



THE NEWSLETTER

December 2016 / ISSUE 12 / VOLUME 23

WISHING YOU JOYOUS HOLIDAYS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR

NO DECEMBER MEETING FOR PFLAG SAN DIEGO METRO | As has been the tradition for the Metro meeting of PFLAG SDC, there is not a meeting in December due to the proximity of the holidays. All other support groups will meet the usual day in December (See pg 3)

GEARING UP FOR SCHOLARSHIPS 2017

Once again, PFLAG SDC is partnering with the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation for another successful scholarship program. The application and scholarship requirements will be posted on our web site (pflag.com) sometime in January. A major change is that the GPA for high school students remains at 3.0 and for college students, it is changed to 2.8. More details in the January newsletter.

THE MORE YOU KNOW

GLAAD (formerly the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) is the world's LGBTQ media advocacy organization. They launched the Trump Accountability Project (TAP). TAP will equip and serve as a resource for journalists, newsrooms, editors, producers, and other news makers reporting on the Trump administration. TAP will catalogue the anti-LGBTQ statements, as well as negative statements made regarding the black community, women, immigrants, Muslims and other communities and ideas.

JUSTICE HAS BEEN SERVED

After North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory insisted he won re-election on November 8, despite facts to the contrary, he finally conceded to Roy Cooper, the state's attorney general. It took nearly a month to do so. McCrory demanded a recount, which did not go in his favor.

Now for the best part, which will hopefully be reversed: McCrory lost votes in urban areas because of his strong support for House Bill 2, the controversial law that among other provisions requires transgender people in government facilities to use the bathroom that corresponds to their birth certificates. HB2 has prompted numerous sporting events to be moved outside North Carolina, as well as

NORTH COUNTY COASTAL DATE CHANGE

Since the first Monday in January is Jan. 2, North County Coastal will meet **Monday, Jan. 9** at their new location: UCC, 2020 Chestnut Ave, Carlsbad.

The bulk of information will include first-hand statements, video, and/or audio to document the animus displayed by Trump, his appointees, and future appointees. The Trump administration must be held accountable for their words and actions.

It is no secret that Trump and friends blatantly pledged to dismantle the legal protections that LGBTQ people, as well as other communities, have achieved over the past several years.

conferences, concerts, and some corporate expansions – resulting in millions of dollars in economic losses. Opponents of the law made McCrory their main target, and the national LGBT advocacy group, Human Rights Campaign, was one of the first groups to celebrate the governor's concession speech on December 5.

“Pat McCrory’s reign of discrimination is finally over,” Human Rights Campaign President Chad Griffin said in a news release. “McCrory’s stubborn and reckless support of HB2 cost him this election, and his defeat sends a powerful warning to lawmakers across the country that targeting LGBTQ people will not be tolerated.”

Can't wait until the Non Sequitur strip will be a thing of the past.

NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY



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OFFICERS, COMMITTEES & VOLUNTEERS

President

Terrie Vorono
619-997-6139
tvorono@pflag.com

Past Co-President

Patti Boman
pboman@pflag.com

Vice-President

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

Recording Secretary

Linda Espinoza
lespinoza@pflag.com

Treasurer

JoyLynn Murray
760-525-8256
jlmurray@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 & Pacific Imaging

Jessy Sauchuk, Belladia
Marketing & Design

Programs

The Board

Scholarship

scholarships@pflag.com

Spanish Interpreter

Patti Boman
619-227-6092

Speakers Bureau

Transgender Coordinator

Kathie Moehlig
kathie@transfamilysos.org

Refreshments

Ina Price

Website

Lisa Smith, Belladia
Marketing & Design

Board Members

Sherry Cohen-Richards,
Linda Espinoza, Mike
Minnick, Kathie Moehlig,
JoyLynn Murray, Ina Price,
Terrie Vorono

PFLAG San Diego
PO Box 82762
San Diego, CA 92138

Tax ID #33-0512868

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

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Current Events

December 20 | Tuesday
Our Space-Poway

Now thru December 24
The Mystery of Love & Sex
Diversionary Theatre (see article)

December 26
Reminder: No SD Metro Meeting

December 27 | Tuesday
Our Space-Poway

January 9 | Monday
PFLAG Support Group
North County Coastal

January 9 | Monday
PFLAG Support Group
East County

January 10 | Tuesday
Our Space-Poway

January 19 | Thursday
PFLAG Support Group
North County Inland

January 23 | Monday
San Diego General Meeting
and Support Groups

January 24 | Tuesday
Our Space-Poway

DUES, GLORIOUS DUES!

