

GLAD Chat



Volume 21 | Issue 09

September 2014

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“GLAD FUTURE” Topic of September 13th Social

The topic of the September 13th social will be an open floor discussion among the membership regarding the future of GLAD as an organization.

As you may know, GLAD started some 21 years ago as a group of friends getting together every week to watch the 80's primetime soap opera “Dynasty”. The years have progressed and we've seen the ebb and flow of membership and participation in our organization. Unfortunately, we seem to be in an ebb with lower meeting attendance and participation in the organization as a whole.

At the August board meeting, the board members discussed a number of options for our organization from continuing as we are, changing to a monthly dinner group, or possibly doing something less formal such as a [meet up](#) group. In the end the board decided that the membership should be included in making this the decision.

The September social will not have a set program, but instead will ask the membership to discuss our future and what we, as an organization, think is the best way to continue.

The board also decided that the decision on how to continue as an organization will determine the structure of the future board. With that in mind the board elected to suspend nominations of new board members for the time being.

The September and October socials will both be purposed to make these final decisions.

The September 13th social will be held at the Mari-Mann Herb Farm and as always will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday. The potluck begins at 7:00p.m. GLAD will supply the tableware and drinks. We ask you to bring a dish to share and please donate \$5 toward our expenses.

We hope to see you there to assist us in making some very important decisions.

Directions to Mari-Mann Herb Farm:

Mari Mann Herb Farm is located at 1405 Mari Mann Lane in Decatur.

From the downtown Decatur area,

- Take Rt. 48 (Taylorville Road) south to Rock Springs Road (last stoplight on 48 going out of town to the south).
- Turn right at the light and immediately after crossing the railroad tracks.
- Turn right onto St. Louis Bridge Road.
- It will be the first house on the right side of the road once you have gone past the gate to Mari-Mann Herb Farm.

From the Springfield area:

- From I-72 take the Route 36 exit to Decatur (exit 133A).
- Once you are on Route 36 East, at the first stop light, which is Wyckles Road, you will turn right.
- You will go quite a ways and at the bottom of a hill, you will turn left onto Rock Springs Road.
- You will travel almost all the way to Route 48, just before you come to the railroad tracks, you will turn left onto St Louis Bridge Road.
- Once you have passed through the gate to the Mari-Mann Herb Farm, you will stop at the first house on the right.

Upcoming Events

September 13

GLAD Social,
6:30 p.m. Mari Mann Herb Farm

September 14

Just Flicks
6:00 p.m. Central Christian

September 30

Compassionate Decatur Forum,
5:30 Madden Arts Center

September 24

GLAD Board Meetings
6:00 p.m. DMH Cafeteria

October 14 to 19

Your Normal LGBT Film Festival



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

www.facebook.com/groups/GLAD1



New Season for “Just Flicks” Begins September 14th

If it's September it must mean another new season of the Just Flicks Social Film Series is about to begin!

This season's first selection is the 1930 classic “All Quiet on the Western Front.” It will be screened at 6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14th at Central Christian Church.

The film is adapted from the classic novel of the same name, and it vividly demonstrates the horror and disillusionment of war. Young men are convinced by their jingoistic teacher that there is nobleness in fighting to the death over something as fleeting as national pride.

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

A Wet Win for the CORAL 2014 Float in the Illinois State Fair Twilight Parade

The skies were grey and ominous on August 7th – as they seemed to have been so many times this summer. Severe thunderstorms were moving in from the west and, to the disappointment of thousands, the call was made to cancel the 2014 State Fair Twilight Parade.

Many hours were spent by CORAL members constructing the float and preparing the flag corps routine for this year's parade, but as we all know – Mother Nature doesn't really care about any of that.

There were a couple of bits of silver lining to this story. Float judges were able to get out and view the floats



before the storms moved in. The CORAL float again took this year's Governor's Award! In addition, a smaller veteran's parade was later held within the State Fairgrounds and the CORAL float was able to be part of that parade. Visit their [Facebook page](#) to see some great pictures of the winning float.

Normal LGBT Film Fest to Feature Takei Documentary

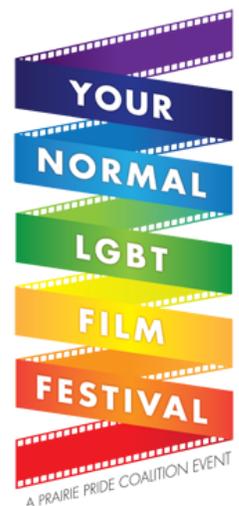
The slate of films is set for the 2014 Your Normal LGBT Film Festival to be held October 15-19 in the Normal Theatre in Uptown Normal.

