

GAY ▾ LESBIAN ▾ BISEXUAL ▾ TRANSGENDER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REACHING OUT

Indiana University Alumni Association • Vol. 7 • No. 1 • Fall 2003

Board explores Queer Community PATH

Dreaming of a time when every alumnus of Indiana University is a GLBT ally, a time when there will be a GLBT center on each IU campus, and there is a sense of inclusion for all is exactly what the GLBT Alumni Association board did on Saturday morning Sept. 20, 2003. The group met to literally create a PATH toward our future. With the voluntary assistance of two "Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope" facilitators and allies, Melissa Madill and Kathy Osborn, both from Indianapolis, the board brainstormed for more than three hours to create our dreams and goals for our future!

While the dreams are huge, the creative-planning facilitators took us through the process of looking at what might be positive and possible by September 2008. Those possible accomplishments include a great deal of varied financial support, such as planned giving of estates, endowments, corporate donors, and that 25 percent of our membership will give an average gift of \$100 to the group annually!

The discussion became lively and animated as we continued to consider possible accomplishments, such as GLBT graduation celebrations that also included allies and an agreement by IU to open a GLBT center by 2013. Other goals included providing scholarships, internships, a more coordinated Internet presence, meeting with five GLBT alumni groups in other states, 50 active volunteers, and 1,500 members. All of these goals are totally possible to achieve if the membership steps up to assist when asked.



"PATH-breaking" board members are, from left, front: Craig Bueck, Erica De Santis, Kim Davis, and Doug Bauder; back: Kevin Fortwendel, Nancy Kalina, Andrew Wilson, Bryan Sirtosky, and David "D.J." Johnson.

The facilitators had everyone excited about the positive and possible future. Emotions were high — energized, everyone was thinking about what to do and how to move forward, when Melissa and Kathy reined the group in to see what was actually going on now. We all seemed to feel a sense of accomplishment about the GLBT Alumni Association. While we are young, currently print and disseminate two newsletters to more than 500 members, and are perceived as successful by some, there was also a feeling of tension, frustration, and concern about our financial obligations and abilities to carry on as we have in the past. There was a distinct mixture of pride and frustration.

However, we all agreed there was an excitement about the future and what could happen with this alumni affiliate group!

In order to accomplish all of our goals, we need to enroll people to be successful. After each board member actually signed his or her name to our PATH, the group named others to approach to ask for help. Names of specific people at IU were listed; organizations and volunteers from our membership will be critical to our success.

Not only will the board need to ask for assistance from others, it will also need to nurture itself so it can stay strong and continue to work as hard as possible. The three committees,

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Path

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(Finance, Membership, and Communications) will all need to be running efficiently to do the bulk of the work. This is where volunteers can actually get involved and provide the support the board needs. The board members also realized they need to get to know each other better through some team building, sharing celebrations and accolades and maintaining strong and consistent communication among themselves. There was even mention of a potluck at the Kalina/Davis household to provide a venue for relaxed conversation and sharing.

After being in the present, the board was once again taken into the future by Melissa and Kathy. The next stepping stone in the PATH was to think about and list the accomplishments the board will have achieved by Sept. 20, 2005. This is PATH's way of facilitating goal-setting. By Sept. 25, 2005, from the work of our **Finance Committee**, we hope to have:

- \$1,000 in corporate sponsors;
- a grant support person at the IU Foundation;
- an annual budget that is reviewed and approved;
- raised \$3,000 over two years; and
- sponsored one intern.

From our **Membership Committee**, we hope to have:

- grown to 800 members;
- identified 100 on-call volunteers and 15 active local volunteers;
- sponsored regular Chicago and Indianapolis events and two Bloomington events annually;
- celebrated two graduation ceremonies;
- participated in a minimum of 12 community events, such as Indy Pride, Chicago Pride, etc.;
- identified potential contacts in five key regions; and
- established a campus recruitment plan.

From our **Communications Committee**, we hope to have:

- established connections with all IU campuses;
- put in place a strong Web infrastructure;
- surveyed the membership via our newsletter; and
- established quarterly communication via two newsletters and two other types of communication.



