

Volume 1, Issue 10

July 2007

Monthly Columns:

- Local & National Calendar of Events
- Transitioning in Ohio: The Legal Process
- Local & National Resources
- Trans-Friendly Business Listings
- SOFFA Corner
- The Local Trans Experience
- Open Mic @ TransOhio
- Transgender Identities

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## TransOhio Unity Picnic Brings Out Many!

June was a very busy month for TransOhio. On Saturday, June 9, 2007, TransOhio hosted their first TransOhio Unity Picnic. The picnic was held at Goodale Park in Columbus and was open to all members, groups, friends and family of GLBTQI and Ally community. We had a fantastic turn-out, approximately 30-35 people over the course of the afternoon. People brought some amazing dishes to share, so there was plenty of food to fuel the football and Frisbee players. Not to mention, when people gather around a table, there's always great conversation, and the TransOhio Unity Picnic was no different.

It was great to see people sharing their experiences with one another. Sometimes when people transition, the personal support network decreases in size drastically. So, it was great to see networking taking place, as well as people being supportive and caring for each other. People who'd not seen one another had time to reconnect and catch up on each other's life, the up's and down's and all the stuff in between.

And for some people who joined us, they left knowing that they've made a new group of friends and that their personal support network has been rebuilt – stronger and better.

TransOhio would also like to thank the folks from Equality Ohio and Stonewall who joined us. We appreciate your attendance and your support.

Also, The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has also published a relatively in-depth analysis of the 2008 presidential candidate's (both Republican and Democrat) positions on current GLBT issues.

You can download their publication from: [http://www.thetaskforce.org/downloads/reports/reports/final\\_candidates\\_positions.pdf](http://www.thetaskforce.org/downloads/reports/reports/final_candidates_positions.pdf)

Make sure you check out the Calendar of Events on page 2 for upcoming TransOhio sponsored events and gatherings!

## TransOhio Publishes Updated Transgender 101



Over the past few months, staff and volunteers of TransOhio have worked hard to rewrite and update an outdated version of the Transgender 101 informational pamphlet.

Our intention was to change the focus of the information from "what transgender is" to "what transgender isn't," and we are pleased with the quality and content of this brochure!

local Columbus and other Ohio GLBT organizations. The feedback has been fantastic and the interest in this publication continues to expand. So, we're quite excited about this and are pleased with the support we're receiving from other GLBT organizations.

You can download Transgender 101 (pdf) from the TransOhio website: [www.transohio.org](http://www.transohio.org).

### Upcoming From TransOhio:

The next few months we'll be working with Stonewall to finalize our mission statement, as well as writing proposals for grants from local organizations.

In September, our Director will be presenting at the Southern Comfort Conference held in Atlanta. Are you going to be attending this conference? If so, let us know! what you think!

Email us at [TransOhio@wowway.com](mailto:TransOhio@wowway.com)

The Center on High (Stonewall Columbus) has been very supportive of our Transgender 101 tri-fold and they've already printed two runs for us. Copies of Transgender 101 were given to

# Local & National Calendar of Events

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## July 2007

- Equality Ohio Digital Storytelling Workshop (application deadline), July 11, 2007. For more info and requirements, visit: <http://www.equalityohio.org>
- SPICE 2007. The Spouses' and Partners' International Conference on Education (SPICE). July 20 - 22, 2007. Minneapolis, MN. For information, visit: <http://tri-ess.org/spice>
- CampOUT, July 26 - 29, 2007, Lothlorien Nature Sanctuary, Bloomington, IN. [http://www.lagarou.org/campout\\_2007](http://www.lagarou.org/campout_2007)
- FTMI-Ohio, Saturday, July 28th, 2007. Time and Location TBA. Visit [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FTM-I\\_Ohio](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FTM-I_Ohio) for info.

