



# PFLAG Colorado Springs

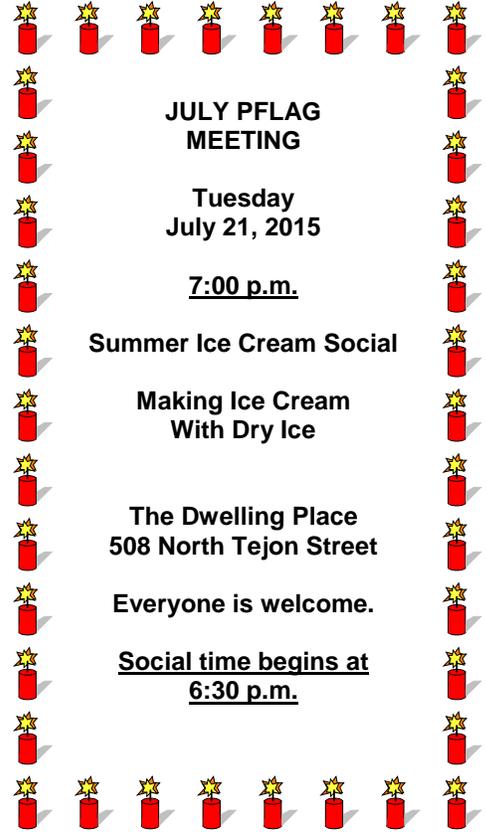
July, 2015

## July PFLAG Meeting—Summer Ice Cream Social

The July PFLAG meeting will feature a summer ice cream social with PFLAG members and supporters and TYES families. Children are welcome.

Fun for the kids—we'll make ice cream using dry ice. Make and decorate your own sundae. Homemade cookies,

And—review/ discussion of the PrideFest celebration.



**JULY PFLAG MEETING**

**Tuesday  
July 21, 2015**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Summer Ice Cream Social**

**Making Ice Cream  
With Dry Ice**

**The Dwelling Place  
508 North Tejon Street**

**Everyone is welcome.**

**Social time begins at  
6:30 p.m.**

## PFLAG to Celebrate PrideFest with Float in Parade

The 25th Annual Colorado Springs PrideFest celebration is July 11-12, 2015 at America the Beautiful Park.



The New PrideFest Logo

PrideFest will be a joyful celebration of the recent Supreme Court decision affirming marriage equality. Come out and show your support for the LGBT community and, in particular, for PFLAG's TYES program that supports families with gender-diverse children.

Volunteers are needed to help with the booth from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days. Call Cindy at 488-9887.

Keria Shaw and her TYES families are preparing a float for the parade, decorated by their children who are excited to be riding on the float in the parade. All supporters of PFLAG are encouraged to help with the booth in the park and to march with us in the Parade.

## Colorado Springs PFLAG Launches Facebook Page

Doug Kirkpatrick and Keria Shaw have put together a Facebook page for "Colorado Springs PFLAG".

If you are a Facebook user, please take a look at our page and click on "Like" to send it to your Facebook friends. You are welcome to post on the PFLAG page.

The PFLAG booth is #76, located along the south edge of the park. Donations will be requested at the entrance to the park but are not required. Parking will be limited, and there is a fee for parking.

Bring your family and friends and march with the PFLAG group in the parade! The parade will line up Sunday morning on Tejon Street south of Cimarron Street in downtown Colorado Springs. Just find the PFLAG float and join in. We will have plenty of signs for PFLAG marchers. The parade kicks off at 11:00 a.m., and follows last year's route up Tejon to Colorado Avenue and west on Colorado Avenue to the park. If that's too far for you, join us for a few blocks and step out if and when you need to.

## "Off the Street" Breakfast July 22 — 7:30—8:30 a.m.

Urban Peak of Colorado Springs will host its 2015 "Off the Street" Breakfast on July 22 to support its work with homeless youth.

