



PRIDE PRESS

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Pride Bag Ladies Plan Events

The Pride Bag Ladies have a busy couple of months ahead. The Ladies have designated September 19 as Pride Bag Lady Calendar Day. Beginning at 6:00 p.m., several of the Pride Bag Ladies will be signing calendars at Out Word Bound. Then, at 9:00 p.m., the "Ladies" will participate in the first drag show at Talbott Street.

Calendars are for sell at Out Word Bound, Bioscrip Pharmacy, Metropolis Gift Shop, Aveda Full Circle Salon, The Ten and Talbott Street. The 15-month calendar is only \$10.00. All proceeds will be donated back to the GLBT Indianapolis community.

The Pride Bag Lady Pageant will be held on Sunday, October 19 at Talbott Street. Anyone who would like to become queen should contact Gary Brackett at gkbracke@iupui.edu. The Annual Pride Bag Lady Bus Tour – "A Fairy's Tale – Every Story Comes With A Happy Ending" will be held on Saturday, October 25. Registration forms are available online at www.indyprideinc.com.

Annual General Membership Meeting Will Be Held September 10

Indianapolis – The Indy Pride Board of Directors has scheduled the Annual Indy Pride General Membership Meeting for 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, September 10** in the Legend's Bar at Talbott Street, 2145 N. Talbott Street.

According to the Indy Pride Bylaws, "An annual meeting of the members for the election of the Board of Directors and transaction of other business to come before the membership shall be held each year in the first week of September or within 30 days. Time shall be set by the current board and communicated as noted in Section 4.03 (Notice).

In order to vote at the annual General Membership Meeting, you must be a paid Indy Pride member. If you need to renew your membership, you may do so online at www.indyprideinc.com.

During the meeting, President Vankirk will provide an Annual Report to the membership and an annual financial statement will be distributed. In addition, members will be asked to vote for five Board members who will serve a two-year term. Current Board members who will begin the second year of their terms are: Gary Brackett, Tiffany Dow, Vivian Farris, Nicole Griffin, Nic Hensley, Dan Maxwell, Brad Plunkett, Steve Turner, Scott Vankirk and Chad Walker.

The following candidates have been nominated for the five (5) open positions: Natasha Dowell, Marc Gary, Andy Gilliland, Jason Grisell, Doug Mellinger, and Nick Murphy. Please see below for a statement prepared by each candidate to assist you in your selections.

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GLBT HISTORY

Part of the mission and purpose of *Indy Pride, Inc.* is "to educate the GLBT Community about GLBT history, of the issues which affect it, both social and political and of the resources which are available to its members within the community."



Robert Reed

Robert Reed was born John Robert Rietz in Highland Park, Illinois. His parents were Helen and John R. Reitz. Reed spent much of his childhood in Muskogee, Oklahoma. He studied Shakespeare at Northwestern University and later transferred to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London.

Reed first gained fame in the early 1960s for starring along with E.G. Marshall in the television drama series, *The Defenders*. The series ran from 1961 to 1965. His greatest fame, however, came with his starring role as Mike Brad in the sitcom, *The Brady Bunch* which aired from 1969 to 1974. After winning the role, Reed became unhappy with the part. He felt that acting in the often "silly sitcom was beneath his serious Shakespearean training. As a result of his unhappiness with the *Brady Bunch's* content, Reed constantly argued with the show's creator, Sherwood Schwartz. Reed frequently presented Schwartz with multi-page memos detailing why a character's motivation did not make sense, or why it was wrong for one episode to combine elements of different styles, such as farce and satire. One such argument even resulted in his being completely written out of the show's final episode.

Despite his discontent with the sitcom as a whole, by most accounts he genuinely liked and was loved as a father figure by his fellow cast members. Even though Reed was happy when the show ended, he did return for *The Brad Bunch Hour* and the made-for-TV movies and series that reunited the *Brady* cast in the years to come.

During the run of *The Brady Bunch*, Reed also had a recurring role as Lt. Adam Tobias on the television drama *Mannix* during the period 1967 to 1975.

