

men talk

tcmc 

in our 37th year
of public service

twin cities men's center

June / July 2013
Volume 37 #3

Marriage Equality... and the Future

© 2013 BILL DOBBS

At last! you may be thinking. Finally Minnesota has joined the ranks of civilized states in passing legislation for marriage equality. Time to celebrate, and time to congratulate ourselves on the hard work that brought this about. No doubt celebrations and congratulations are in order, but the work is not over. It's barely begun.

To date, there are still only a handful of U. S. states (twelve) that recognize marriage between any consenting couples, regardless of gender. We have much work to do changing the entrenched mindsets of much of this nation. And on a national stage, we may wait optimistically as legal challenges to California's Prop 8 wind their way to the Supreme Court. But an outcome supporting national marriage equality is anything but assured, especially with such a conservative court.

The Huffington Post writes "We are watching a social revolution hit the Supreme Court. The only question is whether the justices slow it down a bit or accelerate it..." Slowing it down minimizes the real hurt caused by unjust tax treatment, unfair inheritance laws, and exclusion of loving partners from medical decisions. We need equality for all now! Not in some undefined future. We need to accelerate the process.

Many have written that the most effective way to change biased attitudes is by personal appeal. That is, making the effort to convince one person at a time by sharing your desire for equality. As difficult as that can sometimes be, as each of us appeals to that rigid relative or cranky co-worker, we will sway the majority.

And frankly, marriage equality should not be limited to couples. Any number of consenting adults who wish to join in a loving commitment to each other, should be allowed to do so. Why should polyamorous, multiple-partnered relationships be excluded? Human societies have joined

in polygamous and polyandrous relationships many times and places. According to Live Science, "Researchers estimate that as many as 5 percent of Americans are currently in [polyamorous] relationships." (<http://www.livescience.com/27125-5-myths-about-polyamory.html>). There is no fair basis for excluding such families in America's future.

All committed relationships require open communication, trust, loyalty, and respect; polyfidelity is no different. One might argue that successful poly relationships demonstrate these qualities more than unexamined normative couples. So as we celebrate a milestone in Minnesota, let's reach out to our bi, try, and poly friends and work for a future that embraces equality for all.

Bill Dobbs is a long-time member of the Twin Cities Men's Center, former board member, and current editor of the Men Talk newsletter.



Distinguished Service Award



TOMMY JONES AND BOBBY SCHAUERHAMER WERE HONORED A DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FOR THEIR WORK WITH MEN WHO HAVE DISPLAYED SEXUAL MISCONDUCT. THE AWARD WAS PRESENTED BY JANNINE HEBERT, DIRECTOR OF THE MINNESOTA SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM, ON FRIDAY, APRIL 19TH, AT THE MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF SEXUAL ABUSERS (MNATSA) CONFERENCE.

THE AWARD CELEBRATES THE WORK THAT TOMMY AND BOBBY HAVE DONE TO SPONSOR MEN WHO ARE IN SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT AND/OR BEING RELEASED FROM INCARCERATION. A STRONG COMPONENT OF THIS WORK HAS BEEN THE HEALTHY SEXUAL BOUNDARIES SUPPORT GROUP HOSTED BY THE TCMC ON SATURDAYS AND THE SECOND GROUP ON WEDNESDAYS AT PROJECT PATHFINDERS.

Library Corner

— JIM HEANEY, LIBRARIAN



Book of The Month:

The library is proud to have another new book written by Robert Anderson on our shelves. Bob is a long time member of the Twin Cities Men's Center. He is a past winner of the Loft-McKnight creative nonfiction competition and a former S.A.S.E./Jerome Foundation fellow. In 2001 and 2006 he was awarded prizes for essays on blindness by Very Special Arts Minnesota, and in 2003 he was named a winner of the Writers Rising Up essay competition.

Poems and essays of Robert's have appeared in *Evergreen Chronicles*, *Kumquat Meringue*, *ArtWork Quarterly*, *Blue Skunk Companion*, *View from the Loft*. Two essays from our own *Men Talk* were selected for reprinting in the *Journal of Humanistic Psychology*. We also have copies of *Testament of Denial*, *Notes from the Gay Married Underground* and *Out Of Denial: Piecing Together a Fractured Live*, 2008.

