



QUEER FILM FESTIVAL-A NEW ERA FOR GAY ND/SMC?

NOTRE DAME'S FIRST QUEER Film Festival on Valentine's weekend was a stunning success, both as an arts event and as a turning point in the perceived place of gays and lesbians in the university community.

Film screenings, panel discussions and seminars were well-attended by alumni and undergraduates.

From Hollywood came such gay-film icons as director **Don Roos** ("The Opposite of Sex"), **John Cameron Mitchell** (writer and star of "Hedwig and the Angry Inch"), "Jim in Bold" executive producer **Malcolm Lazin**, and director-actor **Dan Bucatinsky** ("All Over the Guy"). All

brought fascinating insider perspectives to film students and aficionados.

Another film-making effort that deserves mention: **Liam Dacey** '04, a film major and driving force behind the festival, presented his short film about coming out at Notre Dame.

When asked his opinion of the reception accorded the festival, Dacey replied, "Amazing! It's gone even better than I expected. Everybody's hard work really has paid off. Don Roos, especially, gave us an incredible amount of time and energy."

Dacey spoke confidently of the second annual QFF, noting that Roos '77

has already penciled in his calendar in 2005. "There will be some great surprises in store for people next year." While he would not name names, he did say that the first festival's warm reception will assist in attracting even more big names from the film industry.

MORE THAN MOVIES

The long-term significance of the festival will take longer to assess. But it is clear that, despite some polemics by readers of *The Observer*, there was no open hostility to the organizers and attendees. In fact, good humor and acceptance characterized the weekend, according to

several who took part.

David Pais '72 told a friend that "the Queer Film Festival could be our Stonewall" at ND—but only in the sense that a new era for gays and lesbians seemed to begun. Unlike Stonewall itself, there certainly were no angry confrontations.

While a level of media scrutiny normally associated with ND sports may have contributed to the atmosphere of restraint, one junior offered a simpler explanation. "It shows the university can still be open-minded about things."

— Contributors to this article were **Philip Schatz** '72 and **Tom O'Neil** '77.

■ ALUMNI CENTRAL

GALA WANTS YOU!

GALA still needs Leaders to represent the Midwest and Northwest regions. We meet regularly by phone to discuss the issues of our organization. Please make a difference and volunteer. Contact any of the officers and get connected!

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E-Mail GALA

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editor@galandsmc.org for stories or story ideas, letters, general comments on editorial

administrator@galandsmc.org for addresses changes and other contact information

alumninotes@galandsmc.org about your commitments, adoptions, books published, addresses changed, whatever

events@galandsmc.org to report on alumni events that you have hosted, or to alert other members to proposed or scheduled events

advertising@galandsmc.org to inquire about advertising in the newsletter, or to send your insertion order and artwork

DEADBEAT?

To Members:

If you haven't paid your GALA ND/SMC dues, what are you waiting for? We need your dues to keep going. Our revitalized newsletter, new web site-in-the-works and the film festival are just a few of the things your dues and financial participation enable GALA to do

So, come on. Mail your check today. And call or email us to get involved.

1 year - \$35

Mail your dues check to:
GALA-ND/SMC
PO Box 1651
New York, NY 10185-1651

COMMITMENTS

Have you been married? Are you engaged? Had a commitment ceremony? Adopted a baby (now there's a commitment!)? Let the entire community share in your joy! Email your story and pictures to: editor@galandsmc.org

CLASS NOTES

Moved? In a new career? Traveling? Celebrating with alumni? We want to know what's going on - and we'll bet your fellow members do, too! Be sure to include your class year and college when you email your story to: administrator@galandsmc.org

OBITUARY

We have received word that the following alumni have died in the past several years. We offer our condolences, however belated, to their families and friends.

Larry Condren '71 - died in May 1999

Joseph Gerlock '72 - died in 2002

James Johnston '75 - no date given

John Graczak '76 - died in 2002

Jeffery Etoll '78 - no date given

Mike Hay '79 - died in 1999

Louis Rivera Jr. '81 - no date given

Patrick McManus '88 - no date given

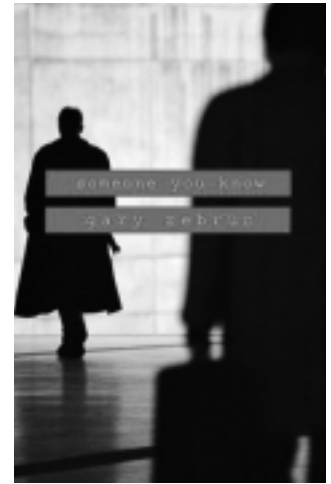
Cliff Anchor - Dr. Tom Dooley's companion died July 18, 2000

Fr. Raymond Holte - died in November 2003

Please notify GALA of the death of fellow alumni.



