



News and Views

Eastern Idaho Chapter of PFLAG
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Sunday April 23rd, 2006
PFLAG YOUTH GROUP 6:00 p.m.
CHAPTER MEETING 7:00 p.m.
Unitarian Church
555 E Street, Idaho Falls

This month's Chapter meeting will include information from a meeting held in Pocatello on April 6th about the State-wide community meetings against the anti-gay constitutional amendment that will be on the Idaho ballot in November, plus a support and sharing meeting.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The following programs and refreshments are either taken care of or need volunteers. Please do your share!! Sign up at the next meeting or contact a board member.

Month	Program	Refreshments
Jan	Video "Fish Can't Fly"	Jim & Sharon
Feb	Sharing Program ideas	POTLUCK DINNER
Mar	Out in High School	Hank & Jim
Apr	Support Meeting	

MARCH MEETING

Fifteen people attended the March meeting to hear a young man tell his story about being out at Hillcrest High School. He came out as a sophomore (he is now a junior) and started a gay straight alliance, which is now not organized due to the lack of a faculty sponsor. It is still not being easy being out in high school, he is still being harassed at school. We voted to support Breaking Boundaries by purchasing items for the summer games package as necessary. Thanks to Hank and Jim for bringing refreshments!

OUR PFLAG CHAPTER TO HELP BREAKING BOUNDARIES WITH A SUMMER GAMES PACKAGE FOR THE BEER FEST AUCTION.

Please consider donating a "summer game" for the silent auction events at this year's Beer Fest. Contact Wayne at 208-521-7169, bring to a PFLAG meeting or give to Theron. Some examples of summer games include volleyball, badminton, frisbee, golf, croquet, board games, water games, etc.

Support Network:

Jim and Henrietta 522-3228
Bill and Ann F. 529-0919

Board Members & PFLAG Volunteers

President	Cherie Stevens
Vice-President/Secretary	Jon
Program VP	Open
Membership VP, Treasurer	Jim Be.
Newsletter Publisher	Sharon
Newsletter Editor	Wayne Stevens
Transgender Contact	R. Kay Snyder
Advocacy	R. Kay Snyder
Support	Hank
Religious Liaison	Rev. Barbara Condon

BREAKING BOUNDARIES/SOUTHEAST IDAHO AIDS COALITION SELECTED AGAIN AS THE SPONSOR CHARITY FOR THE MOUNTAIN BREWER'S BEER FEST EVENT FOR 2006, IN IDAHO FALLS-Volunteers & Auction items needed!

The North American Brewers Association will sponsor the Annual Mountain Brewer's Beer Fest For Charity on June 3, 2005 at the Sandy Downs Race Track south of Idaho Falls, Idaho. The association has selected the Breaking Boundaries organization, for the second year in a row, to be the featured sponsor charity, assist with the event and as a result receive a major proportion of the net profit from the event. **Last year Breaking Boundaries made over \$23,000 at Beer Fest.** If anyone can help, here is what we need. 1. For you to keep your calendar open for that Saturday (June 3). 2. Donate items for the raffle or auction. We can use anything. Auction items big or small, preferably new items, are needed. Small items donated will be placed with other items to make an auction item. Volunteer help for the event is also needed. If you can volunteer call Theron McGriff or email him at mcgriffw@aol.com. We are within 2 months of beerfest and we are in need of donations for the silent auction. Theron is gathering items for a few packages, so if you have anything to add or have an idea for a package yourself, please let Theron know. Items are needed to beef up the following packages:

1. Camping package
2. Movie package (any DVD's you may have)
3. Summer swimming package
4. Weekend on the town (hotel/food/fun package for IF area)
5. Backyard package

The value of the packages should not be over \$500. Big items (like shotguns, trunks, larger artwork etc) did great last year too. Those are the immediate needs, so please let Theron know if you have something to donate...and nothing is too small or too large!!

We also need 15 volunteers for Friday set up (noon, June 2 until about 7 or so) 25-30 volunteers for Saturday's event (8 AM until 6 PM and then a team for food service (4PM -8 PM), 15 volunteers for Saturday breakdown (5 PM until 100M), Sunday trash pick up 15 or so (11AM-2PM).

PFLAG YOUTH GROUP NEWS
Next meeting to be Apr 23rd, 6 p.m.
at the Unitarian Church

Until Further Notice: Youth Group meetings will be held before the Chapter meetings at 6 p.m. at the Unitarian Church.

There will be NO Youth Group meetings on the second & fourth Fridays until further notice.

