

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

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**Title:** *Lavender Letter (Harrisburg, PA)*

**Date:** March 1997

**Location:** LGBT-009 Lavender Letter Collection

**Contact:**

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# LAVENDER LETTER

▼▼▼▼▼  
The Lavender Letter Office will be closed from March 20 until March 27... Please try to submit all info **early** to the PO Box, or by FAX. Calls will not be returned until after March 27th. Thanks!!!

Volume 15 No. 3

A Calender of Events, for and by Womyn

March, 1997

Home Party Potluck being planned to benefit Daleva farms rebuilding project. Anyone who may be a home party demonstrator (tupperware, candles, baskets, etc.) please call Ann Garrett (610) 857-2480. Also, if anyone has any photos of events at Dale & Eva's home, dig them up, and we'll put together an album at the potluck. Watch for details in the April Lavender Letter.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 1

9:30pm-1:30am... Change of Heart On Fire & in concert at the York Valley Inn, 3883 E. Market St., York. (717) 840-0748

## SATURDAY, MARCH 8

5pm... Join GLORA for their first Feast-Sit-Feast, aka dinner-movie night. Meet at the Tilghman 8, Rt. 309 on Tilghman St. under the movie posters to get tickets, then join us at the Red Robin for dinner. Reservation needed by Fri., March 7. Call Diane at (610) 868-7183.

## FRIDAY, MARCH 14

7pm... Lancaster Area Ladies Night Out. Call Shirley at (717) 397-1915 or Sandi at (717) 626-6154.

9pm-1am... Change of Heart in concert at the Dew Drop Inn, 293 Dew Drop Dr., Spry. (717) 741-1175.

## SUNDAY, MARCH 16

1-6pm... YWCA of York, York Chapter of NOW, Penn State York, York College, and Her Story Bookstore are sponsoring a Women's Film Festival. Featuring 6 short films selected especially for their appeal to all types of women. It will be held at the DeMeester Theater of the Life Sciences Building at York College, Country Club Road, York. Parking available behind the Library. These are not mainstream films, and the content might be somewhat unusual. Tickets avail. from YWCA of York, or at Her Story Bookstore. \$5 adv., and \$6 at the door.

## Don't Miss The Spring Fling!

at Williamsburg Manor RV Resort

Things slowed down a bit this winter, as we took a restful detour thru Key West. Now we're back in full swing preparing for our second annual Spring Fling, March 28-30, 1997. Meet old friends and make new ones. We want you to share the fun! Some of the activities we have planned:



- ♥ Live entertainment. Lana & Kim, popular country & western song writers/singers/musicians in concert to delight you. Small cover charge.
- ♥ Pot luck supper in the dining room with a cozy fire, if the night is chilly.
- ♥ Easter Egg Hunt with prizes. The golden egg award is cash.

Williamsburg Manor is a place where you can relax, feel comfortable, be yourself, and have fun. *Come experience an innovative new concept in leisure living.*

Call (757)-566-2133 for more information or reservations. A free color brochure and schedule of events is available.

4pm... Ladies 2000 St. Patty's Day Party at "The McRiver Deck" 4100 Main St., Manayunk. Call (609) 784-8341 for details.

## MONDAY, MARCH 17

6:30-900pm... Saint Patrick's Day Gay Skate sponsored by York Area Lambda at the Roller-R-Way in Delco Plaza on Carlisle St., York. Free admission, skate rental \$1.25.

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

9pm... The Greg Louganis Story, "Breaking the Surface" will be broadcast on the USA Network. Sammons Channel 32.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 22

6pm... York Area Singles Night Out. Call Peg at (717) 225-6042 for reservation.

10pm-1am... Change of Heart in concert at Nick's 1014 Cafe, 1014 N. 3rd St., Hbg. (717) 238-8844.

## FRIDAY, MARCH 28

9:30pm-1:30am... Change of Heart On Fire & in concert at the York Valley Inn, 3883 E. Market St., York. (717) 840-0748.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 29

10pm-1:30am... Change of Heart On Fire & in concert at the Riverside Gingerbread Man, 313 S. Front St., Wormleysburg. (717) 737-1313.

## Upcoming Events...

### SUNDAY, APRIL 6

7-11pm... Crossroads first anniversary bash to be held on the main dance floor of Stallions, 706 N. Third Street, Hbg. Providing the Jams will be Heidi Linn or Heidi Linn's "You're The Star" DJ & Karaoke.

