

Out and about

Community Centers' contact info

NC: Charlotte LGCC: 704-333-0144

1401-B Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC 28205
communitycenter@gaycharlotte.com

NC: OutWilmington GLCC: 910-794-1720

4710 Wrightsville Ave. • Suite 3201
Wilmington, NC 28403
www.outwilmington.com

SC Pride Center: 803-771-7713

1108 Woodrow St. • Columbia, SC 29205
www.scgplpm.org . SC PrideCenter@aol.com

March 13 - May 1 • Charleston Host a Dining With Friends party

Lowcountry AIDS Services is seeking people to host parties as part of its annual major fundraiser "Dining with Friends," which will take place on May 1. Afterwards, participants are invited to the "Finale" at the Maritime Center for champagne and desserts from the area's finest restaurants. This event has become one of Charleston's most anticipated social events of the season. Info: call Franklin at 843-747-2273

March 13 - June 5 • Hickory Dining For Friends party, Foothills style!

ALFA is looking for hosts for its fundraising event "Dining For Friends" to help in the fight against HIV/AIDS in the Foothills area. Guests of these parties are asked to make a donation to ALFA and in return receive a ticket to the DFF Jurie 5 Finale. Info: call 828-322-1447 or visit alfanc.tripod.com/events.html

March 13 • Asheville Domestic violence workshop

4-9 p.m.: For lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people who want to build healthy rela-

tionships and know how to recognize abusive ones. Free. Lunch provided. Registration forms are available at www.nccadv.org/training.htm. Info: call Cam Eubanks at 919-956-9124 or 888-232-9124

March 13 • Gastonia A Taste of Las Vegas

7-11 p.m.: The AIDS Council of Gaston County presents its annual "Taste of" event. \$30 - \$35 advance tickets available at Rodi Restaurant, 234 West Garrison Blvd. or Clay Café Pottery Painting Studio and Espresso Bar. Info: call 704-583-5238

March 14, 21, 28 • Charlotte Women and the Word

7 p.m.: March 14 - The Rev. Tonya Rawls, Charlotte; March 21 - The Rev. Wanda Floyd, Durham; March 28 - Margaret Howell, Charlotte, speak at New Life Metropolitan Community Church of Charlotte's "Women and the Word!" Preaching Series. The church is opening its pulpit to female preachers drawn from throughout the Christian community. Each sermon will be based upon a Biblical text that holds great personal power and meaning to each preacher. All services will be held on Sunday evenings throughout March at 7 p.m. at 1900 The Plaza, just off of Central Ave. Info: call 704-334-0350, email gordon@newlifemccnc.org or visit www.newlifemccnc.org

March 14 - April 4 • Greensboro It's in the puddin'

Triad area premiere of the Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize Winner for Best Play "Proof" by David Auburn. Triad Stage, 232 South Elm St. Info/tickets: Preview performance tickets: March 14, 16 and 17, \$10 each. March 18, single ticket prices range from \$12 to \$37. Prices vary depending on the day of the week and seat location desired. Info: call 336-272-0160 or visit www.triadstage.org

March 15 • Charlotte 'Don Quixote' on the horizon

Moscow Festival Ballet's "Don Quixote" presented by Carolinas Concert Association. Performed in the North Carolina Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, Belk Theatre. Info: call 704-527-6680, visit www.carolinasconcert.com or write CCA, PO.

Box 11356; Charlotte, NC 28220

March 16 • Wilmington Reinventing the "F" word-Feminism

7 p.m.: The Guerrilla Girls, sponsored by the Women's Resource Center, UNCW. Kenan Auditorium. Info: email www.guerrillagirls.com, or visit appserv02.uncw.edu/caic/events-WRC.asp. Free.

March 18 • Charleston Getting 'Wilde'

6 p.m.: A film series addressing issues of sexual identity opens with "Wilde" in the Education Center, Room 118, on the Campus of the University of S.C. Charleston. Free and open to the public. The Gay Straight Alliance, the Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Studies Fund, the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Communications Museum and several departments sponsor the film series.

March 19 • Charlotte Empty Bowls Project

For lunch. Guests are invited to a simple, soup kitchen-style meal of soup and bread during the Empty Bowls Lunch at The Marriott City Center on West Trade St. For a donation of \$20 or more, participants receive lunch and a hand-crafted bowl of their choice. The bowl is a reminder that there is always someone in our community whose bowl is empty. In addition to this year's luncheon, Second Harvest Food Bank has added pottery demonstrations, celebrity-donated bowls, a silent auction and music. Preview some of the bowls that will be available during the event at Clay Café on Camden, 1510 Camden Rd., 704-790-2326.

