



## Don't Forget

Our meetings are the 4th Monday of the month, therefore, it is **October 22**, NOT October 29.

# VOTE: NOVEMBER 6, 2012

## OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

As part of The Women's Resource Center at The LGBT Center, The Imperial Court de San Diego and The Center established The Toni Atkins Lesbian Health Fund. The purpose is to assist low-income and uninsured lesbian, bisexual and trans-

gender women access necessary health care resources, with a major emphasis on free mammograms.



## GLISTEN WITH GLSEN

Please join us for our General Meeting on Monday, **October 22** at 7:00 pm at the First United Methodist Church, 2231 Camino del Rio South in Mission Valley. The building where we meet is The United Methodist Center, in The Cove Room. Doors open at 6:45 pm.

We are pleased to have one of our very own board members, Nikki Eddy, speak. She'll be wearing a different hat as she represents GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network). Some of Nikki's students from the GSA will also participate. Mission Statement: GLSEN strives to assure that

each member of every school community is valued and respected regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression.

The chapter in San Diego is very active. Their Jump-Start Team organizes educational programs and actions in the community to promote inclusion, safety, and respect for LGBTQ students and their allies. In addition, there is a "Think Before You Speak" Campaign; GLSEN will share the particulars.

Please join us for our support groups, then our cookie social, followed by our program.

## DOLORES LESNICK REMEMBERED

We were sad to learn of the passing of past PFLAG President, Dolores Lesnick. Dolores was President from 1999-2001. She was such an effective advocate and speaker, that on January 28, 2002, San Diego City Council proclaimed that day to be "Dolores Lesnick Day." Her brief words at the meeting were, "We at PFLAG truly have 'an Agenda,' and we're actively implementing it. It's an agenda to SUPPORT, EDUCATE and ADVOCATE - which is our mission statement. We support parents, family and friends of GLBT and the GLBT individuals themselves who come to our organization. We do this on a one-to-one basis in person and by phone and in our support groups."

In 2001, the City Council was discussing redistricting and how District 3 (Hillcrest is in District 3) was to be torn apart in an unjust way. Dolores was not taking it lightly. She went to the Redistricting Commission meeting and spoke, "I live in District 1, but my heart is in Hillcrest because I have a lesbian daughter and when you have a gay child, all gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and trans-gendered individuals are your children. I am the president of PFLAG, that's Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians, Gays, Bi-sexual, and Trans-gendered Individuals. We are the largest non-gay, gay activist organization and we love our GLBT children the way they are, valuable human beings. We want them to

continue to have a voice in the government of the city. I am also a member of Mayor Murphy's GLBT Advisory Board. Please don't pull apart the Third District, in which for ten years progress has been made for our GLBT community's interest. Please continue to allow my children's GLBT's voices to be heard. I have a newsletter I would like to hand out."

That was our Dolores.



Dolores (second from right) receiving her "Dolores Lesnick Day" certificate presented by then Councilperson Toni Atkins. Past mayor, Dick Murphy, looks on.

# OFFICERS, COMMITTEES & VOLUNTEERS

## Current Positions

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### Board Members

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# Current Events

**October 15  
Monday**  
Mi Familia Support Group

**October 19  
Friday**  
Spirit Day (see article)

**October 22  
Monday**  
San Diego PFLAG  
General Meeting &  
Support Groups

**October 22  
Monday**  
Mi Familia Support Group

**October 29  
Monday**  
Mi Familia Support Group

**November 1-9**  
Asian Film Festival (see article)

**November 5  
Monday**  
PFLAG Support Group  
North County Coastal

**November 5  
Monday**  
Mi Familia Support Group

**November 8  
Thursday**  
PFLAG Support Group  
North County Inland

**November 9  
Friday**  
LGBT Veteran's Wall of  
Honor Reception (see article)

**November 12  
Monday**  
PFLAG Support Group  
East County

**November 12  
Monday**  
Mi Familia Support Group

**November 19  
Monday**  
Mi Familia Support Group

**November 20  
Tuesday**  
Transgender Day of  
Remembrance  
(see article)

**November 20  
Tuesday**  
Mama's Pie in the Sky  
Deadline for ordering pies  
(see article)

# SUPPORT GROUPS

## SD COUNTY GENERAL MEETING & SUPPORT GROUP

Meets every fourth Monday at 7:00 pm, at the First United Methodist Church, 2231 Camino del Rio South in Mission Valley.

