



### Ashtabula Family Picnic

*from Jayson Nadolny, AGLBTOA*

Ashtabula GLBT Outreach Alliance will be having a Family Picnic on Saturday August 22 from 1PM-6PM. The Picnic will be held at Geneva State Park, 4499 Padanarum Road, Geneva, OH.

Bring a covered dish if possible, your own place settings and drinks. Hot dogs will be provided. We will also have a talent show, karaoke, games and a ton of fun!

RSVP at [www.ashtabulaglb.org](http://www.ashtabulaglb.org) Contact: Jayson Nadolny. Phone: (440) 536-6221. Email: [jaysonn@ashtabulaglb.org](mailto:jaysonn@ashtabulaglb.org) Browse to [www.ashtabulaglb.org](http://www.ashtabulaglb.org)

### PFLAG Butler chapter starting up

*from Joe Tomlinson*

Members of the Butler GLBT community and their loved ones will meet on Thursday July 23rd 7:30 - 9:00 to talk about the need for a chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) in Butler County. This is the first of three summer meetings to discuss the strengths of PFLAG for Butler.

Please write to [PFLAGButler09@hotmail.com](mailto:PFLAGButler09@hotmail.com) for meeting place and directions. You are invited to attend—I look forward to meeting you and working with you!

### Drenched Fur Waldameer & Water World event Aug 22

*By Gary Snyder, aka GarBear73*

For five years now, the Drenched Fur Committee has been hosting the Erie's Bear Run in the late winter/early spring. And in response to requests for an outdoor/summertime event, the DF Committee has planned an outing to Waldameer and Water World on Saturday August 22nd. For just \$17, you will get a combo pass for all the rides and slides to enjoy along with the other bears, cubs and admirers. We're inviting folks to join us for a BYOL (Bring Your Own Lunch) between 11am and 1pm. After lunch, we'll head into the water park for a few fun soaked hours and then enjoy for dinner the various food rides the amusement park offers. Then it's on to midway games and rides



*Members of Erie Gay Pride wave to crowd at the July 4 Mill-creek Parade. Photo: Deb Spilko*

for a few more hours of enjoyment. One of the best options for Waldameer is that folks who don't care for rides can still join us for the amusement park portion for free! Waldameer does not require admission to the non-water park portion where tickets can be purchased for say just 1 ride if desired. Water World however does require admission. But for the group discounted rate of just \$17, you can't go wrong! More details regarding the days events and contact information can be found by visiting [www.drenchedfur.com](http://www.drenchedfur.com) or calling me at (814)384-0463. We look forward to having you join us!

### Allegheny County wins rights ordinance

*Info from Equality Advocates and Women's Law Project*

The Allegheny County Council voted by an 8-6 vote on July 1 to approve the Allegheny County Human Relations Ordinance, legislation that will ban discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, with a limited religious

*(continued on page 3)*

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**Editors: Deb Spilko and Mike Mahler**  
**Ad Design: Mike Lipiec**  
**Deadline for next issue: Sat, Aug 15; this will be folded and distributed the night of Tues, Aug 25 at Mike Kohler's.**

The *Erie Gay News* is published monthly as a source of news, events, information, and support for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered people (GLBTs), their families, friends, and supporters in the Erie PA area.

We welcome and encourage all readers to submit timely news, comments, and opinions of interest to local GLBTs for publication in these pages. We will consider for publication any nonfiction article, blurb, or illustration graphic that upholds that spirit. Please include your contact information with any piece you submit.

We will not publish any material that promotes hatred or discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identification, race, religion, age, class, physical ability, or any other reason. We do not support the exploitation of minors.

Views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the EGN staff.



To the Mike Kohler and Tom Wiler for hosting; Andrea, Bruce Shrou, Carl, Deyna, Dinah, Don, Erin M. M., Gary, James von Loewe, Janice Hanusik, Jeff, Kim, Marshall Snyder, Mike, Neal D. Oat and Tom Wiler for folding; Brian Lonyo, Bruce Shrou, Erin M. M., James von Loewe, Janice Hanusik, Jerry McCumber, Marshall Snyder, and Mike for distribution, Mike Lipiec for ad layout & etc and Peter for proofreading. If you're interested in helping out, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com.

**Classified Ads are available!**  
**See page 13 for more info.**



QUARTER PAGE	FULL PAGE	HALF PAGE VERTICAL
HALF PAGE HORIZONTAL	EIGHTH PAGE	

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EIGHTH	\$30 - \$27 Prepaid	1 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " high X 2 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " wide
QUARTER	\$50 - \$45 Prepaid	3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " high X 2 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " wide
HALF VERT.	\$90 - \$81 Prepaid	7" high X 2 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " wide
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Camera ready art or manuscript and/or photos, illustrations and logos must be received by the 15th of the month.

Photos and Illustrations should be PDF or TIFF and HIRES.

All hardcopy ads submitted will be reproduced as close as possible.

# Community News

exemption. The ordinance also creates a county Human Relations Commission to investigate alleged instances of discrimination.

Although similar protections have been in place in the City of Pittsburgh for over 20 years, this ordinance marks the first time that these protections will be extended throughout the entire county.

With this decision, Allegheny County becomes the 15th municipality in the state to grant such protection to LGBT individuals.

## Dahlkemper Co-Sponsors bill to repeal Don't Ask, Don't Tell

*by Mike Mabler*

Congresswoman Kathy Dahlkemper has signed on as a co-sponsor of the bill to repeal Don't Ask/Don't Tell. It is very important for us to call Rep. Dahlkemper's office and thank her! The number for her Erie office is 814-456-2038

## 2009 Pride Picnic photo book for sale!

*by Mike Mabler*

*Erie Gay News* has beautiful photo books of the recent 17th Annual Erie Pride Picnic.

There are over 200 photos in the book and the cost is just \$20.39 + shipping. This includes all of the face photos that we took, as well as the Family Portrait. Get yours today at the Erie Gay News web site in the online version of this article.

