

The SAGE

The Newsletter of SAGE of South Florida

May 2016

IN APPRECIATION

By Carl M. Galli, President, SAGE of South Florida

We all appreciate South Florida. There is nothing like the weather and the occasional hiccup of a hurricane to stir our “now thin” blood. There is nothing like the sounds of the sea and the wind caressing our beaches. There is nothing like the freedom to be ourselves: in our homes; in our work; in our retirement.

But perhaps appreciation of what we have can lead to complacency and if we are not vigilant, Complacency can lead to Capitulation. Not too far away, just north of Palm Beach County, there are those who are proposing legislation that could lead to the strangulation of our hard-fought-for rights. Don't agree? Just look a little further, to Georgia or North Carolina or to the west to Mississippi, and you will see this struggle playing out. (Read the related article in this issue, on page 10.) And if you ask why this should matter to those of us in a place and time where practically everything is guaranteed, just think how quickly things can change.

*First they came for the Communists, and I did not speak up – because I was not a Communist.
Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak up – because I was not a Trade Unionist.
Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak up – because I was not a Jew.
Then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak up for me.*

(Rev. Martin Niemoller – circa 1946)

With this in mind, I express our deep appreciation to our Archangels and Angels – who are supporting SAGE of South Florida as a safe space for us to be ourselves; who are speaking up. These individuals and organizations have generously donated so that we can continue our member-centric as well as Community programs. On behalf of SAGE of South Florida, I thank them.

ARCHANGELS

(Donations/Contributions of \$500 and above)

John J. Gearrity – Bill Cordes – Ray Drakoff & Ted Singer – Judith Hartshorn – Tom Lepore
Ron Seidle & Fred Vega – Ann C. Smith & Caroline Leto

ANGELS

(Donations/Contributions less than \$500)

Andrews Diner (Gerri & Angelo Karaliolios) – Judith Bowling – Hank Brooks & Leo Glickstein
Ron Catena – Charles Christopher – Allen Churchman – Philip Collier – Donald Curiale – Dominic Desantis –
Joyce Edelson (in Memory of Gayle Scott & John J. Gearrity) – Marc Flanagan – Carl M. Galli
Dr. Marty Horowitz – Jean Johnson – Lee Lawson – Rob Lord – John Macintosh – Dennis Martell
David Millan – Donald Mitchell – Jerry Murphy – Jack Myers – Roger O'Shea – Joel Risch – Jay Rose
Charles Scarcella – Richard Schwarz – Allen E. Spiess, Jr. – Alan Sutherland – Daniel Tullin – Patrick Vida
Ronald Vidakovich -- Richard White

With Special THANKS to

Dr. Deric Bownds – Dr. David Goldberger – Michael Vita (& friends Jeff Hess and Arnie Miller) in a Cabaret
Sponsored by David Treece Financial Group, Inc., and Emerald Elite

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(C) = Chairperson (F) = Facilitator

SAGE Editorial Policy

SAGE welcomes contributors to the newsletter. An author may request their entry to be "anonymous." However, the submission, as received by SAGE, must be accompanied by the full name and address of the author. Items will be published at our discretion and does not constitute endorsement by SAGE of South Florida. If we feel that we cannot publish a submission anonymously we will contact the author. We reserve the right to edit articles for size considerations, clarity or standards of decency.clarity or standards of decency.

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FRIENDLY SUPPORT PROGRAM

We'd like to think we are not merely fair weather friends, but people who really care about our SAGE family. If you know of any SAGE member who would appreciate a friendly call, is sick, in the hospital, recently lost a loved one, or just needs a note of cheer, please contact: For women — Inez Pasher @ 954.563.2814. For men — Leo Glickstein @ 754.307.2495. This is a SAGE sponsored activity.

SAGE MISSION STATEMENT

SAGE of South Florida is a non-profit organization for Senior action in a Gay Environment to enrich the lives of the GLBT senior community through membership inclusive of age, gender, race, nationality and religion. We believe this can be accomplished by sponsoring social alternatives To provide personal interaction, offering educational opportunities to deal with the special needs of aging, and promoting contact with the isolated and homebound persons of our community. SAGE is also an advocate for the concerns and needs of the senior community at large, providing referral information on community resources and promoting inter-generational communication in the GLBT community. SAGE was founded in 1994 as a Florida "not for profit." Corporation. (Federal Tax-Exempt status of 501(c)3 allowing tax-deductible donations.)

