



**PO Box 52242
Idaho Falls, ID 83405-2242
e-mail: PFLAGinEID@aol.com
Voice Mail Phone 522-1057**

SUNDAY JULY 19, 2008

CHAPTER MEETING 7 P.M.

**Unitarian Church
555 E Street, Idaho Falls**

This month's PFLAG Chapter meeting will be an "Ice Cream Social" support meeting plus we will watch a very good video entitled "Fish Can't Fly." We are celebrating the Sweepstakes Award (the highest award given) that the Breaking Boundaries/PFLAG float received from the Idaho Falls 4th of July parade with an "Ice Cream Social." Photos of the float will be available for viewing.

Please bring an ice cream topping to share if you are able; ice cream, frozen yogurt and beverages will be provided.

Thanks to the many volunteers who put countless hours into building the float. A special thank you to the Unitarian Church for the use of their garage!

Thanks also for the many volunteers who also walked with the float and handed out 3000 silicone bracelets with "It's Cool to Be Kind" embossed on them. It was truly a team effort between Breaking Boundaries and PFLAG. The positive attitude presented by our float did not go un-noticed by the Post Register, Idaho Falls newspaper (read the article reprinted in this newsletter).

PFLAG ANNUAL PICNIC SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 16TH AT SEALANDER PARK

Be sure to reserve Sunday August 16, 2009 to attend the annual PFLAG picnic at Sealander Park southwest of Idaho Falls. The picnic will start at 3:30 in the afternoon and last until early evening. More information and a map to the park will be included in the August newsletter.

"Love has many shapes and colors and is not finite. It can not be measured or defined in terms of sexual orientation."

—New Zealand Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

WWW.IFPFLAG.COM

JUNE MEETING

Sixteen people attended the May PFLAG meeting. This was a support meeting and we made lots of colorful paper flowers which were used on the 4th of July float. The flowers really put the finishing touch on our award winning float. Thanks to those who helped make flowers and brought snacks!

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
Jackson website www.jacksonPFLAG.com

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP OUR PFLAG CHAPTER !

- \$ **Come to the meetings.**
- \$ **Provide refreshments for a meeting.**
- \$ **Coordinate a program or activity.**
- \$ **Tell your Friends and Family about PFLAG**
- \$ **Pay dues (\$25) if able.**

PFLAG MISSION STATEMENT

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered persons, and 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.

WISCONSIN GAY MARRIAGE BAN MAY GO

DOWN....Advocate.com July 8, 2009 by Michael Leon Days after the Governor of Wisconsin signed a bill granting the state's same-sex couples access to a domestic-partnership benefits, a state-level challenge to Wisconsin's same-sex marriage ban presents a potent legal argument for overturning one of the most comprehensive state prohibitions on same-sex marriage in the nation. The Wisconsin Supreme Court is hearing a case on the constitutionality of the 2006 referendum banning gay marriage, and any legal status identical or substantially similar to marriage for unmarried individuals....The legal brief filed July 8 with the Court challenges the anti-gay amendment on several grounds, finding fault with the form and compound language of the referendum, and related issues of ambiguity and state prohibitions against logrolling -- the practice of exchanging political favors to achieve passage of separate initiatives.

PFLAG/BREAKING BOUNDARIES PRAISED FOR FLOAT....Idaho Falls Post Register editorial, July 8, 2009

In contrast to another float entry by a local group, Corey Taule wrote about our float in his editorial.

“The Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce, which sponsors the parade, has no policy to deal with inappropriate messages. It's never needed one. The chamber relies upon the patriotism and decency of participants to police themselves. That's worked well. Take the award winning float sponsored by PFLAG and Breaking Boundaries, groups that advocate for gays and lesbians and their families. One might have expected PFLAG and Breaking Boundaries to complain about California's Proposition 8. They could have protested Idaho's constitutional amendment prohibiting gay marriage and civil unions, or the Legislature's refusal to consider a bill that penalized employers for firing somebody because they are gay.

These groups could have used the parade to complain that Idaho's Human Rights Commission, which administers state and federal anti-discrimination laws, refused to sign onto that effort. Instead, PFLAG and Breaking Boundaries, in keeping with the parade's theme, "Through the eyes of a child," decorated their award-winning float with bright colors and animals in varying shapes and sizes. It carried people that for this one day set aside differences and celebrated a sense of community.

Written on their float: "It's cool to be kind."

JOHN SCHROEDER, A MEMBER OF PFLAG AND BREAKING BOUNDARIES, WROTE A GREAT ARTICLE IN THE POST REGISTER

John's article on page A6 (Opinions page) of the June 13, 2009 Post Register was in response to a June 7th article that missed the mark on gay marriage. The following is a short excerpt from his article: “How can anyone agree with your assertion that marriage has been unchanged for “thousands of years”? This isn't science, it's history. A hundred years ago, wives were considered property and had virtually none of the rights you have within your marriage today....interracial marriage only became lawful within our lifetime! Among other changes, marriages have also been arranged, common law and polygamous....”

Thanks go to John for representing our community so well!

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

WHEN YOU NO LONGER NEED PFLAG

