



TransCentralPA Newsletter

Serving the Transgender Community of Central Pennsylvania since 1989

November 2011

WWW.TRANSCENTRALPA.ORG

Volume 22, Issue 9

Announcements

NO DINNER, MEETING OR AFTER HOURS for NOVEMBER! Come join us at the [Fall Achievement Benefit](#) this Saturday instead!

December's Dinner will be at Stock's on Second on Saturday, Dec 10 8 at 5:30p. We'll sit down promptly at 6:00 pm. Please RSVP if you plan to attend at info@transcentralpa.org.

December's Meeting is Saturday, Oct 8 at 8:30 pm. Doors will open at approximately 8:00 pm for those needing to change.

After Hours is at Stock's on 2nd Stock's (www.stocksonsecond.com). 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!

November Birthdays! Please say Happy Birthday to Ellen Da., Lorri Gr., Jennifer McC., Penelope Ro., Becky Wi., Colleen La., Cami Lo., and Patti Kn. Happy Birthday!

2012 Officer Nominations opened on October 8th. The nomination window for 2012 Officers closes at our Dec 10th meeting prior to voting. If you are interested in volunteering or have a nomination, please contact our interim Secretary Kristy Snow at our email address:

info@transcentralpa.org.

TGDOR (Transgender Day of Remembrance) is Sunday, Nov 20th on the steps of the Pennsylvania State Capitol Building. We are hoping the entire trans community and its supporters will attend and participate in this event. Please see page 6 for details.

Transgender Day of Remembrance



Candlelight Vigil

3rd Street (front) Steps of the Pennsylvania Capitol Building

Sunday, November 20th

4:30 - 6:00 pm

See page 6 for more information...

2012 Membership dues are a one-time annual fee of \$25. 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!

2012 Keystone Conference website is now up at:

www.Keystone-Conference.org.

We are now soliciting workshop proposals, vendors, advertisers and our much appreciated sponsors! The Harrisburg-Hershey Sheraton Hotel has extended us their low rate of \$99/night for the 4th year in a row (restrictions apply). As we finalize the details of the conference, we'll post additional information on the website. Please take a moment to visit the website and mark your calendars for March 28th-31st, 2012!

Delaware Renaissance has a new website up at www.DelRen.org.



Even though we have no regular monthly meeting this month, TransCentralPA's schedule is more full than ever!

Over thirty of us are planning to attend **FAB** (Fall Achievement Benefit, a gala event and fundraiser put on by the Central PA LGBT Center) at the Lancaster Convention Center on Saturday night, November 12. It will serve as our holiday party, and is the largest festive gathering of LGBT people in the area- if not the state! It is not too late to sign up, so please go to <http://www.transcentralpa.org/fab.htm> for information and to register.

The National Transgender Day of Remembrance is Sunday, November 20. TransCentralPA, in conjunction with the Equality PA, the LGBT Center of Central PA, the National Resource Center for Domestic Violence, the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape and Silent Witness will be holding a twilight ceremony on the front steps (facing 3rd Street & the river) of the Capitol of the State of Pennsylvania starting at 4:30PM. We shall honor & mourn those Transgender people who have lost their lives as a direct result of expressing their gender variance, and we will celebrate the lives and spirits of us who carry the light of this life onward on this amazing journey. Please plan to attend; no reservations are needed. The ceremony will be held no matter what weather conditions. Please come if you are able. Many of us plan to gather at a nearby restaurant following the ceremony.

Please note that we'll be holding our annual officer elections following introductions and announcements at the beginning of our December 10 meeting. If any dedicated and qualified member is interested in serving in any the four positions, please contact me for more information and to discuss your service.

