

The logo for the LGBT Center Central PA History Project is a green speech bubble containing the text "LGBT Center Central PA History Project" in white. Below the speech bubble is the LGBT Center logo, which consists of the words "LGBT center" in a green serif font, with a stylized green figure of two people holding hands to the right.

LGBT Center Central PA History Project

*Discovering stories of
extraordinary lives*

NEWS

Summer 2013

History Project debuts at Lancaster Pride

The History Project made a very successful showing with a booth at the Lancaster Pride Festival on June 15. 14 people signed up to be narrators and/or volunteer to help with various aspects of the History Project. This event marked the debut of our new banner with our new logo (see above) thanks to graphic designer extraordinaire and History Project volunteer, Mark Stoner. Mark also designed the beautiful poster that graced our booth along with the flyers we handed out. We had a lot of activity at our booth, giving out lots of the flyers and getting many positive comments about the concept of the History Project. Many thanks go to Mary Merriman who coordinated, set up and staffed the booth, as well as the other volunteers who staffed the booth.

History Project to be featured at Central PA Pride Festival events in Harrisburg

The History Project will be featured at two Central PA Pride events.

"Memories of Pride" will be an open house on Thursday evening July 25 from 6 PM to 8 PM at the LGBT Center, 1306 N. 3rd Street, Harrisburg. There will be refreshments and we will be doing mini-interviews asking people to share their first pride event memories, or their most memorable pride moments from the past, and wear or bring in old pride t-shirts, buttons, and other memorabilia.

The History Project will also have a booth at the Central PA Pride festival on Saturday July 27, 12 to 6 PM at Riverfront Park, where we are planning to do more of the mini-interviews and hand out literature about the History Project.

We are looking for volunteers to help staff the booth for a shift of a couple of hours or more. Please contact Barry Loveland at 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).

History Project on WITF's Smart Talk

The History Project will be featured on an upcoming program of WITF's Smart Talk that will air on Monday July 22 from 9 to 10 AM. Louie Marven, Barry Loveland and Lonna Malmsheimer are the scheduled guests to talk about the mission, purpose, methodology and future plans for the History Project and how it relates to the LGBT Center's mission and will also include a discussion of Pride events coming up later that week.

Narrator list growing

We now have 5 interviews completed of narrators (interviewees) while more than 40 narrators are waiting to be interviewed. We have 12 interviewers still on the active list. We no longer have an Interview Team coordinator, but are using Drop Box to facilitate the interviewer volunteers' access to the narrators list. If you are a volunteer interviewer, please be sure to access this Drop Box spreadsheet, and select the narrators you want to contact to interview by entering your name in the interviewer column. You should then contact other volunteer interviewers to find a camera person to work with you and contact the narrator to schedule the interview. Contact the LGBT Center to schedule the camera kit. Please complete these interviews as soon as possible to keep from having our narrators wait too long to share their stories and update the Drop Box spreadsheet to let us know when an interview is complete. With the upcoming Central PA Pride Festival, we expect the narrator waiting list to grow even longer.

Transcribers team to work on procedures

The Transcribers team will be meeting soon to work on the procedures for transferring the video tapes to digital files and then transcribing the interviews. Software has been identified and will be obtained, along with a foot pedal controller to slow down the video to make it easier for transcribers to do their work.

Meeting scheduled with Dickinson College Archives staff

A meeting has been scheduled with a representative of the Dickinson College Archives to further develop the details of a partnership with the History Project to receive archival and artifact donations, collaborate on web-based virtual exhibits/archives, traveling exhibits, internships, applying for grants, and other programs. In addition to the Joe Burns collection (discussed in our last newsletter), two LGBT organizers and History Project volunteers Mark Stoner and Mary Merriman recently made donations of archival materials from their collection.

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. Web/exhibits team coordinator Teddy Maurer plans to meet with the LGBT Center's web master to determine the web site's capabilities to add clips from our video interviews once they are transferred to digital files and build out other contents such as scans of historical photos and documents. 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.

Franklin GLBT Justice Fund grant received

We were very excited to hear that the History Project recently received its second grant. The Franklin GLBT Justice Fund of the Unitarian Universalists of the Cumberland Valley provided a grant to the History Project of \$600.

The current balance of our funds available in account is \$1,391.94.

We will be doing some planning soon to work on a grant application to the PA Humanities Council and perhaps some other organizations or agencies.

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.

Internships planned

We have an unpaid intern this summer, a student from Georgetown University, who we hope will soon be doing interviews of our long list of narrators. We also have drafted a job description and will be advertising at local colleges for a fall or spring semester unpaid internship.

Volunteer meeting

The next volunteer meeting will be held in August (date TBD), and will include some refresher video interview training. Watch for an upcoming meeting notice. We now have 47 volunteers!

The LGBT History Project
LGBT Center of Central PA

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