You can also see the photos online, as well as embedded video from the picnic at <http://picnic.eriegaynews.com>.

For those who like to plan ahead, we already have reserved the Rotary Pavilion for next year's picnic for Saturday, June 12.

*(Continued on next page)*

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# Community News

## Come on Out! for a Boat Ride

*Information from Erie Gay Pride*

It's time for another Come on Out! social event sponsored by Erie Gay Pride, Inc. On Saturday, Aug. 8 at 3 p.m., we will be going on a pontoon boat ride through the quiet lagoons of Presque Isle State Park. This guided excursion will last about an hour and will offer participants a great opportunity to learn more about wildlife and ecology of Presque Isle.

The boat will leave from the Graveyard Pontoon Boat Landing located just past Perry Monument. You must arrive at the boat launch at least 15 minutes prior to the 3 p.m. departure time. The pontoon boats are not covered, so bring your sunscreen and hat, or your raingear since this is a rain or shine event (unless there is lightning/thunder).

This event is free, but there are only 18 seats on the boat, so you must make reservations. If you are interested, email [eriegaypride@gmail.com](mailto:eriegaypride@gmail.com) with the name and phone number of each person attending, or you

may call Bob at 456-9643. Reservations are first come, first served. More information about the pontoon boat ride may be found at: [www.etnextras.com/PresqueIsle/](http://www.etnextras.com/PresqueIsle/). For more information, go to the Erie Gay Pride, Inc. website at: [www.eriegaypride.org](http://www.eriegaypride.org).

## From the Heart Children's Art Display

*Information from SafeNet*

Over the past few years, SafeNet has been part of the "Hands are not for Hitting" project. During "Celebrate Erie", which is from August 13th to the 16th, our Children's Department will host a display of artwork from the children in our shelter in the lobby of City Hall, entitled "From the Heart".

The artwork done by the children in our shelter and non-residential programming and expresses how they feel about witnessing or being involved in domestic violence. Over the past few years, we have seen an increase of children coming into our emergency shelter with nothing other than the clothing on the back, leaving behind family, pets, toys and their home. Every child in our shelter has taken the "Hands are not for Hitting" pledge, which stands behind the statement that "my hand will never hit or hurt any other person".

We are asking many local government officials, business leaders and other community leaders to take this pledge that will hang along with the children's art display during "Celebrate Erie".

## Update on Chautauqua Rainbow Connection Weekend

*from Pat Collins*

The Chautauqua Rainbow Connection Weekend will include the following activities *Saturday*: Lunch, Workshops, Wine & Cheese Reception, Dinner, Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus Concert, followed by dancing and cash bar and late movie. *Sunday*: Breakfast, Ecumenical Worship Service, Political rally, Lunch. Also art show. Organizers say they worked hard to keep costs low (\$30 regular, \$14 senior or student—meal, concert and accommodations extra) Info: Pat at (716) 761-6052 or email [gavanim@juno.com](mailto:gavanim@juno.com) or visit [www.rainbowprideconnection.net](http://www.rainbowprideconnection.net) (Conference attendees must be 18+) Those registering by August 10 will receive a free T-shirt.

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# NY marriage equality update

*[Editor's note: Until July 9, the New York State Senate was embroiled in a bitter leadership feud that had halted action for over a month. Alan Van Capelle addresses marriage equality in light of the recent crisis in the legislature.]*

by Alan Van Capelle  
**Empire Pride Agenda**

In a July 10 interview with the *New York Times*, NY Governor Paterson stated his intention to bring the state legislature back after Labor Day to take up—among other important issues—the marriage equality bill.

Since then I have been contacted directly by many people asking what this means and whether this is something we support. So that you know our thinking about this at the Pride Agenda, I have decided that it is important to let everyone know what we've been saying.

We do in fact agree with the Governor that September is the next best opportunity our community has to pass marriage equality legislation in the State Senate. The Pride Agenda has worked with Senators from both sides of the aisle for many months to determine the best time to bring the bill to the floor and have it pass. While we would have preferred that the debate and vote had taken place in June—before the scheduled end of the regular legislative session—events in the State Senate that were beyond our control made this impossible.

Even though the Senate has resolved its stalemate and gone back to work to pass a few non-controversial bills, we agree with what has been said publicly by a number of Senators that a “cooling off” period is needed after the intense fighting that occurred among Senators during the month-long impasse. Passing this legislation will require votes from both Republicans and Democrats. It is clear to us that we wouldn't want marriage equality to be among the first bills they take up because passing it requires Senators to work together, and right now this is difficult as there are still many hurt feelings and bruised egos.

We need the Senate to be in a productive place when it takes up marriage equality so that the bill can be debated based upon its merits and not on anything else.

Our community has fought for too long and has come too far not to have marriage for our families treated with careful consideration by the Senate. This is what would happen if a vote were scheduled right now. You can be sure though that in the next number

of weeks while the Senate works to come back together we will continue doing what we have been doing all this year—the district-by-district work it takes to win.

Thank you for your emails and telephone calls. It is great to know so many people across our state are eagerly following this campaign. What we need you to do to keep the momentum up during this time is to stay engaged and take action when we let you know it's necessary. If we keep working together, I know we will win.

## Former President Clinton now supports marriage equality

*from Freedom to Marry*

New York, July 14 2009 — Former President Bill Clinton now favors the freedom to marry. Following a speech on July 8th, the former President was asked if he supported marriage equality and he responded for the first time in the affirmative. He joins a list of other high profile political leaders including the U.S. Conference of Mayors, U.S. Senators Charles E. Schumer (D-NY) and Christopher Dodd (D-CT), former NY Senate leader Joe Bruno, Republican operatives Roger Stone and Steve Schmidt, and former Vice President Dick Cheney who have all within the past few weeks endorsed the freedom to marry.

