



San Jose ♦ Peninsula Newsletter

November-December 2012

www.pflagsanjose.org

P.O. Box 2718, Sunnyvale, CA 94087

♥ NEED HELP? ♥ Call the Help/Info Line: (408) 270-8182 ♥

Proposition 8 and DOMA — What's Next? News from the American Foundation for Equal Rights

On October 29 the U.S. Supreme Court announced that it will consider whether to grant review in AFER's federal constitutional challenge to California's Proposition 8, along with several challenges to the so-called Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), at their private Conference scheduled for Tuesday, November 20.

The Court is expected to either:

- **Grant review** of our Prop. 8 challenge, at which point AFER's legal team, led by attorneys Ted Olson and David Boies, will submit written briefs and present oral arguments by April 2013. A final decision on Prop. 8 and marriage equality would then be expected by June 2013.
- **Deny review**, making permanent the landmark Ninth Circuit appeals court ruling that found Prop. 8 unconstitutional. Marriage equality will be restored in California.

The Court is expected to release an Order List with its decisions on cases it has granted or denied review from its November 20 Conference by Monday, November 26.

Though we are hopeful that we will hear something from the Justices by that day, the Court does not have an obligation to set a timeline for making a decision on granting or denying review.

Support for marriage equality continues to grow every day, with no less than 16 polls now confirming that a majority of Americans believe gay and lesbian couples should have the freedom to get married. Now that two federal courts have found Prop. 8 unconstitutional, it is time — indeed past time — that our nation live up to the promise of liberty and equality enshrined in the Constitution, and all Americans be allowed to marry the person they love.



Keep up with developments:

AFER: www.afer.org/

Prop 8 Trial Tracker:
www.prop8trialtracker.com/

Meeting Calendar

◀ NOVEMBER-DECEMBER ▶

Nov. 12 Redwood City Support - 7:30 pm
Dec. 10 Sequoia Union H.S. District Offices
480 James Ave., Redwood City
(2nd Monday of the month)

Nov. 14 San Jose Support - 7:30 pm
Dec. 12 First Congregational Church
1980 Hamilton Ave. (at Leigh)
(2nd Wednesday of the month)

Nov. 15 Straight Spouse Support-7:30 pm
Dec. 20 call San Jose Helpline for info.
(3rd Thursday of the month)

Nov. Board Meeting Teleconference
(date to be determined)

Dec. 6 Board Holiday Potluck & White Elephant Party - 6:30 pm
at the Koopman's in San Jose



ALL ARE WELCOME!



GILROY and other locations:
Call the Helpline
for support and information:
(408) 270-8182



January 2013 Newsletter Deadline:
Saturday, December 22



**Wishing you
Healthy and
Happy
Holidays!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PFLAG Support Meetings

Redwood City, November 12
San Jose, November 14

Homosexuality and the Bible: Our speaker will be David J. Harvey, Pastor of Celebration Of Faith, LGBT Praise and Worship Center. He will speak about his newly published book: *Wondrous Love! A Gay Pastor's Personal Journey To Acceptance*.

David J. Harvey presents his personal and sometimes controversial views of homosexuality throughout the scriptures. His book was born from years of research, study and teaching on the topic of homosexuality, and what the Bible really says about it. Straight people will gain a fresh understanding of the journey that many gay Christians encounter, and LGBT Christians will find a friend who identifies with their hurt and rejection from evangelical and mainline churches across the country. While there is much confusion in the Christian world as to what the Bible says about homosexuality, there is great clarity about how Jesus instructed his followers to “walk in love.”

Redwood City, December 10
San Jose, December 12

At holiday parties this month we will enjoy the company of old friends and new. Please bring snacks or a beverage to share. We will collect cash donations for the DeFrank Center HIV Testing Program in San Jose; or for Ellipse Peninsula AIDS Services in San Mateo. And/or bring canned food for Second Harvest Food Bank.

Small group support will be offered at all meetings. ▼

PFLAG Membership Dues are Due!

It's time to renew your PFLAG membership for 2013 — please take a moment to join or renew today!

If you can, please consider being a Benefactor, Angel, or Diva. Donations to our Scholarship Fund are also deeply appreciated. Many employers offer donation matching programs that could double your contribution. If you ask your employer to make a matching gift, you will need to give them our EIN (Employer ID Number): 7702544991. Other ways to support PFLAG and make contributions can be seen in *The Gift of Giving* brochure on our website.

Mail your contribution with the form on the last page of this newsletter, or donate online at: www.pflagsanjose.org. *All contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.*

On behalf of our chapter, we thank you for your dedication and commitment to the mission of PFLAG.

