



SOUTHERN ARIZONA SENIOR PRIDE

SENIOR FORUM
LGBTQI+ Elder Voice

PRIDE IS AGELESS. CELEBRATE!
EL ORGULLO NO TIENE EDAD. ¡CELEBRA!
JULY-AUGUST 2024
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Celebrating, Supporting, and Uniting LGBTQI+ Older Adults

Senior Pride at 20 BY JOYCE BOLINGER

In 2004, Senior Pride began as a project under Wingspan, Tucson’s LGBTQ Community Center. In 2014, when Wingspan closed their doors, Senior Pride was carried forward by dedicated, committed volunteers.

“I didn’t choose Senior Pride with my heart. I chose it with my soul.” *Lee Crosby*

Most recently, longstanding and new members of Senior Pride gathered to reflect on the 20th anniversary of a thriving organization. Here are a few snippets of the memories exchanged.



Bruce Hyland

Bruce Hyland: “I am privileged to have lots of friends around the country and actually around the world. And when I tell them about this organization, I cannot tell you how many people say ‘I wish we had something like that here,’ wherever here is, so we’ve really got something special.”



Penelope Starr

Penelope Starr: “When I was Senior Pride coordinator (with Wingspan in 2005) a woman named Mary asked to meet somewhere other than Wingspan because she could not walk into a building that said LGBT on it. I met her at a cafe and she told me she had been married to a woman, her wife had just died and they had never been out.

.. She didn’t have any lesbian friends—she didn’t know how to be out. She started coming to meetings and events at Wingspan. I’d sit next to her to let her know that someone was there for her. She slowly began participating in things more and more and she became an extremely active volunteer for Senior Pride. She even met a partner that she lived with for the last two years of her life.”



Lee Crosby

Lee Crosby: “Senior Pride to me has been a new home for me—the place where I feel most comfortable. I feel so welcomed and rewarded, and happy that I can be a part of this in whatever way that I can. It fills me up. I didn’t choose Senior Pride with my heart. I chose it with my soul.”

Let’s get acquainted!

If you’re new to Tucson or Senior Pride, we’d love to meet you!

Feel free to join us at an event, say hello.

Give us a call at (520) 312-8923 or email: info@soazseniorpride

We’re excited to welcome you to Senior Pride!

Photos by: Deborah Dobson



**Celebrating, Supporting, and
Uniting LGBTQI+ Older Adults**

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Planned Giving

Create a Legacy

Have you often thought, “What do I want my legacy to be?” “What values do I hold dear?” “How have I supported my LGBTQI+ community and helped them to thrive?”

One of the most impactful ways of supporting the vital work of Southern Arizona Senior Pride, and continuing your philanthropic legacy is through thoughtful planned giving.

In simple terms, planned giving is the process of creating an estate plan that includes gifts of cash, property, insurance, stocks or other assets that are donated at a future date or at the time of your passing. With planned giving, you can accomplish more than you realize while acquiring substantial built-in tax benefits.

We understand that “planned giving” can seem daunting or confusing however, it’s a relatively common and uncomplicated process that many people choose to undertake. Don’t think you have enough money to make a difference? You absolutely do! Getting started is easier than you think. You can begin your planned giving strategy by talking to a qualified nonprofit professional, or consult an estate attorney or tax professional for advice.

Remember, you CAN be a change-maker in this world! Your planned gift is not just a donation to Senior Pride, it’s a statement of who you are, what you value, and who you stand for. You are shaping your legacy for years to come—make it count!

For more information on planned giving, please contact **Lee Bucyk**, Development Consultant for Southern Arizona Senior Pride at lbucyk@soazseniorpride.org.



Or point your phone camera to this
QR code and click to land on the
Planned Giving: Create A Legacy web page
from our website:
www.soazseniorpride.org

COMMUNITY PROFILE: LIANE WONG BY BRUCE HYLAND

Liane first discovered Senior Pride while involved with Wingspan. Her journey continued as she joined the Board of the LGBT Chamber, serving as president for the past three years. Recently she transitioned her leadership role to a new Executive Director, allowing her to focus on the Foundation, which promotes education, leadership development, and mentorship for LGBT undergraduates at the University of Arizona. This is in addition to her successful career as a local real estate agent.

Liane is passionate about nurturing future LGBT leaders among the Foundation's scholars and through educational events. She believes that many "elders" who founded and led organizations are ready to welcome the next generation who will create and lead businesses, nonprofits, and public offices.