SAGE ADVERTISING POLICY

We no longer accept paid ads in the SAGE Newsletter. This was decided by the SAGE Board. We will, at our discretion, occasionally run a PSA or other nonprofit advertisement. We thank our previous advertisers for their support. Appearance of an advertisement in this newsletter does not constitute endorsement by SAGE of South Florida, Inc. of the service being offered.

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SHARING SAGE WITH OTHERS

Reconnecting with old friends and meeting new acquaintances is a great part of the SAGE tradition. We invite you to share this tradition by inviting someone new to SAGE to one of our many SAGE-sponsored events. Share the camaraderie and support found among SAGE members with others.

When you invite someone new to any SAGE-sponsored events and that friend joins SAGE, he or she will become a SAGE of South Florida member for the reduced fee of \$25 for their first year of membership.

SAGE MEMBERS IN NEED

Please contact the AADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Center) @ 954.745.9779. It is a one-stop center for information and referral services available to seniors and their care-givers in our community.



SAGE WOMEN'S LUNCH

NANCY DRENNEN/JEAN JOHNSON

Every 2nd Thursday of the month, the Women of SAGE of South Florida meet at The Golden Corral, 7401 Commercial Blvd., Tamarac at 12:00 pm. Here they meet, greet, eat and have conversations on current happenings. Call Nancy at 954.741.1540 for reservations. The restaurant's phone is 954.623.6400.



Join the SAGE Group
on Facebook:
'SAGE of South Florida, Inc.'

12:30 pm, May 7, 2016
HERB SKOLNICK COMMUNITY CENTER
800 S.W. 36th Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED!!!!!!!!!!

Members with reservations: \$14.00

Guests: \$19.00

Everyone Pays at the Door.

Doors Open at 12:00 pm

If you arrive early, please make yourself comfortable in the lobby and meet and mingle with other SAGE members and their guests.

Reservations must be made by 12:30 pm on the Thursday preceding the Luncheon by calling the SAGE office at 954.634.7219.
The caterer must have a final count.

REMINDER FROM THE BOARD

If you reserve a place at the 'LUNCH & LEARN' and you do not attend, you are still responsible to sage for payment. we must give the caterer as exact a count as possible based on your reservation. The caterer must be paid whether or not you show up.

Lunch Provided By



On May 7, 2016:
AVER – Florida Gold Coast – American Veterans for Equal Rights (AVER) is a non-profit, non-

partisan, Veterans Service Organization of active, reserve, and veteran service members dedicated to full and equal rights and equitable treatment for all present and former members of the U.S. Armed Forces, especially LGBT current and prior military personnel who have been historically disenfranchised by armed forces policy and discriminatory laws governing military service and benefits.

May Lunch & Learn Menu

Romaine & Tomato Salad

Rigatoni with a Cream & Spinach Sauce

Chicken Breast Cordon Bleu
(with Turkey & Ham)

Roasted Peppers & Roasted Potatoes
Pumpkin & Cream Cheese Roll

A SAGE – Sponsored Activity

The Daily SAGE

Mondays

Every Monday...11:00am

*SAGE on the Border/Alternatives
Volen Center in Boca Raton*

Every Third Monday...4:00pm

*See You at the Movies (Dinner to follow)
Pride Center*

Every Fourth Monday...5:30pm

Men's Night Out Tropics

Wednesdays

Every Wednesday...1:00pm

*Men's Drop-In
Pride Center*

Every Wednesday...4:00pm

*Computer Club
Pride Center*

Thursdays

Second Thursday... 12:00pm

*Women's Luncheon
Golden Coral in Tamarac*

Third Thursday...10:45am

*SAGES of SAGE
Pride Center, Room 208*

Saturdays

First Saturday...9:30am

*SAGE Board Meeting
Skolnick Center in Palm Aire*

First Saturday...12:30pm

*Lunch & Learn
Skolnick Center in Palm Aire*

Second Saturday...11:00am

*Book Club
Stonewall Library*

SAGE Sponsored Activities

SAGE COMPUTER CLUB KEN GOODMAN



Do you want to catch up to your grandkids or sons and daughters? Come and enjoy learning about technology at the SAGE Computer Club. Would you like to feel more confident when using your computer, smart phone, tablet, or any other type of internet connected device? You

should come and join us at the SAGE Computer Club. Bring your questions and problems and we will try to help you solve them. No question is too basic, we want everybody to learn and become better at using their devices. If you have a laptop computer, smartphone or tablet you can bring it to help us resolve your problem. We discuss the Windows, OS/X, Android, Windows 10 Phone and Apple iOS operating systems.

