

Portland Voice

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November, 2011

President's Message

It's November. The leaves are turning gorgeous shades of red and gold and the holidays are right around the corner. But as the days grow shorter and the earth prepares for dormancy, there is suddenly much going on in the LGBTQ and Allied community. In the interest of being able to print all of the particulars, I will keep my column very brief this month. But I do want to call your attention to a few, very special events.

First, please plan to join us on November 8 as we welcome David Martinez of Latino Gay Pride to PFLAG Portland! David's visit will formally kick-off our efforts to build a PFLAG Portland Latino/a Chapter. For several years, PFLAG Portland has been able to provide some support thanks to the efforts of a Latina PFLAG mom who has fielded calls and inquiries and a Spanish speaking Board member. But we have yet to be able to provide a culturally specific support group and meeting. Slowly but surely, we hope to change that.

In addition to David, Aeryca Steinbauer from CAUSA will join us to announce their LGBTQ Coming Out party (see related article)!

Lastly, I want to acknowledge that our PFLAG world glows just a little bit less brightly today – on September 28, 2011 Candace Steele passed away. Candace and her husband Chuck (who preceded her in death) were from Southern Oregon – Ashland – and active in our fights against ballot measures 9 and 13. She and Chuck often came to Portland and participated in the Pride Marches. Candace served as the Pacific Northwest Regional Director of PFLAG, as well. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Steele family.

In peace,
Dawn Holt, President
PFLAG Portland

Monthly Meeting Information

Tuesday, 7-9 PM, November 8, 2011

Come join us for a presentation by David Martinez, Chair of Latino Gay Pride. Made up of community volunteers, in 2006 Portland Latino Gay Pride (PLGP) organized the first Portland Latino Gay Pride Celebration in Oregon. The goal: to recognize the talents and contributions of Gay Latinos and Latinas. Since then, PLGP has grown tremendously. This organization now includes members from various organizations that serve the gay, Latino and general population around Portland. One of PLGP's central goals is to bring the community together through a series of multi-day-events that highlight the contributions, history, and the rich culture of gay and Latino groups in Portland and the surrounding area.

First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland. Look for the PFLAG signs.

Women's softball in the 1960s, history at Q Center on Nov. 5

"Women's Softball" is another in the *Our Stories* series presented by Q Center and GLAPN (Gay & Lesbian Archives of the Pacific Northwest). Women who were there will share stories about fast-pitch softball in the '60s and '70s, and talk about the impact of Title IX on women's athletics. Free. Q Center, 4115 N. Mississippi Ave., door open at 6:30PM. Info at www.glapn.org.



PFLAG

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Completed "Austin Unbound" premieres November 12-13

The documentary *Austin Unbound* will premier at Portland's Hollywood Theater, 4122 NE Sandy, the weekend of November 12-13, 2011.

The Saturday (Nov. 12) screening will be at 7pm. The Sunday (Nov. 13) matinee is at 3pm, and features a meeting with the producer/director and members of the deaf community. PFLAG Portland Black Chapter Coordinator, Khalil Edwards will moderate.

The Austin in the title is a transgender man who is also deaf. This film documents his choice to get a double mastectomy, and the struggles he encounters on the way. His family, friends, and community support his goal, and Austin's charm and compelling personality show a direct and honest view of the struggles and victories he has encountered to finally get the surgery.

The film was produced under non-profit fiscal sponsorship of the Hollywood Theatre.

Although a shorter version has been circulating for a few years, the film premiering November 12 at Portland's Hollywood Theater is finished and polished, 45 minutes long. The film was edited by Seattle-based Basil Shadid, and scored by Portland artists Chris Funk (of the Decem-berists), Ashleigh Flynn, Jen Agosta and Radio Sloan. This is the first film project for Greenwood and Staley.

The project has received grants from the Polk Family Charitable Fund, the Equity Foundation, the Pride Foundation, and the Portland and San Francisco chapters of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

CAUSA Oregon sets coming-out party for December 8

CAUSA Oregon is having a coming-out party on December 8, to celebrate its LGBTQ work, and to cultivate friendships in the LGBTQ and Latino communities.

CAUSA is Oregon's statewide, grassroots immigrant rights coalition and the largest Hispanic civil and human rights advocacy organization in the Pacific Northwest.

