



THE NEWSLETTER

May 2017 ISSUE 5 VOLUME 24



GREAT TO BE YOURSELF

Please join us for our general meeting on **Monday, May 22** at 7:00 pm at Jewish Family Service (JFS), 8788 Balboa Avenue, San Diego. PLEASE NOTE WE MEET ON THE 4TH MONDAY OF THE MONTH, NOT MAY 29 (Memorial Day).

Our guest speaker is Ron Belanger. He will share his experiences of being closeted in the military and at work and the stress involved. Ron will discuss how being gay influenced his life and decisions about his career.

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

TRANS TRAINING 101

Are you unsure how to support people whose loved ones are saying their gender is wrong, that they are living in the wrong body, that they don't feel like they're a boy OR a girl, that some days they want to dress in girlish clothes and boyish clothes on another day, or that they don't feel like any specific gender at all?

Please join all of our chapter facilitators and members in a special event training on **Monday, June 26**, at 7:00 pm at our chapter Metro location: 8788 Balboa Avenue at Jewish Family Service. Kathie Moehlig, founder of TransFamily Support Services and our PFLAG SDC North County Regional Director will guide us as we learn how to be a Trans Ally and how to be supportive to those with a family member who is transgender or gender expansive. Learn what to say and what not to say to those at our meetings who have transgender/gender expansive/non-binary loved ones. Learn what those words mean so that you can be the best ally possible.

PFLAG has a long history of full inclusion, dating back to 1998 for everyone in the LGBTQ community. For our members and supporters, supporting family means supporting everyone, and recognizing that different people (and different topics) often require expanding our skill sets.

Kathie's presentation will be first, followed by discussion, snacks, and support groups. The meeting ends at 9:00 pm.

PFLAG chapters serve the needs of people who are trans and gender expansive, as well as their loved ones, providing peer support and important connections to resources. To ensure that chapters have the preparation needed to fulfill this mission, PFLAG National offers [Better Practices and Guidelines for PFLAG's Transgender and Gender-Expansive Support Groups](#), a set of good practices and guidelines to support your work. Check it out at www.PFLAG.org.

RB ALIVE STREET FAIR

The RB Alive Expo will take place on **Sunday, June 4** from 10am-4:pm. Celebrating their 29th year, it will be a day of entertainment and enjoyment with over 300 food, craft and service booths. The Kids Zone features rides, games and carnival foods. The Cultural Center will have historical reenactments and local organizations will share their art, culture, history and handiwork. One of the main attractions is the Classic Car Show.

PFLAG SDC will have a booth at the Expo located at Bernardo Center Dr. between Lomica Dr. and Bernardo Plaza Ct. To volunteer, contact Kathie at northcountyinland@pflag.com or 858-382-9156. Thank you, Kathie for coordinating this event every year.

THE OTHER PROM

South Bay Alliance presents the "Other" Prom, a dance for LGBTQ youth and their allies. It takes place this **Saturday, May 20** from 7:00-11:00pm. For \$5 at the door, there will be a DJ and refreshments. The prom celebration is at 500 Monstera Court in Chula Vista. For more info: allevents.in.

JOIN IN THE FUN

The third annual Launching Leaders Luncheon is **Friday, June 16**. PFLAG SDC and the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation will be awarding 10 scholarships to high school seniors, full-time graduate and undergraduate students. The event is from 11:30 am-2:00 pm at the Downtown Library, 330 Park Blvd. (11th Avenue and Park Blvd.) on the top floor that has a magnificent view. Funds raised will enable PFLAG SDC to provide more scholarships in the future. This year, using our Scholarship Fund, we were able to increase the \$1000 scholarships to \$2000. The Richard P. Geyser Memorial Ethics Scholarship was increased to \$2500.

Anyone who wishes to donate to the scholarship fund, please send a check made payable to San Diego Human Dignity Foundation and mail it to: SDHDF, Attn: PFLAG Scholarship Fund, 2508 Historic Decatur Road, Suite 160, San Diego, CA 92106. You can buy individual tickets at \$60 or if you want to gather your buddies together and chip in for a table of eight, it's \$400; Awardee Sponsor is \$1000; Presenting Sponsor is \$2500. All can be purchased at pflag.sdhdf.org.

MI FAMILIA HAS RETURNED

The Mi Familia meetings are in Spanish and have been scheduled for the second Monday of the month at 6pm in the South Bay area. Thank you to Patti Boman who coordinates the meetings and is the facilitator. The next meeting is **June 12**. For meeting location, contact Patti at pboman@pflag.com or 619-227-6092.

