



# San Jose ♦ Peninsula Newsletter

January 2014

[www.pflagsanjose.org](http://www.pflagsanjose.org)

P.O. Box 2718, Sunnyvale, CA 94087

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

## A New Year's Resolution

Our San Jose/Peninsula PFLAG Chapter would not exist without many generous gifts of time, energy, creativity and funds — from you, our valued members and friends.

We rely on you for funding our cable TV program, scholarships, newsletter, outreach, libraries, and much more. Your financial support is critical, but your willingness to work on carrying out the PFLAG mission of education, advocacy and support is just as essential. We are deeply grateful for your support!

If you haven't recently volunteered, please look inside this newsletter for some great opportunities. Sign up to bring refreshments to a meeting. Help us find speakers and programs that meet your needs and the needs of newcomers. Lend a hand to help with our Scholarship Awards program. Sign up to be our next Treasurer! And it's not too early to let us know that you'll help out with San Francisco or San Jose Pride. Think about where you can step up to fill a need and have some fun, too.

So send in your dues and put PFLAG on your list of New Year's Resolutions—somewhere near the top! Our life as a PFLAG Chapter and as an agent of positive change for families, friends, and members of the LGBT community depends on you!

We wish you and your loved ones a happy, healthy and fulfilling New Year.

*Your PFLAG Board, Finance Committee, and Support Chairpersons*

**Meeting Calendar**  
◀ JANUARY ▶

**Jan. 8 San Jose Support** - 7:30 pm  
First Congregational Church  
1980 Hamilton Ave. (at Leigh)  
(2nd Wednesday of the month)

**Jan. 13 Redwood City Support** - 7:00 pm  
Sequoia Union H.S. District Offices  
480 James Ave., Redwood City  
(2nd Monday of the month)

**Jan.16 Straight Spouse Support**-7:30 pm  
Call San Jose Helpline for info.  
(3rd Thursday of the month)

**Jan.16 Board Meeting** Teleconference  
(3rd Thursday of the month)  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

▼

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

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**February/March Newsletter Deadline:**  
**Friday, January 24**

**There is no passion to be found in playing small, in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living.**

**Nelson Mandela**



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PFLAG Support Meetings

San Jose, January 8 — 7:30 pm

Redwood City, January 13 — 7:00 pm

Topics to be announced—please check our website for updates: [www.pflagsanjose.org](http://www.pflagsanjose.org)

Small group support is offered at all meetings. ▼

### We are on Facebook!

Do you know that our San Jose/Peninsula PFLAG Chapter is on Facebook? We post our meetings and other events there. Group members may also post news and events of interest to our PFLAG chapter members.

Check it out!

[www.facebook.com/groups/51943261397/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/51943261397/)

Then click on **About** for more information. ▼

### Creating Change Conference 2014

January 29—February 2

The 26th National Conference on LGBT Equality: Creating Change is coming to Houston, Texas, January 29—February 2, 2014. Creating Change is the premier annual organizing and skills-building event for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community and their allies.

Register today! Applications for scholarships and subsidized registration rates are available:

[www.creatingchange.org/registration.php](http://www.creatingchange.org/registration.php) ▼

### Free HIV testing at the DeFrank LGBT Center

The Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center offers a rapid test that uses an oral swab and results are available in approximately 20 minutes. You can choose between Anonymous (no ID required, results delivered verbally) and Confidential (valid state ID required, written results provided).

Testing is available Wednesday through Friday, 3 PM to 7 PM. For more information, please call 408-293-3040 or email: [hivtest@defrank.org](mailto:hivtest@defrank.org) ▼

### PFLAG Board Meetings via Teleconference

Our PFLAG Chapter Board meets monthly via telephone conference call. We welcome new, creative ideas for helping families, getting our message 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 Klucor: [kenklucor@yahoo.com](mailto:kenklucor@yahoo.com) ▼

### 2014 PFLAG Membership — Time to Renew!

It is membership renewal time again! So far we've only received about half of our usual number of renewals by this time of year. Please take a moment now to start or renew your membership for 2014.

If you can, please consider the Benefactor, Angel, or Diva level. Donations to our Scholarship Fund are deeply appreciated. Many employers offer 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 can be found in *The Gift of Giving* brochure on our website.

Mail your contribution with the form on the last page of this newsletter, or renew online at: [www.pflagsanjose.org](http://www.pflagsanjose.org). On behalf of our chapter, we thank you for your commitment to the mission of PFLAG and all you do to help us achieve our goals of support, education and advocacy.

Sincerely,

Your Finance Committee ▼

### Straight For Equality Gala

April 10, 2014



Save the date! The Straight for Equality Gala honors and celebrates our amazing straight allies. Their selfless support of the LGBT community truly embodies the spirit of Straight for Equality and PFLAG. Our work could not continue without them. Please join us in New York City!

