

PFLAG News & Views

Bridging GLBT and Allied Communities

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS & GAYS OF DENVER

P.O. Box 18901 Denver, CO 80218-0901

Volume XXXI, Number 8

August 2011

MONTHLY MEETING

Enjoy a Movie and Popcorn at August Meeting

Thursday,
Aug. 4
7:30 p.m.
Movie &
Popcorn

Our August meeting will feature a "Movie and Popcorn" night. We will meet in Fellowship Hall and view the film *Faces and Facets of Transgender Experience*. The movie is 26 minutes long, and we'll have time to discuss it afterwards.

The film was produced by PFLAG Boulder County in 2010, with PFLAG Denver as a co-sponsor. In it, 18 people and their families share touching stories about the journey from despair to loss to the joy of being the gender they were meant to be. The film was created to expand understanding and dispel misinformation and stereotypes held

by some members of the general public about transgender individuals, and to serve as a resource for families and organizations that work directly with families (i.e., counselors, clergy and medical professionals). It is hoped that viewing *Faces and Facets* will touch minds and hearts, and change behaviors as people interact with transgender and gender-diverse persons in more informed and sensitive ways.

As always, the new families support group and the open-to-all group will meet separately at 6:30 p.m. in the library area. All will gather for announcements and the program at 7:30.

Sept. 1 –
Rev. Mark Tidd
Highlands
Church



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OUR MISSION

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (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 secure equal civil rights. PFLAG provides an opportunity for dialog about sexual orientation and gender identity, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

August 13 Is Date for AIDS Walk

By Sara Winter

AIDS Walk Colorado is the Rocky Mountain Region's largest HIV/AIDS fundraiser. By participating in the Walk, PFLAG Denver has been able to offer financial assistance to needy persons with HIV/AIDS for over 15 years.

This year, for example, we have provided money to 24 individuals to date, for expenses ranging from copies of birth certificates to computer software to busfare to full dentures. Recipients are invariably grateful to PFLAG, as are their case managers, and we get the benefit of increased visibility.

It would be wonderful if a large contingent of



PFLAGers joined in the Walk, which steps off from Cheesman Park around 9:45 a.m. on Saturday, August 13. But if marching in the August sun isn't your idea of fun, we hope that in the comfort of your living room you'll jump to making a donation.

To donate online, go to www.aidswalkcolorado.org, click on DONATE on the bar at the top, then on Support a Team. Scroll down through the list of teams, click on PFLAG Denver, then follow the on-screen instructions.

To donate the old-fashioned way, send a check payable to AIDS Walk Colorado to PFLAG Denver, P.O. Box 18901, Denver 80218-0901.

Chapter To Have Booth at Denver County Fair

Come see us at the Denver County Fair, July 28 - July 31!

This is Denver's first county fair, and it will happen indoors – in 10 connected pavilions at the National Western Complex, 4655 Humboldt Street, Denver. The fair opens on Thursday, July 28 (6 p.m.-10 p.m.), and continues Friday and Saturday (10 a.m. - 10 p.m.) and Sunday (10 a.m.-4 p.m.).

PFLAG Denver will have a booth in the Fashion Pavilion and our own Joe Moore is slated to be a judge in the Best "County Fair" Drag Queen contest, sponsored by Out Front Colorado. The Drag Queen Contest will be held in the Fashion Pavilion Friday night at 8:00 p.m.

Visit www.denvercountyfair.org to discover all the fun things you and your family can do.

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Calendar of Events

July 27 (Wednesday)

Board of Directors meeting

July 28 - 31

PFLAG Booth at Denver County Fair
(See article, p.1 & Volunteer Box, p. 4)

August 1 - 7

Rainbow Alley will be closed.