Address Change Notifications

from the post office cost the Men's Center \$1.14 each. Please let us know in advance of mailings! Thanks!

Men Talk is a bi-monthly publication of the Twin Cities Men's Center. Call 612-822-5892, or e-mail us at tcmc@tcmc.org
Staff: Randy Genrich - Office Mgr, Bryan Winstrom - Office Asst, John Hesch - Anger Mgmt Coord.

Office Volunteers: Rick Charlson, Jim Heaney, Dick Madigan, Steve Magnerto, Robert Walker, Tony Voelker

Editor: Bill Dobbs

Board of Directors:

Joe Szurszewski, Chair
 Tom Weaver, Vice-Chair
 Norm Petrik, Secretary
 Rick Charlson, Treasurer
 Bill Baldwin
 Jim Heaney
 Ken Knoll
 Andy Mickel
 Harry Greenberg - Alternate
 Malik Holt - Alternate
 Dave Webb - Alternate

Greetings from the Chair

June means Father's Day and the Twin Cities Pride Festival are upon us once again, so I'd been planning to write my column about these occasions. And I still will write about these occasions, but not quite in the way I had thought. What changed my plans were the recent extraordinary events at the Minnesota State Capitol.

If you're reading this in the state of Minnesota, you certainly know what I'm talking about. In fact, if you're anywhere in the United States, you've probably heard that Minnesota has officially become the 12th state in the Union to give same-sex couples the same right to marry as heterosexual couples. From my perspective as Board Chair of an organization dedicated to helping all men improve themselves, this is spectacularly good news. And from my perspective as a giddily happy newlywed, I cannot wait for all men to have a chance to experience the same high I've been on.

Without equal access to the legal benefits and personal joys of marriage, there was a de facto two tier system in place when it came to men and their relationships. Straight men had legal rights and responsibilities related to health care directives, child custody, and spousal support. To be sure, not all of these are rights that men necessarily want to exercise, but the point is that the law protected them and held them accountable in equal measure. Gay men simply didn't have any of this. If two humans have committed to love each other, care for each other, and live together for the rest of their

lives, why should their respective genders make any difference?

So the courageous actions by the Minnesota Legislature and Gov. Dayton should be welcomed and celebrated by all who are interested in men's issues. But how does this relate to Pride and Father's Day? The connection between same-sex marriage and Pride is obvious. Pride is usually a boisterous and exuberant weekend anyway, and I predict this year will be especially raucous and joyous, as decades of pent-up love and commitment nears the time when it can be expressed to the world.

As for Father's Day, consider this: being a loving father means doing everything you can to allow your child to grow into a happy, healthy adult. If your child happens to be born gay, could you bear to watch them grow up and fall in love, only to be denied the full legal expression of their love? Being gay should no more prevent your child from getting married than being a redhead should prevent them from going to college.

So Happy Father's Day to all Dad's, and Happy Pride to all who are comfortable in their own sexual skin. What are normally happy occasions will be downright celebratory this year as some of you prepare to marry your chosen partners, and others can now be confident that your children will grow up never worrying that who they are might prevent them from marrying their true loves.

JOE SZURSZEWSKI
BOARD CHAIR

Twin Cities Gay Pride

JUNE IS THE MONTH TO CELEBRATE

Watch the parade and join the Twin Cities Men's Center at our Pride Booth in Loring Park on June 29-30. If you'd like to help with the TCMC booth, please contact us at tcmc@tcmc.org

For more information about all the Pride Events in the Twin Cities, go to www.tcpride.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
--------	--------	---------	-----------	----------	--------	----------

