

LGBT-029 Steven Leshner Collection

LGBT Center of Central PA History Project
Archives and Special Collections
Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA
archives@dickinson.edu 717-245-1399

COLLECTION REGISTER

Name:	Leshner, Steven	LGBT-029
Material:	Papers (1985-1999)	
Volume:	0.25 linear feet (1 document box, 4 artifacts)	
Donation:	Donated by Steven Leshner, 2014	
Usage:	These materials have been donated without restrictions on usage.	
Processor:	Sarah Wakefield, March 2021	
Support:	Funding to process this collection was provided by a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.	

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Steven Leshner was born in Harrisburg, PA and lived in Harrisburg his whole life. He graduated from Shippensburg University with a BA in Psychology, and later attended Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC) and graduated from the nursing program. With his combined degree in psychology and nursing, Leshner went into psychiatry at the Polyclinic Hospital in Harrisburg, PA.

Leshner was involved in a precursor to the South Central AIDs Assistance Network (SCAAN) and the PA Rural Gay Caucus. He also became a member of Dignity/Central PA in the 1970s, where he participated in events and activities, as well as became part of the social committee. He is still active in the Dignity community today.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

This collection is mainly comprised of materials documenting the activities of Dignity Central PA, a Catholic organization for LGBTQ+ individuals that has been active in the Harrisburg, PA area since 1976. The scrapbook includes mostly photos, unless otherwise noted, of annual picnics, events, and members, like those of founder Jerry Brennan and Father Wallace Sawdy. Materials also include information on Quentin Crisp, an English author, actor, and playwright, and a calling card for the Gay Switchboard of Harrisburg (GSH).

COLLECTION INVENTORY

Series 1 Passover

- 1.01 Dignity of Central PA Passover Haggadah – 1982
- 1.02 Dignity of Central PA Passover Seder instructions and table arrangements – circa 1982

Series 2 Quentin Crisp

- 2.01 Program for Dignity Central PA 10th Anniversary with Quentin Crisp Autograph – Jul. 20 1985
- 2.02 “Obituary for Quentin Crisp” *Washington Blade* – Nov. 26, 1999

Series 3 Miscellaneous

- 3.01 Gay Switchboard of Harrisburg Calling Card (2) – circa 1980

Series 4 Scrapbook

- 4.01 Page 02 Photos
 - # 01 Aaron Spicher, Philadelphia Gay Pride – 1976
 - # 02 Aaron Spicher and Ted [Hogonvesher], Philadelphia Gay Pride – 1976
- Page 03 photos
 - # 03 PA Rural Gay Caucus group at Philadelphia Gay Pride; Aaron Spicher (with the Dignity Banner), Joe Burns, Richard Hoffman (with GCS Berks Banner), Sam Deetz (turned away from the camera) and Jerry Brennan – 1976
- 4.02 Page 05 photos
 - # 04 Steven Leshner (L) and two unknown men at event – circa 1995
 - # 05 Steven Leshner (L) and Richard Hause (R) at event in Washington, D.C. – circa 1990
- 4.03 Page 06 photos
 - # 06 Ms. Kathy Sullivan, Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976
 - # 07 John B., Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976
 - # 08 Mauri and Paul, Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976
- Page 07 Photos
 - # 09 Volleyball Game #1 (women) Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976
 - # 10 Paul, John, and Pat, Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976
 - # 11 Volleyball Game #1, Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976

LGBT-029 Steven Leshner (cont.)

Series 4 Scrapbook (cont.)

- 4.04 Page 08 photos
12 Allen, Richard, [Shein], Jeff, and Barry, Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976
13 Volleyball Game #1, Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976
14 The Gang, Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976
Page 09 photos
15 Ms. Kathy, Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976
16 Kate and Jeannine, Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976
17 Kate and Jim, Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976
- 4.05 Page 10 photos
18 Paul, Morin, Jeannine, Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976
19 Volleyball Game #2, Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 22, 1976
Page 11 photos
20 Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 1982
21 Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 1982
22 Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 1982
- 4.06 Page 12 Photos
23 Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 1983
24 Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 1983
25 Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 1983
26 Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 1983
27 Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 1983
Page 13 Photos
28 8th Anniversary Dinner, Railroad House, Marietta, PA – July 1983
29 8th Anniversary Dinner, Railroad House, Marietta, PA – July 1983
- 4.07 Page 14 Photos
30 Great South Lawn (?) Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Summer 1983
31 Great South Lawn (?) Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Summer 1983
32 Great South Lawn (?) Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Summer 1983
33 Great South Lawn (?) Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Summer 1983
34 Great South Lawn (?) Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Summer 1983
Page 15 Photos
35 Great South Lawn (?) Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Summer 1983
36 Great South Lawn (?) Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Summer 1983
37 Great South Lawn (?) Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Summer 1983

LGBT-029 Steven Leshner (cont.)

Series 4 Scrapbook (cont.)