August 4

PFLAG Denver Monthly Meeting
Montview Presbyterian Church
1980 Dahlia Street
Support Groups 6:30 P.M.
Program 7:30 P.M.
(See article, p. 1)

August 4

Alexander Foundation Fundraiser
(See News & Notes, p. 3)

August 5 and 26

Rooftop Happy Hours
The Center, 1301 E. Colfax
6 - 8 p.m., \$10
jgenter@glbtcolorado.org

August 12

Newsletter deadline

August 13

AIDS Walk Colorado
(See article, p. 1)

August 20

One Colorado's Ally Awards
(See article this page)

August 25

Board of Directors meeting

September 1

PFLAG Denver monthly meeting

November 3 - 6

PFLAG's 2011 Lobby Day
and National Convention
Washington, D.C.

Hate Violence Report Released

On July 12 the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs released its annual report, "Hate Violence against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and HIV-Affected Communities in the United States in 2010." Key findings and recommendations from the report include the following:

- Hate violence incidents increased 13% from 2009 to 2010 and included a much greater increase in the severity of violence.
- There were 27 anti-LGBTQ murders, the second highest yearly total ever recorded by the coalition (a 23% increase

- from the 22 people murdered in 2009).
 - Seventy percent of the 27 reported hate murder victims in 2010 were people of color, and they were also less likely to receive medical attention when they needed it and less likely to receive appropriate responses from the police.
 - Transgender women made up 44% of the 27 reported hate murders in 2010.
 - In Colorado, while overall reports decreased in 2010, reports of hate violence targeting transgender people increased by 135% from the past year (16 to 39).
- To download the full report visit www.NCAVP.org.

"I've been saying for a long time that indeed there is an LGBT 'agenda,' and it can be summed up in one word: equality."

-- John Davidson, Legal Director,
Lambda Legal

Picnic a Great Success

By Sandy Wilbanks

We had a fabulous turnout for our July 10th picnic! There were more than 80 people in attendance and thanks to our caterers, Brothers BBQ, there was plenty of good food. We're sorry that Bill Coleman had the flu and was unavailable to entertain – and we send our best wishes to Bill for a speedy recovery.

Thanks to all of the people who helped with this event: **Sandy Wilbanks** reserved the park shelter and coordinated the event.

She and **Deborah Stone** brought homemade cookies. **John Ferguson** and **Joe Moore** handled the communications and messaging on Constant Contact, Facebook, and our website. **Judy Trompeter** brought the ice and drinks and kept up with reservations. And thanks to **Susan Osborne** for making sure everyone had a name tag.

The attendees included our chapter's founders, this year's scholarship recipients, new family members, and wonderful people of all generations.

One Colorado Education Fund's Ally Awards

By Judy Trompeter

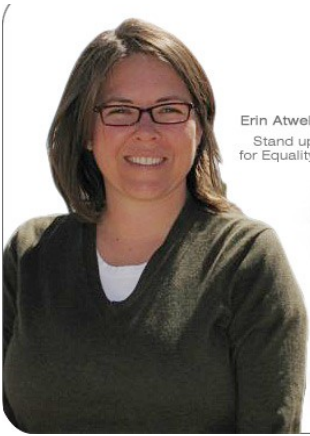
On August 20, One Colorado will honor these recipients of 2011 Ally Awards: **Veronica Barela**, President/CEO of NEWSED; **Bruce DeBoskey**, former Regional Director of the Anti-Defamation League's Rocky Mountain States Region; **Jean Hodges**, PFLAG Regional Director;

and **Wilma Webb**, former Colorado State Representative from House District 8 and former First Lady of Denver.

PFLAG Denver is co-sponsoring the event, which will take place from 6 - 9 p.m. at Denver Botanic Gardens, 1007 York St. Tickets may be ordered at www.allyawards.com.



Join Giving Circle to Support PFLAG



Erin Atwell
Stand up
for Equality

in my colorado
"I stand up for equal rights. Join Me."



By Erin Atwell, Community Shares of Colorado

I'll never forget the rush of emotion I felt as I watched the PFLAG contingent march by during my first Denver PrideFest parade in 2000. The group I was standing with erupted in cheers, and tears started to roll down my cheeks as each individual marching with PFLAG smiled, waved, hugged, and just beamed love and acceptance. I felt so lucky to be coming out in a community that was so supportive, and I felt so thankful for each person who chose to march with PFLAG that day. The Colorado LGBTQ community has grown and seen much progress since 2000, and we have so many allies and organizations, like PFLAG, to thank.

