



GROUP

TransCentralPA Newsletter

Serving the Transgender Community of Central Pennsylvania since 1989

June 2010

WWW.TRANSCENTRALPA.ORG

Volume 21, Issue 6

June's Dinner will be at El Sol (www.elsolmexicanrestaurant.net) for our pre-meeting dinner on Saturday, Jun 12 at 5:30 pm. We'll sit down promptly at 6:00 pm. Prices range from \$10 to \$22. Average price for entrees is about \$15. This will be our 1st time to this restaurant so come join us for some good company, authentic Mexican cuisine & drinks! Please RSVP if you plan to attend at info@transcentralpa.org.

June Meeting is Saturday, June 12 at 8:30 pm. Doors will open at approximately 8:00 pm for those needing to change.

May Stats Thanks to all who joined us for dinner at Café Fresco and our meeting in May. We ended up with 21 people at dinner and about 34 at the meeting. "After Hours" was a wonderful time at Stock's on 2nd following the meeting.

After Hours is now at Stock's on 2nd (www.stocksonsecond.com). We had a wonderful time there in May. Stock's offers the opportunity to mingle and socialize in a friendly atmosphere as well as an opportunity to dance to some great music. So for great conversation, friendship and more, please join us at Stock's on 2nd. There is no cover charge!

Central PA Pride Festival is Jul 24 and TransCentralPA will be participating in the parade as well as hosting a



Congratulations Ted!

Ted Martin has accepted the post of Executive Director of the Equality Advocates (formerly Equality Advocates PA, a long time champion of transgender rights in Pennsylvania). TransCentralPA is excited about accomplishing even greater goals for the transgender populace of Pennsylvania by working with Ted and building on our relationship with him and Equality Advocates.

booth. As a courtesy to our members and guests, TransCentralPA will pay for the festival passes for those who elect to march with us in the parade.

New Website is up. We have revamped our site and have integrated Google Calendar into our site. So if you know of an upcoming event, let us know so we can help spread the word! We have taken the picture pages down. I am looking at different programs that we can incorporate in our site to better display the pictures. In the meantime, we are going to utilize our TransCentralPA and Keystone Conference Yahoo Groups to collect pictures.

Yahoo Group Changes We have made changes to our Yahoo Groups to allow people to post pictures as

well as messages. We have changed the settings to require that all pictures and posts be moderated. This is simply to deny spammers from hijacking the messaging system and post inappropriate solicitations and messages (as well as pictures).

groups.yahoo.com/group/TransCentralPA

Keystone Yahoo Group added! We have added a Yahoo Group to help us collect the myriad of pictures from the conference so we can use some of them for next year's site. Like our TransCentralPA Group, anyone can post pictures and messages, but they need to be moderated before they can be seen by anyone.

groups.yahoo.com/group/KeystoneConference

See 'Announcements' on page 5...

Musings on Transition....

From the President



Jeanine Ruhsam

I've been transitioning for ten years. When I started to, with a huge burst of intention and dedicated enthusiasm at Southern Comfort Conference in 2001, ten days after the 9/11 attack on our country's serenity & security, I was sure I'd be an obscure middle aged woman by now.

Oh, I came out to everyone that I thought mattered in my life... promptly (but miserably and painfully) ending a marriage of 26 years and losing my daughters for a spell; luckily my mother, brother, sister and few good friends declared their unrelenting love for me, not withstanding my jump off the cliff.

Soon thereafter I entered into a relationship with an amazing woman, who only knew me as my femme self for several dates; we fell quite in love, married, and today our relationship is deeper and more meaningful than ever.

And: I am still transitioning.

Once, when I was younger and really struggling with all this trans stuff, I decided to build a sailboat- the ultimate, cosmic journeying vessel- to get outside my inner angst. So, I started by finding some good plans and some good trees... a lovely, shapely sloop was born and launched a few years later, and so we began our journey. After tens of thousands of miles, it isn't over; we realize there's never an end when you are meant to journey; the sea always beckons with distant horizons, luring islands, and

serene anchorages. At times you must struggle to survive storms; you must dwell in port, or be on the hard for repairs...but the journey goes on.

