



The PFLAG Link

MIDLAND, BAY CITY & SAGINAW CHAPTER
P.O. BOX 362, BAY CITY, MI 48707-0362
989-941-1458

www.pflag-mbs.org

March 2010

Meeting This Month
Sunday, Mar. 28 2-4:30 PM
Unitarian/Universalist Fellowship
6220 Jefferson at Wackerly, Midland

Easy to Register NOW: PFLAG Michigan Statewide Meeting in Jackson

The Jackson PFLAG Chapter invites you to this year's Statewide Meeting, titled "Chapter Tune-Up: Keeping PFLAG Running and Relevant." Join us Sat., April 17 at the Bella Notte Ristorante Ballroom, 137 W Michigan Ave., Jackson, 9 AM to 4 PM. Cost is \$30/individual, \$55/couple, and \$20 for students, including breakfast and lunch. (Reduced fees or assistance available.) **NOTE: Our Breakfast is by special arrangement. If you wait to register at the door, you will miss breakfast, and lunch will not be included in your registration fee!** Speakers include **Andy Wolber** of NPower Michigan on "Leveraging Technology;" **Dr. Julie Nemecek** of Michigan Equality on "Forefront of Transgender Equality;" plus **Mike Neubecker**, Regional Director **Dan Tepfer**, **Brooke Smith**, and more. See <http://Perceptions.SV.org/PFLAG2010.pdf> or contact Lorraine Hampton at 517-750-3045. It's easy! Use the form on Page 2!

April 10 - PFLAG Genesee County offers Out & Proud LGBT & Ally Dance from 7-11 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church Hall, 2474 S. Ballenger Hwy., Flint, MI. The tickets are only \$3/single and \$5/couple in advance. (Increases to \$10/single & \$15/couple at door. Get your tickets now!)"

Your Chance to Meet Dan Tepfer

Dan Tepfer, from Dayton, Ohio, is our new Regional Director. He'll be in Michigan for the April Statewide Conference and would like to meet with PFLAG TriCities on April 20. All members and friends of PFLAG are welcome! Consider it a special "extra" meeting for April and join us at 7 PM April 20. Location will be announced.

Meet the Man at the Center of the Fight Against Bullying

Kevin Epling speaks at PFLAG TriCities

Unless you were home-schooled, you probably experienced bullying. And sometimes we've had to help our own children deal with it. It's a bit like "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" - where authority figures prefer to ignore it and hope it will just go away. **Kevin Epling** is an award-winning videographer, TV producer and marketing

specialist whose son Matt committed suicide after being bullied at school. As a national co-director of Bullypolice USA and a contributor to "Matt's Safe School Law," Kevin is influential in bringing this issue to the attention of the legislature. At our March 28 meeting, Kevin will share his personal story of loss and growth,

and how it inspired him to begin a community-wide effort to change the culture of schools, not just in his own East Lansing area, but across the state. How our kids are treated is of interest to all of us - because good citizenship begins in school, and if it's not done right there, it won't be done right anywhere.

Annual Chocolate Party Great Success

And you can keep your fancy Spanish treats.

A good PFLAG friend, who is enjoying a springtime trip to Spain, has reminded us that cafes in major Spanish cities like Malaga and Madrid sell hot chocolate and churros late into the night. (The chocolate is as thick

as gravy, and the churros are pastries that you dip in the chocolate!) But to enjoy it, he had to miss the PFLAG /Perceptions Annual Chocolate Party, which raised \$888, to be split by the two organizations! A big

success again this year, we raised \$444.00 for each group. An excellent turnout with great chocolates and lots of fun. PFLAG TriCities extends its warm, gooey thanks to everyone who helped put on this great event!

Not Strong as Hercules? Join the PFLAG TriCities Board Anyway!

We're Nothing Like Sisyphus Here

Remember the Greek myth of Sisyphus, the guy who had to keep pushing a big rock up a hill - only to see it roll back down every time? That's not us! With the expected departure of **Bob and Denise Malosh** beginning in October, our chapter is still actively seeking people who can join our leadership team. Most small organizations have this problem from

time to time. People who attend meetings may get the impression board service is too much hard work, or only available to people who are specially qualified - and neither is true! If you have benefitted from PFLAG's existence, give us a call at 989-941-1458 and find out how you can help - without obligating yourself to heavy labor!

Our leadership of PFLAG Tri-Cities has always been a team, and the Board is committed to giving its personal support to members who are willing to step up to help the Chapter move forward. Please consider volunteering to help lead PFLAG Tri-Cities in 2010-2011. Thank you, PFLAG TriCities

Michigan PFLAG 2010 Statewide Meeting

“Chapter Tune-Up”

Saturday, April 14 9 AM to 4 PM

Bella Notte Ristorante Ballroom

137 W Michigan Ave., Jackson

Deadline for Registration: April 8

NOTE: For our buffet meals, we must know how many people are coming!

*If you don't register as soon as possible, you may MISS BREAKFAST –
and the cost for your lunch will NOT be included with your registration!*

Individual: \$30

Couple: \$55

Student/Hardship: \$20

(If you need assistance with fees, contact us. We don't wish anyone to miss due to cost!)

Make checks out to PFLAG JACKSON and mail to:

PFLAG Jackson

PO Box 4065

Jackson MI 49204

Email pflag_jackson@yahoo.com or call Lorraine at (517) 750-3045.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Amount enclosed _____

Any special dietary needs?