



THE CENTER NEWS

Published by

GREATER DAYTON LGBT CENTER

Serving the Miami Valley since 1976

HOTLINE: 937-274-3776

ADDRESS: Box 1203, Dayton, OH 45401

WEB: www.daytonlgbtcenter.com

E-MAIL: info@daytonlgbtcenter.com

A Newsletter of the Greater Dayton LGBT Center

January / February 2012

40 Reasons Why 2011 Was A Great Year For LGBT

1. In May, for the first time ever, a Gallup poll found a majority of Americans supported legalizing same sex marriage.

lgbtqnation.com

2. On June 24, following a 36-26 vote, the New York Senate passed same-sex marriage becoming the most populous state to have same-sex marriage.

3. On September 20, "Don't Ask Don't Tell" was officially repealed. *"Our military will no longer be deprived of the talents and skills of patriotic Americans just because they happen to be gay or lesbian," President Obama said in a statement released by the White House.*

4. On February 23, the Justice Department announced that it will no longer defend the constitutionality the Defense of Marriage Act in court. nationaljournal.com

5. On July 14, California governor Jerry Brown signed the Fair, Accurate, Inclusive and Respectful Education Act. The new law mandates that educational material in California schools includes information on the contributions of LGBT people to California and United States history, prohibits discriminatory material and lessons and adds "sexual orientation" to existing laws that prohibit discrimination in education.

advocate.com

6. On February 23, Hawaii governor Neil Abercrombie signed the state's civil unions bill. The law will take effect on January 1, 2012. huffingtonpost.com

7. In 2011, support for gay marriage by age was at its all-time highest amongst all age groups. freedomtomarry.org

8. On January 17, Ohio governor John Kasich signed an executive order that prohibited discrimination in state employment on the basis of sexual orientation. plunderbund.com

9. On January 1, the first public same sex civil partnerships in Ireland took place. rte.ie

10. On February 1, The United States Department of State began issuing passport applications that asks applicants for "Mother or parent one" and "Father or parent two" instead of for "Father" and "Mother." The change is "in recognition of different types of families." washingtonpost.com

11. On February 18, in an 8-2 vote, the University of Alaska's Board of Regents added sexual orientation to its public university antidiscrimination policy. *"With the elimination of 'don't ask, don't tell' from the military, the trend is clear,"* University President Pat Gamble said in agenda material prepared for the board. advocate.com

Want to see the remaining reasons?

Go to our website at:

DaytonLGBTCenter.org

sign up to "receive our Newsletter" online.

You will get the Newsletter every other month and Dayton's Digital Digest twice a month, it's Easy!

Robert L. Brandt, Jr., M.D., FAFAP, AAHIVS



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Your Greater Dayton LGBT Center Year in Review!

As the weather begins to cool and the nights get longer, it is a perfect time to reflect on the successes of the *Greater Dayton LGBT Center* and plan toward to our future achievements. One of the ideas I have tried to convey throughout the year is great things are happening in the Dayton LGBT Community. The Center, which celebrated its 35th anniversary, has a lot to be proud of in its programming and collaboration with community organizations throughout the year.

As part of our programming for women, in February, the Center held its annual Women's Dance. The *Dayton Woman's Club* was once again the site of the dance. The dance was well attended and those there enjoyed themselves.

In April, several of the Board members were elected for their first term. The new and returning Board members work diligently to guide the Center toward the mission. This mixture of new and returning faces is an asset for the Center as time tested ideas and new ideas come together.

The LGBT Community Dinner in May hosted the Executive Director of *Equality Ohio*, Ed Mullen. The LGBT Community Dinners, held three times a year, is a collaboration between the Center and *Eternal Joy MCC, AIDS Resource Center Ohio/The Mu Crew, St Paul, a Reconciling United Methodist Church, Cross Creek Community Church, PFLAG Dayton, The Living Beatitudes Community, a ministry of Dignity Dayton, the Miami Valley Ohio Prime Timers, The Miami Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Tree of Community Unitarian Universalist, and the Dayton Gay Men's Chorus*. John Zimmerman the stalwart kitchen volunteer for each of the community dinners prepared a chicken dinner for the attendees.

The Center kicked off June sponsoring Pride programs. Working with the Miami Valley Pride Partnership, the Center was one of the sponsors for the Pride Parade and Festival. The Center hosted Pride Night at the *Neon* featuring the film, "We Were Here". The Pride Dinner featured keynote speaker Lieutenant Wendy Stiver, LGBT liaison of the *Dayton Police Department* and entertainment by comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer.

This year, the Center reached out to the Dayton LGBT community and hosted the first Big Gay Meeting in August. The meeting brought volunteers, community groups, religious organizations, and businesses together in an effort to work cooperatively. Suggestions from this meeting prompted a community calendar, now available on the Center's website. The community is now meeting monthly and working together to achieve more.

The community members that made it out for the September LGBT Community Dinner enjoyed a lasagna dinner and a glimpse of the dancing styles that would be on exhibit for "When the Stars Come Out". The *Downtown Dayton LGBT Film Festival* was a highlight of September events. The annual film festival showcases wonderful selections of LGBT themed movies. The Center appreciates the support *THE NEON* shows the LGBT community annually, and we encourage you to support *THE NEON*. The Center sponsored the film "Gen Silent", a documentary about the LGBT elders struggling with the decision to go back in the closet, at this year's film festival.

The dance competition with pizzazz, "When the Stars Come Out", at the *Dayton Woman's Club*, drew a large crowd.

The event hosts, *Dayton PFLAG* and the Center, were able to raise funds for the scholarship programs for each organization and for Center programming. The dancers and performers of "Dayton's Got Talent" provided the crowd with a remarkable evening.