## August 2007

- Skin Care and Color for the Summer or any Season, Saturday, August 18, 2007. Stonewall Columbus. See page 4 for information.
- FTM2007, Gender Odyssey, August 21– September 3, 2007 (Labor Day Weekend), Seattle, Washington. <http://www.transconference.org/index.htm>
- Family conference for parents of gender variant and transgender children: Gender Odyssey, August 21– September 3, 2007 (Labor Day Weekend), Seattle, Washington. <http://www.transconference.org/family/index.htm>
- Our Stories: Digital Storytelling Workshop, Equality Ohio. Columbus, Ohio, August 21-23, 2007. Attendance is limited. For info, visit: <http://www.equalityohio.org>

## September 2007

- Southern Comfort Conference, September 11-16, 2007, Atlanta, GA. For info: <http://www.sccatl.org>
- Out & Equal Workplace Summit, September 27 - 29, 2007, Washington D.C. For more information, visit their website at <http://www.outandequal.org/summit/2007/OutEqual-2007Summit.asp>

## October 2007

- Fantasia Fair. October 14 - 21, 2007. Provincetown, Massachusetts. For info visit: <http://www.fantasiafair.org>
- Eureka! En Femme Getaway. October 24 - 28, 2007. Eureka Springs, Arkansas. For info: <http://www.femmegetaway.com>

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## Equality Ohio Seeking Applicants–Digital Storytelling Workshop

The purpose of the Our Stories Project is to amplify the voices of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and allied Ohioans and educate communities by sharing the truth about who we are as people.

Equality Ohio is accepting applications to participate in an intensive, 3-day workshop (August 21, 22, 23) taught by experts from the Center for Digital Storytelling.

This workshop is an opportunity for you to make a digital story (short video) about your experience as an LGBT or allied Ohioan. Each video will be made by combining your story – written and recorded by you, from your perspective – with still images and music. In order to be selected for this workshop, you must agree to allow your story to be shown online, on television, and in public settings like community centers, colleges, libraries, and theaters or distributed on DVD.

Your story will be used to educate people about what life is like for LGBT Ohioans and to encourage others to get involved in making an Ohio where everyone feels at home. Maximum number of participants is 10. We will maintain a waiting list.

Ohioans from every walk of life and part of the state are encouraged to apply, a few travel scholarships will be made available.

All are encouraged to apply. The application deadline is July 11, 2007. For more information or to download an application, visit their website at: <http://www.equalityohio.org/ourstories.htm>

This workshop is made possible through a partnership of Equality Ohio Education Fund, the Center for Digital Storytelling, and the Digital Union at The Ohio State University.

Have questions or need additional information?

Please call Andrea Wood, Manager of New Media & Engagement at 614.224.0400 or email her at [andrea@equalityohio.org](mailto:andrea@equalityohio.org).

For more information about Equality Ohio, visit [www.equalityohio.org](http://www.equalityohio.org)



## Book Review: Blind Curves—A Blind Eye Mystery



Blind Curves – A Blind Eye Mystery is the first book by Diane Anderson-Minshall and Jacob Anderson-Minshall, and I think they've done a great job!

The lesbian owner of Womyn Magazine and publishing mogul, Rosemary Finney, is found murdered on The Huckleberry Hiking Trail in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Prior to her death, it was rumored that Rosemary had become involved in some "illicit business affairs." During her life, Rosemary had made a lot of enemies over the years, not only in the publishing field, but also in her personal life.

While this book was a quick and easy read, it was intriguing enough to keep me turning the pages. I was able to visualize the characters and their surroundings as the tale unfolds. The sex scene between Velvet and her girlfriend, Tucker, is stylishly written and will leave the reader begging for more.

The relationships between characters, friends- lovers- ex lovers, are a great set up for future books of this series. By the end of the book, you will want to know what is next for the Blind Eye Detective Agency and how characters will evolve.

I give Blind Curves ★★★★★.

Blind Curves - A Blind Eye Mystery  
ISBN: 1933110724

Happy reading everybody!

Reviewed by Skylar Vincent Seward

*For more information about Diane and Jacob Anderson-Minshall, visit their website at: <http://quirkyg.tripod.com>*

## Upcoming Stonewall Columbus Events

New Summer Hours

July 5, 2007 - September 4, 2007  
Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm  
Closed Saturday and Sunday.