The Computer Club meets every Wednesday at 4:00pm for at least an hour. Any new Computer related news is discussed, followed by the issues you wish to bring or a current topic of interest. Bring your questions and problems and we will try to help.

Also, if you wish, you can join us for dinner after the meeting at a nearby reasonable gay friendly restaurant.

The meetings of the SAGE Computer Club are held at the **Pride Center facility on Dixie Highway** Building A in the AV Room 206 on **Wednesdays** at 4PM. Call for directions if you need them at 954-634-7219 or the Pride Center's switchboard at 954-463-9005.

SAGE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP PHILIP COLLIER & ALAN DORFMAN

In 1965 Ina Russell inherited 50 volumes of diaries in a fire-proof cabinet from her uncle Jeb Alexander (pseudonym). Unbeknownst to her was the treasure trove of American gay history they would yield. Upon reading the memoirs,

she discovered her uncle's tempestuous love affair with C.C. "Dash" Dasham (pseudonym) and life as a gay government employee in Washington D.C. Russell winnowed the volumes into an engrossing narrative - **Jeb and Dash: A Diary of Gay Life 1918 to 1945**. Reading Jeb's diaries is to walk beside him while reliving the sights, sounds, and smells of the Roaring Twenties, Depression, and World War II. In 1923 Jeb wrote prophetically concerning his diary, "I do want it to be read - there is no use in concealing the fact - by somebody who is like me, who would understand." Please consider joining the discussion of the SAGE Book Group at the Stonewall Library, 1300 E. Sunrise Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale on Saturday, May 14, from 11 AM to noon. All readers are welcome - no reservation is required. For information, please contact Philip 443.614.7135 or Alan 561.385.8260.

SAGE MEN'S NIGHT OUT JOHN CHANDLER



We recently changed the format of our Men's Singles Night to incorporate all our Male members & their guests. Now, whether you're a single or in a couple, we welcome you.

If you are a man who enjoys the company of other men, then we have an evening for you.

Every 4th Monday of every month, SAGE Board member, John Chandler, co-ordinates cocktails and dinner at Tropic's restaurant in Wilton Manors. Cocktails, lively conversation, and meeting and making friends begin at 5:30pm. At 6:30pm the party moves to the dining room where we enjoy a terrific "ten for ten" dinner. For reservations, please contact John Chandler @ 954.933.2963 or e-mail him at stonyman4u@aol.com.

ATTENTION SAGE MEMBERS

Due to the increased cost to mail the newsletter to those who do not wish to receive it via e-mail or pick it up at The Pride Center, the SAGE Board decided to charge a \$10 surcharge to the \$35 annual membership fee to offset the costs of mailing. Please note on the membership form below if you wish to receive the newsletter, and if so, do you wish it be sent to you via e-mail or the postal service. Thank you.

SAGE WANTS YOU!!!

PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW TODAY

NAME: _____ Birthday: Month: ____ Day: ____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: ____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ CELL: _____

E-MAIL: _____



CIRCLE ONE: RENEWAL NEW MEMBER

Newsletter Mailing Options:

1. I do not want the newsletter mailed to me ☐
2. I want to receive the newsletter electronically only. ☐
3. I want the newsletter mailed to me at the cost of \$10 making my membership \$45.00 ☐

I have enclosed:

\$300 for my Lifetime Membership ☐ \$35 for my Annual Membership ☐

\$45 Annual Membership with the Newsletter mailed to me ☐

\$_____ as a special Gift to SAGE

Mail To: SAGE of South Florida, PO Box 70516, Oakland Park, FL 3330

SENIOR ACTION IN A GAY ENVIRONMENT

CO-ED SAGES OF SAGE



FRANK PIASECKI/KAY BEATTIE

Co-Ed SAGES of SAGE meets the third Thursday of each month at 10:45 am. The new meeting time with optional lunch afterwards

can be a great way to spend a day. The format for the group experience is to respond to a question posed by the moderator. The format gives everyone the opportunity to express views and opinions in a non-threatening atmosphere. It also encourages all of us to not only think quickly but also to hear the insights and viewpoints of others--and that can be fascinating. Please consider joining us. We meet in Room B-208 until lunch time. After the meeting those who wish to "lunch together" are encouraged to do so. Mark your calendar for May 19 and check us out.