While always supportive of LGBTQ issues, in 2011 CAUSA began working for LGBTQ equality as part of their organizational identity. For the first time in Causa's history, they have hired an organizer to do LGBTQ alliance building work with the Latino community.

That calls for a party! The event will be Thursday, Dec. 8, at The Slate, 2001 NW 19th Ave., from 6:00-8:00PM. Tickets are \$25 at the door, or \$15 purchased in advance at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/201409>.

Emcees will be Melanie Davis, publisher of El Hispanic News, and Star Empress 34, FabuLanzaa.

Music will be by Xavier & Su Banda Clasica, and David Hastings. For more info: email christian@causaoregon.org or call (503) 737-7014 (503) 737-7014.

Calendar of Events

November 7 – Q Center and OMSI co-host A Family Science Night, a special welcome to LGBTQ families. 6-8pm, suggested donation \$5.00 per family.

November 8 – PFLAG Portland welcomes Latino Pride! David Martinez from Latino Pride will be here to begin a dialogue on how PFLAG can bring its unique brand of support to the Latino/a community. 7:00pm, 1838 SW Jefferson St.

November 12 and 13 – *Austin Unbound*, the finished documentary, will premiere Saturday, November 12th and Sunday, November 13th at the Hollywood Theatre.

Dec. 13 - Annual PFLAG Holiday Party! Bring a dish to share and come join us.

Jan. 14, 2012 – Gay Oregon Family Show! Come join us for a wonderful drag performance, benefitting local AIDS organizations. 7:00pm at the Embers.

Early PFLAG, Measure 9 veteran: Candace Steele, 1931-2011

Candace Dornblaser Steele died peacefully in her sleep on the night of September 28, 2011.

She was born Candace Hester Dornblaser, August 11, 1931, in Minneapolis, MN. She has a brother, Bright "Dorn" Dornblaser, who is six years her senior. From childhood, Candace was lover of animals, especially horses and dogs, and one "de-scented" skunk.

Candace received a B.A. in biology with minors in history and international relations from Macalester College in St Paul, Minnesota.

She wanted to become a veterinarian, but it was not considered a woman's profession. Instead she went into nursing, studying at the University of Denver, Stanford University, and the University of California, San Francisco.

Candace met Charles "Chuck" Steele, an electrical engineer, on a Sierra Club backpacking trip. They were married in 1957 and settled into Palo Alto, California. With Chuck, Candace began attending Quaker meetings, espousing that group's beliefs in pacifism, individual' basic goodness, and the ability to experience the divine directly without a clerical intermediary.



(continued on page 3)

Yes! I support the mission of PFLAG Portland

Enclosed is my membership fee. (Your membership includes National PFLAG membership.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Family (\$45)

Individual (\$35)

Student/Limited Income (\$15)

Donation (\$ ____)

Make check payable to PFLAG Portland. PFLAG is a 501c(3) tax-exempt organization.

Mail to: PFLAG, P.O. Box 8944, Portland, OR 97207

The Mission of PFLAG Portland

We, the parents, families, and friends of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons, celebrate diversity and envision a society that embraces everyone, including those of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. PFLAG promotes the health and well being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons, their families and their friends through support, education, and advocacy. PFLAG provides an opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity, and strives to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity. Contact PFLAG Portland at 503 232-7676 or visit our website at www.PFLAGPDX.org.

Candace Steele, cont'd

While raising three daughters, she worked as a labor and delivery room nurse, and became an advocate of natural childbirth and a teacher of the Lamaza birthing method. Once her daughters were teenagers, she took a masters' degree in marriage, family and child counseling. While semi-retired in Ashland, Oregon, she counseled people struggling with alcohol, substance and sexual abuse.

After one daughter came out as a lesbian, Candace and Chuck became advocates for Gay rights. Candace was eventually named Pacific Northwest Regional Director of PFLAG. She helped organize local chapters, counseled parents, networked with religious leaders, and spoke before legislatures to fight anti-gay prejudice, policies and legislation.

Candace is survived by her brother, daughters Danae, Heidi and Healter Steele, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, Candace's family suggests memorial donations to PFLAG (www.pflag.org) or The Nature Conservancy (www.nature.org).

A memorial service is planned for summer 2010 in Ashland, Oregon. For information, please contact Heather at hnsteele@q.com.

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PFLAG National Website

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