

# **LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA**

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Dickinson College  
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Carlisle, PA 17013

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# The Lancaster Inquirer

**Show Lancaster Gay is Beautiful. Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup on Saturday, Sept. 9 We Need YOU!**

Volume 2, Issue 4 September/October 1995 **FREE** compliments of the Pink Triangle Coalition

## Names Project Quilt Coming!

The Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt is coming to Lancaster on December 1-3, of this year. The American Red Cross (Lanc. Chapt.) will co-sponsor the Quilt's coming to Lancaster with Millersville University along with the Lancaster AIDS Project, Betty Finney House, RAIN, Dream Ride for AIDS, The Crispus Attucks Center, and the Urban League of Lancaster. This venture unites the many AIDS service organizations of Lancaster and will again remind us of how the AIDS virus affects all of us.

The Quilt was conceived in November of 1985 by Cleve Jones, a gay rights activist from San Francisco. Cleve was inspired by the sight of thousands of names of those lost to AIDS, that were displayed on placards on the wall of the San Francisco Federal Building. A little over a year later he created the first

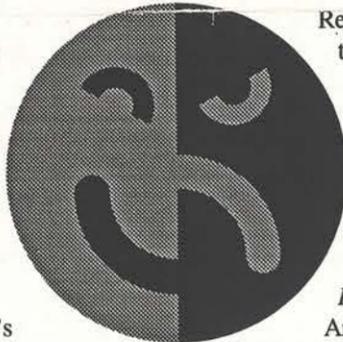
panel in memory of longtime friend Marvin Feldman. In June of 1987 The Names Project Foundation officially began. It was displayed for the first time on October 11, 1987 during the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. At that time it consisted of 1,920 panels. Today the Quilt covers more than 32 acres and includes more than 50,000 panels.

The Quilt is the largest example of a community art project in the world and holds more meaning than words can express. It reminds us of how the AIDS epidemic has touched all of our hearts in some manner. If you are interested in making a panel or volunteering, or can make a donation to help absorb some of the costs of bringing the Quilt to Lancaster, contact Angela Lightfoot at the American Red Cross, or one of the participating agencies. ▲

## Thanks and No Thanks

### Thanks to:

PEOPLE FOR THE AMERICAN WAY ACTION FUND. This liberal minded non-profit organization which identifies itself as "Committed to promoting respect, tolerance and understanding of our society's pluralism" recently sent strong opposition to the well-publicized congressional hearing on "whether schools receiving federal funds should be barred from offering programs and activities that may have the purpose or effect of presenting Homosexuality in a positive light. In an open letter widely published in many newspapers nationwide, People for the American Way took congress and Newt Gingrich to task for being unduly influenced by



Reverend Lou Sheldon and the Traditional Values Coalition (TVC) Who they suggested initiated the hearings. Send letters of thanks to People for the American Way Action Fund, 2000 M St. NW, STE 400, Washington D.C. 20036-3315- ATTN: Arthur J Kropp, Pres. or Rev. Dr. David Ramage, Chairman.

While you are at it, send letters of displeasure to Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich and/ or your local House Rep., Robert Walker if you live in Lancaster.

### No Thanks to:

For those of you who have been living in a cave for the past 6 months and those of you who have just joined us, LANCASTER NEWSPAPER, INC. is still discriminating against the Les/Bi/Gay

**No Thanks** continued on next page.

## What's Happening

**Saturday, Sept. 9th, 9 am**—Adopt-A-Highway pickup. Meet at Homeedco Community Room (to the left of the store on Harrisburg Pike) Come help keep the community beautiful!

**Tuesday, Sept. 12th**—Our board will be meeting to set priorities for the coming year. If there is something you would like to see us doing please contact us or come to a monthly meeting. You can also call or write us.

**Wednesday, Sept. 13th**, Lancaster Dine-Out to Benefit LAP. Call 394-3380

**Sunday, Sept. 17th, 7:30 am**—PTC Bus Trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. See article, right top

**Tuesday, Sept. 26th, 7 pm**—Monthly Meeting, at new LAP offices, same address—44 North Queen St., Lancaster—now on the first floor—level with Isaac's restaurant. Discussion Topic: "Getting more women involved in the PTC".—Come on Girls—come tell us what you think. Everyone welcome.