SAGE ON THE BORDER/
ALTERNATIVES
CAROLINE LETO/FRANK
PIASECKI/ANN SMITH

This co-ed discussion group meets every Monday from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, at The Volen Center, 1515 West Palmetto Rd. in Boca Raton. Everyone is welcome and no reservations are needed. Please call The Volen Center at 561.395.8920 to assure the Center is open as it is closed on holidays. (*This is a SAGE-sponsored activity*).

*A Progressive Community in the Catholic Tradition
Where We Welcome and Appreciate Diversity!*



Mass Times:
Wednesday 7:00 PM
Saturday 5:00 PM • Sunday 10:30 AM
101 N.E. 3rd St.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301
954.731.8173
www.stsfrancisandclare.org

ANNUAL MEETING



WOMEN OF SAGE LUNCHEON



POTLIGHT

ANNUAL MEETING



APRIL LUNCH & LEARN LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Photos contributed by Rex Coston, Allen Churchman and others. View more photos by visiting our Photo Gallery at our website:
www.sageofsofl.org.



NOTES FROM THE MEN'S DROP IN

Ron Catena

I recently read a lengthy article about the importance of socializing as we age. The article reported many studies that prove staying busy and enjoying leisure activities with like-minded

people help to keep your mind sharp and adds to one's overall happiness. The article went on to say that the mere fact of "getting ready" to go out to meet friends was important. Nothing is better than some time away from home, chatting, watching a movie, or having a meal with others to keep depression and loneliness at bay. So let's talk about SAGE of South Florida.

If you enjoy movies, every month SAGE of South Florida sponsors a movie at The Pride Center. The movie is free of charge and is open to everyone. Many of those who attend the movie also go out to dinner together afterwards to discuss the film they just watched.

Do you enjoy reading? The second Saturday of every month SAGE of South Florida has a book club that meets at The Stone-wall Library in Fort Lauderdale.

How are your computer skills? Every Wednesday SAGE hosts its Computer Club at The Pride Center. Here you can raise issues or problems you are facing and learn new skills in using your computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone.

Who doesn't enjoy going to lunch? Our monthly Lunch and Learn is held the first Saturday of the month at the Herb Skolnick Center in Pompano Beach. Each lunch features an educational guest speaker. In the past we have heard from the League of Women Voters, The Pet Project, AARP, and the American Veterans for Equal Rights.

Women of SAGE host a monthly luncheon at a local eatery, where they enjoy good food, amazing company and lively conversations.

Why eat dinner alone? The SAGE Social Committee works hard to plan monthly dinners at local restaurants, many to celebrate holidays. Often we just "meet up" at a local venue for drinks and an informal dinner.

SAGE also hosts several co-ed discussion groups. SAGE On The Border/Alternatives meets every Monday at The Volen Center in Boca Raton; Co-Ed SAGES of SAGE meets once a month at The Pride Center.

And, of course, there is the ever popular weekly Men's Drop-In Group. This is an open forum where any topic can be discussed and many points of view and opinions are offered. Invariably we have a full house of interesting and knowledgeable guys enjoying good conversation. Laughter abounds and many longtime friends have developed amongst the attendees. Many of the

men go to a local coffee shop after the meeting and the conversation continues. This meeting is the place to be if you want to know what is going on around town.

For a complete roster of all of our activities, see The Daily SAGE on page 3 of this newsletter, or you can visit our website – www.sageofsofl.org – where you will find our calendar that will include updates. For the most up-to-date, however, like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SageOfSouthFloridaInc/.

SOCIAL LITES

Ron Catena

Kudos to the **Social Committee** for the wonderful **Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony** held April 3, 2016 at the Embassy Suites Hotel. This very well attended event took place in a private dining room. The food was delicious, the service was efficient, and the award ceremony itself was very inspiring. Recognitions included **Terry Feathers, Male Volunteer of the Year; Caroline Leto, Female Volunteer of the Year; and Michael Gagne received the Spirit of SAGE Award.** The entire event was dedicated to the memory of the late **John Gearrity**. John was a longtime loyal and generous SAGE member.