“President Clinton's support for the freedom to marry has evolved over time, and shows the power we each have when we talk about why marriage matters to the people we know and help them rise to fairness,” said Evan Wolfson, executive director of Freedom to Marry and author of *Why Marriage Matters: America, Equality and Gay People's Right to Marry*. “President Clinton has grappled with this question for a long time, and clearly he, like the country, has come a long way since fear and politics brought about such discriminatory measures as the so-called ‘Defense of Marriage Act’ that he signed and now has moved past.”



# National briefs

Headlines and briefs of significant news stories. To read more, visit online version of this feature for links to full news items. Browse to [www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com)

## June 25 - Federal Workplace Discrimination Bill introduced

Bill introduced in the House by Barney Frank would provide Federal protections against workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. Called Employment Non-Discrimination Act, HR 2981, the bill now has 133 sponsors. (from Philadelphia Gay News)

## July 7 - D.C. Law Recognizing Out-of-Jurisdiction Marriages By Same-Sex Couples Takes Effect (From Human Rights Campaign)

## July 8 - Vet-turned-congressman: End 'don't ask, don't tell'

Rep. Patrick Murphy, an Iraq war veteran, kicked off a push to persuade Americans that the president should repeal "don't ask, don't tell," the policy that prevents openly gay troops from serving in the U.S. military.

Murphy, D-Pennsylvania, appeared along with several gay, lesbian and straight service members to launch the initiative.

"We can not afford to wait any longer" for the policy's repeal, Murphy said at the National Press Club in Washington. "Now is the time to change this, when

our military is stretched so thin" with wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

A "Voices of Honor" tour, sponsored by the Human Rights Campaign, will travel across the country, sharing stories of gay, lesbian and straight servicemen and -women in hopes of garnering support for the Military Readiness Enhancement Act, which would repeal the law that established the policy.

The act would allow gay and lesbian Americans to serve in the military without concealing their sexuality. (from CNN.com)

## July 16 - President Obama mentions "our gay brothers and sisters" experience of discrimination at NAACP speech See video clip on our web site.

## July 17 - Hate Crimes Passes US Senate, Faces Veto

The Senate voted 63-28 Thursday night to end discussion on the Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which was subsequently adopted by unanimous consent as an amendment to the Department of Defense reauthorization bill. (From TheAdvocate.com)

## July 17 - Domestic partner Health care reform voted on U.S. House of Representatives

Ways and Means Committee voted to eliminate the unfair taxation of domestic partner benefits as part of the health care reform bill that they voted out of committee. The Committee voted 23-18 to send the full health care reform bill, which includes this provision, to the full House for consideration. (From Human Rights Campaign)

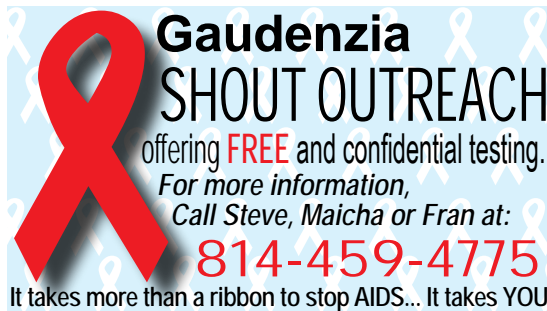
### How they voted: Matthew Shephard Hate Crimes Bill

All US Senators from the three states in the region voted for this measure.

**PA** - Bob Casey (D-PA), Arlen Specter (D-PA)

**NY** - Charles Schumer (D-NY)  
Kirsten Gillebrand (D-NY)

**Ohio** Sherrod Brown (D-OH)  
George Voinovich (R-OH)



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# Calendar

This calendar is also online at [www.eriegaynews.com/calendar.html](http://www.eriegaynews.com/calendar.html)

**Jul 23 (Thu) - PFLAG in Butler formation meeting** (Butler, PA 16001) 7:30 PM - 9 PM. PFLAG in Butler? Members of the Butler GLBT community and their loved ones will meet on Thursday July 23rd 7:30 - 9:00 to talk about the need for a chapter of Parents and Friends Against Lesbians and Gays in Butler County. This is the first of three summer meetings to discuss the strengths of PFLAG for Butler! Please write to [PFLAGButler09@hotmail.com](mailto:PFLAGButler09@hotmail.com) for meeting place and directions. You are very welcome! Contact: Joe Tomlinson. Email: [PFLAGButler09@hotmail.com](mailto:PFLAGButler09@hotmail.com)

**Jul 24 (Fri) - Craze Night Club : Dynamic Divas Kick Off Pride Weekend** (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502) Kick off Pride Weekend with Dynamic Divas at Craze Night Club! All welcome! This is part of the drag competitions hosted by Victoria Spaulding the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. Doors open at 9 PM; show starts at 11 PM and there will be dancing until 2 AM. There is a \$2 cover and must be 21 to enter. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to <http://www.crazeerie.com>.

**Jul 25 (Sat) - Annual Pride Parade** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 12 PM. Organized by Erie Gay Pride. Assemble at Zone at 12 noon. Step off is at 1 PM. Will proceed down State Street to Perry Square. The Gay Rainbow starts at the Zone and ends at Perry Square! Wear your Zone or *Pride* t-shirts, bring a banner or sign, and the Zone will supply Rainbow flags and balloons to show off your *Gay Pride!* Email: [eriepride@gmail.com](mailto:eriepride@gmail.com). Browse

to [www.eriegaypride.org](http://www.eriegaypride.org).

**Jul 25 (Sat) - Pride Rally** (Perry Square, W 6th and State St, Erie, PA) 2 PM. Many activities, planned including speakers, local singers and the 2008 & 2009 Miss Erie will be performing. Headliner is Tom Goss. Also performing is Jeremiah Clark of Pittsburgh and others. Vendors and displays. Email: [eriepride@gmail.com](mailto:eriepride@gmail.com). Browse to <http://www.eriegaypride.org>

**Jul 25 (Sat) - Zone Dance Club: Island Heat- Rainbow PRIDE Beach Party!** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Join us for a night of fun as we *beat* things up and celebrate Erie Gay Pride! Rainbow jello shots & leis, glowsticks & grass skirts! Show off your summer tan—wear fun or sexy swimwear and your Zone or *Gay Pride* T-shirts in rainbow colors! The Gay Rainbow starts at the Zone and ends at Perry Square! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <http://www.thezonedanceclub.com>.