PATH facilitators lead the board in creative planning.

And if that is not enough, the board has increased team building. We have committee notebooks that are constantly updated with strategic information. New board members receive an orientation. There is 100 percent participation in giving on individual ability level by the board, which has increased diversity and representation. Finally, two huge issues have been tackled. One is that GLBT now has both internal and external support, and the second is that the board has worked extremely hard to ensure that the policy regarding transgendered issues on the IUB campus has been resolved.

This list almost overwhelmed the board as members looked at the list of tasks they had just created. It seemed like a great deal of work to achieve in two years. The facilitators summarized all of the potential two year accomplishments and told the group to take a deep breath, not to worry, and to realize that their PATH is a fluid undertaking. We have to remember that things can change, but that we should hold on to our dreams.

The next two steps helped break all of the potential accomplishments down further. We looked at goals we wanted to achieve six months from now. Additionally, we made a list of first steps that we would all need to take to begin this journey. Your board will be extremely busy in the next months working to make your GLBT Alumni Association, and ultimately, IU GLBT issues, stronger over all. Among the tasks are:

- finding corporate sponsors;
- working toward each committee's respective goals;
- visiting all IU campuses and identifying contacts;
- gaining 75 new members;
- generating ideas of how to revise our Web site;
- publishing the spring issue of *Reaching Out*;
- developing fund-raising strategies with case statements;
- including a survey in the newsletter for our membership feedback;
- developing a two-year membership event plan; and
- enlisting new committee members who are not board members to assist the GLBT Alumni Association in moving forward.

The GLBTAA board members are excited about the future. We need the help of volunteers, locally and nationally. If you are in another state and can offer assistance by becoming a regional contact, we want to hear from you. The Chicago regional group has had one successful event and has another planned for this October. They can serve as mentors for anyone elsewhere in the country. Our alumni are scattered across the country, and IU GLBTAA should be represented! The board members are asking for your assistance to help us reach our dreams for the betterment of all of us. Get involved, see the potential, and reach for the stars with the board. We are working for you, and we welcome your input and presence.

The future can be bright, but it takes work and dedication. Let's all work together to make the dreams become a reality! Contact Kim Davis at davisk@indiana.edu, or Nicki Bland at nhbland@indiana.edu for ways you can help.

Letter from the president

Your GLBT Alumni Association continues to reach out, grow

Greetings! With this issue we are starting a new tradition: a message from the GLBT president. I want to share ideas the board is discussing and ask questions. This organization can get better only if we hear from our members. We need you to help guide us as we continue on our journey!



Kim Davis

This spring, our Finance Committee initiated our first attempt at obtaining corporate sponsors to help our cause. Letters have been sent and follow-up calls are set to begin. We are hoping for this extra support to allow us to move closer toward the dream of support the GLBT Student Office at Indiana University Bloomington.

In the early stages of this campaign we received generous donations from several businesses. **Dr. Lisa Baker** became our first corporate sponsor with a \$500 donation. **St. John Associates Inc., Art Woodruff, Pet House Calls, and Kingsnake Sound Inc.** each contributed \$100. We are absolutely

grateful for the donations of each of these businesses.

The Membership Committee, in an attempt to attract new members as well as maintain present members, has numerous events under consideration. Among them are regional outreach events; IU Homecoming; assisting OUT, the student group at IUB, with the annual Miss Gay IU; reaching out to the IU regional campuses; and a potential trip to Market Days in Chicago in the coming year. There are many other irons in the fire, too numerous to mention.

The big news for the Communications Committee is that we have a new editor for the newsletter! After years of incredible work and upgrading *Reaching Out*, John Clower has stepped down to pursue other endeavors. We will miss him. At the same time, we are overjoyed to have Ann Wesley join us as our new editor! She brings a rich experience in editing and story writing from her years of work at the *Herald-Times* newspaper and for regional magazines. She is a true asset to our group.

