



Jeanne St. John, Chair

Lisa Norton, Secretary

Brett Pinder, Treasurer

Nel Ward, Newsletter
Editor

nelcward@charter.net
nelsnewday.wordpress.com

Contact: PO Box 2172,
Newport, OR 97365
(541)265-7194

pflagocc@gmail.com

www.occpflag.org

[www.facebook.com/
OCCPRIDE/](http://www.facebook.com/OCCPRIDE/)

<https://>

[www.facebook.com/
groups/103956190597/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/103956190597/)

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons, their families, and their friends through

SUPPORT to cope with an adverse society

EDUCATION to enlighten an ill-informed public

ADVOCACY to end discrimination and secure equal civil rights.

Q is used as an inclusive term for the sexual minority LGBTQ+ spectrum.

Oregon Central Coast Chapter

February 2020

Taking Action

Hallmark bravely showed advertising from wedding planning site Zola showing two women getting married. One Million Moms (with 4,525 followers), an offshoot of anti-Q hate group American Family Association, threatened Hallmark, and the network pulled the ad. Q activists protested, and Hallmark reinstated the advertising. **Protest pays.**



Sign this petition to block conversion therapy: <https://www.change.org/p/donald-j-trump-ban-conversion-therapy-in-the-united-states>

You can protest a Catholic priest's refusal to give communion to a judge who married a same-gender couple. Fr. Scott Nolan told Judge Sara Smolenski that her mere presence at Mass disrespects the church. https://act.faithfulamerica.org/sign/michigan-communion/?t=2&referring_akid=2897.190700.p07EDe

The motto of Faithful America petition site (<https://faithfulamerica.org/>): "Love thy neighbor. No exceptions!"

"Love Is Love"
February 8, 2020
2:00-4:00 pm
(Info on p. 2)



And save the evening to watch beloved drag queen RuPaul host NBC's *Saturday Night Live* that evening!

Valentine's Day Brings Celebration of Love

In *The Secret of the Tarot*, Angel Number 2020 has a special meaning for love because it represents trust and faithfulness. Angel Number 2020 wants people to show true love to one's partner in words, actions, and thoughts.

True love is kind; it harbors no malice and reflects the need to see one's partner succeed. To have true love, intentions must always remain genuine.

As a celebration of this love at the beginning of this pivotal year, 2020, OCC PFLAG invites everyone to join together at the Oregon Coast Community College on February 8 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm for the fifth annual "Love Is Love."



LOVE IS LOVE

FREE COMMUNITY

VALENTINE PARTY

ALL ARE WELCOME! YOUNG AND OLD, GAY AND STRAIGHT!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH, 2020

2PM - 4PM

OREGON COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

400 SE COLLEGE WAY, SOUTH BEACH

MUSIC BY "PAST FORWARD" | SPOKEN WORD CELEBRATION OF LOVE

SWEETHEART PHOTOS AVAILABLE | MAKE YOUR OWN VALENTINES

DELIGHTFULLY DECADENT DESSERTS

HOSTED BY PFLAG--SUPPORT, EDUCATION & ADVOCACY FOR LGBT, THEIR FAMILIES & ALLIES

PFLAG Planning Session—January 8, 2020

At the January 8 PFLAG meeting, brainstorming for 2020 came up with these three priorities: a more private space for PFLAG, a name change reflecting the group's identity, and a way to become the hub of Q activities. At their next meeting, PFLAG board members will develop a work plan and a timeline. These include events published in the newsletter that could include a contact person and parameters such as the preferred audience for the events.

Elijah Johnson heads up a relatively new group, Bravery Center, now centered at Olalla Center (541-336-2254). At this time, Bravery plans a first-of-its kind resource in the local community for LGBTQ+ youth opening in 2020 and is looking for a suitable location. Johnson also reported that Lincoln County is now included in the Linn-Benton Health Equity Alliance which gave Bravery Center a grant to address racial equity in conjunction with the goal of Q rights.

PFLAG will be actively partnering with the Bravery Center to sponsor more after-school, evening, and weekend Q events for teens and young adults.

The Bravery Center plans a fundraiser, the Olalla Gala Event, at the Aquarium on February 14, 6:00 pm.

PFLAG Board Members: Dawna McLain, Bruce Fairman, Marci Frederic, Claire Hall, Elijah Johnson, Ash King, Dawna McLain, Lisa Norton, Heather Sargent, and Amy Shumate

Politics on Our Side

Track current Q bills: <https://www.freedomforallamericans.org/2020-legislative-tracker/>

California: Two students, Nathan Brittsan and Joanna Maxon, are each suing Fuller Theological Seminary for over \$1 million in damages after the school expelled them for being married to a same-gender partner. In these “first of its kind” lawsuits against religious organizations, the students accuse Fuller of violating Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. The school discovered Maxon’s marital status through her IRS filings, possibly another legal violation. The school, which receives federal funding, may also have violated Title IV of the Civil Rights Act.

Illinois: A transgender man and birth parent can be listed as “father” on the birth certificate instead of “mother.” Originally, the state also planned to list his wife, Precious, as the “father” because she is also transgender.

Illinois: A new law requires all public single-use restrooms to be gender-free and labeled “All-Gender.” Many public places still offer gendered multi-user restrooms.

Iowa: Story County sentenced Adolfo Martinez to 16 years in prison for stealing a church’s pride flag and burning it outside of a strip club in Ames. He was convicted of a hate crime, third-degree harassment, reckless use of fire, and being a habitual offender after already being convicted of two felonies.

New Jersey: Twelve schools have instituted curriculum about the contributions of Q people in a pilot program for the state-wide curriculum beginning this fall. New Jersey is the second state after California to require Q-inclusive lessons in public schools.

Texas: David Strickland, convicted of the fatal 2012 shooting of Mollie Olgin when she

was with her girlfriend Kristene Chapa at a park in Portland (TX), has lost his appeal before the 13th Circuit Court. Chapa has undergone years of recovery after he also shot her in the head.

Utah: Laws in 19 states, as well as D.C., Puerto Rico, and 50 cities and counties, now ban “conversion therapy” for Q youth. Virginia is likely to be next, and Texas and Kentucky are considering bans.

Utah: Deerfield Elementary School (Cedar Hills) escorted a substitute teacher off campus after the substitute admonished a student who said that he was grateful for his two soon-to-be-officially adoptive parents, Louis and Joshua van Amstel. The boy was afraid that he wouldn’t be adopted if he reported the “teacher,” but three students told the principal what had happened. The adoption was finalized in December, and neighbors put colorful heart-shaped notes on the couple’s driveway and entry doors to welcome the family. Louis van Amstel (below left), who served as a dance coach on *Dancing with the Stars*, now works as a judge in a Netherlands



version of the show. He and his husband operate a physical fitness program based in Salt Lake City, about 35 minutes from Cedar Hills.

Virginia: Several Q rights bills passing with bipartisan support in the General Assembly are likely to become laws: bans on conversion therapy for children, state-wide standards to protect transgender students, earlier processes to correct sex on birth certificates, and repeal of ban on same-gender marriage.

News Bits

The last Chick-fil-A in the UK, lodged in a luxury hotel in the Scottish Highlands, shut down four months after protests against the chain's anti-Q history. Another Chick-fil-A location in a UK shopping center closed after a week.

Chicago rapper Noname has officially launched Noname's Book Club, an online book club to "highlight progressive work from writers of Color and writers within the LGBTQ community."

The first two book club picks are *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* by Paulo Freire and the essay collection *We Are Never Meeting in Real Life* by Samantha Irby. Noname's debut album, *Room 25*, was released last September. <https://www.nonamebooks.com/>



Although one percent of the world population, about 77 million people, is asexual ("ace" or "a-spec"), this Q spectrum has always been overlooked. This article covers asexuality, defined as having no sexual feelings or desires to have physical intercourse with another person, including a quiz people can take to determine if they fit into this category. <https://www.lgbtqnation.com/2019/12/asexual-heres-asexual-spectrum-asexual-quiz-everything-else-youre-curious/>

Good News around the World

United States: The 4th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a federal ruling that prevents the Trump administration from discharging Air Force members because they live with HIV.

United States: A federal court ordered the Department of Homeland Security to allow the return of Oumar Yaide, a gay asylum seeker deported from San Francisco to Chad before his asylum case could be reheard. Yaide was in the United States for ten years after seeking political asylum from a country that criminalizes homosexuality.

American Samoa: The imprisonment of James Barlow, 72-year-old gay U.S. citizen, may force the territory to give citizen Q right from U.S. laws. Barlow was convicted with a 24-year sentence after a homophobic DA coerced confessions from two underage teen boys. The DA had previously accused Barlow of turning her 19-year-old son gay. Barlow was jailed for two years before a trial and then restricted from cross-examining witnesses. Since his imprisonment, Barlow said he has been assaulted over 17 times causing over half his teeth to break, a brain aneurysm, broken bones, damaged hearing, and PTSD. Prison conditions are abysmal. Donald Trump refuses to send federal judges to hear appeals. The federal court in Hawaii has granted a hearing, but the situation is still undecided.

Colombia: Claudia López (right), mayor of Bogotá, has become the first woman and first openly Q person to be mayor in any major South American country. She married Sen. Angélica Lozano in December 2019; Columbia legalized marriage equality in 2016. [Lopez right]



Argentina: Estanislao Fernández, 24-year-old popular drag queen and gay son of Argentina's new president Alberto Fernández, sported a folded Q Pride flag as his rainbow pocket square for his father's inauguration. Alberto Fernández has called his son "his greatest pride" and a "great man." [Photos of Estanislao in drag: <https://www.towleroad.com/2019/12/estanislao-fernandez/>]

Pakistan: Transgender people have government health insurance in Pakistan, making them eligible for reconstructive surgery. The country's Supreme Court granted transgender people equal rights in 2009 and stated that they may be categorized a "third sex" on national identity cards. In 2017, they were counted for the census for the first time.

Beauty Pageants Feature Q Women



Q women are becoming more popular at beauty pageants—like these contestants. **Swe Zin Htet** (left), Miss Myanmar, the first out lesbian in the Miss Universe contest although homosexuality carries up to a 10-year-old prison sentence in Myanmar.

Angela Ponce (right), Miss Spain didn't win Miss Universe but she was favored to take the crown. She was the second transgender woman in the contest after **Jenna Talackova** (left), Miss Canada, in 2012.



Rachel Slawson (right), Miss Utah, will be the first bisexual Miss USA contestant.

In 2016, **Erin O'Flaherty** (left), Miss Missouri, was the first open lesbian contestant in the Miss America pageant.



The Q community wants the largest human rainbow ever created in Dalysford (Victoria, Australia), population 2,548, at the town's ChillOut festival on March 7. Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) holds the record with 30,356 people at the Qurino Grandstand, Rizal Park, in Manila on September 18, 2004 (left). Organizers are also searching for 145 people in drag to break another World Record for the longest line of dancing drag queens, presently 145 people.

Last December, the First United Methodist Church of Dallas held a mass ceremony to affirm wedding vows of same- and different-sex couples three days before the denomination instated enhanced penalties for churches that ordain same-gender marriages or Q clergy. The church may vote on a split denomination in May to allow acceptance of Q people for a segment of the church. The majority of church leaders and members have voted in favor of accepting homosexuality.

[Affirming rainbow doors outside the North United Methodist Church in Indianapolis.]



People Who Make a Difference

Maryland parents **Heidi Irene and Terry Trammell** gave their gay teenage son **Aiden** a “gayceañera” on his 15th birthday to celebrate his coming out. The celebration included dancing gymnasts, rainbow-colored cakes, sequined unicorn stuffed animals, and a photo booth. The gayceañera was a queer twist on the Quinceañera marking a celebration on a girl’s 15th birthday. That celebration usually has a beautiful dress, a public banquet, a special birthday cake, and dancing with male friends and family members. Aiden wore green hair and a rainbow-colored suit. Irene said that servers and patrons talked to her about how families had rejected them and/or their loved one.



Katie Sowers, 33-year-old assistant offensive coach to the San Francisco 49ers, will be the first Q coach and the first female coach at the Super Bowl. She played in the Women’s Football Alliance for the West Michigan Mayhem and the Kansas City Titans until a hip injury in 2016. After an internship with the Atlanta Falcons, she went to the 49ers in 2017, the same year she came out as a lesbian. In a Microsoft Surface Pro 7 tablet ad, Sower said, “I’m not here to just be the token female. I’m here to help us win.”