So it is with the gender journey, I feel. There is no "Promised Land", as one old, wizened sailor- nearly blind with the sun & rum of too many years in the Caribbean- once told me. Wherever you find yourself is the best place you can ever be, *then*- for you are meant to be there. Savor it, love it, love yourself, and then sail on when you need to, or must.

My journey through life continues, as does my transition (Webster's: "a passage from one state, stage, subject, or place to another"), and I have slowly- and yes, stubbornly, kicking at my traces a bit because I tend to be impatient- come to accept that my gender journey has no start and no finish, for it is a spiritual one as well as a vital one. I was born with the gift of two genders. I can now honestly acknowledge that it is not such a simple and easily forgiven task to disavow that and to choose one or the other. Indeed: how can I choose between the places of male or female, when I am truly both? So: I passage back and forth...

Yes, our Gender-Binary programmed society demands that we be either male or female...so, fine, be either male or female, or, if you can, enjoy being both...you are gifted if you have that option, I feel. Yes, it's hard...but we were given this gift because we asked to receive it, so we therefore have what it takes to struggle to carry it and do our best to show how proudly we can honor it.

Warmly,

Jeanine



Calendar of Events

Bold items are TransCentralPA sponsored

Jun 1	Be-All 2010 Chicago, IL
Jun 3	Trans-Health Conference Philadelphia, PA
Jun 3	Carolina Gender Odyssey Gastonia, NC
Jun 11	Big 80's Night @ Club XS York, PA
Jun 12	TransCentralPA Dinner TransCentralPA Meeting After Hours @ Stock's on 2nd
Jun 18	"— and her Brain" @ Gallery 141 Lancaster, PA
Jun 19	Lancaster PA Pride Lancaster, PA
Jun 25	Central PA Pride Fundraiser @ Liquid 891 Harrisburg, PA
Jul 10	TransCentralPA Dinner TransCentralPA Meeting After Hours @ Stock's on 2nd
Jul 14	Tri-Ess S.P.I.C.E St. Louis, MO
Jul 16	"— and her Brain" @ Gallery Blu Harrisburg, PA
Jul 24	Central PA Pride Festival Harrisburg, PA
Jul 31	COLAGE Family Week Provincetown, MA
Aug 14	TransCentralPA Dinner TransCentralPA Meeting After Hours @ Stock's on 2nd

Visit www.TransCentralPA.org for more event info!



Angela Gardner presents
Fall Ball 2010

A glittering formal affair!
September 25, 2010
The Clarion Parkridge Hotel
King of Prussia, Pa.

Trans-Headliners

Below are several news stories, blogs, opinions and resources for your reading pleasure. Opinions & views in these links cannot be assumed to be of TransCentralPA, nor the Officers or Members of TransCentralPA. Our goal is to simply provide you with information & thought-provoking viewpoints. **You will have to manually copy the red links to your browser and look for the space in the URL.** For some reason, Adobe is not portraying these links correctly.

A brief history of transgender issues

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2010/jun/02/brief-history-transgender-issues>

Captain of a NCAA football team now leads Equality Pennsylvania

<http://goqnotes.com/7030/%20captain-of-the-team/>

MetLife Financial Planning Tips Target the LGBT Community

<http://www.shewired.com/Article.cfm?ID=25076>

News flash: DADT repeal is NOT going to help transpeople

<http://community.feministing.com/2010/05/news-flash-dadt-repeal-is-not.html>

Cross-dressing 'Happy Boy' Stirs Up Debate on Gender

<http://english.cri.cn/6909/2010/05/31/168s573435.htm>

Transgender UU champions passage of ENDA

<http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/165698.shtml>

Candy Darling and me

www.samesame.com.au/features/5450/Candy-Darling-and-me.htm

I Feel Like My Body Is Wrong...