DOMER'S NEW
GAY MYSTERY
NOVEL



Gary Zebrun, class of 1976 and GALA member, is about to have his first novel published. The gay-themed mystery, *Someone You Know*, will be released in April. Gary writes:

“It’s about a closeted gay newspaper columnist, his wife and daughter, and a gay serial killer bent on destroying their lives. My publisher, Alyson Books,

calls it “a nerve-shattering thriller of psychological terror, sexual obsession, and the devastating price of secrecy.”

The celebrated novelist Edmund White says it’s “guaranteed to give you sleepless nights.” He calls it a “page turner,” and says, “If you’ve ever wondered what goes on inside those big old clapboard

houses in Providence, Rhode Island, this beautifully crafted novel will give you the horrifying scoop.”

Gary is an editor at the *Providence Journal*; he lives in Newport, Rhode Island.

Someone You Know is being published by Alyson Books, which owns *The Advocate* and *Out* magazines.

New York members can hear Gary Zebrun read from *Someone You Know*. He will be at Barnes & Noble in the Village (Avenue of the Americas) on Thursday, April 29, at 7:30.

GALA will also host Gary for a reading on Wednesday, April 28 at Gus Hinojosa’s. See Page 6 for details.



COMMITMENTS

In March, **Greg Bourke** ('81) and **Michael de Leon** celebrated 23 years together. This summer they plan to mark the occasion by getting married in Niagara Falls, Ontario. The Bourke/de Leon Family also includes Isaiah (age 6) and Isabella (age 4). The children attend Our Lady of Lourdes School in Louisville, Kentucky. Greg and Michael are amazed (and delighted) to have the worry of financing a Notre Dame education for two kids.

Chuck Colbert ('81) writes, “Troy and I are set to be married on May 20 in a short civil ceremony by the Cambridge City Clerk. Both mothers of the grooms will be present. Then we are shooting for late October to have our big fat civil and sacred ceremony. Just what that looks like remains to be seen. I am very seriously thinking of becoming a Jew by choice, being enrolled in the “Intro to Judaism” course at the wonderful Reform Temple Israel here in Boston. Life is to say the least not boring.”

■ EDITORIAL

A LEGACY

It was a gamble. There was fear of the new.

Would people turn out? Would there be an ugly confrontation?

Just how ready was Notre Dame for a Queer Film Festival, anyway? Writers to *The Observer* wondered polemically. *The Chicago Tribune* speculated on Notre Dame's tolerance of gays and lesbians in a prominent story on February 11.

In fact, the QFF weekend was a Valentine to tolerance and acceptance. There were no angry pickets—and there was no compensatory need wrap oneself in the rainbow flag. People did indeed turn out; they showed a heartening desire to listen, learn and laugh.

As several correspondents have noted, the emotional and spiritual high point of the weekend came early on, when QFF organizers met with Father Hesburgh in his library. His pastoral blessing and expression of the purest Christian love, coupled with his personal warmth and humor, inspired and comforted them. The peace that prevailed on campus during the festival is, in no small measure, a tribute to the enduring legacy of this great leader.

ONE MAN ON GAY MARRIAGE

...May 2004 continue to bring free-speech, passion and diversity of opinion, as our community inches ever more dangerously toward assimilation and hetero-copying...

—Frank Moschiano '79

Here's a blow for "diversity of opinion," all right.

How do GALA members really feel about gay marriage, and why? Is it truly an idea whose time has come? Straight-aping? Conformist bandwagon-hopping? A political liability for the Democrats, who should keep quiet about it, at least until November? Let us know how you feel.

I will send a stylish GALA cap to the most entertaining email I receive on this topic (by June 30). —Editor

Terence Hughes, editor

editor@galandsmc.org

Marilou Young, administrator

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Members,

A year has passed since I was elected Chair for GALA, and it has been a busy and fruitful year. Thanks to the other officers and our active Hub Leaders, members are engaged all over the country; GALA is thriving. I would like to also thank members who have sent supportive messages along with your contributions/dues. This year has seen lots of activities, including: an updated newsletter, a new logo, a new editor and an administrator, a great Tom Dooley Award ceremony, wonderful regional member activities and the founding of the Notre Dame Queer Film Festival.

