



ISSUE VOLUME

01 20

JANUARY 2013
www.pflag.com
info@pflag.com

Wanted: An accountant, CPA or tax preparer who is knowledgeable in preparing tax returns for non-profits. San Diego PFLAG needs someone to prepare their annual tax returns and who will work for the love of doing something wonderful for PFLAG. Email bharwood@pflag.com



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Starting with this issue, we will be publishing the newsletter bi-monthly. In the "off" months, there will be a short bulletin with our program information and upcoming events.

BEING GAY IN THE ISRAELI ARMY

Please join us for our General Meeting on **Monday, January 28** at 7:00 pm at the First United Methodist Church, 2231 Camino del Rio South in Mission Valley. The building where we meet is The United Methodist Center, in The Cover Room. Doors open at 6:45 pm.

We welcome our speaker, Yossi Herzog from Israel. He is touring the U.S. on behalf of the Israel educational organization, StandWithUs. He spoke in San Diego at



an Anti-Defamation League event 60 days before the U.S. repealed "don't ask, don't tell" and shared his experience about serving openly gay in the Israeli Defense Force. One of his best stories is when he asked his commanding officer for permission to march in the Gay Pride parade in Tel Aviv.

Please join us for our support groups, then our cookie social, followed by the program.



A LOSS FOR PFLAG

This message is from PFLAG National Executive Director, Jody Huckaby: "The world has lost a pioneer: Jeanne Manford, the founder of PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) and the Mother of the Straight Ally movement.

Jeanne was one of the fiercest fighters in the battle for acceptance and equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people. It is truly humbling to imagine in 1972 – just 40 years ago – a simple schoolteacher started this movement of family and ally support, without benefit of any of the technology that today makes a grassroots movement so easy to organize. No

Internet. No cellphones. Just a deep love for her son and a sign reading 'Parents of Gays: Unite in Support for Our Children.'

This simple and powerful message of love and acceptance from one person resonated so strongly it was heard by millions of people worldwide and led to the founding of PFLAG, an organization with more than 350 chapters across the U.S. and 200,000 members and supporters, and the creation of similar organizations across the globe.

Jeanne's work was called 'the story of America...of ordinary citizens organizing, agitating, educating for

change, of hope stronger than hate, of love more powerful than any insult or injury,' in a speech by President Barack Obama in 2009.

All of us – people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and straight allies alike – owe Jeanne our gratitude. We are all beneficiaries of her courage. Jeanne Manford proved the power of a single person to transform the world. She paved the way for us to speak out for what is right, uniting the unique parent, family, and ally voice with the voice of LGBT people everywhere."

OFFICERS, COMMITTEES & VOLUNTEERS

Co-Presidents

Patti Boman
619-227-6092
pboman@pflag.com

Terrie Vorono
858-483-8310
tvorono@pflag.com

Past President

Barbara Bodine
bbodine@pflag.com

Vice-President

Sherry Cohen-Richards
858-349-6269
scohenrichards@pflag.com

Recording Secretary

Arlene Prater
aprater@pflag.com

Corresponding Secretary

Betsy Sheets
bsheets@pflag.com

Treasurer

Mark Thompson
619-339-5843
mthompson@pflag.com

Greeter

Lonnie Brunini
lbrunini@pflag.com

Membership

Bobbi Harwood
858-453-3249
bharwood@pflag.com

Info Line

Support/Outreach
888-398-0006

Newsletter

Sherry Cohen-Richards,
Editor

Linda Bessemer, Laura
Partido & Flowers Group
Printing

Jessy Sauchuk, Belladia
Marketing & Design

Programs

The Board

Scholarship

Kim Martinez

Spanish Interpreter

Maria Cortinas
760-758-3294

Speakers' Bureau

Terrie Vorono

Transgender

Coordinator

Evelyn Lindenmuth
619-300-0396

Refreshments

Ina Price

Website

Lisa Smith
lisa@belladiadesign.com

Board Members

Patti Boman, Sherry
Cohen-Richards, Nikki
Eddy, Ron Goetz,
Beverly Lavalley, Kim
Martinez, Arlene Prater,
Karen Thompson,
Mark Thompson, Sandi
Timberlake, Terrie Vorono,
Courtney Ware