Although there is much happening, we do need to hear from *you*, our members. While we are here in

Bloomington, we do not forget we have members across the country. You can help us, first of all, by making sure your contact information is up to date. If you have an e-mail address, consider adding that for us to use. Next, if you want to volunteer to help on a committee or be a regional representative to organize an event in your location, let us know. If you have any ideas for activities, events, or stories to share, tell us. Keep us in mind when you meet other alumni, let them know we exist and encourage them to join us. Finally, remember that we can grow stronger only if we all contribute! If you can contribute time, energy, or money, I guarantee it will go to a very worthy cause. We want to be *your* IU GLBT Alumni Association, so please, let us hear from you!

Enjoy your newsletter, and look for announcements on our Web site at www.indiana.edu/~glbtaa.

— Kim Davis



Dr. Lisa Baker was the first corporate sponsor of the IU GLBT Alumni Association this year. A dentist, she performed at the annual GLBTAA picnic in August with her band, the Lost Brothers.

How you can help the GLBTAA

How can you help the GLBT Alumni Association if you are not in Bloomington? Easy! Become a regional host for membership and fundraising events in your local area! Currently, we have regional hosts in Chicago and Indianapolis. They each have had successful regional events that have brought us more members as well as funds that went directly to the GLBT Student Support Services office at IU Bloomington.

Please join us by becoming a regional host. Events can be as simple as a Happy Hour gathering to share information about us or as elaborate as a Silent Auction; you be the judge. If you are interested, please contact Nicki Bland at (812) 855-6843 or nhbland@indiana.edu, or contact Kim Davis at (812) 855-6508 or davisk@indiana.edu. Help us gather members in all 50 states!



Lost brothers entertain at GLBTAA picnic

What do you get when you mix an IU optometrist, dentist, educator, counselor, and singer? You get fantastic entertainment at the GLBT Alumni Association annual picnic.

The Lost Brothers, five women graduates of IU who have formed a band in their spare time, entertained at this year's August event with rock covers and original music.

Dr. Dianne Porter (guitar) is a product of the optometry school. Dr. Lisa Baker, DDS, (bass) has an undergraduate degree from IUB and graduated from the IU dental school in Indianapolis. Debby Rumsey (drums) is an education major. Dr. Diana Baker, PhD, (keyboard/flute) did her undergraduate studies at IUB and was a member of the Singing Hoosiers. Her PhD in counseling is from IUB. And Holly Bales (lead vocals) is in vocal performance at the School of Music. Lisa, Debby, Dianne, and Diana are all members of the IU Alumni Association. Many of their friends and fans are members of the GLBT Alumni Association and encouraged them to perform at the picnic.

Lisa Baker became one of the first corporate sponsors of the GLBTAA this year with a generous \$500 donation.

The group has become well known in southern Indiana and has recorded a CD, *Looking for Lost Brothers*. Many of their performances are charity events.

"We love to play for a crowd. We just come alive and sparkle when someone besides us is listening," said Bales. "It is a powerful experience to hear the words of your own songs being sung back to you from the crowd or to see them dancing to your

music."

The group of friends started to practice together and soon realized it would be a great goal to perform in public. Their first "concert" was at Lisa Baker's house during a pool party several years ago.

"It was really bad, but our friends loved us and encouraged us to keep going," Bales said. "We had a lot of potential in our sound and just needed to feel confident about it and ourselves. After that, I think we just kept working and practicing. We started taking 'gigs' with the local parks departments and at private parties. Word of mouth got us a lot of gigs. We learned along the way. We realized



Vicki Minder, left, and Gretchen Eberle enjoy the afternoon entertainment. Gretchen is the daughter of Ruth Eberle (not pictured). Vicki's partner, Rebecca Keith, right, also attended the picnic.



what type of venue we were best suited for, what type of music kept the crowd engaged, and what we did really well."

Once committed to the idea of being a band, the women spent their first year doing little but working and practicing. Then their own songs started to evolve. Suddenly, the group had nearly a dozen original songs and decided to record.

"It was all just a logical, natural progression of things. Creating the CD was an amazing experience. It pushed us personally and mentally. If we decide to do this again (and it's looking like we will!), we will do some

things differently. The business end of things can get sticky and complicated, although *nothing* can compare to the high of hearing the engineer say 'OK, that's great! Come in and listen,'" Bales said.