More information: [www.straightforequality.org/2014gala#](http://www.straightforequality.org/2014gala#) ▼

#### ▶ Mark Your Calendar ◀

Jan. 12 — Wolf of Wall Street—DeFrank Benefit

Jan. 23 — BAYMEC Speaker Series

Jan. 29-Feb.2 — Creating Change Conference



## Our PFLAG Scholarship Awards Committee Needs You!

Many thanks to Nina, Janet, and Rosemary who will organize our Scholarship Awards program again this year. There are many small volunteer jobs that support this inspirational event. You can make a huge difference with a little gift of your time!

Mid to late January: clerical help (obtaining photocopies, postage, envelopes; also envelope stuffing).

April: application reading and winner selection (takes less than a day)

April-May: Party Planner, and some helpers for the awards ceremony in May (arrange food, gift bags, decorations.)

Please let us know today how you can help: email us at [pflag-info@pflagsanjose.org](mailto:pflag-info@pflagsanjose.org) or phone (408) 270-8182. ▼

## The Wolf of Wall Street Silicon Valley Movie Night benefit for the Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center

WHEN: Sunday, January 12, 4:00 PM  
WHERE: Camera 12  
201 S. 2nd Street, San Jose, CA 95113

Featuring Martin Scorsese's *The Wolf of Wall Street*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio; a VIP Reception, a Door Prize Raffle, and the annual On-site Big Ticket Raffle.

Online ticketing available at [www.movie.defrank.org](http://www.movie.defrank.org). Tickets are \$30 each. ▼

## Through the Thick Glass Ceiling: A Conversation with Lesbian Women Leaders of Silicon Valley January 23

The first event in the BAYMEC Community Foundation Speaker Series will take place on Thursday, January 23, from 6:30 - 7:30 PM. Through the Thick Glass Ceiling is a discussion on the deficit of women, particularly lesbian women, in leadership roles in business and government throughout the South Bay Area, and the unique challenges they face. Featuring Amy Brown, Kathy Levinson, Sheila Mitchell, and Molly O'Neal; moderated by Cindy Chavez. Reception to follow after speaker panel.

San José Police Officers Association  
1151 North 4th Street, San Jose, CA 95112

FREE. Please register to attend:  
[www.eventbrite.com/e/through-the-thick-glass-ceiling-a-conversation-with-lesbian-women-leaders-of-silicon-valley-tickets-9865792852?aff=mcivte](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/through-the-thick-glass-ceiling-a-conversation-with-lesbian-women-leaders-of-silicon-valley-tickets-9865792852?aff=mcivte) ▼

## Seeking a New Treasurer

We are seeking a replacement for our exemplary Treasurer who has served our PFLAG Chapter for the past 7 years. He is planning to retire in about a year, and welcomes the opportunity to train a new volunteer to take his place in this critical position. Please contact us for more information and a copy of the job description:

[pflag-info@pflagsanjose.org](mailto:pflag-info@pflagsanjose.org) ▼

## The Best of Times, The Worst of Times By Kate Kendall

We have all been left breathless by the events of this year. But we also know we are not done. For me our victories and progress are clouded by huge setbacks. The day of our Supreme Court victories we also lost big on voting rights. While the voting rights ruling is a direct assault primarily on African-American and Latino communities (and yes, on LGBT African-Americans and Latinos) it is a ruling that will undermine LGBT progress in many states.

While we celebrate huge gains, many families mourn the loss of loved ones due to gun violence. In our own community dozens of transgender women were murdered in 2013. Racism, attacks on the poor, and anti-immigrant sentiment all still thrive, making real progress and social transformation for all LGBT people in this country a distant dream.

It is also impossible not to be horrified and enraged by the lethal threats and repressive conditions so many LGBT people face in other countries. In Russia, Uganda, Jamaica, Iran, and many others, the freedom to live and love openly is brutally suppressed. A recent court ruling in India reinstated criminal penalties for same-sex sexual intimacy. And in Uganda, the parliament passed a wide-ranging law making homosexuality a crime. These rulings are shocking and serious setbacks for the LGBT community and sparked world-wide denunciation and protests.

In the midst of this "best of times, worst of times" moment, many thousands of LGBT people in this country now live in states with full equality and enjoy a greater measure of security, sense of belonging, dignity, and opportunity because of this landmark year. We all rightly and justly celebrate this historic moment—and we push on. Let's finish the job.

*Kate Kendall is Executive Director of NCLR, the National Center for Lesbian Rights.* ▼

**We must use time wisely  
and forever realize that  
the time is always ripe to  
do right.**

**Nelson Mandela**