June/July 2013

web site: www.tcmc.org
e-mail: tcmc@tcmc.org
phone: 612 / 822-5892

	SUPPORT GROUPS General/ Divorce/ Uncpl 12:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Gay Issues 7:30 p.m. ----- Addiction Busters 7:30p.m.	PRESENTATION Family Law 7pm ----- H.S.B. East 5:30pm Transition 7:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Divorce/Uncpl General 7:30 pm	SUPPORT GROUPS Men's Bisexual & Gay Issues 7:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Healthy Sexual Boundaries 10:00 a.m.
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	SUPPORT GROUPS General/Div/Uncpl 12:30 p.m. ----- BOARD MTG. 7 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Gay Issues 7:30 p.m. ----- Addiction Busters 7:30p.m.	PRESENTATION Mankind Project Open Circle 7pm ----- H.S.B. East 5:30pm Transition 7:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Divorce/Uncpl General 7:30 pm	SUPPORT GROUPS Men's Bisexual & Gay Issues 7:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Healthy Sexual Boundaries 10:00 a.m.
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH 10:00 a.m. SUPPORT GROUPS Men's Retirement 5:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS General/ Divorce/ Uncpl 12:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Gay Issues 7:30 p.m. ----- Addiction Busters 7:30p.m.	PRESENTATION Adrenal Fatigue 7pm ----- H.S.B. East 5:30pm Transition 7:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Divorce/Uncpl General 7:30 pm	SUPPORT GROUPS Men's Bisexual & Gay Issues 7:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Healthy Sexual Boundaries 10:00 a.m.
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	SUPPORT GROUPS General/ Divorce/ Uncpl 12:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Gay Issues 7:30 p.m. ----- Addiction Busters 7:30p.m.	PRESENTATION The Bible Thru Gay Eyes & Heart 7pm ----- H.S.B. East 5:30pm Transition 7:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Divorce/Uncpl General 7:30 pm	SUPPORT GROUPS Men's Bisexual & Gay Issues 7:30 p.m.	PRIDE FESTIVAL SUPPORT GROUPS Healthy Sexual Boundaries 10:00 a.m.
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
PRIDE FESTIVAL	SUPPORT GROUPS General/ Divorce/ Uncpl 12:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Gay Issues 7:30 p.m. ----- Addiction Busters 7:30p.m.	PRESENTATION Family Law 7pm ----- H.S.B. East 5:30pm Transition 7:30 p.m.	FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY	SUPPORT GROUPS Men's Bisexual & Gay Issues 7:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Healthy Sexual Boundaries 10:00 a.m.
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
	SUPPORT GROUPS General/Div/Uncpl 12:30 p.m. ----- BOARD MTG. 7 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Gay Issues 7:30 p.m. ----- Addiction Busters 7:30p.m.	PRESENTATION Mankind Project Open Circle 7pm ----- H.S.B. East 5:30pm Transition 7:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Divorce/Uncpl General 7:30 pm	MEN TALK DEADLINE SUPPORT GROUP Men's Bisexual & Gay Issues 7:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Healthy Sexual Boundaries 10:00 a.m.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	SUPPORT GROUPS General/ Divorce/ Uncpl 12:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Gay Issues 7:30 p.m. ----- Addiction Busters 7:30p.m.	PRESENTATION Protective Orders, Di- vorce, & Property 7pm ----- H.S.B. East 5:30pm Transition 7:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Divorce/Uncpl General 7:30 pm	SUPPORT GROUPS Men's Bisexual & Gay Issues 7:30 p.m.	MEN TALK MAILING 9:00 am ----- SUPPORT GROUPS Healthy Sexual Boundaries 10:00 am
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
BRUNCH 10:00 a.m. SUPPORT GROUPS Men's Retirement 5:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS General/ Divorce/ Uncpl 12:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Gay Issues 7:30 p.m. ----- Addiction Busters 7:30p.m.	PRESENTATION Let It Go! Part 1 7pm ----- H.S.B. East 5:30pm Transition 7:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Divorce/Uncpl General 7:30 pm	SUPPORT GROUPS Men's Bisexual & Gay Issues 7:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Healthy Sexual Boundaries 10:00 a.m.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	SUPPORT GROUPS General/ Divorce/ Uncpl 12:30 p.m.	SUPPORT GROUPS Gay Issues 7:30 p.m. ----- Addiction Busters 7:30p.m.	PRESENTATION How To Reduce Your Anger 7pm ----- H.S.B. East 5:30pm Transition 7:30 p.m.			
28	29	30	31			

1976 - In Our 37th Year - 2013
of Public Service

Call us
about Anger
Management
Classes.

PRESENTATIONS

Nearly every Wednesday evening, the Men's Center is proud to offer a presentation on a wide range of subjects of interest to men as well as to the wider community. This tradition has been part of the Men's Center offering since its founding 35 years ago. These drop-in meetings require no pre-registration, and volunteer experts in the respective subjects conduct them all. Because of our primary mission, all presentations are for men only unless it is otherwise indicated in the individual descriptions.

