

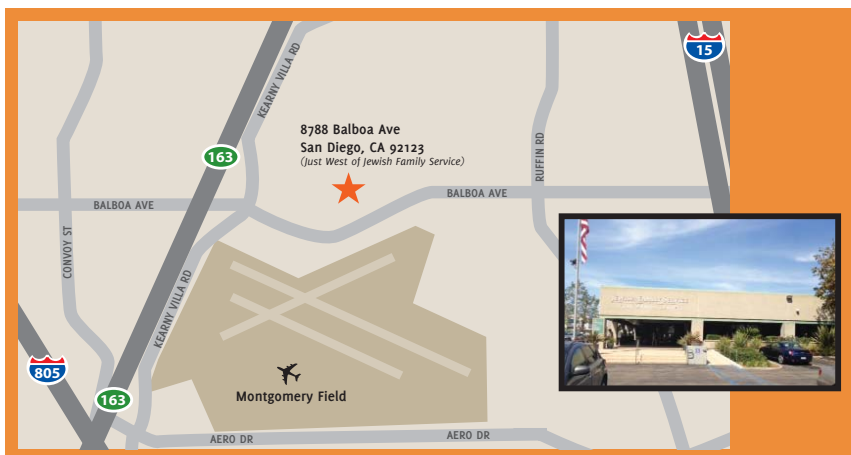
WE'VE MOVED

Our new location: Jewish Family Service (JFS), 8804 Balboa Avenue, San Diego. The building we are meeting in is next to 8804 (west of it), but the address may not be clearly visible from the street (8788 Balboa Avenue). There will be balloons, signs and people directing you for the first couple of meetings. Please allow enough driving time to get to the meeting.

NOTE: Traveling east from 163 or I-805, you cannot turn left into their driveway, as there is an island in the street. When you see 94th Aero Squadron Restaurant on your right, go to the first LEGAL U-turn (at

Coleman University) and loop around to get to JFS.

Directions: **I-15** - exit at Balboa Avenue and go west (if taking I-15 from the north, stay on I-15 rather than merging onto Route 163). When you pass Coleman University on your right, you only have a short distance to go. **Route 163** from the south, exit at Balboa Avenue, turn left onto Kearny Villa Road, and a right at the first traffic light onto Balboa Avenue. Follow directions above regarding the U-turn. **I-805** – same directions for Route 163. When you cross 163, you're almost there.



HECTOR, Y.E.S.

Come and celebrate our new location at our general meeting on **Monday, March 24 at 7:00 pm.** Our guest speaker is Hector Martinez, Community Outreach Coordinator, Breaking Down Barriers - LGBTQ Communities at Mental Health America of San Diego County. It's not surprising that he is a teacher who pushes for social and emotional wellness for all. In addition, Hector is also a co-producer of San Diego's Youth Empowerment Synergy (**Y.E.S.**)

conference whose mission is to empower LGBTQ youth, young adults and parents. In addition, he is co-host on a radio talk show on Thrivecast called "Let Your True Colors Shine with Prizila and Hector."



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

MISS GULCH RETURNS!

There's a new collaboration for the Diversionary Theatre and Martinis Above Fourth (dinner theatre).

First up for the new collaboration is *Miss Gulch Returns!* See how Miss Gulch is doing after 75 years *The Wizard of Oz* left her in the dust. You will discover the truth behind the ultimate enemy of Dorothy in this wonderful musical.

This limited engagement runs **April 2, 3, 5, & 6** at Martini's Above Fourth, 3940 4th Avenue in Hillcrest. Tickets are available at www.diversionary.org, by calling 619-220-0097 or by going to the box office at 4545 Park Boulevard, San Diego. Ticket prices range from \$22-\$35, with a \$15 food and beverage minimum.

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, April 24 is the annual Dining Out for Life. This fundraiser benefits The LGBT Center for HIV/AIDS services/programs. If you are interested to volunteer, please contact Donnie Luehring at dluehring@thecentersd.org or 619-692-2077, ext. 246.

HELP WANTED

The PFLAG Board wants to fill our vacancy for a recording secretary. If you are interested, please contact Terrie Vorono at tvorono@pflag.com.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

March 24, 31, April 7, 14, 21: Mi Familia Support Group (Carolina: 619-692-2077, ext. 116)

April 7: North County Coastal Support Group (Larry: 760-224-2178)

April 14: East County Support Group (Bob: 619-334-8214)

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Membership Application

- New Renewal Change of Address
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2014 MEMBERSHIPS WERE DUE JANUARY 1

We always like to remind our membership of why it is important to pay dues and continue your financial support: room rental for the San Diego General Meeting, the telephone info/help line, newsletter publication and mailing, scholarship for LGBT youth, PRIDE Parade and Festival, educational books and DVDs, fees to participate in events to provide more visibility in the community, supplies, etc. Please keep in mind, also, that \$15 of each membership is sent to PFLAG National to support them. **If you haven't renewed or joined yet, please help us to support the LGBT community.**

GETTING TO KNOW MORE OF YOU!

