

Gay + Lesbian Rowing Federation

August 9, 2006

To: the Residents of Crystal Lake and Lakewood and surrounding communities
From: Gay + Lesbian Rowing Federation

An Open Letter to the Community:

On behalf of the rowers who participated in the **Chicago Gay Games Rowing Regatta** at Crystal Lake, on Sunday, July 16, 2006, we want to express our heartfelt appreciation for the warm reception and tremendous support provided by the many local communities and organizations:

- **Crystal Lake Rowing Club**
- **Crystal Lake Park District**
- **Crystal Lake Police Department**
- **Crystal Lake Fire Department**
- **Lakewood Police Department**
- **McHenry County Sheriffs Department**
- **Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)**
- **The Rowing Regatta Volunteers**
- **The Spectators**

We also want to recognize the **Crystal Lake Rowing Club** for their tremendous work and dedication, the **Crystal Lake Park District** for their perseverance in the face of heated public scrutiny, the **police and fire agencies** who mobilized to ensure we had the opportunity to row ...

...and the many **volunteers, PFLAG supporters, and medical staff** who worked tirelessly and continuously through heat, sunburn, incessant heavy lifting, constant boat rigging, and repeated knee deep wet beach launches to ensure the rowing regatta stayed safe and on schedule.

To the **spectators** who arrived in record numbers, we truly appreciated your presence and show of support.

Thank you.



Brian Todd
Executive Director

The Gay + Lesbian Rowing Federation is a web-based global membership organization dedicated to promoting rowing in the gay and lesbian community and fostering an international community of gay and lesbian rowers.