I started the Stand Up for Equality Giving Circle on mycoloradoproject.org to support the amazing organizations, including

PFLAG, working to support our local LGBTQ community. A Giving Circle is just a group of individuals who combine their money, time, and talent to show support for the causes they believe in most. The benefit of joining a giving circle on My Colorado is that you can get involved by giving as little as \$5 each month. But when 20 of us pledge to give \$5 a month together, all of a sudden we make a \$1,200 investment in the organizations that do so much for our community.

My Colorado is a project of Community Shares that allows all of us to share our philanthropy with our friends and family, making the experience of giving richer, more fulfilling, and more effective. Join my Stand Up for Equality Giving Circle and support PFLAG and other organizations working on behalf of our LGBTQ community. www.mycoloradoproject.org

KEEPING UP WITH CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Support Education Advocacy

SPEAKERS' BUREAU – We had only one engagement in June, but it was an important one. On Wednesday, June 22, Rev. Olive Hinnant and Margaret Collins participated for PFLAG Denver as members of a 2-hour roundtable discussion at The Children's Hospital in Aurora. The topic was "GLBT Healthcare Awareness – The Importance of Equal Patient and Family Access, Treatment, and Care for GLBT Patients and Families." Olive, with input from Margaret, is going to

write a full account of the session for the next issue of the newsletter.

HELPLINE – David Biddle, Helpline Coordinator, reported these 22 calls in June: LGBT persons, 9; family members, 10; solicitations, 2; and faith-related, 1.

SUPPORT GROUPS – None met in July.

JULY PICNIC (in lieu of monthly meeting) – About 80 people attended (see article, p. 2).

News & Notes

News of Families and Friends

Adios to longtime members **Sue Brown and Toby Hagar**, who have moved to Wyoming, because of family, work, and getting ready for retirement; they are having a house built, and in the meantime their address is P.O. Box 50353, Casper WY 82605. Farewell also to **B.J.'s Carousel**, the gay bar on South Broadway run by Bob Engel for the last 30 years, which will close on July 31; and to **Trey Malicoat**, who has elected to leave the board at this time.

Congratulations to **Julie and Craig Wilson** of PFLAG Ft. Collins, whose son Jarod married Mike Bierschenk in Columbus, Ohio, on July 16; to **Allen Metzgar**, who will celebrate his 70th birthday on August 17; and to **Jean Hodges** of PFLAG Boulder and also PFLAG National's Vice-chair, who will be honored on August 5 with an Ally Award from One Colorado.

Continued **get well wishes** to **Tim Wilson**, whose slip in the shower caused a broken rib and a punctured and partially collapsed left lung.

Got signs or flag? – We're missing two signs ("I ♥ my gay friend" and "Celebrating Family"/"Transgender Is Not about Sex") and one flag from the PrideFest parade. If you have them, please call 303-573-5861 and arrange for their return.

The documentary film **Two Spirits** was awarded the **Audience Award** in PBS's 2011 Independent Lens Film Festival. We join the festival producers in congratulating filmmaker Lydia Nibley and the entire *Two Spirits* team.

Protesting Springs mayor's decision – PFLAG Colorado Springs' July newsletter reports that the city's mayor refused to sign a proclamation calling July 11-17, 2011, Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Pride & Diversity Week, saying that his priorities are to facilitate job creation and thus he will not be signing proclamations. If you'd like to add your voice to those protesting his approach, the address is Mayor Steve Bach, 107 N. Nevada Ave. # 205, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-1305.

Fall campaign results for Community Shares of Colorado – CSC has reported the results of their fall workplace giving campaign. Our chapter will receive \$4,406 over the next twelve months, a significant increase over last year's total! Thanks to all who contribute to PFLAG Denver via workplace giving.

