



MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

COME ONE, COME ALL!

Please join us for our holiday celebration on **Monday, December 23 at 6:00 pm (please note the earlier time)**. As we did last year, our holiday bash will be at the **LGBT Center (auditorium), 3909 Centre Street in Hillcrest**. **Please bring a dish to share for a potluck**. We are fortunate enough this year to have

HONOR 41 LIST

PFLAG San Diego had a great honor bestowed upon us. We made the Honor 41 List: Organizations. Honor 41 is a national Latina/o LGBTQ online organization that promotes positive images of the Latina/o community, creates awareness about their issues and builds an online family/community. Not only are Latina/o organizations nominated, but organizations who are allies. We thank our co-President, Patti Boman, for being an advocate in the Latina/o community.

It is noteworthy of how the number 41 was derived. The number 41 has a derogatory connotation in Mexican culture. In 1901, 41 men were arrested, beaten and tortured for being gay. Their names were put on a list that condemned them and their families to a life of ridicule and shame. Calling someone "41" or associating anyone or anything with that number, labeled them maricon/joto which in English translates to calling someone faggot/gay.

our Master of Games, Kim Martinez, to lead us in a good time. Mi Familia and all the PFLAG satellites will join in the merriment. We hope you will be there.

While we will not have support groups, we will have a chance to informally introduce ourselves.

By adopting 41 in their name, the negative, oppressive power associated with the number is taken away and others are educated about this important moment in LGBTQ history.

PFLAG San Diego is also proud to brag that **Isaac Gomez**, one of our scholarship recipients, made the Honor 41 List of individual role models in the Latina/o community. Isaac has been a community leader for years for his outspoken advocacy in gaining acceptance for transgender persons. Isaac is forthcoming about his personal transformation, and his openness is of great value to the transgender community. He cannot tell his story without mentioning the unconditional love of his parents and siblings.



MEMBERSHIPS, MEMBERSHIPS, MEMBERSHIPS

As always, paying your membership dues now means you are a member for all of 2014. As you are aware, part of the mission for PFLAG is to promote the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons and their families and friends. We are only able to offer this support, education, and advocacy through your generosity of being a member. Several ways we accomplish our mission is through our monthly meetings, newsletters, speakers, support groups, an info line, educational brochures, etc.

You can renew (or become members) online (we accept PayPal) or by using the application in this newsletter. Of course, we will gladly accept donations any time for any reason! With the holidays coming up, a membership would make an ideal gift.

GET A RUNNING START

The application and scholarship requirements are posted on our web site (www.pflag.com). The deadline for the scholarships is **March 15, 2014**, and the scholarship program is **May 19**. New this year is our email address for scholarship questions: scholarships@pflag.com.

OFFICERS, COMMITTEES & VOLUNTEERS

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PFLAG San Diego
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San Diego, CA 92138

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

Membership Application

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

Confidentiality is respected.

Make checks payable to:

PFLAG San Diego
PO Box 82762
San Diego, CA 92138

Type of Membership

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or go online www.pflag.com
Membership forms available at www.pflag.com

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Current Events

December 23 | Monday
PFLAG/satellites and Mi Familia holiday party and potluck (see article)

December 30 | Monday
Mi Familia Support Group

January 6 | Monday
PFLAG Support Group
North County Coastal

January 6 | Monday
Mi Familia Support Group

January 13 | Monday
PFLAG Support Group
East County

January 13 | Monday
Mi Familia Support Group

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.

WE VALUE YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Please renew your membership for 2014. Pay your dues before you're caught in the holiday shuffle.



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, 2111 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

Support Groups have been temporarily discontinued

EAST COUNTY

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

Contact Contact Bob Dryden: 619-334-8214 or bdryden@pflag.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.

NEXT IN LINE: CHRISTINE



For the third year, **Raytheon GLBTA** has provided a **STEM Scholarship** (science, technology, engineering, math) for a student who is planning to pursue their education in one of those areas.

This year's recipient, **Christine Vanhamme**, has worked continually through The Open University U.K.

and as a UCSD extension student in order to achieve her goal of obtaining a Master of Science in Marine Biology. Her letter of recommendation noted that she is an outstanding student, highly motivated, and always well-prepared to advance as quickly as possible.