The final LGBT Community Dinner of the year, the annual Thanksgiving Dinner, was at *St. Paul UMC*. In addition to the wonderful food made by volunteers, including the pounds and pounds of turkey, ham, and trimmings. Those in attendance saw a performance of Dayton's own *Rubi Girls*.

This year was a wonderful year for the Greater Dayton LGBT Center. Thanks to all of our supporters, donors, sponsors, volunteers, we were able to work toward our mission of enhancing the lives of sexual minorities in Dayton and the Miami Valley. Our work is not complete though, and we look forward to the continued and additional support for these and other valuable programs. The Center is looking to make 2012 particularly special.

We look forward to continuing the shared spirit with the local LGBT community groups, religious organizations, and businesses with the Community Dinners and Big Gay Meetings and working collaboratively to enhance the programming provided to the LGBT community. It will be the 25th anniversary of Pride in Dayton and we are looking to mark the celebration with an unforgettable experience. We look forward to supporting *THE NEON* and the seventh annual *The Downtown Dayton LGBT Film Festival*. "When the Stars Come Out" will be back for a sixth year.

How can the Center provide quality experience for you? What type of programming would you like to see? Join our conversations: on Facebook like for our page "*Greater Dayton LGBT Center*", on Twitter *@GrDaytonLGBT Cen* for Center updates, *@DaytonPride* for Pride updates, *@BigGayMeeting* for information about the Big Gay Meeting, and *@StarsComeOutDAY* for "When the Stars Come Out" updates. Also, be sure to check out the website: www.daytonlgbtcenter.org to stay connected with the Center, sign up for our e-newsletter, and check out the calendar of events from the LGBT community.

Let us give cheers to the New Year and all that it might bring.

Joshua West— President, Board of the Greater Dayton LGBT Center



C. Jesse Carlock, Ph.D.
Licensed Psychologist
www.carlockandassociates.org
Business Office Satellite Office
1105 Watershield Ave 222 W. National Rd.
Dayton, OH 45420 Vandalia, OH 45377
937/256-0500

2012 Dayton Gay Pride

Great things are happening in the Dayton LGBT community and one of the times that we shine is during the annual Pride celebration.

It is time to plan for Pride of course! As you may have heard, the Greater Dayton LGBT Center is once again your source for Pride in Dayton. We are excited to come into this year's Pride planning with the momentum and strong sense of community throughout the businesses, community groups, and religious organizations in the Dayton LGBT community.

The Pride Planning Committee is looking for volunteers to help with all of the great Pride programming this year. If you are interested in volunteering for Pride, now is the time to get involved. We are looking to set a date for our next meeting soon, so e-mail bret.wendel@daytonlgbtcenter.org and let us know that you are interested. We are looking for people that would like to assist in marketing, logistics, entertainment, vendor support, and all of the other great areas.



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The Greater Dayton LGBT Center's Mission is to create programs that enhance the lives of sexual minorities in the Miami Valley. The Center is an association run entirely by volunteers and receives support from area businesses, other nonprofit organizations and from annual memberships.

Board of Directors:

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 Board President: Joshua West
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www.daytonlgbtcenter.org.

For more information, call (937) 274-1776 or email at LGBTDayton@aol.com.



MEMBERSHIP CHANGES TO FISCAL YEAR

The Greater Dayton LGBT Center is counting on your support to continue its valuable programming. Your new and renewing memberships will help keep the Center going strong. We need YOU to help promote the programs and vision of the Greater Dayton LGBT Center. Please consider joining or renewing today!

Beginning January 1, 2012 all members will move to a new fiscal due date structure. Memberships will be due and begin on January 1st of each year and will expire on December 31st of each year. This process will allow the Board of Directors to more efficiently know where the membership dues stands as this directly relates to how much programming we can budget for beginning of each year. While membership dues are not the only source of income for the Greater Dayton LGBT Center it is a very important one.

The Board has also adopted new membership levels. Below on the newly revised membership form you will notice these changes. We have added a 'Student/Senior' category, a 'Household/Family' category, a 'Non Profit' category and a 'Business' category. We hope by adding these categories of membership we open the door to more opportunities for all facets of our community.

Submitted by: Richard Seegert, Treasurer



2011/2012 Greater Dayton LGBT Center Inc. MEMBERSHIP Form

1. ANNUAL* MEMBERSHIP DUES CATEGORIES (check your selection):

- \$15 Student/Senior* OR \$30 Individual/Single OR \$45 Household/Family
- \$50 Non Profit Org. OR \$100 Business OR \$120 Founder's Club
- \$1000 Builder's Club

*Beginning in 2012 membership dues will become due by all members on January 1st of each new year and will expire on December 31st of each year. Members in 2011 will receive a letter in regards to their pro rated dues for the rest of 2012 to bring them onto our new fiscal membership dues schedule.

2. Add an operating donation: \$10 \$25 \$50 \$200 \$_____ other

3. Center Endowment Fund \$1-99 Bronze \$100-499 Silver \$500-999 Gold \$1000 Platinum

TOTALS: Member Level \$ _____ + Operating Gift \$ _____ + Endowment Gift \$ _____ = Total \$ _____

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May we share your address with other Dayton LGBT groups? YES NO

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Dues payments and donations can be paid by credit card on our website* at www.daytonlgbtcenter.org

*A small fee will be added to cover the cost of the transaction.

Donations are 100% tax deductible to the extent of the law. Check with your tax expert for clarification.

The GREATER DAYTON LGBT CENTER, INC. is a private nonprofit Ohio Corporation 430368 with Federal non-profit 501 (C) 3 status - FEIN #31-0887625. Membership dues and donations fund the programs and activities of the GREATER DAYTON LGBT CENTER, INC.