Entertainment for the event was provided by **James Perkowski**, who played and sang American standards. At one point, during a romantic song, some of our members and guests were dancing. The music was so romantic that one couple were moved to show overt signs of affection.

Your Social Committee is hard at work planning summer events for SAGE of South Florida members and guests. We have a new member of the Social Committee, **Kay Beattie**, who was recently elected to the SAGE Board of Directors. Upcoming plans include:

- Tuesday, May 24th – an informal meet-up at Ellie's 50's Diner, 2410 N. Federal Hwy in Delray Beach; 5:00 pm for drinks and conversation, 6:00 pm for dinner (you can order from the menu and pay for what you order).
- Sunday, June 26th – we are considering a return to Chuck's Steak House, 2428 E. Commercial Blvd. in Fort Lauderdale for drinks and dinner; reservation information will follow.
- July event is in the works, more information to follow.
- August – Considering a return to Christina Wan's, 664 N. Federal Hwy in Fort Lauderdale; more information to follow.

If you attended the Annual Picnic at T Y Park, you know a good time was had by all. A BIG thank you to President Carl for insisting that we revive the annual picnic. He really worked hard on this event. Thanks to all the volunteers, including **Brother John Chandler, Captain Carl Barton** and the ever efficient **Allen Churchman, Michael Gagne and Dr. Marty Horowitz**.

Enhance your social life – attend SAGE of South Florida functions and programs.

These are SAGE Sponsored Events

SOCIAL SECURITY UPDATE

Maria Diaz, Public Affairs Specialist, So. FL Area Director's Office, and
J. Jioni Palmer Associate Commissioner for External Affairs, Social Security Admin.



Recently, Social Security published instructions updating *policy and procedures* for transactions and claims involving members of same-sex marriages. The instructions cover a variety of issues. You can review them

at: <https://secure.ssa.gov/apps10/poms.nsf/lnx/0200210000>

If a person believes he or she may be entitled to or eligible for benefits, we encourage them to apply as soon as possible. Contact Diandra Taylor at Diandra.Taylor@ssa.gov with any questions you may have. (J.J. Palmer)

Not only has Social Security adapted to provide benefits for same-sex spouses, but transgender people can now change the gender marker on their Social Security records based on identity, with no requirement for reassignment surgery.

Stay on top of your Social Security. You can easily sign up for *my Social Security* at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount. With a *my Social Security* account, you can:

- Keep track of your earnings and verify them every year, which is important because we use your earnings, along with other information, to help determine your benefit amount and eligibility;
- Get an estimate of your future benefits, if you are still working;
- Get a letter with proof of your benefits, if you currently receive them;
- Manage your benefits;
- Change your address;
- Start or change your direct deposit;
- Get a replacement Medicare card; and
- Get a replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S for tax season.

In addition, you can prepare for a secure, comfortable retirement by visiting www.myra.gov. There, you'll find *myRA*, a new retirement savings option from the Department of the Treasury for the millions of Americans who face barriers to saving for retirement. *myRA* is a simple and secure way to help you take control of your future.

myRA makes it easy and affordable to start saving for retirement. It's designed for people who don't have a retirement savings plan through work, or lack other options for saving. If you already have access to a retirement savings plan, such as a 401(k), learn more about that plan because it might offer matching contributions or other benefits.

With your personal *my Social Security* and *myRA* accounts in place, you too can prepare to reap the joys of a financially secure retirement. Learn more about all of your choices at www.socialsecurity.gov. (Maria Diaz)

SAGE BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS MONTH

The SAGE Board would like to acknowledge the following members whose birthdays are this month as well as any other member whose birthday that we don't have.

If, when you renewed your membership or became a new member you did not give us your birthday, you may call the office and leave the information at 954.634.7219 or e-mail us @ sagesofl@gmail.com.

