

LGBT-048-SC Nancy Helm Collection

LGBT Center of Central PA History Project
Archives and Special Collections
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COLLECTION REGISTER

Name:	Helm, Nancy	LGBT-048-SC
Material:	Artifact (2015)	
Volume:	1 Artifact	
Donation:	Donated by Nancy Helm, 2016	
Usage:	These materials have been donated without restrictions on usage.	
Processor:	Sarah Wakefield, September 2021	
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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Nancy Helm was born in Lancaster, PA and graduated from Manheim Township High School in 1981. After graduating, she worked for a printing company and had other odd jobs before opening a hair salon with her partner. In 1991, she decided to open a bookstore cattycorner from the salon on Prince Street: The Closet. Helm started the bookstore as an outlet for the gay community of Lancaster so they could meet, hang out, and shop. The bookstore became the target of anti-gay crime that same year, including bombings and multiple threats, and because of that closed in 1992.

Helm was also a member of the Pink Triangle Coalition (PTC). Created in 1991 the coalition was instrumental in getting sexual orientation non-discrimination protection added to the Human Relations Ordinance in the City of Lancaster. Helm was the key spokesperson for the group. Helm still resides in Central Pa today.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

Series 1 Artifacts

LGBT-048-AC01	LGBT Center of Central PA Fall Achievement Benefit (FAB) Award to Pink Triangle Coalition (PTC) – 2015
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