SEATTLE COMMUNITY CHORUS COMING TO UTAH, IDAHO, WYOMING, & MONTANA IN JULY

Formed in 1979, this chorus has grown into two choruses, totaling more than 300 men and women, the Seattle Men's Chorus and the Seattle Women's Chorus. Since 1994 the Seattle Men's Chorus (also known as The Seattle Gay Men's Chorus) has performed in an award-winning television program "Swellegant Elegance" which continues to air on PBS stations across the nation. Members from both chorus' will be on tour in July. The schedule is as follows: **Saturday, July 1** Evening Event with local Salt Lake City community. **Sunday, July 2** Morning performances: Men's Chorus will be at First Baptist Church, 777 South 1300 East, Salt Lake City. Women's Chorus to perform at St Steven's Episcopal, 4615 S. 3200 West, West Valley City, UT.

Sunday Evening (July 2nd) performance will start at 7:30 PM at the Jensen Grand Concert Hall in the Stephens Performing Arts Center on the Idaho State University Campus in Pocatello, ID. Monday, July 3 @ 7:30 p.m., Jackson, WY - Concert (Sensible Shoes and Captain Smartypants) at St. John's Episcopal Church. Wednesday, July 5, Billings, Montana. Concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Alberta Bair Theatre. Thursday, July 6, Bozeman, Montana. The Seattle Men's Chorus will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the School of Music Auditorium, on the Montana State University Campus. Thursday, July 6, Helena, Montana. The Seattle Women's Chorus will perform at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Saturday, July 8, Salt Lake City, UT. Concert - Libby Gardner Concert Hall

DIVERSITY AWARENESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN POCATELLO IDAHO ON APRIL 27TH

A diversity conference entitled "Learning Today, Living Tomorrow," will be held from 6 to 8:30 PM on April 27th at the L.E. and Thelma E. Stephens Performing Arts Center on the campus of Idaho State University. The conference is free of charge. The Diversity Conference features "Diversity Theater" and a keynote speaker presentation. The Theater readings are a series of scripts that will address age, race, gender, disability, sexual orientation & religion. The Keynote speaker for the event will be Cherle Buckner-Webb, the Global Diversity Program Manager with Hewlett Packard-Boise. **Our PFLAG Chapter will share a booth with ISU diversity groups (The Genesis Project and LGBTSA) at this conference.**

INTERESTING NOTE ABOUT BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN DVD SALES FROM NATIONAL PFLAG OFFICE....Ron Schlittler, Deputy Executive Director, April 5, 2006

We've heard that CNN ran an item this morning saying that Brokeback Mountain DVD sales at Wal-Mart have been good - and is in fact out-selling "Narnia", which was unexpected by their buyers. I've heard reports of PFLAGers going 40 miles out of their way just to buy it at Wal-Mart because the American Family Association raised a fuss that they were carrying it at all. Remarkable!

JACKSON HOLE, WYOMING PFLAG CHAPTER.

The Jackson Wyoming PFLAG Chapter meets monthly on the third Monday evening at St. John's House, which is part of St. John's Episcopal Church. The entrance is on Glenwood. You are welcome to be in touch if you have questions. The meeting runs from 7 -8:30 PM.

Jackson PFLAG, Mark Houser, P.O. Box 2683, Jackson, WY 83001. Phone 307-733-8349 or e-mail at:

JacksonPFLAG@yahoo.com

CLINICAL TRIAL USES STEM CELLS TO TREAT HIV....Advocate.com, April 8, 2006

About 70 HIV-positive adults in California are participating in a clinical trial that combines stem cell technology and genetic engineering to create what researchers call a "parallel immune" system to fight the disease, the San Francisco Chronicle reports. About half of the study participants have received injections of their own blood cells that have been engineered to contain a gene that blocks HIV. The goal is to create an array of long-lived cells that will fight HIV and outlast natural blood cells that are targeted by the virus. The key to the therapy is inserting an engineered enzyme called ribozyme, which does not exist naturally in the body, into immune system cells. The enzyme destroys one of HIV's key genes when the virus tries to copy itself, essentially preventing HIV from spreading in the body. Researchers attach the enzyme to an engineered mouse virus and expose human stem cells culled from bone marrow and the bloodstream to the virus. The mouse virus carries the enzyme into a cell, where it becomes part of the cell's natural machinery and fortifies it against any attempts by HIV to infect it and begin making viral copies. The stem cells are then reinserted into the donor's body, where they begin making numerous copies of immune system cells that are resistant to HIV. Study participants must sit through two eight-hour sessions in which their blood is filtered to isolate the stem cells. Once the stem cells are removed, they are exposed to the ribozyme-carrying mouse virus, and three days later are injected back into the donors.... The clinical trial's preliminary results will be reported in February 2007.

WHEN YOU NO LONGER NEED PFLAG

PFLAG NEEDS YOU!

REMEMBER YOU ARE NOT ALONE

