

PFLAG BUFFALO/NIAGARA

**Parents, Families, Friends, And Allies
United with LGBTQ+ People**



Sharing Meeting: Sunday, November 20th 1:00-2:30

There will be no Sharing Meeting in December.

Currently, Sharing Meetings are held virtually on the third Sunday of most months. Our meeting code is 555 112 0003. The passcode is 700.

Please contact us if you need help using Zoom. You do not need an account to join.

PLFAG Buffalo/Niagara

P.O. Box 617

Buffalo, New York 14207

Helpline-883-0384 info@pflagbuffalo.org

www.pflagbuffalo.org www.facebook.com/pflag.niagara

We meet because we have learned someone very close to us has come out as LGBTQ+. We try to help one another deal with this information in a positive manner. Although we do not always agree, we try to be understanding. We offer help to those who seek it, but do not force ourselves on others. We strive to maintain anonymity while sharing on a level that is comfortable for us.

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WE SEND THANKS AND SHARE A LOVING TRIBUTE



PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara recently received a \$150.00 donation in support of The Babs Conant Scholarship. Susan Clements and Kay Patterson, longtime friends of Babs, came with a letter that we must share. It is filled with love, remembrance, and history. We thank Susan and Kay for their donation and for remembering their friend, a leader, and a force in PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara.

The funds will be added to the \$500.00 award, and the \$650.00 scholarship will be given to the applicant who best reflects Babs' life, work, and spirit.

Babs Conant, A true friend and inspiring advocate

We met Babs Conant in the late 1980s, when we were a fairly new Lesbian couple, beginning to build our life together. Babs was newly partnered with Camille, who lived with and loved her for the rest of her life. Camille's children became her children too, and Babs was a wise and loving parent.

She was a dear friend, and a strong woman who we admired for her courage, intelligence, and open-mindedness. Babs came out as an older adult, but she

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embraced her new life with courage and passion. Always an advocate for young people, Babs was an early supporter of GLYS, and particularly, PFLAG.

Our friendship with Babs was based on mutual interests. Lesbian and Gay rights, reproductive rights, feminism, and the arts. It was cemented by mutual respect and a shared sense of humor. In the 90s, we worked with Babs to found "Ladies of the Lake," a feminist guerilla theatre group that entertained pro-choice advocates and tormented right-wing bullies throughout the abortion clinic blockades of that era.

Babs was extraordinary in that she never allowed anger to overwhelm her commitment to advancing human rights. For example, she was a part of a group that tried to foster dialogue and understanding between lesbians and gays and the followers of Rev. Jerry Falwell, a fundamentalist crusader. Though ultimately unsuccessful, she was glad she had been part of the effort.

A lifelong Quaker, Babs lived a life devoted to promoting peace and greater understanding.

After same sex marriage was legalized in 2011, both couples- Kay and Susan, Babs and Camille- made our unions legal in the State of New York, but our marriages had really begun nearly thirty years before. Before the internet, before social media, before any of us believed we would ever be able to say, "I do."

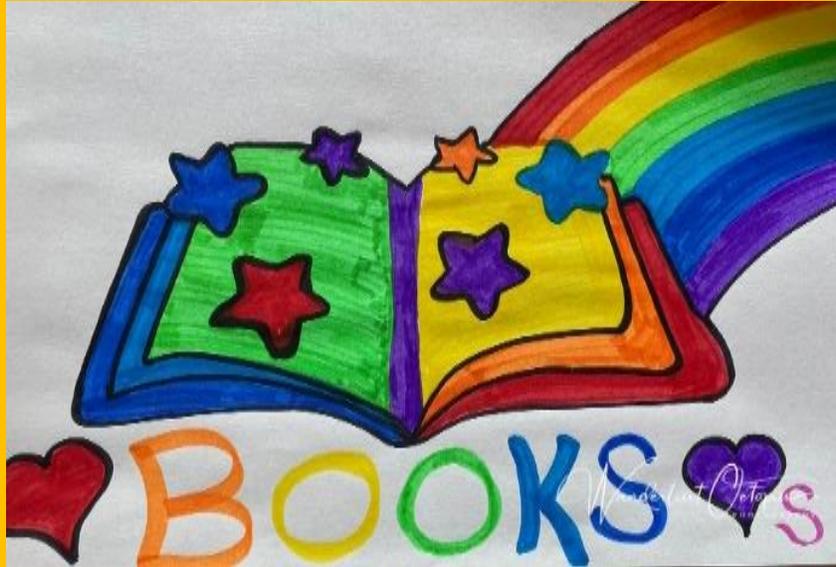
We hope your lives will be as happy and fulfilling as ours have been.

Susan Clements

Kay Patterson

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LGBTQ READS



PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara has recommended books, films, and other media in this newsletter in the past. This month we recommend a site that itself recommends LGBTQ literature.

LGBTQ Reads is a site that must be checked out. The depth and breadth of this source is uplifting. LGTBQ+ literature is featured and there are sub-categories within the LGBTQ+ genre for readers to explore; please give yourself enough time to browse and enjoy.

LGBTQ Reads offers a virtual bookshop as well, one that has raised millions to help other bookstores; the site will link to bookstores in the reader's location.

Please visit www.lgbtqreads.com and find its presence on social media.

This month, as we focus on giving thanks, we are sharing *LGBTQ Reads* Thanksgiving recommendations. <https://lgbtqreads.com/tag/thanksgiving/>

Please consider following *LGBTQ Reads* on social media and sharing the site with friends.

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WHILE ON THE TOPIC OF BOOKS. . .



PFLAG National recently offered an opportunity for people to participate in a talk about books being banned and how we can unite with others, despite these times of “us versus them” mentalities. If you missed participating live, you can view the online discussion.

Please use this link/address to navigate to the YouTube video. Our parent organization has so much to offer; please keep www.pflag.org in mind when looking for videos or articles of importance.

<https://pflag.org/blog/something-talk-about-live-books-unite-us-censorship-divides-us-%E2%80%93-banned-books-week-2022>

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PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.