Wayne Walker is the Board's Jack of All Trades: co-trains facilitators; videographer; researcher of equipment purchases, procurement; Speakers Bureau (to name a few!!). He entitled his biographical information: *Growing Up Gay Was a Challenge*

"My life began March 11, 1940. I lived with my family in Los Angeles until I was almost ten years old. I had one sibling, an old brother, named Walter. He was a typical boy - he enjoyed playing sports with the neighborhood boys. I was not into sports. We had a Ping-Pong table and a badminton court in our back yard. I enjoyed playing both these games. For the most part, I played with the neighborhood girls. I could tell my father was disappointed that I showed so much interest in doing things with girls rather than boys. I knew that somehow I was different from the other boys. I knew from the way I was treated that some people did not like that I was different. This made me feel sad and alone.

In the middle of fifth grade, my life changed. We moved to the country. I learned very quickly in this new environment that I had better learn to act more like an average boy, or I was going to be in serious trouble. My brother and I joined the 4-H Club. In the country, we were able to raise farm animals. I enjoyed working with the animals; I felt more normal as a boy because I had the same interests as the other boys in my 4-H Club. In sixth grade, I had my first crush on a boy. It was Vincent, a neighborhood boy that I admired a great deal. We were best friends; he was straight. I could not tell him how much he meant to me.

In the beginning of seventh grade, we moved to San Jacinto. Our family had bought a ranch. My brother and I joined another 4-H club. This was one of the most successful clubs for producing 4-H All Stars. Once a year, each county would pick one boy and one girl as the most outstanding members, and I was chosen. We were trained for leadership positions. Because of the outstanding training I had received in my club, in high school I became active in student government. During those high school years, I tried to suppress my feelings I had for other boys, although I did again end up having my second major crush on a boy. Society told me my feelings for a boy were bad. I did join the tennis team and played varsity tennis for four years.

After I graduated from high school, I attended a junior college and earned an AA degree. I met Larry, my third big crush on a man. Again, I could not tell my best friend how special he was to me. I went to work for my father, then joined the National Guard for a six year commitment. In my early twenties, I went to a therapist for two years in the hopes of having him help me get rid of these feelings I had for men. Of course, it didn't work. During my time in the National Guard, I met a young man that became a best friend, and I fell deeply in love with him. He was straight; I could not tell my special man how much he meant to me. During those years, I continued to date girls, somehow hoping I would fall in love with a girl and have a family.

At 28, I decided to go back to college and, at that time, I finally came out as gay. I went to Cal State Fullerton,

earned my teacher's credential, and starting dating men. In those days, living in Orange County, working as an elementary school teacher, and being gay was not easy. After a few years of teaching, I met Chris, who was also gay, and we had a five year relationship. I was in my thirties with no real experience having a serious loving relationship with another gay man. It was good at times, but a real challenge at times. I had not had the opportunity to learn about real dating in my teens and twenties. I had little to no experience in having a loving, romantic reciprocal relationship with another person.



Being a good teacher was very important to me. I found little time to have other pursuits during the school year. Summers I traveled, attended events with the Great Outdoors (Gay Sierra Club), and also attended events with CA Men's Gatherings (a support group for gay men). At age 55, I retired from teaching, and in 2002, I moved to San Diego. I have been a member of PFLAG for six years. I am also active in a group called Walkabout International. For many years, I have been interested in seeing that LGBTQ people have the same freedoms that most people experience in this country. With organizations like PFLAG, progress is being made in this country in finding equality for all. I am hopeful that young LGBTQ people of today will find a world more accepting than the world my generation of gay people found.

ALAN GOLDBARG REMEMBERED



We were saddened to learn of the death of PFLAG member Alan Goldbarg. Not only were he and his wife,

Cheryl, members for many years, each year, he drove his car of yesteryear, a GMC Caballero, in the Pride Parade. As you can see, Alan, Cheryl, and the car were decked out for the occasion.

Our sincere condolences to the family.



Luan D. Andrews, M.A.

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PFLAG THANKS YOU FOR YOUR EXTRA HELP

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Mick, Pam, Monica
& Claire Rabin

Mary Lou Strong

Philip Diamond
& Kevin Tilden

Belated Thank You

Don Sarkisian's donation
to the GSA at Eastlake
High School helped to
fund a bus to take them to
a GLSEN event. He also
donated a book to their
GSA library.

General Fund Donations

Ron & Irene Jarvis
Mike Mangoian

Providing Refreshments for Our Meeting

Terrie Vorono
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