



Eastern Idaho Chapter of PFLAG

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SUNDAY JUNE 20, 2010

CHAPTER MEETING 7 P.M.

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

This month's **PFLAG Chapter meeting** will be a support meeting and a video documentary will be viewed. The title of the video is "Out in the Silence." "Following the story of a small American town confronting a firestorm of controversy ignited by a same-sex wedding announcement in the local newspaper, this gripping documentary illustrates the challenges of being an outsider in a conservative rural community and the change that is possible when courageous people break the silence and search for common ground."

Please bring a snack to share if you are able; beverages will be provided.

Construction on the **Breaking Boundaries/PFLAG float** for the Idaho Falls 4th of July parade is underway. The theme for this year's float is "This Land is Our Land." Last year we received the "Sweepstake Award" for our "Its Cool to be Kind" float. Volunteers will be needed to help with the float!

Mark your calendars for July 25th as Boulder, Colorado PFLAG president, Ken Thurow, will be in Idaho Falls to give a presentation on his book "A Place at the Table." More information will be in the July newsletter.

Remember **the annual PFLAG picnic** will be on Sunday August 15, 2010 beginning at 3:30 p.m. We have Sealander Park reserved for that afternoon and evening. **Directions to the park will be in the August newsletter.**

LANDMARK IRS RULING RECOGNIZES SAME-SEX COUPLES....The Wall Street Journal, June 5, 2010

A ruling by the Internal Revenue Service has recognized the legal partnerships of same-sex couples for the first time ever. Gay couples in registered domestic partnerships in California must each report half of their combined incomes on individual tax returns, the IRS said. The ruling may mean significant tax advantages for affected couples, and it may also apply to other states with domestic-partner registration, such as Washington and Nevada.

PRESIDENT OBAMA EXTENDS BENEFITS OF GAY FEDERAL EMPLOYEES....Washington Post, Jun 3, 10

The same-sex domestic partners of U.S. government employees gained expanded access to benefits this week after President Barack Obama issued a memorandum outlining a new policy. LGBT federal workers do not yet enjoy the full range of benefits offered to their straight, married colleagues, but Obama said he hoped to sign pending legislation that would accomplish that goal. "I renew my call for swift passage of an important piece of legislation pending in both Houses of Congress -- the Domestic Partnership Benefits and Obligations Act," Obama said in a statement.

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.**
- \$ **Coordinate a program or activity.**
- \$ **Tell your Friends and Family about PFLAG**
- \$ **Pay annual 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.

WHITE HOUSE GREEN LIGHTS REPEAL OF DON'T ASK DON'T TELL....Advocate.com, May 25, 2010

A White House official sent a letter Monday [May 24th] evening approving a new legislative compromise that would repeal "don't ask, don't tell" this year but keep the current policy in place until the Pentagon's working group study is completed and the president, secretary of Defense, and chairman of the Joint Chiefs sign off on implementation. "The Administration is of the view that the proposed amendment meets the concerns raised by the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff," wrote Peter Orszag, director of the Office of Management and Budget.

LESBIAN COUPLE WEDS IN PORTUGAL'S 1ST GAY MARRIAGE....The Associated Press, June 5, 2010

LISBON, Portugal — A lesbian couple wed Monday in Portugal's first same-sex ceremony since the predominantly Catholic country introduced a law allowing gay marriage last month. Teresa Pires and Helena Paixao, divorced Portuguese mothers in their 30s who have been together since 2003, married in a 15-minute ceremony at a Lisbon registry office. "This is a great victory, a dream come true," Pires said as the couple kissed and hugged. "Now we're a family, that's the important thing," Pires said, adding they would continue to fight for equal rights for homosexuals, including adoption. The ceremony came less than a month after Portugal's conservative president ratified a gay marriage law passed by Parliament in January. His approval made Portugal the sixth in Europe to let same-sex couples wed...The couple had fought for the law after being denied the right to marry in 2006.

QUOTE FOR THE MONTH

"Life is like a ten-speed bicycle. Most of us have gears we never use."

Charles Schulz

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

WHEN YOU NO LONGER NEED PFLAG

PFLAG NEEDS YOU!