### APRIL 18 THRU MAY 11

Open Stage of Harrisburg presents the most of important play of the nineties, Tony Kushner's award-winning ANGELS IN AMERICA. Written in 2 parts, MILLENNIUM APPROACHES and PERESTROIKA, the play is a cosmic-scale history of America in the past 2 decades. Funny, epic, and highly provocative. For tickets and performance dates of part 1 "Millennium Approaches" call the Open Stage Box Office at (717) 232-OPEN.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 19

8pm... The Central PA Womyn's Chorus presents their Spring Concert "Music, Music, Music" at the Unitarian Church, 1280 Clover Lane, Hbg. Tickets \$10, available at Her Story Bookstore or call (717) 236-SING.

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E-mail: mccofofthespirit@juno.com

Pastor Eva O'Diam  
(717) 236-7387

## Spirituality...

### WORSHIP SERVICES

...**Dignity of Central PA** (Hbg) Services: First Sunday of month, 5pm, Mass followed by Potluck Dinner and Program. Friends Meeting House, 6th & Herr Sts. 1st & 3rd Monday, Dialogue & Discussion Group, 1514 N. 2nd St., (use side door), (717) 652-7683.

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...**MCC of the Spirit**, at their new Church 2973 Jefferson St., Hbg. Every Sunday 10:30 am & 7:00 pm. Call 236-7387 for information. We offer Christian educational sessions that nurture the whole person, call for details and special events.

...**Unitarian Society of York**, 49 E. Springettsbury Ave., York. (717) 845-8212. Services: 8:45 & 10:30 a.m. Childcare provided.

...**Unitarian Universalist Church of Lanc.** Services: 9am & 11am on Sundays. Vesper Meditative Service: Tues. Evening at 7 pm. 538 W. Chestnut St. Lanc. (717) 393-1733.

...**Unity Center for Spiritual Growth**. 4695 Charles Rd., Mechanicsburg. (Behind Trindle Bowling Alley on Trindle Rd.) Services: Sundays 9am & 11am. (717) 737-8875. Unity is a culturally diverse spiritual community, promoting positive life transformation and recognizing that all people are one in God.

## Diane L. Dombach M.S.

Licensed Psychologist  
(717) 871-1719

Mailing Address:  
428 Herr Avenue  
Millersville, PA 17551

247 N. Shippen Street  
Lancaster, PA 17602

...**Vision of Hope MCC**, 130 E. Main St. Mountville, PA 17554. Service on Sunday at 10:30am & 7pm. AM Children's Sunday School. Phone #: (717) 285-9070.

## Social Groups...

**Book Discussion Group.** If you like to read, we want you... to join our book club. We meet the 2nd Sunday of the month at 7pm. Call Kellie (717) 236-2876 for this month's book and the location of the meeting.

**The Tikkun Project:** Forge a new container from the shattered pieces of our life story thru movement, dance, song & music. Join us to create a sacred environment for deep healing. April 5, May 3 and June 7 at the Barn, Lower Allen Park (15 min. from downtown Hbg.) Call Yasmin Germaine for details. (717) 774-7218.



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**LAMBDA ALUMNI** the Penn State Alumni Association for Lesbians, Gays & Bisexuals. They sponsor many events and are fully supported by Penn State University. To become a member of Lambda Alumni write to: Lambda Alumni Interest Group, P.O. Box 10215, State College, PA 16808-0125.

**FREE SPIRIT** is Bloomsburg University's Community for Lesbians, Gay Men, Bisexuals, as well as our friends and family. We offer support, information, discussion, and activities to create awareness, advocate social change... and just have fun! For info call Wendy Lee-Lampshire, Ph.D., Dept. of Philosophy, (717) 389-4332 or e-mail at lampshire@planetx.bloomu.edu.

**The Central PA Womyn's Chorus** (the musical voice of the lesbian and feminist community) rehearses on Monday nights. If you are interested in joining, call Artistic Director Tom Tiehel at 230-9311, or President Rose Samuel at 469-1377.

# Center Piece

## Lavender Letter

March, 1997



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Camfest@aol.com or Womongathr@aol.com

...COMMON JOURNEY, an organization of Lesbians and Gays in the Healthcare, Human Services and Educational files, will meet at the Vision of Hope MCC Church in Mountville. Their goal is to provide an opportunity to network and support one another as we educate ourselves and the community at large about common issues that we as Lesbians, Gay Bisexuals and Transgendered People face as workers in the Helping Professions. For more info call Edwin Yates at (717) 285-9070 or e-mail at [yatesmcc@redrose.net](mailto:yatesmcc@redrose.net).

**MOIRA Means Hope...** Support group for students and young adults who are dealing with gender sexual identity issues will meet the 3rd Tues. of each month at the Unitarian Society of York. 49 E. Springettsbury Ave., York. Anyone ages 14 thru 24 is welcome. Moira offers accurate info, practical advise and can help address and discuss anxieties associated with sexual identity. For more info call Lew Bupp (717) 852-8543, Lorrie Barlett (717) 684-6310, or Kathy Weems (717) 757-4270.