Please read through these various descriptions to determine which is of interest to you, and consider bringing a friend. This could be an excellent introduction to the Men's Center for them. Each presentation is intended to foster personal growth and to stimulate interest in the topic.

Our presenters are **Bill Baldwin, Rob Gamble, Joe Gangelhoff, John Hesch, Kelley Lorix, Andy Mickel, Bob Manson, Rhys Preston, and Rasheen Tillman.**

A small fee is collected at the door for each person attending:

Non-Members of TCMC – \$5.

Regular Members (\$20 level) – \$3

Sustaining Members – FREE

All presentations meet at The Men's Center, 3249 Hennepin Ave. So, Suite 55 Minneapolis, MN 55408

We welcome your suggestions for new topics and presenters. Please call Randy at 612-822-5892 with your ideas.

The Men's Center does not endorse, takes no specific position, nor does it hold any opinion on the presentations, or of any information imparted, or of the presenter(s) themselves. Presentations are the sole product and responsibility of the presenter(s).

DESCRIPTIONS

Family Law Clinic

Discussion Leader: Rasheen Tillman
When: Wed, June 3, 7:00-9:00 pm

Open to Men and Women

Targeted to the needs of men or women going through or anticipating divorce or dealing with other family law issues, this Clinic will give you an opportunity to discuss your own questions on such topics as:

- Divorce
- Separation
- Paternity
- Property Division
- Custody
- Spousal Maintenance
- Child Support
- Financial Settlements
- Co-habitation

Attorneys will volunteer their time and expertise for the benefit of those who attend. A nominal fee of \$5 is charged for the public. Members of the Men's Center receive a courtesy discount.

Mankind Project Open Circle

Presenter: Andy Mickel
When: Wed, June 12, 7:00-9:00 pm

ManKind Project Minnesota began in 1990 and over 800 men are in our community. We have more than 20 on-going men's groups which serve as places where men can develop their Emotional Intelligence, practice Accountability to their Commitments of Service to others, and practice Authenticity in Actions and declarations.

This Open Circle enables participants to witness other men practice clarity of self-expression from their hearts rather than their heads. Join us in our 5-round format and ask questions to learn more and even participate yourself if you choose. Our structure is based on the masculine archetypes of King, Warrior, Magician & Lover in Moore and Gillette's book.

Over 50,000 men have attended ManKind Project experiential weekends for men all over the world to empower men to improve their lives and work together to help other men and families.

ManKind Project Minnesota offers two New Warrior Training Adventure weekends/ year.

Adrenal Fatigue (Stress Handling Glands)

Presenter: Dr. Rhys Preston
When: Wed, June 19, 7:00-9:00 pm

Open to Men and Women

Do you have sugar or salt cravings? Have an extra five to ten pounds around your belly? PMS? Difficulty getting up in the morning? Need that cup of coffee in the afternoon? The job of the adrenal glands is to enable your body to deal with stress from every possible source, ranging from injury and disease to work and relationship problems. Your resiliency, energy, endurance and your life all depend on their proper functioning.

Dr. Preston has been providing successful and empowering health care to the Minneapolis community for over 20 years. In addition to chiropractic education, he has post-graduate studies in functional endocrinology and balancing female & male hormones. Dr. Preston will be presenting workshops at The Wedge Co-op in January as well as begin teaching at Normandale College in February.

The Bible Through Gay Eyes and Heart

Presenter: Rob Gamble
When: Wed, June 26, 7:00-9:00 pm

Open to Men and Women

This is not traditional. Suggestions of man-to-man intimacy - David and Jonathan, the man Jesus loved, Mathew's gospel has been called the Gospel for sex-workers. 3 kinds of eunuchs, can we find ourselves

in Joseph's story? Why is male anal sex abhorrent?

Rob Gamble, retired United Methodist pastor, gay progressive Christian, activist in Hennepin Ave UMC Reconciling Ministries, also attends All God's Children Metropolitan Community Church.