After the CD was made, the women really started to grow as musicians. They became better at song-writing and at picking up new cover tunes. Practices became fewer and fewer, thanks to their musicality. The hard work at the beginning paid off, and the group now averages about one gig a month.

Still, the women have no intention of leaving their profession to take up music full time.

"We all love music. We truly enjoy the time we spend together and the magic that comes from creating original music. However, all of us, for the most part, like our lives the way they are. Our careers are a joy and something we worked hard for through the years. Our own jobs come before the band, but thanks to having a passion for both music and our careers, we don't have to worry that one or the other will fade out of our lives. We are in different stages of our lives. Some of us are looking ahead toward retirement and are planning for that new stage of life. Some of us are preparing to start families and all the fun chaos that comes with having children," Bales said.

"Through all of these changes and differences, music is our joy and one of the ways we keep connected to each other. I am sure that if offered a national recording contract, we would take it, but we would still be interested in keeping the other aspects of our lives intact," she said.

"For all of us, being paid professional musicians is a thrill, a joy, and a way that we can express our love of music and our friendship with each other."



John Clower was recognized at the annual GLBTAA picnic for his hard work and dedication to the group. John has resigned as editor of *Reaching Out* but remains an active member, offering continued advice and support.



Kara Krothe, left, and Lisa Leedy enjoy dancing to the music of the Lost Brothers at the IU GLBTAA picnic in August.



While listening the music of the Lost Brothers, Kara Krothe, left, Rachel Tharpe, Lisa Leedy, and Sue Workman catch up on news.



Andrew Wilson, left, member of the GLBTAA board, exchanges ideas with Peter Burkholder at the annual picnic.

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Professor's Web log raises questions of free versus hate speech

Indiana University faces a controversy of deciding whether "hurtful, harmful" statements a professor housed on his Web site on an IU server are a matter of free speech or whether they violate university policies. The explosive issue has taken center stage in Bloomington, but it affects everyone in the IU community on all campuses.

Professor Eric Rasmusen, a faculty member in the business economics and public policy department of the Kelley School of Business in Bloomington, maintains a Web log, a free-form log of opinions and observations, as part of a personal Web page on an IU server. On the log, he states that homosexuals should not hold jobs that are "moral exemplars." He cites professional positions such as teachers, pastors, and elected officials as those that should not be open to homosexuals. Rasmusen maintains that male homosexuals tend to be attracted to boys, are "generally promiscuous," and are more likely than heterosexuals to molest children.

Complaints about Rasmusen's site started with the beginning of classes in September. Dan Dalton, dean of the business school, asked Rasmusen to remove the log from his Web site, and he did, moving it to a private Geocities site — with a link from his IU site. Later, after checking with IU's office of legal counsel, Dalton told Rasmusen the university wouldn't keep him from posting his views on the site.

Dalton cited a statement from IU's information technology policy office on personal Web pages, which can be created and maintained by faculty, staff, and students. "Free expression of ideas is a central value within the academy," the policy says, adding that some material on the sites may be offensive to some visitors. "Absent a violation of law or university policy, the university will not take action with respect to material on a personal home page," it says.

Many members of the IU community don't believe Rasmusen should be able to make such comments on an IU-owned computer server because, they

say, the statements amount to hate speech.

Doug Bauder, coordinator of IU's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender student support services office, said Rasmusen's views — and the fact they were posted on an IU site — were highly offensive to many students, faculty, and staff.

"Professor Rasmusen acknowledges that he has no evidence to support his conclusions, which are, instead, drawn from the category of 'what everyone knows.'"

— Sharon Brehm

During the business school's induction ceremony for undergraduate students in September, students and community groups in Bloomington protested the university's decision to allow Rasmusen's statements to stay online. About 100 people gathered at the ceremony to speak out against the anti-gay sentiments posted by Rasmusen.