THE BIG O' GAY ANTI-CONVERSION THERAPY PROTEST!

Restored Hope Network (RHN) gay conversion conference (i.e., Pray the gay away.) will be held in San Diego **June 16 and 17**. They describe themselves as "dedicated to restoring hope to those broken by homosexuality." Thus, the importance of protesting their conference is to show them how strong the San Diego (and beyond) LGBTQ community is all about.

The conference is at City View Church, 8404 Phyllis Place, San Diego (Serra Mesa) from 9:00 am Friday, the 16th to 6:30 pm, Saturday, the 17th. The exact time the protest will begin has not been determined. We will keep you posted on our web site (www.pflag.com). Start making your signs now. We would like a strong PFLAG presence.

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP. There is a planning meeting this **Friday, May 19** at 5:30 pm at the offices of UNITE HERE, 2436 Market Street, San Diego (the part of Market Street that is not downtown so it is not difficult to park). Cleve Jones, who will be receiving the Harvey Milk Lifetime Achievement Award that morning at the Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast, will be there to assist with the planning. As many of you recall, Cleve worked side by side with Harvey Milk, and most people in the LGBTQ community would consider it an honor to meet him.

The state of California makes illegal any practices of conversion, reparative or ex-gay therapies to minors. RHN may be getting around that law by calling their event a convention and not an open call for members.

It seems with RHN and other reparative therapy groups, they can't be bothered with the facts. The following organizations have said it is not possible to "convert" a gay person to a straight person: American Medical Association, American Psychiatric Association, American Psychological Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Counseling Association, American Federation of Teachers, The Interfaith Alliance, National Association of School Psychologists, National Association of Social Workers, National Association of Secondary School Principals, National Education Association, New Ways Ministries, People for the American Way.

MORE JUNE HAPPENINGS

June 3 (Saturday) Tickets are still available for the Annual Benefit Gala for The North County LGBTQ Resource Center: Rise Up, Shine On. The gala is on June 3 from 6:30-11:00 pm at a private residence in Oceanside. The event stars Julie Goldman from BRAVO's The People's Couch (and will appear in the upcoming season of Curb Your Enthusiasm) and Special Musical Guest, Lee Coulter. To purchase tickets, go to www.ncresourcecenter.org/2017-annual-gala/.

June 9 (Friday): The San Diego Equality Awards take place from 6:00-10:00 pm at Humphrey's by the Bay. Two of the awardees are familiar to many folks in the LGBTQ community – the family of Isaac Gomez, activist extraordinaire for the Transgender community and the family of former Mayor Jerry Sanders. For tix: <http://www.eqca.org/equality-awards/san-diego/>.

June 9-11: FilmOut San Diego presents Sweet!, their 19th annual LGBT Film Festival. The location is The Observatory--North Park (the old Birch Theatre) at 2891 University Avenue. For a list of the films and to purchase tickets, visit their web site: www.filmoutsandiego.com.

June 10 (Saturday): The 7th Annual "OUT at the Fair" takes place at the San Diego County Fair (previously known as the Del Mar Fair) from 11:00 am-11:00 pm. For the price of admission, you can celebrate pride as San Diego Pride has created an LGBTQ-safe space. From 10:00 am- 6:00 pm, local non-profit LGBT organizations will be exhibiting in the Paddock area, including PFLAG SDC. Thanks to volunteers Terrie Vorono, Ina Price, Mike Minnick, Joanie Brzenski, Bill Luna, and Vicki Luna for tabling our booth. There is non-stop music with LGBT themes throughout the day at three different venues. There will be shuttles to and from Flick's in Hillcrest, and "OUT at the Fair" t-shirts are available for purchase. For more details, go to sdpride.org/oatf/.

July 14-16: It's not too early to save the dates for PRIDE weekend. The parade will be on Saturday, the 15th. The weekend theme is Allied in Action; United for Justice. Details will be in the June newsletter.

DINING OUT FOR LIFE® 2017

Although the profits aren't tallied yet, by the judge of the crowds, San Diegans, again, opened up their hearts and wallets to raise funds for The LGBT Center for their HIV/AIDS services/programs. The Gang of 10 at Del Sur Mexican Cantina include (from L to R): Nancy Colbert, Sue Johnson, Terrie Vorono, Melanie Rocks, Ina Price, Bobbi Harwood, Jenica McKeown, Sherry Cohen-Richards, Lonnie Brunini, and Louie Chavez. Photo courtesy of Alexi DeBram.