Sincerely,
Your Finance Committee ▼



PFLAG Board Holiday Potluck and White Elephant Party December 6

On Thursday, December 6th at 6:30 PM, the Koopmans will host the Annual PFLAG Board Holiday Party. Plan on joining the Board and other PFLAG members and friends for a potluck dinner and white elephant gift exchange. It's a wonderful PFLAG tradition and always a fun evening — all are welcome!



PFLAG Board Meetings via Teleconference

Our PFLAG Chapter Board now meets via telephone conference call. We are always looking for new, creative ideas for helping families, getting our word out, raising money for scholarships, and just having fun together. We'd love to have you become part of the Board, attend a tele-meeting, or send us your ideas. For more information, email Ken Klucsor: kenklucsor@yahoo.com ▼

New PFLAG Speakers Bureau Blog!

Check it out! <http://sjpflagsb.blogspot.com/>

The blog includes letters from students and others who were moved by Speakers Bureau presentations, as well as videos, articles, and much more! Many thanks to Brian Chin, our Speakers Bureau Coordinator. ▼



Mark Your Calendar

- Nov. 4 — DeFrank Center Movie Night
- Nov. 4 — Daylight Savings Time ends — “Fall back” on Saturday PM!
- Nov. 6 — Election Day—Vote!
- Nov. 20 — Transgender Day of Remembrance
- Dec. 1 — World AIDS Day
- Dec. 6 — PFLAG Holiday Potluck & White Elephant Party

Marriage Equality Rally

In the event that the Supreme Court decides to NOT take the Prop 8 case, the Mid-Peninsula Chapter of ME USA is planning a Celebration Rally!

WHAT: A celebration of the return of marriage equality in California!

WHEN: At noon on the day that the US Supreme Court announces a decision to NOT hear the Prop 8 case. We may know as early as November 26.

WHERE: The patio outside the San Mateo County Clerk's office, 555 County Center, Redwood City.

We will keep you updated via the PFLAG news email list. To join the list, send an email message with your name to sjp-pflagnewsltr.ed@comcast.net ▼



"Like" PFLAG on Facebook

Another great way to spread the word about PFLAG:

LIKE National PFLAG: www.facebook.com/PFLAG

LIKE San Jose/Peninsula PFLAG:
www.facebook.com/groups/51943261397/

If you are interested in helping to keep our chapter's Facebook page up to date, please contact:

Ken Klucsor at kenklucsor@yahoo.com ▼

Gay Like Me

Timothy Kurek grew up in a religiously conservative family, and was told that homosexuality was an abominable sin. He regularly counseled friends and families: "The loving thing to do is to say, 'Hey, listen, you are an abomination and you need to repent to go to heaven.' I absolutely believed in that—lock, stock and barrel," he said. And then a close friend confided that she was a lesbian and that her family had disowned her because of it. Something in him broke. He decided to spend a year living as a gay man.

Read the article: www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/oct/13/bible-belt-conservative-year-gay ▼

Annual Youth Empowerment Summit (YES) December 15

What: FREE annual GSA leadership conference

Who: LGBTQ youth activists and allies

When: Saturday, December 15

Conference: 9 am - 5 pm

Dance Party: 5 am - 8 pm

Where: Mission High School

3750 18th Street, San Francisco, CA

REGISTER: www.gsanetwork.org/yes ▼

Transgender Day of Remembrance November 20

The annual Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) is a day on which groups around the world hold vigils to remember those who have been brutally murdered simply because of their gender identity. The event is held in November to honor Rita Hester, whose murder on November 28th, 1998 inspired the *Remembering Our Dead* web project www.gender.org/remember and a San Francisco candlelight vigil in early 1999.

More information at: <http://www.transgenderdor.org/> ▼

Transgender Day of Remembrance Events

San Jose:

Transgender Day of Remembrance
Sunday, November 18 at 5–10 pm
Billy DeFrank Community Center
938 The Alameda, San Jose
<http://defrankcenter.org>

San Francisco:

Transgender Day of Remembrance Shabbat
Friday, November 23 at 7:30 pm
Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores Street, SF
www.facebook.com/events/522290277798588/

Oakland:

Transgender Day of Remembrance
Friday, November 16 at 7:30 pm
Doors open at 7 pm
Oakland Peace Center, Fellowship Hall, 11 Fairmont Ave.
Contact: Tiffany Woods- Program Coordinator:
tiffany.woods@earthlink.net ▼

Transgender Parent Group

Are you or your partner a transgender parent? Or thinking about becoming a parent? Our Family Coalition's Transgender Parent Support Group is an opportunity to connect with your peers and get mutual support. The first half hour will be spent socializing, with the remaining time dedicated to group discussion. Drop-ins are welcome, but ongoing attendance helps to establish group rapport.