March 20 • Charlotte LGCC ENC fundraiser

7-9 p.m.: Equality North Carolina, the only state-level LGBT political action organization in North Carolina. Annual membership is \$35.00 and sponsorship levels are also available for the event. Can't attend, but want to help? Contact the group directly. Info: call 919-829-0343 or write Equality NC, PO. Box 28768, Raleigh NC 27611

March 20 • Greensboro The Human Race

Support OutGreensboro by joining the Human Race, community fundraising event for nonprofit organizations. The event features a 5K walk

and TAC certified run. Participants come together to walk, run or even roll the route! Participating organizations receive 75-85 percent of money collected and the Volunteer Center receives the remainder to continue mobilizing volunteers to address community needs.

March 22-24 • Charlotte Literary festival

"The Creative Spirit Thrives" is the title of the 12th annual literary festival at Central Piedmont Community College. Free and open to the public. No registration required. Info: www.cpcc.edu/literary/2004.

March 25 • Columbia An evening of Trustus

6 p.m.: Join the S.C. Gay + Lesbian Business Guild for a night out at Trustus. The guild is buying out the theatre for a special performance of Jeffrey. All proceeds go toward funding the Guild's 2004 Media Campaign. Contact the Center for further information or tickets.

March 26-28 • Chapel Hill 2004 Unity Conference

"Living Below the Bible Belt: The Experience of LGBTIQ Southerners" is the theme of the annual gathering of progressive lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer identified people and their allies in the Southeast. Info: call 919-962-3191, email: ncunity@unc.edu, visit www.unc.edu/glbsa/unity/index2.htm or write The North Carolina Unity Conference, Attn: Trevor Hoppe, Box 39, Carolina Union, CB#5210, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

March 27 • Columbia Pride rummage sale

7 a.m. to noon: SC Pride 2004 will hold a rummage sale at 5216 Jordan St. (in Forest Acres). All proceeds from the sale will go to SC Pride 2004. To donate items to this benefit sale contact Peacelvr1963@aol.com.

March 28 • Charleston Forum on same-sex marriage

3 p.m.: Attorney and nationally known speaker Craig Dean speaks on the legalization of same-sex marriage at Physicians Auditorium at the College of Charleston. Free. Open to the public.

info: Announce your community event in Out & About. Email: outandabout@q-notes.com or fax 704-531-1361.



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&
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GURBSIDE
BY ROBERT KIRBY

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YOU KNOW HOW GANGS HAVE A SYMBOL TO MARK THEIR TERRITORY, RIGHT? THIS WAS THE ONE FOR THE ATOMS.



I TOLD CAL IT LOOKED TOO MUCH LIKE THE ANARCHY SYMBOL AND HE WAS LIKE, "I KNOW, BUT IT WAS ATOM'S IDEA, NOT MINE." NO MATTER WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE, IT WORKED AS A GOOD WARNING TO OTHER GANGS, ESPECIALLY TO STAY OFFA THE ATOM'S TURF.



CAL WAS ALL GOOD WITH DOING GRAFFITI AND STUFF, SO ATOM LET HIM DO ALL THE MARKINGS, BUT AFTER CAL GOT A LITTLE TOO CREATIVE ATOM MADE HIM TONE IT DOWN.



SINCE WE WERE BEING ALL SECRET ABOUT "US", CAL STARTED LEAVING ME MESSAGES ON THE STREETS WHERE I LIVED AND WALKED, JUST SO I'D KNOW HE WAS AROUND AND THINKING ABOUT ME AND EVERYTHING.

ONE NIGHT WHEN I'D HAD A FEW AND WASN'T THINKING, I LET HIM DO A HOMEMADE GRAFFITI OF HIS INITIALS ON MY RIGHT ANKLE. HE WAS FEELING ROMANTIC.

HE TOLD ME THAT STARTING RIGHT THEN AND THERE HE WAS GOING TO USE HIS GRAFFITI FOR GOOD INSTEAD OF EVIL. I SAID I THOUGHT THAT WAS PROBABLY A GOOD IDEA.

