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Now, think about the impact which these words had on the gay person behind you (or in front of you, or talking with you). And it's not just me who's upset. I have met other homosexuals, and people with gay family members, who are afraid of sharing their "secret." When I ask why, it's never because of any swastikas flying over the Pit. Instead, their fear stems from insensitive remarks made by clueless friends.

The next time you find yourself, or your friends, making a "casual remark" about gays, please be more aware of the effects of your words.

Even if you believe that gays will burn in hell, that does not excuse you from stereotyping us. I am not asking for acceptance or understanding, just for a little common decency and consideration.

Oh, one last note. To the girls on my hall who told me they are fearful of having dykes check out their legs: trust me, you have nothing to worry about. λ

This article originally appeared in *The DTH* last spring.

## A Successful NCOD

by Ian Palmquist

Thanks to lots of work from many B-GLAD members, this year's NCOD, observed October 10th, was a great success.

A group chalked messages all over campus the night before to alert the community to the day's event. Some favorite messages were, "God is a black lesbian," "Silent Sam is gay" (near everyone's favorite Confederate memorial), and a list of famous lgbt people.

By morning, our chalking had already elicited a response: an unknown Christian group responded with counter-chalkings such as "Come out of your sin" and "Pride is a sin." (Notice a theme?) At least we weren't ignored!

At 10 am, we set up tables in the Pit and began distributing rainbow stickers and the first new issue of *Lambda* in several years.

The real fun, however, began around noon, as people gathered for the march. We were happy to be joined by

## Co-Editors' Corner

by Joy Liao and Jennifer Poorbaugh

Hello again everyone! We hope you really enjoyed our last issue. We think it was pretty good for recovering from a 3-4 year gap in publishing. National Coming Out Day was quite an event! There was our first issue of *Lambda*, the march, stickers, flyers, chalkings, some newly outed frat boys, and the odd embarrassed bigot. All in all, it was a rip-roaring success! We hope you all enjoyed yourselves immensely!

What you have in your hands now is the newest *Lambda*. It's not only six pages longer than the previous issue, but it's in newsprint, and the circulation

is 3000 copies as opposed to the original 500. Impressive, huh? Take a look. You're sure to find something that tickles your pickle.

We know that in the glorious aftermath of NCOD, the question was raised, "What the hell do we do now?" Well, don't sit around and twiddle your thumbs; get those creative impulses in rein and create something for the next issue of *Lambda*! You're welcome to submit anything: fiction (short stories, poetry), nonfiction (news features, editorials, personal stories), or artwork (photographs, comic strips). Be inspired; be inspirational! Above all, submit! Details on how to submit or contact us are on the last page of *Lambda*. Got something to say? Tell us. We care. Really. Have an excellent Thanksgiving! λ



a number of allies and a group from Duke's Gothic Queers. By 12:15pm, approximately 75 marchers left the Pit bearing signs including "Do you have your Toaster-Oven yet?" and, simply, "Why not?" As we proceeded up Polk Place and McCorkle Place to Franklin street, the group joined together in chanting slogans and even singing a song. The only opposition we encountered were two boys who felt the need to pretend to have sex (laughably) while begging the media to take their picture. They were ignored by the press, and the marchers reacted well, some yelling "thanks for coming out!"

After the march, many people remained in the Pit for the open mic.

People read articles and poems, made announcements, and Amanda Maris drew quite a crowd with some stunning original songs and Indigo Girls covers. We all enjoyed the festive, affirming atmosphere in the Pit that afternoon.

One of the primary goals of Coming Out Day is raising visibility on campus and in the community, a goal we achieved quite well. The Daily Tar Heel, WUNC-FM, WCHL-AM, and TV channels 17 and 5, as well as others had generally positive coverage of the march, and helped get our message out to the larger community. Surprisingly, the Carolina Review failed to give the event their usual coverage of all things B-GLAD. λ