PFLAG San Diego | Tax ID #33-0512868
PO Box 82762 | San Diego, CA 92138

Membership Application

- New Renewal Change of Address
 Please contact me for volunteer opportunities

Confidentiality is respected. Your donation is tax deductible (Tax ID 33-05-12868)

Make checks payable to:

PFLAG San Diego
PO Box 82762
San Diego, CA 92138

Type of Membership

- Individual \$30 Household \$40
 Business \$50 Supporting \$60
 Contributing \$125 Lifetime \$1000
 Other \$ _____
 Accept my donation, please do not list.

Please fill out, clip and mail this form

Name.....

Address.....

City

State.....ZIP

Email.....

Phone.....Date



or go online www.pflag.com

Membership forms available at www.pflag.com

GET YOUR PRIDE GEAR

Visit our online store & show your support, purchase from PFLAG.

<http://www.cafepress.com/pflagsd>



"JUST DO IT!"

BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW

Your membership helps us continue to grow and support the LGBT community.

**DUES WERE DUE JANUARY 1
DON'T DELAY - JOIN TODAY!**

Current Events

January 28

Monday

San Diego PFLAG
General Meeting &
Support Groups

January 28

Monday

Mi Familia Support Group

February 4

Monday

PFLAG Support Group
North County Coastal

February 4

Monday

Mi Familia Support Group

February 11

Monday

PFLAG Support Group
East County

February 11

Monday

Mi Familia Support Group

February 14

Thursday

PFLAG Support Group
North County Inland

February 23

Saturday

HRC San Diego
Bowling for Equality
(details in February bulletin)

March 16

Saturday

PFLAG Regional
Meeting-LA
(details in February bulletin)

MISSION STATEMENT

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons, their families and friends through Support, to cope with an adverse society; Education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and Advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights.

PFLAG provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.



Equality is the soul of liberty, there is, in fact, no liberty without it.

Frances Wright

Support Member Businesses that Support *Our* Community

Print • Online • iPhone • Android

www.gsdba.org

Greater San Diego Business Association - The Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce

SUPPORT GROUPS

SD COUNTY GENERAL MEETING & SUPPORT GROUP

Meets every fourth Monday at 7:00 pm, at the First United Methodist Church, 2231 Camino del Rio South in Mission Valley.

For further information, contact the Info Line: 888-398-0006 or www.pflag.com

NORTH COUNTY COASTAL

Meets the first Monday, at 7:00 pm, North County LGBTQ Resource Center, 510 North Coast Highway, Suite C, Oceanside.

Contact ncpflag@gmail.com or Larry Gerling, (760) 224-2178.

NORTH COUNTY INLAND

Meets every second Thursday, at 7:00 pm, Temple Adat Shalom, 15905 Pomerado Road, Room #9, Poway (Rancho Bernardo). The entrance to parking is directly across the street from the entrance to Sprouts' Market Center. Drive to the end of the building and bear right around it, to the first doors on your right (double doors).

Contact Sue Fine, (858) 673-4560 or pflag4sdnocnty@san.rr.com.

EAST COUNTY

Meets every second Monday, at 7:00 pm, Summit Unitarian Universalist Church, 8778 Cottonwood Avenue, Santee.

Contact Ron Goetz, (619) 588-2342 or whytestonne@hotmail.com.

MI FAMILIA (Spanish)

Meetings are every Monday from 6:00pm - 8:00 pm at The Center.

Contact Carolina, (619) 692-2077 Ext. 116.

TRANSGENDER SUPPORT

For more information on the Transgender Support Group

Contact Kathe Dunn, ftm_mom@yahoo.com.

National PFLAG, Washington, DC
(202) 647-8180, www.pflag.org



BRAGGING RIGHTS

The LGBT community was honored to have the play “8” performed in San Diego in November. Although there were stars Richard Dreyfuss, Lance Bass, and Bruce Vilanch among the actors, San Diego LGBT activist Lisa Sanders was also part of the cast.