Family Law Clinic

Discussion Leader: Kelley Lorix
When: Wed, July 3, 7:00-9:00 pm

Open to Men and Women

See June 3rd description

Mankind Project Open Circle

Presenter: Andy Mickel
When: Wed, July 10, 7:00-9:00 pm

See June 12th description

Protective Orders, Divorce, and Property Division: Navigating Minnesota Courts

Presenter: Joe Gangelhoff
When: Wed, July 17, 7:00-9:00 pm

Open to Men and Women

Getting divorced or facing a protective order can be challenging. The emotional, financial, and legal issues involved with these legal issues are painful and complicated. This presentation is intended to provide an overview of protective orders and a summary of the legal steps necessary to get divorced. Emphasis will be given to alternative dispute resolution and other methods of problem solving/avoidance.

Joe Gangelhoff has a solo legal practice located in Eagan, Minnesota and has practiced family law since 2011. He lives in Minneapolis with his wife and two young boys. Joe can be reached at 612-321-9800 or www.legaldelta.com.

Let It Go! Part 1

Presenter: Bill Baldwin
When: Wed, July 24, 7:00-9:00 pm

Open to Men and Women

Like it or not, emotions drive our lives. Negative, painful emotions, especially ones pushed down and buried for years, can destroy our health, our wealth, our joy, and our relationships. Come and learn how to quickly, easily, and permanently let go of any emotion you'd rather not carry with you any further, and move towards joy!

Bill Baldwin is a pastor serving two United Church of Christ congregations. Bill's passions are healing, spiritual growth, and whole-person health and well-being. Bill only teaches things he has had a positive track record with in his own life and seen great results. Bill is in his second year as a Men's Center board member.

How To Reduce Your Anger: I'm Angry And What To Do About It!

Presenter: John Hesch

When: Wed. July 31, 7:00-9:00 pm

Open to Men and Women

There are so many opportunities for men and women to get angry in our society. In fact if we wanted to, we could be angry all the time. But is that helpful to us, our relationships, and our society in general? What are the healthy ways to express anger? Do I have too much anger? What can I do to save the relationships that are important to me?

This class will give participants a tool to measure their level of anger. Next helpful tools and tips will be given on how to deal with anger issues. This will be followed by a general discussion on whatever issues the group would like to discuss on the topic of anger. What can we do to create a peaceful world that we want to live in? Lastly information will be given on The Anger Management Program at our Center.

John Hesch has facilitated our 12 week anger management class for the last 17 years. He is committed to supporting men who want to make positive growth and changes in their life.

Family Law Clinic

Discussion Leader: Bob Manson

When: Wed, Aug. 7, 7:00-9:00 pm

Open to Men and Women

See June 3rd description

SUPPORT GROUPS

"The mission of the Men's Center Support Groups is to create a safe place, in times of personal and social challenge, for any men and women to receive and give support to one another and share feelings and experiences to facilitate SELF-ACCEPTANCE and PERSONAL GROWTH."

The Men's Center support groups are hosted by a trained facilitator. Although each group has a specific focus, all groups are Open to general discussions and attended as a Drop-In basis. Support groups begin promptly at 7:30, so arrive early such that you can browse the many resources and library materials. A donation of \$3-9 helps keep TCMC operational. Liquid refreshments are available at a separate donation rate. All groups are men only, except where listed for women and men.

• Minneapolis Location

3249 Hennepin Ave. S. Suite 55

General Men's Issues/ Divorce/Uncoupling

Open to Men Only

Men express feelings about separation, divorce, breaking up with a lover, and topics

such as child custody/legal hassles. Men can express what it means to be a man in our culture and other issues in their lives.

• Mondays 12:30 - 2:30 pm

• Thursdays 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Abuse Survivors

Open to Men and Women

Many adults have been sexually abused in childhood or adolescence. Whether you have clear memories or vague recollections you probably experience difficult feelings of fear, anger, grief, or embarrassment. Sharing your story and feelings with others is proven to be a critical part of the healing process. The Abuse Survivors Group provides a safe environment to share your experiences and learn about how others are coping with these issues. Join us in developing healthier attitudes and behaviors that transform us from victims into survivors.

• On Hold 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Addiction Busters

Open to Men and Women

Struggling with chemical or behavioral addiction? AA not helping you? Frustrated with twelve-step programs? Don't like feeling powerless?

