
LGBT News

The LGBT Resource Center for
the 7 Rivers Region, Inc.

September 2008

Director's Column

What a wonderful experience it has been and continues to be for me to work at the Center. I have met new people, or have faces to go with names, and get to see friendly folk all around. It has been great to meet people who walk by and just drop-in because the center is open! Instead of being rarely open we have become more accessible to you, allies, and community members. With the start of fall we will again expand our hours to include Saturdays. **Starting September 6, 2008 we will be open on Saturdays from 11:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.** After all we want to continue to work to create a schedule that allows you increased accessibility to our resources, staff, and safe space.

For those of you who are not familiar with me, I am committed to social justice work and working to create change and promote peace in my work, life, and world. I believe we all can make a difference as individuals, but as a group we become unstoppable in our collective efforts. If it has been awhile since you have stopped into the Center, or if you didn't renew your membership this year, take the time today to reaffirm your commitment to the center by visiting and becoming a member. It is a time of change for the Center, we are going places, and we would like for you to come along for the ride!

Consequently, when I interviewed for this position I shared my vision/hopes for the Center. As the Executive Director I assure you the Center is committed to developing programs, services, and events that are enjoyable, thought provoking, and that will encourage diverse participation. Here are three areas currently on the radar screen:

Resource Advocates

I want to develop/create an advocacy program here at the Center that will train volunteers to become Resource Advocates. Our Resource Advocates will be available to assist LGBTQIA callers with resources, emotional support, and options when they need it most.

If you are interested in becoming a Resource Advocate please stop in and complete a volunteer application to start the process.

Drop In Group

There have been several requests for social time for LGBTQI that is not in a bar setting. I would like to invite interested persons to drop in the Center on Thursday evenings for conversation, networking, and connections. Our first Thursday Drop In will be on September 11, from 6:00 -8:00 p.m.

LGBT Parent Support Group

A few years back I contacted the center looking for a group for myself as a newly “out” mom. My coming out not only affected me but everyone around me- especially my children. I called looking for a support group for newly out moms. There was not one there is not one now. I am interested in making the Center available for LGBT Parents for a weekly, biweekly, or monthly get together. Please contact me (608-784-0452 or email r.st.sauver@7riverslgbt.org) and let me know what would best meet your needs if this is a group you are interested in. LGBT Parent Support Group coming soon!

Again these areas are only based on my own assessment and influenced by conversations I have been fortunate to have with some of you. Please know that I am open to suggestions and would love to hear needs that you feel are unmet for the LGBTQI community. I can be reached at 608-784-0452.

National Coming Out Day Events

With anticipation similar to that of a first kiss, I am anxiously awaiting October 11, 2008 National Coming Out Day (NCOD)! The Center’s Board of Directors and myself have been planning our first annual **Coming Out For Equality: Bridging Communities Gala Event**. It will be a gala evening featuring a catered dinner, silent auction, speakers, and dancing at the Radisson Center. You do not want to miss this, so stop by the center and pick up a ticket today, or call 608-784-0452 or email r.st.sauver@7riverslgbt.org.

If you are not able to attend Coming Out For Equality: Bridging Communities, consider sponsoring a ticket so someone else can.

Another fantabulous event we have planned for NCOD is the Silent Rally For Equality which will be happening on the Cass Street blue bridge spanning the Mississippi from noon-12:30. We had a sign up sheet at Pride and people have stopped in the Center and signed up. Currently we have 56 people signed up to be at the rally! Imagine a group of people sporting rainbow gear, Pride flags, and walking together to promote equality in step with one another. It is a beautiful vision and will be even better when seen in living color on Saturday, October 11th. We will meet in Cameron Park at 11:30 a.m. and return there after the rally for light refreshments and relish in the good vibes.

Definitely it is a time of transition and change at the center. With your continued support we will become the LGBT Resource Center for the Seven Rivers Region, which was envisioned years ago when our founding mothers and fathers worked

conscientiously to incorporate us. The Center is your Center. Please stop in, email, or call with ideas you have to strengthen our community and continue to push our agenda forward: equality, acceptance, and safety for all members of our community.

Shop For A Cause: September 20, 2008

The LGBT Center for the 7 Rivers Region is participating in Macy's Shop For A Cause fundraiser and community event on Saturday, September 20, 2008. This is our first time and we want it to be a huge success and YOU can help make that happen!

We are selling \$5.00 shopping passes that entitle the bearer to:

1. special sale merchandise
2. 20% off regular, sale, and clearance clothing for men, women, and kids, jewelry, bed & bath items, housewares, frames, luggage, china, crystal & silver, all kitchen & personal care electronics & technology items
3. 10% off regular & sale furniture, mattresses and rugs
4. A chance to sign up to win a \$500 Gift Card
5. Plus anyone who opens a Macy's account receives an additional 20% off!

For every \$5.00 shopping pass we sell we make \$5.00 to help us do the great work we do!