Jonathan Rossing, an IU graduate student who organized the demonstration, said the group aimed to send a message of solidarity to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transsexual business students who had felt intimidated by Rasmusen's comments. Rossing said that one student's mother asked what had prompted the demonstration. When they told her, she expressed relief that such a support

network existed, explaining that her son was gay.

But the group got mixed responses from other inductees and their families.

IUB Chancellor Sharon Brehm deplored Rasmusen's anti-homosexual opinions, but she said he clearly has a right to express the views. Brehm told the Bloomington Faculty Council the views were "offensive, hurtful, and very harmful stereotyping." The professor's right to express the views, she said, is protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution and the Indiana University policy on academic freedom.

"Professor Rasmusen acknowledges that he has no evidence to support his conclusions, which are, instead, drawn from the category of 'what everyone knows,'" Brehm said. She said such stereotyping is "completely at odds with Indiana University's commitment to inclusion and its respect for diversity."

Rasmusen said Brehm's position that it's acceptable for homosexuals to be teachers, pastors, and elected officials is outside the mainstream. "It is fine if that's her position, but she should realize it is a controversial one," he said.

While some people may be offended by his statements, he said, "It's hard to say anything interesting on the subject and make everybody happy, but that's no reason not to discuss it."

Rasmusen's Web log can be found at <http://mypage.iu.edu/~erasmuse/weblog.htm>.

GLBTAA member **Gary Pool**, BS'70, wrote a letter to the editor about this hot topic. Pool's letter was published in the November/December issue of the *INDIANA ALUMNI MAGAZINE*.

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IU graduate publishes gay comic novel, *Blood in My Hairspray*

Indiana University graduate Steven Schreibman had a dream come true with the recent publication of his first novel, *Blood in My Hairspray*. The story is of a hard-bitten Mafia wife who suddenly drops dead at the beauty shop, sending hotshot hairdresser Damian Shtup's life into a tailspin. The comedy is full of



Schreibman

manners full of passion, pathos, and fabulous hair.

Schreibman attended IU Bloomington from 1980 to 1984, graduating with a BS in business.

After graduating, he lived in New

York City for 14 years and worked in a variety of marketing and advertising positions. About five years ago, he was recruited to work as the director of marketing for Victoria's Secret Stores in Columbus, Ohio, where he continues to work and live.

Below is a look at Schreibman, his writing process, and the book.

Q: If you had to do it over again, would you have wanted to start your career as a full-time writer, or do you see it as a "secondary" career?

A: As I think any writer will tell you, it's hard to make writing — fiction or nonfiction — your full-time career. Journalists are one exception to that rule, but when it comes to book publishing, many authors have a primary career and their writing is secondary. It's simply a matter of economics.

Q: How would you describe yourself now, compared to 10 years ago?

A: I'm the same person I've always been, except now I'm fatter, which I hate. Dieting sucks. Exercise sucks, although when done properly, even I admit it can help you feel better overall. So I submit to yoga twice a week and vacillate between eating healthy foods and just standing over the sink eating ice cream straight from the carton. From a gay perspective, I do believe that we tend to grow more

comfortable in our own skins as we get older, which is a great thing. I've always been an activist, but very "polite" about it. I had to look perfect at all times, had to be very adult about protests. The idea being that I alone had to prove that gay people were OK despite who we are, which, when you really think about it, is self-hating.

So now when I'm involved in any action, political or otherwise I let it all hang out. Writing *Blood in My Hairspray* has helped me tremendously in that area. I realized the power of communication, and, when paired with something so personal as what amounts to the gayest novel you'll ever read, leveraged the power of being more "out" than I've ever been. So that's cool.

Q: Now that the first book is out there, does it change your process when you write?

A: I always write for myself. You have to, or else you'll compromise the story. You can't worry about who will think what. When my agent first presented the book to publishers, they wouldn't go near it because it was "too gay." I was appalled at the homophobia and self-hate from that type of comment, and realized that when push came to shove, there was no way I could de-gay the story. It simply wouldn't work!