"1. The toughest issue confronting the LGBT community today is a lack of recognition. As LGBT people, we do not have the same rights as heterosexuals, and are, therefore, treated as second class citizens. For instance, same-sex couples cannot get married and, therefore, cannot benefit from all the rights heterosexual couples would instantly have through marriage. The situation is even worse for bi-national same-sex couples forced to leave the territory, and their families, with all the disastrous consequences involved regarding the future.

2. Most people are not aware of all the issues we face in our daily life. Awareness campaigns should emphasize the

GOD LOVES UGANDA

"God Loves Uganda," is on the short list to be nominated for Best Documentary for the 86th Academy Awards. Five out of 15 considerations (short list) will be made in mid-January. We are keeping our fingers crossed.

This documentary, from Academy Award-winning filmmaker Roger Ross Williams, explores the role of the American Evangelical movement in fueling Uganda's terrifying turn towards biblical law and the proposed death penalty for homosexuality in this enlightening but shocking exposé. In part because of Uganda's charismatic religious leaders and a well-financed campaign, these draconian new laws and the politicians that peddle them are winning over the Ugandan public. But these dangerous policies and the money that perpetuates these horrible

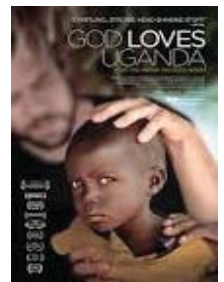
laws aren't coming from Africa; they're being imported from some of America's largest megachurches. Using interviews and hidden camera footage, the film allows American religious leaders and their young missionaries that make up the "front lines in a battle for billions of souls" to explain their positions in their own words.

Mr. Williams is openly gay and has discussed how he was "outed" during the difficult and dangerous process of making the film.

"We didn't talk about me being gay, but there was one hairy moment when the Ugandans found out," he explained. "I was outed, so to speak, in Uganda when I was invited to dinner at the home of an antigay pastor. I was

differential and unequal treatment that affects our personal lives, goals, families, and friends. LGBT campaigns should also highlight the fact that we did not make this choice in life. Therefore, there is no reason why we should be treated differently. Through my life experiences so far, I have realized that my difference is a strength and not a weakness. My highly developed empathy helps me understand others better and be more appreciative of their uniqueness. As I can easily understand people, I can be helpful and this is a wonderful gift! We are all different and it is this difference that makes each of us unique!

3. My ultimate goal is to save the ocean, nature, and all living organisms on this planet. Although my marriage with Anne is not recognized in the U.S., I came to the U.S. with the hope of studying for a Master of Science in Marine Biology and realize my dream. This is a leap of faith, as I left my family and job as a legal assistant, and decided to focus on my studies in a totally different field, with the help of my partner who supports me morally and financially. If Anne were a man, I could have access to reasonable tuition, and I would be able to work to finance my studies, support Anne financially, and stay in the U.S. Through my hard work and perseverance, and your help, I will be able to study and become a scientist one day who would highlight each living organisms' uniqueness, including humans, irrespective of their sexual orientation, and help people be more appreciative and respectful toward each other."



terrified...Someone who wanted to expose me sent them an email that said I'm gay. They'd pulled an interview I'd done from the Internet. The Ugandans said, 'We love you and we want to pray for you and cure you.' " He certainly dodged a bullet.

Many of you know that St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral has been active in bringing world attention to the crisis in Uganda. One of the premieres for "God Loves Uganda" was presented in San Diego. Co-president, Patti Boman, was part of the team that helped with the premiere. We have a copy of the DVD; anyone wishing to borrow it, please contact Patti at pboman@pflag.com.

PFLAG YEAR IN REVIEW 2013

PFLAG's mission is to promote the health and well being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy.

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETINGS

The San Diego Chapter of PFLAG held monthly general meetings at the First United Methodist Church of San Diego, 2111 Camino del Rio South in Mission Valley. Each meeting features a program, support groups, and time for socializing over refreshments.

SATELLITES

We have three satellite support groups that also meet monthly throughout San Diego County: North County Coastal in Oceanside, North County Inland in Rancho Bernardo, and East County in Santee. We also support a Spanish speaking group, Mi Familia, who meet weekly at The Center.

BOARD ACTIVITIES

We meet monthly at The Center to plan programs, scholarships, and other activities. All members are welcome to attend these meetings. We have seven new board members: Bob Dryden, Mary Dryden, Deborah Kelly, Rachel Kelly, JoyLynn Murray, Ina Price, and Wayne Walker. We sadly said goodbye to board members Nikki Eddy and Ron Goetz. A big thank you to Betsy Sheets who continues as our unofficial, "official" corresponding secretary.