**Jul 25 (Sat) - Pride Night Party** (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502) *Happy Pride* from *Craze* Night Club!! Come out and celebrate with a



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**Jul 26 (Sun) - Religious Service** (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16508-2540) 11 AM. Email: [eriepride@gmail.com](mailto:eriepride@gmail.com). Browse to <http://www.eriegaypride.org>.

**Jul 26 (Sun) - GLBT Day at Waldameer** (Waldameer Park, 220 Peninsula Drv, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM. After the noon church service. (see previous listing) A good meeting place is in front of Rainbow Gardens. Combo tickets will be offered at a discounted price. Check the web site for additional info and to register. Email: [eriepride@gmail.com](mailto:eriepride@gmail.com). Browse to [www.eriegaypride.org](http://www.eriegaypride.org).

**Jul 29 (Wed) - Bishop Gene Robinson in Chautauqua** 2P.M. Rev Robinson is the first openly-gay and non-celibate bishop within the Anglican church. More details on the visit are available from the Chautauqua Institution [www.ciweb.org](http://www.ciweb.org) (716)357-6200. See page 12 for more.

**Jul 31 (Fri) - Aug 2 (Sun) - Jones Pond: Naturist Weekend- Greek Gods** (Jones Pond Campground

& RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Saturday - Spa Day at the Pool; White Toga Party; Prizes for Best for Weekend Guest and Seasonal Costumes Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: [info@jonespond.com](mailto:info@jonespond.com). Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

**Aug 1 (Sat) - Camp Davis: Boots and Boxers Night** (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: [campd@aol.com](mailto:campd@aol.com). Web: [www.campdaviscampground.com](http://www.campdaviscampground.com).

**Aug 2 (Sun) - Buffalo Big Gay Boat Ride** Start Time: 7PM-10pm Boarding at 6:30pm. Erie Basin Marina, Buffalo NY. Tickets \$25. Dry dock part to follow. Benefits Imperial Court charities. For more info please contact The Imperial Court of Buffalo [info@imperialcourtofbuffalo.com](mailto:info@imperialcourtofbuffalo.com) Visit [www.imperialcourtofbuffalo.com](http://www.imperialcourtofbuffalo.com)

**Aug 3-6 (Mon-Thu) - Jones Pond: Vacation Week** 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Plan your vacation at The Pond; Activities every day and evening Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: [info@jonespond.com](mailto:info@jonespond.com). Browse to [www.jonespond.com](http://www.jonespond.com).

**Aug 6-9 (Thu - Sun) - Cleveland Black Pride** - Phone: (216)322.5131 Visit [www.bgpcleveland.com](http://www.bgpcleveland.com)

**Aug 7 (Fri) - G2H2 - Erie Gay Business Alliance** social get together (Sandbar Draft House and Grill, 2835 W 8th St, Erie, PA 16505) 6 PM - 8 PM. Gay Guy/Girl Happy Hour (G2H2) is a monthly get together for GLBT professionals and their colleagues and friends meet for networking. You can also sign up for the Erie Gay Business Alliance email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com>. Browse to <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=54742829807>.

**Aug 7-9 (Fri-Sun) - Jones Pond: Red Hot Leather**

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**For more information, contact:**

**Erie Office:** Booker T Washington Ctr  
1720 Holland St, PA 16503  
**814-453-5744 or 1-800-400-2437**

**Clarion Office:** 15870 Route 322  
Suite 2 Clarion, PA 16214  
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# Calendar

**Weekend** (9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 9) Red Hot Leather Horny Devil Party; Red Hat Society Bingo; Mr Jones Pond Leather Contest Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to www.jonespond.com.

**Aug 8 (Sat) - Camp Davis: Bear Weekend** 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to www.campdavis-campground.com.

**Aug 8 (Sat) - Come On Out! Pontoon Boat Ride** (Graveyard Pontoon Boat Landing, Presque Isle State Park, Erie, PA) 3 PM. Come on Out! to Presque Isle State Park for a pontoon boat ride through the back lagoons and waterways, 3 p.m. Seating limited to 18 so reservations required. Sponsored by Erie Gay Pride, Inc. Boat leaves from Graveyard Pontoon Boat Landing, rain or shine. Participants must arrive no later than 2:45 p.m. Contact: Bob. Phone: (814) 456-9643. Email: eriegaypride@gmail.com. Browse to www.eriegaypride.org.

**Aug 9 Family Picnic in Pgh** Noon-6PM. Fishing

contest and games for the kids. Prizes and plenty food. Pets welcome. \$20/family \$10 singles. Presented by The Lambda Foundation & The GLCC at North Park Gold Star Grove Pittsburgh Tickets: (412)-521-5444 for tickets. www.lambda-pgh.org

**Aug 9 (Sun) - LBT Women of Erie meets** (Presque Isle Gallery Coffeehouse, 35 Peninsula Drv, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM. NOTE DATE CHANGE FOR THIS MONTH! Social group for lesbian, bisexual and transgendered women. Meets the 1st Sunday of each month at Presque Isle Gallery Coffeehouse. Sign up for email list at http://lists.eriegaynews.com/ Email: lbtwomen-owner@eriegaynews.com. Browse to http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/.

**Aug 10 (Mon) - PFLAG Erie/Crawford County meets** (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA 16508) 7 PM - 8:30 PM. Support group for parents, friends and families of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) people. Phone: (814) 454-1392 (John). Email: pflag

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# Calendar

erie.crawford@gmail.com.

