



**PFLAGSD**  
Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays | San Diego County

ISSUE / VOLUME

**08 17**

AUGUST 2010  
www.pflag.com  
info@pflag.com

## THE GOOD 'OLE SUMMERTIME

Please remember that our meeting is the 4th Monday of the month so see you on August 23, NOT August 30.

### PLEASE JOIN OUR MEETING

Please join us for our General Meeting on Monday, August 23 at 7:00 pm for our annual potluck, summer picnic. We will not have a speaker this month so that we can share a meal together and enjoy each others' company. It's a great time to get to know one another. We will have our picnic at 7:00 pm and our support groups at 8:00 pm.

Continued page 5

## OFFICERS, COMMITTEES & VOLUNTEERS

### Current Positions

#### Co-Presidents

**Patti Boman**  
(619) 227-6092  
pboman@pflag.com

#### Barbara Bodine

619-651-1726  
bbodine@pflag.com

#### Past President

**Karen Thompson**  
858-842-7005  
kthompson@pflag.com

#### Vice-President

**Sherry Cohen-Richards**  
858-292-7111  
scohenrichards@pflag.com

#### Recording Secretary

**Olivia Dorman**  
619-469-1924  
odorman@pflag.com

#### Corresponding Secretary

**Phyllis Van Wanseele**  
619-443-6132  
pvanwanseele@pflag.com

#### Treasurer

**Mark Thompson**  
619-339-5843  
mthompson@pflag.com

#### Greeter

**Lonnie Brunini**  
lbrunini@pflag.com

#### Membership

**Bobbi Harwood**  
858-453-3249  
bharwood@pflag.com

#### Info Line

**Support/Outreach**  
Barbara Bodine  
888-398-0006

#### Newsletter

Sherry Cohen-Richards,  
*Editor*  
Linda Bessemer, Laura  
Partido & Flowers Group  
Printing

#### Library

Terrie Vorono  
tvorono@pflag.com

#### Programs

Karen Thompson

#### Scholarship

Olivia Dorman

#### Spanish Interpreter

Maria Cortinas  
760-758-3294

#### Speakers' Bureau

Terrie Vorono  
tvorono@pflag.com  
858-483-8310

#### Transgender Coordinator

Evelyn Lindenmuth  
619-300-0396

#### Refreshments

Phyllis Van Wanseele

#### Website

Robert Sachristan  
admin@pflag.com

#### Board Members

Patti Boman, Barbara  
Bodine, Karen Thompson,  
Sherry Cohen-Richards,  
Olivia Dorman, Phyllis Van  
Wanseele, Mark Thompson,  
Ron Goetz, Terrie Vorono,  
Sandi Timberlake

#### PFLAG San Diego

PO Box 82762  
San Diego, CA 92138  
Tax ID #33-0512868



## Membership Application

- New  Renewal  Change of Address  
 Please contact me for volunteer opportunities

Confidentiality is respected. Your donation is tax deductible (Tax ID 33-05-12868)

Make checks payable to:

PFLAG San Diego,  
PO Box 82762,  
San Diego, CA 92138

### Type of Membership

- Individual ..... \$25  Household ..... \$35  
 Business ..... \$40  Supporting ..... \$50  
 Contributing ..... \$100  Lifetime ..... \$1000  
 Other ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Accept my donation, please do not list.

Please fill out, clip and mail this form

Name.....

Address.....

City.....

State.....ZIP.....

Email.....

Phone.....Date.....



or go online [www.pflag.com](http://www.pflag.com)

Membership forms available at [www.pflag.com](http://www.pflag.com)



## GET YOUR PRIDE GEAR

Visit our online store & show your support, purchase from PFLAG.

