

# ARCHEION

## Stonewall Library & Archives

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2007

### Richard McCann to Discuss and Sign His Book

Award-Winning Author  
at Stonewall October 11

**R**ichard McCann, author of *Mother of Sorrows*, will discuss and sign his book at Stonewall Library & Archives on Thursday, October 11 at 7:00PM.

*Mother of Sorrows* presents ten interwoven stories of an American family. Michael Cunningham, author of *The Hours*, described *Mother of Sorrows* as "almost unbearably beautiful." *O, The Oprah Magazine*, praised the book as "exquisitely written....As evocative as fading photographs, these are moving stories of betrayal and loss."

McCann's *Ghost Letters* is an award-winning collection of poems. He is the editor (with Michael Klein) of *Things Shaped in Passing: More "Poets for Life" Writing from the AIDS Pandemic*. His work has appeared in several magazines, such as *Esquire*, as well as in numerous anthologies, including *The Penguin Book of Gay Short Stories*.

McCann has received grants and awards for his poetry and prose from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Fulbright Foundation, Yaddo and several others. He grew up in Maryland and has lived in various locations, including Sweden, Spain and Germany. He currently resides in Washington, D.C., where he teaches in the MFA Program in Creative Writing at American University. He serves on the Board of Directors of the PEN Faulkner Foundation.



### Speaking Out!

The Stonewall Oral History Project

**A**fter several months under the leadership of Acting Chair Steve Wahl, the Stonewall Oral History Project has named Andrew Dutka Chair of the Oral History Committee. Dutka, Special Collections Librarian at Broward Community College, and committee members will be seeking individuals to interview starting this fall. *Speaking Out: The Stonewall Oral History Project* plans to preserve LGBT history by recording and preserving our community's unique oral histories.

"I'd like to follow the successful model used by the Library of Congress in their Veteran's History Project" says Dutka. "Our community history is unique, but rarely recorded by mainstream institutions. It is vitally important that we take the time to record our stories which will be lost if we don't act and preserve for future generations."

Interview subjects for the initial phase of the oral history program will come from the LGBT elder community. Their stories have been largely untold, unshared and unknown. This program will not only capture these important eyewitness accounts of history before they disappear, they will also serve to inform, educate and inspire the next generation of our community's leaders

The Oral History Project has been revitalized with the recent award of a Sun-Sentinel Diversity Venture Fund grant. The grant will provide funds for digital recorders, transcribers, a listening station, an informational brochure and other costs.

Jack Rutland, Executive Director of Stonewall Library & Archives, has high hopes for the project which has been on Stonewall's wish list for some time. Rutland adds, "It is critically important to the development of our community that we capture and make available this quickly disappearing history. We must preserve it for future generations who often are unaware or undereducated about these important individuals' contribution to American history."

The project is looking for individuals willing to share their stories in informal interviews conducted by committee members. Interested individuals contact Jack Rutland at 9564-763-8565 or [jack-rutland@stonewall-library.org](mailto:jack-rutland@stonewall-library.org).

# Letters of Love

Life Partners Donate Their Correspondence

*There must have been 5 guys in comic drag. One even shaved his legs. Trouble is he had on a mini skirt and didn't shave high enough.*

Doug Pew escorted his friend Tony to a Halloween drag ball in St. Louis in 1970.



*Tony was fantastic! First, it was hardly recognizable that it was Tony (which is, of course, the only way he could have looked good in drag)....*

Doug Pew and Don Croxton were in their twenties when they met in St. Louis, Missouri, in early 1969. Within five months they committed themselves to each other and have been a couple for thirty-eight years. They were married in Canada in 2003.

Recently they donated their letters to Stonewall Library & Archives. The main correspondence was written when Don was stationed with the U.S. Navy in San Francisco during the height of the Vietnam war and Doug was a lawyer in St. Louis.

Some of the letters are passionate, describing how much they love and miss each other, while others concern such mundane matters as getting a loan for a new car. In one of the longest letters, Doug describes a Halloween party he attended in 1970 at a St. Louis hotel. He wore a tuxedo and escorted Tony, who was stylishly coiffed and dressed in full drag!

Doug and Don also corresponded with a friend, Steven, who was stationed in Vietnam. Steven was new to gay life, had never heard of a drag ball and could not imagine why one would want to "dress up." As he counted the days until he returned to America, his letters were quite touching.

The collection also includes earlier letters, written before the couple met. Many letters are from Doug's mother to her son while he was at college and in Samoa with the Peace Corps. After reading her homey letters about family and friends, it is sad to come across a newspaper clipping of her death in 1968.

The letters between Pew and Croxton end with Don's discharge from the Navy, but the collection continues with the occasional letter, the last one dated 1987. By then computers had taken over handwritten correspondence, and soon e-mail and instant messaging would dominate. Let's hope someone is saving these electronic missives so another era of our gay history is not lost.

—Charles L. Ross

## STONEWALL TO INAUGURATE NEW LOCATION

Stonewall Library & Archives celebrates the move to our new location at 1300 East Sunrise Avenue with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday, **October 18, 2007**, at **6:30 PM**. Join members of Stonewall along with some of our friends on the Broward County Commission and Fort Lauderdale

City Commission, as we inaugurate the steps of our new home. Come learn about the new space, enjoy light food and beverages, and see how you can get involved in building Fort Lauderdale's newest cultural institution. For more information please contact Jack Rutland at 954-763-8565.

We are pleased to welcome our newest business partner:

**Mamele's**  
KOSHER RESTAURANT  
1672 East Oakland Park

Mention us when you eat there and 15% of your check is donated to Stonewall (and the food is truly delicious).