**Aug 14 (Fri) - Watchfire Alliance meets** (Contact for location) 7 PM. Social group in Chautauqua County. Meets 2nd Friday each month location to be determined. Contact: Bethany. Phone: (716)499-4817. Email: brobson515@msn.com. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/watchfirealliance/>.

**Aug 14-16 (Fri-Sun) - Jones Pond: Mardi Gras** (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Golf Cart Parade; Prizes for Best Golf Cart; Mardi Gras Festival sponsored by the 100 Block; Mardi Gras Ball Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>

**Aug 15 (Sat) - Deadline for EGN September 2009 print edition** (Erie Gay News, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA 16502-1105) Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released the evening of Aug 25. For a complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check the print edition schedule here. Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to

<http://www.eriegaynews.com>.

**Aug 15 (Sat) - Mixers Summer Beach Bash** Mixers Tavern, Contests and more,, come dressed in your favorite beach gear! Sponsored by Sanzo Beverage. 204 Coleman Street, Olean, NY 14760 [www.mixerstavern.com](http://www.mixerstavern.com) (716) 372-1022

**Aug 15 (Sat) - Camp Davis: Leather Weekend** 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to [www.campdavis-campground.com](http://www.campdavis-campground.com).

**Aug 16 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels Presents.... FACE!** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 10:30 PM. Don't miss this month's drag show! Come see some of your old favorite performers and also this month's new performers! Show time is shortly after 10:30 pm! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to [www.thezonedanceclub.com](http://www.thezonedanceclub.com).

**Aug 20 (Thu) - Kathy Griffin in Cleveland** State Theater, Playhouse Square, 1519 Euclid Ave, Cleveland; 216-241-6000, [playhousesquare.org](http://playhousesquare.org).

**Aug 21-23 (Fri-Sun) - Jones Pond: Wig Stock** 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY. Pretty in Pink Party; Pink Lady Cocktail Hour Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Visit [www.jonespond.com](http://www.jonespond.com).

**Aug 22 (Sat) - Drenched Fur at Waldameer**(Waldameer Park and Water World, 220 Peninsula Drv, Erie PA 16505) For details call Gary at (814)384-0463 check story on front page, or visit [www.drenchedfur.com](http://www.drenchedfur.com)

**Aug 22 (Sat) - Ashtabula Family Picnic** at Geneva State Park, 4499 Padanarum Road, Geneva, OH. 1PM - 6PM. Sponsored by Ashtabula GLBT Outreach Alliance. Bring a covered dish if possible, your own place settings and drinks! Hotdogs will be provided! We will also have a talent show, karaoke, games and a ton of fun! RSVP at [www.ashtabulaglb.org](http://www.ashtabulaglb.org)! Contact: Jayson Nadolny. Phone: (440) 536-6221. Email: jaysonn@ashtabulaglb.org. Browse to [www.ashtabulaglb.org](http://www.ashtabulaglb.org).

**Aug 22 (Sat) - Zone Dance Club: Construction Zone Party** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Guys, grab your toolbelt and stud-finder so you can get nailed! Ladies, put on your daisy-dukes and make sure your headlights are on as you cruise thru the Construction Zone! Wear work boots, Levis & denim shorts, muscle shirts, tanks, toolbelts and hard hats—less is best—Prize for Sexiest Construction Worker! Phone: (814) 452-0125. [www.thezonedanceclub.com](http://www.thezonedanceclub.com).

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# Calendar

**Aug 22 (Sat) - Craze Night Club: Disco Fever Night**  
(Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502)  
It's *Disco Fever* at *Craze*!!! Come on out and dance the night away to your favorites from the 70's-80's and 90's!!! See you there!!!! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to [www.crazeerie.com](http://www.crazeerie.com).

**Aug 22 (Sat) - Camp Davis: Underwear Night 2**  
311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA. Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: [campd@aol.com](mailto:campd@aol.com). Browse to [www.campdavisground.com](http://www.campdavisground.com).

**Aug 25 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distributing work party** (Michael Kohler's, 614 Cherry St, Erie PA 16502) 7 PM. Help us get out the print edition of Erie Gay News. We'll be folding and distributing the copies. All ages welcome! It is also a great way to hang out and chat with folks! Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: [info@eriegaynews.com](mailto:info@eriegaynews.com). Browse to [www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com).

**Aug 28-30 (Fri-Sun) - Jones Pond: Cowboy Weekend**  
Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY. Line Dance Lessons Hour  
Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: [info@jonespond.com](mailto:info@jonespond.com). Browse to [www.jonespond.com](http://www.jonespond.com).

**Aug 22 (Sat) - Camp Davis: Country Western Weekend** (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: [campd@aol.com](mailto:campd@aol.com). Browse to [www.campdavis-ground.com](http://www.campdavis-ground.com).

**Sep 12 (Sat) - Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus at Chautauqua 8PM \$15 visit [www.rainbowprideconnection.net](http://www.rainbowprideconnection.net)** (716) 761-6052

**Sep 12-13 - Rainbow Connection Weekend at Chautauqua Institute** Saturday: Lunch, Workshops, Wine & Cheese Reception, Dinner, Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus Concert, followed by dancing and cash bar and Late movie. Sunday: Breakfast, cumenical Worship Service, Political rally, Lunch. Also art show. Info: Pat at (716) 761-6052 or email [gavanim@juno.com](mailto:gavanim@juno.com) or [www.rainbowprideconnection.net](http://www.rainbowprideconnection.net) (Conference attendees must be 18+)

**Sep 19-20 (Sat - Sun) - Ohio Lesbian Festival**  
Music, workshops, poetry/spoken word, merchants, and more. Camping is included in 2-day pass. [www.ohiolba.org](http://www.ohiolba.org)

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## Episcopalians OK blessing same-sex unions

*from Integrity USA*

ANAHEIM, CA (July 17, 2009)--The Episcopal Church turned an important corner at this General Convention and Integrity applauds the hard, faithful work of the bishops and deputies who brought us closer to the full inclusion of all the baptized in all the sacraments. We came to this convention committed to moving the church beyond [the moratorium on the consecration of additional gay bishops and on same-gender blessings] and forward on equality. We are beyond gratified that we have realized both of those goals.