First Name	Last Name	Birthday	First Name	Last Name	Birthday
Mary-Jane	Cunningham	May-01	Lorraine "Pinky"	Luddy	May-20
Joan	Brown	May-04	Charles P.	Bergelt	May-22
Jesse G.	Monteagudo	May-06	Charles	Christopher	May-23
Ron	Wudarsky	May-06	Pete	Wainer	May-23
Steven A.	Kelly	May-12	Saalik	Cuevas	May-24
Allen	Spiess	May-12	Tony	Manzi	May-24
Maxine	Lemarr	May-13	Thomas	Valentine	May-24
Barbara L.	Sahami	May-14	Angela	Giella	May-26
Deric	Bownds	May-16	Bob	Wagnon	May-26
Frank	Piasceki	May-16	Gary	Hastings	May-27

New Members

Ken	Langbauer
Alan	Schubert
Patrick	Wernimont

5 Year Anniversaries

Brett	Peeler	Mar-11
Terry	Stone	Mar-11

If you have had an anniversary with SAGE for either 5, 10, 15 or 20 years and you have not received your pin, please call the SAGE office (954.634.7219) to pick it up.

SAGE MEN'S NIGHT OUT AT TROPICS

John Chandler

For more than a dozen years, the men of SAGE of South Florida and their guests have enjoyed a monthly gathering at Tropics Piano Bar & Restaurant (2000 Wilton Drive in Wilton Manors). When John took over the activity about 8 years ago the group was for single men only, and were affectionately known as the "red shirts" by the shirts they wore.

We had been getting more requests from men who were in relationships to join the event. SAGE of South Florida recently changed the event to include all men, single or in relationships, and their guests. Every fourth Monday of the month SAGE MEN'S NIGHT OUT starts at 5:30 pm for drinks and conversations. After cocktails, the members take advantage of Tropics "10 for \$10" dinner specials.



The men of SAGE meet at Tropics for the camaraderie; to meet friends and to make new ones. Some come for the drinks, others just to have a soda, and many stay for dinner and continue their conversations.

Join us at Tropics for the next MEN'S NIGHT OUT on Monday, May 23, 2016 at 5:30 pm. For more information, or to make reservations, contact John Chandler at 954.933.2963.



Religious Freedom and Bathroom Bills

by Ron Wudarsky, Editor, The SAGE

Recent laws passed in North Carolina and Mississippi have embarked on a new wave of discrimination. While legislation in these two states has made considerable national headlines, many of us may not realize that since January of this year almost 200 anti-LGBT bills have been introduced in states.

Many of these bills are couched as Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) laws. Since Congress passed the RFRA in 1993, 21 states, including Florida, have enacted state RFRA laws. Most of these laws reflect the federal RFRA to protect religious liberty. However, a large percentage of the new laws, such as what was enacted and then modified under public pressure in Indiana last year, Georgia's "religious liberty" bill vetoed by Governor Nathan Deal in March, and the passage of Mississippi's Religious Freedom bill signed by Gov. Phil Bryant on April 5, 2016, are intended to promote discrimination against the LGBT community.

Politifact reports that "Conservatives in Indiana and elsewhere see the RFRA as a vehicle for fighting back against the legalization of same-sex marriage." Mississippi's far-reaching "religious freedom" legislation allows individuals and institutions, both public and private, with religious objections to refuse service to gay and transgender people – not only when it comes to marriage, but with employment, receiving medical and therapeutic treatment, and housing.

Another recent bill, proposed, passed and signed by the Governor of North Carolina is HB 2. The bill was supposedly a reaction to the City of Charlotte's ordinance to protect LGBT persons from discrimination in places of public accommodation (e.g. stores, hotels, etc.). Charlotte's ordinance also permitted transgendered people to use the bathroom based on their gender identity. The ordinance was to go into effect in the city on April 1, 2016. On March 23, the North Carolina General Assembly held a special session that passed HB 2, which has become known as the "Bathroom Bill." The bill was hastily signed into law that same night by Gov. Pat McCrory.

What many may not understand is that HB 2 did not ONLY repeal the Charlotte ordinance, it also blocked local governments from passing antidiscrimination measures that could protect gay and transgender people. HB 2 stipulates that all cities and towns must follow state antidiscrimination laws that protect race, religion, national origin, color, age and biological sex, BUT NOT sexual orientation or gender identity.

Those who supported HB 2 stated that the City of Charlotte had overstepped its bounds and that HB 2 was about keeping public restrooms and locker rooms safe for women and children and keeping sexual predators out of those spaces. However, activists report there have not been any issues in the 18 states or the more than 100 cities where gay and transgender protections currently exist.

North Carolina is facing serious backlash from corporations with operations in the state. Sadly, this is currently not the case in Mississippi. However, the federal government is also reviewing the constitutionality of these laws to see if they are in violation of Title 9, which could put billions of federal dollars at risk.

