

October, 2020 - In Tribute to Our Leader



L. Wayne Christenberry

AUGUST 15, 1956 – OCTOBER 7, 2020

(click on Wayne's picture to add your condolences)

The PFLAG Banner



the
president's
message

October, 2020

Dear PFLAG New Orleans Family, Friends, and Followers,

This month, we tragically lost our Co-President and close friend, [Wayne Christenberry](#). Most of us fondly remember Wayne as a staunch advocate for LGBTQ+ rights and as a tireless volunteer for many causes (like NO AIDS, Gay Halloween, and Lazarus House); to me, he was more than that--he was a sounding board for ideas, my mentor in building new PFLAG successes, and a very good friend. He will be sorely missed by all.

Randy Trahan, long-time PFLAG Board member and Wayne's best friend, was at Wayne's side when he passed. Despite the enormous amount of pain that

Wayne was in, the last moments were peaceful. Wayne was very specific about all of the details of his services, which were held recently, because he wanted us to remember the fun times he had with all of us. In fact, he even requested a 2nd Line procession, a celebratory sendoff that I will never forget.

Wayne was a staunch supporter of the Sandra Paillet Memorial Scholarship Program, which is named after one of our Chapter's late but dynamic leaders. The Board of Directors has unanimously decided to dedicate a Scholarship in Wayne's memory so that his dreams, aspirations, and legacy will live on.

Rest assured that PFLAG New Orleans will continue its efforts to help the regional community through LGBTQ+ Support, Education, and Advocacy. The Board has renewed passion and will be launching new programs that enhance what we do best (support), build more relationships in our area, and reinforce our efforts to support the underserved and younger individuals that still need our help.

Let's keep Wayne alive in our minds, hearts, and efforts by being more active, more vocal, and more loving. Help others vote in this **critical** election on November 3. You have heard this before, but every vote counts--especially in local elections. WE CHOOSE those that will represent us, so please do your research and choose wisely.

Keep love and hope in your heart,

[Alberto Oliver](#)

President

PFLAG New Orleans



Please Click [HERE](#) to
Email Your R.S.V.P.

Join Our Support Group Meeting 7-9 PM Thursday, Nov 12

Our work continues. PFLAG is here to support you, so you can support your LGBTQ+ loved ones. PFLAG Connects is a new virtual meeting space for the PFLAG Chapter Network. You can join by video, audio or chat - whatever you're comfortable with.

All of our groups are led and facilitated by PFLAG New Orleans volunteers. Safety is of our utmost priority for all of our virtual support group meetings. We will discuss privacy, confidentiality, and group agreements at the start of the



meeting.

Please send us an email (by clicking on the RSVP button) to let us know who will attend the meeting. Once you submit this Email, we will send you a reply with instructions on how to join the group.

**Meeting doors open at
6:45 PM on Thursday.
Nov. 12.**



Join a Committee!

PFLAG Needs your help on committees. Anyone can volunteer for a committee--even those that are not members. and it will introduce you to a lot of the ways that PFLAG helps our community. Here are some committees that need help now:

Fundraising: Researching special events and opportunities to do fundraising, contacting members and friendly companies for donations, helping with raffles and auctions.

Membership: Contacting present, past, and future members for membership fees that help keep our chapter operating.

Outreach: Going to events to promote PFLAG, help with educational events, delivering brochures, creating buttons, assisting with advocacy events, helping select training materials, helping with podcasts and radio show, taking/posting pictures after events, and monitoring social media accounts.

Technology: Helping with website improvements, personalizing automatic correspondence, setting up donation campaigns, testing changes, helping with Newsletter, creating web content, assisting with Zoom meetings, and handling mail merges.

Scholarship Reception: Party planning, handling invitations and ticket campaigns, auction item acquisition, handling setup, brainstorming ways to make things better, taking pictures.

[Click here to ask for more info!](#)



Community Calendar

The Community Calendar site is currently down. Do you know of one that PFLAGers can refer to for now?

Send a message to info@pflagno.org.



The Hite Law Group was founded in 2013 with the goal of providing affordable high-quality legal service to those in need. We use our personal experience and professional expertise to support, protect, and advocate for individuals, families, and children across Louisiana. While addressing the full range of family law concerns, The Hite Law Group specializes in serving the unique needs of the LGBTQ community and survivors of intimate partner abuse.

THE HITE LAW GROUP





Las Familias de PFLAG En Español

PFLAG National, la primera y más grande organización para personas lesbianas, gays, bisexuales, transgénero y queer (LGBTQ +), sus padres, familias y aliados, lanzó hoy Las Familias de PFLAG En Español, un nuevo cortometraje en apoyo de los hispanos Mes de la Herencia. El video presenta a miembros de PFLAG En Español en Los Ángeles, una reunión satélite de PFLAG Los Ángeles.



