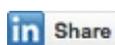




Out & About

News and notes for LGBT-parented families

JANUARY 2014



PFP Celebrated 20 Years on New Year's Day

Philadelphia Family Pride held our annual New Year's Day Potluck Brunch on January 1, 2014 at Mishkan Shalom in Roxborough and celebrated the group's 20th anniversary!

Over 100 PFPers shared delicious food, including minestrone soup, quinoa salad, mac and cheese and the sundae bar. While the parents caught up with each other, the littlest kids enjoyed a story time read by member Andrew Altman (pictured).



Bigger kids got creative with Legos and Rainbow Looms with the experts helping the newbies with their fishtail bracelets or advanced Lego architecture.

The hit of the party, though, was a visit from Philly's local LGBT square dancing club, the [Independence Squares](#). All ages got up and learned to "bow to their partner" and "do-si-do!" So many people participated that we needed a bigger dance floor!

Pictured square dancing are PFP Board Chair Robin Matthews and her son (left) and new PFP Board member Andrea Sanders and her son.



Big thanks to the members of Independence Squares for joining in our celebration.

We'd also like to thank these founding members of PFP who attended - Tish Fabens, Marla Gold and Deb Brady.

Tish gave a short talk to the group and explained that PFP at its inception had to overcome a big challenge with integrating the two different constituencies - lesbian couples who created their children together and single women whose kids were older and created in a heterosexual relationship.

Tish is pictured here at the mic next to outgoing chair Marc Berman.

Twenty years later, our group is one big, fun mix of families with two moms, two dads, trans* parents, single LGBT parents and poly parents, all with various paths to parenthood.

We also took care of some business and elected five new members to the PFP board, re-elected some board members and installed



new leadership to the group.

Thanks to Robin Matthews for taking on the chair position after Marc Berman's "retirement," Sandra Telep for taking over as Vice-Chair after Wendy Forbes moved away to West Virginia, and Bryan Berchok for taking over as Treasurer from Bill Stevers.

New board members include Lou GrowMiller as the new Secretary of the board, Andreah Sanders as the incoming Education and Advocacy Committee Chair, Tracy Smith as the new Membership Committee Chair and Members-at-large Grant Mundell and David D'amico.



Finally, our silent auction, led by Fundraising Committee Chair Kelly Durand, raised over \$2,000 - a record for this fundraiser. Thanks to all of you who participated as well as the dozens of sponsors who donated items to the auction. [See a complete list of sponsors on our web site.](#)

Here's a photo of the group at the end of the brunch. Apologies to those with littler kids who had already left for nap time and missed being in it.

We're looking forward to 2014 and lots more fun events like this one!



	<p>THE LAW OFFICE OF DAVID C. BERMAN 2300 COMPUTER AVENUE, SUITE G-26, WILLOW GROVE, PA 19090 PHONE: 215-540-5857 FAX: 215-754-4645 BERMAN@DCBERMANLAW.COM WWW.DCBERMANLAW.COM</p> <p><i>Second Parent Adoption - Wills and Health Care Powers of Attorney - Known Sperm/Egg Donor Agreements - Gestational Carrier Agreements</i></p>	
---	---	---

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Renew Your Membership for 2014

Thanks to all of those who renewed their memberships on New Year's Day at the brunch and sent in their renewals via our PO Box or Paypal.

If you haven't had a chance yet to renew for 2014, please do so today! Go to our [web site](#), pay via Paypal (paypal@phillyfamilypride.org) or send a check to our new Philly mailing address: PO Box 31848, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

Your membership dues pay for all the events we have throughout the year. As a

Year membership dues pay for all the events we have throughout the year. As a member, you can look forward to discounts at many of our events, including the Adventure Aquarium this Sunday (see below), and access to members-only trips like our tour of the state capitol in April with Rep. Brian Sims and our trip to Great Wolf Lodge - date TBA.

Note that PFP memberships run for the calendar year. If you aren't sure if your membership is current, please contact PFP Board Chair [Robin Matthews](#).

Aquarium Trip on January 26th

Join Philly Family Pride families at the [Adventure Aquarium](#) in Camden, NJ on Sunday, January 26th at 10:30am and visit the sharks, rays, penguins and their latest special exhibit – *Frogs: Nature's Messenger*.



Meet in the lobby at 10:30am and then for a group lunch at NOON in the cafe. Feel free to bring your own meal or buy it there.

For dues-paying PFP members, the ticket prices are \$11 for kids under 12 and \$14 for the 12+ crowd. Toddlers and babies under two are free.

For non PFP members, please join us for \$16 for kids and \$22 for adults. This is still discounted off the regular admission price.

Note that parking is an additional \$10 per car, unless you are a pass holder to the Adventure Aquarium, in which case it's discounted to \$4.