**\*\*The Center will be closed for two Holidays during this time:  
Wednesday, July 4, 2007 for Independence Day  
Monday, September 3, 2007 for Labor Day. |**



The Center on High will have a vacation and be closed for ten days this Summer: July 21 - July 31. These changes only apply to business hours. Groups that regularly meet at the center will still meet at their regularly scheduled times.

Upcoming New Programs and Events

**Stonewall's in Touch** is held at Club Touch every third Wednesday from 6pm - 8pm. Club Touch is located at 560 South High Street. July's event is on Wednesday, July 18, 2007.



**Senior Health Program** kickoff is Saturday, July 14, 2007, 12pm - 2pm. This program is designed for adults 60 and over who are interested in finding out more about their physical well being. Craig Ferguson, RN will be on hand to help and answer questions. This program will take place at the Center on High 1160 North High Street.

**A Night Out** will be on Saturday, October 20, 2007 at the Franklin Park Conservatory Garden Pavilion from 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. If you are interested in being a ticket captain or sponsor of this annual fundraiser and awards presentation, please call Executive Director, Karla Rothan at 614-930-2261.

**Glitter and Be Gay**, Saturday, December 1, 2007. This event is a way for Stonewall Columbus to give back to the community a very special way. Local organizations will be asked to enter a holiday item for auction and 100% of the proceeds will go back to that organization for their entry. The Center on High will be very festive and decked out for the holidays. It is time to start your creative engines and make something sparkle with a unique "look" that shows your organization off at its best.

**FTMI Ohio  
Dr. M. Edward Walker  
Chapter News**

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the FTMI Ohio Dr. M. Edward Walker chapter!

President: Jake Nash

Secretary: Milo Primeaux

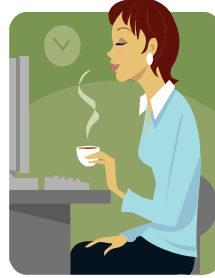
Treasurer: Tristan Read  
*(All terms are 1 year.)*

The next FTMI Ohio chapter meeting will be held on Saturday, July 28, 2007. The location and time are TBA.

Please visit the FTMI Ohio yahoo group for additional info: [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FTM-I\\_Ohio](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FTM-I_Ohio)



For more information on FTMI International, please visit their website at: <http://www.ftmi.org>



**SOFFA Talk –  
Ask Anna...**

**Returns Soon!**



**TransOhio  
Wants Your  
Old Books!**

We are interested in books by trans writers or written about transgender and transsexual identities and experiences.

TransOhio will be donating collected books to the library at The Center on High (Stonewall Columbus).

Contact TransOhio at  
[TransOhio@wowway.com](mailto:TransOhio@wowway.com)



**Save This Date!**

*Samples! Door Prizes!*

**Workshop!**

**Skin Care and Color For  
Summer or Any Season**

This workshop will include discussion about:

- Skin care essentials
- Color and techniques
- Samples
- Mary Kay products
- And more!

**Date & Time** Saturday, August 18, 2007, 2pm

**Location** The Center on High (Stonewall Columbus)  
1160 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43201  
(Corner of 4th and High St.)

**Cost** Free

RSVP's are not required, but are suggested. Please email us at [TransOhio@wowway.com](mailto:TransOhio@wowway.com)! All are welcome!

*This is a TransOhio sponsored event.*

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## Open Mic @ TransOhio

### GOSSIP IN A SLEEPY PENNSYLVANIA TOWN

Hey, YOU!  
Gossiping.  
You seem to take such pride in it.  
And Your incessant getting a "good" look at the 'TS"  
(By the way, it's never good for me)...  
It's just never enough for You.  
Even when You've ALREADY seen me ten thousand  
times.

No.  
I wasn't as lucky as You.  
You didn't have to be born in the wrong body, like me.  
Big you.

I'm so sick of Your narrow stereotyping,  
You grab and hold onto Your ideas,  
white-knuckled, till the end of time.

Just consider this:  
Your thoughts are not my reality.  
Not even if hold onto them forever and ever.

Or if You choose to tear my poor flesh,  
unrecognizable, either.