**Sunday October 1st, 5-7pm**—Roller Skating Party. Castle Roller Rink, 1400 Elm Ave. Cost \$4 + \$1 skate rental. Immediately followed by pizza party at Unitarian Church, 538 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster, with Interweave.

**Friday, October 6th**,—Newsletter deadline for articles for the Nov/Dec. issue. Send entries to P.O. Box 176, Lancaster, PA 17608.

**Sunday, October 15th, 9 am**—Adopt-A-Highway pickup, meet at Homedco, this will be the last one for the year, so come on out and help us spiff up.

**Tues, October 24th, 7 pm**—Monthly Meeting- LAP offices- 44 North Queen Street, Lancaster, Come hear about Halloween plans and closet skeletons. Discussion Topic: "Getting more involved in the community at large"

**November 10, 11, 12, That There Art**, sponsored by New Art Voices. Call 392-3927 for more information.

**Sunday November 12th, 5-7pm**—Roller Skate Party. See location above. ▲

## Last Chance for Museum Trip

At press time we had a few seats open for the PTC bus trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. If you act *now* you may get a seat. The bus will leave Lancaster at 7:30 a.m., Sun., Sept. 17th. We plan to leave Washington at 4:00 p.m. The cost of the trip is \$25. For reservations contact Terry Bigler at Zeller Travel in Brownstown, 859-4710 or 1-800-331-4359. ▲



## Ask Anne Drogeny

Dear Anne,

I am a gay male, age 15, who will be returning to high school this fall. I am not sure if I should come out to my classmates. My family knows and is fine with my sexuality.

—Back to the 3R's

Dear 3R's,

Coming out in high school is a highly commendable feat, although it seems to be happening a lot more lately. You mentioned that your family knows, which is wonderful, considering many times they are the last to be told. By coming out to your classmates, you are setting yourself up for possible ridicule, danger, and misunderstandings. People can be very intolerant. I'd say, start slow and tell your closest friends. Then begin speaking up when you hear derogatory statements being made against gays and lesbians. Then start your own gay and lesbian youth group in your school. The more people are educated about us the less frightened they will be of us, and the world will be a better place. ▲



## Back to School!

P.O. Box 176  
Lancaster, PA 17608-0176

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State \_\_\_\_\_  
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We want to hear from you! Please fill out our survey. Send any correspondence to:  
P.O. Box 176, Lancaster, PA 17608-0176

# Dishin' with GP

Well it was another fabulous summer of fun and I have many fond memories, so I thought I'd write them down before my new found, short term memory loss kicks in. I can always tell I've had fun at a party if I end up face down on the ground. Which is what brought the 4th of July weekend to a crashing end. After three days of partying and working my full time job at the free clinic for the terminally hard to dress, I still had time to witness some really close friends hop in a van and drive around naked, lick shots off of someone's head, and see way too many of my friends in their bloomers.

The 110° U.S.M. party was a blast even with Miss South Central Pennsylvania getting raccoon eyes, seeing the world's largest, itty, bitty, yellow polka dot bikini, and Miss Shawn shaking her money-maker.

Three cheers for Harrisburg Pride! Oops, I mean the Central PA Pride Fest. Coco Vega rules, she and her troop were fearless. Poison showed us again

why she is the new diva of Harrisburg. And who can beat a pride fest with a bar right behind center stage? The perfect place to grab a nice cool drink before the long walk up the hill to the PTC booth.

Yes, summer has passed and it's back to school. Bring on the college boys (you thought I was going to say high school, didn't you?) The great thing about the coming of fall is the fact that most of you will be wearing more clothing, but will it match? Speaking of clothing I hope you all go to see Issac Mizrahi's movie "Unzipped" it is what "Ready to Wear" and "Truth and Dare" could have been.

What if you could go back in time and change the course of history, what would that mean to me? Well... first off I could have stopped Michael Jackson two noses ago, Marilyn Monroe would still be alive, and I never ever would have gotten the perm in '82.

Till next time...ta ta.