I wish all of you could have attended the film festival. For us, it was history-making. There was a powerful camaraderie. It had been a long time since I had felt comfortable on campus, if ever I did. This event provided me the opportunity to engage with students and faculty on a thoughtful and positive level. The support and positive energy throughout the festival were amazing and inspiring. Each event was well attended, informative and emotionally satisfying. Our guests were so impressed that they thanked us profusely for having been selected to participate.

More than one of the most influential activities GALA has ever sponsored; it was a "tipping point" for LGBT history at Notre Dame.

For six of us, the highlight of the weekend was our meeting with Father Hesburgh. It will live in my memory forever. He was kind and sensitive, and he listened earnestly to our thoughts regarding our experiences on campus as well as the current atmosphere for LGBT students. He was supportive, letting us know that our activism was well founded and moving in the right direction. The hour-long conversation culminated in his blessing us, a very emotional experience. He graciously posed for a photo.

I encourage everyone to attend next year's film festival. For one thing, you will be letting students know you care, and that there is a wonderful life waiting for them after college. It may also enable you to revisit the better parts of your years at ND, to let go of the bad experiences—and to build positive new ones.

Thanks for your continued support. Please join us in keeping GALA-ND/SMC the biggest and most vital group around. Participate in regional activities, come to the national ones and advocate equality for all people.

Gus N. Hinojosa '82

Chair

A LETTER TO SF MAYOR NEWSOM

February 22, 2004

Dear Mayor Newsom:

On behalf of the more than 500 members of the University of Notre Dame's Gay & Lesbian Alumni Association, and of its 82 San Francisco members, we applaud your actions to challenge the gender discrimination with respect to the granting of civil marriage licenses. As you pointed out, our state and national Constitutions forbid discrimination in any form.

President Bush claims we are attempting to destroy the "sanctity" of marriage. In our collective Irish-Catholic opinion, divorce and adultery do more to challenge the "sanctity" of a marriage. What we are doing in San Francisco is challenging the "form" of a marriage—a form that has for years discriminated based on one's gender. Opponents of ours are screaming the words "sex" and "gay" when, what is at issue is actually gender discrimination (as you have so eloquently pointed out). This denial of equal rights by the majority is being fueled by homophobia against a minority.

What will likely become part of the coming debate over a Constitutional Amendment is: once you codify a definition of "marriage," how then does one define "male" and "female" in this society?

Bottom line is **we support you!** Thank you for standing up for what is right, Mr. Mayor!

Sincerely,
Jim Gatteau '89,
 San Francisco District 8 Voter
 GALA-ND/SMC Bay Area Regional Coordinator

AN OPEN LETTER TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS

by Mike Rataczak '81

President Bush publicly announced that he will support a Constitutional amendment that bans gay marriage and ensures that marriage is defined solely as a union between a man and a woman. I'm asking for your help in fighting back against this proposed amendment to the Constitution.

I support marriage 100%. My parents will be celebrating their 42nd anniversary this spring, and believe me: growing up in their home was a blessing. Honestly, I think we all have common ground on a belief in the sanctity of a loving union between two adults. However, the message coming from President Bush is that gay men and women are not worthy of marriage. His unambiguous message is that marriage is sacred only for heterosexuals, that the admission of gay men and women into marriage will erode the sanctity of marriage and weaken our social structure...

You've all known me for years, some of you for my entire life. I'm your son, brother, brother-in-law, nephew, cousin, friend, college roommate, college and graduate school classmate, work colleague. I'm the godparent to three of your children.

I've been in your wedding parties; flown around the States and the world to attend your weddings; taken care of your children; pulled all-nighters with you to finish homework or client presentations; vacationed with you and your families; celebrated your anniversaries/birthdays/new homes/new jobs/children's birthdays; helped you move in and out of new apartments; supported you during a variety of difficult times; and, throughout, have been grateful beyond description that you're in my life.

And so I'm asking for your help. Essentially, I need your voices. Silence, not response, dignifies the actions that support this Constitutional amendment. Please, write to your Senators and Congressmen and women. Write to the President. And keep writing. Donate money to organizations fighting for the civil rights of gay men and women, such as the Human Rights Campaign (hrc.org) or Lambda Legal (lambdalegal.org). Speak in your children's schools, talk to your kids about what's happening, speak at your churches and temples. And don't sit by quietly when you hear homophobic comments related to the proposed amendment. Whatever you do, be vocal, and make it as personal as you can.

With love and thanks,
 Mike

■ GALA EVENTS

REACHING OUT



MIKE DOUGLASS ('96) is helping organize the 2004 Reaching Out MBA Conference, which will be held from April 2-4 in Los Angeles. The Reaching Out MBA organization is dedicated to promoting the acceptance and visibility of LGBT individuals in the workplace. Since 1999, Reaching Out MBA has hosted an annual conference to provide a forum for graduate business school students, recent alumni and current business leaders to share information, build networks and promote cooperation.

