



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 October 23rd, 2005
Chapter Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Unitarian Church
555 E Street, Idaho Falls

John Schroeder will present a program on transexuality and transgenderism. He presented this program last year and it is excellent. If you missed it last year be sure and attend this year. The program includes definitions of relevant terms and how gender identity disorder is affected by how society reacts. Invite a friend to come and hear John and enjoy open fellowship!

Our PFLAG Holiday Party will be on Sunday Dec 11th!

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
Aug	ANNUAL PICNIC	POTLUCK
Sep	Video about gay marriage	Wayne & Cherie
Oct	Presentation by John S.	Kirk & Kathee

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Twelve people attended the September meeting. We viewed San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom's April 2005 speech which covered his action in permitting same-sex marriage in San Francisco and the fallout from that action. Everyone enjoyed the speech and a good discussion session followed. Refreshments were provided by Cherie & Wayne.

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.

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

PFLAG YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Next meeting to be Oct 28th, 7 p.m.

at the Community Resource Center

We need input from the PFLAG youth and others to help increase outreach regarding the PFLAG Youth Group. Volunteers to staff Youth Group meetings are also needed.

Please contact a board member to volunteer.

ANNUAL DUES FOR OUR PFLAG CHAPTER CAN BE PAID BY MAIL OR AT ONE OF OUR MEETINGS.

We would like you to become a Member of our Chapter of PFLAG! Annual dues are only \$25 per household. Of this amount \$15 is used to pay dues to the National PFLAG organization. Chapter Scholarships are available for those who are living on a limited income!

PLAN TO ATTEND THE 4TH ANNUAL BREAKING BOUNDARIES AIDS AWARENESS BENEFIT TO BE HELD THE FIRST WEEKEND IN DECEMBER!

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, Dec. 2nd, is a black tie dinner which has been sold out. Entry for those attending the black tie dinner will be from theater's back door entrance on Railroad Street where valet parking will be available. Friday night's events, in addition to the dinner, include a silent auction, unveiling of new AIDS Memorial Quilt Panels, special musical entertainment and an art show featuring the works of Ardith Hinkel and Hollie Gilbert, fabric artists. Saturday Dec 3rd from noon until 4 p.m. you can view panels from the National AIDS Memorial Quilt and participate in a silent auction and art show featuring the creations of Ardith Hinkel and Hollie Gilbert. 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 a silent auction and art show. There are still tickets available for the Sat. evening event, and they only cost \$20 each. On Sunday, Dec 4th 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.

TICKET INFORMATION FOR THE DECEMBER 3RD SATURDAY EVENING AIDS AWARENESS BENEFIT

Tickets for the December 3, 2005 "Breaking Boundaries" Aids Awareness Benefit are available through Country Store Boutique. Phone 208-522-8450.

GAY COUPLES CHALLENGE FLORIDA'S ANTI-GAY VOTER INITIATIVE....Advocate.com, Sept. 22, 2005

Six same-sex couples in Florida on Tuesday [Sept 20th] filed a challenge before the Florida supreme court, charging that an anti-gay voter initiative violates the state's constitution. The measure—proposed for the 2006 ballot—would leave tens of thousands of families legally vulnerable, say gay rights groups. It not only blocks recognition of marriage, it permanently blocks civil union protections and threatens existing domestic-partnership protections across the state....The brief, filed by the American Civil Liberties Union, Equality Florida, and the National Center for Lesbian Rights, argues that it is unconstitutional to put the initiative to a vote because it violates the single-subject rule of the Florida constitution...

NATIONAL COMING OUT WEEK IS OCTOBER 10 THROUGH THE 18TH WITH COMING OUT DAY BEING OCTOBER 11TH! THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE DEALS WITH IMPORTANT ISSUES WITH COMING OUT: Polls show that the biggest supporters of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender rights are those who know LGBT people. So do your part on this National Coming Out Day.

COMING OUT: A DOMINO GAME....By Joe Solmonese, president Human Rights Campaign, Oct 10, 2005

Having flown on more than 60 planes in the last six months, I've had my share of conversations with strangers. You've been there too. Even if you have an aversion to flying, you've faced this situation in the doctor's office or on a train. You're sitting next to a woman who reminds you of your grandmother, and you're chatting about the best Italian restaurants in Boston. She says you're cute, seeming to restrain herself from pinching your cheek, and remarks about your "lucky wife." All of a sudden you go from friendly chitchat to a serious personal conversation. That is, if you decide to be honest. Too often we aren't. We tell half-truths, "Oh, I'm not married." We're human. We worry about being liked. We don't want the grandmotherly conversation to take a turn to a lecture. But here's why we should risk it. Talking about our lives lays the foundation for equality. Imagine that woman next to you on the plane

people on TV, and she thinks her neighbor's son is gay. But she's never had a conversation about gay issues with anybody gay, much less someone with whom she's already struck up a friendly conversation. You're starting on good ground. And even if you never see the payoff down the road, it will happen. Polls show that the biggest supporters of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender rights are those who know LGBT people. Coming out isn't just for LGBT people either.... Coming out has a domino effect that doesn't stop with straight people. Coming out can go all the way from the chat between airplane passengers to the inside of the voting booth on Election Day. On this National Coming Out Day, make a commitment to yourself to talk about it, every day. And before the year is out, talk about it to one friend, one family member, one coworker, and one neighbor on the plane before National Coming Out Day 2006. Just think of where the last domino could fall.

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

Our Chapter has again been 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 15th through the 18th. Our tree will use a Harry Potter theme this year. We will discuss the tree decorating dates and location at the next Chapter meeting.

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 1-866 488-7386 (lines are open 24 hours a day, every day). The Trevor Helpline is a phone bank staffed by trained counselors willing to help those in crisis, or those wanting information on how to help someone in crisis. The call is free and won't appear on your phone bill.

OUR PFLAG CHAPTER WILL FILL AND DONATE A RAINBOW POT FOR THE BREAKING BOUNDARIES SILENT AUCTION (December 2nd & 3rd)

Barb Condon has volunteered to fill a large clay flower pot, painted in rainbow colors, with items having a rainbow theme. The filled "Rainbow Pot" will be donated for the Aids Awareness Benefit silent auction, to be held at the ARTI theater December 2nd & 3rd, in Idaho Falls. If you have items to donate please bring to the October Chapter meeting or call Wayne or Cherie at 208-522-6699.

**REMEMBER YOU ARE NOT ALONE
AND
WHEN YOU NO LONGER NEED PFLAG
PFLAG NEEDS YOU!**

to Boston. In the fall of 2008, Massachusetts voters could be asked whether they want to put marriage discrimination in the state constitution. She's one of those voters. She doesn't know anybody gay (or know that she knows anybody gay). Sure, she's seen gay

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