



Cincinnati

WINTER/SPRING 2004

www.pflagcinci.org

A Quarterly Publication

P.O. Box 19634
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219-0634

THOUGHTS FROM THE PREZ:

2004 The Year of Partnership:

Our Chapter is heading off the year in good humor and looking forward to success. Though we certainly have our work cut out for us I am confident that our chapter is up to the challenge.

There is no doubt that the biggest news this month is our 12th Annual Scholarship Banquet. (See accompanying article for details). The Banquet Committee membership and helpers consisting of Harold and June Delph, Linda Arnest, Marian Weage, Jim Kelly, Rick Kay, Kathy Laufman, Tammy Patton, Maria Sulcer, Dolores and Steve Bebko, Tom and Marie Jenkins, Timothy Gross, Patrick Coyle, Lee Chenault, and Monica Plett, as well as Banquet Co-Chairpersons, Marti Kwiatkowski and Dorothy Byers, have been working very hard to ensure that this year's banquet is a success.

I am asking all of our membership to engage in partnership and invite someone you know to the PFLAG Scholarship Banquet. It is important that we begin to dialog and encourage as many people as possible to help our GLBT youth in every way possible.

Partnering with someone could be offering to give them a ride to the banquet, passing out PFLAG literature, making a personal connection and dropping off our community service video, or whatever else you may think of to help spread the word about PFLAG.

The planning of our scholarship banquet began with little steps. And, I believe, it is with little steps and personal contact that will make the difference. We have seen the results of this effort in CRF's door-to-door campaign and how successful it has been. We must do the same for our children.

So partner with someone, and bring them along for the "Laugh Out Loud" PFLAG Scholarship Banquet on Saturday, March 6th.

LAUGH OUT LOUD at the 12th ANNUAL PFLAG SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET

When: Saturday – March 6th
Where: The Madison in Covington, Kentucky
Time: 6:00 p.m. Cocktails
7:00 p.m. Dinner
Tickets: \$40.00 for Adults/ \$25 for students

Reservations: Contact June Delph at 513-241-8291

SPONSORED BY: HaHa Institute of Humor and Healing Arts

FEATURING: KAREN WILLIAMS
Nationally known humorist and comedian

Musical Selections
Choreographed by
Patrick Coyle of the
Cincinnati Men's Chorus

All proceeds from the banquet go to support PFLAG Scholarship Fund.

Last year over 230 people attended this enjoyable event and over \$10,000 in scholarships were awarded to ten deserving GLBT and supportive students.

About the PFLAG Cincinnati Chapter:

Our *regular* meetings are always held on the **second Tuesday of each month** at Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church, 103 William Howard Taft Rd., from 7:30 – 10:00 P.M. Our next meetings will be on December 9, 2003 and January 13, 2004. Meetings are open to parents, friends and family of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender persons, as well as to gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender persons.

Board meetings are held on the same night as regular meetings, starting at 6:00 P.M. Please contact a Board Member for information about attending meetings.

MISSION STATEMENT: Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays promotes the health and wellbeing of gay, lesbian, bisexual and trans-gender persons and their families and friends, through *support*, to cope with the adverse society, through *education*, to enlighten an ill-informed public, and through *advocacy*, to end discrimination and to secure civil rights. PFLAG provides an opportunity for confidential dialog about sexual orientation and gender identity, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human dignity. Meetings are open to all and are completely confidential.

From the membership committee:

Please remember to check the mailing label on this issue of the newsletter. We have included the date of expiration on your mailing label to send a gentle reminder of when your PFLAG dues expire. The date will also include a letter indicating the type of membership dues you have paid. If a date does not appear on the label that either means that you are not yet a member or that our records do not show when you last paid your dues. Your dues are our only source of revenue. Our only other fundraiser is the annual banquet and the proceeds from that event are earmarked for scholarships. We depend upon your generous support through your dues. If it is time to renew membership, please use the form included in this newsletter to do so. Thank you for your help!

Harold and June Delph and the entire Membership committee

2003/2004 Officers

- President..... Marti Kwiatkowski.....513.489.8776...Kwi31@fuse.net
- Vice President..... Dorothy Byers.....513.559.0271...dfbyers@cinci.rr.com – work: 556.3352
- Secretary..... Marie Jenkins.....513.697.9923...MarieMJ@aol.com
- Treasurer..... Rick Kay..... 513.794.9097...RickKay@ernstandrabe.com – work: 871.3033

