A Message from your President

2014 marks the 8th year the Dayton Chapter of PFLAG has hosted the fundraiser “When the Stars Come Out!” We bill this as the “dance competition with PIZZAZZ.” It will take place on Saturday, October 4th at 7 p.m., again at the beautiful Dayton Woman’s Club, 225 N Ludlow St. in Dayton

One hundred percent of the proceeds from this event go to fund PFLAG Dayton’s scholarship program. The more money our dancers raise at this event, the more scholarships we can award.

We always have a few favorite couples return each year to participate, but we also have new couples join us each year. Our couples consist of PFLAG members, parents, and straight allies from our community. There is always room for additional individuals or couples interested in learning the art of ballroom dancing.

Johnny Glaze is our dance instructor who graciously donates his time to teach our dancers all the right moves. You don’t have to already be an accomplished dancer; we will teach you.

Last year was the first time we had a theme for the event. It was The Great Gatsby. Several audience members joined in the fun by dressing in period costumes. This year the theme for “Stars” will be a 50s/60s Sock Hop. Guys, if you feel the urge, style your hair into a ducktail and grab your black leather jacket. And gals, we’d love to see some poodle skirts and ponytails.

The audience is an important component of the event. The night of the dance, the audience gets to vote for their favorite couple. The audience actually chooses the winners.

Mark your calendars and save the date of October 4, 2014. We hope we see you there.

But you don’t have to wait until October to have fun with PFLAG Dayton. Our annual picnic will be on our regular meeting night in August. See page 2 for details.

Jan Couchman, President
PFLAG Dayton

When You No Longer Need PFLAG Dayton, PFLAG Dayton Needs You!
Upcoming PFLAG Events

July Meeting

The next PFLAG monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, July 8th. The program will be “Support: Information and Conversation” presented by Pat Davis, our chapter Support Chair.

PFLAG chapters have been offering support since the beginning of the organization, and it remains one of the three components of the PFLAG mission statement. The first meeting organized by founder Jeanne Manford was a support meeting. Come on July 8th to learn about PFLAG support in 2014.

Scholarships Awarded

The Scholarship Awards banquet was held on June 10th, and PFLAG would like to introduce the recipients. This year there were three PFLAG Scholarships awarded – one to an LGBT student, one to a straight ally, and thanks to two private donors, an additional one to an LGBT student. PFLAG also administered the Dayton LGBT Center Scholarship to an LGBT student.

The first recipient is the PFLAG LGBT scholarship winner, Elizabeth Schoppelrei. She attends Wright State University majoring in Spanish with minors in English and German. She carries a 4.0 average, and currently is vice president of Rainbow Alliance, the WSU organization for LGBT students and their allies. She has been active in LGBT-positive events both on campus and beyond.

The ally scholarship was awarded to Rachel Fisk, a recent graduate of Oakwood High School. She will attend Michigan State University to study nursing. She is a charter member of the GSA at Oakwood and was instrumental in starting ally week and organizing a number of events including a GSA booth at the Oakwood community festival, creating safe places within classrooms and organizing fund raisers for the Trevor project.

The donor scholarship went to Jordan Peters, who is pursuing a Master’s Degree in Public Administration and Economic Development at Ohio State. A long-time advocate for LGBT rights, she was recently interviewed on a local radio program, and she serves as a mentor for Columbus high school students. Jordan was unable to attend the banquet as she is currently doing an internship with the Federal Reserve Bank in Cleveland.

Kyle Rauch was awarded the LGBT Center Scholarship. A spring graduate of Fairmont High School, he will attend Bowling Green University, majoring in English and Literature. Kyle was a founding member of Fairmont’s GSA, he was active in his school’s “Day of Silence,” and he participated in PRIDE events.
PFLAG’s First Community Award

At the Scholarship Banquet, PFLAG Dayton presented its first award to a community member who has exhibited continued support for the PFLAG mission. This award went to Elaine Fultz. For years Elaine was a librarian with Centerville Schools, where she had an uncanny ability to spot kids who could use some extra attention, including LGBT kids. She was a supportive, warm presence, often steering kids to books they might not yet even realize they needed.

Elaine Fultz

Elaine helped PFLAG Safe Schools Chair Kim Peters launch the Rainbow Reading program, offering essential guidance in the selection of books for all age levels. She and Kim attended the American Library Association convention in New Orleans in 2010 where they presented a workshop on Rainbow Reading.

In Elaine’s current position, Teen Services Specialist for the Dayton Public Library, she still advocates for LGBT kids and all kids. She will continue working with PFLAG Safe Schools and the Dayton chapter of GLSEN.

Recognition for PFLAG Members

At the PRIDE Gayla on June 6th, the Dayton LGBT Center singled out three individuals for recognition. Two of the three are PFLAG members.

Jan Couchman was presented the Natalie Clifford Barney Award 2014 for excellence and courage in advocacy of civil rights protections for all citizens in Ohio and the Miami Valley. Jan is the current president of PFLAG Dayton, and she has served previously as president, Scholarship Chair, and Support Chair. She initiated and continues to organize the fundraiser “When the Stars Come Out!”

Jan Couchman

At the same event Reverend Larry Rezash was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award 2014. Larry has worked for years to promote equality for LGBT people, both within PFLAG and in the community. He is a past-president of PFLAG Dayton, and he originated the idea for the PFLAG scholarship program. As a pastor in the United Church of Christ, one of his passions has been the welcome of LGBT people into faith communities.

Dayton Parents Assist Court Case

The legal support for marriage equality marches forward. On Wednesday August 6th in Cincinnati, the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals will hear four different but related marriage cases, one from each state in the circuit – Michigan, Kentucky, Tennessee and Ohio. PFLAG National has submitted an Amicus (friend of the court) Brief to accompany each case. They solicited PFLAG family stories from each state.

The Ohio story is that of PFLAG Dayton members Tom and Jan Harry. Their daughter and daughter-in-law married in New York, but their marriage is not recognized in Ohio. They are raising the Harry’s two grandsons.

UPS & DOWNS

Military Color Guard Leads Parade

An eight-member U.S. Armed Forces color guard team led the Capital Pride parade through Washington, D.C., on June 7th -- a first for any Pride event. "This is a significant step forward for the community as a whole and particularly for those LGBT members of the armed forces," wrote Capital Pride on their website.

LGBT History Initiative

Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell recently announced a National Park Service study to identify LGBT landmarks that should be included on the National Register of Historic Places.

When it comes to your To-Do List, put your Future First.

To set up your financial review, call or visit today.

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PFLAG MISSION STATEMENT:
Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons, their families and friends through:

• ADVOCACY: to end discrimination and secure equal civil rights.

• EDUCATION: to enlighten an ill-informed public.

• SUPPORT: to cope with an adverse society.

PFLAG-Dayton is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and is not affiliated with any religious or political group.
All donations are tax-deductible.

PFLAG Dayton 2014-15
Membership Application

Name _____________________________
Address ___________________________
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You will receive the PFLAG Dayton newsletter electronically. If you desire to have a paper version mailed to you, check this box □

Mail Membership Application/Dues to:
PFLAG Dayton
P.O. Box 3721
Dayton, OH 45401-3721

All Donations are Tax Deductible

Membership Levels

☐ Individual $30
☐ Household $40
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