
LGBT News

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

July 2009

Volunteer for a Center Fundraiser

July 25th-26th volunteers will be working at the Kickapoo Country Fair and their wages will be paid to the Center. It will be an awesome weekend of doing good and helping create awareness of the Center and raise some money to help fund our programs. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Rosanne at 608-784-0452.

Director's Column: News from the Center

It is an amazingly wet summer not only with rain but the extreme humidity. We have a water bubbler here in the Center, so feel free to come in and hydrate your self and read a magazine, peruse our library, use the internet, or just come relax in our cozy area. As the weather warms so does our daily visitor count.

We have many exciting things planned for the summer months and to continue to build a sense of belonging and community here for LGBT folk as well as our many wonderful allies. Drop In Group is on average 20 people very Thursday with new faces regularly as well. We have said goodbye to friends and met many new ones as we continue to provide a safe space for networking, groups, and more.

President Obama proclaimed June to be Pride month across the nation-finally in 2009 we can have some nationwide recognition of a month that celebrates and honors us. In his proclamation he also spoke of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and the need to get rid of it, the need to promote equality for all people, and more. Visit www.lavendarmagazine.com to read the proclamation in its entirety. One area I do not see eye to eye with President Obama is his stance on gay marriage-he supports civil unions but not marriage. If we still are seen as different and can not choose for ourselves between marriage and a civil union then it simply is not equality, it is a token of equality. I would much rather save tokens for Chuck E Cheese or the Car Wash.

We have many great activities coming up for July. They include an Out and About which will be a Loggers game on Sunday, July 19th. Tickets for the game are only \$5 and the Center receives 50%

of the proceeds. So if you happen to like baseball and love the Center too this is a win-win for all parties! We will venture to the park for Drop In group and play another game of kickball, soak our feet in the fountain, and make new friends. GALAXY youth, 4 youth, 2 youth leaders, and I will be attending the HIV Institute in Appleton. GNO (Guys Night Out) will be going to dinner at Gracie's. PFLAG has officially moved to a new meeting site at the La Crosse Public Library South Branch, 1307 South 16th.

Save the Date

La Crosse Pride is August 22nd. We have buttons on sale at the Center for \$5 in advance or \$7 at the gate the day of the celebration. Last year they had a record number in attendance; if we all attend Pride and bring a friend we can easily make 2009 the best Pride ever in La Crosse.

The Second Annual Silent Rally For Equality will be October 10th. We will once again meet in Cameron Park at 11:30 a.m. and walk in unity to the Blue Bridge and stand in silence to raise awareness, challenge injustice, and promote equality for the LGBT community. Last year was our first year and we had 115 people and 3 dogs. Our goal this year is 200 people and 6 animals for equality! We will have a sign up at Pride again and I hope to reach 100 signatures for our Silent Rally!

Peace & belief,
Rosanne

Pride Events

Read about the pre-Pride events, including a bike ride and picnic, and a night out on the town, on the Pride website. [Read more here.](#)

Upcoming Center Activities

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

Brat Sale

When: July 3, 2009, 10:00 to 6:00

Where: Festival Foods, Onalaska. Proceeds benefit the GALAXY Program and will be used to rent a van, pay gas, and other necessities for our road trip to Appleton, WI, on July 12-15th to

participate in the HIV Institute. Come help us have a fantabulous Brat Barn and raise the funds needed for this excellent opportunity for LGBT and allied youth.

July Women's Potluck Group

When: Saturday, July 11, gathering at 1:00 pm.

Where: For more information please contact Rosanne at 608-784-0452.

The July potluck will be hosted by Kathie and Shelly, at Kathie's lake house. Brats & burgers provided (some will be turkey brats). Please bring a dish to pass and your own beverage.

The theme is outdoor fun so feel free to bring kayaks, canoes or even boats as a landing is 7 houses away. They have a boat, a canoe & a few kayaks to play in but bring what you like.

Brat Sale

When: July 18, 2009, 10:00 to 6:00

Where: Festival Foods, 30 Copeland Avenue, La Crosse. Proceeds to benefit the LGBT Resource Center's programs and help us continue to move forward. We have restarted PFLAG, the Glenda Group for LGBT folk dealing with alcohol and drug issues, and much more. Come out and buy a brat-we need you!

Out and About Group Activity

When: Sunday, July 19, 2009, Meet at the Center at 10:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Where: Loggers Game, 5:05-8:05. Tickets \$5 if purchased in advance. This allows everyone to sit with us in a special Family Section, plus contributes to the money the Center receives. More information: Rosanne 608-784-0452

Guy's Night Out: a monthly get together for all persons who identify as male.

When: July 24th, Friday, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Dinner at Gracie's, 1908 Campbell Road; Questions or to RSVP call Mike 608-385-5753 or Josh 608-790-7606

Brat Sale

When: July 25, 2009, 10:00 to 6:00

Where: Festival Foods, Onalaska. Proceeds to benefit the LGBT Resource Center and our work to raise awareness and further dialogue to ensure a welcoming community for all its members including the LGBT community. As we continue to hold events, write letters to the local papers, and have a safe open and welcoming office space available 6 days a week- we continue to make strides for equality. Thank you for your support and we hope to see you at one of our sales.

August Women's Potluck Group

When: Saturday, August 15, gathering at 12:30 pm

Where: For more information on the location, please contact Rosanne at 608-784-0452.

Brat Sale

When: August 25, 2009, 10:00 to 6:00

Where: Festival Foods, Onalaska.

Rummage Sale and Drop Off Times

Annual Rummage Sale: Friday, August 7th and Saturday, August 8th.

Drop times for the sale will be:

Thursday, July 30th 4-7 pm

Friday, July 31st 4-7 pm

Saturday, August 1st 9-noon

Tuesday, August 4th 4-7 pm

Wednesday, August 5th 4-7 pm

NO Drop offs after August 5th, 4-7 pm

Drop off items to 3215 East Fairchild Street, La Crosse
Or call 608-784-0452 to arrange additional times

NO TVs, computers, or large appliances unless special arrangements are made in advance.

Ongoing Center Activities

Weekly Activities

GALAXY, a group for youth ages 14-19

When: Every Tuesday 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. AND every Saturday 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Where: 7 Rivers LGBT Resource Center, 303 Pearl Street, La Crosse

LGBTQ Parents Group

When: Every Wednesday 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.
Where: 7 Rivers LGBT Resource Center, 303 Pearl Street, La Crosse

Drop-in Group

When: Every Thursday 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Where: 7 Rivers LGBT Resource Center, 303 Pearl Street, La Crosse

Bi-weekly Activities

AA Group

When: Every other Friday at 7:00 p.m.
Where: 7 Rivers LGBT Resource Center, 303 Pearl Street, La Crosse

Just as Glenda was Dorothy's support in OZ this group is the equivalent for LGBT people struggling with drug & alcohol addictions and issues. If you are looking for support and a safe place to be yourself as you deal with your drug & alcohol issues -please join us. For more information please contact: Aaron at 608-788-1508

Monthly Activities

PGLAG

When: First Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.
Where: 7 Rivers LGBT Resource Center, 303 Pearl Street, La Crosse

Gender Queer/Transgender Gathering at the Center:

When: First Wednesday 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Where: 7 Rivers LGBT Resource Center, 303 Pearl Street, La Crosse

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 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.

GNO (Guy's Night Out)

GNO will meet the fourth Friday of every month at the Center from 6-8 pm. All male identified persons are welcome.

Opportunities to Help Your Center

There are new items on our Wish List. Check here for the complete [Wish List](#). [Volunteer](#) for some fun, fundraising activities for the Center.

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.