That's why so many sitcoms are just one big vanilla half-grin, instead of the true belly-laughs of a show like *Will & Grace*. They just get out there and say what they have to say. And that's what I tried to do with *Blood in My Hairspray*. Just say it. And make it funny.

Q: How real is your fiction to you?

A: I write fiction as though it's real. It all really happened. That way the reader can get a fuller experience. Even the outlandish plot twists have to be believable. I *hate* a book with a bad ending! That's why I wrote the ending first.

Q: What's the most important lesson you've learned?

A: In life? Be yourself. I am shocked, at age 21 (oops, I mean 41), at

the level of support I've received from writing this funny gay novel. And it was all because I didn't hold back. I tell people all the time to take the leap. We've all

learned it through the coming-out process, but it continues throughout your life. I'm more comfortable now than I've ever been. I don't want to go back at all.

Q: You struggled to find a publisher and the book is self-published. What are the advantages/disadvantages of this? Now that you have control of your work, would you want to go with an established publisher next time?

A: It got to the point where I didn't want to hear any more negative feedback about my work. I knew it was good. I knew it could work as a film, stage play, or whatever. I knew it was funny! So, screw you, Mr. Homophobic Industry Person, for not having the balls to support it. There's a funny story — when I moved to Columbus, I gave myself one last chance to determine if it was worth publishing *Blood in My Hairspray* myself. I sent a copy of the rough draft to a woman who does one of the morning radio shows in town. I thought, if this girl likes it, this small-town, presumably heterosexual woman, then that'll be my litmus test. So I send her the book with a nice note, and she e-mails me every day for two weeks, telling me how funny it was, that I should do something with this, that she's reading it out loud to her friends ... it was amazing. So I went ahead and just did it.

Q: Is there to be a next book?

A: I have another book in the can, an idea for stage play, ideas for other novels, but I don't want to pursue any of them until *Blood in My Hairspray* is as big as it can be. My goal is to sell 5,000 copies. I've barely scratched the surface! So I've got a lot of work ahead of me.



A look at your GLBT Alumni Association board

Christine Badowski, of Chicago, received her BA in video production/film studies from IU in 1989. She is a producer for Metromix.com, the online entertainment guide of the *Chicago Tribune* and winner of the 2001 Digital Edge award for Best City Guide. Badowski has worked as a television writer/producer for ABC Sports, CBS Sports, ESPN, CNN, Sneak Previews on PBS, *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, and A&E's *American Justice*.

Doug Bauder, of Bloomington, has served as an ex-officio member of the board since 1997. He has been director of the IU GLBT Student Support Services office since it opened in 1994 and also serves part time on the staff of the Office of Multicultural Affairs as an associate diversity advocate.

worked for IU as an education consultant, specializing in autism, at the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community. Davis is president of the GLBTAA.

Rob DeCleene, of Bloomington, received his BS in recreation from IU Bloomington in 1994. He is services manager for the Bloomington/Monroe County Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Erica L. De Santis, of Bloomington, received her BA in psychology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1993 and her JD from the IU School of Law in 1996. Currently serving as the first executive director of the Monroe County Humane Association, she also teaches part time at Kelley School of Business, and is a founding member of the Bloomington Rainbow Guild. She has been involved

where he is working toward an MA in philanthropic studies and a certificate in nonprofit management.

Rob Grayless, of Fort Wayne, received his BS in public and environmental affairs from Indiana University in 1998. He will be graduating in December 2003 with a BS in organizational leadership and supervision from Purdue University. He is a strategic information analyst with Lincoln Financial Group. Grayless's community involvement includes past president and board chair of the Gingerbread House Inc., a minority early childhood education center in Fort Wayne. He also is the executive director and board chair for Indiana Urban Search and Rescue and is a director for the Northeast Indiana Equal Rights Education Network, a GLBT group based on the campus of IPFW. Grayless is the executive director of the Northeast Indiana Equal Rights Coalition, a GLBT social advocacy group. He is also the Region 3 (northeast Indiana) steering committee chair for the Indiana Equality initiative, a GLBT grassroots effort to amend the state civil rights code. Grayless is also an emergency medical technician.

