

M A R C H 2 0 1 1

# PFLAG<sup>of</sup> Door County

5-6:30PM THE 3RD SUNDAY AT HOPE CHURCH, STURGEON BAY



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## MARYLAND ENACTS SAME-SEX MARRIAGE EQUALITY

The Maryland Senate gave final approval to a marriage equality bill during the last week in February, and days later, Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley signed the legislation into law. The governor signed the new law surrounded by the state's eight openly gay and lesbian lawmakers. Thus, Maryland joined seven other states and the District of Columbia in allowing same-sex couples to marry.

In his speech on the Senate floor earlier in the legislative process, openly gay State Sen. Richard Madaleno explained the value of the legislation to him and to his family, saying, "It is the marriage license that symbolizes the commitment. It makes it worthwhile. I want that marriage license in the state of Maryland."

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## FORMER GOP CHAIR APOLOGIZES FOR PAST ANTI-GAY MARRIAGE STANCE

Ken Mehlman, who managed George W. Bush's 2004 re-election campaign, is explicitly apologizing to the people hurt by the anti-gay marriage tone of the campaign. Mehlman, who came out as gay in 2010, said: "I am sorry" for anti-gay campaigns. At a personal level, I wish I had spoken out against the effort. As I've been involved in the fight for marriage equality, one of the things I've learned is how many people were harmed by the campaigns in which I was involved. I apologize to them and tell them I am sorry." Backing gay marriage increasingly, Mehlman continued, "is a net positive for winning elections."

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## MARYLAND ENACTS SAME-SEX MARRIAGE EQUALITY

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The law's opponents have already begun a drive to repeal the measure, and the outcome could hinge on voter turnout this November. If the opponents gather enough signatures to put the same-sex law to a voter referendum, Governor O'Malley said he will campaign hard to retain the law. If, on the other hand, voters approve what has been enacted into law, couples could begin marrying in January, 2013.

African-American votes could be affected by President Barack Obama's position on the issue, according to one Marylander.

**(Sources: Washington Blade(3/1), USA TODAY/The Associated Press(3/1), The Sun (Baltimore)/The Associated Press)**

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## FORMER GOP CHAIR APOLOGIZES FOR PAST ANTI-GAY MARRIAGE STANCE

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Today Mehlman is helping marriage equality campaigns in various states, often behind the scenes, including the recent campaign in Maryland. (See related article above.)

Mehlman is not the only alum of the 2004 Republican presidential campaign who has publicly

departed from its anti-gay marriage position. So has former Vice President Dick Cheney, who lobbied Republican lawmakers in Maryland this year to legalize gay marriage. Bush's daughter Barbara supports gay marriage, too.

**(Sources, Salon, The Atlantic Wire)**

# Calendar of Meetings and Other Events

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## Appleton

### **PFLAG of Appleton**

PFLAG of Appleton meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Appleton Harmony Café, 233 College Avenue at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please email: [pflagappleton@gmail.com](mailto:pflagappleton@gmail.com).

### **Valued Families**

(Support Group for LGBTQ parents with children)  
Note: this group disbanded in late 2010. If anyone would like more information about this group or similar groups in the area, please call Jesse Heffernan, 920-734-CAFÉ (2233).

### **Spectrum**

(LGBTQ and allied social group 18 years and up)  
Spectrum meets Mondays from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Harmony Café--Fox Valley, 233 East College Avenue, Appleton, WI 54911, 920 734-2233.

[See also under Green Bay below]

### **GBLT Partnership**

(Offers leadership development and support for teens ages 14-18)

GBLT Partnership meets weekly on Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Harmony

## Door County

### **PFLAG Door County**

PFLAG Door County meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 5:00 p.m. at the Hope UCC Church, 12th and Michigan, Sturgeon Bay. For more information:

[www.pflagdoorcounty.org](http://www.pflagdoorcounty.org) or  
[Richard\\_gardiner2001@yahoo.com](mailto:Richard_gardiner2001@yahoo.com)

Café--Fox Valley, 233 College Avenue, Appleton, WI 54911. Tel. 920-734-2233.