For further information, contact the Info Line: 888-398-0006 or [www.pflag.com](http://www.pflag.com)

## NORTH COUNTY COASTAL

Meets the first Monday, at 7:00 pm, North County LGBTQ Resource Center, 510 North Coast Highway, Suite C, Oceanside.

Contact [ncpflag@gmail.com](mailto:ncpflag@gmail.com) or  
Larry Gerling, (760) 224-2178.

## NORTH COUNTY INLAND

Meets every second Thursday, at 7:00 pm, Temple Adat Shalom, 15905 Pomerado Road, Room #9, Poway (Rancho Bernardo). The entrance to parking is directly across the street from the entrance to Sprouts' Market Center. Drive to the end of the building and bear right around it, to the first doors on your right (double doors).

Contact Sue Fine, (858) 673-4560 or  
[pflag4sdnocnty@san.rr.com](mailto:pflag4sdnocnty@san.rr.com).

## EAST COUNTY

Meets every second Monday, at 7:00 pm, Summit Unitarian Universalist Church, 8778 Cottonwood Avenue, Santee.

Contact Ron Goetz, (619) 588-2342 or  
[whytestonne@hotmail.com](mailto:whytestonne@hotmail.com).

## MI FAMILIA (Spanish)

Meetings are every Monday from 6:00pm - 8:00 pm at The Center.

Contact Carolina, (619) 692-2077 Ext. 116.

## TRANSGENDER SUPPORT

For more information on the Transgender Support Group

Contact Kathe Dunn, [ftm\\_mom@yahoo.com](mailto:ftm_mom@yahoo.com).

National PFLAG, Washington, DC  
(202) 647-8180, [www.pflag.org](http://www.pflag.org)

## MISSION STATEMENT

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

PFLAG provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

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[www.gsdba.org](http://www.gsdba.org)

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## SMALL IN NUMBER; MIGHTY IN SPIRIT

Once again, PFLAG San Diego helped The Center's HIV/AIDS fundraiser. Thank you to all who donated and walked: Patti Boman, Susan Boyle, Lonnie Brunini, Louie Chavez, Paula de Sousa, Marissa Guht, Bobbi Harwood, Sharon Kent, Lindy Miles, Arlene Prater, Karen Thompson, Mark Thompson, Sandi Timberlake, Phyllis Van Wanseele, Terrie Vorono, Courtney Ware and Sherry Cohen-Richards.



## A TRUE HONOREE

The LGBT Center (3909 Centre Street, Hillcrest) is hosting the LGBT Veteran's Wall of Honor reception on Friday, **November 9** from 6:00-7:00 pm. One of the inductees is Joseph Christopher Rocha who was one of our speakers a few year's ago. His story was very powerful as he spoke about the physical and psychological abuse he suffered in the Navy. However, this will be a joyous ceremony and we hope you can support Joseph as he receives this honor.

## PROUD OF ISAAC

Isaac Gomez has won the Jeanne Manford Scholarship that was awarded by PFLAG National.

As a transgender youth of color, activist, and leader, Isaac worked on numerous projects aimed at supporting the needs of other transgender youth of color. Isaac's initial advocacy started at speaking engagements, sharing his story and experiences. As he gained confidence, his advocacy work deepened. His family was invited to participate in the IV International Conference of Families for Sexual Diversity in Santiago, Chile. At the conference, participants were able to engage in meaningful conversation regarding LGBT issues throughout Latin America. Isaac's numerous awards for

his anti-bullying work include the Emergent Leader of the Year presented at the HONOR Fund Luminaria Awards,



as well as the Heroes, Pioneers and Trailblazer Award and a Senate Certificate of Recognition presented by the Lambda Archives. Isaac was featured on the Dr. Oz Show to discuss his experiences as a transgender youth.

Isaac is currently at Stanford University and we, as part of his PFLAG family, are very proud of him.

## 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Every year on **November 20**, we gather to honor and remember those lost to hate crimes due to their gender identity at the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance. Starting at 6:00 pm, there will be a solemn march starting at The Center, 3909 Centre Street in Hillcrest. The march will be followed by a program in The Center's auditorium.