LESBIAN AND GAY PARENTING GROUP. I would like to get a group together for social activities, and discussions on issues important to us as parents. Anyone interested in meeting other parents please call Audra at 871-1384.

## Announcements...

**For Rent:** Log Home, 3 BR, 2 Bath with a fireplace on 1 Acre of ground in a beautiful setting in seven Valleys near Spring Grove (717) 225-6042. Pets a possibility.

The Haworth Press has released its Spring catalog of books. If anyone is interested in mail ordering books of Gay & Lesbian Interests, call 1-800-895-0582 for a copy of their catalog.

Sandy Smith, Mikaela Tallman and Zo Tallman would like to announce the arrival of their daughter and baby sister Sadaye Summer Smith born 11/24/97, 4½lbs.

...Congratulations!!!



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April 18 - May 11

**Angels in  
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Approaches

By Tony Kushner

**232-OPEN**



# THE LAW AND YOU



**Q:** [PREVIOUS QUESTION] We are confused about the difference between a Will and a Living Will. Are they the same thing? Do non-traditional couples need either of them?

**A:** Last month, we answered part of this question and explained in detail the need for a Living Will. A promise was made to now discuss a Last Will and Testament. This legal document is commonly referred to as a "Will" and non-traditional couples are particular in need of Wills.

All jurisdictions within the United States have established intestacy laws. These laws apply when an individual dies "intestate", meaning that the individual died without a valid Will. If an individual prepared a valid Last Will and Testament, there is no need to apply intestacy laws. But...if an individual dies without a Will, then the intestacy laws of the state where that woman was residing at the time of her death will control what happens after her death.

Non-traditional couples do not have legal recognition (NOT YET!!). Thus, the intestacy laws provide for only legally recognized relatives to inherit assets. Each of the fifty states has set-up its own system. Those in line to take assets from a decedent are usually a spouse (Yes, even that husband of the past that you just did not get around to divorcing!), children, grandchildren, parents, sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and possibly even cousins.

In other words, without a Will, a non-traditional partner will take nothing of a decedent's estate. All assets that the decedent owned in her sole name or as a tenant-in-common with another person would go entirely to someone other than the non-traditional partner. It would not matter if the committed relationship was ten, twenty, or fifty years in length. It must be noted that assets held jointly, with the right of survivorship, do not become part of the decedent's estate. This is a special form of ownership that exists outside of a Will.

Now that you know the importance of preparing a Will, let us consider the contents of that Will. You should name an Executrix/ Executor (female/male) to execute, to carry out, the provisions of your Will. This person could be your life-partner, or a trusted friend or relative; and you may want to consider naming a Co-Executrix, so that not just one person handles this responsibility. An Alternate Executrix should also be named, as a common disaster could result in your death and the death of your first choice for an Executrix. Co-Executors function together; while an Alternate Executor steps in only when the primary person you named is unable to perform the duties.

Next, you should set forth your wishes regarding funeral arrangements, burial and related matters. Failure to make such provisions results in others making

those decisions for you; and quite often, their choices are totally diverse from your wishes. The purpose of the Will is for you to speak, to clearly express your desires, to provide a road map to be followed regarding decisions that have to be made after your death.

Finally, you should give careful thought as to how your assets are to be distributed. Even if you do not have many assets at the moment, the circumstances of your death may result in a very large estate. This can occur when there is a plane crash, a vehicular collision, medical malpractice, or other wrongdoing that may be a contributing factor to an untimely death. Or...you just may have that winning lottery ticket in your pocket at the time of your death.

In preparing a Will, you may designate specific bequests. For example, you may leave your golf clubs to a nephew, your class ring to a friend, \$1,000.00 to a niece, your computer system to a charitable organization, or \$5,000.00 to a political cause. Give some thought as to specific items that you might like to leave.

The remainder of your estate (after specific bequests have been made) can then be left in whatever manner you wish to whomever you wish. The choices are plentiful and it is important to discuss them at great length with an attorney. You may make percentage distributions, or dollar amount distributions, or distributions at a later time, or distributions based upon some contingency. For example, you may leave the entire remainder to your life-partner, or 50% to her and 50% to your mother so long as she did not remarry, or certain percentages to nieces and nephews upon each reaching the age of 21 years. These highly personal choices should be carefully considered.