The breakfast is free. A short program about the Urban Peak's programs that to house and counsel youth who have been living on the street will be presented by Urban Peak volunteers and some of the youth. Donations will be requested.

Join us for this excellent event. Register to sit with the PFLAG group by calling Karen at 634-4433. The breakfast will be at a new location: 218 West Colorado Avenue, under the bridge, west of the railroad tracks.

*(Continued on page 2)*



This newsletter is published by the Colorado Springs Chapter of PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays).

**PFLAG Mission Statement:**

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) 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 secure equal civil rights.

PFLAG provides an opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

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**PFLAG IS FOR EVERYONE**

If you've never been to one of our meetings, we feel you will find it rewarding and may find it leads to a new sense of family.  
Membership is not required.  
All are welcome.

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To join the chapter and receive the newsletter regularly, complete and mail the membership form on page four. To receive complimentary copies of the newsletter, please contact us.

E-mail address: [info@cspflag.org](mailto:info@cspflag.org)

Support Line: (719) 425-9567

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**The Back Story—Pronouns**

*When Bruce Jenner announced that he was transgender in an extended interview with Diane Sawyer in May, the media used masculine pronouns in covering this news. The New York Times offered the following explanation for the way the story was told:*

**BACK STORY**

We managed to stir up a little controversy this week with an item we published about Bruce Jenner. We said he identified as a woman. So why, some of you wrote to ask, were we referring to him with "he" instead of "she?"

In this case, the answer was simple. That was the pronoun he said he preferred in his appearance last week on national television in which he disclosed that he was becoming a woman.

Still, it can be tricky to be both respectful and grammatically accurate when writing about gender transitions and gender nonconformity.

Some people identify as male or female. Others reject both labels or say they're in transition. But tradi-

tional English usage has only "he" or "she." Not a lot of nuance there.

That could change. A dozen or so gender-neutral pronouns ("ze" and "xe," for instance) have been suggested, but none has really caught on. And grammarians aren't ready to give up their death grip on "they." For now, the advocacy group GLAAD advises the news media to use the pronoun a transgender person prefers.

The New York Times, for one, defers to the individual's choice, although we avoid new alternatives not widely familiar to readers.

For Mr. Jenner, as of last week, that choice was still "he."

**PrideFest (cont.)**

*(Continued from page 1)*

PrideFest information is online at [www.coloradospringspridefest.com](http://www.coloradospringspridefest.com)

**Citizens Project Supports The Queer Collective in Pride Parade**

This year Citizens Project will partner with the Colorado Springs Queer Collective in marching in the People's March in the PrideFest Parade.

Citizens Project marchers have the option of signing up online to make a donation to support The Queer Collective. Part of the donation will go back to Citizens Project. Next Generation Renovations, Inc., will match the first \$1,000 in donations.

The Queer Collective, which seeks to revive the Colorado Springs Pride Center after it closed last February, has set the goal of having 1,000 individuals donate and march in the People's March. For more information, see the website for the Queer Collective: <http://www.csqueercollective.org/>

**Trans Youth Education and Support (TYES)**

TYES is a PFLAG affiliate that offers education and support to families with gender non-conforming children. TYES information is available at PFLAG meetings.

TYES families in the Pikes Peak region keep in touch by phone and through a private Facebook page. They hold monthly family meetings. To contact the Colorado Springs TYES volunteers, call PFLAG at (719) 425-9567 or send an e-mail to [info@cspflag.org](mailto:info@cspflag.org).

The TYES program originated and is headquartered in Boulder,

More information is available at the national TYES website [www.TYES-Colorado.org](http://www.TYES-Colorado.org)



## Marching With Pride and Corporate America

By Jordan Roth, President, Jujamycn Theaters and Broadway correspondent.

Long before I was walking, they were marching.

The pioneers of gay rights, gay visibility, gay pride first took to the streets of New York City in 1970 to march. Marching toward equality, toward freedom, toward justice. Marching to demand to be seen and heard. Marching to continue the battle cry that had been sounded one year before at Stonewall.