After *The Brady Bunch* ended in 1974, Reed acted on the stage and made many guest star appearances on other television shows and movies. He won critical acclaim for his portrayal of a doctor who wants to undergo a sex-change operation in a two-part episode of *Medical Center* in 1975. Reed appeared in several successful mini-series including *Rich Man, Poor Man* (1976) and *Roots* (1977). He also guest starred on *Wonder Woman*, *Hawaii Five-0*, *Charlie's Angels*, *Vega\$* and *Murder She Wrote*. Reed starred in the critically acclaimed (though short-lived) hospital drama *Nurse* (1981-1982) and had a role on the daytime soap opera *Search For Tomorrow* (1986).

Reed was married to Marilyn Rosenberg from 1957-1959. The couple had one daughter, Caroline Reed who was born in 1958. Caroline had a small role in an episode of *The Brady Bunch* entitled, "The Slumber Camper." Even though he was gay, Reed believed that his career required him to be secretive about his homosexuality. Several of his male partners have come out and stated that Reed threatened them after sex if they tried to expose his homosexuality.

According to one friend, "Robert Reed totally despised and hated being a homosexual man. He considered his homosexuality an 'illness' or a 'condition when he wanted to suppress, and even hoped to find a 'cure' which would rid him of this 'disorder.' The fact that he could not accept his own sexual orientation led to a great deal of angst, emotional conflict and sadness in his life. It prevented his every being a truly happy person. We can only hope that in death he has found the peace of mind which eluded him in life."

Robert Reed died in 1992 at the age of 59 in Pasadena, California from bladder cancer. He was suffering from complications of AIDS at the time. Reed is buried in Skokie, Illinois.

Information obtained from various websites.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Listed below are upcoming Indy Pride Events. Mark your calendars to come out and join the fun!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

INDY PRIDE ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & ELECTIONS

PLACE: LEGENDS BAR AT TALBOTT STREET

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

INDY PRIDE MEMBERSHIP MIXER

PLACE: AGIO RESTAURANT

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

PRIDE BAG LADY CALENDAR NIGHT!

PLACE: OUT WORD BOUND

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

PLACE: TALBOTT STREET

TIME: 9:00 – 11:00 P.M.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

INDY PRIDE SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE!

VISIT INDY PRIDE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

INDY PRIDE BOARD MEETING

PLACE: INDY PRIDE OFFICE

TIME: 7:00 – 8:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

INDY PRIDE MEMBERSHIP MIXER

PLACE: AGIO RESTAURANT

TIME: 6:00 -8:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

PRIDE BAG LADY QUEEN PAGEANT

PLACE: TALBOTT STREET

TIME: 7:00 – 9:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

PRIDE BAG LADY BUS TOUR!

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CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Natasha Dowell – I am Natasha Dowell, a project coordinator by profession and an equal rights activist at heart for over a decade. I decided to become an activist when I was first inspired by community leaders working diligently to forward equal rights efforts and make things happen for GLBTA Indianans. Natasha is a long-time member of Indy Bi-versity, Indy Pride and the Pride of Indy Band and Color Guard. She is currently serving on the Pride of Indy Band Board as Vice President. As an equal rights activist, Natasha focuses on educating people about negative stereotypes and labels. Her favorite quote is, “Labels are for filing. Labels are for clothes. Labels are not for people.” – Martina Navratilova

Marc Gary - Marc Gary has been a member of Indy Pride for the past five years. He has been a volunteer at the annual Pride Festivals for the past four years. For the past two years, he has served as the Bar Manager for the event, coordinating staffing and managing the bar to maximize profits for Indy Pride. Marc has also been actively involved with the Pride Bag Ladies and has served on the Pride Bag Lady Committee for the past several years. His drag name is Donna Rhea. Most recently, Marc spearheaded the Pride Bag Lady Calendar project which has already made a profit of over \$4,000. Marc, along with a couple of other volunteers, raised \$4,500 in sponsorships for the calendar within two weeks. Because of these fundraising efforts, all costs associated with the calendar were covered by sponsorships so that every calendar sold is profit. Marc is pleased to be nominated to serve as a member of Indy Pride’s Board of Directors. He feels that his talents and skills can help Indy Pride continue to grow as an organization.

Andy Gilliland - Advocate and Supporter of Indy Pride since 2001 when I moved to Indianapolis. Over the course of the last five years I have continuously gained interest in a leadership position with Indy Pride. I have actively participated in this important organization through membership and corporate sponsorship. I would like to continue to be a member of the Indy Pride Board of Directors. As Director of Marketing/Membership for Sam's Club, I have raised in excess of 10,000 dollars for programs such as Indy Pride, Indy Youth Group, Damien Center, and the Aids Walk. The experience, skills and passion that I encompass will be demonstrated in my partnership with the Indy Pride Board. I appreciate your vote and look forward to working for you.