Want to bust your addiction rather than being busted FOR your addiction? Would you like to talk about Rational Recovery, SMART Recovery, the works of Stanton Peele, Ann Fletcher, James Prochaska and others in a supportive, confidential, comfortable atmosphere? Come to Addiction Busters support group and discuss alternative, cognitive approaches that may help you battle your addiction in new and different ways!

• Tuesdays 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Gay Issues

Open to Men Only

Men express feelings about life's challenges and experiences, and what it means to be gay and male (you don't have to be gay to attend.) This is the Twin Cities longest running gay support group.

• Tuesdays 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Transitions

Open to Men and Women

This group is intended to focus on the difficulties persons face when leaving a prison environment and reentering the community, where a former prisoner can go for emotional support when he returns to the community, and where he can be openly honest about his discouragements, frustrations, temptations, and fear of public attitudes.

• Wednesdays 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Healthy Sexual Boundaries-EAST

Open to Men Only

Do you have concerns about your sexual behavior? Are you receiving negative feedback about your sexual choices? Worries about excessive, compulsive or obsessive sexual activities? Too much pornography in

your life? Too many strip clubs? Ever feel like a sex addict? Feeling uncomfortable about inappropriate fantasies/thoughts/urges? Hurting or disappointing someone you love?

This group is a safe, non-confrontational, non-judgmental place to talk with other men about healthy sexual boundaries.

The group is open to all men, not just Project Pathfinder clients or former clients. If you are currently in primary treatment at Project Pathfinder, please consult with your therapist before attending this group.

Location:

Project Pathfinder Group Room "B"
Griggs-Midway Building (NE Entrance)

3rd Floor, Suite N385

1821 University Ave. W.

St. Paul, MN 55104

• Wednesdays 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Bisexual and Gay Issues

Open to Men Only

Men of all orientations explore a wide range of personal issues including our sexuality. We focus on our feelings about who we are and how we choose to live in the future.

• Fridays 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Healthy Sexual Boundaries

Open to Men Only

Do you have concerns about your sexual behavior? Are you receiving negative feedback about your sexual choices? Worries about excessive, compulsive or obsessive sexual activities? Too much pornography in your life? Too many strip clubs? Ever feel like a sex addict? Feeling uncomfortable about inappropriate fantasies/thoughts/urges? Hurting or disappointing someone you love?

This group is a safe, non-confrontational, non-judgmental place to talk with other men about healthy sexual boundaries.

Healthy Boundaries welcomes all men who are currently participating in, or who have completed, sex offender treatment. Facilitated by Tommy Jones and Bobby Schauerhamer.

• Saturdays 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Men Facing Retirement Issues

Open to Men Only

A support group for men thinking about retirement or who have already retired. It is an opportunity to share feelings with other men about the importance of work and what happens when paid employment is no longer part of a man's life.

• 3rd Sundays 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Here and There

– Edited by Andy Mickel

Upcoming **Monthly Men's Sunday Brunches, drop-in anytime 10AM-1PM** (bring something to share/cook up): **June 16th (Father's Day—children welcome)** at **Jim Lovestar's** backyard picnic table, 2629 Upton Ave N, Minneapolis 55411(1 block east of Theodore Wirth Parkway and near the Broadway/Lowry Jct), 612-588-8984. **July 21st Tom Weaver**, 1410 Colorado Ave S., Suite 210, St. Louis Park, 55416, 612-281-5230. 17 men attended the April brunch at Andy Mickel's and 14 at Bob Schauerhamer's in May. - Andy Mickel, 2013-05-16.

"I work with **the Father Project** and right now we are on a Mathematical study, which our clients (Men) might get or not our services. This study will be for one year. I will like to receive more information including but not limited of the requirements for men to receive your services. As I can refer men that come to the Father Project and can't get our parenting group services to your services. Also I will like to know if your services include a Spanish speaker. - Luisana Pinales, <lpinales@goodwilleasterseals.org>, 651-379-5692, 2013-04-25.

Minnesota Fathers & Families Network (MFFN) is in its 10th year thanks to the generosity of our members and funders. It is at a new address: 3109 West 50th Street #134, Minneapolis, 55410. We are inviting all of our members to submit stories that tell the rich history of MFFN from its inception. Please include pictures if you can. We also invite you to submit any thoughts on how MFFN can better serve your organization. Submit all stories to <Mstreeter@mnfathers.org> - 2013-05-13

"I was disappointed to read your article in the April/May 2013 Men Talk titled 'State Enabled Entrapment'. This article gave your readers false information and I hope you will take the opportunity to correct the information in a future publication.