Her career has been diverse. Initially, she studied urban planning and worked for the County of San Diego. She then taught in Taiwan for seven years, learning Mandarin. Upon moving to Tucson, she taught elementary and middle school in the Tucson School District before being recruited into real estate by local legend Colette Barajas.

Volunteerism is deeply ingrained in Liane, inspired by her parents' long-term involvement with meaningful organizations. Growing up in

Photo by: Rachel Quinn • Urban Abstract Photography



LIANE WONG

“Liane is passionate about nurturing future LGBT leaders among the Foundation’s scholars and through educational events.”

a Chinese neighborhood in San Diego, she learned to navigate different cultures and perspectives. Her worldview expanded further through extensive backpacking trips across Asia and Europe.

Liane balances work with her passions. She travels extensively, is an expert scuba diver, and is an active member of the Gentleman Jack Facebook group. With friends worldwide, she attends events inspired by the life and leadership of Anne Lister. She enthusiastically states, “If Anne can do it, so can I (we).”

Liane is determined to explore the world and contribute to the community “while I’m still healthy, energetic, and curious—because we never know what our future holds.”

To learn more about the LGBT Chamber Foundation: <https://tucsonlgbtchamber.org/foundation/>



Pima Council on Aging

Help Line: 520.790.7262
(M-F 8:30am-5pm)

help@pcoa.org

To learn about in house LGBTQ Elder Care specialists on PCOA's staff, email: SBahnsen@pcoa.org

ONGOING EVENTS:

For more information, or to register, visit www.soazseniorpride.org

WE ALL NEED ADVANCE MEDICAL CARE PLANNING!

HONORING A LIFE:

ADVANCE MEDICAL CARE PLANNING WORKSHOPS

If you haven't yet attended one of our workshops for LGBTQI+ older adults to properly plan for medical care and end of life needs, you really should before you need it! Easy-to-complete living wills, powers of attorney and other important documents are covered, as well as other ways to ensure your health care wishes are recorded and your identity as a LGBTQI+ individual is protected.

HONORING A LIFE WORKSHOPS:

Tuesday, July 16, 12:30am – 2:30 am (Zoom only)

Saturday, August 17, 10am – 12pm (in person + Zoom option)

The in-person Tucson location will be provided to registrants along with workshop materials a week before the workshop, with Zoom option available upon request. To ensure enough materials, all attendees need to register online via link in upcoming Friday eNews or by clicking the date above.

For more information, or to schedule a follow-up "Meet and Complete" session or one-on-one coaching, please email eol@soazseniorpride.org or call (520) 312-8923.

SENIOR PRIDE BOOK CLUB – www.soazseniorpride.org for more information and registration. Or email: info@soazseniorpride.org

Stone Butch Blues

By Leslie Feinberg

July 17, 2024 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Leslie Feinberg's 1993 first novel is considered worldwide to be a groundbreaking work about the complexities of gender. "[With] this novel I planted a flag: Here I am—does anyone else want to discuss these important issues? I wrote it, not as an expression of individual 'high' art, but as a working-class organizer mimeographs a leaflet—a call to action..." Feinberg was also a Marxist and worked tirelessly for social justice. Before she died, she ensured her novel would be available for free download. Find the link at <https://www.lesliefeinberg.net/>



Starr's book weaves together the stories of women who create a community in the Sonoran Desert, away from "the influence of men." The characters' voices are "unique and distinct" and "create a picture of the women's land movement from the 1960s." (From the author's website)



Two works by members of Senior Pride

August 21, 2024 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

This month spotlights *Desert Haven*, a novel by Penelope Starr, and a short story by Stephen Kraynak in the anthology *House of Secrets: Every Room Holds a Story*, published by the Ohio Writers' Association.

Kraynak says his story, "Throwing Stones," "began as a journal entry some years ago, and I later developed it into a short memoir which may, some day, become part of, or a chapter in, a larger memoir."



Our success is made possible by supporters like you!!



Senior Pride serves as a central source of support, services, and information for older LGBTQI+ adults in Southern Arizona.

Please help us make a difference and donate today!

By Check: Make checks payable to
So. AZ Senior Pride
1632 N Country Club Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85716

Online: Go to our website
www.soazseniorpride.org
Click on "DONATE"

All donations to Senior Pride, a 501(c)(3) organization, are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.