

News & Views



Celebrating Real Family Values
 Helpline 209.527.0776
 P.O. Box 4311 • Modesto, CA 95352-4311

Dates to Remember

Cabaret and Talent Night a Huge Success!

By Alice Miller

At least 100 people crowded into Luther Hall at Emanuel Lutheran Church for PFLAG Modesto's Second Cabaret and Talent Night. Twenty performers were slated to perform and the line-up was varied and interesting; everything from folk songs and Gershwin to singing drag queens from the Owl Empire of Stanislaus County (OESCI) and one exotic dancer (no stripping!). A belly-dancer taught members of the audience basic moves of the dance form, and one couple had the group clapping and singing in accompaniment to their act. Original poetry and songs were included, and one important birthday was celebrated.

Organizer Alice Miller especially thanks Nathaniel Grey for being the emcee. Many thanks to the PFLAG members who provided food, came early to set up and stayed to clean up. Special thanks to Starbucks for donating coffee, HomeTown Buffet for the chicken tenders, Renee Warnock for the balloons, Langlois Music for providing the sound system and Keith Highiet for running it, and all the fabulous performers who gave of their time and talents.

Editor's comment...When I turned off the last light and locked the door, I could still feel the energy from this fabulous evening of entertainment... Thanks to Alice and performers!

Have news to share or an item of interest? Want to receive the PFLAG Modesto newsletter electronically? Contact Marilyn Mettler at klizard@sprynet.com, leave a message at 527-0776 or drop a line to P.O. Box 4311, Modesto, 95352-4311.

February 11

February is Freedom to Marry Month - Join the Stanislaus Chapter of Marriage Equality USA and the Stanislaus PRIDE Center for an educational forum at the Stanislaus County Library

1500 "I" St.,
 3-5 PM

Refreshments provided
marriageequality.org

February 18

Birdcage

Is an informal, monthly social gathering for GLBTs, allies and friends. Join the group at the Tiki Lounge

932 McHenry Ave.
 5-9 PM

Want to be on the Birdcage e-mail list? Contact Gus Wagner at emalltiki@yahoo.com

PFLAG Mission Statement: PFLAG promotes the health and well being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons through: **support**, to cope with an adverse society; **education**, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and **advocacy**, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights. Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

Meeting days

1st and 3rd Tuesdays

Every month

7 pm Support
 8 pm Program

February 6

Roger Scott, well-know Cabaret and Talent Night singer, will sing romantic songs by 20th century gay composers.

February 14

Ken Kohler is organizing and will facilitate an initial gathering for a Stanislaus PRIDE Center-hosted Men's Group from 7-8:30 PM

at the new community center ,
 823 15th St.

between "H" and "I" Streets. The discussion topic of this meeting is

"How to get the love I want" All gay men are invited to attend.

RSVPs are appreciated
 Ken 209-380-0810

kenpeacenow@sbcglobal.net

February 20

PFLAG BINGO



PFLAG Modesto has a Website!

Not only does Katherine Teixeira maintain the library for PFLAG Modesto and moderate the two PFLAG Yahoo groups; now she has created and will maintain a website for PFLAG Modesto! On Monday January 29th, PFLAG Modesto inaugurated its first publicly accessed web site. The URL for the new website is pflagmodesto.org. Katherine will be updating this site on a regular basis and intends to add a calendar within the week. She welcomes suggestions about what PFLAG members would like to see on the website at info@pflagmodesto.org. Thanks so much Katherine. You are simply the best!

Visit these other websites:

HeartStrong: heartstrong.org

Lambda Legal: lambdalegal.org

Liberty Action Network, a GLBT advocacy group for the Central Valley: libertyaction.com

Matthew Shepard Foundation: matthewsplace.com

Owl Empire of Stanislaus County, Inc. (OESCI): oesci.org

The OESCI is a nonprofit community service organization. Website is undergoing a facelift. Check back soon.

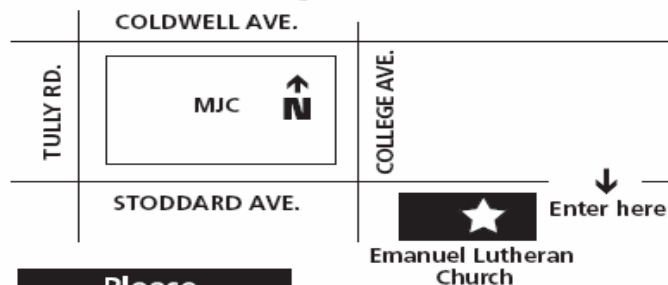
PFLAG National: pflag.org

Stanislaus Community Assistance Project (SCAP): scap4.org

Stanislaus PRIDE Center: stanpride.org (check out the calendar of activities and events for our area)

Valley Ministries Metropolitan Community Church: valleyministries.com

Location Map:



Coming soon: The Not-so-Newlywed-Game!

How well do you know your spouse, partner, significant other, wife, husband, boyfriend, or girlfriend?

Your chance to find out is coming soon!

Registration is open at every PFLAG Modesto meeting, event or Bingo night until May 15, when the 4 couples selected will be announced. Open to long or short-term committed gay, lesbian or straight couples, this game is a take-off on the TV game-show, "The Newlywed Game". There will be prizes, fun and laughs aplenty! **SIGN UP!**

Philanthropic "Birds of a Feather"

In the years since its inception in 1994, the annual dinner celebration and silent auction known as "Birds of a Feather" (BOAF), has donated over \$16,000 to "bird-friendly" non-profit groups. In 2006 the benevolent group directed \$500 each to PFLAG Modesto, the Stanislaus PRIDE Center and the Stanislaus Community Assistance Project (SCAP). PFLAG Modesto is very grateful for this donation. **Many thanks to BOAF!**

Nathaniel Grey Joins PFLAG Modesto Operations Committee

A man of many talents, and over 25 years experience in the public relations field, Nathaniel Grey is now lending his considerable abilities in special events planning and PR to the PFLAG Modesto Operations Committee. He is a former board member and Vice President of the Stanislaus PRIDE Center where he devoted much time and energy to the SPC October 2006 fundraising "OCTion". He was emcee for the recent highly successful PFLAG Cabaret and Talent Night and conceptualized the "Not-So-Newlywed Game" (see above) coming up in May. Welcome to PFLAG Modesto Nathaniel!

Coming in March...Join us to hear about family life from another of PFLAG's long-term committed same-sex couples, **Phil and Todd**.

Coming in April...Join us to hear **Arthur Evans**, one of the '60's founders of the New York City Gay-Lesbian movement. He later moved to San Francisco in the '70's where he continues his work for the GLBT community.