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Baker & Daniels Earns Top Ranking In Corporate Equality Index ***Only Indiana Law Firm With 100 Score from Human Rights Campaign Foundation***

INDIANAPOLIS — Baker & Daniels LLP was the only law firm based in Indiana to earn the top rating of 100 percent in the 2009 Corporate Equality Index (CEI), an annual survey administered by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation and announced today. Baker & Daniels joined 259 other major U.S. businesses which received top marks for their treatment of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) employees and consumers. The CEI rated businesses on their GLBT-related policies and practices, including non-discrimination policies, transgender health benefits and domestic partner benefits. Baker & Daniels' efforts in ensuring GLBT equality in each of the survey's main criterion earned it the prestigious 100 percent ranking.

"Diversity and inclusion are among our core values at Baker & Daniels, and we are focused on maintaining a collegial, supportive and inclusive work environment for all," said Tom Froehle, chair and chief executive partner at Baker & Daniels. "We're proud of our 100 percent rating and will continue to invest in diversity initiatives in our offices and communities."

In the CEI index, Baker & Daniels was applauded for a number of programs, including nondiscrimination policies that include sexual orientation, gender identity and expression; diversity and inclusion training; and parity in domestic partner health insurance and other benefits, including COBRA and bereavement. Baker & Daniels embraces a broad definition of diversity, targeting initiatives on multiple fronts. In addition to GLBT outreach, the firm recruits at 29 law schools across the country; regularly participates in minority job fairs; and annually awards two \$10,000 diversity scholarships with guaranteed placements in the firm's summer associate program to second-year law students of diverse backgrounds at Indiana University or University of Notre Dame Law Schools. Baker & Daniels also jointly sponsors summer associate programs for diverse law students with two of the firm's clients, Eli Lilly and Company and Cummins Inc. Recognizing that Indiana does not have a GLBT-advocacy platform, the firm organized an internal GLBT pro bono work group, which presented a series of organizational seminars for organizations serving the GLBT community. Last year, Baker & Daniels achieved a 95 percent rating in the Corporate Equality Index. For more information on the 2009 Corporate Equality Index, or to download a free copy of the report, visit www.hrc.org/cei.

Jason Grisell- Jason is a current Indy Pride Board member up for re-election for his second term. For the past several years, Jason has co-chaired the Operations/Logistics Committee for the IN Pride Festival and the Indianapolis AIDS Walk & Ride. Jason has recently turned his passion for helping and volunteering with the community into a profession having joined the staff of the Indiana AIDS Fund in January 2008 after 11 years in the for-profit sector.

Doug Mellinger - Hello, my name is Doug Mellinger but most people in the community would know me as my production name of "Asia LaBouche". There are two very important components that help make "Asia LaBouche" and those are Costumes and Community. To me Indy Pride is a valuable and all inclusive representative of our Community. I have been an active member of the GLBT Community for 17yrs. I have donated my time and talents to Indy Pride for the last 8 years by coordinating and participating in the Drag show/Emcee spots and as participating as a board member for the last two years. I have donated both my time and money to Indiana Youth Group and Indiana Still Cares by participating in various fund raisers and shows. I am actively involved in fund raising for Indiana AIDS Fund by participating in both the SPOTLIGHT production for the past 5yrs and the AIDS Walk for the past 10yrs. I have also raised funds personally by selling "Asia LaBouche" T-shirts and Magnets with all profits being donated to IAF and IYG. I would like to continue to be more directly and actively involved in our ever-growing Indy Pride and feel I would be a valuable member to the board for an additional two years. Thank you!

Nick Murphy - I am very grateful for being nominated to the Indy Pride Board. For nearly three years, I have worked for a very large not-for-profit, The Julian Center, as their Director of Information Technology and Grant Compliancy, and beyond that, I have a history of working with other not-for-profits like The Penrod Society, Indianapolis Sports Foundation, and The Damien Center. While my experience has been largely technological or design oriented, I have absorbed enough information on fundraising, event management, and many other functions to be an asset to the Board and Indy Pride as a whole. Beyond the day to day challenges of being on the board, I look forward to the opportunity of working alongside each and every one of you as we try to build tolerance in Indianapolis and move Indy Pride into the future.