What began as a routine police raid on a gay bar ended as the beginning of a civil rights movement. Rather than accept what had become the all-too-common violence and humiliation of the raid, that night the patrons of The Stonewall Inn rose up and fought back. A year later, that spark had ignited into an organized march to commemorate and amplify the fight.

In the decades that followed, the march reflected the emotional and political journey of the community: The anger and pain of the early struggles for basic human recognition; the profound sadness and fear and rage as AIDS ravaged; the betrayal of political discriminations like the Defense of Marriage Act; the optimism of early victories of the first civil union and marriage laws; the elation of momentum for marriage equality in more and more states. And this weekend, euphoria with [Supreme Court's ultimate decision](#) and marriage equality's final victory.

As they marched through the years, these early brave souls were joined by more and more of us in more and more cities, and the marching became dancing, and the protest chants became music, and the police who first turned their backs in disgust on the sidewalks folded into the streets to serve with pride themselves, and the politicians who first wouldn't grant an audience now wouldn't miss the chance to connect with this audience,

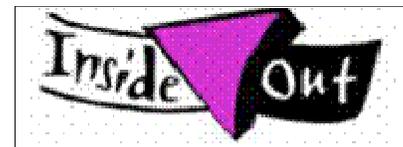
and the children we never thought possible held our hands as they marched toward the future.

And somewhere on this long road, a company started marching, too. And then another and another. First to us, then for us, then as us.

It started as sales. Alcohol. Companies like Barcardi and Budweiser who could sell us a way to dull our pain or lift our celebration. Chiseled models on floats parading an ideal we were happy to try to attain, one glass at a time.

But soon the alcohol became airlines like Delta, and the models became model employees, and the point became not just to sell us a product but to celebrate us. Or more to the point, to celebrate the us who are also they -- the hundreds and thousands of LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning) people who work at those companies and build those products and lead those projects and staff those teams. To say that pride in your company and pride in your identity are not mutually exclusive. To say that bringing your whole self to work makes you and your company work better. To say we are proud of you and we are proud to work with you. And not just to say it, but to shout it through the streets of New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, and beyond.

These companies, from Marriott and Hilton to Google, Apple and Facebook, who march in parades across the nation, and raise the banner of their corporate colors to both protect and elevate their LGBTQ team members -- they know the great corporate responsibility that comes with great corporate power. The responsibility to lead, not just your company but your community and your country. Especially when your country needs leading.



Eric Pizana, who participated as a youth at Inside/Out and has done an excellent job as Executive Director of the group is resigning at the end of July. The board of directors is conducting a search for a new director.

Eric has been a fine educator and friend to PFLAG. We wish him great success in his future endeavors.

Inside/Out Youth Services provides support to LGBTIQ youth between the ages of 13 and 22. For more information call (719) 328-1056.

The recent misguided attempt by Indiana's governor and legislature to codify discrimination in the name of religious freedom was beaten back in a matter of days by companies like Salesforce who canceled all programs requiring customers and employees to travel to Indiana; by Angie's List, which withdrew its proposal to expand its Indiana campus; and by so many others who have raised their voices against it.

Today, as South Carolina struggles to defend the Confederate flag that flies at its Capitol and politicians twist themselves in knots to not take a stand, Walmart, Sears/Kmart, Amazon, eBay and more decisively pulled all Confederate flag merchandise from their shelves and sites. And in an act of poetic leadership, Starbucks raised the gay-pride flag above its own headquarters in Seattle. A rainbow beacon for all to see. What so proudly we hailed.

This is the America of which I sing. And this is Corporate America. One marching step at a time.