This year, the transgender flag will be flown at half staff in honor of all transgender murder victims.

The Transgender Day of Remembrance was set

aside to memorialize those who were killed for being transgender or perceived to be transgender or for being gender variant in any way. The event



is held in November to honor Rita Hester, whose murder on November 28, 1998, kicked off the "Remembering Our Dead" web project and a San Francisco candlelight vigil in 1999. Rita Hester's murder, like most anti-transgender murder cases, has yet to be solved.

## LET'S HEAR IT FOR BROWARD COUNTY (FLORIDA)

The Broward County School District, the sixth largest school district in the country, became the first in the nation to pass a board resolution proclaiming October as LGBT History Month.

The School District Board had a televised meeting with parents, LGBT students, community advocates, and elected officials speaking in favor of the resolution.

The speakers included two seniors from Hollywood High, both of whom had attended Equality Florida sponsored GSA Leadership Summits in the past. One student spoke of

physical and emotional bullying and how alone she felt coming out in high school. The other student, now captain of the football team and president of his school's GSA, said he knew at least thirty other people at his school who were gay but were afraid to come out in school, or at home for fear of rejection.

When the resolution passed, "the crowd went crazy."

In the September newsletter, we mentioned that October is LGBT History Month. For more info: [www.lgbthistorymonth.com](http://www.lgbthistorymonth.com).

## GLSEN ANNUAL LASAGNA DINNER FUNDRAISER

**October 18** at 6:00 at The Big Kitchen, 3003 Grape Street in South Park.  
Send checks (\$16 each) to: GLSEN, POB 632922, San Diego 92163

## ON DAY ONE

The Supreme Court reconvened on October 1 after their summer recess. One of their first orders of business was the decision that they will not hear an appeal from the National Organization for Marriage (NOM), which has been trying to avoid disclosing the donors of its 2009 effort to repeal Maine's marriage equality law.

Voters repealed the law after NOM gave \$1.9 million to a political action committee that opposed the law. The state mandates all

groups that raise or spend more than \$5,000 on election campaigning to register and disclose donors. However, NOM argues that disclosing its donors' names and contact information would put the supporters in danger.

The list remains confidential, but may be made public since the Supreme Court has decided not to hear the case, letting stand an appeals court ruling that NOM should disclose the donors.

Time will tell.

## NEW PFLAG WEBSITE

Please take a moment to visit our updated and more functional web site. Our newest feature is PAY PAL so don't hesitate to pay your dues online now!

A huge thank you to our Web Master, Rob Sachristan.

## KUDOS TO GOVERNOR BROWN

Our LGBT community in San Diego applauds Governor Jerry Brown's signing of SB 1172, which will help protect LGBT youth from dangerous and abusive so-called "conversion therapies" by state-licensed mental health professionals.

The California State Legislature's passing of this bill, and Governor Brown's signing, sends a clear and powerful message to LGBT youth and their families - that the laws of our state will protect them from pseudo-science and abusive practices.

## SPIRIT DAY

On **October 19**, millions of people will wear purple for Spirit Day as they stand against bullying and show their support for LGBT youth. GLAAD (Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) is the proud sponsor; however, the movement began in 2010 by a high school student, Brittany McMillan; that year there were many cries by teenagers but they were heard way too late. In honor of their loss, Brittany encouraged her friends to wear purple on a day in

Governor Brown's statement to the *San Francisco Chronicle* after the signing, conveyed the importance of this bill, as well as the costs of these abusive therapeutic practices. "This bill bans non-scientific 'therapies' that have driven young people to depression and suicide. These practices have no basis in science or medicine and they will now be relegated to the dustbin of quackery."

October - a day that came to be known as Spirit Day. Since then, GLAAD has helped turn Spirit Day into a global event that inspires millions of individuals, celebrities, TV personalities, media outlets, companies, and schools to wear purple in a stand against bullying.

Besides the likes of Ellen and Oprah, occupants of the White House were also wearing purple to support LGBT youth.

## 13TH ANNUAL ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL

The film festival takes place at various venues in San Diego from **November 1-9**. There are over 100 films spanning more than 20 countries.