With warm wishes,

Jeanine Ruhsam

From the President



Jeanine Ruhsam

Calendar of Events

Bold text are TransCentralPA sponsored

Nov 6	TransParent Day Holiday
Nov 11	Common Roads —LGBTQA Youth Harrisburg, PA
Nov 12	No TCPA Dinner or Meeting Come joins us at FAB!
Nov 12	Fall Achievement Benefit Lancaster, PA
Nov 13	Lake Erie Gala Erie, PA
Nov 15	TransEquality Gala Washington DC
Nov 17	The Curve —LGBTQA Youth York, PA
Nov 18	Common Roads —LGBTQA Youth Harrisburg, PA
Nov 19	Laptop Lounge King of Prussia, PA
Nov 20	Transgender Day of Remembrance Harrisburg, PA
Nov 24	Happy Thanksgiving!! United States
Nov 25	Common Roads —LGBTQA Youth Harrisburg, PA
Nov 26	Tranquility Support Baltimore, MD
Dec 1	The Curve —LGBTQA Youth York, PA
Dec 2	Common Roads —LGBTQA Youth Harrisburg, PA
Dec 3	TGEA Meeting Arlington, VA
Dec 10	TCPA Dinner @ Stock's on Second TCPA Meeting After Hours @ Stock's
Jan 14	TCPA Dinner TCPA Meeting After Hours @ Stock's
Jan 25	Nat'l Conference on LGBT Equality Baltimore, MD



Saturday, November 12th
at the Lancaster County Convention Center & Marriott at Penn Square.

Tickets are on sale now.
 Visit www.FallAchievementBenefit.com



Come join us for worship and friendship!

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

www.MCCoftheSpirit.org

Visit www.TransCentralPA.org for details & more event info!



We Need Your Help!

Trans people and loved ones:

Your voice makes a difference.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/trans-barriers>

By taking this survey, you will improve the way mainstream providers work with trans+ people and loved ones. This survey has been approved by the Morehouse School of Medicine Institutional Review Board.

For more information about the survey and project, go to: <http://forge-forward.org/wp-content/docs/trans-barriers-survey-coverletter.pdf> (You can also download a postcard to share with your friends and groups at: <http://forge-forward.org/wp-content/docs/trans-survey-postcard.pdf>)

P.S. -- Please encourage your friends, partner(s), loved ones, and allies to take this survey, too.

Therapists & Sexual Assault Providers:

Your experience makes a difference.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/trans-training-needs>

Answering this survey will help FORGE develop more effective training and technical assistance strategies for DV/SA agencies to better serve transgender survivors. This survey has been approved by the Morehouse School of Medicine Institutional Review Board.

Encourage EVERYONE in your agency to take the survey. All voices are valuable and welcomed.

For more information about the survey and project, go to: <http://forge-forward.org/wp-content/docs/SA-agencies-survey-coverletter.pdf> (You can also download a postcard to share with your colleagues at: <http://forge-forward.org/wp-content/docs/agency-survey-postcard.pdf>)

P.S. – Please forward this email to your colleagues (in your city or anywhere in the United States).

LGBT Veterans Day Observance

Thursday, November 10

We are asking and we are telling!

The Central PA LGBT Aging Network (CPLAN) will be honoring LGBT veterans at the Capitol on November 10. Ted Martin, Executive Director of Equality PA, will speak about the history of Don't Ask, Don't Tell, and how the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) conflicts with housing and other veterans' benefits.

In addition, Esteban Diaz, Danni Finnegan, and Jene Newsome will share their stories of military service. Attendees will be encouraged to make legislative visits to advocate for fair and equal treatment of all veterans. After the ceremony, the assembled group will proceed to Strawberry Square for lunch. (Lunch is at the participants' own expense.)

WHEN: Thursday, November 10, 11:00-noon

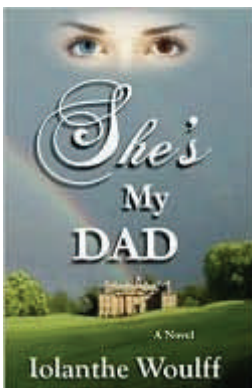
WHERE: Soldier's Grove, behind the State Capitol Building and across from Commonwealth Avenue.

RAIN LOCATION: East Wing Rotunda

CPLAN is a program of the LGBT Community Center Coalition of Central PA.