## No Thanks continued

community by refusing to publish any advertising which mentions an alternative lifestyle. Here are the Board members to contact: Pres & CEO- John M. Buckwalter, V.P. & Secretary- Dennis Getz, Chairman of the Board: Willis Shenk, Treasurer- Jay Wenrich, V.P. of Marketing- Harold Miller and Controller- Jane L. Numan. Address letters to 8 W. King St., Lancaster, PA 17603. While you're at it, tell them that you disapprove of their printing the names of men accused of having public

sex in local parks. Ask them why they fell it necessary to put these men at risk of losing their jobs, family and friends.

And don't forget that Lancaster Newspapers, Inc. owns "The Pressroom" the new bistro on West King St. ▲

## Newsletter Staff

**Editor:** Kimberli Werner  
**Contributors:** Nikki Evans, Anthony Lascoskie, Mick Kauffman, Chris Mandros, Martin Menges, Lillie Rizack, Mark Stoner

# Who are you and what do you want?

You may know a few things about the Pink Triangle Coalition but we don't know much about you. So take a few minutes and fill out the following reader survey. If you want you may include your name, etc. on the form on the reverse side of this paper. Mail to our P.O. Box 176, Lancaster. Your answers will help us put together a bigger-better-faster newsletter. This is our effort to curb misrepresentation of our community as a whole. It's really important, it's confidential—so just do it!

### Who are you?

Sex:  Female  Male  Transgendered/Sexual  
 Race/Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

### How do you describe yourself?

Lesbian  Bi  Straight  Queer  Gay  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 And why? \_\_\_\_\_

Partner Status:  Single  One partner  More than one partner

Are there children in your household? \_\_\_\_\_ Specify number \_\_\_\_\_

Highest level of education completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Residence:  Own  Rent  Live w/parent(s)  Student(School?)

Residence/Locale:  Urban/City  Suburbs  Rural

Are you registered to vote?  Democratic  Republican  Independent

Libertarian  Patriot  Other \_\_\_\_\_  Not Registered

Are you a member of any political organizations?  HRCF (Human Rights Campaign Fund)

ACT UP  GLAAD (Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Deformation)

NGLTF (National Gay and Lesbian Task Force)  NOW (National Organization for Women)

PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Gays and Lesbians)  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Do you practice safer sex?  Always  Sometimes  Never

Have you ever been a victim of gay-bashing?  Yes  No

Do you consider yourself OUT?  Yes  No

Are you OUT to your parents?  Yes  No

Are you OUT to your straight friends?  Yes  No

Are you OUT at work?  Yes  No

Are there many OUT people at your company, school, or organization?  Yes  No

What do you / don't you like about *The Inquery* newsletter? \_\_\_\_\_

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Thanks for completing this survey.

What do you / don't you like about the PTC? What events did you like? What other events should we plan? \_\_\_\_\_

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# Letters to the Ed

Dear Ed,

During a recent work weekend I had the unfortunate opportunity to visit the Tally Ho on a Saturday night and experience a phenomena which I've noticed is common to all the bars in central and southeastern PA. As I approached and introduced myself to the several men who I found to be moderately attractive they gave me a reception that a Texas cowboy might describe as "mean as a bobcat." As a sociable, reasonably cute, well-heeled young man who spends a fair amount of time at the gym, this confuses me, everyone ( and I do mean everyone) complains about how they can't meet anyone nice at the bar. In fact I meet more fun, hunky local men in large cities that I do locally and they all have the same complaint. And who can blame them? My conclusion then is that men who go out locally are not aware of the rules of bar etiquette. So here they are:

1) Don't assume that anyone who mutters a word to you or glances in your direction wants you badly. Trust me on this one, it's not true! Maybe they are just bored with standing around stonefaced. I once saw, in Washington D.C., a stunning bodybuilder sitting on a step outside Mr. P's talking to a homeless man. I guess by Central PA standards that meant he was preparing to take him home which leads to the next one.

2) Even a Grinch-faced troll deserves common courtesy and respect. This may come as a shock to you but... There is value in every human being. Furthermore there is a bible quote that I can't help but bring up, concerning this issue. "As ye sow so shall ye reap" Rudeness generates rudeness, besides,

3) We're all in this together. In today's social and political climate we need all the allies we can get. The bar should be a place to come to be around like-minded individuals ( at least when it comes to sexual preference), where you can be yourself, not a place where anonymous peers rip you to shreds for no reason other than that they're bored. Besides, that older gentleman next to you might just be a resource to you. If , for example, you're a budding fashion designer, he might have a friend with a sewing factory who's is looking for an extra product line. Or he might have a young friend who's looking for... well, you get the picture.