Any ND alumni who are upcoming, current, or recent MBA students are welcome to attend! For more information, see the Reaching Out MBA website at www.reachingoutmba.org. Or contact Mike at ndmisha@hotmail.com.

READING OUT LOUD

GALA NEW YORK will host a reading of **Gary Zebrun's** '77 new mystery novel, *Someone You Know*, on Wednesday, April 28 at 7 P.M. Meet at **Gus Hinojosa's** loft at 64 W. 15th

Street, Apt. 5W. A \$10 contribution to GALA will be collected at the door.

EQUALITY FORUM IN PHILADELPHIA

EQUALITY FORUM, an outgrowth of Philly's local PrideFest, has blossomed into an important national, and even international venue, to explore issues important to our varied communities.

GALA will be there, too. We will host a reception at Mixto at 1141 Pine Street from 4:30 to 5:30 PM. It is open to all LGBTQ alumni/ae from Catholic colleges, universities, seminaries and graduate schools of religion.

This event will serve as the official launching of a National Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender/and Questioning Alumni/ae of Catholic colleges, universities, seminaries and other institutions of higher education. The organization's primary mission: encourage enlightened discussion and justice-focused public policy regarding homosexuality, spirituality and civil rights.

Reserve your place with **David Pais** at paisdavid@hotmail.com or (718) 858-8081.

Go to www.equalityforum.com for information on all programs and sponsors.



The *Queer Film Festival* brought together Hollywood's (and Notre Dame's) **Don Roos**, mother of student organizer **Liam Dacey**, **Berriann Dacey** (or is it **Susan Sarandon?**), **Ron Gregg** and **Rick Friedman**.

NEW BOOKLET ON HOMOSEXUALITY AND CATHOLICISM FROM NEW WAYS MINISTRY

IN THE 1980s the Archdiocese of Baltimore established an outreach ministry to lesbian and gay Catholics. Part of their effort was the publication of a booklet entitled *Homosexuality: A Positive Catholic Perspective*. It was written in the "catechism format" of questions and answers and has proved to be a valuable resource in knowing the positive aspects of the official church's view toward homosexuality.

Book Costs

\$9.95 per copy for up to 19 copies.

Bulk orders of 20 or more receive a 20% discount.

Postage and Handling

No postage charge for orders of 5 or fewer.

Postage and handling for 6 or more copies as follows:

6-10 copies	\$ 8.00	11-15 copies	\$12.00
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Send check or money order, payable to New Ways Ministry, to New Ways Ministry, 4012 29th St., Mt. Rainier, MD 20712. For further information, write or call New Ways Ministry at 301-277-5674 or e-mail: NewWaysM@verizon.net.

BAY AREA GALA-ND/SMC MEMBERS GO ALL OUT!

ON THE HEELS of the tidal wave of joy which swept through San Francisco over Valentine's Day Weekend, Bay Area Domers gathered just two blocks from City Hall's "Marriage Central" to view Harry Cronin's "Dooley" play at The New Conservatory Theater.

We all know about Dr. Tom Dooley who attended Notre Dame in the late 1940s. Tom went on to become a most decorated Navy lieutenant in the 1950s, a truly patriotic American, who was blackmailed by the U.S. government because McCarthyism exposed his sexual orientation. To this day, Notre Dame keeps Dooley's true identity in the closet, while celebrating his connection to the military and to Notre Dame. "Dooley" explores Tom's conscience and burden in dealing with his love for Notre Dame, and for his country, and for men.

Of those moved by the performance (and the playing of our "Notre Dame, Our Mother") were **Jim Gatteau '89**, good friends **Dave Ellison '81** and **Kevin Paulson '80**, new members **Karim Kahwaji '01MA** and **Mark Massoud '99/'00MA**, handsome gentlemen from Oakland, **Tom VanDemark '66**, and Berkeley, **Mike Lonergan '68**, and our region's sage **John**



Back Row (L to R): Sister Cindy Vine, Jim Gatteau '89, Sister Dana Van Iquity, Sister Chastity Boner; Front Row (L to R): Dave Ellison '81, Jeff McPherson '75, Mike Shriver '85

"Fitz" Fitzgerald '65.