<http://www.cafepress.com/pflagsd>



Robert Sachristan **CreativeWorks**  
Graphic Design  
619 630 - 0498

# Current Events

**August 16**  
**Monday**  
Mi Familia Support Group

**September 13**  
**Monday**  
PFLAG Support Group East County

**August 21**  
**Saturday**  
South Bay Pride (see article)

**September 13**  
**Monday**  
PFLAG Support Group North County Inland

**August 22**  
**Sunday**  
PFLAG Support Group North County Coastal

**August 22**  
**Sunday**  
PFLAG Support Group South Bay

**August 23**  
**Monday**  
San Diego PFLAG General Meeting

## 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.

*Luan D. Andrews, M.A.*

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST  
MFC 19321

3252 HOLIDAY COURT • SUITE 106 • LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA 92037-1807  
(858) 552-8181 FAX (858) 552-0205

# SUPPORT GROUPS

## NORTH COUNTY COASTAL

Meets every fourth Sunday, at 2:00 pm, Pilgrim United Church of Christ, Pilgrim Hall, 2020 Chestnut, Carlsbad.

**Contact Larry Gerling, (760) 224-2178.**

## NORTH COUNTY INLAND

Meets every second Monday, at 7:00 pm, Ciao Bella Hair Salon building, 12160 Alta Carmel Court, Rancho Bernardo. This is a new night, time, and place. If you need directions, go to [www.ciaobellainc.com](http://www.ciaobellainc.com).

**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 the first and third Monday of the month 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).**

## SOUTH BAY

Meets every fourth Sunday, at 1:00 pm, Unitarian Universalists of the South Bay, 970 Broadway, Chula Vista

**Contact Martha Cardenas, (619) 947-4612 or [mar@FirstUUSanDiego.org](mailto:mar@FirstUUSanDiego.org)**

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

## SOUTH BAY PRIDE



South Bay Alliance is again hosting South Bay Pride on August 21 from noon-7:00 pm. All details are on the flyer below. What many people don't know is, years ago this event was called Gay Day in South Bay and was akin to a family picnic. It's appropriate to say, "You've come a long way, baby!" ("Has llegado muy lejos baby") Now there is live entertainment, food booths, and organizations at this big event. As we have in the past, PFLAG-San Diego will have a booth. The event is free, come join us.

South Bay Pride is held at Chula Vista's Memorial Park, located at 351 Park Way between 3rd and 4th Avenues, just north of "H" Street. Look for the 3rd Avenue sign. It is directly in front of the Memorial Park. For free parking, turn into the lane in front of Fuddruckers. At the end of the drive is a covered parking area open to the public.



# What's Happening!

## 21ST ANNUAL AIDS WALK SAN DIEGO



Get geared up to walk with PFLAG on Sunday, **September 26**. AIDS Walk San Diego is San Diego's largest one-day HIV/AIDS fundraiser and the biggest non-governmental financial provider for HIV/AIDS in San Diego County. Dozens of agencies - serving thousands of clients - rely on funds raised at the annual Walk to help provide essential prevention and care programs to thousands of men, women and children living with HIV/AIDS.

The **5K Walk** (or 10K run) is held in Balboa Park at

Quince and 6th Avenue starting at 8:00 am. The registration fee is \$35 (\$25 for 17 & under and 60+). If we have 10 or more walkers registered by **September 17**, we will qualify as Team PFLAG and be able to walk with the prestigious sneaker sign with our PFLAG name on it. It truly is a badge of honor; the first year PFLAG



walked, we didn't have enough team members to qualify.

Not to put pressure on you or lay any kind of guilt trip on you, but as of this writing, there are only four (count them, 4) people registered to walk. We need your sup-

port. To participate, go to [www.AIDSwalksd.org](http://www.AIDSwalksd.org) and select Event Information on the left hand side, then Teams, also on the left side. Scroll down to 2010 AIDS Walk and Run Teams, select it and then scroll down to PFLAG—San Diego. Click on PFLAG—San Diego, then Join Our Team and follow the instructions.

Even if you can't walk with us, please register so we can meet our 10 person and

financial goals (\$1000).

If you don't have internet, call 619-291-9255, ext. 1 (Ian Johnson) to participate. For questions, please contact Sherry Cohen-Richards, 858-292-7111 or [scohenrichards@pflag.com](mailto:scohenrichards@pflag.com).