4) And finally, if you're angry or upset don't come out and unleash your hostility on others. Keep it at home. Get counseling, get Xanax, get Ben & Jerry's deep dark chocolate ice cream, and get better. Then go out and meet people, make contacts, make friends, and make this place a more hospitable environment in which to be gay, lesbian, or bisexual.

Thank you, signed,  
Fed Up

Dear Ed,

Earlier this summer, the Lancaster Newspaper's headlines again reported the arrests of men involved in sexual activities at Long's Park. The police department's approach of using undercover agents for entrapment followed by a big exposé by the newspaper has done little to stop the use of the public rest rooms by gay men. However, it "outed" some men, caused others to lose their jobs, friends, and families, and created more negative press about homosexuals.

We all know that cruising tea rooms is illegal, but many of us have done it ourselves. So I pose the following questions. What do we ,as a gay community, do to change the policies of the police department? Do gay men have other healthy and legal sexual alternatives in Lancaster County? Why does the Lancaster Newspaper consider this news worthy? How often do heterosexual adults caught having consensual sex in a back seat of a car, get reported under special headlines? These are questions that we as a community need to address.

If these issues concern you, as they do me, there are several things you should consider. Come to a Pink Triangle Meeting, contact a board Member, or just call the PTC and offer your support. You can aid the PTC in its attempts to create change in the Lancaster Police Department's and the Lancaster Newspaper's view of the gay community.

Finally, if you or someone you know has been a victim of this type of harassment, contact the PTC. There are things that the victim needs to do to avoid having a criminal record. The PTC can offer you support and possibly direction to help you to deal with the legal actions filed against you.

Help PTC make a positive change in the community that you call HOME!

Greg Snyder  
PTC Board Member

# Horrorscopes

**ARIES** (MARCH 21-APR. 19) A problem from the past must be laid to rest this month. Birds and bees figure prominently. KEY WORD: BOOK

**TAURUS** (APR. 20-MAY 20) Be careful of fights with family members. Do not step on brown grass. KEY WORD: PENCIL

**GEMINI** (MAY 21-JUNE 20) You might be tempted to devote yourself to pleasure. You will be painting something this month. KEY WORD: RULER

**CANCER** (JUNE 21-JULY 22) Enhance the quality of your life now. Beware of skateboarders. KEY WORD: BLACKBOARD

**LEO** (JULY 23-AUG. 22) Emotional drama fills your month. Your cup is half-full not half-empty. KEY WORD: ERASER

**VIRGO** (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22) Dreams play an important role. Bigger things are coming for you. KEY WORD: PEN

**LIBRA** (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22) Work hard and play hard this month. Be careful of any animal that speaks your name. KEY WORD: TEACHER

**SCORPIO** (OCT. 23-NOV. 21) Pay attention to detail. Videotape important phone messages. KEY WORD: APPLE

**SAGITTARIUS** (NOV. 22-DEC. 21) Travel plays an interesting role. Don't let the cat out. KEY WORD: DESK

**CAPRICORN** (DEC. 22-JAN. 19) Money is very important now. Tattoos will be extra special this month. KEY WORD: LEARN

**AQUARIUS** (JAN. 20-FEB. 18) You have the determination to succeed. A boat will change the direction of your life this month. KEY WORD: CHALK

**PISCES** (FEB. 19-MAR. 20) You'll excel professionally this month. Play fetch with your cat. KEY WORD: DICTIONARY.

# Resources

- F&M College LGB's & Allies ..... 399-6192
- Gay & Lesbian Switchboard
- of Harrisburg ..... 234-0328
- GLORA (Reading) ..... 610-868-7183
- Lancaster AIDS Project ..... 394-3380, 394-9900
- Lancaster Gay Helpline ..... 397-0691
- Millersville Allies ..... 871-2241
- PA AIDS Hotline ..... 1-800-662-6080
- P-Flag of Lancaster ..... 299-7043
- Pink Triangle Coalition NEW! .... 394-6260**
- SMYLE (Youth Group) ..... 656-4152
- Vision of Hope MCC ..... 285-9070
- York Area Lambda ..... Box 2425, York, PA 17405