[See also under Green Bay below]

# Calendar of Meetings and Other Events

## Green Bay

### Conversation Cafe

The following happens at the Harmony Café (West Mason Street (next to Toys R Us)):  
Conversation Café takes place every Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., hosted by Cricket.  
For a complete list of the services provided by the Harmony Café, click on the following link:  
[www.focol.org/harmonycafe/](http://www.focol.org/harmonycafe/)

### The Green Bay Transgender Group

(The Green Bay Transgender group meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Harmony Café.

### Spectrum

(LGBTQ and allied social group 18 years and up)  
Spectrum meets Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Harmony Café, Green Bay, 1660 West Mason Street, Green Bay, WI 54303. Tel. 920-569-1593.

[See also under Appleton above.]

### Manitowoc PFLAG Manitowoc County

PFLAG Manitowoc County meets the 1st Thursday of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the St. James Church, 434 N. 8th St.

### GBLT Partnership

GBLT Partnership (Offers leadership development and support for teens ages 14-18)

GBLT Partnership meets weekly on Mondays from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Harmony Café-Green Bay, 1660 West Mason Street, Green Bay, WI 54303. Tel. 920-569-1593.

[See also under Appleton above.]

### LaCrosse

#### PFLAG LaCrosse

PFLAG LaCrosse meets every Tuesday starting at 6:30 p.m. at the LGBT Resource Center of the 7 Rivers Region.  
[www.7riverslgbt.org](http://www.7riverslgbt.org)

### Adult-Gay/Straight Alliance of Green Bay

A-GSA, Adult Gay/Straight Alliance of Green Bay, is a new advocacy group located

in Green Bay for families and friends of persons who identify as GLBT.

A-GSA provides opportunities for dialogue about topics related to sexual orientation. All sessions are respectful, nonjudgmental, and strictly confidential. A-GSA charges no fees. All are welcome.

Meetings are 6:00-8:00pm, second Tuesday of the month (September through May)

"The English Room" at the Union

Congregational United Church of Christ

716 S. Madison St. Green Bay, WI 54301

Contacts: Michele Becker, 920-432-1283 or

Robin, 920-468-2521.

# Calendar of Meetings and Other Events

## Madison

### PFLAG Madison

#### Straight Spouse Group

PFLAG Madison meets the 3rd Sunday every month except June, July and August, from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

The Straight Spouse Group meets at 4:00 p.m., immediately following the PFLAG Group meeting.

See [www.pflag-madison.org](http://www.pflag-madison.org) for directions and agenda topics.

## Point

### PFLAG Point

PFLAG Point meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

No permanent meeting place has been determined. Link on the following for more information: [www.pflagpoint.com](http://www.pflagpoint.com) or phone 715-572-6922.

## Milwaukee

### PFLAG Milwaukee

PFLAG Milwaukee meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 5:00 p.m. at the Martin Luther Church in Milwaukee. See the following for more information:

[www.milwaukee-pflag.org](http://www.milwaukee-pflag.org).

## Oshkosh

### PFLAG of Greater Oshkosh

PFLAG of Greater Oshkosh meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 137 Algoma Blvd. in Oshkosh. Contact information: [pflagoshkosh@gmail.com](mailto:pflagoshkosh@gmail.com).

## Washburn

### PFLAG Washburn

PFLAG Washburn meets on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. on the lower level of the Washburn Public Library, 307 Washington Avenue, Washburn. For further information, please call 715-209-1100.

## Newsletter Contact Information:

PFLAG Sturgeon Bay/Door County  
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235  
920-421-8875

Website: [www.pflagdoorcounty.org](http://www.pflagdoorcounty.org)

E-mail: [pflag@doorcounty.com](mailto:pflag@doorcounty.com)

Also find us on Facebook: PFLAG Door County

Editor/Secretary: Beth Mitchell [benmitche@mac.com](mailto:benmitche@mac.com)

If you would like to be removed from the PFLAG e-mail list, please let us know by replying to this e-mail and we will remove your address.