<http://www.rhrealitycheck.org/node/13570>

Bathroom Safety: Let My People Pee

www.dailykos.com/story/2010/5/28/870947/-Bathroom-Safety-Let-My-People-Pee

Transgender Candidate Doesn't Support LGBT Rights

http://gayrights.change.org/blog/view/transgender_candidate_doesnt_support_lgbt_rights

Works of love, death and intersexuality bring

<http://www.csindy.com/colorado/state-lines/Content?oid=1722226>

Anything to Erase the T

<http://endablog.wordpress.com/2010/05/26/anything-to-erase-the-t/>

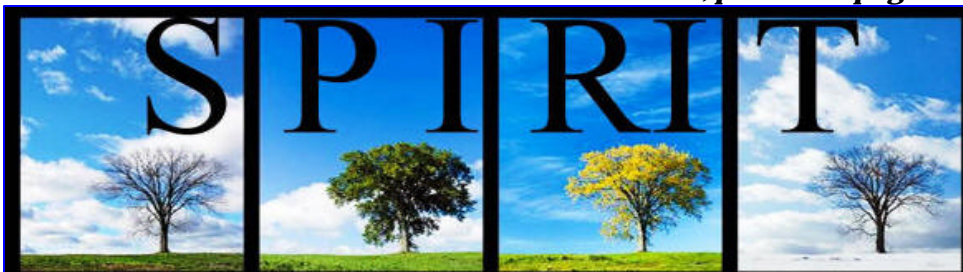
Nevada DMV Changes Gender Identification Policy

<http://www.eqnv.org/503.htm>

Penile implants to the rescue for men

<http://www.deccanchronicle.com/health/penile-implants-rescue-men-809>

See 'Trans-Headliners, part II' on page 4...



Come join us for worship and friendship!

Metropolitan Community Church of the Spirit
2973 Jefferson Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110

www.MCCoftheSpirit.org

Gallery 141
113 N Water behind Sunoco

**pre-pride poetry
and punk party!**
June 18th 6-10pm

Leah B.

Co-sponsored by
Lancaster PA
PRIDE 2010

**BLOOD SUCKING
FIENDS**

Friday, June 18th @ 7pm
"---and Her Brain" readings and musical fragments and the words behind the Gender EDGE philosophy from Leah B. , also performing with The Blood Sucking Fiends at Gallery 141 113 N. Water St. There will also be genderflux art on display.

Friday, July 16th @ 7 pm
"---and Her Brain readings and musical fragments / Gender EDGE expression as a part of the opening for the "Pride" exhibit which is displaying the artwork of six LGBTQ community members. I am one of those six and I will have my own exhibit consisting of creations based on my experiences living as a transsexual young woman. The opening is on July 16th at Gallery Blu, 1633 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg.....I believe it will begin at 7pm. The exhibit runs until mid - August.

Trans-Headliners, part II

Transgender is an adjective. Not a noun. Or a verb.

<http://deeplyproblematic.blogspot.com/2010/05/transgender-is-adjective-not-noun-or.html>

Trans Wheelchair User Wins IML 2010

http://www.advocate.com/News/Daily_News/2010/06/01/Trans_Wheelchair_User_Wins_IML_2010/

Police Reportedly Ask Transgender Topless Sunbather to cover up at Rehoboth Beach, DE

http://www.myfoxchicago.com/dpps/news/offbeat/police-reportedly-ask-transgender-topless-sunbathers-men-to-put-tops-back-on-060110_7848720

Gender-neutral dorm rooms for LGBT students find favor

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100602/FEATURES01/6020313/1322/Gender-neutral-dorm-rooms-for-LGBT-students-find-favor>

Citing inclusivity, administrators are moving ahead with policies for transgender student-athletes

<http://www.athleticbusiness.com/articles/article.aspx?articleid=3556&zoneid=32>

Hope Resides in the Genderqueer and Transgressives

<http://dentedbluemercedes.wordpress.com/2010/05/30/hope-resides-in-the-genderqueer-and-transgressive/>

Are Breasts a Right or a Privilege?