As PFLAG San Diego does every year, we are co-presenting one of the LGBT evenings. The film is *Queer 2.0* and will be shown on Saturday, **November 3** at 7:00 pm. Only a short synopsis is available: From online angst to fantasy females, the latest version of queer life is more complex than ever.

Please email Bobbi Harwood if you are interested in getting free tickets (there's a limited number): [bharwood@pflag.com](mailto:bharwood@pflag.com). If you take tickets, please use them. For a list of other films, go to <http://festival.sdaff.org/2012>.

MOVING PICTURES. MOVING MINDS



THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL  
SAN DIEGO ASIAN  
FILM FESTIVAL  
NOVEMBER 1-9, 2012

## THANK YOU!

Thanks to all who attended the **Remember Matthew Shepard Candlelight Walk** held on October 9. A big thank you to Courtney Ware, one of the organizers.



## MAMA'S (KITCHEN) 8TH ANNUAL PIE IN THE SKY

Mama's *Pie in the Sky* is a bake sale fundraising program that benefits Mama's Kitchen—San Diego's only free, county-wide home-delivered meals program for individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS or cancer. Each pie sold provides more than six home-delivered meals to these clients. You can buy pies from now until **November 20**. Each pie is \$20 and \$15 of that is tax-deductible – definitely a win-win. Your choices are: apple, pecan, pumpkin, and sugar-free apple.

Purchasing is as simple as pie! You can order directly online: [www.mamaspies.org](http://www.mamaspies.org) or call 619-233-6262. On **November 21** (the day before Thanksgiving so you don't have to bake), there are pick up locations all over San Diego for your convenience.

## NEXT IN LINE

The recipient of the John McCusker Memorial Scholarship at the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation is **Danielle Bauer** (she will also answer to DB). This scholarship is provided through the family and friends of John McCusker to memorialize him as a business person, community leader, and Vice-President of the Foundation.

We were honored to have Kay Chandler, President of the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation, discuss the Foundation.

Danielle will graduate from San Diego State University in 2013, with a Master's Degree in Women's Studies. The scholarship committee's interest was piqued by Danielle's thesis, that, in part said the social prominence of GLBTQs has a downside, in that it can distract from the reality of lack of civil rights for GLBTQs. Her essay exposed some of the committee members to this current theory; elaborated for us by committee member and Women's Studies Master's candidate, Hilary Flocke. The committee was further impressed when her letter of recommendation stated that "Ms Bauer is the single finest graduate student (the writer had) in 28 years of university teaching." Ms Bauer is thrilled to currently be teaching Women's Studies at SDSU and is proud of her ability to transfer complex, difficult ideas into public empowerment. When recently asked how the teaching is going, she replied, "The semester is going very, very well. I am so happy and grateful to do what I love doing. Teaching is really such a great way to create awareness about LGBTQ issues.

Her not so secret "secret" is that Danielle admits to being torn between the fascination for Lady Gaga and Star Trek.

"After decades of fighting for visibility within the public arena, LGBT populations have carved out social space for recognition. We see elements of LGBT culture and identities played out on multiple social spaces, including popular culture, politics, and activist work. My worry, however, is that despite a growing presence within the public psyche, LGBT populations will lose a sense of shared community that has celebrated our diversity in the face of homophobia and oppression for decades.

One major obstacle facing LGBT populations is that media and marketing representation may look like social progress, yet civil rights are continually denied. As RuPaul's drag queens strut their stuff on national television, Ellen



DeGeneres makes America laugh, and Chaz Bono brings transgender awareness to *Dancing with the Stars*, LGBT populations face extreme amounts of political and social oppression and violence. Also, this exposure erases the fact that being part of the LGBT community still today can be emotionally-wrought. LGBT youth are continuing to commit suicide and face bullying. Coming out can still mean losing one's family, friends, and security. Although Stonewall seems like a distant memory, we are still deeply emerged in political and emotional struggles.

As a community, we must look at the ways LGBT identities are being co-opted into mainstream media, while politics deny equal rights to public safety, marriage, health care, career opportunities, and overall mental, physical, and emotional well-being. Civil rights do not mean assimilating tidily into heterosexist culture, but demanding rights for our diverse communities. We must also prevent isolation for people experiencing homophobia, where coming out and being out is a struggle for many.