Huge bragging rights go to PFLAG member, Mary Thomas. Her daughter, Jenn, was the assistant director of the play. Although the photo isn't very clear, here is Jenn with Richard Dreyfuss. Let's all sing “Proud Mary.”

THE TIMES OF HARVEY MILK

Rob Epstein's documentary “The Times of Harvey Milk” is among 25 films that were named to the Library of Congress's National Film Registry. The registry, created in 1989, designates the moving images that it deems historically, culturally and aesthetically important enough to be preserved by the library, guaranteeing that they will become part of the nation's permanent visual record.

“GAYMAZING!”

The title was borrowed from blogger Phillip B. Crook – because the finale of *The Amazing Race* was just that good. For anyone not familiar with *The Amazing Race*, “Google it up” and come back and read the rest of the article. Josh Kilmer-Purcell and Brent Ridge always seemed like “The Little Engines that Could”, even when they felt they couldn't. Anyone betting for them to win would have taken 100-1 odds. And win, they did; in fact, it was the only leg of the race they won.

To get to “know” Josh and Brent, as best anyone can in an article, they have been together for 15 years. Both worked in New York City, Josh as a creative director for an advertising agency (and a successful author) and Brent at Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia (he is also a physician). They purchased a goat farm five years ago in a village not far from Albany, New York. Brent tended to the farm while Josh stayed in New

York working during the week and spending the weekends on the farm. They had their own reality show entitled “The Fabulous Beekman Boys” which chronicled their lives on the farm. Reruns of the show, which ended in 2011, are now appearing on the Cooking Channel cable network.



While tending to the goat farm, they also ran Beekman 1802 Mercantile – hand-crafted items made of “natural ingredients and quality materials.” For a peek, go to shop.beekman1802.com.

Now that they won \$1 million, Josh quit his job and they are both tending to the farm and their business. That's a pretty good “happily ever after” story.

HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN IN ACTION

During 2012, the Human Rights Campaign, with all its members and supporters, accomplished quite a bit. Perhaps the most exciting were the victories in Maine, Maryland, and Washington which passed Marriage Equality bills with the huge help of the HRC. And while Minnesota didn't pass same-sex marriage legislation, they did vote against an amendment that would have defined marriage as being between a man and woman in the state's constitution. They became the first state in the country to shoot down a constitutional amendment limiting marriage equality. The results may not have

been so positive in the states mentioned or there may not have been as many victories for pro-LGBT candidates had it not been for the millions of dollars raised by the HRC. It's never too late to join (www.hrc.org).

The organization has, for years, rated businesses that achieved a top rating of 100 on the Corporate Equality Index for their LGBT inclusive workplace policies. They are up to 252 national corporations listed in the 100% group.

The *Washington Post* affectionately dubbed the HRC the “gay lobbying powerhouse.”

IT'S ABOUT TIME

It has been no secret that several “ministers” were behind the original 2009 Anti-Homosexuality Bill (aka “Kill the Gays” bill) in Uganda. The ring-leader, Scott Lively, whose evangelical preaching and homophobic writings have demonized LGBT people, not just in Uganda, but round the world, has conducted anti-gay campaigns under the guise of ministry with the goal of depriving

LGBT people of their basic human rights. Lively's Abiding Truth Ministries, based in Massachusetts, is designated a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Lively is in violation of the Alien Tort Statute of the United States Code which allows the United States to hear human-rights cases brought by foreign citizens for conduct committed outside the U.S. He is

WE DON'T MEAN TO CALL ANYONE CRAZY, BUT...

Bryan Fischer from The American Family Association claimed on his radio show that the proposed Employment Nondiscrimination Act (ENDA) will lead to "flaming homosexuals" storming Christian bookstores and demanding jobs.

"Once [ENDA] goes into effect, which says that no business can discriminate against anybody no matter how bizarre their sexual perversity is, their sexual deviancy is, no matter how abnormal their sexual orientation is, you cannot take that into account in personnel decisions..." If the law goes into effect, "the homosexual lobby will send a flaming homosexual into that Christian bookstore to apply for a job. They'll send a guy in there wearing stillettos [sic], a dress,

and dangly earrings and dare the owner of that Christian bookstore not to hire him."

