Farewell and Thanks to Ken Klucsor

Our President Ken Klucsor is moving out of the area and although he is still President until we find a replacement or he resigns — whichever comes first! — we will no longer be graced by his cheerful and welcoming presence at our support meetings.

After many years of active involvement, Ken became our chapter President in 2011, facilitating both monthly support meetings, answering our Helpline, organizing our Redwood City Independence Day Parade contingent, arranging for and decorating the SF Pride bus, and much more. We will truly miss the energy, commitment, and great sense of humor that Ken brought to his presidency and our meetings. We wish Ken and Carmen lots of happiness in their new home, which is closer to their children and grandchildren.

If you are interested in serving as PFLAG’s next President or Vice President, or in any other Board or support position, please email us at: volunteer@pflagsanjose.org.

NEW Meeting Location and Time:
San Mateo — 7:30 PM

Beginning this month we will no longer meet in Redwood City.

Our new meeting location for San Mateo County is the conference room of the **AAA — San Mateo, at 1650 S. Delaware Avenue.** Located just off of Route 92, the site is easily accessible from 101, 280 or El Camino Real. The space is large and attractive, with state-of-the-art AV functionality, adjacent restrooms and a kitchen/snack room, and hugely appreciated space to store our library books and meeting supplies! Another major bonus is that we won’t need to worry about school closures or meetings displacing us.

The conference room is on the second floor and there are elevators for those who cannot climb the stairs. There is ample free parking in the large parking lot.

The AAA does not charge for the use of their meeting room and is happy to provide this service to the community. We are very grateful to AAA Manager Edward Powers and Insurance Agent Amy Dresser who have welcomed us to their facility. Amy will be there each night to insure that all goes smoothly.

Come to the June and July meetings and help us to grow our outreach to San Mateo County!
PFLAG Support Meetings
San Mateo, Monday, June 8, 7:30 pm
Please Note: New Time and Location!
See the map on page 6. Please join us for small group support.

San Jose, Wednesday, June 10 — 7:30 pm
Come and share Pride month experiences.

San Jose, Wednesday, July 8 — 7:30 pm
Gabrielle Antolovich from Voices United will talk about the work being done to establish a Santa Clara County Commission for LGBT Concerns. Gabrielle is a member of the board for the Billy DeFrank Center in San Jose and she has been on the planning committee for the Commission for LGBT Concerns.

San Mateo, Monday, July 13 — 7:30 pm
Come and share Pride month experiences.
Small group support is offered at all meetings.

2015 PFLAG Membership
Many thanks to all of you who renewed your 2015 membership! If you have not yet joined or renewed, now is the time!

Donations at the Benefactor, Angel, or Diva level, or 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. See also The Gift of Giving brochure on our website.

Renew by mail or online at: 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.

Your Finance Committee

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 telemeeting, or send us your ideas. For more information, email: volunteer@pflagsanjose.org

PFLAG National Convention — October 16-18
This is promising to be the best PFLAG National Convention yet! The 2015 PFLAG National Convention will take place on October 16-18 in Nashville, Tennessee. Don’t miss this opportunity to come together to learn, share best practices, and get a first-hand look at a city and state that is representative of so many of the successes, challenges, and opportunities facing equality today and in the future.

Register now! https://community.pflag.org/2015registration

2015 Gender Spectrum Conference
July 10-12
The 2015 Gender Spectrum Conference will take place July 10 – 12, at Saint Mary’s College of California in Moraga, CA. The theme for this year’s event is Sharing Our Stories. For more information, and to register, see: www.genderspectrum.org/quick-links/events

SVGMC — Out Generation
June 19-21
Silicon Valley Gay Men’s Chorus presents Out Generation at the Santa Clara University Recital Hall, corner of Franklin and Lafayette Streets, Santa Clara, CA 95050.
Friday June 19, 2015 at 8:00 PM
Saturday June 20, 2015 at 8:00 PM
Sunday June 21, 2015 at 3:00 PM
Purchase tickets online at: http://svgmc.org/buy_ticket.php

Rainbow Women’s Chorus
June 13 & 14
Broadway, Our Way! June 13 at 8 PM; June 14 at 3 PM at Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1550 Meridian Avenue in San Jose. For more information, see: www.rainbowwomen.org

