

# FLATHEAD VALLEY GAY ALLIANCE



## FVGA BY-LAWS RATIFIED = CHANGES

2011 VOLUME,  
ISSUE 10,  
OCTOBER 2011

Since September 17, the Flathead Valley Gay Alliance now operates under by-laws which were drafted over a 6-month period and announced to members over a following 3-month period.

This has been made possible, in the final stage, by votes for ratification from participating members, either present at last month's social event or voting in absentee.

The September social was a bonfire, hayride, and a first annual membership meeting held at the homes of member Brad Nelson and his parents near Somers.

While a small number of members and friends were there, a very pleasant time of late summer outdoor social activity was enjoyed. Thanks again to Brad and family for hosting a good time.

The FVGA's fiscal year officially began then on October 1. For now, our membership year will continue to begin on January 1. Going forward as a Board, we will need to work on and put into place a document of policies and procedures. Even more importantly, we will soon apply to become a non-profit organization.

The Flathead Valley Gay Alliance cannot function without the support and involvement of its members. All FVGA members and guests are welcome to attend all meetings and functions.

The bylaws call for an expansion of the Board of Directors for two additional positions, one of parliamentarian, and one of member-at-large. Page 3 of this Newsletter is an application for nomination to the Board, All members are encouraged to fill this out and mail it in or bring it to our next meeting to be nominated for appointment.

## DRAG-A-WEEN / DANCE-SOCIAL

KALISPELL—Saturday, October 29th looks to be a night of big events once again at the Eagles downtown. Doors are scheduled to open at 6PM, the line-up for performers is at 7PM, and the show starts at 8PM!

Show? YES! Our very own Miss Cloe Lottacock has returned to the Flathead Valley and has set up a fabulous drag show fundraiser with many special guest performers to begin the festivities of the evening..

Interested performers can contact Cloe/Shane at 885-4215 or 755-3044. Admission/cover charge is set at \$7.00 with a \$2.00 discount for FVGA members. We're bringing in the entertainment, you bring in the audience!

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### **Current Events:**

- September 20, 2011: U.S. military ends "Don't Ask Don't Tell". Homosexual personnel allowed to publicly declare sexual orientation without being dismissed.
- September 30, 2011: "Homosexual conduct" deleted from Dept. of Defense instruction as a ground for administrative separation, thus further strengthening repeal of DADT.

## NEWSLETTER BRIEFS

### SEE BRIGHTER STAGE PERFORMERS THIS MONTH!

**KALISPELL**—The FVGA Board approved research and eventual purchase, about \$250, of a follow-spot spotlight to add to the lighting in our dances and especially in time for our Drag-A-Ween fundraiser at the end of the month! There is further speculation and plans will be made to loan our spotlight out to other groups for a donation charge or gratis. Thank you again to those who helped plan our budget for special items like this, and help with fundraisers, to enhance our future entertainment and social gatherings. By the way, we can always use help with set-up and clean-up of our special events, particularly in decorating for the Drag-A-Ween at the Eagles on October 29.

### FOLLOW-UP ON 2011 MONTANA LGBT SUMMIT

**MISSOULA**—Back on September 24, the University of Montana Center housed the Montana Pride Network's annual Summit with the theme "A State of Change: Building a Cohesive, Strong, Healthy Montana." Flathead Valley attendees reported back to the FVGA Board that workshops, panels, speakers, and times of fellowship brought out a full-spectrum of hot-bed topics important to each community and the state as a whole. The FVGA Board is looking into hosting a future LGBT Summit in Kalispell and will need your help!

### SUPPORT THE WHITEFISH GSA IN ALLIES WEEK

**WHITEFISH**—The Gay-Straight Alliance at Whitefish High School is participating in Allies Week during the week of October 17. Cards pledging support for LGBT students and their allies were circulated throughout the valley and will be posted on a display at the school during that week. Thank you to the many who have participated in this and to all who give good efforts toward encouraging acceptance in all areas.

### NOVEMBER LAST-SATURDAY ACTIVITY: POT-LUCK?

**LOCATION YET TO BE DETERMINED**—Would anyone be interested in hosting, most likely indoors, our last Saturday of November FVGA activity? Our plan is to have a pot-luck, of course bringing left-overs from Thanksgiving, since it would be scheduled for two days afterwards. All we need now is for someone to volunteer their warm home to host additional warm bodies for this event. Please let us know!

### DECEMBER 1 EACH YEAR IS WORLD AIDS DAY

**WORLDWIDE**—The first day of December, regardless of the day of the week, is annual World AIDS Day. Several local individuals and entities would like to plan special events for the Flathead Valley on this day, but need your ideas, input, and commitment to help and attend. Please contact the FVGA if you are interested, so that we can direct that interest appropriately. Ideas are being discussed at our board meetings as well. At this point, a Candle Light Vigil and program are being discussed, seeking location.

### PRE-CHRISTMAS WHITE-ELEPHANT EXCHANGE

**KALISPELL**—It sounds like our annual mid-December social is on again for this year. Bring a gift of any kind for a potluck social and afterwards, a white-elephant exchange-type game will be played. More details on the location will be posted next month.

