



HeartBeat



PFLAG Olympia, Washington

Issue 117 ~ May-June 2013

2013 Capital City Pride is coming June 21-23: Are you ready?

I have lived in Olympia for over 20 years but surprisingly last year was my first to participate in the Capital City Pride parade. Oh sure, maybe I had stumbled upon one or two when my kids were smaller, and have even witnessed others in Peru and London, but those didn't really count. You see watching from the sidelines is fun, but it's nothing like taking part in the Festival itself. It's like discovering a whole new family of tolerance and love all in one weekend!



I decided to do a little research on the history of Pride so bear with me and other newbies if this is all old news to you veterans. Pride festivals around the world – attracting an estimated 6 million people a year – commemorate the 1969 Stonewall Uprising considered by many to be the birth of the modern gay rights movement. The first Pride parades occurred in New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

While Capital City Pride (capitalcitypride.net) did not officially begin until 1991, so began a great tradition for our community. Today the festival draws more than 15,000 people and includes not only a fabulous and colorful multi-generational parade (have you signed up yet?), as well as Capital City Pride Idol, a beer garden, arts and crafts and of course the famous, most awesome PFLAG-Olympia resource booth (where all the cool kids hang out). To volunteer for a shift be sure to email us at info@pflag-olympia.org or let a Board member know.

We hope to see you there! Look for the round hot pink stickers – we've already ordered more.

Courtney Schrieve,
PFLAG-Olympia President 2013



Spring (and that nasty pollen) is in the air, along with fun plans for our May/June meetings. PFLAG-Olympia meetings are held the second Sunday of each month, 2-4 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 1224 Legion Way SE, Olympia, WA. The first hour generally includes introductions, support and snacks. The last hour is our program. Here are our upcoming programs:

SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2-4 PM

Mother's Day

Help us celebrate PFLAG founder Jeanne Manford. On June 25, 1972, she participated with her son in the New York Pride March, carrying a hand-lettered sign that read "Parents of Gays Unite in Support for Our Children." Our creative board members Hilary and Kathryn will prepare a short video tribute to the lady who hosted the first official PFLAG meeting on March 26, 1973. 20 people attended! Manford died on January 8, 2013.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2-4 PM

Open House

While tradition has been not to meet in June due to PRIDE, this year we decided to host an OPEN HOUSE on this day. Instead of a formal program, we'll put our entire PFLAG library on display, maybe talk about a few of our favorite books/movies in the collection and just have some good old PFLAG fellowship. Bring a friend!

PRIDE FACTS:

Did you know???

- ▼ In 2005, the parade was forbidden in Poland by local authorities (including then-Mayor Lech Kaczyński) but occurred nevertheless.
- ▼ Turkey is the first Muslim majority country in which a gay pride march is held (since 2003).
- ▼ Ontario Canada was the first jurisdiction in North America to legalize same sex marriage.
- ▼ São Paulo, Brazil reportedly hosts the biggest Pride parade in the world – in 2009 an estimated 3.2 million people attended.
- ▼ In August 2012, the first Pride Parade was held in Uganda to protest the government's recent treatment of its LGBT citizens, including attempts to adopt harsher sodomy laws named the “Kill the Gays” bill.

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 6/15/2013

Mail submissions to:

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

Or email to: newsletter@pflag-olympia.org



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Please check the membership types you prefer:

- | | |
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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>