Thirty three years after promising a "full and equal claim" to the gay and lesbian baptized, the Episcopal Church has affirmed equal access to ordination processes for all orders of ministry for all the baptized, has approved a broad local option for the blessings of our relationships, and has called the church to work together toward common liturgical expressions of those blessings.

It is a great day for the church and a greater day for the witness to God's inclusive love.

We look forward to working with all our allies as we move forward together into God's future, giving thanks for the good work here in Anaheim that has brought us closer to that church with 'no outcasts' to which former Presiding Bishop Edmond Browning called us.

### **Bishop Gene Robinson in Chautauqua July 29**

Rt Rev Gene Robinson, the bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire, will be speaking at the Chautauqua Institution on July 29 at 2 P.M. (Read more about Bishop Robinson in article at right)

You can order tickets by calling 716.357.6250, or visit [www.chautauquatickets.com](http://www.chautauquatickets.com) Information about Chautauqua at [www.ciweb.org](http://www.ciweb.org)

If you are not familiar with the Chautauqua Institution, it is recommended that you plan on arriving a little early to get situated.

## Episcopal Church overrides ban on gay bishops

*from Integrity USA*

ANAHEIM, CA (July 12, 2009)--In a special session today, the House of Deputies of the Episcopal Church approved a resolution, 151 to 66, which effectively overrides the three-year ban on gay bishops within the church. The gently-worded resolution, DO25, affirms Episcopal membership in the Anglican Communion while declaring that all orders of ministry, including the episcopate, are open to the LGBT baptized of the church. The resolution now goes to the House of Bishops where it is not expected to receive an overly warm reception.

"We were reminded today of the Archbishop of Canterbury's recent words to us that 'there is no unity without truth.' Today the clergy and laity of The Episcopal Church voted for both truth and unity by a wide margin," said The Rev. Susan Russell, President of Integrity USA.

DO25 is the first resolution the House of Deputies has considered regarding the consecration of LGBT bishops within the Episcopal Church since the last general convention in 2006. At that gathering in Columbus, OH, in the waning hours of the 10-day event, then-Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold pressured both governing bodies of the church to pass resolution BO33 which placed a moratorium on the consecration of additional gay bishops and on same-gender blessings. The action was in response to the election in 2003 of The Right Rev. Gene Robinson, Bishop of the Diocese of New Hampshire, the first openly gay bishop in the Episcopal Church.

Anglican bishops, primarily in Africa and South America, were outraged over Bishop Robinson's consecration and threatened the Episcopal Church's continued membership in the Anglican Communion. BO33 was an attempt to mollify that outrage, but caused problems at home with the LGBT faithful and their supporters. At this year's convention, numerous resolutions have been proposed to rectify or revoke BO33 and LGBT issues have garnered more attention than any other matter before the legislative body.

"We call on our bishops to affirm that we are a church ready to move forward in mission and ministry by joining the deputies and concurring with this vote," Russell said.

# To Rest is Human

By Rev. Richard A. Moyer  
Pastor, Community United Church

One of the tenets of the Christian religion is the belief that Jesus was both human and divine. It is true, though, that we usually emphasize the divinity of Christ as being more important and significant than his humanity. To place too much emphasis on his divinity is a serious a misunderstanding of the Gospel as placing too much emphasis on his humanity.

After all, it is Jesus' humanity with which we most easily identify. A God who is willing to come down to our level, is a God we can more easily understand.

In very human descriptions of Jesus, the Gospel writers tell us that "Jesus went away into a secluded place where he could be alone with his friends."

Having gone on vacation a few weeks ago myself, I can readily identify with the importance of Jesus' very human desire to travel to a place far away from his usual surroundings.

Every year, in early June, I get away from the ordinary, every-day challenges and routine of my normal life in order to give my body and mind its needed rest. This year, I also had an opportunity to refresh my spirit in quite an unexpected way.

I was invited to a Service of Taize worship. I almost declined the invitation because I had another event I could have attended that evening. But something was tugging at my soul, reminding me that quiet and restful spiritual renewal is as necessary as relaxation of body and mind.

I decided to go to the Taize Healing Service.

Taize worship comes from the Taize religious

community in France. It is a quiet, meditative form of worship that uses short phrases sung multiple times. Sometimes these phrases are sung while a passage of scripture is being read. The atmosphere is quiet, and candles are lit to emphasize Jesus' presence as the Light of the World.

The chanted words during the Taize worship that were most meaningful to me were:

"In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,  
in the Lord I will rejoice!  
Look to God, do not be afraid,  
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.  
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near!"

Those soothing words sung at a service of worship came my way unexpectedly. They were one of God's surprises that appear when we endeavor to find rest – not only for body and mind, but also for the soul.

Each of us needs to make time for ourselves in order to be relieved from the pressures of life. Our body and our mind need rest and renewal. So does our soul!

*The Community United Church is an open and affirming congregation and is a member of United Church of Christ and Church of the Brethren denomination. . It is located at 1011 W38th St. in Erie. Services are Sunday at 11am. (814) 864-4429. The pastor is Richard A. Moyer and his assistant is Dr. Richard McCarty.*

## Religious Service during Pride Weekend

You are invited to a Sunday service at Community United Church on July 26 at 11AM. The Church is located at 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA. Community United Church is a Welcoming Congregation. Email: [eriepride@gmail.com](mailto:eriepride@gmail.com). Browse to <http://www.eriegaypride.org>.

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Also:looking to travel to Florida and help with basic computer & Internet. Call and we can discuss other possible common interests. (814) 440-3010.



# Screen

When available, there are clickable links to trailers and movie websites in the online version of this article.

