

Lavender Notes

March 2013

OUR MISSION

Improving the lives of LGBT older adults with community building, education, and advocacy.

SERVICES:

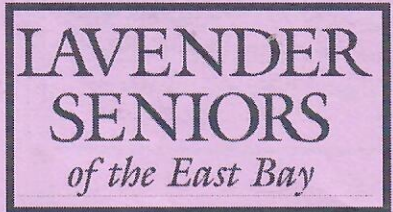
- Friendly Visits*
- Monthly Lunches*
- Educational Events*

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- San Leandro Potluck
Saturday 3/9
- Photovoice
Monday 3/11
- Oakland Lunch Bunch
Friday 3/15
- Fremont Lunch Bunch
Friday 3/22

See Calendar on page 3 for more details.

Volume 17, Issue 3



Welcome back Mitch Foudray!

Lavender Seniors is proud to announce that Mitch Foudray Gerontologist, is now our new Program Coordinator. Mitch will be primarily responsible for the Friendly Visitor and Fremont lunch program. Mitch was formerly a Director of the Senior Case Management program for Bay Area Community Services (BACS) our fiscal sponsor. Prior to his work with BACS, Mitch was instrumental in running Lavender Senior programs during the middle of the last decade. He has a stellar reputation among the community, aging service providers, Adult Protective Services, and the Alameda County Area Agency on Aging. His knowledge of helping seniors remain independent is invaluable to the LGBT seniors that utilize our Friendly Visiting program as well as to the volunteers that provide visits, calls, and sometimes shopping assistance. When asked how it feels to be back Mitch replied, "I'm thrilled to be working with Lavender Seniors again. Give me a call!"

New Peer Group Program

Are you wanting a place where you can feel connected to other LGBTQ older adults 50+? Come to The Lighthouse LGBTQ Community Center at 1217 A Street in Hayward on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, starting February 26th, 2013 and check out the newest Peer Group: OUT STANDING SENIORS: a safe and confidential space for LGBTQ seniors 50+ to share thoughts, feelings, resources, information and support one another. Peer Groups are facilitated by trained peers and are drop in. Peer

Groups are NOT therapy groups. There is no fee required to participate but donations are welcome. Due to sponsorship by Pacific Center, we are following their established policies. Pacific Center is a non-smoking, drug and alcohol free, scent aware, sex-positive and sex-free space. Accessibility Notice: The Lighthouse is an accessible space. Email the group with questions at: outstandingseniors@pacificcenter.org. For more information go to <http://pacificcenter.org/community-programs/peer-groups> or contact the Pacific Center at 510-548-8283

Last Potluck at Church in March!

It is with great sadness that we must announce the San Leandro Community Church will no longer be hosting Lavender Seniors potlucks after March as the church is now under new ownership. The Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church took ownership in February and will be using all facilities of the church to meet the needs of its large congregation. Many if not all of the non-profits that currently call the church their home will be vacating. Lavender Seniors is looking for a new church in San Leandro. A back up plan is being put in place to host the lunches in Hayward should San Leandro no longer be an option. During the February potluck a poll was taken and most of the Lavender Seniors members in attendance said they would like the potluck to stay in San Leandro because there is a BART station as well as bus lines that access most major streets. We will work to make this happen. We want to thank Gene Bass who has managed the church for many years and been very accommodating to us! For almost 18 years Lavender Seniors has called the San Leandro Community Church home for our programs. Please join us on Saturday March 9 for the final potluck at this location.

1814 Franklin St., 4th floor, Oakland, CA 94612
 P: (510) 667-9655, F: (510) 569-4589 info@lavenderseniors.org

www.lavenderseniors.org

Lavender Seniors is a project of Bay Area Community Services (BACS)

Lavender Notes

BOOK REVIEW

"How To Be Gay" By David Halperin
Harvard University Press

Do we really need instruction on our own life style? Apparently Professor Halperin thinks that we do. He is a Professor of History and Theory of Sexuality at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He led a class "How To Be Gay: Male Homosexuality and Initiation". There was tremendous pressure to cancel the class by the American Family Association. Some spokesmen in the lavender community felt the course was a waste of time. Halperin teaches that gay political victories prevent the community from realizing its full potential. Gay stereotypes are the real strength of the community. These range from "snobbery, melodrama, adoration of glamour, caricatures of women and obsession with mothers." Students in Halperin's class were far more intrigued with lampooning straight critics. Reading of gay novels bored them to tears. They would rather lampoon "Desperate Housewives." "How To Be Gay" is highly stilted, academic, and down right dull. Dear reader, you can safely skip this one. -Frank Howell

FREMONT BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

There are quite a few vacancies on the City of Fremont's Boards, Commissions and Committees, including one or two coming up on the Human Relations Commission and two on the Art Review Board. In order to help achieve Pluralism, it will be great if progressive GLBTQ and/or their allies serve on these Boards and Commissions. Please consider applying, or if you know someone who might want to apply, please pass this message along. Here is the link to the City of Fremont Commissions and Boards web site which includes information about the Boards and Commissions and the application to apply. <http://www.fremont.gov/index.aspx?NID=76>

Lunch Program Notes

Potluck Instructions are now listed on www.lavenderseniors.org. Click "Event Listings" and information is under "Potluck." The Oakland Lunch bunch will now be from Noon to 2PM instead of 12:30 to 2:30PM. Please take note.