RuPaul, born in San Diego, has become the first official drag queen inducted into the California Hall of Fame, adding to awards of a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, four straight Primetime Emmys for Outstanding Host in a Reality or Competition Program, and the Critics Choice Television Award in 2017 for Best Reality Host. RuPaul joined the late Dr. Maya Angelou and eight others for the 13th Hall of Fame Class of 2019. All ten inductees were presented with a Spirit of California medal at the ceremony.



NBA player **Dwyane Wade** defended his 12-year-old gay son after followers criticized his Thanksgiving family photo in which his son dressed in what followers decided was feminine clothing. “Stupidity is a part of this world we live in. First of all, you’re going to talk about strength and courage? My 12-year-old has way more than I have.” He continued, “Nothing changes with my love. Nothing changes with my responsibilities. Only thing I have to do now is get smarter and educate myself more. And that’s my job.”

News Bits

Missouri Republican Ben Baker introduced a bill to ban youth from checking out Q books and imprison librarians who host a drag queen story hour, and drag queens are taking this sitting down. They are calling for queen and queen supporters from across the U.S. to join them for a huge protest at the state capitol at noon on March 7. Keep track of the protest or join in at <https://www.facebook.com/events/761443674363801/>

Because he was gay, Harvey Milk was forced to resign from the U.S. Navy in 1955 after he graduated from officer school and served as a diving officer on a submarine rescue ship during the Korean War. Now, the Navy has started construction on the *USNS Harvey Milk*, a fleet oiler to provide fuel to ships and aircraft.

Donald Trump has made 108 attacks on Q people, including banning transgender service members and endorsing discrimination against LGBTQ people. Now he is raising money for their campaign by selling rainbow-colored "Make America Great Again Pride T-Shirts."

Media Matters:

The L Word: Generation Q returns to Showtime for a second season.

In the documentary *Gay Chorus Deep South*, David Charles Rodrigues follows the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir as they team up together on a 2017 Lavender Pen tour through states such as Mississippi, Tennessee and North Carolina.

Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker, the newest film in the series, has its first same-gender kiss when two women kiss during a celebratory scene.

Indya Moore, the transgender actress who plays sex worker Angel Evangelista in Ryan Murphy's ballroom drama *Pose*, is the voice of Shep, a non-binary character introduced in *Steven Universe: Future*, the newly premiered continuation of Cartoon Network's queer-inclusive sci-fi cartoon series *Steven Universe*.

Animated series with Q characters. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_animated_series_with_LGBT_characters

OCC PFLAG Calendar

February 2, 11:00 am: Out Oregon Coast Breakfast at Newport Café—Newport

February 8, 2:00-4:00 pm: "Love Is Love"—Oregon Coast Community College

February 8: RuPaul hosts *Saturday Night Live*.

February 11, 4:00-6:00 pm: LGBT & Allies Happy Hour, All Welcome!—Pacific Café, Olive St. north of PAC

February 14, 5:00-7:00 pm: Trans Support Group—Toledo Public Library, 173 NW 7th Street

February 14, 6:00 pm: Bravery Center fundraiser—Aquarium

February 26, 6:00-7:30 pm: Trans Support Group—St. Stephens, 9th & Hurbert, Newport

September 18-20: Central Oregon Coast Pride, celebrating LGBTQ+ and ally folks and Pride; more later.

The PFLAG OCC Basic Needs Grants provide emergency or urgent relief to LGBT+ people in Lincoln County. Individuals of any age who identify as LGBT+ (or their caregivers) and who demonstrate a financial need for medical aid, housing, transportation, or food can apply. The maximum grant is \$250. Much of the Grant's resources come from other LGBT+ people and straight allies. Contact PFLAG OCC at pflagocc@gmail.com for an application.



Join PFLAG!

YES! I support the mission of PFLAG. Enclosed is my annual membership fee.*

_____ Household (\$35)
_____ Individual (\$25)
_____ Student/Limited Income (\$15)
_____ Contribution \$ _____

*Includes membership in National PFLAG with affiliates in over 365 worldwide communities.

Make check payable and mail to:

Oregon Central Coast PFLAG
PO Box 2172
Newport, OR 97365

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

PFLAG is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and has no political or religious affiliations.



Oregon Central Coast PFLAG
P.O. Box 2172
Newport, Oregon 97365