Further says Fischer, "This is a horrible bill for a social conservative to support since it would mean the absolute end of religious liberty and freedom of association in the marketplace. It would, in other words, gut the First Amendment... In fact, ENDA would represent the return of Jim Crow laws."

Fischer is very unhappy with Congressman and former Republican vice presidential candidate Paul Ryan, who supports ENDA.

Sad to say, being gay or lesbian can legally get you fired in 29 states, while transgender workers can be fired in 34.

CALLING ALL SCHOLARS

We are very pleased to announce available scholarships. They are listed in order of deadlines:

The San Diego Foundation offers a myriad of scholarships. Most of the scholarships you do not have to be LGBT. This program is opened to high school seniors, community college students, four year college students, graduate students, vocational schools, and adult education applicants. You must register with The San Diego Foundation before **February 4** and submit your application no later than **February 6**, 2013. For info, go to www.scholarships@sdfoundation.org.

PFLAG San Diego is proud to announce our 16th year of offering LGBT students

scholarships. We hope to offer seven scholarships as we did last year. They range from \$1000-possibly \$5000. To be eligible, you must currently be a senior in high school or in secondary education, including graduate school. For other eligibility requirements, please check the application on the web site (www.pflag.com) which will be available by the end of January. Also listed on the application will be the deadline and information on the presentation date of the scholarships. If you have any questions, email Scholarship Chair Kim Martinez kmartinez@pflag.com.

The great news is that you can apply for all the scholarships above if you meet the criteria.

IT'S ABOUT TIME (CONT'D FROM PAGE 4)

being sued for crimes against humanity by Sexual Minorities Uganda (SMUG) which is a human-rights group based in Uganda. His date with the U.S. District Court in Springfield, MA was on January 7. Although it doesn't seem imaginable, Judge Michael Ponsor said he was troubled by the lack of connection between the anti-gay rhetoric of Scott Lively and acts of oppression against

gays in Uganda. HEELLOOOO! He said the lawsuit filed by SMUG against Lively posed a test of Lively's free-speech protection and the rights of sexual minorities to equal protection under the law. He told the plaintiffs that they needed to show a connection between Lively's anti-gay advocacy in Uganda and illegal acts committed against gays in the country (maybe this judge was

SUPPORTING STUDENTS, SAVING LIVES

That is the theme of the fourth annual CESCAL Conference (Center for Excellence in School Counseling and Leadership), which PFLAG has been a proud sponsor since its inception. It will be held **February 15-17** at the Double Tree Hotel in San Diego. This conference is for school counselors, P. E. Teachers / Coaches, Elementary / Secondary Educators, School Psychologists, School Administrators, School Nurses, School and Community based Mental Health Professionals, Marriage and Family Therapists, Social Workers, and Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors. The purpose is to teach and empower educators regarding laws and rights of the LGBTQIA students, resources, advocacy, and how to create a safe environment. The last three conferences brought people from all across the country. This year, guest speakers will include several family members of children who committed suicide due to bullying. For more information, go to www.cescal.org.





TOO GAY?

The Liberace biopic, "Behind the Candelabra" will air on HBO in the spring. Apparently, every studio in Hollywood wouldn't touch it because it was "too gay."

Director of the film, Oscar winning Steven Soderbergh, was stunned when it was turned down and everyone basically said the same thing. He said, "And this is after 'Brokeback Mountain.' I was stunned. It made no sense to any of us. This is a magnet for attention. The whole package to them looked (to HBO) like a slam dunk. The studios didn't know how to sell it. They were scared."

"Behind the Candelabra" stars Michael Douglas as the flamboyant Liberace and Matt Damon as his young lover. Ooh la la!

THANK YOU KIM!

Board Member Kim Martinez was our hostess for our joint meeting with Mi Familia in December. Not only did she give us a power point presentation of our activities, she lead us in Ice Breakers so our groups could get to know one another.

OUR PERVERBIAL "LAST BUT NOT LEAST" SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

First time scholarship, the Richard P. Geysler Memorial Ethics Scholarship to Benefit LGBT Students at the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation, was established through a bequest by Philip Flick. It was to honor his partner of 44 plus years and his commitment to ethics. Richard Geysler, who passed away in 2004, was the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation's first board president and a founding member.