John Hobson, of Bloomington, has served as an ex-officio member of the board since 1997. He is senior vice president and chief operating officer of the IU Alumni Association.

David Johnson, of Chicago, earned his BA in journalism at IU in 2000. His activities include chair of the GLBTSSS Advisory Board, African American Choral Ensemble, CommUNITY Educator, National Day of Silence Steering Committee, Peer Support Program volunteer, and IDS reporter and page designer. Currently he works for a medical nonprofit in downtown Chicago, editing, producing, and publishing books and other products about diabetes. "Mainly, I am interested in reaching out to IU alumni outside of Indiana and the Midwest in general. During my four years at IU, I learned a lot about myself as a gay man and a human and met so many unique and amazing people, espe-



Considering options are PATH participants, from left, back row: Craig Boeck, David "D.J." Johnson, Andrew Wilson, and Angie Dill; front row: Kevin Fortwendel, Doug Bauder, Nancy Kalina, and Erica De Santis.

Nicki Bland, of Bloomington, has served as an ex-officio member of the board since 2001. She is an alumni programs director for the IU Alumni Association and the liaison to GLBTAA.

Kim Davis, of Bloomington, received her BA in 1972 from MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Ill. After teaching for five years, she came to IU, where she completed her MS in 1978. Since then, she has

with the GLBTSSS office since it opened and has served on the GLBTAA board since 1999. She currently is vice president.

Kevin Fortwendel, of Chicago, received his BS in public affairs at IU Bloomington in 1997. He is associate director of development for major gifts at Northwestern University School of Law. Fortwendel is also enrolled in the executive master's program at the IU Center on Philanthropy at IUPUI,

cially my live-in partner of three-and-a-half years, Jerrod 'Willie' Liveoak BA'00."

Nancy Kalina, of Bloomington, received her BS in rehabilitation psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1987. She then received her MS in 1988 in rehabilitation counseling from Syracuse University. Kalina obtained her teaching license from Indiana University in 2002 as she left the university environment and went to work for Bloomington High School North. Currently, she coordinates the work-study program for students with disabilities.

Linda Perdue, of Indianapolis, received her BA in political science from IUPUI in 1988. She is retired from the world of software, where she was a project manager for several major corporations. She currently is serving as campaign manager for Councilor Jackie Nytes, who is running for re-election to the city-county council in Indianapolis on the Democratic ticket. Perdue is currently co-chair of the fourth annual Indiana Lambda Legal Benefit Dinner, is president of Indiana Stonewall Democrats, and is a board member of Indiana Youth Group. She also serves her neighborhood, Herron-Morton Place Historic District, by chairing or working on several committees. Perdue is most proud of her 26-year relationship with her partner, Suzannah Walker, her two grown children, their spouses, and their two charming grandgirls.

Bryan J. Sirtosky, of Indianapolis, received his BA in English and telecommunications (double major with distinction) from IU Bloomington in 1989 and his JD from the IU School of Law-Bloomington in 1993. Currently working as an information technology consultant, Sirtosky is a founding board member and the current president of the Indiana Transgender Rights Advocacy Alliance as well as an active member of Indiana Equality. He also is a founding member of Indy Boyz, a social/support group for female-to-male transgendered people in the Indianapolis area.

Andrew Wilson is a New Zealander beginning his fifth year of a PhD in psychology and cognitive science. After looking for ways he could be involved on campus and get out of the lab occasionally, he (re)founded Allys in the summer of 2000, and he served as president from 2000 to 2002. He also has served on the GLBTSS Office Advisory board since 2000. "I'm looking forward to being able to continue to serve the GLBT/Ally community on the AA board."

Craig Boeck is a 1996 graduate of the IU School of Law-Bloomington. He currently works for the Damien Center in Indianapolis, serving as a care coordinator and the legal services coordinator. His responsibilities include: case management; drafting wills, powers of attorney, and advanced directives; and representing Social Security claimants before the Social Security Administration and the federal courts.

Edyta Sitko is a junior studying political science at IU Bloomington. She has served as president of OUT, IU's GLBT Student Union, for two years. She also works in the IU Musical Arts Center and serves on the Dean of Students advisory board.