I finally realized,  
Since it's my essence you take issue with  
Not what I say or do,  
But who I am,

Nothing I can possibly do or say  
Will make any difference,  
Until You become willing  
to change your thinking.

Oh, and what I'm called that is so important to You...  
What I "Look Like."  
And You spout off  
That this is "really" about who I sleep with.

Well, it's NOT!  
No matter what you say.

My Truth has had to be hidden  
for so long  
to protect You  
from having to think.

(No, a boy isn't always a boy!)  
(GET OVER IT!)

You have easy problems.  
Or at least problems that go away.  
But I'm locked into this body 24/7/365.

Sometimes I dream of you being me, in some future lifetime,  
In a Universe that's  
Fair to all.

— Jake Altieri

# 1st TransOhio



# Unity Picnic



## June 9, 2007 Goodale Park Columbus, Ohio

### In Mahlerland

In semi-darkness I sit alone,  
and think of you,  
Soft music plying my ears,  
Brightening the edges of my yearning.  
From borders where darkness reigns,  
Your face slowly forms.  
You approach like a drifting ghost,  
Filling my heart with sadness.  
Immersed in the rich sound of Mahler,  
Falling deeper and deeper as if drowning,  
Your luxurious sounds, deep, profound,  
Outline broad wraiths, bold...delicate.  
How is it that they know me,  
These unknown dimensions,  
Shaping your body, recreating your face,  
Molding my thoughts, fashioning your breasts?  
Symphonic ectoplasm,  
I reach for you, I embrace you.  
My lips seek yours,  
My eyes slowly close,  
To sip the dream  
Of that which you are.  
Violins probe, archetypal manifestations  
Echoing in my heart,  
Darkness and light, fire and ice.  
Violas and cellos tear away at flesh  
Until self and non-self cease to be.  
My lips touch yours, cool and fresh,  
Eternally youthful, indelible rich tones,  
Sweet in texture, unmixed paints,  
Fresh canvas.  
The music ends.  
Cold returns.  
Too cold, too dark  
To dream no longer.  
My phantasmal love,  
Recedes again into shadows  
Vibrating strings of other-worldly flavor,  
That my lips shall never taste.  
Drifting away again,  
Across the Lethean abyss  
That separates my little light,  
From the enormity of your darkness...  
As you have always done before.

—Rhonda S. Donat

### Girl Talk

I hear them whisper  
in fogs of fading jazz.  
I had heard heels fall  
crisply on tiled floors  
at their approach,  
clack, clack,  
like playing cards  
in slow-spun, spoked wheels.  
I am not afraid now.  
They dwell,  
sighing softly,  
near me—  
through me.  
Just as they pass me,  
I, too, pass them.

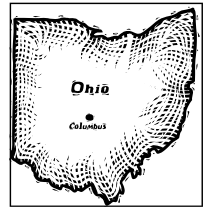
Conversations overheard,  
without deciphering  
a single word.  
Their myriad gestures  
I make my own.  
I devour hands smoothing  
seams of black skirts,  
that flow like melted butter  
over crossed legs.  
Fingers to blushing cheeks  
where soft kisses  
must covet.  
This exchange,  
no spoken language  
could convey.

Spaghetti straps  
are slithering down  
mocha-smooth shoulders.  
We glance at each other  
over tragic news headlines  
of twice-read papers,  
I hear everything—  
freeform hugging the hips,  
notes setting the skin a-tingle.  
Whisper secrets  
with me now.  
Only Miles between us.  
Oh, I love it so—  
fading jazz and  
girl talk.

