

SVP Stonewall Volunteer Press



Stonewall Columbus SVP

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Stonewall Programs Participation and Center Groups Increase over the year

by: Kellye Pinkleton

Recently, I was compiling a list with statistics taken from groups that use the Center space as well as Stonewall programs. Stonewall tracks the folks using the space from a variety of groups, including, our support groups and programs, National Leather Association, Living Proof, CUB, Primetimers, etc. Demographics on users are collected with each meeting and compiled into monthly reports. It is fascinating to watch trends and look at user participation. I was delighted to see a marked increase in Center space usage by other groups as well as increased participation for Stonewall programs since the beginning of 2005. As an example (and note— the numbers are as accurate as possible, allowing for the fact that sometimes

groups forget to submit stats or that demographics were only partially reported for some meetings), in January 2005, there were a reported 86 people that attended groups and programs at Stonewall. In February, that number increased to 180 and 258 in March 2005. April saw the largest increase with over 260 people attending programs and activities at the Center (155 women and 110 men; 75 were new to the group/center with over 16% being those that identify as people of color and over 6% identify as "transgender"). One reason we have seen dramatic increases is new and popular programs, such as Stitch 'N Bitch, Women's Book Club and the Men's Book Club. Just 2 weeks ago, over 25 community members

packed the Center to kick-off the Hiking Club! Thanks to our volunteers that coordinate Stonewall programs and ensure that we are continuing to grow and meet the diverse needs of our members! Thanks also to center groups that submit this important data on their groups after each meeting!

Volume 3, Issue 9
September 2005

Editor: Kellye Pinkleton

Stonewall Staff

Kellye Pinkleton
Director of Programming
Michael Dutcher
Director of Operations and Special Events

WHO LET THE DOGS OUT... ANNUAL DOG SHOW!
Saturday,
August 27th
12-5pm
Cols. All Breed Training Center

Program Schedule

All groups meet at Stonewall

Men's Support Group
3rd Tuesday of each month 7pm
Facilitated by Jim Broyles, Ph.D.

Men's Coming Out Support
2nd & 4th Mondays 7pm

Women's Support Group
1st & 3rd Mondays of each month 7pm
Facilitated by Shirah Siladie, MSW, LISW

Women's Book Club
First 3 Wed. of each month 6:30pm
Coordinators: Missy and Becky

Men's Book Club
First Tues. of each month 6:30pm
Coordinator: Scott Parr

T Support Group
1st Wed. of each month
Facilitated by Meral Crane, MSW

Stitch 'N Bitch
2nd Wed. of each month AND
Last Thursday of each month 7pm
Coordinator: Kate Burdett

Hiking Club
2nd Sat. of each month
Contact Coord. John for details
arthos@denison.edu

Interfaith Group
1st & 3rd Thurs. 7pm— Rev. Phil Hart
philhart@stonewallcolumbus.org

Take a Leap of FAITH...

Stonewall Launches Interfaith Spirituality Group

Have you been longing to explore your spiritual side? Left behind organized religion, but want to connect with others that are seeking spirituality? Or maybe you are just looking for ways to reconcile your orientation with your beliefs? If any of these apply to you, then join Stonewall Columbus for a new Interfaith Spirituality Group, the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at Stonewall Columbus Community Center (1160 N. High Street) from 7:00pm-8:30pm. Phil Hart, GLBT Interfaith Coordinator and Chaplain will lead the group.

The purpose of the group is to provide the GLBT community with opportunities to discuss, learn and share about our unique spiritual journeys. The Spirituality Group will cover many different topics in a variety of methods including guest lectures, book studies, videos, etc. For more information on participating, please contact Phil Hart at philhart@stonewallcolumbus.org.

Stonewall Columbus SVP

Stonewall Columbus is a human rights organization serving Central Ohio through advocacy, community building and education. We do this in pursuit of equality, fairness and safety for the entire gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgender community. Page 2

Stonewall Thanks New Program Coordinators,
John Arthos & Denis Johnson
For your work with the Hiking Club!

Stonewall's New Face

By: Deron Fetz

I grew up in a small town in good old Ohio called Urbana. In high school I developed a strong interest in social and political issues as well as writing and health issues. Because there wasn't much else to do in my town, I engulfed myself in school activities. I played tennis, was on student council, was in symphonic choir, enjoyed an active social life, and concentrated on my various hobbies.

I graduated from Urbana High School in 2002 and was accepted into Otterbein College for the fall of 2002. Moving to the Columbus Metropolitan area and going to college was when life truly began for me. I immediately fell in love with the openness of Otterbein College and of Columbus. Eventually, I declared majors in Family Sociology and Creative Writing. I also got involved in Sociology Club, The Sexual Health Advocacy Group, Choir, Residence Life, Collegiate Tennis, and various volunteer work.

Currently, I am heading into my final year of college. I have decided to continue studies after college to prepare myself for a career which will allow me to work with and help individuals of the world community who are somehow silenced or misrepresented. I plan on obtaining a Masters Degree in Social Work, Public Health or Social-Cultural Anthropology. My ultimate dream and life goal is to be able to travel around the world and learn about and help silenced members of different societies while documenting my experiences in some form of Creative Writing medium. To become better prepared for my future career, I contacted Kellye; the Director of Programming, about a possible internship at Stonewall Columbus by finding her email address on the website. I've always been interested in volunteering and doing work for an organization like Stonewall so I took the Internship as an opportunity to do so.

While I'm at Stonewall, I plan to do many things. I will be compiling a complete spreadsheet of demographic information from a sample of Stonewall volunteers. This will give us an idea of who exactly makes up our volunteer team. I also plan on working on The Campaign to End AIDS, a nationwide campaign dedicated to AIDS prevention education which will be stopping here in Columbus in early October. Along with these major projects, I am looking forward to working with members of the Columbus GLBT Community and learning how wonderful non-profit organizations, such as Stonewall, run successfully.

Editor's Note: Stop by the Center and introduce yourself to Deron... we are glad to have him on the Team!

CALLING ALL STONEWALL VOL GALS!!

Win 2 Tickets to the Annual Lesbian Festival

Saturday, September 17th— All Day (Valued at \$70)

Raffle Deadline: 12 Noon Tuesday, September 6th, 2005

(submit to Kellye's attention at Stonewall mailing address or drop off at Center)

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Volunteer Orientation (For New Volunteers)
Wed. Oct. 19th, 2005 5:30—6:30pm. Must RSVP

OPEN Center Shifts: We are filled- thanks Center Vols!

Center Organize: Sept. 2nd 1-3pm

Equality Ohio Rally Volunteers: Oct. 1st 3:30-5pm— Call Kellye for details

A Night Out— be on the lookout for info. on this as October nears!

WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS

(from August Orientation)

Molly Zielenbach Holly Stacy
Jessica Smith Ed Moore
Anita Parker



**FIGHT for
EQUALITY in
Ohio!**

www.equalityohio.org

Volunteer Tidbits & Celebrations

Happy Birthday Matt Rhodes!

Happy Birthday Stonewall Board Members: Doug Kauffman and Michael Council

**Welcome to the Stonewall Board,
Sandy Thomas!**

Welcome back to the Team, Adam Leddy.

Welcome, new Center Volunteer, Larry Holley.

Congrats Kelly Bishop— new Admin. Asst. Volunteer & David Curry— new Development/Event Asst. Volunteer