## IN THEATRES

**Taking Woodstock**, opening August 28.

In 1969, Elliot Tiber was a closeted interior design artist living in Greenwich Village, and he happened to be at the Stonewall Inn that June night that when the riots started. Later that summer, while working at his parents' upstate New York motel, he played an unexpected but crucial role in making the festival actually happen. Those events changed his life, and he wrote the memoir *Taking Woodstock: A True Story of a Riot, a Concert and a Life*.

Director Ang Lee (*Brokeback Mountain*, *The Wedding Banquet*) was taken by Elliot's story, and decided to shape it into this upbeat comedy.

Visit [www.elliotttiber.com](http://www.elliotttiber.com)



*Demetri Martin plays Elliot Tiber and Eugene Levy is farmer Max Yasgur in Taking Woodstock. Photo: Focus Features*

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<http://gayellowpages.com>

**Swimming with Lesbians** is a documentary that follows Madeline Davis as she struggles to breathe life into an historical Archive of the LGBT community in her home town of Buffalo, New York. She describes the building of Western New York's LGBT Archive as "the last big project of my life." It already overflows two rooms of her suburban Buffalo home.

This Archive is more than just documentary proof that the raw material of history exists. It is for many, an important acknowledgement of a struggle to be seen; acknowledged, known. For Madeline, it is a story of passion and power, for out of the individual stories found in the Archive, the past takes shape and forms the history of gay life in the United States and the fight for LGBT civil rights.

The film will be shown Sunday, July 26th at 7:00 p.m. at Buffalo United Artists Theatre, 119 Chippewa Street \$25, Buffalo. Advance ticket sales only. To purchase tickets call 716/983-9212 or 716/525-3962 Visit [www.swimmingwithlesbians.com](http://www.swimmingwithlesbians.com)

**Stay updated!**  
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[www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com)

# Screen

## FILM FESTIVAL

**Daniele Wilmouth** is the featured filmmaker for this year's **Venango Digital Film Association run-up program**. The screening is open to the public at the Crawford Center Auditorium, Emlenton, PA, from 7 to 9 p.m. on August 2nd, 2009.

Wilmouth is a prolific experimental and documentary filmmaker and a faculty member at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Columbia College. Wilmouth will discuss her work and answer questions about her creative process and filmmaking experiences. One of her upcoming films was shot in Venango county featuring long-time local residents in Emlenton. Wilmouth is from Pittsburgh.

This is the second 2009 Venango Digital Film Festival kickoff event and is the ideal opportunity to get direct information about the contest, meet a professional filmmaker, exchange ideas, and learn about local history. The VDFA promotes local history and culture by encouraging regional filmmakers and learning opportunities for all. The Crawford Center is located at 511 Hill Street, Emlenton, PA. The screening is free to the public. Donations are welcome. For more information call 814.671.1550.

## VIDEO - New and Upcoming

*Check online for links to trailers and clips*

**Brothers and Sisters: Complete Third Season** (2009)

Available 9/1 *ABC Video*

**Designing Women Season 2** (1987) Sassy and smart.

Visit online for link to video of Julia the Terminator taking on an AIDS bigot. Available 8/11 *Shout!*

**Desperate Housewives Complete Fifth Season**

9/1 *ABC Video*

**Girls' View 2** (2009) Another collection of award-winning lesbian-themed short films. [www.villagelight-house.com/GirlsView2/](http://www.villagelight-house.com/GirlsView2/) *Alluvial*

**Karl Rove I Love You** (2008) Weird and imaginative-comedy with Frasier's Dan Butler. *Ariztical*

**Liberace: Greatest Songs** (2009) From his Emmy-winning TV series in the 1950s, 7/28 *MPI Home Video*

**Mad Men Season 2** (2008) 7/14 *Lions Gate*

**The New Twenty** (2008) Five best friends in their late 20's face the disintegration of their tightly knit urban tribe. [www.thenewtwentymovie.com](http://www.thenewtwentymovie.com) *Wolfe Video*

**Menage** (1986) A bisexual thief (Gerard Depardieu) entices a down-and-out couple (Michel Blanc and Miou-Miou) into joining him as he robs wealthy homes — then reveals that he has fallen in love with the mousy husband (Blanc). 7/25 *Koch Lorber Films*

**The Life and Times of Vivien Vyle** (2007) Jennifer Saunders (Edina on *Ab Fab*) plays the host of a trash TV show. 8/11 *Warner*

**Ma Saison Super 8** (2005) Story of love and friendship set in France at the beginning of the gay civil rights movement, based on real events. French w/English subtitles. *Water Bearer*

## ONLINE

**"Silent Partners"** is a look at the hidden effects of the Don't Ask Don't Tell law through the eyes of three same-sex partners of deployed service members. It is an episode of the documentary series *In Their Boots* which examines the impact the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are having on people here at home. Visit [www.intheirboots.com](http://www.intheirboots.com)

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# The Fires of Lady Brigit

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# LBT Women news

by Laurie Finch

At our monthly meeting we talked about a couple of new ideas, which might help us keep more gals coming to our events.

The first idea was to help out the members who do not have computers. Yes, there are quite a few who do not compute! We are going to make up blank calendar sheets and hand them out to everyone at the meeting. Everyone can fill out the sheets as we make plans, and will be able to take them home as use as a reference!

Another idea is to try to get a younger member or couple from our community to volunteer to form and coordinate a group for the younger LBT women. It would be great if we could get that rolling! Anyone up to it? I know we have younger girls interested in making friends and hanging out together. And you all like to go to the Zone or wherever and dance and party, so let's see if we have any takers. Our group meets at 1

pm, on the second Sunday of every month. We thought if we could get a younger chapter, The YLBT Women could meet after our meeting, say at 2 or 2:30. That way we could mingle for a short time, between meetings, and you would be aware of what we have planned if you all want to join us for any of our events.

We could take this a step further, and start an LBT Mom's group!