As always, paying your membership dues now means you are a member for all of 2017. 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. Remember that memberships and donations are tax-deductible.

GEORGIE KELLY
Pronouns: They, Them, Theirs
PROFESSIONAL CLINICAL COUNSELOR INTERN (#2496)

3202 3rd Avenue #2
San Diego, CA 92103
858-304-0928

georgiek.pcc@gmail.com

http://www.darlenetando.com/

Darlene_Tando_LCSW/Therapists.html

SUPPORT GROUPS

SD METRO GENERAL MEETING & SUPPORT GROUP
Meets every 4th Monday (Except December-No Meeting)
at 7:00 pm, at Jewish Family Service, 8788 Balboa Ave,
San Diego in Kearny Mesa.

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

NORTH COUNTY COASTAL

Meets the 2nd Monday for January at their new location
Pilgrim UCC, 2020 Chestnut Avenue, Carlsbad. The
new meeting time is 6:30-8:30 pm.

**Contact northcountycoastal@pflag.com or
Annette Ottone, 760-518-3345**

NORTH COUNTY INLAND

Meets the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm, Windermere Homes &
Estates, 16783 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo.

**Contact Kathie Moehlig: 858-382-9156
or northcountyinland@pflag.com**

EAST COUNTY

Meets the 2nd Monday at 7:00 pm, Summit Unitarian Uni-
versalist Church, 8778 Cottonwood Avenue, Santee.

**Contact Mar Cardenas amikaema@aol.com or Tiffany
Gonzalez at tgonzalez@pflag.com or 760-554-7967**

SOUTH BAY

The Support Group is not presently meeting. For a private
meeting for support and concerns, call for an appointment.

**Contact: Patti Boman, 619-227-6092
or pboman@pflag.com**

POWAY LGBTQ YOUTH SUPPORT GRP (Our Space-Poway)

Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 5:00-6:30 pm, Poway
Library, 13137 County Highway S4, Poway. Facilitated by
youth.

**Contact Kathie Moehlig: 858-382-9156
or info@transfamilyosos.org**

TRANSFAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Support groups held separately for children, teens, and
adults to explore a multitude of topics around gender
identity and expressions.

**Contact Kathie Moehlig: 858-382-9156
or info@transfamilyosos.org**

WE'RE GETTING THERE!



Jairo Leon was awarded one of the **PFLAG Merit Scholarships**. As you will see from his essay, he seems to be a one-person show. Before attending UCLA, he was very active in the LGBTQ community at CSU San Marcos. Along with a professor, he developed lectures focused on queer masculinity and sexuality. He served as a

discussion leader who independently facilitated bi-weekly dialogues with 20 students about queer films and theory. Jairo worked on campus in the Gender Equality Center and the LGBTQ Pride Center. While there, he organized a conference that included participation by LGBTQ scholars from numerous higher education institutions. Jairo has spoken about immigration and the challenges faced by undocumented queer youth at several education venues, including the Thomas Jefferson School of Law. For his leadership roles in both Centers, in 2015, he received the Growing Tree Award. Jairo also founded the Cougar Dream Scholarship which raises money, disseminates scholarship funding, and provides mentoring to undocumented students pursuing their education at CSU San Marco. To put icing on the cake, he was selected to participate in the Young Professionals Council at the San Diego LGBT Community Center.