We must not become complacent. We must stay informed of actions that could restrict our freedoms, such as HB 43. On March 10th, Florida Gov. Rick Scott signed into law HB 43, the Pastor Protection Act, that protects "religious entities and individuals" from any lawsuit if they refuse to administer same-sex weddings. One way to stay informed is to attend the many discussion groups hosted by SAGE of South Florida and reported in this newsletter. We hope you will join us.

SEE YOU AT THE MOVIES



with Carl M. Galli, Marc Flanagan & Michael Vita

Our May film selection is “Women In Love” - a 1969 British romantic drama film directed by Ken Russell. It stars Alan Bates (Rupert), Oliver Reed (Gerald), Glenda Jackson (Gudrun), and Jennie Linden (Ursula). It was adapted by Larry Kramer from D. H. Lawrence’s novel of the same name. Glenda Jackson won the 1970 Academy Award for Best Actress. The film won the Golden Globe Award for Best English-Language Foreign Film (1971).

The plot follows the relationships between two sisters and two men in a mining town in post-First World War England. The two couples take markedly different directions. The film explores the nature of commitment and love.

The film is famous for a 20-minute wrestling scene. Both Bates and Reed strip and wrestle in the flickering firelight of a blazing fireplace. Rupert enjoys their closeness and says they should swear to love each other, but Gerald cannot understand Rupert’s idea of wanting to have an emotional union with a man as well as an emotional and physical union with a woman.

Larry Kramer, the film’s co-producer and screenwriter is quoted as saying, *“When we came to shoot the male wrestling scene, we followed the text of D.H. Lawrence’s novel faithfully. The dialogue is from the book “Women in Love,” as are the sets, which were made as Lawrence described them. We paid particular attention to the room and fireplace for the wrestling scene. Shooting the scene was a complicated matter. Oliver Reed didn’t want to do it and actually brought in a letter from his doctor saying he had a bad shoulder, or some such, and to use a double instead. Ken Russell, our director, had worked with Oliver before on a number of TV docudramas and knew him well enough to tell him to cut the crap; he was going to do it. Not only that, but they were falling on a stone floor*

*under a thin rug, because at the last minute Ken yanked out the felt padding under the rug, since you could tell it was something soft. Alan Bates (full-facial hair), always a gentleman, was gay, and Oliver, who was a pain in the ass, probably sensed this. He also noted that Alan’s c**k was bigger, so before every set-up, Oliver played with himself to make his d**k bigger, which you can only dimly note. Both guys took healthy swallows of scotch to calm themselves down.”**

Mr. Kramer co-founded the Gay Men’s Health Crisis (GMHC), the world’s largest private organization assisting people living with AIDS. He is the author of *The Normal Heart* in 1985 and founded AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) in 1987. Kramer has been a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for his play *The Destiny of Me* in 1992,

and has been a two-time recipient of the Obie Award. His new book *The American People* was published in April of 2015. He recently married his long-time lover and lives in Manhattan and Connecticut.

D.H. Lawrence, while writing *Women in Love* in Cornwall during 1916–17, developed a strong and possibly romantic relationship with a Cornish farmer named William Henry Hocking. Lawrence’s fascination with the theme of homosexuality, which is overtly manifested in *Women in Love*, could be related to his own sexual orienta-

tion. In a letter written during 1913, he writes, “I should like to know why nearly every man that approaches greatness tends to homosexuality, whether he admits it or not ...” He is also quoted as saying, “I believe the nearest I’ve come to perfect love was with a young coalminer when I was about 16.”

“Women in Love” screens on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 4pm in Room 204 of The Pride Center. It is rated R for adult situations and full-frontal male nudity, scenes of sexual intercourse, and female nudity. We can discuss this film at dinner, which will follow.

*From an interview in the Sept. – Oct. 2015 issue of “The Gay & Lesbian Review”





HEAR THEIR STORIES

LEARNING FROM LGBT SENIORS' LIFE EXPERIENCE

TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2016

7 P.M. — 8:30 P.M.

PRIDE CENTER MAIN HALL

2040 N. DIXIE HIGHWAY, WILTON MANORS, FL 33351

Join us for an evening sit-down with our community's brave Seniors, featuring videos of eight empowering, sage-filled stories about thriving, becoming free & the courage to be yourself. Combines digital storytelling, panel discussion of brave gay men & YOUR questions. Learn lessons of resilience, strength & hope you can use in your life today!