Anyone interested in trying to form one of these spin-off groups can e-mail me directly at LFinch003@neo.rr.com.

Here are the events we have planned (names in parentheses are the folks in charge of each event. For details visit us online (see bottom of this article) or contact me at LFinch003@neo.rr.com.

Jul 25 - Participate in Pride March and Rally. Meet at Zone for step-off. (Step-off is at noon)

Jul 26 - Discover Presque Isle 10:30 AM Rotary Pavilion. (Dee Dee)

Jul 28 - 8 Great Tuesdays: Jake's Blues Band Liberty Park 6PM (Erin)

Aug 1-2 - Jazz and Blues Festival (Barb and Robin, watch for their tent) Time TBA

Aug 6 - Geek Band at Block Party, in front of Park Place, 6:30PM (Barb and Robin)

Aug 7 - St Paul's Italian Festival at W. 16th & Walnut (Jan and Laurie) Time TBA

Aug 8 - Presque Isle Lagoon Area 8 AM. Pontoon rides, games, making a day of it. (Jan and Laurie)

Aug 9 - LBT Women of Erie meeting at Presque Isle Gallery at 1PM.

Aug 18 Erie Gay News Folding Party - Mike Kohler's, 614 Cherry St. 7PM

Aug 22 - Zabawa Polish Festival (Jan and Laurie) Time TBA

Aug 29 - Tom Ridge Environmental Center 3 PM Movies (2 for \$10), exhibits, gift shop, café, observation tower, maybe watch sunset. (Jan and Laurie)

*Check us out online at <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/> Links to our new Myspace and Facebook pages are at the that site on the home page. <http://www.tlavideo.com/vod/>*

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**Corry Office 814-663-3891**

# Contests

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## Win \$200 in Welding from Konkol Welding

Konkol Welding is giving away \$200 in welding work! To enter, just fill out the form at the Erie Gay News site between July 28 and August 18.

### ***About Konkol Welding***

Konkol Welding is a privately owned and operated business established in 2001. Throughout the years, we have acquired various welding equipment that allows us to custom fabricate and weld anything at our shop. We're also fully equipped to go portable and fabricate onsite.

- \* Certified Welding Services
- \* Custom Welding Services
- \* Mig Welding Services
- \* Stick Welding
- \* Tig Welding Services
- \* Flux-core Welding Services
- \* Plasma Cutting
- \* Ornamental Metalwork
- \* Blacksmithing
- \* Residential, Commercial, Industrial

## Also, Win \$200 in Iron Work from The Fires of Lady Brigit

The Fires of Lady Brigit is giving away \$200 in iron work! To enter, just fill out the form at the Erie Gay News site between July 28 and August 18.

Sword by Fires of Lady Brigit

### ***About The Fires of Lady Brigit***

The Fires of Lady Brigit is a privately owned and operated business providing beautiful works of metal artwork including metalworking, blacksmithing, custom one-of-a-kind artwork, bladesmithing, tables, wall hangings, candle holders, and sculptures.

“If it can be imagined, I will create it.”

~Rich KonkolMaster

Bladesmith/blacksmith/metalsmith/welder

# Win Prizes from Erie Gay News

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When you sign up for the Erie GLBT News and Events email list or for the Erie Gay News at Facebook, you get first notice of upcoming contests at <http://www.eriegaynews.com>! Helping you win great stuff.

Here are contests that will be premiering this month...

Contest	Starts
Listerine Whitening Prize Pack & The State DVD set	July 24
\$200 in welding from Konkol Welding	July 28
\$200 in iron work from Fires of Lady Brigit	July 28
On The Beach - CD Single by Barton	July 31

Here are contests with are currently active...

Contest	Ends
Junior Vasquez - Generation Next CD	July 24
Diane Birch's Debut CD - Bible Belt	July 31
Julian Plenti Is ... Sky-scraper CD	August 4
Erika Jayne 'Give You Everything You Want' CD Download	August 7



# Bear In Mind

By Gary Snyder aka GarBear73

In the last article on the Bear community, I made reference to the beginnings of the bear subset in the gay male community to help explain the history and purpose a little bit. For this article, I've decided to focus on how recently I was approached by a couple of younger guys who were asking me about what it is to be involved with the bear community locally. Being the coordinator of some bear events, it seemed logical they would ask me; some say it comes with the territory. The more I talked with them, the more it became evident that they were not aware of some things regarding social dynamics.

Just like in regular society, the Bear community is made up of the same individuals with all the same complexities. What caught me off guard was the presumption that all men in the Bear community are proud of their bodies. This actually couldn't be further from the truth. What I explained is that most people are more surprised to learn that even within the Bear community, men struggle with acceptance amongst

each other. Despite the fact that many times over I've been told that because by stereotype bears should be perfectly content with their bodies since they are amongst their own demographic... there some faults with this theory though.

Over the past 9 years that I have been involved with the local and great Bear communities, many times I have been witness to men working through their personal issues, the primary issue of which is their body size/type. In a society where having a 'model' look is a hallmark of acceptance, I completely understand why guys that are not 5'8" and 150 lbs with rock hard abs, pearly white teeth and great hair, struggle with acceptance in the gay community. The same is true amongst the bears and cubs and has been seen at social events like pool parties and outings to the beach or water park where guys wear shirts with their swim trunks out of embarrassment at being seen as they are.

Truth be told, it has taken me until the past year to be comfortable with who I am physically. Am I happy with myself? Overall yes, but not 100% since I still struggle with the psychological issues of being overweight. But now with maturity and experience I care less about what other people think/say about me. Do I want people to accept me for who I am? Sure. Do I live my life to gain that acceptance? Not like I used to and for good reason. I'm proud of who I am overall. The Bear community has helped me to understand that love and acceptance comes in many forms. I just happen to have a more hairy, curvy one of them. By no means is being a 'Bear' a remedy to the issues gay men struggle within inside themselves. However, personal acceptance is a key piece to finding love and satisfaction in this journey we call life.

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