—Genny  
Gronowski

## Ohio Local Resources

- BRAVO (Buckeye Regional Anti-Violence Organization): [www.bravo-ohio.org](http://www.bravo-ohio.org)
- Central Ohio CD Support: [www.crossohio.org](http://www.crossohio.org)
- Chi Lambda Epsilon, a Chapter of Tri Ess (Ohio & Western PA.): [www.triess-cle.org](http://www.triess-cle.org)
- EqualityOhio.Org: [www.equalityohio.org](http://www.equalityohio.org)
- FTMI-Ohio: [groups.yahoo.com/group/FTM-I\\_Ohio](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FTM-I_Ohio)
- Gay People's Chronicle: [www.gaypeopleschronicle.com](http://www.gaypeopleschronicle.com)
- Gender Dysphoria Program of Central Ohio: [www.genderprogram.com](http://www.genderprogram.com)
- Outlook News: [www.outlooknews.com](http://www.outlooknews.com)
- PFLAG Columbus: [www.pflagcolumbus.org](http://www.pflagcolumbus.org)
- PFLAG Dayton: [www.pflagdayton.org](http://www.pflagdayton.org)
- Stonewall Columbus: [www.stonewallcolumbus.org](http://www.stonewallcolumbus.org)
- The Alpha Omega Society: [www.aosoc.org](http://www.aosoc.org)
- The Crystal Club: [www.thecrystalclub.org](http://www.thecrystalclub.org)
- TransFamily of Cleveland: [www.transfamily.org](http://www.transfamily.org)



### TransOhio Wants Your Old Books!

We are interested in books by trans writers or written about transgender and transsexual identities and experiences.

TransOhio will be donating collected books to the library at The Center on High.

Contact TransOhio at [TransOhio@wowway.com](mailto:TransOhio@wowway.com) to make your donation!

## National Resources

- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU): [www.aclu.org/lgbt](http://www.aclu.org/lgbt)
- FTM International: [www.ftmi.org](http://www.ftmi.org)
- Hudson's FTM Resource Guide: [www.ftmguide.org](http://www.ftmguide.org)
- Human Rights Campaign (HRC): [www.hrc.org](http://www.hrc.org)
- InterPride: [www.interpride.org/12/2007\\_Events.htm](http://www.interpride.org/12/2007_Events.htm)
- Out & Equal Workplace Advocates: [www.outandequal.org](http://www.outandequal.org)
- National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE): [www.nctequality.org](http://www.nctequality.org)
- National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF): [www.theTaskForce.org](http://www.theTaskForce.org)
- PFLAG: [www.pflag.org](http://www.pflag.org)
- PFLAG's Transgender Network (TNET): [www.pflag.org/tnet.html](http://www.pflag.org/tnet.html)
- Queertransmen.org: [www.queertransmen.org](http://www.queertransmen.org)
- Tgcrossroads: [www.tgcrossroads.org](http://www.tgcrossroads.org)
- Transster.com: [www.transster.com](http://www.transster.com)



### TransOhio Wants You!

Educate

Mentor

Get connected

Get involved in your community  
Build bridges to other communities  
Break-down old community silos

Volunteer or become part of the  
TransOhio Staff. For info, email us  
at [TransOhio@wowway.com](mailto:TransOhio@wowway.com)

Do you have a local or national resource that you'd like listed in the TransOhio newsletter?  
Please email your listing to [TransOhio@wowway.com](mailto:TransOhio@wowway.com)!

## Transgender-Friendly Shopping & Services

Alternative Auto Care  
136 W. 5th Ave, Rear  
Columbus, Ohio 43201  
(614) 294-0580  
Chris, Owner

[www.alternativeautocare.com](http://www.alternativeautocare.com)

Dr. Timothy E. Moats, D.D.S  
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656 High Street  
Worthington, Ohio 43085  
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Becca - Owner



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*Tamara Dohnert*

*Cosmetic Nurse Skin Care Specialist*

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| ◆ Microdermabrasion  | ◆ Vibraderm                  |

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Chosen #1 Vendor by the Chicago Gender Society 2007

Member Chicago Gender Society

Member Chi-Chapter Tri-Ess

Annual Participant Be-All, Chicago's Transgender Convention

**TransOhio**  
Bringing Together the  
Ohio GLBTQI Community!

Is your business or service Transgender-friendly?  
Get listed with TransOhio and be seen!  
Email: [TransOhio@wowway.com](mailto:TransOhio@wowway.com) for info!

TransOhio is supported by  
**CENTER  
ON HIGH**   
Stonewall Columbus

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