The scholarship committee was pleased to award this to **Guido Gibran**, who graduated from San Diego State University with a Master's degree in Women's Studies. He is currently a Ph.D. student in Chicano Studies at the University of California, San Diego. Guido's activism and scholarly achievements were impressive. His letter of recommendation underlined that he "exemplifies the model of the scholar-activist through his continued civic involvement in HIV community work." Guido has written six conference papers; was the co-editor of a book-length manuscript on Chicano Queer consciousness; he served as a Graduate Teaching Assistant for the Departments of Chicana/o Studies and Women's Studies; was the Graduate Representative to the SDSU Graduate Student Association. The letter of recommendation also noted that, despite his personal family struggles, Gibran's faced the hardships honestly and courageously. The scholarship requires the applicant to identify an ethical issue. Mr. Guido stated that issue: "to bridge the personal experiences of members in the community as a foundation that gives voice to a social and political consciousness."

We were honored to have Kay Chandler, President, San Diego Human Dignity Foundation, discuss the foundation and explain the scholarship.

Here is Guido's essay:

"The issues that have been ongoing within the LGBT community are varied but a challenge that is in need of serious attention is the increased level of violence that has been wide-spread and on-going in our community. The self-inflicted violence of youth suicide as well as the ongoing homophobia and rampant bullying found in our schools is a theme that has resonated in the lives of many LGBT members. A collective response from the community has ignited several campaigns demonstrating the need to address these issues. While these social and political aims at raising awareness are crucial and necessary, we must consider new ways to effectively and strategically foster and support our youth, while openly confronting the stigmas and stereotypes that cause a danger to their well-being. With the resources available and our ability to find new ways to overcome this shared concern, we can demonstrate to our youth that our fight for human rights is one with a wholeness that includes self-respect, integrity, character and self-empowerment.

The San Diego PFLAG Scholarship provides an opportunity to continue my efforts to accomplish my educational and career goals in becoming part of a new generation of scholars and leaders. It is my dream to teach in a liberal arts college or university where I can continue my research and publish my work, as well as mentor students in the same way I was mentored. As a self-identifying gay male of color and the first in my family to pursue higher education, I'm committed to a scholarship that is relevant both intellectually and communally, and I believe that remaining invested in the continual need to provide support for LGBT rights would provide the pathway to do so. Although I have encountered serious challenges in my life I remain invested and dedicated to an education that is relevant and transformative not only for myself but as testimony to the endured hardships and struggles that have been overcome as we continue to strive for human rights for all LGBT community members. "

No government has the right to tell its citizens when or whom to love. The only queer people are those who don't love anybody. —Rita Mae Brown from a speech given August, 1982

SPOTLIGHT ON THE BELLADIA “GIRLS”

Since Jessy Sauchuk, owner and designer of Belladia Designs, has been our newsletter layout genius for almost two and a half years, thought it was about time to interview her. Her partner of 18 years, Lisa Smith, has recently come aboard as our web master and not a minute too soon.

Jessy and Lisa were college roommates at the University of Rhode Island. Although Jess double majored in Marketing and Management Information Systems, after graduation, she worked for her step-father at his small music publishing company. It was there that she got her training as a graphic designer. Lisa was a Zoology major; a year after graduation, she wound up studying at SDSU. Jessy followed and used her business skills working for a mortgage company as their Marketing Director. After a time, Lisa joined Jess and they became the regional marketing team. Even though they were only there 3 years, during that time they learned a lot about branding, competition, design, and marketing strategy. What naturally followed was for them to start their own business which they named Belladia (a combination of Italian and Spanish which loosely translates to beautiful day). Their goal was to offer small businesses and individuals design and marketing services that made them look professional, competitive, and ultimately,

larger than they were. When the economy went bust, their business almost did, too, but they hung in there. With the help of GSDBA (Greater San Diego Business Association) and BNI (a referral organization), they slowly picked themselves up by their bootstraps and started over. They credit GSDBA for being one of the main reasons Belladia is still in business. In 2011, they were named the GSDBA's Emerging Business of the Year and Jessy joined the Board of Directors last May.