Let me know how many shopping passes you would like and consider buying a few and sharing with your friends, family, and coworkers. These shopping passes are good nationwide on Saturday, September 20, 2008. Your \$5 contribution will help us have a successful first Shop For A Cause-thanks again for your support

Peace & belief,
Rosanne St. Sauver
Executive Director

Rainbow Meter: August Update on Executive Director Fund Drive

Our fund is inching forward. Help us reach our goal of \$10,000 by the end of the summer - we can do it! Thanks to those who have sent their economic stimulus checks to the Center!

The center is truly entering a new phase with the hire of our new Executive Director, Rosanne St. Sauver! Show her our support and encouragement with a donation to the center.

Please send checks to:
Executive Director Fund
LGBT Resource Center for the 7 Rivers Region

PO Box 3313
303 Pearl Street
La Crosse, WI 546023313

I know we can reach our goal! Thanks for your support and dedication to LGBT issues in the 7 Rivers Region.

Trish Harvey
Development Committee, Chair



Silent Rally For Equality Poster Making Days

Thursday, October 2, 2008 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 7, 2008 from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Please stop in to make a poster at either of these times. If poster making is not your thing plan on coming by to visit as others create visual works of art for our rally.

Macy's



09/20/2008

LGBT Resource Center for the Seven Rivers Region is a participating non profit in the Macy's Shop for a Cause Event all day on September 20, 2008. For every coupon book we sell for \$5 - we keep \$5! And here is some of what you get for spending \$5 on the savings pass that is good at any Macy's store in the country. See the [Director's column](#) for more details.

* 20% off regular, sale & clearance women's, men's & kids' apparel & accessories, fine, bridge & fashion jewelry, bed & bath items, housewares, frames, luggage, china, crystal & silver, all kitchen & personal care electrics & technology items.

- * 10% off regular & sale furniture, mattresses & rugs.
- * Plus, open a Macy's account and get an additional 20% off!

Come in and get yours today! Or contact the Center and a Board member will deliver your pass.

Opportunities to Help Your Center

There are new items on our Wish List beginning with 100 people to participate in our Silent Rally for Equality on Saturday, October 11, 2008 from noon to 12:30. Sign up today at the Center, or call 608-784-0452 or email r.st.sauver@7riverslgbt.org and pledge your attendance at the Silent Rally for Equality. Check here for the complete [Wish List](#). [Volunteer](#) for some fun, fundraising activities for the Center.

Upcoming Activities

Check the Center [website calendar](#) for all events.

National Coming Out Day: Silent Rally For Equality

When: October 11, 2008, 11:30 meet at Cameron Park, noon to 12:30 on the bridge, 12:30 to 1:00 or so light refreshments at Cameron Park

Where: Cameron Park and bridge

Imagine a group of people sporting rainbow gear, Pride flags, and walking together to promote equality in step with one another. It is a beautiful vision and will be even better when seen in living color on Saturday, October 11th. We will meet in Cameron Park at 11:30 a.m. and return there after the rally for light refreshments and relish in the good vibes.

Coming Out For Equality: Bridging Communities Gala Event

When: Saturday October 11, 2008 from 5:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Where: Radisson Center

A gala evening featuring a catered dinner, silent auction, speakers, and dancing at the Radisson Center. You do not want to miss this, so stop by the center and pick up a ticket today, or call 608-784-0452 or email r.st.sauver@7riverslgbt.org

Ongoing Center Activities

Weekly Activities

AA Group

An LGBT AA Group meets weekly on Fridays, 7:00 pm, at the Center. Questions? Call 608.784.0452.

Monthly Activities

Gender Queer/Transgender Gathering at the Center:

Do you identify as gender queer? How about Transgender? Do you ever feel like you don't fit in because of your gender identity or expression? Then come to a monthly discussion group at the 7 Rivers LGBT Resource Center. The group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00. For more information contact: vanroose.kath@uwlax.edu. For upcoming meeting dates, check the Center [website calendar](#)

Genderqueer - A gender variant person whose gender identity is neither male nor female, is between or beyond genders, or is some combination of genders. This person may want to challenge gender stereotypes and the gender binary system.

Transgender - A person who lives as a member of a gender other than that expected based on anatomical sex.

Member Advertisement: Looking for a Renter

I am looking to share my home with a mature responsible person. The lower level of my home has recently become available. It includes a HUGE bedroom, living room, private bathroom, and privacy. We would share the kitchen and entry. The rent would be \$415.00 per month. This includes ALL utilities. There is also a washer and dryer to use.

I live in beautiful La Crescent, MN. Right across the big blue bridge from La Crosse. The house is in a nice neighborhood and very quiet. Close to the post office, library, grocery store, banks, city swimming pool, parks, and ink arena. It is also right on the bus route to La Crosse. I have a nice back yard with a deck in the back.

Sounds too good to be true? Well if you want more info, please e-mail me ASAP at Lefty125@acegroup.cc

Reminder: Become a member!

Your membership in the 7 Rivers LGBT Resource Center makes it possible for LGBT folks to have a presence in our community and to support the collaborative work we do with other organizations in the 7 Rivers Region. Your membership supports LGBT visibility! Please join us now by filling out [the membership form](#) and mailing it to the Center. Membership also comes with goodies from our Community Partners.