► Mark Your Calendar ◄
June 13 — San Mateo County Pride Festival
June 13 & 14 — Rainbow Women’s Chorus Concert
June 18-28 — Frameline LGBT Film Festival, SF
June 26 & 27 — SFGMC Elton Sing-Along Concert
June 27-28 — SF Pride Festival and Parade
July 10-12 — Gender Spectrum Conference
Aug. 30 — Silicon Valley Pride, San Jose
Oct. 16-18 — PFLAG National Convention
New PFLAG Support Group for Parents, Families & Friends of Transgender Children
June 6, July 11

PFLAG has long been a leader among LGBT organizations in advocating for transgender people and supporting their families. Our San Jose/Peninsulara Chapter has been contacted more and more frequently in recent years by parents of transgender children seeking support. While the parents of children with gender identity issues have always been welcome at our meetings, and supported by the members whose children had sexual orientation issues, there is recognition that the experiences are different.

Anthony Ross of Outlet and Adolescent Counseling Services came to the March Redwood City meeting to spark a discussion about how to support parents of the growing population of transgender teenagers in particular. A couple of our members who were at that meeting, and who are parents of transgender children now in college, have stepped forward to organize and lead a new support group to try to meet that need.

We will meet in the Redwood City Library Community Room, 1017 Middlefield Road, between Jefferson and Main. Meetings are held on the first or second Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM. Future dates include August 8, September 5, October 10, and November 14.

All parents, families and friends/allies of transgender persons are welcome — please join us! For more information, email: Trans@pflagsanjose.org

NOTE: Redwood City requires this disclaimer on publicity for events held on city premises: The meeting space is provided as a community service by the City of Redwood City. The City neither sponsors nor endorses this event nor the presenting individual or organizations.

San Mateo County Pride Festival
Saturday, June 13
11:00 am - 6:00 pm
San Mateo Central Park, 5th & El Camino

The San Mateo County Pride Initiative is proud to present Beyond the Binary — the third annual San Mateo County Pride Celebration! Featuring MC Marta Gomez, the event includes a reception with the newly-formed San Mateo County LGBTQ Commission, family-friendly activities, resource booths, comedy, a queer fashion show, food trucks, music of all kinds, GLBT square dancers, and raffle prizes - all this and much more! Free Admission!

Our PFLAG Chapter will have a resource booth! We need volunteers to staff the table in 2- or 3-hour shifts. If you can help to staff the booth, please contact volunteer@pflagsanjose.org

San Francisco LGBT Pride
June 27-28

March or ride with PFLAG! The theme of the 45th Annual SF LGBT Pride Festival is Equality Without Exception.

PARADE
Sunday, June 28 -- Kickoff at 10:30 AM
Along Market Street, from Beale to 8th Street

CELEBRATION
Saturday and Sunday, June 27 and 28
Saturday: 12 Noon - 6 PM; Sunday: 11 AM - 6 PM
Civic Center Plaza

PARADE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
As always, PFLAG will be joining in all the festivities, including the parade up Market Street. To make it all happen we need the help of volunteers who can act as Contingent Monitors. PFLAG-SF is coordinating volunteers.

Contingent Monitors are designated members of our contingent that will walk with us along the Parade route, serving as chaperones for our contingent.

If you can help out, please email pflagsf@pflagsf.org. To be a monitor you must attend one of the mandatory training sessions, which will be held at various times and locations, including some in the South Bay. The Monitor training schedule is posted here:
www.sfpride.org/parade/contingent-monitors.html

Thorons Honored at SF Pride

The San Francisco Pride Board has selected Julia and Sam Thoron to receive the Jose Julio Sarria History Maker Award. Julia and Sam are past presidents of the San Francisco PFLAG Chapter.

As parents of three grown children, the Thorons became involved with PFLAG after their daughter, Liz, came out to them in January 1990. By February, they had connected with the late MaryBelle Smith, who ran the San Francisco chapter at the time.

"We got hooked," Sam said. "When Liz came out she had not changed," he added. "We needed some education and support around this new information."

They soon realized that support ran both ways, as Julia pointed out. "We wanted to educate the public and advocate for full equality for our child."