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jacob-m-appel/are-breasts-a-right-or-a_b_594837.html

Employee Non-Discrimination Act protects transgenders

<http://www.statepress.com/2010/05/29/employee-non-discrimination-act-protects-transgender-community/>

The Native American Berdache: An Introduction

<http://www.dailykos.com/storyonly/2010/5/29/871128/-The-Native-American-Berdache:-An-Introduction-Federal>

Federal Court Rules Against Wisconsin in Transsexual Prisoner Cases

<http://newyorklawschool.typepad.com/leonardlink/2010/05/federal-court-rules-against-wisconsin-in-transsexual-prisoner-cases.html>

A History of Trans and Trans-Like Veterans

http://www.advocate.com/News/Daily_News/2010/05/31/A_History_of_Trans_and_Trans-Like_Veterans/

WPATH issues statement/report on their recommendation for 'gender incongruence'

<http://www.wpath.org/documents/WPATH%20Reaction%20to%20the%20proposed%20DSM%20-%20Final.pdf>

Transition from Todd to Tiffany led to on-the-job harassment for one Pennsylvanian

http://www.lehighvalleylive.com/today/index.ssf/2010/05/transition_from_todd_to_tiffan.html

See 'Trans-Headliners, part III' on page 5...

TransCentralPA

is a member of the



Free Admission

to TransCentralPA Members on the second Saturday of the month.

Announcements (continued)

Red Roof Inn Discount. We have negotiated a rate of \$42.99/night for 2010 for both TransCentralPA members and guests. To take advantage of this special offer, call the hotel directly at (717) 939-1331 and use the rate code "TCPA". They also are offering a special price for their Business King suites, too. Ask for details.

June Birthdays! Please say Happy Birthday to Leah Ba., Brooke Gr., Elsa La., Suzane Ol., and Monique St.

2010 Membership Dues are now \$30. Normally \$40, the rates are reduced \$10 each quarter. Dues are used to pay for meeting space, program literature, our website and our affiliation with and support of community groups and activities such as Common Roads, the Community Center, Central Pennsylvania Pride, etc. Please continue to support our organization and efforts by joining or renewing your membership—

we are making a difference!

LOCAL

CPLGBTCC Member Ted Martin Chosen as Executive Director of Equality Pennsylvania. Equality Pennsylvania (EqualityPA), the only organization advocating exclusively for the rights of the Commonwealth's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) citizens, today announced the appointment of Ted Martin as its new Executive Director. Martin, who lives with his husband in Camp Hill outside of Harrisburg, will begin the position on June 1, 2010. "After an extensive national search that lasted several months, the Search Committee and Board of Directors chose Ted because his talents were exceptional and uncommon, his commitment to equality profound and his passion for the work infectious," explained Board president, Brian Sims of Philadelphia. "And while we

know that as an organization we have much to do to ensure that EqualityPA more fully becomes a representative of our entire statewide constituency, the Board has full confidence that Ted is the perfect person to help us meet that challenge."

AIDS Community Alliance to Host LGBT Health Priorities Forum June 9, 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg. The public is invited. Hear Rebecca Fox, director, National Coalition on LGBT Health, speak on issues facing the lgbt community. Hear about ACA's new LGBT Community Health Initiative. See News Window.

The Central PA LGBT Aging Network (CPLAN), as the newest initiative of the LGBT Community Center, is committed to serving members of the LGBT community as they advance in age. Through social programming aimed at older adults, opportunities

See 'Announcements' on page 6...