The Alexander Foundation to celebrate 30th Anniversary – 5280 A Cappella will perform at TAF's Pink Pearl Gala, to be held August 4 at the Governor's Residence, 400 E. 8th Ave, from 5 - 7:30 p.m. This is a fundraiser for the organization's ongoing assistance to LGBTs facing financial problems. Cocktails & hors d'oeuvres will be served. Individual tickets are \$95 in advance or \$125 at the door. For more information, go to www.thealexanderfoundation.org.

Host GALA attendees next year? – From July 7 to 11, 2012, gay & lesbian choruses from across the U.S. will meet in Denver for the GALA conference. Usually over 5,000 people participate in this quadrennial event. We've had one request for housing and anticipate more. If you'd consider hosting someone for this conference, let Judy know at pflagden@tde.com or 303-573-5861. The GALA website is <http://www.galachoruses.org/events/festival2012/index.php>. (Continued next page)

News & Notes, cont.



On June 7, at the Colorado Academy Awards Assembly, Sandy Wilbanks and Deborah Stone presented to **Brenna Baker** her **PFLAG Denver Scholarship Award**. "Everyone stood up and applauded and we all felt very proud of our selection," said Deborah.

GLBT National Help Center – This Center is a non-profit social-services agency and civil rights organization which operates the GLBT National Hotline and the GLBT National Youth Talkline. Learn more at www.GLBTNationalHelpCenter.org.

GLBT Entertainment, News Programs

By Juliet Letteney

Tune in on the radio, television or internet for programming devoted to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer issues and information.

KGNU – "Outsources"

A 30-minute radio broadcast of news and interviews for the GLBT community featuring headlines from *This Way Out* magazine and interviews with local activists. Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Online streaming available at kgnu.org. 88.5 FM & 1390 AM (Denver/Boulder).

FSTV – "Gay USA"

"Gay USA" offers comprehensive news by and about the GLBTQ

community nationally. Hosted by Ann Northrop and Andy Humm, the show is aired several times a week on Free Speech TV, available on Dish Network (channel 9415), and Direct TV (channel 348). Weekly times and dates and previous episodes can be found at freespeech.org.

"Here! TV"

Here! is a collection of movies, TV series, blogs, etc. for a GLBTQ audience available through Comcast (channel 139), Dish Network (channel 373) and Direct TV (channel 272), or streamed online for \$7.95 per month. A further selection of providers is posted on heretv.com.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Staff table at Denver County Fair, July 28 - 31

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS

Supporting Partnerships –

Bill Coleman Entertainment

www.bubbletower.com, stretch@stiltwalker.com
303-922-4655

Sandra Wilbanks, Ph.D., Psychotherapist

303-618-4449, sandrawilbanks@comcast.net

Deb-Ann Thomson, Ph.D., C.A.C.

Psychotherapist, 2755 S. Locust St. #207, Denver
303-758-6634

DLS Group, Inc., Deborah Stone

Cognitive psychologist and management consultant
303-333-4513, 303-810-4513,
Denver, CO and Washington, DC

Tim Wilson, Family Service Counselor

Fairmount Mortuary, Cemetery & Cremation Services
303-399-0692, twilson@fairmountcemetery.net
*** 10% back to PFLAG ***

Flexible Electric, Inc.

Woman-owned and operated since '83
303-922-9337, flexible_electric_inc@comcast.net

Mark H. Carson & Associates, CPAs

1790 30th St. #418, Boulder
303-449-3060, mark@bouldercpas.com

Basic Partnerships –

Denver Psychotherapy Care Tony Miles, Ph.D.

720-205-9752, tmilesph@aol.com
www.denverpsychotherapycare.com

S. Stanley Gordon's True Love Story

My Two Wives and Three Husbands
\$16.95 at Amazon.com and all booksellers

Leigh Wilbanks, Broker/Owner

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Erica Johnson, Esq., Ambler & Keenan, LLC

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303-601-7734, mikealbi@earthlink.net