GLAD's Future

The September social included a "dynamic" discussion around the future of GLAD as an organization. This discussion was mainly sparked by the need to find a new location for our monthly socials. The suggestions from the September social are included below.

We will review the current suggestions at the October social and then open the floor for a short time to entertain questions and accept additional suggestions. Along with the open Board of Director positions, we plan to ask the membership to vote on these suggestions and select the future path for our organization.

Suggestions include the following:

1. Continue as we are with the monthly potluck and board selected programs. (would require a new meeting location)
2. Continue with a monthly potluck and social but no program (would require a new location)
3. Continue with a monthly potluck but bring in paid speakers and activities. (would require a new location)
4. Become a monthly dinner group only, getting together at a different restaurant each month.
5. Become a Meet-up only group. Use Meet-Up.com to identify interested events and request members to attend.

Additional questions we'll be looking for input on are included on page three.

Upcoming Events

October 11th
GLAD Social,
6:30 p.m. Randy W's Farm

October 11th
National Coming Out Day

October 11th
Marriage Matters Conference
Springfield

October 12th
Just Flicks
6:00 p.m. First Presbyterian

October 15th to 19th
Your Normal LGBT Film Festival

October 17th
Phoenix Center's Fall GAYla
Springfield

October 29th
GLAD Board Meeting
6:00 p.m. DMH Cafeteria

November 15th
CORAL Thanksgiving
Springfield



For more information or questions related to any even please join us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/GLAD1

“The Way” - Just Flicks October 12th Feature Film

Next up for Just Flicks is “The Way,” a potent and personal 2011 film written and directed by Emilio Estevez. It will be shown on Sunday, Oct. 12th at 6 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church.

Phyllis McPherron, an expert discussion leader and film fan, will lead the conversation before and after the film, which runs one hour and fifty-five minutes.

The movie was filmed entirely in Spain and France along the actual Camino de Santiago. The film earned a high 4 of 5 rating from Rotten Tomatoes.

The Way’s website says this:

The Way is a powerful and inspirational story about family, friends and the challenges we face while navigating this ever-changing and complicated world. Martin Sheen plays Tom, an irascible American doctor who comes to France to deal with the tragic loss of his son (played by Emilio Estevez). Rather than return home, Tom decides to embark on the historical pilgrimage “The Way of St. James” to honor his son’s desire to finish the journey. What Tom doesn’t plan on is the profound impact this trip will have on him. Through unexpected and oftentimes amusing experiences along “The Way,” Tom discovers the difference between “the life we live and the life we choose.”

All Just Flick films include free refreshments and feature stimulating discussion afterwards facilitated by a discussion leader.

You can find more information about the group on [Facebook](#). The film schedule and locations are included to the right. Please remember that all films start at 6:00 p.m. Central Christian Church is located at 650 West Williams Street and First Presbyterian is located at 2014 West Prairie Street.

Date	Film (Year) Running time	Place
Sept. 14, 2014	All Quiet on the Western Front (1930) 147 min.	Central Christian Church
Oct. 12, 2014	The Way (2011) 123 min.	First Presbyterian Church
Nov. 9, 2014	A Small Act (2010) 88 min.	Central Christian Church
Dec. 14, 2014	The Singing Revolution (2006) 97 min.	First Presbyterian Church
Jan. 11, 2015	The Boys Next Door (1996) 91 min.	Central Christian Church
Jan. 25, 2015	Do the Right Thing (1986) 125 min.	First Presbyterian Church
Feb. 8, 2015	Witness (1985) 112 min.	Central Christian Church
Mar. 8, 2015	Erin Brockovich (2000) 132 min.	First Presbyterian Church
Mar. 29, 2015	Birdcage (1996) 119 min.	Central Christian Church
April 12, 2015	Girls on the Wall (2009) 62 min.	First Presbyterian Church
May 10, 2015	Nicky’s Family (2011) 100 min.	Central Christian Church

Marriage Matters Conference to be held in Springfield on October 11th

An event in support of marriage equality is coming up on Saturday, October 11.

The Covenant Network of Presbyterians is having its regional conference at First Presbyterian Church in Springfield. The one-day conference is entitled Marriage Matters and the keynote speaker is Matthew Vines.

Vines makes a biblical case for marriage equality and full inclusion of LGBT folks. He is the young man whose video defense of marriage went viral on YouTube.



He just published a book entitled “God and the Gay Christian: the Biblical Case in Support of Same-Sex Relationships. You don’t have to be Presbyterian to attend. For more information go to: www.covnetpres.org

Normal LGBT Film Festival Runs October 15th to 19th

The slate of films is set for the 2014 Your Normal LGBT Film Festival to be held October 15-19 in the Normal Theatre in Uptown Normal.

One of this year’s selections includes the critically-acclaimed documentary on Star Trek star and LGBT-icon George Takei called “To be Takei: A Star’s Trek for Life, Liberty and Love.” It will be shown on Friday, 10/17.

The Saturday, Oct. 18th selection will be “Appropriate Behavior.” It is about a bisexual Persian girl living in Brooklyn, and navigating the waters of a romantic breakup. It has been described as an ode to Woody Allen’s Annie Hall.

Other selections for this year include: The New Black (10/15), Lifting (10/16), and The Way He Looks (10/19). There were also be after-parties and question and answer panels. All shows are \$7 each or a festival pass can be purchased.

For more details go to www.yournormalfilmfest.com/shows



GLAD Briefs

We send out our deepest sympathy to Douglas W. His mother passed away in September.