My scholarship focuses on how LGBT cultures are co-opted by mainstream media without combating homophobia. I devote my academic work to highlighting the diverse peoples that constitute LGBT communities, while promoting cultural awareness of class, race, ethnicity, geographic location, and other issues that shape LGBT lives. My ultimate goal is to teach these issues at the university level. I will bring this sentiment to the college classroom, campus, and my research. Our LGBT diverse cultures should be celebrated, not homogenized or erased."



## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA - BEWARE

In July, the Boy Scouts of America re-affirmed their position that they will uphold the organization's ban that prevents gay people from being members of the organization, after concluding a confidential two-year review.

An 11-member committee formed in 2010 unanimously agreed to uphold a ban that prevents "open or avowed" gay people from being part of the youth organization. In addition to anyone who is gay, atheists also cannot be part of the BSA.

According to the BSA, the organization is meant "to provide an educational program for boys and young adults to build character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop personal fitness" Somehow the first two are oxymorons (emphasis on the moron part). They are also hypocritical in their Scout Law which demands bravery, loyalty and kindness.

In last month's newsletter, in the article *My Two Moms*, Zach Wahls had the opportunity to speak at a benefit for "Scouts for Equality." It was, again, to call attention to the BSA's policies

that they are sending the wrong message to children.

Actions speak louder than words. The BSA's biggest donor was Intel (a yearly figure of approximately \$700,000). After Wahl gathered more than 30,000 signatures on a Change.org petition, Intel announced that they would no longer donate money to the BSA. Next on his target list is UPS. UPS said that BSA's discriminatory policy would not impact its donations to the Boy Scouts, which is around \$167,000/year. It's ironic that UPS has a 100% rating on the Human Rights Campaign's Corporate Equality Index. Wahl is trying to appeal to UPS's conscience. He wrote a letter to UPS Foundation President Eduardo Martinez who also serves as the chair of the Corporate Development Council for the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts and is a board member for The Metro Atlanta YMCA. Each of those organizations embraces LGBT youth and leaders. If all else fails, it's time for another petition.

***The Pledge of Allegiance says 'liberty and justice for all'.  
Which part of 'all' don't you understand? — Pat Schroeder***

## WHAT'S WRONG WITH THESE "KIDS?"

Many students at the University of Virginia think it's down right funny to insert the word "not" before the word "gay" (meaning "happy") in the school's song ("Good Ol' Song"), which is performed at athletic events.

The Student Council has unanimously passed a resolution to bar co-eds from inserting the word, but previous calls to change the practice have fallen on deaf ears.

Now, there should be no more deaf ears. "Using the proposed resolution, the Council seeks to take a stand against the chanting of the unscripted phrase -- a phrase that members see as contrary to the safe and welcoming environment the university seeks to provide to all its students. Council members said they hoped the legislation would be a step toward

ending disrespectful or derogatory acts toward LGBTQ communities and supporters."

Though some students questioned how effective the ban could be, others praised the move. A lengthy article appeared in the student newspaper. As a staff member wrote, "The phrase ostracizes students, embarrasses the school and is downright oppressive whether blared by hundreds or just a few. The expression is factually, morally and in all senses wrong; it's been a burden for both the chanters and listeners...The people still shouting 'not gay' should realize the weight of a slur. We will just ask they think a little harder before saying it next time — there's no need to yell."

Stayed tuned on this one.

## OCTOBER IS LGBT HISTORY MONTH

This year's list of Icons, who will be featured as part of LGBT History Month, include entertainers, designers, authors, people in government, athletes, educators, and the list goes on. Each day in October, one of the Icons is featured with a video, biography, bibliography, and downloadable images. The resources will be available at [www.lgbtHistoryMonth.com](http://www.lgbtHistoryMonth.com).

The purpose is to provide inspiring role models since LGBT is the only community not taught its history in public schools or religious institutions. LGBT History Month enhances self-esteem and makes a civil rights statement of the LGBT community's impressive national and international contributions.



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## THANK YOU TO & FROM PFLAG

PFLAG San Diego made a donation to Trans Nation  
for the creation of a San Diego transgender flag.

Providing Refreshments for Our Meeting

Patti Boman  
Terrie Vorono



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**—Gore Vidal**



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