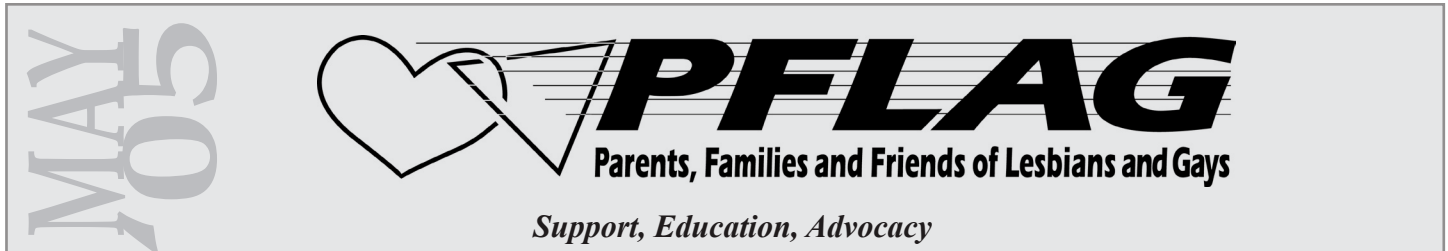


**PFLAG Madison**  
Venetian Lane  
Madison, WI 53718  
Voice-Mail: 608-848-2333

**National PFLAG Web:** <http://www.pflag.org>  
**Madison LGBT Center:** OUTREACH  
608-255-4297 (info, referrals, peer counseling)  
**Madison Website:** <http://www.pflag-madison.org>



C0-Presidents: Carl White & Joyce Larson    Treasurer: Karen Baker    Past President: Kay Heggstad  
Executive Board: Harriet & George Bruyn, Joann Elder, Frank Reub, Paul Wertsch, Bonnie Abrams, Sharon Whitney, Jane LaFlash

**Next Meeting: Sunday, May 15, 2005 2:00-4:00 pm**

### **Mission Statement**

**PFLAG** promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons, their families and friends 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.

**PFLAG** provides opportunities for discussions about sexual orientation, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

### **Meetings**

**Time:** Third Sunday of each month, September through May from 2:00 - 4:00 pm  
(except holidays when the meeting will be rescheduled)

**Place:** Friends Meeting House, 1704 Roberts Court, Madison, WI  
Roberts Court parallels Monroe Street behind Associated Bank. Turn right from Monroe onto Stockton Court. You may park either in front of the Meeting House or in the bank parking lot.

**Guidelines:** Meetings begin with a welcome and then a one hour program usually with outside speakers. Following a short break, we then go around the room and introduce ourselves which often leads into discussions of issues concerning us all.

## **2005 PFLAG NEWSLETTER DEADLINES**

June 4	September 3
July 2	October 1
August 6	November 5
	December 3

*Please e-mail any articles you would like to have included by or before the deadline date to:*

**Jim Dietrich at**  
**[JDietr@aol.com](mailto:JDietr@aol.com)**

## Meeting Topics and Events for Madison PFLAG 2005

Note: this schedule may change so see the web site (PFLAG-Madison.org) for updates.

**MAY 15, 2005**

**Stage Q (Bonnie Abrams)**

**Tom Mclurg, Artistic Director of Madison's Stage Q will talk to us about how this theatrical troupe got started and his experiences in presenting gay themed plays in Madison.**

### ***PARTY TIME!!***

Hey PFLAGers! I know you're dying to attend a meeting during the summer, right?

But how 'bout if the meeting is just a get-together, with a pool and food? That's right, you're invited.

When - Sun. Aug. 21, 4:30 to 7:00 (or so)

Where - The Landing Condominium, on Bridge Road, off West Broadway

What to bring - food, swim suit.

Then what - Please RSVP Joyce, at 222-3399 or joylars1@aol.com, and I'll give you more explicit directions

### **GLSEN Dinner and Awards Evening May 21**

Please help support the work of GLSEN Sat evening May 21 at Monona Terrace for their annual dinner and awards program to show appreciation for glbt youth. If you can't attend, please consider sending a contribution.

Tickets for the PFLAG table are \$50 ea.

*For more information contct Jo Elder*

### ***PLEASE VOTE***

Please support the 3 referendum for MMSD public schools. Not only it this important "on principle" of good public education, but we are particularly interested in keeping our multicultural support staff.

## ***Four PFLAG Members from Madison attend Soulforce protest in Colorado***

Mary and Bill Fiore, Steve Webster and Jim Dietrich attended the training, picnic and non-violent protest against James Dobson and Focus on the Family on May 1-2. On May 1, over 1000 people jammed the street in front Focus on the Family to celebrate the worth, dignity, and Spirit evident in the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals, couples, and their families, while holding Dobson accountable for his anti-gay rhetoric. Many of the families, with their young children in tow, sang and danced as Jason and DeMarco, the Two Spirit Society, and a myriad of speakers sang and spoke to the crowd. Hundreds of letters explaining to Dobson how his rhetoric has hurt their families were collected.

Monday morning, A family who wanted to deliver a letter to James Dobson or the "next in line" was arrested for trespassing as they crossed onto the property of Dobson's organization, Focus on the Family. Originally, plans were to distribute 100s of letters written by lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals and families who have been hurt by Dobson's rhetoric during a public tour during normal operating hours, but Focus on the Family shut down on Monday, May 2, to keep LGBT individuals and families from entering. (They also closed down on Friday and covered the sign at the front entrance with a tarp).

Before the arrest, Randi Reitan, mother of Jacob Reitan, a young gay man and Youth Director for Soulforce, read a letter she had written to Dobson explaining how his rhetoric is hurting families like theirs. Holding a bouquet of roses, and struggling to get the words out, Randi stated, "There was never a moment we did not love or accept our dear son. But we struggled with how best to see the day Jake is loved, accepted and understood by society. As parents and Christians, we felt called to work for justice for all in the gay community." The letter is available online at [www.soulforce.org](http://www.soulforce.org).

With his arms around both parents, Jacob stated, "This family is about love, my parents love me as I am, as God created me, and James Dobson is out to destroy loving families like mine!" As the family crossed on to the Focus on the Family property, police immediately handcuffed Jacob Reitan, his mother Randi, and his father Phil, who all had tears in their eyes as they were led to the police van.

Over 125 Soulforce supporters, singing "Amazing Grace," stood by in support of the Reitan family who were released from police custody a short time later.

Soulforce and supporters in Colorado plan to return to Focus on the Family next year. In addition, A representative from Soulforce in Colorado Springs will be hand delivering a single letter every day over the next year to Dr. Dobson.

For more information on Soulforce, James Dobson and pictures of the event, go to [www.soulforce.org](http://www.soulforce.org).

*The purpose of Soulforce is freedom for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people from religious and political oppression through the practice of relentless nonviolent resistance.*