"I am proud to have taken on the 2015 Co-lead of Development role within the San Diego Dream Team (SDDT), an undocumented, youth-led immigrant rights group. This volunteer position gave me the opportunity to serve a community whose challenges I know firsthand. Sustaining effective internal organization and fundraising were my primary responsibilities. As a team leader, however, I also took part in presenting at San Diego high schools and colleges on undocumented issues, lobbying alongside the ACLU to break police and border patrol partnerships, and organizing DACA clinics, which was especially rewarding. During these clinics we invited community members to meet with immigration attorneys and receive assistance with filling out the forms required to apply for the federal program, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). DACA status provides eligible immigrants protection from deportation and authorization to work in the United States for two years, with the option to renew. My specific role was to organize the logistics of the clinics: find a location, contact and request pro-bono participation from an appropriate number of attorneys, ensure we had enough volunteers to have a smooth operation, coordinate flyer creation and distribution, order food for volunteers and attorneys, and maintain our supplies (enough DACA forms and folders, printer paper and ink for copying supporting documents, pencils, highlighters, whiteout...etc.). I enjoyed meeting and assisting my fellow community members.

Given that DACA application requires a \$456 filing fee, it became apparent that financial barriers kept some from applying. Therefore, SDDT decided to hold a DACA scholarship fundraiser last March, which I spearhead. This involved, in part, sustained a working relationship with our primary underwriter, Hitzke Development, inviting Pilgrim Church to attend and give by addressing the entire Sunday congregation, and sharing my story in the event's program. California State Senator Ricardo Lara recognized my work that night with a personal award. We raised a total of \$5,000. As a member of SDDT, I also joined the planning committee for the 3rd Annual UndocuGrads conference hosted at UC Merced. This conference focused on providing undocumented undergraduates with tools and resources to successfully apply for graduate studies. I was involved in deciding the overall theme and organization of the conference, writing requests for funds to UC partners, and shared advice on writing a personal statement.

I would have never thought of being this involved in the undocumented movement a mere four years ago. I will always be thankful to Diana and Carolina Valdivia for showing me the liberating value of being undocumented and unapologetic. Once I found pride in my sexuality, affirming my undocumented status had to follow. That's when the Valdivia sisters brought me to the SDDT. I have felt at home with them, especially as they incorporated feminist and queer philosophies. Any ambivalence I felt in publically associating myself with the Team was broken by the inspiring work we have accomplished. In the context of dehumanizing policies, the Team taught me I could positively alter the world around me, regardless of my status.



I now aim to earn a Master's in Student Affairs from UCLA because as a mission orientated individual, I am dedicated to creating opportunities for underserved college students to build in capacity,

resources, and knowledge. After working as a Peer Educator, I became particularly drawn to the work of multicultural centers in this field. These centers can uniquely address student needs, and advance student development, given their continuous and varied engagement with them. Indeed, the combination of co-curricular learning, leadership building, and community outreach in these student centers speaks to my own strengths and values. These programs ignite and nourish essential self and societal exploration, while also increasing retention and graduation rates, as they elevate the overall student experience."

PFLAG YEAR IN REVIEW 2016

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETINGS

The PFLAG San Diego County Metro group holds monthly general meetings featuring a program, support groups, and time for socializing over refreshments. We have four additional support groups with similar programs that meet monthly throughout San Diego County: North County Coastal in Carlsbad, North County Inland in Rancho Bernardo, East County in Santee, and South Bay Support Group. New this year is a LGBTQ Youth Group.

PROGRAMS (SAN DIEGO METRO)

Guest Speaker Charles Chan Massey: Charles is co-founder of the Personal Stories Project.

Guest Speaker Paul Messerle: We welcomed Paul as Teacher of the Year at Rancho Bernardo High School, San Diego Unified School District, and the County of San Diego.

Guest Speaker Rick Clemons: Author of the book, *Frankly My Dear, I'm Gay*, with his message to step out of hiding and into your uniqueness.

Guest Speaker Alberto Cortés: Alberto enlightened us about the role Mama's Kitchen plays in the LGBTQ community.

Guest Speaker Peter Jarman: We listened to what it was like to be a gay, male model in the 1950s.

Guest Speaker Courtney Ware: We welcomed past PFLAG Board Member to get us up to speed on the Hillcrest Youth Center.

Summer Pot Luck Picnic: It was a night of gab and eat fest.

Guest Speaker Sophia Arredondo: Sophia is the SDUSD LGBTQIA Program Manager.