2003/2004 Chairpersons/Board Members

- Advocacy Chair..... OPEN.....
- Hot Line..... Judy and Dick Jacobs.....513.755.6150...dickjacobs@fuse.net
- Internet Liaison..... Tom Jenkins.....513.697.9923...tom.jenkins@louisville.edu
- Library..... Kathleen Alexander.....
- Program..... Linda Arnest...513.241.2990...linda_arnest@hotmail.com – work: 556.0811
- Refreshments..... Dolores and Steve Bebko.....513.573.0589...dbebko@prodigy.net
- Speakers Bureau..... Dorothy Byers.....513.559.0271...dfbyers@cinci.rr.com--work:556.3352
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- Membership..... June and Harold Delph..513.241.8291...hjdolph@NetZero.Net -378.1146 Cell
- Scholarship..... Ric Stackpole.....513.919.8474.....Richard.Stackpole@UC.edu



GREATER CINCINNATI PFLAG MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New | Individual Membership | \$25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal | Household Membership | \$35.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Address | Supporting Membership | \$50.00 |
| | Contributing Membership | \$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please Contact me for
volunteer opportunities | Sponsoring Membership | \$500.00 |
| | Lifetime Membership | \$1,000.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please send all mailings blind label only | Other Contribution | \$_____ |

Make all checks payable to "PFLAG" and mail to P.O. Box 19634, Cincinnati, OH 45219-0634 (Your donation is tax deductible, ID #953750674. Thank you!

NAME _____ DATE _____ E-MAIL _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE (____) _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PFLAG Files Interim Report on Safe Schools Grant

PFLAG Cincinnati has filed its interim report with the National PFLAG office on our Safe Schools Campaign.

The money received from the Safe Schools Grant produced 250 videos with sleeves and professional labeling. Our membership took over 25 videos and personally delivered them to non-profit organizations, libraries, churches and community groups.

PFLAG has also teamed up with GLSEN and delivered nineteen videos (with more promised) to be included in the Safe School Package to be delivered to high schools throughout the Cincinnati area in the next few months.

Phase One of our distribution plan has been completed and was a resounding success. Our video, "Starting The Journey," is now available for speaking engagements, community groups and non-profits.

Phase Two of our distribution plan will include on-line ordering at both the local and national level, a media blitz campaign, and outreach into communities of people of color.

If you interested in participating in getting the word out about the Greater Cincinnati Chapter of PFLAG, please email Marti Kwiatkowski @ kwi31@fuse.net.

The scholarship deadline is April 17th, 2004.

Scholarships will be awarded to outstanding GLBT and straight supportive college-bound students. Proceeds from the 12th Annual Scholarship Banquet will determine the amount of the scholarship awards.

PFLAG recognizes that specific opportunities for gay and lesbian youth are limited and the need for positive role models is of primary importance. This program allows us to celebrate the achievement of individuals who represent PFLAG's values.

The Scholarship Selection Committee will look at the areas of academic performance, leadership, extra-curricular activities and the student's commitment to the GLBT community.

For Further information see our website at: www.pflagcinci.org.

PFLAG BANQUET TO FEATURE COMEDIAN KAREN WILLIAMS

The 12th Annual PFLAG Scholarship Banquet will feature internationally acclaimed and nationally-known comedienne and humorist and comedienne and humorist, **KAREN WILLIAMS**.

Ms. Williams' career spans more than twenty years of theatrical training, improvisational comedy, dance and movement and psychodrama. She is one the stars of the recently released comedy film, "Laughing Matters and the creator and facilitator of the Humor-at-Large workshop series, founder of the National Women's Comedy Conference, past president of the Association of Women's Music and Culture, and former board member of AIDS, Medicine and Miracles. Her workshops are specifically designed to build self-awareness, self-confidence and to encourage tolerance and respect for the dignity of human life. Ms. Williams teaches Stand-Up Comedy at Cleveland State University's Dramatic Arts Department and is currently President, CEO and founder of the HaHa Institute.

Karen generously consented to perform at the PFLAG banquet because she encourages full support of the principles of tolerance and respect for the dignity of human life, using the tool of appropriate humor. The mission of the HaHa Institute is to encourage the fullest and highest activation of human potential for compassion, wisdom, and life force through the daily use of humor and healing arts and the HaHa Institute is a sponsor of this year's banquet.

Get your reservations in early for the banquet and experience the "Diva of Comedy," Karen Williams.

ISQCCBE PROUD TO BECOME A PFLAG SUPPORTER

The Imperial Sovereign Queen City Court of the Buckeye Empire (ISQCCBE) is proud to announce that the entire Board of Directors has voted to donate all the money raised at their Sunday, March 14th show to the PFLAG Scholarship Fund. "The Board of Directors of the ISQCCBE realize that lesbian and gay youth deserve the same rewards as any other youth, and helping them with scholarships is something that I am personally very excited and honored to do," says Roberta Bigg.

