



# THE NEWSLETTER

March 2016 / ISSUE 3 / VOLUME 23

## FRANKLY MY DEAR, I'M GAY



Please join us for our general meeting on **Monday, March 28** at 7:00 pm at Jewish Family Service, 8788 Balboa Avenue, San Diego.

We are pleased that our guest speaker is Rick Clemons, author of the above titled book. Rick is a professional speaker, podcaster (Coming Out Lounge), blogger (*Huffington Post*), author, and life strategist. What is important about his message is that he inspires people, REGARDLESS OF THEIR SEXUALITY, to step out of hiding and into their own brilliant uniqueness.

Rick's book is part memoir, part self-help and takes readers on a light-hearted, poignant, humorous, and multifaceted journey out of the closet and beyond.

Please join us for support groups, then the cookie social, followed by Rick's presentation.

## YOU-WHO! WHERE ARE YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES?

Thank you to those members who have renewed their membership for 2016. We are looking forward to receiving more renewals or first time dues. These monies are used to provide support, education, and advocacy on behalf of our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community and their families. They enable us to provide monthly meetings, an info line, newsletters, educational brochures, etc.

Please send your dues to PFLAG San Diego, as \$15 of it is sent to PFLAG National. If you renew with them, there is no benefit for our San Diego chapter.

The membership application is in this newsletter and also on our web site ([www.pflag.com](http://www.pflag.com)). We accept PayPal for your convenience. You can also pay at any of the meetings or mail a check made payable to: PFLAG San Diego, P.O. Box 82762, San Diego, CA 92138. All donations and memberships are tax deductible.

## YOUTH NIGHTS

The North County Resource Center is sponsoring several Youth Nights. **March 18** is Craft Youth Night where high school students can design their own buttons of self-expression. The evening includes pizza, prizes, and camaraderie. It will take place at the North County Resource Center, 510 North Coast Highway in Oceanside from 5:00-8:00 pm. **April 23** is Pride Prom where students are encouraged to come with or without a date, almost anything goes with attire, and fun all around. The prom takes place at the Civic Center Library Community Room, 330 North Coast Highway in Oceanside from 6:00-9:30pm. For more information on either event, go to [ncresourcecenter.org](http://ncresourcecenter.org) and click on Project Youth.

## SAVE THE DATE

**Thursday, April 28** is the annual Dining Out for Life. This fundraiser benefits The LGBT Center for HIV/AIDS services/programs. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Donnie Luehring at [dluehring@thecentersd.org](mailto:dluehring@thecentersd.org) or 619-692-2077. The list of participating restaurants will appear in the April newsletter.

## ATTENTION!

For March only, the North County Inland Support Group is meeting on the 4th Thursday of the month: **March 24** at 7:00 pm. The guest speaker is Claire Russell; she will share her experience as a Trans\* woman and owner of Auntie Claire's electrolysis salon in San Diego, where she serves the needs of the Trans\* community

## SPRING IS IN THE AIR

PFLAG San Diego County will have a booth the 2016 Spring Family Festival, sponsored by the Poway Chamber of Commerce. The event is on **Sunday, April 3** between 10:00am-4:00pm. This is a free street fair that attracts over 10,000 participants from the greater San Diego area. Featured are live music (2 stages), kids' activities, a community stage, 100+ vendors, local foods, arts and crafts, shopping opportunities, a car show and more! The festival is located on Midland Road between Poway Road and Hilleary. Rain or shine.

## SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE!

Once again, PFLAG SDC is partnering with the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation for another successful scholarship program. The application and scholarship requirements are on our web site ([www.pflag.com](http://www.pflag.com)). Scholarship amounts usually range from \$1000-2000. LGBT high school seniors, full time undergraduate and graduate students are eligible. The deadline for the scholarship applications is **Tuesday, March 15, 2016**. The Launching Leaders scholarship luncheon will be **Friday, May 13, 2016**. This is the 18th year PFLAG scholarships have been awarded. For scholarship questions: [scholarships@pflag.com](mailto:scholarships@pflag.com). If you would like to sponsor a table for the luncheon so that more people can attend or to sponsor a scholarship, please contact Ian Morton at [ian@sdhdf.org](mailto:ian@sdhdf.org).

## OFFICERS, COMMITTEES & VOLUNTEERS

### President

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San Diego, CA 92138

Tax ID #33-0512868

National PFLAG, Washington, DC  
(202) 647-8180, www.pflag.org

## Membership Application

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

## IN APPRECIATION

Thank you to Mary Lou Strong  
for her Contributing Membership.

## MEMORIAL

Our condolences to Suzanne Burkhalter  
and family on the death of Susanne's  
husband, Scott.