Trans-Headliners, part III

Transgender Kids Face Challenges While The Adults Argue

<http://www.wbur.org/2010/05/25/transgender-camp-2>

Trans (Un)Employment—a primer (part 1)

<http://genderqueerchicago.blogspot.com/2010/05/trans-unemploymenta-primer-part-1.html>

A first: Pak court gives go ahead for sex change

<http://www.ndtv.com/news/india/a-first-pak-court-gives-go-ahead-for-sex-change-operation-28315.php>

Third gender raises voice in Nepal

http://www.thehimalayantimes.com/blog_index1.php?blogtab=2&blogid=3978&flag=1&title=VGhpcmQgZ2VuZGVyIHJhaXNlcyB2b2ljZSBpbiBOZXBhbA

Sexually reassigned, inmate's alone among 96 males

http://www2.timesdispatch.com/rtd/news/local/crime/article/TEST23_20100522-222204/346338

The Struggle For Acceptance

http://www.courant.com/entertainment/movies/hc-gay-and-lesbian-film-festival-052720100527_0.7723674.story

Transgender vet makes name change official

<http://www.wvec.com/news/local/Transgender-vet-makes-name-change-official-94978279.html>

Pakistan's hijras deserve acceptance

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/may/26/pakistan-transgender-hijras-deserve-acceptance>

High heels for men go beyond drag show

<http://www.nydailynews.com/lifestyle/fashion/2010/05/25/2010-05-25-high-heels-for-men-go-beyond-drag-shows-and-hit-the-street.html>

Cross Dresser Named Queen of Gay Prom

<http://www.opposingviews.com/i/cross-dresser-named-queen-of-gay-prom-parents-disown-him>



Announcements (continued)

for intergenerational engagement, and education and advocacy about the unique needs of LGBT elders, CPLAN hopes to ensure that community members of all ages are connected, supported, and respected. Our first event is a free Meet & Greet on Sunday, June 6th at 3:30 at the Posada Resort in Middletown. There will be food and prizes, as well as opportunities to connect with the community and learn about future plans. For more information or to get involved with CPLAN, please contact its coordinator, Zack Ford, at zachary-ford@gmail.com.

Trans-friendly certified Massage Therapist with 16+ years experience in Swedish, Shiatsu and Reflexology modalities will travel to your home or visit hers! Highly discreet and understanding! Harrisburg area--Donna Opuszynski CMT AAS BA (610) 909-0097

OTHER

Fall Ball Tickets are now available online at www.tgat2.tv/tickets.html or you can purchase them at the Laptop Lounge from Angela Gardner. The event will be at the Clarion Parkridge Hotel in King of Prussia, PA.

Fantasia Fair has announced that there will be a number of scholarships



\$42.99

Special Deal for TransCentralPA!

For 2010, we have negotiated the above rate at the Red Roof Inn on Eisenhower Blvd (across from Liquid891). Call the hotel directly at (717) 939-1331 to reserve the room under the "TCPA" rate.



After Hours

at Stock's on Second

After Hours is now at Stock's on Second. Stock's offers the opportunity to mingle and socialize in a friendly atmosphere as well as an opportunity to dance to some great music. So for great conversation, friendship and more, please join us at Stock's on Second. There is no cover charge!

available for the 36th annual Fantasia Fair conference, which will take place in historic Provincetown, Massachusetts from October 17 through October 24, 2010. Visit their website at www.fantasiafair.org for details.

Trans-Summer Camp Parents have a new and welcome option this summer for their transgender or gender non-conforming child -- a weeklong, overnight summer camp called Camp Aranutiq (www.camparanutiq.org) Its organizers recently held a reception in the Boston area to introduce the program. In attendance were several new-age parents who, instead of rejecting their child's persistent gender non-conformity, are seeking ways to be understanding and helpful.

June LGBT Pride Month President Obama has officially declared June to be "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month" here in America – essentially a repeat of last year's proclamation. In fact, both are published on the whitehouse.gov website.

TransCentralPA

a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

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