



HeartBeat



PFLAG Olympia, Washington

Issue 114 ~ Nov.-Dec. 2012

WHAT IT MEANS NOW: THE REPEAL OF DON'T ASK DON'T TELL

by Catherine Dawdy

PFLAG-Olympia invites our local military families who are supportive of LGBT persons to join our local PFLAG-Olympia community. We seek to understand and offer support to families who know that the repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell is a beginning step towards equality. It may still be very difficult to be 'out' in the work environment. Support, education and advocacy for LGBT issues may not yet be readily available within the military community. It may be difficult to have children or grandchildren who identify as LGBT and who live in the military community. It may be difficult as same gender parents to be 'out.' All of the issues that affect the LGBT community at large are military LGBT issues as well. If you seek an outside supportive environment, please consider coming to our meetings and helping us build a safe and supportive environment for people struggling with these issues.

On Veterans Day this year, November 11th, our regularly scheduled general meeting will be devoted to these topics. Please join us in welcoming a speaker from Fort Lewis, **James Walker**, and a speaker from our local Veterans for Peace chapter, Vietnam War veteran and current Veteran Benefits Advocate, **Mark Fleming**, and **Alan M. Steinman**, a retired Rear Admiral from the U.S. Coast Guard and a member of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network. We will have refreshments as usual and plenty of time for Q&A.

We are building a list of resources and especially welcome local people and organizations who offer assistance to those in need of support and guidance to contact us with your information at treasurer@pflag-olympia.org or our mailing address listed in this newsletter. PFLAG-Olympia will add resources as they become available to our website, <http://pflag-olympia.org/>.

Following are a few from our current list:

<http://community.pflag.org/document.doc?id=327> : an excellent <http://community.pflag.org/document.doc?id=327> : an excellent presentation from our former executive director of PFLAG National addressing the reasons for repealing Don't Ask Don't Tell.

<http://www.sldn.org/> : Servicemembers Legal Defense Network .

<http://community.pflag.org/Page.aspx?pid=1278> : Our National PFLAG website page for resources regarding Don't Ask Don't Tell.

<http://girightshotline.org/en/> : GI Rights Network.

http://www.vfp109rcc.org/veterans_advocate_training.htm : Veteran Benefits Advocacy - Veteran Benefits Advocacy Training.



SUNDAY, NOV. 11, 2-4 PM

What it means now: The Repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell

Where we are now that Don't Ask, Don't Tell has ended, with guest speakers **James Walker**, **Mark Fleming**, and **Alan M. Steinman**.
← See the article to the left.

SUN., DEC. 9, 2-4 PM

Holiday Party and White Elephant Gift Exchange

Our annual holiday gift exchange and pot-luck. Bring snacks and cheap and/or outlandish gifts. Each person gets a turn to pick a gift and everyone else gets a chance to steal that gift or pick another. It's always great fun. Come prepared to laugh and spread joy.

“**E**ach time a person stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, these ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.”

~ Bobby Kennedy
in a 1964 Time Magazine article:
“Through a Brother's Eyes”

Board Changes and Our Annual Election

As of Jan. 1, 2013 Alec Clayton will be stepping down as president of PFLAG-Olympia. The board has nominated Courtney Schrieve to take over as president and Robert Kowalski as vice president. Courtney has experience on non-profit boards and working with the Thurston County School District. Robert is a high school student and will be Courtney's assistant, collaborator & colleague. Alec will be available to consult with both as needed.

Our treasurer, Catherine Dawdy, will also be stepping down in January and the board is looking for someone to take her place. The treasurer pays the bills and must know how to balance a checkbook. The treasurer attends all of the Board meetings and checks the PO BOX on a regular basis. Using an accounting software program is not necessary but helpful. Members who might be interested in this job should contact treasurer@pflag-olympia.org or info@pflag-olympia.org.

Our by-laws state that our president and treasurer must be elected by our members. We will vote at the November meeting.

Alec and Gabi Clayton will continue as newsletter editors and Alec will continue to send out announcements on the email alert list, but the board will be seeking other members to take over these functions in time. If you are interested in volunteering for this you should contact a board member.

Alec and Gabi will also continue to maintain the website. Hilary Robbins has volunteered to work on it with them.

HeartBeat is a free publication of the PFLAG chapter in Olympia, Washington, published six times a year. The editors are Alec & Gabi Clayton.

Unsolicited articles are welcome and are due by the 15th of even-numbered months. The editors reserve the right to reject or edit material.

The deadline for the next issue is 12/15/2012

Mail submissions to:

HeartBeat
P.O. Box 12732
Olympia, WA 98508-2732

Or email to: newsletter@pflag-olympia.org

We now have a completely renovated website that is more colorful and easier to navigate—big thanks to Rhonda Fabert for her work!
Check it out at: www.pflag-olympia.org

Subscribe to the PFLAG-Olympia Alert List!

The PFLAG-Olympia Alert is a one-way announcement email listserv designed to inform our members and friends of upcoming events. To subscribe, go online to: <http://lists.pflag-olympia.org/listinfo.cgi/alert-pflag-olympia.org>



NEW or RENEWAL PFLAG MEMBERSHIP

Please check the membership types you prefer:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Educator \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior/Student/Low Income \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocate \$500 |

New Renewal

Membership \$ _____

Add this amount as my tax-exempt gift \$ _____

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP AND GIFT \$ _____

DATE: _____ PHONE: _____

Signed: _____

PRINT NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

- I want Olympia's bi-monthly newsletter *HeartBeat* **print version only.**
- I want Olympia's bi-monthly newsletter *HeartBeat* **sent as email only.**
- I want Olympia's bi-monthly newsletter *HeartBeat* **both print and email.**
- I want to be added to the PFLAG-Olympia **email alert list.**

PFLAG Olympia, P O Box 12732; Olympia, WA 98508-2732
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PFLAG
Olympia, Washington

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

MEETS at 2PM on the second Sunday of each month at First United Methodist Church, 1224 Legion Way SE, Olympia. It is handicap-accessible. In August we meet at 1pm for a potluck picnic in a local park.

DIRECTIONS: From Sylvester Park on Capitol Way and Legion Way, go 12 blocks east on Legion Way to Boundary Street. Turn left around the church. Park in the lot at 5th Avenue and Boundary and enter through the glass doors.

Mailing address:
PO Box 12732; Olympia, WA 98508-2732

For more information
email: info@pflag-olympia.org

or go to our website:
<http://www.pflag-olympia.org>