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Saturday, November 17

**Heritage  
Gala 2007**

Barbara Gittings and  
Kay Tobin-Lahusen  
will be honored.

**STONEWALL**  
Library & Archives

1717 N. Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale FL 33311  
954-763-8565 [www.stonewall-library.org](http://www.stonewall-library.org)

ARCHEION

Co-Editors: Stephen Wahl and Charles L. Ross

Stonewall Library & Archives programs are supported by a generous grant from Comcast in recognition of Comcast's commitment to the communities where its customers and employees live and work. 



# OCTOBER Stonewall CALENDAR

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	<b>1</b>	2	3	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
7	8	9	10	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	13
14	15	16	17	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	20
21	22	23	24	25	<b>26</b>	27
<b>28</b>	29	30	31			

**Thursday October 4**  
(weekly through Dec.)  
**WRITERS  
WORKSHOP**  
Conducted by writer  
Bruce Rosenzweig at  
Stonewall. For informa-  
tion and to register, call  
954-763-8565.



**Friday October 19 FOREIGN  
FILM & DISCUSSION**  
**C.R.A.Z.Y.** (French with English  
subtitles) Box-office smash in Que-  
bec. Screening at 7:00PM at Stone-  
wall followed by a discussion.  
Suggested donation: \$2.

**Friday October 5**  
**THE LAVENDER SCREEN: CINEMA CLASSICS**  
A new series of classic films focusing on LGBT directors  
and screenwriters. First up: *The Women* (1939, directed by  
George Cukor). 7:00PM at Stonewall. Suggested donation \$2.

**Friday October 26**  
**GIRL'S NIGHT OUT FILM SERIES**  
*That Tender Touch*. Film screening and discussion at  
Stonewall 7:00PM. Suggested donation: \$2.

**Sunday October 28 OPERA GROUP**  
Video screening and discussion at Stonewall. 1:00PM.

**Saturday October 6**  
**GLCC FLEA MARKET**  
*First Saturday of every month.* Don't miss  
Stonewall's Book Sale booth. All day.  
GLCC/Stonewall Library & Archives

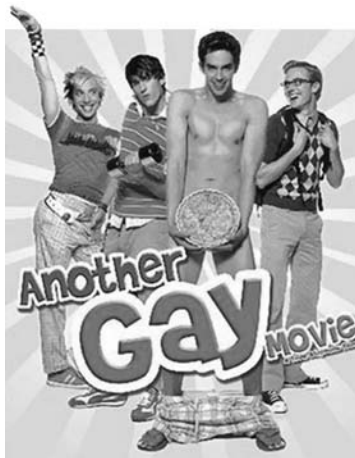
**Thursday October 11**  
**DISTINGUISHED AUTHORS SERIES**  
**RICHARD McCANN** discusses and  
signs his book *Mother of Sorrows*. 7:00PM  
at Stonewall. See article on page 1.

**Friday October 12**  
**OUT BOYS & GIRLS MOVIE NIGHT**  
*The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Screens  
7:00PM at Stonewall followed by discus-  
sion. Suggested donation: \$2.

**Thursday October 18**  
**GAY LITERATURE  
DISCUSSION GROUP**  
Jesse Monteagudo leads a discussion of a  
recently published book. Free admission.  
7:30PM at Stonewall.

**Monday October 1**  
**ARTS UNITED EXHIBITION**  
ArtsUnited hosts Opening Reception  
with **CHERYL TURNER**, whose art will  
be on display at Stonewall through  
October 31. Reception with the artist is  
free and open to the public. At  
Stonewall, 6:30-8:00PM.





# SEPTEMBER Stonewall CALENDAR

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						<b>1</b>
2	3	<b>4</b>	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	<b>14</b>	15
16	17	18	19	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	22
23	24	25	26	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	29
						<b>30</b>

booth. All day. GLCC/Stonewall Library & Archives

**Friday September 14 OUT BOYS MOVIE NIGHT**  
*Another Gay Movie*. Can you say "quiche"?  
Screens at 7:00PM at Stonewall followed by discussion.  
Suggested donation: \$2.

**Thursday September 20**  
**GAY LITERATURE DISCUSSION GROUP**  
Moderator Jesse Monteagudo will lead a discussion of a recently published book. Free admission. 7:30PM at Stonewall.

**Friday September 21**  
**FOREIGN FILM & DISCUSSION**  
*As Luck Would Have It*. (French with English subtitles). Intergenerational love. 7:00PM at Stonewall. \$2 suggested admission.



**Thursday September 27**  
**FRIENDS OF STONEWALL LIBRARY & ARCHIVES**  
Reception 7:00-9:00PM. For details, call 954-763-8565.

**Friday September 28**  
**OUT GIRLS MOVIE NIGHT**



**Do I Love You?**  
Philosophical romantic comedy about a lesbian couple breaking up. Screens at 7:00PM at Stonewall followed by a discussion. Suggested donation: \$2.

**Sunday September 30**  
**OPERA GROUP**  
Video screening and discussion at Stonewall. 1:00PM.

The date of Stonewall's event in Coral Gables with Books and Books has been moved to early 2008. Check the next issue of Archeion for details.

**Tuesday**  
**September 4**  
**ARTS UNITED**  
**EXHIBITION**

Opening Reception for photographer **GLEN MITCHELL** whose work will be on display at Stonewall until September 30. Reception with the artist is free and open to the public.

At Stonewall  
6:30-8:30PM.