## CONSTANCE UPDATE PART V



In the last four newsletters, we reported on **Constance McMillen, 18**, who was barred from taking her girlfriend to her prom and wearing a tuxedo at Itawamba Agricultural High School in Fulton, Mississippi. The ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) sued on

Constance's behalf and **we have a winner!** Constance will be receiving \$35,000 plus attorney fees from Itawamba County School District, where she was so cruelly denied the chance to attend her prom with her girlfriend. The school will be instituting a brand-new policy that bans discrimi-

judy Briggs

### ARTIST

Portraits    Pets    Landscapes    Abstracts

858 210 2555

[j@masqueradecrafts.com](mailto:j@masqueradecrafts.com)

**Show your support. Buy ad space!**

## FROM THE COVER

Bring any type of dish you'd like to share, enough for 10 people (main dish, salad, appetizer, side dish, casserole or dessert), and PFLAG will provide the beverages.

Hope to see you there with your appetites!

Reminder that we are back at the First United Methodist Church, 2231 Camino del Rio South in Mission Valley.

## SCHOLARSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

The Scholarship Committee did not waste any time getting the **2011** scholarship form on our web site.

"Ah, but I digress." Getting back to the **2010** scholarships, this month, we are featuring Paul Tran.

**Paul Tran** is the recipient of the **Stephen G. Bow-ersox Memorial Scholarship**. This is the third year Stephen's parents, Jim and Donna, have awarded this scholarship in Stephen's memory. Stephen was a past winner of a PFLAG scholarship and, sadly, he passed away much too young.

Paul recently graduated from The Preuss School UCSD and will continue his education at Brown University. We are pleased to present Paul's essay:

*"I grew up on El Cajon Bou-*



*levard in the City Heights neighborhood of San Diego. Here, the streets are wide, carved up by gangs and prostitutes, and serve as my daily reminder that I must sacrifice all that I can to be the first in my family to go to college. Growing up, I watched my world cave in as my mother struggled to support me and our family in Vietnam with the meager income she made as a seamstress, working 10-hour days hemming pants and embroidering lions on Irish dancing dresses. She was a single-parent, raising me on her own after my dad, an alcoholic who physically abused us, left in 1999.*

*At night, I would watch her work, listening to her stories of coming to America as a Vietnamese refugee in 1989. Not only did she teach me the value of freedom, but she instilled within me the courage to rise above the hardships we faced and to stand in my truth as a gay man.*

*My pursuit of higher education took me out of City Heights and led me to The Preuss School UCSD, a 6-12 grade charter school for low-income, first generation university-bound students. Although it was not initially easy to swallow the condemnation I faced as a result of my sexual orientation, I had teachers who cared about me, friends who had expectations for me, and a community of other LGBT students and allies to turn to for support.*

*Exhausting all of the opportunities at Preuss, I became an*

Constance did is to have Congress pass the Student Non-Discrimination Act and Safe Schools Act, prohibiting discrimination and bullying in high schools nationwide.

The ACLU of San Diego invited Constance to San Diego for the Pride festivities. She was made one of the marshals in our Pride Parade. □



*Constance McMillen and her dad, who has fully supported her through her ordeal*

nation based on gender identity or sexual orientation, although they said one was already in place. Who knew?

Essentially, this is the school saying: We were really, really, wrong. So wrong, we're going to create a policy banning ourselves and everyone else from discriminating in exactly the manner we did. Constance has made a tangible difference in the school she attended, but also one that will help many future students.

However, the only thing that will truly make sure that future LGBT youth don't have to undergo what

## TARGET TARGET

Gay rights activists and loyal Target shoppers are furious with Target after it contributed \$150,000 to Minnesota Forward, a political group that has endorsed and is paying for ads for Minnesota Republican gubernatorial candidate, Tom Emmer.

Plain and simple, Emmer is against same-sex marriage (as noted on his website where he defines marriage as a "union between one man and one woman"). That, however, is not the worst of it.

