

the Lambda Newsletter

National Coming Out Day Edition

Tuesday, October 11, 1994
Official Publication of B-GLAD
Editor: Sara Dunegan

B-GLAD's National Coming Out Day Schedule

10:00am music in the Pit
11:00am open mike/coming out stories
11:30am 1st speaker
11:45am 2nd speaker
12:00pm Derek Livingston of NC Pride Pac
1:00pm "Coming Out: An Act of Love"
9:30pm semi-formal \$6 BGLAD non-members

Tips for Coming Out

- Δ Wear an openly Gay symbol or button
- Δ Fly a Rainbow Flag outside your home
- Δ Take a straight friend to a LesBiGay event
- Δ Put your lover's photo on your desk at work
- Δ Call "him" a "him" and "her" a "her"
- Δ Hold hands with your partner publicly
- Δ Come out to your family
- Δ Come out to your neighbors and co-workers
- Δ Organize a march or discussion group on LesBiGay rights

Stonewall 25: Our Story

by Michelle Plexico and Leah Shutt

UNC students were finishing their summer school finals the day the four of us piled into Michelle's Nissan on our way to Stonewall 25. There we were, rolling merrily down the highway when we hit a large piece of metal in the middle of the road in Virginia. Several hours later we found ourselves in a Holiday Inn in a huge rainstorm with no power and no car. We did, however, have an indoor pool with large rainbow streamers overhead - a sign from above that we should continue on our journey. In the morning, word about the car was not good, and so we found ourselves in a rental car, on our way again with the B-GLAD rainbow flag across the back window.

We made it to New York, and after a night of clubbing, hit Christopher Street and waterfront area for a day of people-watching and money spending on gay lemonade, dyke delectables, and other obviously necessary paraphernalia. Michelle left for the Dyke March, where she exuberantly marched the unblocked streets of New York with thousands of empowered topless lesbians. That evening we went for a walk on the pier where we saw the Empire State Building lit up in lavender.

We got up early the next morning to get a good place to see the Mile Long Rainbow Flag. Then we went to begin what would be a four-hour wait before step-off. Finally, it was our turn to join the huge crowd of people marching, which lasted several hours. Patrick and Michelle made up the best cheer: "C-A-R-O LINA, We're Gay!" It was powerful, awe-inspiring, and simply indescribable to be with so many gay people. The most touching moment occurred at 3:00 when 1.2 million people became hauntingly silent in memory of all the people who have been lost to AIDS and hate crimes. Then, at 3:02 there was a moment of rage, and we all screamed at the top of our lungs to express our anger at a homophobic society.

The march ended at Central Park with a rally which included: Liza Minnelli, RuPaul, Judith Light, Carol Channing, Harvey Firestein, Howard Kushner and Armistead Maupin.

While waiting for Michelle's car to be fixed, four very tired and very silly activists spent three hours at a Denny's where the waitress treated us "like kings and queens". We finally arrived back exhausted to Chapel Hill minus one cooler, an oil pan, \$500 and some major explaining to do to Michelle's parents...

Alumni Establish Scholarship a public announcement

During the spring of 1994, the UNC-CH Gay and Lesbian Alumni Association in Charlotte, NC decided to establish a scholarship. Plans were made to hold the Stonewall Tea Dance at Mythos on Sunday, June 26th. This was a success, and a profit of about \$900 was made that day.

Contact was made with the Development Office of the University at Chapel Hill, asking for a representative to discuss the possibilities of this scholarship being established. During May, Ms. Sonya Bruton, Major Gifts Officer, came to Charlotte for a meeting with one of the members. Later, in a letter from Ms. Bruton it was learned that two G&L scholarships, or fellowships, were already in place at Chapel Hill, one in the Law School and the other in the School of Journalism. Both of these are funded scholarships awarded on academic achievement rather than need with the recipients selected by the departments and not the financial needs officer of the university. This scholarship would be awarded on a basis of need. The new scholarship will also be available for the students regardless of their geographical location, whether they are North Carolina residents or not.

In a letter from Ms. Bruton dated June 13, 1994, she outlined the steps to be taken in establishing The Pine Tree Scholarship Fund, one for gay and lesbian students. First, there must be \$20,000.00 pledged towards the establishment of the scholarship. Second, there must be \$20,000.00 received by the University to make it a reality and a working one. In addition to the \$900 earned on June 26th, an individual who wishes to remain anonymous has agreed to pledge \$10,000.00 towards the scholarship. The balance of \$9,100.00 will be solicited. The UNC-CH Gay & Lesbian Alumni Association will be the official sponsor of the scholarship.

One Man's Tirade by Kirk Royal

When I decided I wanted to write a piece for The Lambda, I really had no idea what I would talk about. I mean, there's not really that much that hasn't already been said at one time or another. But after the last issue of The Carolina Review came out (pardon the expression) and after all the [profanity] that our friend Reverend Gary Webb decided he'd pull [sic] during the Carrboro domestic partners debate, I realized that anything that's already been said obviously hasn't been said enough.

Let me just start with Rev. Webb's claim that the vast majority of homosexuals ingest feces during sexual acts. I personally do not know a soul who has ever even considered this act, much less performed it. I'm sure there are a few people out there who do indeed get