



HeartBeat



PFLAG Olympia, Washington

Issue 96 ♦ Nov.-Dec. 2009

Some Good News from Our Treasurer

by Jeff Loyer

I thought you might be wondering how PFLAG-Olympia was doing financially in the midst of the country's economic struggles. I'm happy to say we're doing GREAT! In fact, last Spring we were able to donate \$1500 to the Pizza Klatch to finish the funding for facilitator stipends (<http://www.pizzaklatch.org>), and we just sent a donation of \$1000 to the "Approve 71" campaign. How did we get so lucky that we could be so generous?

The board has worked hard to cut down costs. We discontinued our old phone service, and now calls go to the cell phones of 2 board members. We also went shopping for best rate on Internet, and not only got a great price, but the service is provided by a GLBTQ-friendly company — Blue Argo (<http://www.blueargo.com>) which is run by Jason Hungerford (founder of Youth Guardian Services) and his partner, Jason Seymour.

We will continue to review our expenses, but I think we're pretty lean. Our largest expense is National PFLAG dues, which we certainly want to support. Another large expense is printing the newsletter, and we vacillate about going more paperless. If you have an opinion, we'd love to hear it (send an e-mail to info@pflag-olympia.org).

Our income has continued to be strong. The wonderful Steve Schalchlin Concert
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▼ SUNDAY, NOV. 8, 2-4:30PM

Open Adoption

A presentation by Jodi Bernstein from Open Adoption and Family Services in Seattle. We'll learn about the work of this non-profit, progressive, pro-choice and open and affirming agency. (<http://www.openadopt.org>)

The workshop will be interactive, open and fun!

Also, Mary Katherine Plas, a PFLAG-Olympia member and local attorney specializing in adoption will make a brief presentation. (<http://www.rainbowfamilylaw.com>)

▼ SUNDAY, DEC. 13, 2-4:30PM

White Elephant Gift Exchange

It's holiday/winter party time and we'll be exchanging gifts! Crazy gifts. Joke gifts. Stuff we got last year and don't know what to do with. So bring a wrapped gift addressed to no one. Each person will get one gift and each gift may be exchanged three times whether the current person holding the gift wants to swap or not. It's all in fun, and with any luck at all you might actually get something you like. (If you don't believe it, ask Kaleigh what she got last year.) And there will be food of course!

PFLAG-Olympia meeting format

2:00-2:30 p.m.	Introductions
2:30-2:40 p.m.	Announcements
2:40-3:15 p.m.	Support
3:15-3:30 p.m.	Social time/snacks
3:30-4:30 p.m.	Program (see above)

Note—Sometimes we have a longer program time and shorten other parts of the meeting, and in August we meet in a local park instead of at the church, and that meeting is from 1-5p.m.

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 10th of even-numbered months. The editors reserve the right to reject or edit material.

The deadline for the next issue is 12/15/09

Mail submissions to:
HeartBeat
P.O. Box 12732
Olympia, WA 98508-2732

Or email to: newsletter@pflag-olympia.org

The PFLAG Mission

To promote the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends through:

- ▼ support, to cope with an adverse society;
- ▼ education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and
- ▼ advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights.

Treasurer *(Continued from page 1)*

brought in \$1500, as well as an incredible evening of entertainment. (<http://www.pflag-olympia.org/SteveSchalchlinPFLAG-OlympiaConcert2009.pdf>). We also benefited from a program that Intel has to compensate employees for their volunteer time. For every hour I put into PFLAG, they donate \$10. Since I was coming up to speed on how to be treasurer, I spent A LOT of time doing (and re-doing) the books. At the end of the year, we earned \$3,000 from Intel. Hopefully, I'm a little more streamline this year (thanks Steve J.!) and I won't spend as many hours fumbling around. That amount will reduce considerably, but it was a nice boost this year. Year-End Statements (for tax purposes) are available by e-mailing Treasurer@pflag-olympia.org.

Membership went up a bit, too, from 43 to 50.

As treasurer, I can also tell you that there are folks who are incredibly generous in their donations to PFLAG-Olympia and the Pizza Klatch. It's heartening to witness how selfless folks are in these rough times. Thank you all for your wonderful support, and thanks for a great fiscal year!

*"Each 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*

Board elections

Traditionally we elect new board members at the November election. This year we have two new candidates to the board — Bill Donner and Gloria Valtierra, and we're still waiting for word from a couple of people we've asked. If other members would like to join the board they are more than welcome to put their names in contention either by contacting any board member or by showing up at the November meeting and declaring their candidacy. Board positions are open to all dues paying members of PFLAG-Olympia. The November elections usually take no more than a few minutes out of the meeting time.

Board meetings take place on the Tuesday following each regular monthly meeting and are open to anyone who wants to attend. If you would like to attend a meeting to see what they are like, check with any board member for time and place. Meeting places vary month-to-month and are held at board member homes.

Current board members are: Alec Clayton, President; Julianne Wasilasky, Secretary; Jeff Loyer, Treasurer; Virgil Clarkson; Kaleigh Costello; Kristin Stewart; and Gabi Clayton.

NEW or RENEWAL PFLAG MEMBERSHIP
 Please check the membership types you prefer:

Individual \$35 Supporter \$100
 Household \$50 Educator \$250
 Senior/Student/Low Income \$15 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* (which is mailed in an envelope with no identified return address).
 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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 not affiliated with any political or religious institution.



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.

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.

Letters, articles and requests for literature are welcome.

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>