

LGBT-110-SC Mark Segal 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:	Segal, Mark	LGBT-110-SC
Material:	Papers (1975)	
Volume:	4 document folders	
Donation:	Donated by Mark Segal, 2023	
Usage:	These materials have been donated without restrictions on usage.	
Processor:	Simone Gillespie, January 2025	
Support:	Funding to process this collection was provided by donors to the LGBT Center of Central PA History Project and by a grant from the Schlegel Deibler Charitable Foundation.	

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Mark Segal was born January 12, 1951, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He attended Germantown High School and later Temple University.

He moved to New York City in 1969 where he became heavily involved with the LGBT civil rights movement. Segal participated in the Stonewall Riots, was a founding member of the Gay Liberation Front, and was a member of the Christopher Street Gay Liberation Day Committee which was responsible for organizing the first Gay Pride in 1970. He was a member of the Gay Raiders, with whom he became well known for his “zaps,” public acts of disobedience such as his disruptions of TV broadcasts in the early 1970s. These included disruptions of *THE CBS Evening News with Walter Cronkite*, *Today Show with Barbara Walters*, and an evening broadcast of WPVI-TV in Philadelphia.

In 1976, he founded the *Philadelphia Gay News*, a weekly LGBT newspaper publication in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The newspaper is still published today.

He has continued to serve as an advocate for the LGBTQ+ community, serving on the Joint Diversity Council of Comcast NBC/Universal, working with the Obama administration to plan and open The John C. Anderson Apartments, the nation's first "LGBT Friendly" senior affordable housing apartment building in 2013, and publishing his memoir *And Then I Danced: Traveling the Road to LGBT Equality* (306.7662 S454a) in 2015.

In 2018, Segal donated his personal papers and artifacts to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C. Note to researchers: Researchers interested in learning more about Segal can find the Mark Segal Papers finding aid, NMAH.AC.1422, online through the Archives Center, National Museum of American History

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

This collection houses materials from Segal's LGBTQ+ activist endeavors in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. There is a copy of *Mark Segal's Gay Raiders* account, written "for immediate release" to media, of a test to see to what extent State Police Commissioner James Berger's discriminatory "anti-homosexual" hiring policy would hold up, a copy of a letter to Segal regarding the public's response to Governor Schapp's Executive Order with mention of specific opposition of the hiring of gay persons for position as law enforcement officers , and a copy of a letter detailing aversion therapy and behavior modification.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

Series 1 Documents

- Folder 01) Copy of *Mark Segal's Gay Raiders*, account of Segal's test of State Police Commissioner James Berger's statement that the force would not hire homosexuals – May 15, 1975
- Folder 02) Copy of letter from Robert Frymoyer, Research and Information System Director, to Mark Segal, Governor's Gay Rights Task Force, regarding reaction to Governor Schapp's Executive Order – Jul. 15, 1975
- Folder 03) Copy of letter from Deputy Attorney General Robert E. Rains to Mark Segal and Jerry Brennan regarding aversion therapy and behavior modification written on backside – Jul. 21, 1975