### NEW YEAR'S PARTY IN THE PLANNING PROCESS

**KALISPELL**—The location is already reserved, the 3rd floor of the Eagles! Plan on being there to bring in the New Year with good friends having good fun. This is our membership drive event, which means, if no changes are made, members as individuals or couples can pay their annual dues that night with a discount of 2 months for the coming year and free entry to the dance/social that night. Members registering as part of a couple get half-off of the price of the dues for the second member as well. AND, it's still not too late to join FVGA for the remainder of this year at \$2 per individual or \$3 per couple! At any rate, clear your calendars for New Year's party.

### SPOKANE GLBT FILM FESTIVAL, NOVEMBER 4-6

**SPOKANE**—"Not Black and White", Spokane's 2011 GLBT Film Festival, is on for Friday and Saturday November 4th & 5th at 7PM and Saturday and Sunday November 5th & 6th at 3PM at Riverpoint EWU Auditorium's Phase I Classroom Building. For more information, e-mail [spokanefilmfest@comcast.net](mailto:spokanefilmfest@comcast.net) or call 509-216-0366. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.spokanefilmfest.org](http://www.spokanefilmfest.org).

We have individuals in the valley who are interested in seeking the funding and location to hold one of these in our community. If you have ideas or valuable connections, please contact us so we can help network you with others with similar interest!

**Flathead Valley Gay Alliance  
Board Member Application**

Thank you for your interest in being a board member for the Flathead Valley Gay Alliance, Inc. Please complete the following questionnaire, so that we can make the best use of your talents and expertise to provide the most rewarding experience as a board member of the Flathead Valley Gay Alliance, Inc.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Affiliation/ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check the education or skills you will contribute to the board:**

- public relations       fundraising       education       marketing       training
- special events       IT       community relations       Financial       management

What is your experience as a member of community groups?

What is your definition of equality?

What type of life experience(s) have you had which would add to your being a board member?

Why do you want to serve on the board of FVGA?

What special interest (or what areas) would you be interested in working on?

Will you commit to attend regular and special meetings of this board?     Yes     No

Will you commit to uphold the values and policies of the Board of Directors?     Yes     No

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please return completed application to: Flathead Valley Gay Alliance, Inc

432 E. Idaho St., Ste. C-201; Kalispell, MT 59901-4137

# October / November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Copper City Drag Soiree @ 7:30 @ Butte
23	24	25 Kalispell PFLAG Mtg @ FVUCC @ 7PM	26 Polson PFLAG Mtg. @ Library @ 6PM	27	28	29 Drag-A-Ween Social & Dance @ Eagles @ 6PM
30	31	1 FVGA Board Meeting @ Library Mtg. Rm. @ 7PM	2	3	4 Spokane GLBT Film Festival (thru Sunday)	5 ISCSM Fall Harvest @ Missoula Palace @ 10PM
6	7	8	9	10	11 FVGA Newsletter Submissions Due	12
13 Focus Group "Policies" & 501c3, 3PM Roger?Dave's	14 FVGA Newsletter Mailing Projected	15	16	17	18	19
20 Transgender Day of Remembrance @ 7PM	21	22 Kalispell PFLAG Mtg @ FVUCC @ 7PM	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Left-Overs Pot Luck

**OCTOBER 2011**

- 22—Copper City Drag Soiree @ Butte Conv. Ctr. @ 7:30 PM
- 25—Kalispell PFLAG Meeting @ FVUCC @ 7PM
- 26—Polson PFLAG Meeting @ Library @ 6PM
- 29—Drag-A-Ween (Show) Social & Dance @ Eagles @ 6PM

**NOVEMBER 2011**

- 1—FVGA Board Meeting @ Library Basement @ 7PM
- 4—Spokane GLBT Film Festival Fri-Sat 7PM, Sat-Sun. 3PM

- 5—ISCSM Fall Harvest @ Palace in Missoula @ 10PM
  - 11—FVGA Newsletter Submissions Due
  - 13—Focus Group: "Policies & 501c3" 3PM @ Roger & Dave's
  - 14—FVGA Newsletter Mailing Projected
  - 20—Transgender Day of Remembrance @ Anaconda 1st Presbyterian Church (4th & Main) @ 7PM, 559-0870
  - 26—Last-Saturday Pot-Luck for Thanksgiving Left-Overs
- CHECK [WEBSITE/FACEBOOK](#) PAGE FOR UPDATES

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE FLATHEAD VALLEY GAY ALLIANCE: You may contact the FVGA by phone calling and leaving us a message at 406-794-FVGA (3842), e-mailing [fvga.info@gmail.com](mailto:fvga.info@gmail.com) or postal mailing to us at FVGA, 432 E. Idaho St., Ste. C-201; Kalispell, MT 59901-4137. Look for our [Facebook](#) page or visit our website at [www.flatheadvalleygayalliance.org](http://www.flatheadvalleygayalliance.org).

**FLATHEAD VALLEY GAY ALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

- Dee B., President, [president@flatheadvalleygayalliance.org](mailto:president@flatheadvalleygayalliance.org)
- Alison K., Vice-President, [vicepresident@flatheadvalleygayalliance.org](mailto:vicepresident@flatheadvalleygayalliance.org)
- Roger B., Secretary, [secretary@flatheadvalleygayalliance.org](mailto:secretary@flatheadvalleygayalliance.org)
- Chuck S., Acting Treasurer, [treasurer@flatheadvalleygayalliance.org](mailto:treasurer@flatheadvalleygayalliance.org)
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