Regional report: Chicago

IU GLBTAA members tour Graceland Cemetery

On Sunday, Oct. 12, five IU GLBT alumni members and their friends explored one of the oldest graveyards in Chicago, Graceland Cemetery.

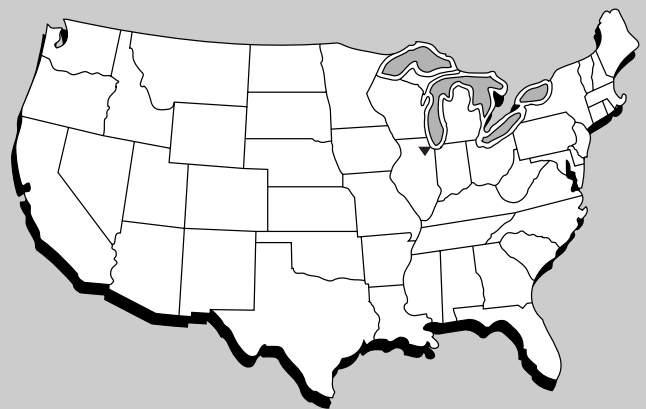
Participants could not have asked for more perfect weather. The cloudless, sunny sky, warm temperatures, and the reds, oranges, and yellows of the autumnal leaves offered the perfect backdrop to a very interesting and engaging tour.

Conducted by the Chicago Architectural Foundation, participants were shown the headstones, mausoleums, monoliths, and monuments of some of the most historic figures in Chicago, including George Pullman, William Goodman, and Marshall Field.

Afterward, some participants went to Coobah, one of Chicago's newest Latino restaurants in the gay-friendly Chicago neighborhood of Andersonville, for good food and good conversation.

— David Johnson

REACHING OUT



Interested in planning an IU GLBT Alumni Association-sponsored event in your area? Contact the Membership Committee of the IU GLBTAA, who can help you contact IU GLBT alumni in your city or town.

From the editor's desk

Hey! What are you doing? We need to hear from you!

We really want to know what our IU GLBT alumni are doing around the country. This issue of *Reaching Out* has no class notes, which in my opinion, is a serious flaw. But we can't print them if you don't send them to us.

Whenever I read the *Indiana Alumni Magazine* or the newsletter from the School of Journalism, my favorite part is class notes. I like to look for names of the people I went to school with and see what's new in their lives.



Wesley

Many times those notes have allowed me to send an e-mail to someone to reconnect years after we've last spoken.

So please think about sending us something for the spring issue of *Reaching Out*. Maybe you have a new job or a new child. Maybe you have joined a new board or participated in a community event, or

your sports team finished the season with a winning record. Let us know. Send an e-mail with your name, the years you attended IU, your e-mail address (if you want it made public), and your news to amwesley@indiana.edu.

Get up and do it now, before you forget!

On a similar note, if you have an idea for a feature article for an upcoming issue, please let us know. We want to include the news that interests you. If you want to write an article about an event or profile another member of the club, drop me a line with your idea and we'll try to get your article scheduled.

We also would love feature photo submissions of IU GLBT alumni events in your community. The newsletter shouldn't be all about Bloomington. When you're out, please snap a picture or write a little item to let others know how and where we are active.

— Ann Wesley

Please join us!

Your membership in the GLBTAA is **free**, although we do encourage you to become a dues-paying member of the IU Alumni Association. Your IUAA membership supports activities of the GLBTAA and includes membership in your local alumni club and your school alumni association.

- I want to become a member of the IU GLBT Alumni Association, which is free. *Membership, ID numbers, and mailings are kept confidential.*
- I want to join the IU Alumni Association, which is a dues-paying organization.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Home phone _____ Soc. Sec. # (or IU student i.d. #) _____

IU degree(s)/yr(s) _____

E-mail address _____

Second member's name _____

Relationship _____ Soc. Sec. # (or IU student i.d. #) _____

IU degree(s)/yr(s) _____

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How did you hear about us? _____

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REACHING OUT

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