He has come under fire for his \$250 contribution to the Christian rock band, "You Can Run But You Cannot Hide." Band member, Bradlee Dean has reportedly said that support execution of gays are "more moral than even the American Christians." Knowing this, Emmer told the Minnesota Star Tribune that "These are nice people. Are we going to agree on everything? No. I really appreciate their passion and — you know what — I respect their point of view."

Target is not the only company coming under attack for making corporate donations. Best Buy also donated \$100,000 to Emmer's campaign, drawing harsh criticism from Human Rights Campaign, among others. Both companies are based on Minnesota.

Many PFLAGers love and support their children and the gay community. Some don't consider themselves activists. But when we all ban together and boycott Target and Best Buy, we show solidarity and we do make a difference.

Continued on page 6

## VICTORY-PROP 8 OVERTURNED

August 4 was a wonderful day for the entire U.S. LGBT community. Federal Judge Vaughn Walker struck down a ban on same-sex marriage. Although it won't be a complete victory until the appeals are complete, this is the closest the nation has come to allow same-sex marriage everywhere/anywhere in the U.S. in a nutshell, judge walker ruled that the voter-approved ban, proposition 8, violates due process and equal-protection rights under the U.S. Constitution.

Judge walker wrote, "moral disapproval alone is an improper basis on which to deny rights to gay men and lesbians. The evidence shows conclusively that proposition 8 enacts, without reason, a private moral view that same-sex couples are inferior to opposite-sex couples." At the conclusion of his 136 page opinion, he added, "proposition 8 fails to advance any rational basis in singling out gay men and lesbians for denial of a marriage license."

In celebration of this victory, the LGBT center pre-organized a march and rally the same day as the announcement. There were plenty of horns honking to acknowledge the walkers who came armed with posters, banners, rainbow flags, and cheering voices. The march concluded at the center with a champagne toast and speakers to acknowledge the victory. The "house" erupted when Mayor Jerry Sanders was

Con't on page 7

## SCHOLARSHIP HIGHLIGHTS (CON'T)

*active leader in organizations on and off campus, pursued biomedical internships at the National Institutes of Health, and worked with my local policymakers to campaign for civil rights, education reform, and STEM legislation such as the National Competitiveness Investment Act (2006) and America COMPETES Act (2007).*

*From these experiences, I recognized the deep-seated prejudice that kids like me faced and discovered my conviction to pursue a career in public policy, championing civil rights legislation and*

*education reform policy.*

*Coming from a family that makes under \$15,122 a year, my dream of college has long seemed impossible. But, with the San Diego PFLAG Scholarship, I will be able to not only realize my dream of bring the first in my family to go to college, but to blaze a trail for other LGBT students in my community as a future politician. As a witness to the society's persecution of racial, sexual, and socioeconomic minorities, I am determined to use the force of my college education to fight injustice.*

*With the PFLAG San Diego Scholarship, I will ultimately be able to support my family, change my life, and transform*

*the streets of City Heights, showing my community that: history is not written by the victors or the vanquished—it is written by those with the conviction to prove that nothing is impossible.*

*As an LGBT student, I deserve this scholarship because of my triumph over adversity, leadership, and unshakable commitment to disadvantaged students and to the LGBT community. In 2005, with the help of my friends and teachers at Preuss, I co founded Building Understanding and Determination in Developing Youth (BUDDY), a nationally recognized peer mentorship program, to support disadvantaged youth overcome the*

## SAN DIEGO 2010 GAY PRIDE PARADE



stigma of being racial, sexual, and socioeconomic minorities.

For the past six years, BUDDY has reached 5000 inner-city students across San Diego and initiated over 4500 hours of service and dialogue. By mentoring students after school at Preuss, tutoring at-risk youth at Saturday Enrichment Academy, running workshops at public libraries, facilitating computer literacy tutorials at Boys and Girls Clubs, partnering with community organizations like Reality Changers and Club eXcel, and working with 21+ high schools to plan county-wide service projects, BUDDY has brought disadvantaged youth, especially LGBT youth,

out of the shadows and created a safe space in my school and community for kids to liberate themselves, talk openly about the struggles they face without fear of persecution, and access opportunities not available in their neighborhoods.

