

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

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## **Documents Online**

**Title:** *PA Rural Gay Caucus Report*

**Date:** November 1975

**Location:** LGBT-001 Joseph W. Burns Collection

**Contact:**

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The purpose of this report will be to inform all participating and interested persons of the Rural Caucus. It will also incorporate a calendar of events, so that individuals as well as other organizations in the "rural" areas of Pennsylvania will be aware of what is happening and being accomplished in neighboring gay communities. All information that may be of importance to other gays in the state should be sent to the corresponding secretary of the Rural Caucus: DAVE LEAS c/o: GUL 3002 Marietta Avenue Lancaster PA 17601. Tel: 1-717-898-2876.

Some of the topics discussed at the November 1st Meeting in Lancaster were:

- 1. Adding 2 more members to the Governor's Gay Task Force; changing the number of Rural Representatives from 4 to 6.
- 2. Ways in which each Rural Representative may work most effectively reaching all of us within the vast outlying state areas.
- 3. Adopting a "Big-Sister/Big-Brother" type program to help people "come-out", educate them, and develop their gay pride and gay awareness as individuals.
- 4. Share ideas through communicating with each other as individuals and as groups.
- 5. Establish a form of newsletter, where input and circulation would be almost immediate keeping all of us informed.
- 6. Media-news coverage for your group's events. Attempt to get positive coverage of the gay minority, utilize TV, radio, newspapers and any other public facility as a means of contact for us to reach each other.

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DECEMBER MEETING !

The second meeting of the Rural Caucus will be held in Allentown at the Unitarian Church of the Lehigh Valley (map enclosed) on Saturday December 6th at 1:00 PM. Le-Hi-Ho will be the host organization for this meeting. Recommendations are to be made to the Governor's Gay Task Force as well as to other gay organizations within the state.

SENATE BILLS:::196 & 743:::!!

On Tuesday October 21st, Governor Shapp vetoed Senate Bill 196, saying the measure was "vindictive ... and a setback to the cause of fair and equal opportunity. All my life I have fought to end barriers against persons or groups. At this time I do not intend to traffic in demagoguery and reaction by signing a bill so clearly unfair ... the worst written bill I have received in five years as governor."

Unless emergency measures are successful, it is expected that these bills will have enough support to pass, even over the governor's veto. It is of URGENT IMPORTANCE that letters are written--IMMEDIATELY in order to stop these bills from becoming law. WRITE!!! If you don't know who your State Rep's are--find out from the Library. Contact Church Groups that have endorsed our struggle on a national basis; e.g. The United Church of Christ, The United Methodist Church, The Unitarian Church, The Society of Friends, The Episcopal Church, The Lutheran Church, The Presbyterian Church, B'nai-B'rith, ADA, Labor Unions, NAACP, Urban League, etc., etc., etc. Ask THEM to write also, they probably would and will if you let them know what's going on in Harrisburg--the "straight" press isn't giving the matter adequate coverage. CALL: The Governor's HOT-LINE (toll free call) at 1-800-932-0784-8AM-6PM and register your opinion with that office for distribution to the representatives in your area.

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

To the newly formed groups in Lebanon, Blair County (Rep. Wilt's stomping ground--jeeesus!) and Northumberland County. We extend you our best wishes and support in order to get your groups into the mainstream of gay liberation in the quickest possible time.

USE IT !!!!

Gays United-Lancaster(GUL) will be extending the use of its mimeograph machine, used for printing the Lancaster Gay Era, to all gay organizations throughout the state who may have need to use it. TERMS: Have your own supplies--paper, ink, stencils, etc.-or pay us to buy them for you; Have all materials ready for printing before you get here in order that the job can be completed in one day. The machine is in dire need of being used to stretch its capacity(aha!) Contact GUL at 1-717-898-2876 for further info.

HELP-HELP-HELP !!!!!

This report of The Rural Caucus will be issued on a regular basis at least once each month. If, by chance, you are on our mailing list and don't wish to be--just drop us a line. Also-If you have an extra dollar or two, please send it to me. It will help us to cover the expenses of printing, duplicating, and mailing.

In the spirit of gay pride,

*Dave Leas*  
 DAVE LEAS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Note: Please send us news of your group's activities and functions in order that we may include them in the calendar. Address your notices to: Dave Leas c/o: GUL 3002 Marietta Ave., Lanc 17601.

- Tues. Nov 25th: GUL Meeting and Coffee Hour 8:00PM GUL-Lancaster
  - Sun. Nov 30th: GCS Music Alliance 7:30 PM 1034 Franklin St Reading  
Rock & Classical Music--Bring your favorites along.  
GAY COFFEEHOUSE 3PM-10PM 3002 Marietta Ave., Lanc.
  - Tues. Dec. 1st: GUL Meeting & Coffee Hour 8:00PM GUL-Lancaster  
Reorganization Meeting--All invited
  - Sat. Dec. 6th: RURAL CAUCUS MEETING 1:00PM  
At Unitarian Church of Lehigh Valley  
701 Lechauweki Avenue BETHLEHEM PA Host:Le-Hi-Ho
  - Sun. Dec. 7th: GAY COFFEEHOUSE 3PM-10PM 3002 Marietta Ave., Lanc.
  - Tues. Dec. 9th: GUL Meeting & Coffee Hour 8:00PM GUL-Lancaster
  - Sun. Dec. 14th: -Sing-Along 1136 Walnut St. Allentown 7:00PM  
-Lesbian Discussion Group 2PM-4PM  
-Women's Center 230 W Chestnut St. Lancaster  
-Gay Coffeehouse 3PM-10PM 3002 Marietta Ave Lancaster
  - Sun. Dec. 21st: -GCS Business Meeting at This-Is-It 801 Walnut St.  
Reading 3:00PM Dinner @ 4:00PM  
\*6:30 PM--ALL GAYS GO CHRISTMAS CAROLING STATEWIDE  
DON'T NEGLECT YOUR MAYOR, REPRESENTATIVES,  
COUNCILPERSONS, ETC.
- Reading: Meet at 1034 Franklin St Reading 6:30PM  
Lancaster: 3002 Marietta Ave, 6:30 PM  
Others: Get a place and DO-IT.
- Gay Coffeehouse & Christmas- Winter Festival Party  
GUL 3002 Marietta Avenue Lancaster  
BYOB-All Invited.

SEASON'S GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR A GAY NEW YEAR!!!!

DEC 1976