*This post first appeared on [CNBC.com](#) and was printed in The Huffington Post June 28, 2015. Thanks to Bill and Carol Oberg for providing this link.*



**BULLETIN BOARD**

**“Love is Love” - PFLAG President Jean Hodges on the Supreme Court Decision**

“Love is love” has won a victory on this day! June 26, 2015 will live in the annals of American history as a landmark day in human rights because marriage equality is now the law of our land.

It has been a 22-year journey for justice by our PFLAG Boulder County chapter which began with the agonizing disbelief of a handful of Boulder parents, allies, and LGBT people that Colorado citizens voted to make discrimination against gays and lesbians a constitutional amendment.

Today I will hang my American flag from my balcony as a symbol of hope and of recommitment to continue the work for full equality and belonging for all Americans.

**Why the TYES Program is Important for Our PFLAG Chapter—** By Doug Kirkpatrick, President

TYES connects Colorado Springs PFLAG with young families who have transgender children. We had none of that connection prior to our association with TYES. The unique spectrum of transgender children and their parents gives the PFLAG staff and members an opportunity to learn new avenues to educate, support, and advocate for our transgender families.

It fills a void PFLAG naturally had with young families. PFLAG will be better able to see the long-term approach for educating, supporting, and advocating for all LGBTQ people by knowing the challenges and participating in the solutions for the families of transgender children.

Although PFLAG benefits from its associations, PFLAG has always been about volunteers who see the needs among LGBTQ families and making themselves available for education, support, and advocacy. The PFLAG board and members gain significant satisfaction from helping the TYES families deal with their situations, within their families, and within their communities.

**July 11-12 — Colorado Springs 25th Annual PrideFest—** America the Beautiful Park. See article, p. 1.

**July 10-11-12—Gender Spectrum Conference and Professionals Symposium—**Moraga, CA. Focusing on Children, teens. See [www.genderspectrum.org](http://www.genderspectrum.org)

**July 13— “Know Your Rights as a Transgender Patient in Colorado”** Workshop at 6 p.m. at Gender Identity Center, 1151 South Huron Street, Denver. Learn more about your rights as a transgender patient, how to access care, and how to fight discrimination in health care. Sponsored by OneColorado and Gender Identity Center. More information at <http://www.one-colorado.org/events/know-your-rights-as-a-transgender-patient-in-colorado/>

**July 22—Urban Peak “Off the Street” Breakfast—** 7:30 a.m.—8:30 a.m.—new location 218 West Colorado Avenue under the bridge, west of the railroad tracks. See article, p. 1.

**September 13— Boulder Pride Celebration—** More information at Out Boulder: <http://www.outboulder.org/> Contact PFLAG in Boulder to participate. <http://pflagboulder.org/>

**October 16-18— PFLAG National Convention,** Nashville, Tennessee. Join PFLAG supporters from across the nation for two days and nights of honing skills, building relationships and celebrating. More information on the PFLAG website at: <http://community.pflag.org/2015convention>

**November 11-12-13—Colorado School Counselors Conference,** Antlers Hotel, Colorado Springs. PFLAG will have a table at the conference to acquaint counselors with the support services PFLAG and TYES offer. Volunteers from local PFLAG will be needed for this event.

**PFLAG Thanks**

The Saponas Foundation and First Congregational United Church of Christ for their significant, ongoing support of the Colorado Springs PFLAG Chapter.

**Support Colorado Springs PFLAG—Become a Member**

You can join at any time of the year. The current membership year extends from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ New member \_\_\_\_ Renewing member

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_ Regular Membership \$ 30
- \_\_\_\_ Supporting Member—Silver 40
- \_\_\_\_ Supporting Member—Gold 60
- \_\_\_\_ Supporting Member—Platinum 100

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Each year our chapter must contribute \$15.00 for each paid membership to the PFLAG national office to support its mission.

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you wish to receive the newsletter by e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Colorado Springs PFLAG and mail to P.O. Box 49131, Colorado Springs, CO 80949. Membership fees and contributions are tax deductible. All information will remain confidential. PFLAG is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization.