



PFLAG Phoenix Newsletter

Events and information

July 2018

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Greetings!

Wow, what a difference a few years can make. I looked back to our July 2015 newsletter to see what we wrote right here in this space. One thing is for sure, the mood was a lot more celebratory back then. We were making amazing advances in our fight for LGBTQ+ equality & protections. The victories were stacking up. 2015 was indeed an amazing year for our cause.

But here we are now in July 2018 and the mood is not so celebratory. We are now forced to focus all of our energy & hard work on **protecting** all those rights & protections we won in 2015, including the biggest victory of all, the Supreme Court ruling that made marriage equality the law of the land.

So if you are as worried as we are about taking a giant step backwards when it comes to the rights, protections, and dignity of our LGBTQ+ friends & loved ones, here is what you can do. Encourage all of your friends and family to vote in the upcoming 2018 midterm elections in November. And what better time to have this conversation than the 4th of July? As friends and family gather to celebrate this great nation's Independence Day, point out what is at stake, and encourage everyone you know to register to vote. And then make sure they go and exercise that most precious American right in November. It has never been more important than now!

Wondering what is going on in July? Check out our [PFLAG Phoenix website](#) where you can get information on our [support meetings](#), or check the [calendar](#) for events that may be of interest, or even [become a member](#) if you are not one now.

And remember, 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 our website.

Don't forget to "like" our [Facebook page](#) if you haven't yet!

Sincerely,

PFLAG Phoenix
[602.843.1404](tel:602.843.1404)



July support meetings

Friday	July 6	7:00pm-8:30pm	Tempe
Saturday		Check their website	Native American
Wednesday	July 11	2:00pm-3:30pm	Beatitudes Campus
Thursday	July 12	7:00pm-8:30pm	Scottsdale/PV**
Monday	July 16	7:00pm-9:00pm	Central Phoenix
Tuesday	July 17	7:00pm-8:30pm	Mesa

****Please check [our website](#) for information on our new Scottsdale/Paradise Valley support meeting.**

Did you hear the news? We have a new support meeting!

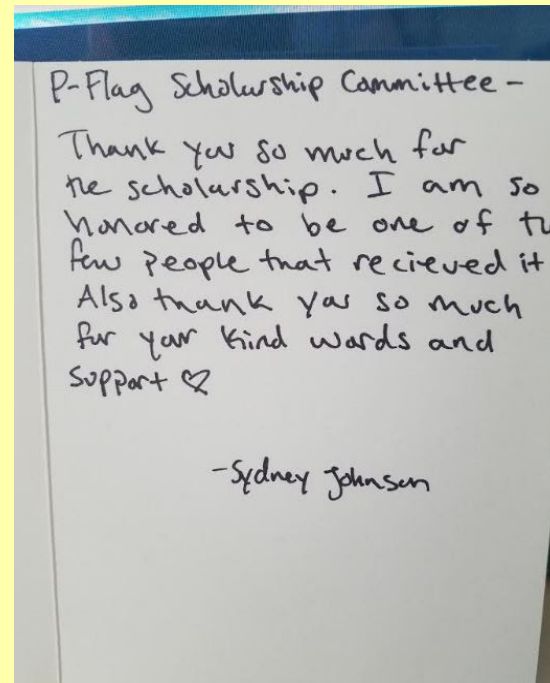


We are pleased to announce that we have a new Scottsdale/Paradise Valley support meeting. It will fill the time slot that our old North Scottsdale meeting had, the 2nd Thursday of each month @ 7:00pm.

We hope to see those of you who used to attend the North Scottsdale meeting or the Fountain Hills meeting at this new meeting, and of course newcomers are always welcome! More information about this new meeting can be found [here](#).

PFLAG Phoenix receives a lovely thank you note from one of our scholarship winners: Sydney Johnson

One of PFLAG Phoenix's most gratifying jobs is recognizing outstanding graduating high school seniors and college students by awarding them scholarships. Receiving this thank you note from Sydney Johnson only makes this job more gratifying! Thank you for making our day Sydney! Good luck, you have a great future ahead of you!



A HUGE thank you to Biltmore Plaza Executive for all they do & have done for PFLAG Phoenix over the years



In a show of our appreciation for all they do for us, PFLAG Phoenix presents a trophy to Bob Alsbury, Jonny, Antoinette, and Mark (not pictured), who have provided us, for many years, with a boardroom to hold our PFLAG board meetings every other month. They also provide us with a mailing address, a phone line (at no cost to us), and get/hold our mail!

It is impossible to ever thank them adequately for all they have done for us. Without their generous gifts of services and board room, we'd be so much less than we are and unable to do as much as we do now. And did we mention that they are the GREATEST people on Earth....and always have been? PFLAG Phoenix owes them a huge debt of gratitude....We love you all dearly. Thank you!

PFLAG Phoenix membership drive is around the corner

Just a heads up: our membership drive will be in full swing soon. PFLAG membership renewals are due in September and renewal letters will go out in August, so be on the lookout for them. And no worries for those who joined or renewed in June, July or August, your memberships are automatically covered for the 2018-2019 year



PFLAG Phoenix is an ALL-volunteer organization. So this is really important because your membership helps us to fulfill our mission of support, education, and advocacy for, and on behalf of LGBTQ+ individuals, their families, and friends (and straight allies too).

You can check out the various ways you can join or renew on our website [here](#). Thank you so much. We truly could not do all that we do without your help!

And while PFLAG Phoenix is recognizing AMAZING people ...



July seems to be a good month for recognizing all the heroes that have been so instrumental in making PFLAG Phoenix the organization it is today. Here are two more people on whom we need to shine the spotlight. For years Donna and Al Ellis have dedicated their time, energy, and hard work to PFLAG Phoenix. Come rain or shine, with health challenges or in good health, these two super--heroes have been there pouring their tireless advocacy and love into this organization, in spite of the fact that a lot of the work can be thankless. I don't think I could find a single person who would disagree with me on this.

So now is a good time to recognize them, especially since Al's birthday is this month! On July 27th Al will be 86 years young. It is time to not only wish Al a very happy birthday, but to also thank him and his wife for their years of service to PFLAG Phoenix. Thank you Donna & Al. PFLAG Phoenix is what it is today because of you two. We love you both to pieces!