This article set up a scenario of a women encouraging a man to violate an order of protection that she had been granted after making false allegations. The article gives the impression that the order of protection could be granted without the man understanding the rules. When a temporary order of protection is granted, a court

hearing is set where both parties are given the opportunity to present evidence. Both parties have the opportunity to seek legal advice and be represented by an attorney. The attorney's for both sides explain in detail what constitutes a violation of the no contact order. If either side comes to court without an attorney, the Judge explains what will constitute a violation. In the scenario given, the women could also be arrested for the violation as both parties would have been aware that they were violating a court order.

This article also implies that the man has no visitation with his children. An order of protection does not take away visitation from the non-custodial parent and in fact, the court makes sure that visitation is in place for the non-custodial parent. Furthermore, this order does not stop either parent from seeking a civil order regarding custody and visitation. I would question why the gentlemen had not seen his children in 4 months.

This article also takes a biased view that a women can get this order by telling any falsehood. This is untrue as both parties are given the opportunity to present evidence in a hearing and the court decides based on the evidence presented. This article also does not take into account the men who seek order's of protection from violent women and are granted the orders in the same way that a women would be.

I hope that you will consider writing a less biased article that will help the men you are trying to inform protect themselves and at the same time recognize that Domestic Violence remains rampant in our society. It is unfair to victims for your publication to imply that Protection Orders are a way for men to be abused by the State and that women just use them falsely. Remember that the men you serve also have mothers, sisters, and children that are being impacted by Domestic Violence every day and this information may encourage men not to utilize this very important tool to protect themselves and their families."

Sincerely, Connie Tofteberg, Cherokee/Ida County Coordinator, CAASA (Centers Against Abuse & Sexual Assault), PO Box 963, Cherokee, Iowa 51012, 2013-04-15

"I just read your "State Enabled Entrapment" column. It's frightening — and totally accurate. Thanks [to Bill Ronan] for writing it. - Fredric Hayward <mrinc@att.net> 2013-04-15.

"Unsubstantiated accusations against my son by a former girlfriend landed him before a nightmarish college tribunal." by Judith Grossman, Wall Street Journal, April 16, 2013. Excerpt: "I am a feminist. I have marched at the barricades, subscribed to Ms. magazine, and knocked on many a door in support of progressive candidates committed to women's rights. Until a month ago, I would have expressed unqualified support for Title IX and for the Violence Against Women Act. But that was before my son, a senior at a small liberal-arts college in New England, was charged—by an ex-girlfriend—with alleged acts of "nonconsensual sex" that supposedly occurred during the course of their relationship a few years earlier..." Read more at: <<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324600704578405280211043510.html>> - Bill Ronan, 2013-04-16

The **next ManKind Project-Minnesota New Warrior Training Adventure will be held Fall 2013**. Cost is \$595, with many payment plans and partial scholarships available. To learn more, attend an Open Circle event: Observe, Ask Questions (or Participate if you like) in a safe container with a group of men who are practicing authenticity and connection to feeling at **Open Circle of Warriors** events at the Men's Center every 2nd Wednesday, 7-9 p.m. Contact **Andy Mickel** with questions **612-279-6416** or see: <<http://minnesota.mkp.org/>> for Open I-Group dates/times. - Andy Mickel, 2013-05-19.

*Give a
Father's Day
Gift*

Men's Center Membership

**ONLY
\$25**



Twin Cities Men's Center

ALL-PURPOSE FORM

Men's Center members are entitled to: participate in our annual & monthly Board meetings, receive *Men Talk*, use the reference library, and enjoy reduced fees to Men's Center-sponsored events such as Wed. presentations.

- I want to sustain the activities of The Men's Center by becoming a "20 x 12 Honor Roll Member."
- Please ENTER/RENEW my membership at The Men's Center for the next 12 months:
Enclosed please find \$_____ \$25 (Regular) \$50 (Patron).
- I want to make an additional, tax-deductible gift of \$_____. (*Thanks much!*)
- My new|correct address|phone is printed below.
- Please remove me from The Men's Center mailing list; the pre-addressed gummed mailing label is attached.
- I have these feelings, thoughts, opinions, ideas, news items for The Twin Cities Men's Center / *Men Talk*

_____ DATE: _____

_____ FROM Name: _____

_____ Mailing Address: _____

_____ Home Phone: _____

_____ Work/Other Phone: _____

_____ E-mail Address: _____

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR MEN TALK ADVERTISERS!