Members and non-members, reserve your discounted ticket between now and 9am Sunday morning by emailing board member David D'Amico at david@phillyfamilypride.org. Also invite your friends on the [Facebook event!](#)



Pay in advance via Paypal to paypal@phillyfamilypride.org or bring a check or cash with you the day of the event.

If you are already a member of the aquarium and get free admission, please meet the group in the lobby at 10:30am.

SPECIAL BONUS! Everyone who attends the Aquarium trip will be entered to win two free tickets to the [Peking Acrobats](#) show at the Keswick Theatre on March 2.

Member Milestones

❤ Board member Lou GrowMiller (left) and husband Michael married on Dec. 6th in Michael's hometown of Collingswood, NJ - pictured with daughter Gabriella. (Lou would like everyone to know that this was after a week at Disney World, thus the Mickey ears.) Collingswood mayor James Maley officiated.



❤ Marcy Boroff and Maria Veneziano were married in a Jewish ceremony on December 22nd at the Reading Terminal Market. They've been together almost 20 years and have a 15 year-old daughter, Hannah. They made it "legal" in Haddonfield, New Jersey in January. They are pictured here recreating a photo from the PGN. Congrats!





Congratulations to PFP Community Coordinator Stephanie Haynes (right) and her partner of 19 years Vicky Kresge on their marriage in Collingswood, NJ on December 30, 2013. Their seven year-old sons Jove and Griffin were also in attendance, but wore ear plugs so they wouldn't have to hear the "mushy love stuff."



If you have a milestone you'd like included in an upcoming newsletter, please e-mail Stephanie Haynes at stephanie@phillyfamilypride.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 26: Join PFP at the [Adventure Aquarium](#) in Camden, NJ. Discounted tickets available for PFP members.



Sunday, February 9: Meet up with other families with infants and toddlers at the new [Play Cafe in Bryn Mawr](#). (pictured)

Sunday, February 16: William Way is hosting another [PFP Family Play Day](#), this time with a Valentine's theme, 12-2pm.

Sunday, February 23: Celebrate [Winter Pride](#) ice skating at the River Rink.

Save these dates:

Sat.-Sun, March 15-16:
Neighborhood Potlucks

Monday, April 14: [Tour the State Capitol with Rep. Brian Sims](#)

To be announced:
Great Wolf Lodge Trip



Keep an eye on our [Facebook](#) page and [Twitter](#) feed for more upcoming events.



Letter from the PFP Chair, Robin Matthews

Happy 2014!

I don't know about you, but it seems impossible to me that it's already mid-January. Despite the "polar vortex" cold snap and the "surprise" snowstorms, it seems like we are coasting through this winter. This morning on my Facebook feed, I saw a call for volunteers for my town's Farmer's Market and already, garden seeds are on sale at Giant. Spring is coming.



But, let's not get ahead of ourselves. Because, while the Phillies pitchers and catchers report for training in less than a month, we still have quite a bit of winter ahead. And, for PFP, that means a full calendar of fun indoor activities for families.

As for myself, I am looking forward to the brand new Lego Club that I expect to be up and running by mid-February. With the full support of my Lego-obsessed son and because of the popularity of the Lego table at the New Year's Day brunch, PFP will be launching a regular monthly Lego social club where kids can stretch their imaginations at a table strewn with building bricks while adults catch up over coffee and some snacks. Keep an eye out for more details about this!

I'm also really excited about the upcoming trip to the Adventure Aquarium in Camden on Sunday. We've also got a Valentine's celebration, neighborhood potlucks, and maybe even some laser tag lined up! Before you know it, crocuses will be popping their little green heads out of damp, dark dirt and we'll be planning our Spring hikes and heading off to Great Wolf Lodge.

It's going to be a great year, Philly Family Pride. I can't wait to see so many of your smiling faces in the coming months!

Stay warm,

Robin



Suggestions for what else we should include in our newsletter? Want to sponsor our next issue?

Contact Stephanie Haynes, PFP Community Coordinator at stephanie@phillyfamilypride.org.

SUPPORT PHILADELPHIA FAMILY PRIDE
Support our work by [joining](#), [renewing your membership](#), making a donation or volunteering.

Philadelphia Family Pride
Board of Directors

Robin Matthews, Chair

Sandra Telep, Vice-Chair

Send a check to our address or give through the [Paypal link](#) on our web site. Thanks so much!



Lou GrowMiller, Secretary

Bryan Berchok, Treasurer

Tracy Smith,
Membership Committee Chair

Kelly Durand,
Fundraising Committee Chair

Andrea Sanders,
Education & Advocacy Chair

David D'Amico, Member-at-Large

Grant Mundell, Member-at-Large

PO Box 31848
Philadelphia, PA 19104

www.phillyfamilypride.org
info@phillyfamilypride.org

PFP Out & About

www.phillyfamilypride.org

[Click to view this email in a browser](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

Philadelphia Family Pride
PO Box 235
Springhouse, PA 19477
US

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

vertical DELIVERED BY
response
Try It Free Today!