



News and Views

Eastern Idaho Chapter of PFLAG
 PO Box 52242
 Idaho Falls, ID 83405-2242
 e-mail: PFLAGinEID@aol.com
 Phone 522-1057
 web page <http://www.ifpflag.org>
 Voice Mail Phone 522-1057

Sunday December 12th, 2004
Holiday Party Potluck 7:00 p.m.
Unitarian Church
555 E Street, Idaho Falls

The Holiday Party Potluck will replace the November and December Chapter Meetings as the regular Chapter Meetings fall on Holiday weekends. Please come and bring a finger food potluck item to share. We will have music, door prizes, and lots of fun.

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
Apr	Support for Theron	Finger food Potluck
May	Gay Marriage	Mike & John
June	Interview on QTV	Wayne & Cherie
July	Gay Movie Night	Popcorn provided
Aug	Annual Picnic — Potluck (beverages provided)	
Oct	Movie "Latter Days"	Popcorn provided
Nov	No regular Chapter meeting!	
Dec	Holiday Party on Dec 12 th	Potluck
Dec	No regular Chapter meeting!	

PFLAG YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Next meeting to be Dec. 10th 7 p.m.
at the Community Resource Center)

Eight youth and two adults met on November 12th at the Community Resource Center. **During the meeting it was decided to go bowling for the December 10th Youth Group meeting. We will leave from the Community Resource Center at 7:30 p.m. Please bring a friend and join us.**

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	Open

OUR PFLAG CHAPTER WILL DONATE A TREE TO THE IDAHO FALLS FESTIVAL OF TREES!

Our Chapter was again invited by the Idaho Falls Festival of Trees committee to decorate a Christmas tree for the Festival. The Festival of Trees is a fund raiser for the Idaho Falls Development Workshop. This year's event will be held at the Idaho Falls Shilo Convention Center November 30th through December 3rd. For the past several years the Festival Committee has spelled out the PFLAG name on our tree identifier sign and in the program.

On November 13th members from our Chapter decorated a tree for the Festival. The theme for this year's PFLAG tree is "Angels Among Us." Thanks to Scott and Theron for organizing the tree decorating party and obtaining the tree and decorations. A special thanks to Scott for designing the tree, his artistic touch, and tree decorating skills. The tree is beautiful! Come to the Festival of Trees and see it!

THE THIRD ANNUAL "BREAKING BOUNDARIES" AIDS AWARENESS BENEFIT TO BE HELD DEC. 3 TO DEC. 5TH IN IDAHO FALLS.

If you have never been to a Breaking Boundaries event, being held again this year at the ARTI Theater, 257 W. Broadway, in Idaho Falls, you have another chance to attend this wonderful benefit. Friday night is a black tie dinner which has been sold out. Saturday Dec 4th from noon until 4 p.m. you can view five panels from the National AIDS Memorial Quilt and participate in a silent auction and art show featuring the creations of Nelson Soucek. Saturday evening from 7 to 11 p.m. will feature a theatrical presentation by ARTI and there will be wine and appetizers provided, in addition to silent auction and art show. There are still tickets available for the Sat. evening event, and they only cost \$20 each. On Sunday, Dec 5th from Noon to 5 p.m. all exhibits are open to the public and at 7 p.m. our PFLAG Chapter will host a memorial service and dedication of new quilt panels in memory of local people lost to AIDS. All Sunday events are free. The National Aids Memorial Quilt sections this year will include panels in memory of tennis champion Arther Ash, Freddie Mercury from the rock band "Queen," and Robert Reed from the TV show "The Brady Bunch."

**JUDGE RULES NYC MUST ENFORCE LAW
BENEFITTING SAME-SEX COUPLES....The
Advocate.com, November 10, 2004**

New York City must enforce a law that requires companies it does business with to give the same benefits to their employees' domestic partners that they give to employees' spouses, a judge ruled. Mayor Michael Bloomberg's administration fought the Equal Benefits Law, saying it would limit its ability to choose bidders at low costs. The city pays about \$3 billion a year to contractors. Bloomberg vetoed the law, but the city council overrode the veto last year. Justice Faviola Soto ruled Monday that the Bloomberg administration must enforce it. Cities including San Francisco, Seattle, and Los Angeles have similar laws. "It's an important victory for same-sex partners," councilwoman Christine Quinn told The New York Times.

**LAWSUIT FILED TO BLOCK GEORGIA AMENDMENT
BANNING SAME-SEX MARRIAGE.... The
Advocate.com, November 10, 2004**

As promised, gay rights supporters filed a lawsuit Tuesday over an amendment to the Georgia state constitution banning same-sex marriage that was approved by voters last week. They say the amendment should be thrown out because of misleading language on the ballot measure. Voters were asked only if they wanted to define marriage as a union of a man and a woman, not whether they wanted to ban civil unions, which the amendment effectively does. The measure passed by 3-1 ratio last Tuesday, winning with huge margins among almost every demographic.

In the Fulton County lawsuit, the plaintiffs call the amendment "fatally flawed...because it contains multiple sections which deal with more than one subject matter." The plaintiffs include two Democratic state legislators and a University of Georgia law professor. The group of amendment opponents also tried unsuccessfully to block the vote on the ballot measure on the same grounds--that it was misleading. The state supreme court ultimately decided it could not intervene until after a vote was taken. The lawsuit names Gov. Sonny Perdue, a Republican, as defendant. On Monday, at a caucus meeting for Republican members of the state house, members of the GOP vowed to fight the lawsuit. "We will take all actions necessary to defend the decision of the people and will not look kindly upon any tampering with our state constitution," said Rep. Glenn Richardson.

October Meeting

Ten people attended the October meeting. Thanks to Hank, Jim & R. Kay for facilitating the meeting and making popcorn for the movie

September Meeting (Included due to no Oct. Newsletter)

Sixteen people attended the September meeting. Planning for the upcoming year was discussed and clips from the video "One Nation Under God," were shown. Thanks to Brent for bringing dessert.

PFLAG MISSION STATEMENT

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered 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 to secure equal civil rights.

**IDAHO SUPREME COURT RULES AGAINST THERON
McGRIFF**

The Idaho Supreme Court ruled that sexual orientation could not be used in a child custody case and then upheld the lower courts ruling against Theron. Only one Judge out of the five Judges saw through the opposing lawyer's smoke screen and was on Theron's side. Theron's legal bills are very high. He needs any help we can provide. If you cannot attend any support event you can send a check to Theron McGriff at 2820 St Charles Ave., Idaho Falls, ID 83404. Please make checks payable to Theron's Legal Fund, not to PFLAG, as this is NOT a tax deductible donation.

**THE IDAHO FALLS PFLAG WEBSITE IS UNDER
CONSTRUCTION**

Visit www.ifpflag.org and see the progress. Suggestions for the site are welcome!

TREVOR PROJECT INCLUDES SUICIDE HOTLINE

The Trevor Project is a nonprofit organization that promotes tolerance for LGBT and questioning teenagers and aids in suicide prevention among that group. More information on the Trevor Project can be found at www.TheTrevorProject.org. **The Trevor Helpline (1-866 4u-trevor) or 1-866-4-887-3867** (*editor's note-- I dialed this number with the extra digit, and it works*) is the only national 24-hour, toll-free suicide prevention hot line aimed at gay and questioning youth. The Trevor Helpline is geared toward helping those in crisis, or those wanting information on how to help someone in crisis. The Trevor Helpline calls are handled by highly trained counselors and are free and confidential.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly."

Martin Luther King

REMEMBER YOU ARE NOT ALONE