“She’s My Dad” by Iolanthe Woulff Book Review



Love and Redemption Triumph Over Evil and Hatred, August 26, 2011

By Thom Bettinger (Palm Springs, CA)

“Most of my prior reading relating to transsexual and transgender issues has been of an academic/scholarly nature, or first person accounts; so the prospect of a novel about a transsexual woman returning to her alma mater several decades after having unknowingly fathered a son sounded interesting. Interesting, it turns out, is a HUGE understatement! I could barely put this engaging book down--and what I had planned for a leisurely weekend read turned out to be an almost non-stop read in one afternoon!”

“Ms Woulff’s richly drawn characters and gripping, intertwined subplots both elucidate and subject the reader to a whole range of emotions--hatred, fear, sadness, contempt, but throughout-- and ultimately--love. One needn’t be a member of the LGBT community to be inspired by this book. Indeed, only the most jaded among us would fail to see--and grow by--the valuable lessons it offers.”



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. If you would like to submit a story, please email us at info@TransCentral.org

- [\[News/People\] \[IL, USA\] A Tale of Two Genders: Transitions caters 'gender non-conforming' community members](#)
- [\[News\] \[USA\] IRS Will Not Fight Sex Change Deductions - O'Donnabhain Case – Gender Ideology and Tax Policy](#)
- [\[News/Books\] \[USA\] Review - Gender Outlaws: The Next Generation by Kate Bornstein and S. Bear Bergman](#)
- [\[News/People/Medicine\] \[IL, USA\] Surgeon Expects to Benefit from Advances in Gender Change Research](#)
- [\[News/People/Sports\] \[USA\] Transgender Triathlete Chris Mosier on Transition and Inclusivity in Sports](#)
- [\[News/People/Sports\] \[CA, USA\] Transgender bodybuilder Chris Tina Bruce enters first competition](#)
- [\[Blog/Commentary\] \[USA\] Transgender Health Care: 10 Simple Rules for Providers to Consider](#)
- [\[News/People/Television\] \[USA\] Transgender Actress Jamie Clayton Appears on The Insider](#)
- [\[Blog/Commentary\] \[USA\] Kelly Osbourne Slams Ex For Dating “Tranny.” Bad Form, Missy](#)
- [\[News/People/Television\] \[USA\] Hung’s Transgender Actress Just Wants Respect](#)
- [\[News\] \[KS, USA\] USD 501 considers adding rules against transgender discrimination](#)
- [\[News\] \[Croatia\] Road to new ID documents eased for transgender Croatians](#)
- [\[Commentary\] \[USA\] Do Americans prefer transgender people to gay people?](#)
- [\[News/Television\] \[UK\] My Transexual Summer: Britain's First Transgender Rabbi](#)
- [\[Letters to the Editor\] \[PA, USA\] Letter: Legislation not needed in borough](#)
- [\[News\] \[DC, USA\] Plea Deal Likely for Cop Who Shot At Transgender Women](#)
- [\[Commentary\] \[Australia\] Eugenics and the practice of transgendering children](#)
- [\[News\] \[MN, USA\] Trial begins for Blaine man accused in transgender killing](#)
- [\[Commentary\] \[USA\] Male Girl Scouts and Other Gender Non-Conformists](#)
- [\[News/Science\] \[France\] Why Some Birds of Prey Become Transvestites](#)
- [\[News\] \[WV, USA\] West Virginia considering LGBT-inclusive anti-bully](#)
- [\[News/Arts\] \[PA, USA\] Transgender Exhibit to Open in Philadelphia](#)
- [\[News\] \[MI, USA\] Detroit police search for missing transgender man](#)
- [\[News\] \[Canada\] Camosun students bring gender identity to the fore](#)
- [\[News\] \[Poland\] Poland's first transsexual and gay MPs to be sworn in](#)
- [\[News\] \[IA, USA\] LGBT students to stress awareness during TransWeek](#)
- [\[News\] \[MD, USA\] Howard County Introduces Gender Identity Protection](#)
- [\[News/Sports\] \[International\] Jock Talk: Speaking up for intersex inclusion](#)
- [\[News\] \[PA, USA\] LGBT amendment defeated in worker-database bill](#)
- [\[News/People\] \[USA\] Journey to manhood: a former ‘transsexual](#)
- [\[News\] \[MI, USA\] Universitywide preferred name policy bill passed](#)
- [\[News\] \[Argentina\] Gender Identity Law bill moves forward](#)
- [\[News/People/Television\] \[USA\] Chaz returns to OWN](#)
- [\[News\] \[USA\] IRS Rules in Favor of Trans Deductions](#)
- [\[News\] \[IA, USA\] UI plans TransWeek activities](#)
- [\[Commentary\] \[VA, USA\] Equality in housing](#)
- [\[News\] \[USA\] ‘Perform or provide’](#)