Jessy and Lisa have been in business for almost seven years and they are thriving with the continuing support of the GSDBA membership. PFLAG is pleased that the GSDBA supports PFLAG with their advertising. It was through their business directory that we were lucky enough to find Jessy and ultimately Lisa.

Editor's note: I hope you take time to check out www.gsdba.org. They offer almost every type of business, household, and general service. By supporting them and their members, you are supporting the LGBT community.



IT'S ABOUT TIME (CONT'D FROM PAGE 5)

in *While you Were Sleeping*). Yes, Judge Ponsor told SMUG they “needed to show a more concrete example of misbehavior to justify continuation of the lawsuit.”

Lively promoted anti-gay legislation (i.e., he was the motivating force) that contributed to Uganda government-led persecution and violence against gays and lesbians. Shortly, there will be legislation to re-introduce the death penalty for being gay. When it isn't imposed, many times lengthy jail sentences are mandated.

Although SMUG's lawyer paraphrased Lively's message to Ugandans, one of his

mottos was, “You have to discriminate. Discrimination on this basis is good.”

Of course, lawyers for Lively said a litany of violent acts against gays outlined in the lawsuit had no connection to Lively (the lawyer's mouth should be washed out with soap). And let's not forget that, according to Lively's lawyers, that SMUG is trying to violate Lively's First Amendment rights. They want the case dismissed.

Ponsor said he would rule on the motion whether or not to dismiss or proceed in the near future, but gave no date. Definitely stayed tuned on this one.

MANY FIRSTS

Maybe it's a “Tammy” thing. Tammy Baldwin is the first openly gay person elected to the U.S. Senate. She defeated Tommy Thompson who was a four-term governor of Wisconsin. Among other honors, she was named *The Advocate's* Person of the Year.

Brigadier General Tammy S. Smith became the first openly gay general in U.S. military history. At Tammy's promotion ceremony, her star was affixed to her uniform by her wife.

Congrats to both deserving women.

PETITION POWER

Rev. Louis Giglio, who has a history of anti-gay preaching, was due to give the benediction at the inauguration. After an online petition for his removal, President Obama chose to replace him with Rev. Luis León.

It seems Rev. León should have been the first choice. St. John's Church, León's parish (Episcopal) is known for welcoming openly gay members. The church, which has openly gay, non-celibate priests and has had a gay bishop, announced this summer that it would bless same-sex partnerships and ordain transgender priests. Now that's what we want to hear!

LOOK LIKE A BIG FISH

Competition is fierce.
It's time to get aggressive.



belladia
marketing & design

Call for a Free Consult
858.220.7478
belladiadesign.com



Show your support! Buy ad space!



Judy Briggs

Portraits
Pets
Paintings

jmasq1@gmail.com

858 888 2711

www.Zhibit.com

PFLAG THANKS YOU FOR YOUR EXTRA HELP

Contributing Memberships

Doris Faulkner
Jan Garbosky &
Bonny Russell
Arlene Prater

Supporting Memberships

James Keeley
Lindy & Rick Miles
Judy & Doug Paulson

Donations to the General Fund

Diane & Eugene Kaelin
Lynn Lorusso
Lindy & Rick Miles
Sue Randerson
L & S Rosenberg Family
Foundation (Leon & Sonia Rosenberg)
Michael Walker

Providing Refreshments for our Meeting

Mi Familia and PFLAG Members

Luan D. Andrews, M.A.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST
MFC 19321

3252 HOLIDAY COURT • SUITE 106 • LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA 92037-1807
(858) 552-8181 FAX (858) 552-0205



Psychotherapy for

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Children...

Coming out • School safety • Self-Acceptance
Self-Esteem • Parent-Child Communications • Siblings

... and their Parents

Crisis Counseling • Religious Issues • Telling Friends & Family
Safety Concerns • Grief & Loss • Depression n Anxiety

All Services are Completely Confidential

Stephen White, Psy.D.

Clinical Psychologist PSY 20739

16496 Bernardo Center Drive, Suite 307 San Diego CA 92128

(619) 922-1579

swhite@the-rainbow-connection.org

