



TransCentralPA Newsletter

Serving the Transgender Community of Central Pennsylvania since 1989

April 2009

WWW.TRASCENTRALPA.ORG

Volume 20, Issue 4

GROUP

Membership Cards. Liquid891 has asked Jeanine or Kristy to sign the back of everyone's membership card. Unfortunately the back of the cards are pre-laminated so we will have to do so with a Sharpie Pen. Please bring your card to the March meeting. Sorry for the inconvenience.

April Dinner We'll be meeting at Café Fresco (www.cafefresco.com) for our April pre-meeting dinner. on Saturday, Apr 4, at 5:30 pm. We'll sit down promptly at 6:00 pm. Menu items are priced between \$9 and \$30 with most salads, burgers and sandwiches around the \$10 range and entrees around the \$22 range. Café Fresco has always allowed us to do separate checks, too. Please RSVP if you plan to attend the dinner at info@transcentralpa.org.

April Meeting. Our next meeting will be Saturday, Apr 4, at 8:30 pm. Doors will open at approximately 8:00 pm for those needing to change. We will spend some time sharing with you all the positive feedback our group has received for hosting the Keystone Conference as well as breaking into our discussion groups. We'll also have some time to socialize and we'll have some cookies.

Please Renew Your Membership The 2009 Membership Application is available on our website. Only previous members may renew by filling out the form and mailing it to our address (below) along with a check or money order for \$35.

TransCentralPA
c/o MCC of the Spirit
2973 Jefferson Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110

March Meeting Stats: We had 11 people join us for dinner at Spice Restaurant in March and 18 people attended the group meeting! We had 2 people join for a total of 37 members.

Announcements

Red Roof Inn Discount! We have negotiated a special deal with the Red Roof Inn on Eisenhower Blvd (across from Liquid891). Please see the backside for more information and rates!

Need Brochures? We just received professional printed brochures for the group to hand out at community events, speak-

ing engagements, visitors, guests and others that are interested in our group.

2009 Keystone Conference Stats Thanks again to all those who helped make our first conference a huge success! Please see Jeanine's message on the back. We had over 140 people in attendance over the three days, with attendees as young as 6 and as old as....well, much, much older than 6! Be very proud!

Going out Saturday, April 11th? If the Keystone Conference did anything, it put our little group and the city of Harrisburg on the Transgender-friendly map. Several attendees and non-attendees would like to come over for a visit and were hoping that several of us could meet up with them for dinner and clubbing. Let Kristy know if you would like to join them!

EVENTS

FemmeFever Gala Ball Apr 18, 8pm-12am has been compared to a prom like event. Visit www.femmefever.com for more information. Tickets are \$72 and sold in ADVANCE.

Ladies Night Out If you would like to join our friends in the Allentown/New Hope area for their monthly dinners on the 4th Saturday of the month, contact Emily at emilyplatt@netcarrier.com

Liberty 2009 Conference from Apr 30-May 2 in Philadelphia, PA at the Philadelphia Airport Hilton. This fun-filled, 3-day event includes a dinner cruise as well as a Saturday Gala. For more information, visit www.transeventsusa.com

National Equality Rally, May 3 in Philadelphia. Join organizations, grassroots activists and straight allies from across the nation as we demonstrate at Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell—the site where the Gay Pioneers launched the movement with protests each Fourth of July from 1965 to 1969. Help show support of trans-inclusive hate crimes legislation and Employment Non-

Mark your Calendars!

Apr 4	TCPA Dinner at Café Fresco TCPA Group Meeting
Apr 18	Laptop Lounge , King of Prussia, PA
Apr 17 May 10	Hedwig & the Angry Inch at Open Stage in Harrisburg, PA
Apr 18	FemmeFever Gala Ball Long Island, NY
Apr 25	Ladies' Night Out Dinner New Hope, PA
Apr 25	Tran-Quility Support Group Baltimore, MD
Apr 25	Trans-Masculine Alliance, Baltimore, MD
Apr 30 May 2	Liberty Conference , Philadelphia, PA
May 3	National Equality Rally Philadelphia, PA
May 9	TCPA Dinner TCPA Group Meeting
Jun 11	Trans-Health Conference Philadelphia, PA

Visit www.TransCentralPA.org
for more event info!