In partnership with SAGE USA's SAGEStories digital history project. Call Christopher Matthews, Senior Services Specialist at (954) 463-9005, ex 113 for more information

THE PRIDE CENTER
AT EQUALITY PARK

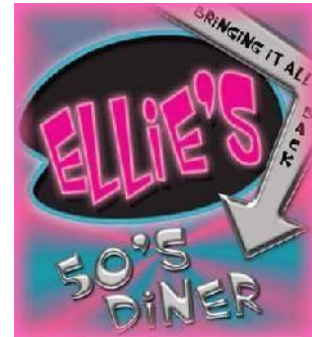
OUR FUND
A FOUNDATION
CONNECTING THE
LGBT COMMUNITY

sage
SAGE USA's SAGEStories
digital history project

Connect
with Your
Community

www.pridecenterflorida.org

SAGE Returns for a Retro MEET-UP at Ellie's 50's Diner



**2410 N Federal Hwy, Delray Beach FL 33483
(561) 276-1570**



Tuesday May 24, 2016 5pm - 8pm

No reservations required.

Come join the fun and have a great time

Tell the Hostess that you're with SAGE

Eat! Drink! Be MERRY

Order what you want – Pay for What You Order

**Complete Diner Fare including Milkshakes, Malts,
Root Beer Floats**

Questions? Call SAGE: 954-634-7219

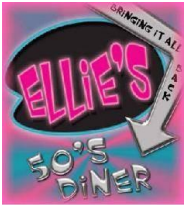
A SAGE-Sponsored Activity

SAGE EVENT CALENDAR

May 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 11:00 am SAGE on the Border Co-Ed/Alternatives	3 7:00 pm HEAR THEIR STORIES, The Pride Center	4 1:00 pm Men's Drop-In @ Pride Center at Equality Park 4:00 pm Computer Club	5	6	7 9:30 am SAGE Board Meeting 12:30 pm SAGE Monthly Luncheon
8 Mother's Day	9 11:00 am SAGE on the Border Co-Ed/Alternatives	10	11 1:00 pm Men's Drop-In @ Pride Center at Equality Park 4:00 pm Computer Club	12 12:00 pm SAGE Women's Luncheon	13	14 11:00 am SAGE Book Club
15	16 11:00 am SAGE on the Border Co-Ed/Alternatives 4:00 pm SAGE Movie at Pride Center AVRoom 206	17	18 1:00 pm Men's Drop-In @ Pride Center at Equality Park 4:00 pm Computer Club	19 9:00 am LGBT Senior Cultural Competency 101, The Pride Center 10:45 am SAGES of SAGE Discussion Group	20	21
22	23 11:00 am SAGE on the Border Co-Ed/Alternatives 5:30 pm Men's Night Out	24 5:00 pm Meet Up at Ellie's 50's Diner	25 1:00 pm Men's Drop-In @ Pride Center at Equality Park 4:00 pm Computer Club	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day 11:00 am SAGE on the Border Co-Ed/Alternatives	31				

UPCOMING SAGE EVENTS



MAY 24, 2016: MEET UP at ELLIE'S 50'S DINER, 2410 N. Federal Highway, Delray Beach, FL 33483; 5:00 pm Social Hour and Drinks, 6:00 Dinner

Community Events

HEAR THEIR STORIES: Learning from LGBT Seniors' Life Experiences: Tuesday, May 3, 2016, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm at The Pride Center at Equality Park (Main Hall).

LGBT SENIOR CULTURAL COMPETENCY 101: May 19 and June 15, 2016 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at The Pride Center, RSVP to Bruce Williams at bwilliams@pridecenterflorida.org or 954.463.9005 ext. 109. Sponsored by SAGE, Our Fund and The Pride Center at Equality Park.

WILTON MANORS STONEWALL & PARADE: Saturday, June 18, 2016

BALLET AND OPERA GROUP meets at The Pride Center at 12:30 pm in room 204 on the second and fourth Sunday of every month.

GLBTQ VETERAN'S DROP IN GROUP sponsored by the Gold Coast Chapter of AVER and SunServe every Tuesday from 5:30 – 7 pm at the Sunshine Cathedral