OY VEY, PART II

On the back page of last month's newsletter, the article mentioned that The Human Rights Campaign, among other groups, were calling upon senators not to confirm Mark Green as Trump's pick for Secretary of the Army. He had built his political career on hateful attacks against LGBTQ people, going so far to say being transgender is a "disease." Well, he turned out to be the disease. He withdrew his nomination amid the growing outrage over his hateful views.

Sometimes, strength in numbers works and it did big time in bringing pressure on Green to withdrawal his nomination. Nearly 25,000 people signed HRC's petition demanding he be stopped and more than 6,800 people called their senator and urged them to reject him. Some members of the LGBTQ stepped up to make their voices heard at the White House. In less than one month, Mark Green was running for the door

LGBTQ MARCH FOR EQUALITY

In conjunction with The Equality March for Unity and Pride planned in Washington, DC, and several other marches around the country, The Equality March: San Diego is being organized for **Sunday, June 11**. The gathering originates at 6th and Juniper at 10:00 am, with the March beginning at 11:00 am. The March will proceed to the Southwest end of the County Administration Building (Pacific Coast Highway) where there will be a rally at noon. PFLAG SDC is one of the supporting organizations. Anyone wanting to march together (like we do at the Pride parade), please email Sherry: scohenrichards@pflag.com. One of the main messages that Congress and the White House need to hear is that the LGBTQ community will not be going back; we're going forward to claim the rights that all people should enjoy. Those rights are equal rights, not special rights. That is why it's important for the community and allies to come together in solidarity for the March.

TRANS FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES FUNDRAISERS

This Friday, May 19, we hope you are able to support this important fundraiser: Divas Give Back. It takes place at Rich's, 1051 University Avenue in Hillcrest. Doors open at 7:00 pm, with the show at 8:00 pm. For ticket info and table reservations, call 619-817-9926.

An equally important fundraiser for Trans Family Support Services is Comedy Trumps Hate at Urban Mo's. The date is **Tuesday, May 30** at 8:00 pm, with doors opening at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$15 and a spaghetti plate can be purchased for \$6 and Blackout Lemonade for a mere \$5. Tickets may be purchased at: urbanmos.com/tickets.

SUPPORT GROUPS

SD METRO GENERAL MEETING & SUPPORT GROUP

Meets every 4th Monday at 7:00 pm, at Jewish Family Service, 8788 Balboa Ave, San Diego in Kearny Mesa.

For further information, contact the Info Line:
888-398-0006 or www.pflag.com

NORTH COUNTY COASTAL

Meets the 1st Monday @ 6:30 pm, Pilgrim UCC, 2020 Chestnut Avenue, Carlsbad. .

Annette: 760-518-3345 | northcountycoastal@pflag.com

NORTH COUNTY INLAND

Meets the 3rd Thursday @ 7:00 pm, St. Bart's Church, 16275 Pomerado Road, Poway. New Location

Kathie: 858-382-9156 | northcountyinland@pflag.com

EAST COUNTY

Meets the 2nd Monday at 7:00 pm, Summit Unitarian Universalist Church, 8778 Cottonwood Avenue, Santee.

Tiffany: 760-554-7967 | tgonzalez@pflag.com

SOUTH BAY

For a private meeting for support or concern, call for an appointment.

Patti: 619-227-6092 | pboman@pflag.com

POWAY LGBTQ YOUTH SUPPORT GRP (Our Space-Poway)

Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays from 5:00-6:30 pm, Poway Library, 13137 County Highway S4, Poway. Facilitated by youth.

Kathie: 858-382-9156 | info@transfamilysos.org

OUR SPACE-POWAY FOR LGBTQIA MIDDLE SCHOOLER

Meets 1st and 3rd Mondays from 5:30-7:30 pm, St. Bart's Church, 16275 Pomerado Road, Poway.

Kathie: 858-382-9156 | info@transfamilysos.org

MI FAMILIA

Meets 2nd Monday at 6pm. For meeting info, contact:

Patti: 619-227-6092 | pboman@pflag.com

TRANSFAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Support groups held separately for children, teens, & adults to explore topics around gender identity and expressions.

Kathie: 858-382-9156 | info@transfamilysos.org

PFLAG THANKS YOU

Upper Level Memberships/Donations

MaryLou Strong

Chris Vogt

IN MEMORIAM

We were sad to learn of the recent death of Mike Mangoian. Mike was a longtime member of PFLAG. Our condolences to his family and friends.

LOOK LIKE A BIG FISH

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It's time to get aggressive.



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