Greetings!

March is known as the month that comes in like a lion, and out like a lamb. Where did that saying come from? People often believed that bad spirits could affect the weather adversely, so they were cautious as to what they did or did not do in certain situations. Those beliefs often included ideas that there should be a balance in weather and life. So, if a month came in bad (like a lion), it should go out good and calm (like a lamb).

Speaking of MARCH: save the date to MARCH with us in the upcoming Phoenix Pride parade on Sunday, April 3rd! This is such a fun event and should not be missed by any PFLAG member. More details about the Gay Pride Parade can be found here.

We love our volunteers! If you'd like to know more about ways you can help our chapter, email us at info@pflagphoenix.org or check out our volunteer page on the website for ways you can help.

Don't forget to "like" our Facebook page if you haven't yet!

Sincerely,

PFLAG Phoenix
602.843.1404

Announcing: Our PFLAG Phoenix Scholarship Winners!

This year, PFLAG Phoenix is awarding a total of $2,000 in scholarships to two outstanding students. All of our scholarships are open to gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) individuals and to straight allies who have directly supported GLBT youth and/or the GLBT community.

And now to our two amazing winners this year. Our first winner, Caroline Frieders, also known as Carly, is a straight ally. Carly is from Sahuarita, AZ and she will receive $1,000.00 from the scholarship fund. Carly is a board member of GLSEN Tucson and has been since 2012. She has a long history of volunteering her services to the LGBT community as an ally! Carly would like to be a public service attorney and work one day with a non-profit or provide legal services to vulnerable populations!

Our second winner is Chandler L. Barteau, who will get the other $1,000.00. Chandler lives in Oro Valley, AZ and has attended Ironwood Ridge High School. His major is Psychological Sciences and he wants to become a licensed counselor and work in Arizona. He’d like to focus on family studies and possibly sex therapy. He hopes to one day have his own practice.
Please join us at our Central Phoenix meeting on Monday, March 21st at 7pm for the presentation of the awards to these two amazing and very deserving students.

March support meetings

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>7:00pm-8:30pm</td>
<td>Tempe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>6:30pm-7:30pm</td>
<td>Native American</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>March 9</td>
<td>2:00pm-3:30pm</td>
<td>Beatitudes Campus</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>7:00pm-8:30pm</td>
<td>North Scottsdale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>7:00pm-9:00pm</td>
<td>Central Phoenix</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>7:00pm-8:30pm</td>
<td>Fountain Hills</td>
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Check out our website for more information on the meetings and how to get there.

How can YOU contribute at a PFLAG support meeting?

Well there are so many ways to contribute, but today we will focus on one valuable way you can make a BIG difference. The following is an excerpt from an essay posted on our website:

Ever see someone enter a PFLAG meeting and you know instantly they are a first-timer, but you don’t know how to approach them? Some support groups have official “Greeters”, but actually, we ALL should consider ourselves “Greeters”. I think we can all remember when we were that person who was entering the support group for the first time. We can remember that fear of not knowing anyone, or not being sure we even wanted to be there, or how we felt about baring our souls to strangers, or the doubts we had about whether even being there was going to help or not.

Just having one person come up to us and say “Welcome to PFLAG” means so much and begins the process of melting away many of those fears. And if that Greeter takes their welcome to the next level and says, “Let me show you our library table. If you’d like to check out a book or a video to take home, you don’t have to be a paying member to do so. Just bring it back the next time you return” or, “Here is a name tag, if you’d put it on, it makes it easier for us all”, or “Do you have someone close to you who is LGBTQ?” You could even ask if it is their first time at the meeting, and if they say “Yes this is my first meeting”, you can respond by reminding them that everyone at the meeting has also had that first meeting at some point. You can also reassure that person that everyone is friendly and knows what they are going through because just about everyone there at the meeting “has been there too”. It is also important that we assure our new attendee that PFLAG meetings are totally confidential and free of judgment. And this is usually when you start to see some relief appear in their eyes. The bottom line is we all like it when someone comes up to us, introduces themselves, pinpoints and directly addresses some of our fears. There is nothing
On Thursday, April 28, 2016, be fabulous by grabbing your friends and eating out at one of our participating restaurants. Whether it's breakfast, lunch or dinner, let's make Dining Out For Life 2016 a delicious DAY, just by doing what we love to do most - dine out!

A percentage of proceeds from all participating DOFL restaurants from that stuffed full night will be donated to Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS in the metropolitan Phoenix Arizona area and Northland Cares in the Prescott Arizona area.

More information on participating restaurants can be found here.

We need volunteers to staff a booth at the PRIDE Festival! Can you help?

PFLAG Phoenix has not had a booth at the Phoenix Pride Festival for at least the last three years, primarily due to a lack of volunteers. But this year our Board of Directors took a leap of faith and voted to have a booth at the Festival this year. So we are putting out the call...
志愿，请通过 info@pflagphoenix.org 发送电子邮件，或参加支持会议。

除了节日外，下个月我们还将举办凤凰城同志骄傲游行，时间为4月3日周日早晨10:00。游行在3rd街和Thomas处开始。我们可能有两辆车参加游行队伍，所以大约有五人可以骑车或部分路程，如需使用。将提供水。更多关于游行的细节可以在这里找到。

PFLAG Phoenix Board of Directors meeting

我们章的董事会在奇数月的第二个星期六，从10:00 am到中午。会议将在Plaza Executive Suites提供的办公室空间举行，位于Biltmore Office Plaza，地址是2942 N. 24th St (Suite 114)，Phoenix，AZ 85016。

我们的下一个董事会会议将在3月12日星期六。它将在10:00 am开始。方向可以在这里找到。

董事会会议对所有人开放。欢迎参观！对于想更多参与PFLAG Phoenix的人来说，我们鼓励参加并检查我们！获取更多信息。

Phoenix-based LGBTQ advocacy group is closing down

H.E.R.O. (Human and Equal Rights Organizers)，一个凤凰城本地的LGBTQ倡导组织，宣布它正在关闭。8年前，他们带着一项使命成立，即通过服务、行动、可见性和教育在亚利桑那州的本地社区内创建包容的联盟，以争取平等权利。一个标志性HERO活动是“婚姻平等游行”，志愿者们在8月徒步100英里穿越亚利桑那州，与社区领导者会面并讨论为什么婚姻平等很重要。PFLAG Phoenix在过去的几年中与HERO在多个倡导和教育时刻共同参与。

他们的最后活动是一个“性别*庆祝早午餐”，时间是4月17日星期六上午11点至下午2点，地点是Harley’s Italian Bistro，地址是4221 N. 7th Avenue in Phoenix。筹集的资金将用于Julian Melson的奖学金基金，该基金是为帮助本地的性别*个体而设立的。

有关门票，可以访问Eventbrite.com并搜索“HERO Phoenix。”

News and Notes

- The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence 正在计划在Kobalt Bar举办一个锣鼓卡拉OK活动，以支持PFLAG Phoenix。活动将在4月9日星期六的3-6 pm举行，Kobalt Bar位于3110 N Central Ave #125。锣鼓卡拉OK类似于普通卡拉OK，唯一的区别是人们可以捐赠钱给在舞台上的锣鼓手，以便他们可以唱歌或支付继续唱歌。此外，将有一场50/50抽奖。
• New molecular scissors **cut out lingering HIV**-maybe once and for all

• **Bittersweet victory**: By a vote of 173-71, Italian Senate approves civil unions for same-sex couples - but not adoptions. The bill now moves to the House of Deputies where easy passage is expected.

• The outgoing Catholic president of Portugal **struck down** a law allowing gay couples to be given adoption rights saying that welfare of children takes priority. Fortunately, Portugal lawmakers **overturned the veto**.

• Texas Prisons **Expand Hormone Therapy Treatment** To More Transgender Inmates Following Confirmation by the Department of Justice That Denying Hormone Therapy For Transgender People In Prison Is Cruel And Unusual Punishment.

• Lawmakers In Florida And Georgia **Reject LGBT Protections**. Georgia Rep Tom Weldon (R) opposed the change, claiming, "Those who get bullied usually are the ones that end up doing well on down the road in life." Florida Sen. Wilton Simpson (R) expressed concerns about "weirdos doing weird things in public bathrooms with men or women."

• Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton **Faces Ethics Probe**: Already indicted on felony securities fraud charges, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton will face an ethics investigation for advising local officials they could refuse to issue same-sex marriage licenses on religious grounds.

• The Virginia Senate approved a bill which allows government employees **to refuse to marry same-sex couples**. The bill now heads to the House of Delegates where Republicans hold a 2-1 majority.

• How Will The Supreme Court Shake-Up **Impact The Future Of LGBT Rights**?

• Charlotte (North Carolina) City Council **approves LGBT protections** in 7-4 vote with the strong support of newly-elected Mayor Jennifer Roberts, who has been a leading voice for the ordinance in her campaign and since she’s taken office. But North Carolina House Speaker **considers special session to overturn Charlotte’s LGBT rights law**, specifically a provision that would allow transgender people to use the restroom of their choice.

• Social media giant Facebook has **waded into the divisive same-sex marriage debate** in an unprecedented partnership with Australian marriage equality advocates. They will give its 14 million Australian users the option of adding an Australian Marriage Equality banner to their profile pictures, in what AME hopes will demonstrate "the mainstream support" for the reform.