Yearly activities also include a board retreat at the beginning of the new year for self- assessment purposes, to deepen our relationships, and start planning for the coming year. In addition, board members attended the PFLAG Southern Pacific Regional Conference in Los Angeles and newly-elected board member, JoyLynn Murray, attended The PFLAG National Convention in Washington, DC..

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

We have a Speakers Bureau that is available to colleges, high schools, and community groups. It is our main way of fulfilling our education mission. We are all proud of our enthusiastic cadre of speakers who volunteer month after month and year after year to enlighten the public about our LGBTQI sons and daughters. The Speakers Bureau is made up primarily of parents of LGBT children who are willing to share their stories. This has led to many a change of heart and opening of minds. Our presentations included: Metropolitan Community Church, Oasis, Youth Empowerment Summit, Janssen Research and Development, Sempra Diversity & Inclusion, GSA Unity Conference, SDSU, National School Boards Association's Annual Conference and Expo.

PROGRAMS

Guest Speaker Yossi Herzog: We received a little taste of what life is like for a gay soldier in the Israeli Defense Force.

Guest Appearance by Fernando Lopez: Fernando presented to us, on behalf of San Diego Pride, a grant to be used for educational purposes.

Guest Speakers Rachel Kelly and Ruth Inacay: We learned about conversion (reparative) "therapy" from an ethical standpoint.

15th Annual Scholarship Awards: Our chapter presented eight scholarships ranging from \$1000-5000: the Mary Wagner Memorial Scholarship, John Bessemer Memorial Scholarship, Rob Benzon Memorial Scholarships, Stephen G. Bowersox Memorial Scholarship, John McCusker Memorial Foundation Scholarship Fund at the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation, Raytheon STEM Scholarship, and the Richard Geysler Memorial Ethics Scholarship at the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation..

Guest Speakers were students from Castle Park GSA and advisor, Nikki Eddy: Through activities, we learned how there is acceptance/non-acceptance from the students' perspective.

Guest Speakers Dr. Orlando Espin, Ricardo Gallegos and co-president Patti Boman: We received a review of the International Association of Sexually Diverse Families in Lima, Peru.

Guest Speaker Sophia Arredondo: As coordinator of the Hillcrest Youth Center (HYC), we learned of the processes and events that take place at HYC.

Guest Speaker Irina Segade: As a member of the training committee of GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network), Irina has educated hundreds of teachers and other school personnel to include LGBTQ students in all areas of student life.

Guest Speaker Michelle Mai: We were enlightened on college costs and LGBT friendly colleges. Michelle is a Specialist and CEO of College Planning Source.

"Gender preference does not define you. Your spirit defines you."

—P.C. *Cast Awakened*



COMMUNITY EVENTS

PFLAG San Diego is an active and respected member of the LGBT community. We participate in fundraisers, staff booths at local events to raise LGBT awareness, and other community activities, to support other organizations that advocate for the rights or meet the needs of our LGBT families and friends. We increase awareness of PFLAG when we attend these events. We are also involved in the larger organization of PFLAG at both the regional and national levels. Our local activities this past year:

- Marched in the San Diego Gay Pride Parade
- Made the Honor 41 List: organizations from Latina/o LGBTQ online
- Received funding from the Combined Federal Campaign
- Presented eight scholarships to local residents
- Attended the Transgender Day of Empowerment
- Sponsored PFLAG booths at San Diego Gay Pride, Pride @ the Beach!, CESCAL, Santee Street Fair, GSA Awards Ceremony, Althea Charity Connection, Poway Street Fair, USD Training for School Counselors, South Bay Pride, SafeZones Resource Fair at SDSU, Palomar College, University City United Church of Christ, SDSU Big Gay BBQ, GSA Unity Conference, and Come Home for the Holidays/The Center
- Attended the Transgender Day of Remembrance ceremony
- Represented on the GLSEN Board (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network)
- Attended the GLSEN fundraiser at The Big Kitchen
- Sponsored a PFLAG evening at the Diversionary Theatre
- Represented on the Community Leadership Council Board (The Center)
- Attended the Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast
- Participated in the nationwide fundraiser: Cultivating Respect: Safe Schools for All
- Member of St. Paul's Foundation for International Reconciliation; participated in the film premieres of Love Heals Homophobia and God Loves Uganda
- Active in South Bay Alliance
- Attended the Frida Kahlo Birthday event at The Center
- Joined in monthly conference calls with other PFLAG chapters in the Southern California Region
- Co-president, Patti Boman represented PFLAG in the Hispanic community and on the international level : met with Colombian delegation (International Visitor Leadership Program) to discuss LGBT rights Colombia, (the delegation attended a Mi Familia meeting), poke at Safe Schools Summit in Brawley to reach out to migrant workers regarding LGBT issues, attended a conference comprised of LGBT organizations in Lima, Peru, marched in Lima's Pride Parade, interviewed by Telemundo regarding AB1266, interviewed several times on Spanish speaking radio program in a web radio show, interviewed by la Frontera newspaper, interviewed for Digital Politics radio
- Attended rallies to celebrate the repeal of DOMA and Proposition 8
- Volunteered at Mama's Kitchen with meal preparation and food distribution
- Attended/supported the San Diego Gay Men's Chorus concerts
- Participated in North County LGBT Resource Center's fundraising Gala
- Attended World AIDS Day