The second Bay Area GALA gathering of 2004 took place on Thursday evening, March 4. The event was "Ba-Da-Bingo!" presented by the irreverent Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. March's Bingo theme was "Big Hair" and there sure were some towering mavens. This raucous \$15 charitable event has become extremely popular in San Francisco over the last 4 years. All GALA Domers who attended were rewarded with great laughter. But one, **Mike Shriver '85**, walked away with more than just a smile after the final round. Our local hero won \$250! Hey Mike, don't forget about the GALA-ND/SMC Scholarship Fund!

Jim Gatteau hosted the Bay Area's Universal Champagne Brunch on March 21. Eighteen attended and posed pretty for this picture on Jim's stoop.

San Francisco Gay Men's



Back Row (L to R): Louis (guest of Mike L.), Mike Lonergan '68, Surajit Bose '94. Next Row: Doug Daher '71/'76PhD, Mary Jordan '78, Dave Randall '80, Dave Ellison '81. Next Row: Karim Kahwaji '01, Kevin Paulson '80, Jim Gatteau '89, David Pais '72. Front Row: Malika (guest of Bob), Bob Mackay '60, Vittorio Sciuilli '85, Jim Burke '72

Chorus performance of "Oh, Happy Day," a Motown/Gospel concert—Saturday, April 17 at 8PM and Sunday, April 18 at 5PM. Preview concert in Santa Rosa on Saturday, April 3. Post-view concert in Modesto, Sunday, April 25.

Line dancing at the Sundance Saloon—Sunday, May 2. Sundance is located at 550 Barneveld just south of Potrero Hill. Meet at 6pm out front.

GALA: WHO WE ARE

WE ARE A NON-PROFIT ALUMNI organization that has no affiliation with— and receives no financial support from— the University of Notre Dame or Saint Mary's College. Our strength comes from our membership and our numbers. The GALA-ND/SMC Newsletter is published three times a year by the Gay and Lesbian Alumni/ae of the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College. The newsletter serves gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered graduates, faculty, staff and friends of the Notre Dame/ Saint Mary's family.

The GALA-ND/SMC Newsletter is funded entirely by your donations and GALA memberships. Annual dues are \$35.00 and include a subscription.

We invite you to submit articles (500-1000 words), letters to the editor (200-500 words), class and alumni/ae notes. They should be sent to the above address; however, the Newsletter reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted.

Publishing the name or photograph of any person should not be construed as an indication of his/ her sexual orientation. The views expressed by contributing writers are their own, and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of GALA-ND/SMC or its officers. © 2004. Gay and Lesbian Alumni of the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College. All rights are reserved.



HATS AND T-SHIRTS?

Last issue, we introduced those hot GALA ND/SMC caps. Now we're adding T-shirts to our line. Price? Just \$15 per tee or cap. Support GALA, show your pride, and get out there!

To order, contact **Marilou Young** at administrator@galandsmc.org

ADVERTISING NOW ACCEPTED

The GALA Newsletter will now accept advertising in the form of space ads, classifieds, and pre-printed inserts. This service provides an excellent opportunity for advertisers of high-end products and business services to reach an affluent and influential audience with pinpoint precision.

To reserve space or for more information, email advertising@galandsmc.org or phone (917)450-3179. Make checks payable to GALA-ND/SMC and mail to:

GALA-ND/SMC
P.O. Box 1651
New York, NY 10185-1651

Display Ads

Size	Width	Height	One-Time Rate	Four-Time Rate
Back Page	7"	9.75"	\$200	\$150
Full Page	7"	9.75"	\$150	\$125
Half Page - Horizontal	7"	4.75"	\$100	\$80
Half Page - Vertical	3.5"	9.75"	\$100	\$80
Quarter Page	3.5"	4.75"	\$75	\$60
Business Card	3.5"	2.25"	\$35	\$25

Classified Ads

\$10 for 25 words or less. Each additional 10 word: \$4. Minimum per issue: \$10

Pre-Printed Inserts

Size	Width	Height	One-Time Rate	Four-Time Rate
Full Page	8.5"	11"	\$100	\$80
Half Page	8.5"	5.5"	\$75	\$60
1/3 Page or Postcard	8.5"	3.75"	\$65	\$50

Digital/Electronic Ad Specifications:

We must receive all ads in digital format: Mac OS9 Quark, Illustrator or Photoshop. Text files can be ASCII, txt, wp, or wpd. Images should be sent as scans: 300 dpi jpg or tiffs, grayscale, 3" wide. All screen and printer fonts should be included with files unless the fonts have all been converted to outline. PDF files are acceptable as long as the images in the document are saved at 300 dpi. Non-Mac files are fine if they are saved as pdf, jpg or eps files. Email all digital/electronic ads to both addresses: advertising@galandsmc.org and OPArtDirector@aol.com