Starting in May, our meeting night is moved to the second Saturday of the month (May 9th)

Discrimination Act (ENDA). Visit www.nationalequalityrally.com

Philadelphia TransHealth Conference
Jun 11-13, 2009. For more information, visit www.Trans-health.org

2009 Beauty at the Beach Nov 4-8. in Rehoboth Beach, DE. Prices for double occupancy start at \$580 for Thursday to Sunday. Visit www.cdspub.com/batb.html for more info and details.

LOCAL

Hedwig and the Angry Inch is coming to Open Stage in Harrisburg, April 17 – May 10. The Center/Common Roads is organizing a benefit and have asked for TransCentralPA's participation. More details to follow, but if you would like to participate/volunteer to help, let Jeanine know. Here is the plot of Hedwig and the Angry Inch:

Hedwig, born a boy named Hansel in East Berlin, fell in love with an American G.I. and underwent a sex-change operation in order to marry him and flee to the West. Unfortunately, nothing worked out quite as it was supposed to....It's a rocking ride--funny, touching, and ultimately inspiring to anyone who has felt life gave them an inch when they deserved a mile.

TransFaith Online announces new spirituality track and Interfaith Trans-Clergy Roundtable to be held at Philadelphia TransHealth Conference (June 11-13) www.transfaithonline.org/transhealth/.

HB 300 Update There is no Pennsylvania law preventing discrimination in employment, housing, or accommodations because of a person's sexual orientation or gender identity or expression. If you are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender, you can be fired from your job, refused service, or denied housing without any recourse under PA law. The good news is Pennsylvania took the first steps toward making that discrimination illegal. HB 300, legislation prohibiting discrimination on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity or expression in housing, employment, and public accommodations passed the State Government Committee in the PA House of Representatives on March 11. Current Pennsylvania law provides basic legal protection against discrimination on the bases of race, color, religion, ancestry, age, national origin, handicap or disability, education and the use of a guide dog. HB 300 offers the same anti-discrimination protections to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people that are offered to other Pennsylvanians. Governor Rendell will likely sign anti-discrimination legislation if it reaches his desk, and we believe a majority of the Senate and House will vote to pass it. We just need to get leadership to schedule a vote.

Equality Advocates Pennsylvania is asking people to sign an e-petition to House and Senate Leadership asking them to schedule votes on this vital legislation as soon as possible at the following link: <http://eqfed.org/ct/kp2H4hp1DRCD/>

OTHER

The Anti-Violence Project of Massachusetts is conducting a poll to develop more effective law enforcement and prevention strategies for combating anti-transgender hate crimes. Please complete the questionnaire if you were the transgender victim of an assault and battery and you perceived that bias related to gender identity or expression was a contributing factor.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=IACDT0aZzL6SLF05P0y_2bQA_3d_3d

From the President



Jeanine Ruhsam

Wow!! We did it!

TransCentralPA's *Keystone Conference 2009* was a resounding, wonderful success! I want to thank each and every one of you who helped, participated and attended. We made some history, and did a really good thing that meant a lot to many people.

As Mara Keisling, director of NCTE (National Center for Transgender Equality) stated in her address at the Saturday event luncheon, "I never thought that I'd be addressing a transgender conference here in my home city of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania...we've come a long way".

Donna Rose took that thought even further in her speech at dinner, when she praised us all for stepping out to make a difference in taking a chance and making the effort to DO THIS.

And, we did, all of us, with love and pride. We all took another step to further the cause and purpose of transgender people in central Pennsylvania ...in all of Pennsylvania ...in the United States of America ...and, thus, in the world. Here, at home in Harrisburg, with love and joy- we made a difference.

Warm wishes,

Jeanine

TransCentral PA

c/o MCC of the Spirit
2973 Jefferson Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110
(717) 236-7387

Website: www.TransCentralPA.org
Email: info@transcentralpa.org

Special Deal for Members & Guests!



	Standard Room	All-inclusive Business
Jan — Apr	\$39.99	\$49.99
May — Aug	\$49.99	\$59.99
Sep — Dec	\$39.99	\$49.99

We have negotiated the above rates at the Red Roof Inn on Eisenhower Blvd (across from Liquid891) on our meeting nights only. You must call the hotel directly at (717) 939-1331 to reserve the room under the "TransCentralPA Group" rate.