The Families of PFLAG In Spanish

PFLAG National—the first and largest organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) people, their parents and families, and allies—today released Las Familias de PFLAG En Español, a new short film in support of Hispanic Heritage Month. The video features members of PFLAG En Español in Los Angeles, a satellite meeting of PFLAG Los Angeles.

In Memoriam

Brian Bond 's Reflections on the Passing of Supreme Court Justice Ginsberg

“Justice Ginsburg was small in stature and stood as a giant in defense of the rights of LGBTQ+ people. For President Trump to dishonor her memory by rushing



Ruth Bader Ginsburg, 1930 - 2020

through a nomination before she is even laid to rest is unconscionable. It is even worse to do so while the election is already underway,” said Brian K. Bond, Executive Director of PFLAG National.

Click to hear
"Blackbird," a short
song about equality
by Paul McCartney.

“The votes and voice of the people should be heard before any nominee is considered.” Bond continued, “In the middle of a pandemic, when more than 7 million people in this country have contracted COVID-19—and right when the White House threatens to refuse Medicare payments to hospitals—the administration should be focused on the pandemic. Now is the time to support states and local communities, to pass economic relief for families, and so much more, not to rush a Supreme Court nomination.”



COUNTDOWN TO ELECTION DAY- Tuesday, NOV 3

Election day is almost here. You've registered and have not yet voted early. What's next? These links will help you.

PFLAG Votes 2020: Our Right, Our Responsibility

Review your ballot in advance with [Vote411.org](https://www.vote411.org) or [Ballot Ready](https://www.ballotready.org)

Connect with the election office in your state

So It's Election Day: What To Do if you Run Into Issues

NCTE: [VotingWhileTrans](#)





LGBT in the News

Here are some news articles you may have missed this month.

[Franklin Graham is Unhappy That the Pope Approves of Gay Unions](#)

[SCOTUS's Mixed History Dealing With LGBTQ Rights](#)

[CDC issues pandemic guidelines for safer activities during COVID-19 for holidays, including Halloween.](#)

[6th transgender person in PR found murdered this year, at least 30th the U.S](#)

[ALA: Some of the most frequently banned books feature LGBTQ stories](#)

Do you have a comment about an article? Send your thoughts to the [Banner Editor](#).



Wayne's 2nd Line Procession



Until we meet again, Wayne, you will be missed.

Transgender Day of Remembrance - November 20

Every year, we ask that you set aside some time on November 20 to mark Transgender Day of Remembrance.



The annual observance honors those who have lost their lives due to anti-transgender violence.

[Really good info about TDOR](#)

Trans Inclusion With Faith Communities-A Discussion

Sponsored by the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative [LGBT Initiative](#).
This is a non-PFLAG event.



SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

For Southern Louisiana! (on ZOOM)

SAVE THE DATE!

*Thursday, November 12
7:00 to 9:00 PM*

Email SupportGroup@gmail.com

to reserve your spot.



Hot News: The PFLAG Southern Regional Conference, hosted by PFLAG Beaumont on ZOOM, was held on 10/23-24. It was a great success.

On Friday night, the social hour allowed PFLAGers from around the region to get to know each other through conversations and by answering funny icebreaker questions.

Day two was filled with eight hours of entertaining and educational presentations, kicked off by an invigorating and motivational keynote speech by [Brian Bond](#), former Obama Administration official and current PFLAG Executive Director, where he urged us all to get out the vote.

The highlight of the presentations was one about Law Enforcement's interaction with the LGBTQ+ Community. Speakers Lt. Stephanie Flores, Bexar County Sheriff Javier Salazar, and Officer Michael Robertson (who is the President of [PFLAG Norman, OK](#)) delivered a fact-filled, emotionally-packed presentation.

Perhaps the most invigorating and uplifting session was with PFLAG New Orleans's own Dr. Lynn Friedman and Beaumont's President, Jack Hayes, and her two 20-something dynamos, Jolee Tanner and Kaelyn Smith. The ideas, success stories, and plans prove that getting the younger PFLAGers involved is a key to dynamic success.

PFLAG National is working with PFLAG Beaumont to make the recordings available for all to watch. Special thanks to Gail Pesses, Dr. Lynn Friedman, and Rev. Dr. Jarrett Banks for representing PFLAG New Orleans in the weeks leading up to the conference. Thanks, team. You're the best!



[Podcasts are available for download \(here\).](#)



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Orleans as your
charitable organization.

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Staff of PFLAG N.O. Banner

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