- Board member participation at Camp Aranu'tiq, a camp for transgender youth
- Had our Letters to the Editor published in the *San Diego Union-Tribune* in defense of the LGBT community
- Attended the Matthew Shepard Candlelight Walk
- Applied for and received a grant from San Diego LGBT Pride
- Published our monthly newsletter

CONTRIBUTIONS

- Funded the John Bessemer Memorial Scholarship
- Donated to Hillcrest Youth Center's Other Prom
- Participated and raised money for the AIDS Walk, keeping our coveted sneaker sign!
- Took part in The Center's Dining Out for Life which raises money for AIDS/HIV prevention and research
- Participated in Mama's Kitchen Pie in the Sky fundraiser
- Co-sponsored a movie at the Asian Film Festival

COMMUNICATIONS

We operate a telephone information line and respond to e-mail inquiries. Jessy Sauchuk, from Belladia Marketing & Design, always has creative layouts for our newsletters. In addition, she donates the cost of the stock photos. We are also very fortunate to have Lisa Smith, also from Belladia Marketing & Design, as our webmaster. With constant updates, we appreciate her being on the ball. Our newsletter is primarily sent by email to help the environment. We also have 418 followers on Twitter, 960 friends on Facebook, and blog a minimum of once a week (our master twitterer and blogger is co-president Patti Boman).

RED KETTLE: THINK TWICE

Of course, PFLAG would never suggest where you should or shouldn't donate money. However, we are disseminating important information, as many people are not aware that some of the money donated to The Salvation Army is used to further their anti-gay agenda (ex: they actively lobby against pro-gay policies).

While the web site in the U.S. doesn't mention anything about gays or lesbians, this was taken from The Salvation Army web site in Australia a few years back:

"[Homosexual activity is] as rebellion against God's plan for the created order.... Homosexual practice, however, is, in the light of Scripture, clearly unacceptable. Such activity is chosen behaviour and is

thus a matter of the will. It is therefore able to be directed or restrained in the same way heterosexual urges are controlled. Homosexual practice would render any person ineligible for full membership (soldiership) in the [Salvation] Army."

Their mission: The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

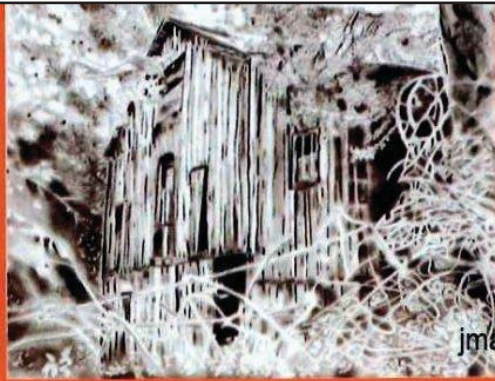
Instead of money, please consider dropping a voucher in the kettle. They can be downloaded at www.pflag.com/voucher.



Luan D. Andrews, M.A.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST
MFC 19321

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(858) 552-8181 FAX (858) 552-0205



Judy Briggs
Artist

858 888 2711
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PFLAG THANKS YOU FOR YOUR EXTRA HELP

Contributing Memberships

Lindy & Rick Miles
Maria & Sunny Al-Shamma

Supporting Memberships

Jeanette Velgos
Marjorie Frye

Providing Extra Refreshments for our Meeting

Belinda Quintero

Donations to the General Fund

Artemae Anderson
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