Roberta Bigg will be performing in the show "Roberta Bigg presents - Meet the Parents," on Sunday, March 14th at The Dock on Pete Rose way. Light treats at 6:00 p.m. with showtime at 7:00 p.m. All are invited to attend to support PFLAG Cincinnati.

Most of the money raised is done by hand to hand tipping of our performers. And according to Roberta, "the sky is the limit for PFLAG."

The ISQCCBE is a local organization that has raised funds for AIDS-related charities. In just the past three months, the group has raised over \$8,000 according to Empress Truly Scrumptious. And in the words of Roberta Bigg, "I feel like you are family already.....let me say we are excited and feel privileged to be able to work with PFLAG. I sincerely hope we can continue this as a tradition for both of our respected organizations."

Visit The Court's webpage at www.isqccbe.org for complete event information.

CINCINNATI PRIDE COMMITTEE REPORT

There are changes that will take place for the 2004 festivities for Pride Weekend – June 12-13, 2004. Preparations for the rally, parade and festival are in full gear. The most noticeable change will be a cost of admission to the Festival. With the rising costs of putting on the Pride weekend (nearly \$25,000 in 2003) the Pride Committee has voted to charge a minimal admission fee. For \$5.00 you will be able to purchase an admission pin which will be good for admission to both days of the festival. Locations to buy the pins will be announced in the coming weeks. You will, however, be able to order your 2004 admission pin online and have it mailed directly to your home for \$6.00.

The Pride Committee is presently soliciting sponsors for the June event. Please contact Cincinnati Pride through the website (www.cincypride.com) for a sponsorship packet and event information.

TUNE IN TO WAIF RADIO EVERY SECOND SATURDAY AT 4:30 PM FOR PFLAG

THANK YOU-

PFLAG would like to thank Teri Campbell and Paula Epperson for donating a one-year subscription to the Advocate to our Chapter. Look for copies of the Advocate on the periodicals table at our monthly meetings. Thank you Teri and Paula.

PFLAG Tribute Announcements

If you would like to recognize someone special, we would be glad to print a tribute in the newsletter and post it on the website. This is an excellent way to help our chapter raise much-needed funds and at the same time let someone know that you are thinking about them. Newsletters are published quarterly.

A note card and Newsletter will be sent to the person you are honoring when you supply a name and full address with a donation to PFLAG. You will receive a receipt stating the amount of the tax deductible donation.

Send your donation to: PFLAG Cincinnati Tribute Fund

PO Box 19634 – Cincinnati, Ohio – 45219-0634.

KELLY CORKEN DONATES RAINBOW BAT TO SILENT AUCTION

The QEIII Bat - Or The Queer Eye For The Queen City Bat

From the Batsincredible Project has been donated by Kelly Corken, Designer of Rainbows Over Fields of Dreams (a gay themed sculpture that was on display at Piatt Park and The Courtyard of the Children's Library during the summer of 2003 for Artworks).

Kelly's vision was to create a sculpture that was a tribute to the gay out athlete and represented the social and political climate in Cincinnati. He thought it was time to have a sculpture involved in a city public forum that addressed our community. He also wanted to represent the gay organized sporting groups that exist in our city. You too can have a bat from part of Cincinnati's gay history.

This Louisville slugger is adorned with an eye with rainbow lashes and a crown on top with the inscription "The Queer Eye For The Queen City." It is such a thrill to have this project raise more money for PFLAG. Be sure to bid on this

item (or any of the unique items) at the PFLAG Scholarship Banquet. This might be the only time when an OUT truly is a HOMER! Kelly's dream now is to begin to look for the opportunity to create an AIDS Memorial here in Cincinnati! Continue to show your pride as we have just begun to Win The Game.

Yes to Fairness!

NO To Article XII

Citizens to Restore Fairness
www.citizenstorestorefairness.org

Did You Know...

...that ALL same-sex families are denied the more than 1,000 federal benefits and protection of marriage and, in 49 out of 50 states they are denied most of the state rights and responsibilities that come with marriage?

...that in 36 states, someone can be barred from renting an apartment or turned away from hotels, restaurants and other public accommodations just for being gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered?

...that in 36 states, someone can be legally fired or denied employment or promotion based on his or her sexual orientation?

...Partners in a committed same-sex relationship are denied Social Security survivor benefits when one dies.

...Children of same-sex parents are denied survivor benefits if the deceased parent was not the biological parent or was unable to obtain a second-parent adoption.

...Friends and families are unaware that their LGBT friends don't have the same rights and privileges they themselves have.

...When told about the lack of equal rights they are surprised, even shocked.



For gays and lesbians, America is 14 states that recognize our right to live free from job discrimination.

Thirty-six states DO NOT

www.turnout.org