Read more:

NOTE: Redwood City requires this disclaimer on publicity for events held on city premises:
3rd Annual San Mateo County LGBTQI2S Pride Celebration

BEYOND THE BINARY

Celebrate the diversity of our community

SATURDAY, JUNE 13 • 11AM to 6PM
SAN MATEO CENTRAL PARK

• Family-Friendly Activities
• Resource Booths
• Food Trucks
• Comedy Performance
• Queer Fashion Show
• Hip Hop, Alternative Rock, Blue Grass, Rap, and Folk Music
• Reception with the San Mateo County LGBTQ Commission

Featuring Emcee Marga Gomez

For more information, visit www.smchealth.org/bhrs/ode/pride or http://lgbtq.smcgov.org or email: PRIDE@smcgov.org.
Transgender Lives: Your Stories

The New York Times is showcasing a series of personal stories submitted by transgender women and men that reflect the strength, diversity and challenges of the community. A wonderful and evolving collection! Check it out: www.nytimes.com/interactive/projects/storywall/transgender-today
The site also has a link to organizations offering support and information.▼

Laramie Passes Measure to Protect GLBTs

On May 13, the Laramie City Council approved a local anti-discrimination ordinance in the college town where Matthew Shepard's death triggered nationwide sympathy and brought a re-examination of attitudes toward gays 17 years ago. The council voted 7-2 in favor of the measure that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in housing, employment and access to public facilities such as restaurants.

Judy Shepard, Matt Shepard's mother, is active in a Denver-based foundation that bears her son's name and focuses on equality issues. "I'm thrilled that Laramie's doing it, at the same time sort of saddened that the state of Wyoming can't see fit to do that as well," Shepard said. "Maybe the rest of Wyoming will understand this is about fellow human beings ..." Read more: http://bigstory.ap.org/article/f184c5d5186ef4f908b34b1982c970d60/town-where-shepard-killed-passes-measure-protect-gays ▼

SF Gay Men’s Chorus - Elton: the Sing-Along June 26 & 27

Celebrate Pride with the 275 handsome men of the San Francisco Gay Men’s Chorus! We wrap up our 37th season with a rollicking, joyous sing-along, featuring the best of Sir Elton John. From the worlds of pop music, film, and Broadway, we’ve got it covered... with your help belting some of Sir Elton’s most iconic melodies! And there will also be breathtaking moments featuring that glorious sound for which SFGMC is famous. So dust off your bedazzled spectacles, strap on your platform shoes and grab your boa for Rocket Man, Crocodile Rock, Can You Feel The Love Tonight, Don’t Let The Sun Go Down On Me, Goodbye Yellow Brick Road ... and MANY MORE!!!

Nourse Theater, 275 Hayes Street, San Francisco 94102
June 26 — 8 PM
June 27 — 3 PM and 8 PM

Purchase tickets online: www.sfgmc.org/events/elton/ ▼

Dream no small dreams for they have no power to move the hearts of men.
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Project Outlet Support Groups

Project Outlet now has groups meeting in San Mateo, Palo Alto and Mountain View!

San Mateo — 101 South B Street, San Mateo 94401:
• Youth Group (ages 10-18), 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 6:30-8 pm
• De Ambiente II Grupo en Espanol (ages 10-25), 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 6:30-9 pm

Palo Alto — 1717 Embarcadero Road, Suite 4000, Palo Alto 94303:
• Youth Group (ages 10-18), every Thursday, 6-7:30 pm

Mountain View — 590 W. El Camino Real, Mountain View, 94041:
• Youth Group (ages 10-18), every Monday, 6-8 pm
• Grown Folks (ages 18-25), 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 6-8 pm
• De Ambiente Grupo en Espanol (ages 10-25), 2nd & 4th Fridays, 6-9 pm
• Trans* Group (ages 10-18) 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 6-7:30 pm

For more information: Email: info@projectoutlet.org · Phone: 650-965-2020 ext. 122 · 650-424-0852 · Online: www.projectoutlet.org ▼

Join the PFLAG Speaker’s Bureau!

By sharing our own personal experiences face-to-face, we aim to educate others about the issues that face lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and their family members. Through the power of personal experience, we can deconstruct stereotypes, misinformation and negative attitudes so prevalent in our society, and create a more compassionate, understanding and unified world.

For more information about the PFLAG Speakers Bureau, please contact our Speakers Bureau Coordinator, Brian Chin at speakersbureau@pflagsanjose.org ▼

I have always been unsatisfied with life as most people live it. Always I want to live more intensely and richly. Why muck and conceal one's true longings and loves, when by speaking of them one might find someone to understand them, and by acting on them one might discover oneself?  

Everett Ruess
Would you like to volunteer?  
Call the information lines.  
We need your help — Call today!

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