

PFLAG Madison

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Email: pflagmadison@yahoo.com

Website: <http://www.pflag-madison.org>

Meeting Place:

Friends Meeting House, 1704 Roberts Court, Madison, WI

Meeting: 2:00 to 4:00 PM, 3rd Sunday of the month, Sept. to May

National PFLAG Website: <http://www.pflag.org>

Parents, Families, Friends and Allies United with LGBTQ People to move equality forward

Support

Education

Advocacy

President: Lora Schmid-Dolan

President-Elect: Susie Murray

Past President: Jeanne Williams

Treasurer: Susie Murray

Board Members: Joanne Lee, Sandy Feria, Paul Wertsch, Nancy Jones, Ken Jones and Joann Elder



NEXT MEETING November 19

Join us at 2:00 PM as we hear from two ex-military trans personnel:

Darla Lannert - Vietnam combat Veteran 1970-1973. 20 months in combat Rank E4 Gunners Mate. Parent and Grandparent advocate for the LGBT community. Speaker and educator. Board Member and trans advocate at OutReach.

Sheri Swokowski - As a retired Army COL, Sheri is the senior, out, Trans veteran in the US. After being fired as lead USAFMS instructor when she transitioned, she went on to serve 2.5 yrs as Pentagon Sr Analyst and three yrs as HR Dir for USFS Rocky Mtn Region.

October Meeting Summary - Lora Schmid-Dolan

Patrick Farabaugh, the founder of Our Lives Magazine and the Madison Gay Hockey Association, was the guest speaker for October's general meeting. Patrick's personal journey began in Gary, Indiana. He spent five years in New York City working at Entertainment Weekly and Out magazine. Even in LGBTQ+ tolerant New York he found himself not fitting in and lonely. He found a sense of community in a gay hockey league, when a couple friends invited him to join. And that team provided him what he was missing - healthy interactions, a family and also a link to the well-defined ideas of masculinity that shaped his childhood in a blue-collar town.

After stints in Seattle, Alaska, and Russia, Patrick found his way to Madison in late 2005. Our Lives magazine was launched in 2007 with a current readership of over 22,000. The same year he founded the Madison Gay Hockey League which has grown to be the largest gay hockey league in the US, second only to Toronto's as the largest in the world.

This brief summary falls woefully short in describing the immeasurable impact Patrick's energy, love, and dedication have had on Madison's LGBTQ + allies population. I encourage anyone who has not heard Patrick share his personal journey to do so if the opportunity presents itself.

Madison Catholic Diocese offers 'considerations' that could limit funeral rites for gay parishioners - Wisconsin State Journal, 25 Oct 2017

A weekly newsletter to priests in the Madison Catholic Diocese by Bishop Robert Morlino's top aide spelled out a series of "considerations" to use in deciding whether to provide funeral rites for people in same-sex unions, angering gay advocates who slammed it as offensive.

The confidential email, sent Saturday by Vicar General James Bartylla with Morlino's backing, said rites "may be denied for manifest sinners" if providing the services would cause unavoidable "public scandal of the faithful."

See the entire Wisconsin State Journal article [here](#).

It was encouraging to see comments from PFLAG supporters and others in the Wisconsin State Journal "Letters to the Editor" pages.

Also note:

DignityUSA (Catholics committed to LGBTQI equality) responded to the diocese's guidance in an article on their website. [Click here](#) to read that article.

Marianne Duddy-Burke of DignityUSA has started a petition on the change.org website. This petition calls for the "guidance" that discriminates against LGBTQI individuals to be withdrawn. Review this petition [here](#).

Rescission of U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and Department of Education (DOE) Title IX Guidance for Transgender Students - PFLAG Web Site

PFLAG National has assembled a series of common questions and answers (FAQS) relating to the DOJ and DOE alteration of Title IX guidance for transgender students. You can review those questions and answers at [this link](#).

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PLEASE NOTE: If you are viewing the printed version of this newsletter, check the on-line version at <http://www.pflag-madison.org/newsletters/2017/Nov17NL.pdf> to easily follow the links that are mentioned in the news items.

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Gratitude is the inward feeling of kindness received.
Thankfulness is the natural impulse to express that feeling.
Thanksgiving is the following of that impulse.

Henry Van Dyke