The family has been long-time members  
of PFLAG San Diego County.

## SCARY ALL OVER

Ellen Page and cohost Ian Daniel have some shocking experiences on *Gaycation*, their new gay travel show on Viceland — among them an encounter in Brazil with a man who admits to killing gay people because they are "worse than animals."

"I think every pigsty needs to be cleaned up," says the confessed killer, who is also a police officer. "They are worse than animals. ... If they cross my path, I'll take care of them."

A clip shows Page being clearly disturbed by the man's statement, and she tells Daniel, "I want to say that I'm gay. Do you think that's safe?" while avoiding eye contact with the man. Ultimately, she decides to admit that both she and Daniel are gay. "We're gay," she says. "I'm wondering if you think it's better for the world, for us to be dead?"

Page spoke with the *The Daily Beast* about the incident, saying:

"I thought it was important for us to say it to that man and get his honest opinion. You just had a conversation with people who are gay. Would you want to kill us, too? I think it's hard

## RAY MOORE UPDATE

In the January, 2016 newsletter appeared an article, "*Forest Gump, 'You can't Fix Stupid.'*" In a nutshell, anti-gay Alabama's chief justice, Roy Moore, ordered his state's probate judges to deny marriage licenses to same-sex couples because he did not believe that the Supreme Court's *Obergefell v. Hodges* decision applied to Alabama.

Begrudgingly, the Alabama Supreme Court (Moore) has finally shut down a case arguing that the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on same-sex marriage does not apply in Alabama. In early March, Moore finally ended the interference. One would assume he is now walking with his tail between his legs; however, his attitude has not changed. He had to get the last word in.

"Today this Court by order dismisses all pending motions and petitions and issues the certificate of judgment in this case," Moore wrote in a decision issued today, throwing out current challenges to marriage equality in Alabama, while also making clear his displeasure with *Obergefell*, calling it a "lawless act" and same-sex relationships "immoral." He also said he believes Alabama's marriage ban remains legitimate, insinuated that relationships between same-sex couples are less than real, quoted a song from 1974, and stated that Supreme Court rulings are not the final word in legal matters. Did anyone ask who does have the final word?

to read on camera, but he went from pretty much looking at us, or looking at us from above those sunglasses, to not even looking at our faces after that. There was definitely a shift in that moment. That was definitely a moment where you're like, OK, what did I just do?"

## HEROINES, PIONEERS & TRAILBLAZERS

Please join Lambda Archives for a gala brunch this Saturday, **March 19** to celebrate and honor some "ordinary" women (lesbian, trans\*, and straight). These women stepped up and did extraordinary things in the difficult early days of HIV/AIDS (80s and 90s) in San Diego and Tijuana. Their stories are some of the most compelling yet under-recognized chapters in LGBT history. The guest speaker is Dr. Joycelyn Elders, U.S. Surgeon General from 1993-1994. To purchase tickets, go to: [www.lambdaarchives.org](http://www.lambdaarchives.org).

## ALWAYS NICE TO HAVE GOOD NEWS

Proposed legislation that would have allowed West Virginia businesses and individuals to discriminate against LGBT people in the name of religion died on the Senate floor.

The GOP-controlled legislative body killed the bill by a 7-27 vote.

"The defeat of HB 4012 today is a huge win for fairness and equality in West Virginia," Matt McTighe, executive director of Freedom for All Americans, said in a statement. "Just a few weeks ago, this bill seemed to have a clear pathway forward; but many of the state's leading businesses and residents spoke due to the hard work of local advocates and organizations like Fairness West Virginia, and legislators were moved to do the right thing."

Moving on to South Dakota, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) responded to the decision by Governor Dennis Daugaard to veto HB 1008 -- horrendous legislation attacking the rights of transgender children in public schools by attempting to force them to use restrooms and other facilities inconsistent with their gender identity.

"Governor Daugaard chose to do the right thing and veto this outrageous legislation attacking transgender kids. Today, the voices of fairness and equality prevailed, and these students' rights and dignity prevailed against overwhelming odds and vicious opponents in the state legislature," said HRC President Chad Griffin. "Unfortunately, another anti-LGBT bill is still pending in the South Dakota Legislature -- and we must keep up the fight to ensure today's veto holds and this other odious bill never makes it to Governor Daugaard's desk."

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**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**Mar 21:**  
 Mi Familia Support Group  
 Patti: 619-227-6092

**Apr 4:**  
 North County Coastal  
 Annette: 760-518-3345

**Mar 24:**  
 North County Inland  
 Kathie: 858-382-9156

*Luan D. Andrews, M.A.*

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