**It is NOT recommended that you prepare a Will without legal advice. Wills can be challenged; and they must be technically correct in order to be valid. Some family members may be opposed to your sexual orientation; and that often results in non-traditional couples fighting a legal challenge to a Will. This can result in emotional hardship, lengthy litigation, and financial burdens. To avoid these types of problems later, it is advisable for you to obtain the services of a professional now.**

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*NOTE: This column is written by a retired attorney and judge. She answers questions of a general nature and she is not giving specific legal advice. Laws in different jurisdictions may vary. For specific legal problems you are best advised to consult a practicing attorney in your area. Ruth Joseph welcomes questions from her readers. Please mail your legal question to Ruth Joseph Legal Enterprises at P.O. Box 185 Paradise, PA 17562-0185. Only one question will be selected for each column -- and no personal replies can be provided.*

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...**YAL (York Area Lambda)** Educational, Political & Social Group of Lesbian/Gay & Bi people in the York area. Newsletter included with paid dues. For more info write P.O. Box 2425, York, PA 17405 or call (717) 848-9142.

...**The Women's Resource Center at Bucknell University** sponsors various events throughout the month. Poetry readings, self defense classes, art exhibits, discussion groups, etc. Call (717) 524-1375 for their monthly calendar.

...**Triangle Interests...** A not-for-profit, Lesbian membership association offering financial and business networking opportunities, educational seminars and social activities. Forming a Lesbian Credit Union... Retirement Communities... (+much more). For more info call: (215) 487-3736.

...**Susquehanna Lambda** regular monthly meeting (2nd Sunday of the month) at the AIDS Resource Office, 507 W. 4th St. Social hour at 5pm, meeting at 6pm. For info write P.O. Box 2510, Williamsport, PA 17703, or call the North Central Switchboard at (717) 327-1411.

(717) 299-6711

**F. SUZANNE WEAVER, Ph.D.**  
*Licensed Psychologist*

Office Hours  
By Appointment

246 E. Lemon St.  
Lancaster, PA 17602

...**The Center for Women Students at Penn State**, Univ. Park sponsors many film series/discussion groups on women & Lesbian concerns. For more info/brochure call (814) 863-2027 or write: Ctr for Women Students, 102 Boucke Building, Penn State Univ., University Park, PA 16802.

...**GLORA** (Gay & Lesbian Organization of Reading & Allentown) is a group that gathers at least 2x/month to do fun activities and make new friends. We sponsor a broad range of events: potlucks, mini-golf, bowling, dances, road trips, hiking, skiing, movies, etc. Call Diane for more info. (610) 868-7183.

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...**York Area Singles** A great way to meet other women. Dinner once a month on Sat. Nite. Call Peg at (717) 225-6042 for reservation.

## Support Groups...

... Support group for Gay/Lesbian/Transgendered persons who are parents. 2nd Thursday of each month 7-8:30pm at the MCC Church, 2973 Jefferson Street, Hbg. Facilitated by Susan Thornsley, M.D. Child care will be provided. *(The meeting place was changed to the MCC Church of the Spirit instead of the Friends Meeting house).*

...Support meeting for Susquehanna Lambda every First Sunday of the month at 7pm at the AIDS Resource Alliance Office, 507 West Fourth St., Williamsport. For details call Dan (717) 322-8793.



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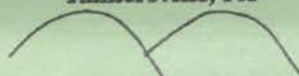
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### Lavender Letter

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***On Fire* performs 8:00 - 10:00, D.J.Rodney**  
***dance music* 10:30 - 2:00 and free food buffet**  
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E-Mail : COHeart69@aol.com

-----  
Name(s).....


Address.....

Phone #..... How many tickets?.....

Need directions? N / Y

S.A.S.E. appreciated





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Tickets \$10



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or call 717-236-SING



The chorus is the musical voice of central Pennsylvania's feminist, lesbian & gay communities. Please support us by: • making a financial contribution • buying an ad in our program book • serving as a volunteer, and • attending our concerts. New members are admitted periodically throughout the year. For more information, call Artistic Director Tom Tichel at 717-232-2169, ext 24.

*Yes! I want to support our chorus!*

- Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ tickets (\$10 each) to the concert, *and a SASE to mail them to me*
- Enclosed is my contribution (March 21 deadline to be listed in program booklet):
  - \$500 or more ("benefactor")
  - \$100+ ("sponsor")
  - \$50+ ("donor")     \$25+ ("contributor")
  - \$10+ ("friend")     Other: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Write name(s) below as you want it to appear in program (otherwise, we will take it from your check), or

- check here if you prefer not to be listed in the program
- Enclosed is my camera-ready ad (March 21 deadline — call 717-249-3756 for more info)

I would like to help with:

- Selling tickets     Fund-raising activities
- Concert production
- I'd like to sing.
- Put me on the mailing list and keep me posted on concerts and other activities.

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Clip and mail with check (and SASE) made payable to:

**Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus**  
**P.O. Box 60426 • Harrisburg, PA 17106-0426**