4.08 Page 16 Photos

- # 38 10th Anniversary Celebration, Service – 1985
- # 39 Quinten Crisp, 10th Anniversary Celebration – 1985
- # 40 Jerry Brennan (R), 10th Anniversary Celebration – 1985
- # 41 Quinten Crisp, 10th Anniversary Celebration – 1985
- # 42 Quinten Crisp, 10th Anniversary Celebration – 1985

Page 17 Photos

- # 43 Barry Loveland (L), The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central Pennsylvania – Mar. 18, 1990
- # 44 Barry Loveland, The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central Pennsylvania – Mar. 18, 1990
- # 45 Cross, The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central Pennsylvania – Mar. 18, 1990
- # 46 Office Sign, The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central Pennsylvania – Mar. 18, 1990

4.09 Page 18 Photos

- # 47 “The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central Pennsylvania” program, interior – Mar. 18, 1990

Page 19 Photos

- # 47 “The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central Pennsylvania” program, exterior – Mar. 18, 1990

4.10 Page 20 Photos

- # 48 Richard Hause (L) and others, The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central PA – Mar. 18. 1990
- # 49 The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central PA – Mar. 18. 1990
- # 50 The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central PA – Mar. 18. 1990
- # 51 The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central PA – Mar. 18. 1990

Page 21 Photos

- # 52 The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central PA – Mar. 18. 1990
- # 53 The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central PA – Mar. 18. 1990
- # 54 The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central PA – Mar. 18. 1990

4.11 Page 22 Photos

- # 55 The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central PA – Mar. 18. 1990
- # 56 The Blessing of the Office of Dignity/Central PA – Mar. 18. 1990

Page 23 Photos

- # 57 Father Swady, 16th Anniversary – July 1991
- # 58 ‘Blessing of Organ,’ Tim Edwards, Organist, 16th Anniversary – July 1991

LGBT-029 Steven Leshner (cont.)

Series 4 Scrapbook (cont.)

- 4.12 Page 24 photos
59 "Sweet 16" Cake, 16th Anniversary – July 1991
60 "D/CP Member of the Year" Clair Gunnet, Jr., 16th Anniversary – July 1991
61 Fr. Swady's 40th Ordination Anniversary, 16th Anniversary – July 1991
Page 25 photos
62 16th Anniversary Picnic – July 1991
63 16th Anniversary Picnic – July 1991
- 4.13 Page 26 Photos
64 16th Anniversary Picnic, Barry Loveland and partner – July 1991
65 16th Anniversary Picnic – July 1991
Page 27 Photos
66 [19th] Anniversary Picnic – July 1994
67 [19th] Anniversary Picnic – July 1994
- 4.14 Page 28 Photos
68 Steven Leshner in chair, Dignity/Central PA Booth Central PA Gay Pride Festival – 1994
69 Steven Leshner (R), Dignity/Central PA Booth Central PA Gay Pride Festival – 1994
Page 29 Photos
70 20th Anniversary Picnic, Pine Grove Furnace State Park – July 1995
71 20th Anniversary Picnic, Pine Grove Furnace State Park – July 1995
- 4.15 Page 30 Photos
72 20th Anniversary Picnic, Pine Grove Furnace State Park – July 1995
73 20th Anniversary Picnic, Pine Grove Furnace State Park – July 1995
74 20th Anniversary Picnic, Pine Grove Furnace State Park – July 1995
Page 31 Photos
75 Richard Hause (left), Dignity/Central PA Booth Central PA Gay Pride Festival – 1995
76 Steven Leshner in back, Dignity/Central PA Booth Central PA Gay Pride Festival – 1995
- 4.16 Page 33 Photos
77 "Member of the Year" Steven A Leshner (r), 20th Anniversary Hotel Hershey – July 1995
78 20th Anniversary, Hotel Hershey, Barry Loveland (front left), Richard Hause (center), and Steven Leshner (far right) – July 1995

LGBT-029 Steven Leshner (cont.)

Series 4 Scrapbook (cont.)

4.17 Page 34 Photos

79 Steven Leshner (L) and Richard Hause (R) at event in Washington, D.C.
– circa 1990

80 Steven Leshner (L) and man at event in Washington, D.C. – circa 1990

Page 35 Photos

81 Richard Hause (L) and man at even in Washington, D.C. – circa 1990

82 Steven Leshner (L) and man at event in Washington, D.C. – circa 1990

4.18 Page 37 Photos

83 10th Anniversary Celebration, Left to right: Jerry Brennan (founder); Richard
Hause; Quentin Crisp; William Clifford – 1985

84 10th Anniversary Celebration, Left to right: Richard Hause; Quentin Crisp;
William Clifford – 1985

85 Unknown Man at 10th Anniversary Celebration – 1985

4.19 Page 38 Photo

86 Unknown Man at 10th Anniversary Celebration – 1985

Page 39 Photos

87 Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 1983

88 Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 1983

89 Dignity/Central PA Picnic – Aug. 1983

Series 5 Artifacts

LGBT-029-AC01 Yarmulkes (2) – circa 1982
LGBT-029-AC02 Seder tablecloth – circa 1982
LGBT-029-AC03 Matzah dish – circa 1982
LGBT-029-AC04 Seder plate – circa 1982