Guest Speakers Isaac Gomez and mom Monica Núñez Cham: Their journey of Isaac's transitioning from female to male was fascinating.

Guest Speaker Georgie Kelly: We welcomed an explanation of current LGBT terminology. Georgie is a former PFLAG Board Member.

Guest Speaker Howard Finneycy: We listened on the edge of our seats hearing Howard's humorous story of being a closeted gay.

PROGRAMS (NORTH COUNTY COASTAL)

Guest Speakers Olivia Ottone and partner, Jordan: They presented, "Engaging With the Midwest."

Guest Speaker Paul Messerle: There was much enthusiasm shown to Paul as Teacher of the Year at Rancho Bernardo High School, San Diego Unified School District, and the County of San Diego.

Guest Speaker Georgie Kelly: Georgie gave an overview of current LGBT terminology.

PROGRAMS (NORTH COUNTY INLAND)

Guest Speaker Sophia Arredondo: Sophia is the SDUSD LGBTQIA Program Manager

Guest Speaker Claire Russell: Claire, a trans woman, is the owner of Auntie Claire's – presentation on electrolysis

Guest Speaker Max Disposti: Founder and Executive Director of the NC LGBTQ Resource Center, he shared his experiences in these leadership positions.

GAYGULL.COM

This is a relatively new website that is dedicated to uniting the LGBTQ communities across the U.S. by sharing info and resources specific to the interests and needs of our communities. The site organizers want to help spread the word about the efforts of LGBTQ organizations who have created and inspired fairness and equality for the LGBTQ communities.



BOARD ACTIVITIES

Our board meets to plan programs, speaking engagements, and other community activities that we support. All members are welcome to attend these meetings. Board members are Terrie Vorono, JoyLynn Murray, Ina Price, Linda Gohlke, Linda Espinoza, Kathie Moehlig, Mike Minnick, and Sherry Cohen-Richards. A big thank you to Betsy Sheets who continues as our unofficial, “official” corresponding secretary. We also thank our regional directors: Annette Ottone, Kathie Moehlig, Patti Boman, and Tiffany Gonzalez.



Yearly activities also include a board retreat at the beginning of the 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 Long Beach, California.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

We have a Speakers Bureau that is available to colleges, high schools, hospitals, businesses, 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 LGBTQIA children and family members. The Speakers Bureau is made up primarily of parents of LGBTQ children and LGBTQ children who are willing to share their stories and educate those in attendance. This has led to many a change of heart and opening of minds. The most visible presence was speaking to a large number of GSAs (newly named Genders & Sexualities Alliance) in San Diego County and beyond. Presentations included: Metropolitan Community Church, Hidden Valley Middle School, St. Matthew Ecumenical Catholic Church, Fallbrook PTA, California Behavioral Health Board, Escondido High School psychology classes, Pacific Beach Methodist Church, UTC Aerospace, Olympian High School Assembly, Eastlake High School Assembly, Pride LGBTQIA Youth Marching Band, panel at Trinity Episcopal Church, United Technologies Corporation, Optimum Health, Pride’s Youth Leadership Academy, Support Groups at Poway High School, Community Leadership Council Board, Transform California, and taking part in educational meetings with family counselors and therapists.



EVENTS AND KUDOS

PFLAG San Diego County is an active and respected member of the LGBTQ community. We participate in fundraisers, staff booths at local events to raise LGBTQ awareness, and other community activities to support other organizations that advocate for the rights or meet the needs of our LGBTQ 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 activities this past year:



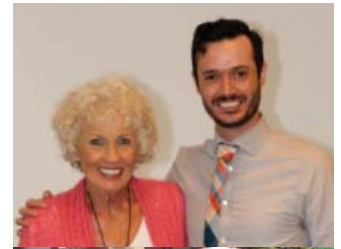
- San Diego Gay Pride Parade
- Presented nine scholarships to local students at our Launching Leaders Luncheon
- Transgender Day of Empowerment
- Sponsored PFLAG booths/tabling events at San Diego Gay Pride, North County Pride by the Beach, Trans Youth Care Training for Professionals, Poway Community Festival, South Bay Pride, RB Alive Expo, SDSU Big Queer BBQ, GLSEN GSA Awards/San Diego & North County, Transform California, Project Youth GSA Awards, Home for the Holidays/ The LGBT Center, TransPride Festival, SDUSD LGBTQ Family Info Night, Youth LGBT Suicide Prevention Forum, Resource Fair/San Marcos, She Fest, Out at the Fair, Dr. Diane Ehrensaft
- Transgender Day of Remembrance
- Founded LGBTQ Youth Group
- Trained social workers at the SD County Child Welfare, nurses at Mary Birch Hospital, and administrators and therapists at Rady’s Outpatient Psychiatry
- Instrumental in getting the GSA started at Valley Middle School
- Hillcrest Youth Center Open House



- Served on committees: SD County Trans Work Group Child Welfare, SD Community Leadership Council-Youth Services and Advocacy, Trans Pride, San Diego Unified School District LGBTQIA Advisory Committee
- Get Out the Vote phone bank
- San Diego Diplomacy Council International Conference
- GLSEN Board (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network) representation
- Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast
- Attended the Democratic National Convention LGBT Caucus
- Trans Youth Project Holiday Party: San Diego, North County
- LGBTQ Prom: Hillcrest and North County
- North County Inland Resource Fair Mixer
- Trevor Orange Party
- San Diego County Human Library
- GLSEN fundraisers: Comedy Night and Annual Skating Event
- LGBT Center's Transforming Families
- Red Dress Party for AIDS awareness
- Co-presented a film in the Asian Film Festival
- Imperial Court meeting and Coronation
- Grieving Post Orlando
- Human Rights Campaign volunteer
- Rady's Parent Education event
- Participated in the nationwide fundraiser, Cultivating Respect: Safe Schools for All
- Conference calls with Southern California regional PFLAG chapters
- Mama's Kitchen - meal preparation, food distribution, and The Pantry
- Monica Núñez Cham was part of the convention planning for Familias por La Diversidad Sexual (International Association of Sexually Diverse Families) in Costa Rica
- Participated in Memorial and March after Orlando murders
- Funded the John Bessemer Memorial Scholarship and two merit scholarships
- Participate in raising funds for PFLAG SDC through Amazon Smile
- Day of Silence
- Participated with North County Resource Center at the 4th of July parade
- Gay Men's Chorus and San Diego Women's Chorus concerts
- Attended Human Trafficking training
- North County LGBTQ Resource Center's Fundraising Gala
- Attended SD Pride's annual Out at the Park Padres game
- Volunteer for Trevor Project
- Applied for and received grant from San Diego Pride
- Mama's Kitchen Pie in the Sky fundraiser
- "PFLAG National Online Academy" learning sessions
- Participated and raised money for the AIDS Walk
- Took part in The Center and NC LGBTQ Resource Center's Dining Out for Life which raises money for AIDS/HIV prevention and research
- Published our monthly newsletter

COMMUNICATIONS

We operate a telephone information line and respond to e-mail inquiries. Jessy Sauchuk, co-owner of 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, co-owner of Belladia Marketing & Design, as our web master. With constant updates, we appreciate her being on the ball. To help the environment, our newsletter is primarily sent by email. We also have 1052 followers on Twitter and 1179 followers on Facebook (thanks to Patti Boman for keeping both updated).



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

THE MYSTERY OF LOVE & SEX, PART II

This is the same article from last month. Only this time, I (Sherry, for what it's worth) can personally attest to how funny and deep the play is: Synopsis: "As Charlotte and Jonny tumble into their twenties confronting the mysteries of their own bodies and desires, Charlotte's parents face their own perceptions about love and happiness. Traversing years, shifting relationships and unexpected outcomes, this provocative Southern Gothic romantic comedy peeks behind the curtain of sexuality and race to illuminate secrets of the heart and the fabric of a family."

The play started on November 25 and will continue until **December 24**. For performance times and ticket info: www.diversionary.org. You can also call: 619-220-0097. When ordering, use the Promo Code PFLAG for a \$5 discount.



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