In pioneering BUDDY, I wanted to empower the youth to stand in their truth, celebrate their authenticity, and realize that they had a community of leaders, allies, and friends to appropriate as their own—something I felt bereft of growing up.

Not only have I served 900+ hours mentoring students through BUDDY, but I have gained the support of policy-

makers like Congresswoman Susan Davis, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Conner and fundraised over \$23,500 to support youth programs that also serve to empower students who are racial, sexual, and socioeconomic minorities. With the PFLAG San Diego Scholarship, I will not only bring my goal of being the first in my family to go to college to life, but continue to break the glass ceiling for other disadvantaged and LGBT students in my community.”

## VICTORY-PROP 8 OVERTURNED

introduced. Mayor Sanders testified at the trial with his daughter, Lisa. Californians appreciated the heartfelt testimony that helped the case tremendously. Interestingly enough, the Mayor said there were two people who influenced his change of heart on marriage equality back in 2007: Toni Atkins, who was the District 3 Councilmember at the time, and his wife, Rana Sampson.

Other speakers included San Diego/Imperial County ACLU Executive Director, Kevin Keenan and Canon Albert Ogle from St. Paul’s Cathedral.

According to the San Diego Union Tribune, there were people 1500 people in attendance between the march and rally. A couple of us pflagers cornered the Mayor and his family for the photo below: l to r: Sherry Cohen-Richards, Sue Johnson, Patti Boman, Lisa Sanders and wife Meaghan Yapple, Mayor Jerry Sanders.

Unfortunately, the mayor’s wife, Rana Sampson, was cut off, but she was there! Also from pflag were Joan Crawford and Judy Hyde who were helping with the center duties.



## PFLAG TEE SHIRTS FOR SALE

Okay, folks, we are down to our last three PFLAGSD t-shirts. There are two medium sizes and one XL left. If you would like one, please call Sherry at 858-292-7111 or email scohenrichards@pflag.com. The highly suggested donation is \$15.00.



## PFLAG THANKS YOU FOR YOUR EXTRA HELP!

### Supporting Memberships

Jill Dempsey  
Jerry & Margaret Miles

### Donations to General Fund

Louise McWhorter  
Jane Gutierrez  
Judy Hyde  
Sandi Timberlake  
Mary Thomas

### Providing Refreshments for our Meeting

Lulu Martin

### Parade/Festival Thanks

The running around like pants were on fire to get things done awards go to Patti Boman and Karen Thompson. The amount of work

these women did to bring the Parade together was incredible. Every year, Bobbi Harwood buys our merchandise for the festival, is responsible for booth set up/take down, is the treasurer for the weekend, and is in charge of staffing the booth. She has done this year after year without the proper thanks; we are taking the opportunity to acknowledge Bobbi now and say THANK YOU. Other thanks go to Alan & Cheryl Goldbarg and Mariana Almaraz for getting to the Parade VERY early in the morning to decorate their vehicles and for allowing them to be in the Parade. Last, but certainly not least, a thank you to

our PFLAGers and friends who volunteered to set up and staff the booth at the Pride Festival: Sue, Tom & Greg Johnson, Judy Hyde, Lindy & Rick Miles, Karen Thompson, Sandi Timberlake, Wayne Walker, Mary Thomas, Lulu Martin, Lonnie Brunini, Louie Chavez, Patti Boman, Jeannie Ross, Cheryl & Alan Goldbarg, Garrett Reid, Mick Donahue, and Sherry Cohen-Richards. You all helped inform people about PFLAG and increased our visibility in the community.



## Psychotherapy for

### Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Children...

Coming out • School safety • Self-Acceptance  
Self-Esteem • Parent-Child Communications • Siblings

### ... and their Parents

Crisis Counseling • Religious Issues • Telling Friends & Family  
Safety Concerns • Grief & Loss • Depression n Anxiety

All Services are Completely Confidential

**Stephen White, Psy.D.**

Clinical Psychologist PSY 20739

16496 Bernardo Center Drive, Suite 307 San Diego CA 92128

(619) 922-1579

swhite@the-rainbow-connection.org