Lavender Seniors of the East Bay is funded by individuals as well as the Alameda County Area Agency on Aging, Alameda County Leather Corps, Kaiser Permanente, City of Oakland, City of Fremont, Gay Chemists Support Fund, Horizons Foundation, Royal Grand Ducal Council of Alameda County, San Francisco Foundation, Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR) and the True North Foundation. We gratefully acknowledge the support of all Friends of Lavender Seniors.

REMEMBERING BOB

Bob McDonald, a long time Lavender Senior member who died at the end of 2012 from a combination of forces was my volunteer and confidant for the last 5 or 6 years. We were there for each other and shared at a deep level. He was quite smart and loved to read The New York Review of Books and speak in fluent french. He taught at Universities and managed Art Museums in his life. He was charming with all his helpers and made you feel that you were so important in his life. I realize now how precious he was to me. Fly on, dear Bob.—Love, River

CARA CORNER

FEBRUARY 11TH – MARCH AND RALLY A HUGE SUCCESS!

A big thank you to everyone who attended the March and Rally to kick off our efforts to win an Improved Medicare for All System in California. On February 11th, over 150 CARA members from Northern CA attended the kick off event spear-headed by the CA Health Professional Student Association. The students were a brilliant sight marching down the Capitol Mall in their white coats, joined by hundreds of supporters from CARA and the Campaign for A Healthy California. The spirited march (with a drum corps too) stopped at the Capitol steps for a great rally and flash mob, and then continued for a fabulous demonstration at the offices of the Association of Health Insurance Plans where they were presented an eviction notice demanding that Insurance Companies be evicted from our health care. It was a great day and a great start for our organizing efforts to win single payer in California this year. Thank you to everyone who made the day a success.

STUDY FOR LESBIANS OVER 65

If you are a lesbian over the age 65 you qualify to be part of a study that hopes to find more information about aging lesbians' relation to the LGBT community. Hello, my name is Cappy and I am a candidate for a Masters in Social Work, and I am doing a research project on lesbians 65 and over. I am seeking participants to interview for a period of less than one hour. **Participation will be completely confidential.** Please contact me for more information. I look forward to hearing from you! Cappy (516) 901-0619 or email cappy.shapiro@gmail.com

Lavender Notes

March 2013



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31					1	2
3	4	5	6 BOARD MEETING	7	8	9 Potluck
10	11 Photovoice Meeting 6:30P	12	13	14	15 <u>Oakland Lunch Bunch</u>	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 <u>Fremont-Lunch</u>	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

March 7 & 21, 1:30PM to 3:30PM, Support Discussion Group for Aging Queer Women, (1st and 3rd Thurs.) The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave. (at Derby) Berkeley

March 6, 7PM-8PM, Lavender Seniors Advisory Board Meeting at BACS, 1814 Franklin St. #400 Oakland. A portion of this meeting is open to public.

March 14 & 28, 1:30PM Senior Men's Group, (2nd and 4th Thurs.), 2712 Telegraph Ave. Berkeley at the Pacific Center Co-Sponsor: Pacific Center 510-548-8283

March 9, Noon-2PM, Lavender Seniors Potluck, (2nd Sat.) 1395 Bancroft Ave, San Leandro **Program: What you need to know about long-term care insurance. Presenter David Scharff, Insurance Professional**

CA License # 0689910 Silver Transitions Financial & Insurance Solutions.

March 11, 6:30PM, Photovoice Meeting, San Leandro Community Church 1395 Bancroft Ave, San Leandro

March 15, 12:00-2:00PM, Oakland Lunch Bunch Sponsored by City of Oakland Aging & Adult Services, N. Oakland Sr. Center, 5714 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, **Program: To be announced on website at lavenderseniors.org**

March 22, Noon-2PM South County Lunch at Fremont Senior Center, 40086 Paseo Padre Parkway, Fremont **Program: To be announced on website at www.lavenderseniors.org.**

Become a "Friend of Lavender Seniors" Today!

Here's my gift of: \$20 \$35 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$1000 Other \$ _____

Donate online at www.lavenderseniors.org. or send a check made payable to: Lavender Seniors/BACS or please charge my (circle one): Mastercard VISA Signature: _____

Card #: _____ Expires: ____/____/____

Name: _____ Address _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

I would like to make a monthly pledge of \$ _____ Please send me a monthly donation form and envelope.

Please mail to: Lavender Seniors of the East Bay, 1814 Franklin St. 4th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612

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