Anger Management Program

The focus of the twelve week anger management class is both education and support. Through class interaction, experiential exercises, lecture, and homework assignments, men will develop new ways to manage their feelings of anger. Following completion of the class, participants can join an ongoing support group to reinforce their new skills. These ongoing support groups will also be facilitated by the trained volunteer facilitators.

Length of Class:

12 consecutive weeks

Number of Participants:

Limited to 12 men per class

Cost: \$235 for TCMC Members (\$250 for Non-Members)

Starting Dates: Classes are filled on a first come, first served basis. Currently, there are classes on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. The next class will begin Tuesday, June 11.

Please call TCMC at 612-822-5892 to be placed on the waiting list. State name, address, telephone, preferred starting class. Or if you need further details, call our Anger Management coordinator, John Hesck, on the Anger Management phone 612-229-3102.

Photojournalistic weddings



Joe Szurszewski Photography

www.joesz.com/weddings

612.508.7502

MEN TALK ADVERTISING RATE SCHEDULE

Full Page	7 1/2" x 10"	\$200
1/2 Page	7 1/2" x 4 7/8"	\$125
1/4 Page	3 5/8" x 4 7/8"	\$65
Biz Card	3 1/2" x 2"	\$25

(612) 822-5892

tcmc@tcmc.org



Many thanks to
Factor of 4, LLC

*for the generous donation
of website services to
The Men's Center.*

Responsive Website Services

612-279-6400

www.factorof4.com

UPTOWN AREA SPACE TO RENT

**The Men's Center,
3249 Hennepin Ave S**

	<i>Non-Profit</i>	<i>Profit event</i>
<i>Full Day (8 hrs)</i>	\$50	\$100
<i>Half Day (4 hrs)</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Hourly</i>	\$7.50	\$15

(612) 822-5892

TMC Office Hours: M 11:30am-12:30pm, 2:30pm-4:00pm; Tu, Th, F 1:00pm-4:00pm. Our telephone (612) 822-5892 is answered 24-hours per day by voicemail, and an attempt is made to return calls within 1 or 2 days. Our FAX number is (612) 821-6424.

TMC is in the lower level of "Uptown Office Park," a brick office building on the Northeast corner of West 33rd Street and Hennepin Avenue in south Minneapolis, Enter through the door on the north (3249) end of the building (it has 2 numbers: 3249 and 3255!), immediately turn left and descend the stairway through the fire door to Suite 55. (Formerly) handicapped access is easiest through a side door on West 33rd Street.

Check out our web site: www.tcmc.org or correspond at our e-mail address: tcmc@tcmc.org

The Men's Center
3249 Hennepin Avenue South, Suite 55
Minneapolis, MN 55408 USA

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT NO. 1100

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

men talk

twin cities men's center news

4

Family Law Clinic

Only \$5

- Divorce
- Paternity
- Custody
- Child Support
- Co-habitation
- Separation
- Property Division
- Spousal Maintenance
- Financial Settlements
- Your personal issue

Every 1st Wednesday of the month, the Men's Center is proud to present the Family Law Clinic. Targeted to the needs of men or women going through or anticipating divorce or dealing with other family law issues, this Clinic will give you an opportunity to discuss your own questions on such topics as:

Attorneys will volunteer their time and expertise for the benefit of those who attend. A nominal fee of \$5 is charged for the public. Members of the Men's Center receive a courtesy discount.

Where: The Men's Center, 3249 Hennepin Ave S #55, Minneapolis MN 55408

When: Every 1st Wednesday from 7:00 to 9:00 PM

Just come! No advance registration required!

What's Inside

Page 1 *Marriage Equality by Bill Dobbs*

Page 2 *Library Corner Letter from the Chair*

Page 3 *All Purpose Coupon Anger Management*

Page 4 *Back Page: Family Law Clinic*

Inserts *June/July Calendar Presentations Support Groups Here & There*