



# NEWS

*Spring 2013*

## **Narrator interviews**

We now have 3 interviews completed of narrators (interviewees) while 32 narrators are waiting to be interviewed. We have 12 interviewers still on the active list. Interview Team coordinator, John Folby will try sending out names and contact info of two narrators to each interviewer on the active list. Please complete these interviews as soon as possible to keep from having our narrators wait too long to share their stories.

## **Transcribers, start your engines**

We have a video cassette player on long term loan and adapter for the microcassettes so our transcribers can play the videos and transfer them to a digital video file without tying up one of our cameras. We also have a couple of dedicated computers at the Center thanks to a donation from Amy Skillman. We are now ready to start the transcription process and have tapes from the 3 interviews ready to be transferred and transcribed.

## **Project to partner with Dickinson College Archives**

The Dickinson College Archives is interested in becoming a partner with the Project to accept donated archival materials and a digital copy of the video oral history interviews. Lonna Malmshemer and Barry Loveland met with a staff archivist from Dickinson College and details of the agreement are expected to be finalized soon. The Dickinson College Archives may also be willing to partner with the Project on writing grants, the creation of exhibits and on-line archives and virtual exhibits. They are certain they will have students interested in doing research projects on the materials and the potential for internships.

The Dickinson College Archives has already begun accepting a portion of the Joe Burns collection, more than 6 linear feet of files that represent important historical documents from rural Pennsylvania LGBT organizations, events and activities from the late 1960's through early 1980's.

As a reminder to interviewers, please ask your narrators if they have any archival or artifact materials that they wish to donate to the Project.

## Web page development

The web page for the Project is up and running and is still very much a work in progress. Teddy Maurer will be our coordinator for this team and liaison to the Center's web master to update and add content. As soon as we have our video interviews transferred to digital files and have some editing software, we hope to be able to pull out some interesting and/or entertaining clips from our interviews to include on our web page. In the meantime, visit the page for general information about the project, links to other similar LGBT history projects across the country and download documents useful to interviewers and other volunteers.

## Outreach for the Project at Pride Festivals

The Project will have a booth at both the Lancaster and Central PA Pride festivals. We are looking for volunteers at both events to help staff the booths for a shift of a couple of hours or more. Please contact Mary Merriman at [merriman.mary@yahoo.com](mailto:merriman.mary@yahoo.com) to help with the Lancaster Pride Festival on June 15 in Buchanan Park ([www.lancasterpride.com](http://www.lancasterpride.com)). Contact Barry Loveland at [baloveland@aol.com](mailto:baloveland@aol.com) to sign up to help with the Pride Festival of Central PA in Harrisburg on July 27 in Riverfront Park ([www.centralpapridefestival.com](http://www.centralpapridefestival.com)).

We now have some new posters and flyers, and soon expect to add business cards, post cards, and possibly other informational/promotional materials.

We will be doing mini interviews at a pre-pride event on Thursday evening July 25 from 6 PM to 8 PM at the LGBT Center, 1306 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Harrisburg. "Memories of Pride" will be an open house at the Center with some refreshments and mini-interviews asking people to share their first pride event memories, and wear or bring in old pride t-shirts, buttons, and other memorabilia. We will be also doing the mini interviews at our booths at both pride festivals.

## Fundraising

The current balance of our funds available in account is \$791.94.

We would like to start planning some type of fundraiser later in the year, perhaps a cocktail party/reception at the home of a supporter of the Project. If any volunteers would like to work on this, contact Barry Loveland at [baloveland@aol.com](mailto:baloveland@aol.com).

## Internships planned

We have a potential part or full time unpaid intern that may be coming to help with the Project this summer. Amy Skillman is working on facilitating a placement of a student for the Project. We are also planning on developing a job description and advertising at local colleges for a fall or spring semester unpaid internship.

# Myths we are asking you to help us dispel

“Have I missed your deadline?” I have heard this from more than one person now asking if it is too late to sign up to be interviewed. Everyone should be aware that the Project does not have a deadline and no one is too late to participate. History goes on forever, and so too, I hope, will this Project.

“I can’t sign up to be interviewed because I am not from central PA, I moved here 10 years ago.” I have heard this mentioned too. Everyone should be aware that narrators do not have to be natives of central PA – people who moved here later in life can be narrators. And we are looking for people who used to live here and have since moved away. Help us find all people who can help us fill out the historical record of the LGBT community in central PA.

**The LGBT History Project**

**LGBT Center of Central PA**

[history@centralpalgbtcenter.org](mailto:history@centralpalgbtcenter.org)

717-920-9534

<http://www.centralpalgbtcenter.org/lgbt-history-project>

facebook.com/LGBTcentralpa