Registration:

<http://transgenderparentsupportgroup.eventbrite.com/>

When: Every 3rd Saturday, 10 am-12 pm

Where: LGBT Center, 1800 Market St., San Francisco ▼

**It is our task to make from fire — not
an all-consuming blaze, but the light
in which we see each other fully.
All of us different, all of us bearing
One Spark.**

Rabbi Arthur Waskow

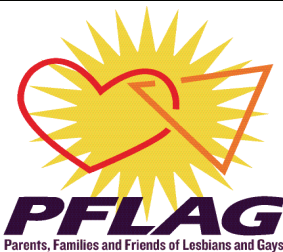
The PFLAG Newsletter

Published bimonthly times yearly by San Jose/Peninsula Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays · www.pflagsanjose.org
P.O. Box 2718, Sunnyvale, CA 94087
Phone: (408) 270-8182

Peninsula Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays is a tax-exempt, volunteer, community-based nonprofit organization. The San Jose/Peninsula chapter is a member of PFLAG National which is headquartered in Washington, D.C.

Your contribution is tax-deductible to the full extent provided by law.

**Would you like to volunteer?
Call the information lines.
We need your help – Call today!**



MEETING TOPICS ♥ 2012

Meetings are from 7:30—9:00 PM
Small groups for support are held at all meetings.

Redwood City & San Jose:
November: Homosexuality and the Bible
December: Holiday Parties



Please bring donations for AIDS services providers.

▼ PFLAG'S MISSION

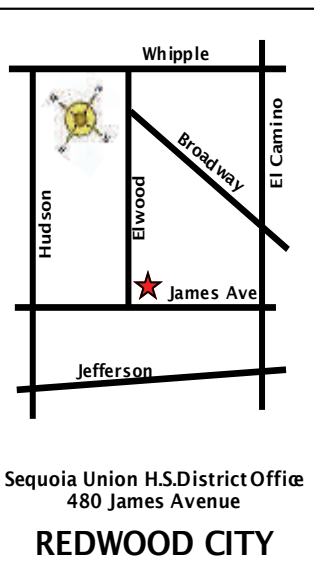
We provide love and support for all family members and friends. We work to create an environment of understanding so that our gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender loved ones can live with dignity and respect. These are our goals:

SUPPORT • EDUCATION • ADVOCACY

WHAT IS PFLAG?

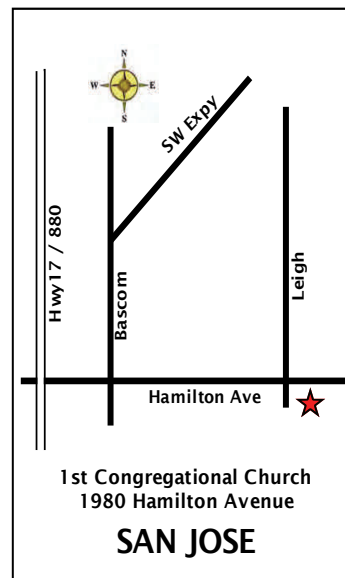
PFLAG is Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays. We are a national support, education and advocacy organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) people, their families, friends and allies. With 200,000 members and supporters, and local affiliates in more than 500 communities across the U.S. and abroad, PFLAG is the largest grassroots-based family organization of its kind. PFLAG is a non-profit organization and is not affiliated with any religious or political institutions.

Your financial support makes PFLAG's work possible. As a chapter member you can also become engaged in the vital work of providing support, education and advocacy in your community. Even if you're not sure that you need PFLAG, remember that **PFLAG NEEDS YOU!**



Sequoia Union H.S. District Office
480 James Avenue

REDWOOD CITY



1st Congregational Church
1980 Hamilton Avenue

SAN JOSE



MEMBERSHIP IN SAN JOSE / PENINSULA PFLAG ~ 2013

Send in this coupon to join, renew, or change your address!

New **Date** _____
 Renew
 Change Address **I want to volunteer!**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone () _____

E-mail* _____

***Required for PDF Newsletter. Send PDF? YES NO (circle one)**

- Individual Membership \$30
- Household Membership \$40
- Benefactor \$50
- Angel \$100 and up
- Diva \$1,000 and up
- Student or Newsletter Only \$15
- Gift Newsletter Subscription \$8
(for those who are already members to give to others too far away to come to meetings)
- Donation for Scholarships \$ _____
- Endowment Fund \$ _____

Make checks payable and mail to: PFLAG • PO Box 2718, Sunnyvale, CA 94087. Your donations & membership are tax deductible.