Congratulations to Buff and Jerry! They tied the knot last month in Weldon Springs State Park in Clinton. We have posted wedding photos on the GLAD Facebook page. Congrats, fellas!

The Phoenix Center in Springfield is holding its 14th Annual Fall GAYLa Dinner and Auction on Friday, October 17th. Tickets are \$50 per person. For all the details go to: phoenixcenterspringfield.org

Richland Pride, the LGBT group at Richland Community College has a Facebook page. You can check it out at: facebook.com/priderichland

Suggestions for GLAD's Future (continued from page 1)

We will also be asking additional questions such as

- Should GLAD advertise/market itself?
- Should we partner with LGBT Friendly businesses in the area?
- Should GLAD become a political organization rather than only a social organization?
- Should we connect to other LGBT groups in the area and travel to their meetings on a regular basis?
- Should GLAD require paid membership?

Directions to Randy's

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.
- Heading South on Cornthwaite, 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).

Coming from Mt. Zion

- Take the Elwin Rd going West.
- Out of Mt. Zion, the second road to the South is Cornthwaite Ro. Turn South or to your left here.
- Go 1 mile, turn left again (going East) on Wells Rd.
- 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

GLAD Board Elections Scheduled for October

Article 7 of the [GLAD Constitution](#) outlines the election of officers to the Board of Directors.

VII: Election of Officers, Vacating of Office, Provision for Removal or Sanctioning of Officers:

Nominations for the Board of Directors/Officers will be made from the floor during the September and October social/informational meeting with voting to take place during the annual meeting in October. Names of those nominated will be listed in the newsletter.

Effective October 2008 executive officer positions will be served in alternating two-year terms.

The male co-chair and secretary will be elected to a two-year term in October 2008

The female co-chair and treasurer will be elected to a two-year term in October 2009.

The historian and Board Member at Large positions will remain annually elected positions.

Open for election this year are the Male Co-Chair, Secretary, Historian, and the two Board Member at large positions.

The call for nominations was extended at the September social and the names of those expressing interest are included below. A second call for nominations will be made at the October social with voting by ballot to follow the close of nominations.

Current Board Openings and Nominations

Male Co-Chair

- Wes Drake (Incumbent)
- Steve Luker (Nomination)

Secretary

- Jim Barr (Incumbent)
- No additional nominations

Historian

- Charla Stone (Incumbent)
- No additional nominations

Board Member at Large #1

- Mary Lynn Feltes (Incumbent)
- Daniel Martin (Nomination)

Board Member at Large #2

- No current Incumbent
- No current nominations



Martha [Lesbian] Living

By Martha Miller

A Tragic Love Story

“I looked out the window at the grey sky and remembered the first time I flew over this snow-covered prairie in February 1993. Looking down on the harvested corn stalks jutting through the snow, below a sky that seemed to cover endless acres . . . I felt an immediate kinship with this small Midwestern town, which was steeped in the history and love of Lincoln. Springfield was to give me the greatest love I had yet known . . .” writes Terry Mutchler in *Under this Beautiful Dome*, her memoir of her life with the late State Senator Penny Severns.

While this is truly Terry’s story, while we see it from her point of view, there’s much to relate to. She begins in the early 1990’s when things were gradually changing for us. Bigotry was more subtle than the decade before when AIDS was reason enough to fear us. So a 27-year-old writer for the Associated Press, the Statehouse Correspondent saw an attractive, somewhat older, woman at the capitol and had to get to know her. This wasn’t easy because Penny Severns went about the business of politics: campaigning, long sessions in the Senate without time to allow for a new relationship. She had a schedule that was hard to fit one more thing into. Once she showed up for a dinner date with Terry at 11:30 p.m. claiming she couldn’t get away sooner. Severns had to cancel one work thing after the next from that schedule as things grew hotter and hotter.

The day they became lovers, Penny admitted she’d never been with a woman before. So, at 41 years old, the senator found her first and eventually only same-sex relationship. Mutchler writes about the confusion of early courtship and the thrill of its consummation, about grabbing a moment or two of kissing in the darker corners of the Capitol Building.

The effort to divert public attention was exhausting. The couple lived in constant fear. Penny was the love of Terry’s life, but neither could let the relationship be known, not even to their closest friends and family members. They lied and hid to keep their secret. Plus there was the complication that Terry was the AP reporter and ethically should not develop a friendship with politicians. So the people closest to Penny could not know—not even her parents. Once Mutchler, at their home in Decatur, was ironing her work clothes in the basement, and was interrupted by Penny’s parents (who didn’t know anyone else was living there), so she hid naked behind the furnace in the basement, while Penny’s father, hoping to help his daughter save some time, washed and dried a load of towels. Mutchler parked her car two miles away and walked home in the evening, and at 4:00 in the morning, she’d leave early to have time to walk back to her car and drive to Springfield.

When Penny was diagnosed with breast cancer, the secrets and hiding went deeper than ever before. Terry Mutchler thought naïvely that her corruption of the beautiful woman somehow made her sick, like a vengeance from God thing, so Mutchler made a bargain with God that if Penny got better, she would leave. Penny did get better, and Terry did leave her for a short time. But she loved Penny too much to stay away, Terry returned to Decatur and stayed until the end. She quit the AP and started law school, and from that point on they fought the cancer with everything they had, sometimes successfully and a lot of times not. I say “they” because Mutchler was in for the duration and was at Penny’s side most of the time, despite a heavy schedule of her own.

We face some pretty horrific things in this life and most of them are out of our control. Like a freight train, we see it coming, and there’s no way for us to get our car off of the railroad tracks. Sometimes we can save ourselves. But that’s all.

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

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