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



Compassionate Decatur Seeks Your Input

The Compassionate City Initiative in Decatur will be sponsoring “Let’s Get Passionate: A Public Forum to Generate Plans for a More Passionate Decatur” on Tuesday, Sept. 30th in the Madden Arts Center, 125 N. Water in the Decatur Area Arts Center.

The program will begin at 5:30 and will feature a diverse panel that represents various facets of Decatur. The goal will be to generate ideas on the way to improve compassion in the city and move forward in being a more compassionate community. Your input is greatly desired.

For more information go to the Compassionate City Initiative website at compassionatedecatur.org



GLAD Decatur IL Meet-Up

One of the future options for GLAD is to become a Meet-Up group.

Meet-Up is an online organization that helps groups of people with shared interests plan events and facilitates off line group meetings.

A Meet-Up Group is a local community of people. A Meet-Up Group hosts Meetups, which are face to face meetings that happen in real life between members and organizers.

Mary-Lynn talked to the board about this possibility and graciously offered to be GLAD’s Meet-Up Organizer. She has set up a Meet-Up site for GLAD at www.meetup.com/GLADDecatur

Please click the link above and join GLAD’s meet-up group. It’s free to join and while your their RSVP for this Saturday’s GLAD Social.



Martha [Lesbian] Living

By Martha Miller

The Canoe Trip

As I write this, school will start in three days. A glance at my class rosters tells me that my classes are full and I have a total of 100 students. My first thought was 'how am I going to learn all those names?' My next thought was how am I going to read all those essays alone? The college where I teach has recently increased class sizes. It didn't happen to make things easier for me or for students. But there you are; money is tight. Most of my students aren't English majors; they are afraid of writing; they dread it; they have to take the class because it's required for almost every degree, so I often use humor to make the class at least tolerable for them and, to be honest, for me.

Humor is nothing more than tragedy plus time, and an element of the unexpected. When we talk about clichés, I ask students to translate so they don't show up in their essays. They never get a stitch in time saves nine, but many of them can get out of the frying pan and into the fire. I tell them it's like my second marriage and the relationship that followed it. One of my favorite second marriage stories is about a canoe trip. I was working at a bank and had been married to my second husband for eight years. A group of employees and their spouses were going to go to Crawfordsville, Indiana, to canoe on Sugar Creek. It was a two day trip so we had to carry our gear and camp one night. To be honest I don't remember why I signed us up. I'd never been camping and neither of us had ever been in a canoe.

We pushed off, sitting low in the water because we had a lot in the canoe between me and him, both big people, and the gear we had to carry. The first thing that happened was my ex and I got in an argument about who was supposed to steer. He maintained it was me and I thought it was him. So he said something totally stupid, and I threw my paddle at him. Bad idea. Paddles are necessary. I hear, "I'll get it for you, honey." Like I had let it slip from my hands or something. I really was trying to knock him into the water. Bad idea. If he went into the water, I'd go too. Finally another canoer came up to him and showed him how to steer.

The first day of the trip was white water. We spilled several times and people came over and helped us get ourselves and our gear back into the canoe. By the end of the day, I had learned how to fall out of the canoe gracefully. That night we camped and it rained. We were exhausted. I'd brought a case of beer, but by then I didn't even want it. I should have left it at the camp site for someone else, but we carried the damn beer to the end.

The second day was the scenic part of the trip. It had been a while since we had spilled and I was enjoying the splendor of the riverbanks on a sunny day. I said to my ex, "Isn't this a beautiful place?" And he said, "Just get me off this fucking river!" I was busy absorbing that when he said, "And another thing, I don't like your chili." I had been making chili every week for eight years. I love my chili. Then to punctuate what he'd said, he let us drift into Suck Rock. It's called this because of the way it pulls the water under. So we spilled again.

That marriage ended for a lot of reasons that had to do with my sexual preference, but to this day, I see the chili remark as the beginning of the end. Many years later, SALO had a Chili Cook-off. My chili won. When Girlfriend and I moved in together—I made sure the chili was not going to be an issue. She told me she loved my chili, but didn't want it so often. What a diplomat. But I could deal with that. So I make a big pot and freeze individual portions for me on days when she wants Chinese food, which I hate.

Anyway, students love that canoe-chili story. They crack up when I say "...and another thing, I don't like your chili."

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