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA
GAY AND LESBIAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Fifth Anniversary Annual Meeting & Dinner

In 2012, the Chamber will be celebrating its fifth year of supporting the LGBT and Allied business community. Their Annual Meeting & Dinner will be held on Saturday, January 21, 2012 at the newly renovated Best Western Premier.

The celebration will begin with a reception followed by dinner and the Annual Meeting, with keynote speaker John J. "SKI" Sygielski, President of the Harrisburg Area Community College. Wrapping up will be the After Party, with comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer.

You and your business can be a part of this celebration by sponsoring this event and helping to advance the mission of the Chamber. To see what sponsorship opportunities are available, contact [Seth Hamill](#).



For immediate release

PRESS CONFERENCE

Date: September 26, 2011

Location: WPATH Conference



Revised "Standards of Care" for transgender, transsexual and other gender variant individuals to be released September 25th, 2011

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (September 25, 2011)-The World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) will release a newly-revised edition of the Standards of Care for the Health of Transsexual, Transgender, and Gender Nonconforming People, on September 25, 2011 at the WPATH conference in Atlanta.

The SOC is considered the standard document of reference on caring for the transsexual, transgender, and gender nonconforming population. The newly-revised SOC will help health professionals better understand how they can offer the most effective care to these individuals. The SOC focuses on primary care, gynecologic and urologic care, reproductive options, voice and communication therapy, mental health services and hormonal and surgical treatment.

"The latest 2011 revisions to the SOC realize that transgender, transsexual, and gender nonconforming people have unique health care needs to promote their overall health and well-being, and that those needs extend beyond hormonal treatment and surgical intervention," said SOC Committee Chair, Eli Coleman, PhD, Professor and Director at Program in Human Sexuality, University of Minnesota.

This is the seventh version of the Standards of Care. The original SOC were published in 1979. Previous revisions occurred in 1980, 1981, 1990, 1998 and 2001.

"The previous versions of the SOC were always perceived to be about the things that a trans person must do to satisfy clinicians, this version is much more clearly about every aspect of what clinicians ought to do in order to properly serve their clients. That is a truly radical reversal . . . one that serves both parties very well," said Christine Burns, SOC International Advisory Committee Member.

More than any other version, 2011 revisions also recognize that gender nonconformity in and of itself is not a disorder and that many people live comfortable lives without having to seek therapy or medical interventions for gender confusion or unhappiness.

This version provides more detailed clinical guidelines to address the health care needs of children, adolescents, and adults with gender dysphoria who need assistance with psychological, hormonal, or surgical care.

In addition to clearly articulating the collaborative relationship needed between transsexual, transgender, and gender nonconforming individuals and health care providers, the new, 2011 revisions provide for new ways of thinking about how cultural relativity and culture competence.

The document includes a call to advocacy for professionals to promote public policies and legal reforms that promote tolerance and equity for gender and sexual diversity. This document recognizes that well-being is not obtained through quality health care alone but a social climate that eliminates of prejudice, discrimination, and stigma and promotes a positive and tolerant society that embraces sexual and gender diversity.

The World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH), formerly known as the (Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association, HBGDA), is a professional organization devoted to the understanding and treatment of gender identity disorders. As an international multidisciplinary professional Association the mission of WPATH is to promote evidence based care, education, research, advocacy, public policy and respect in transgender health.

Please visit the WPATH website to download a copy of the Standards of Care, version 7

WPATH
1300 South Second Street, Suite 180
Minneapolis, MN 55454 USA
Reply to: wpath@wpath.org

www.WPATH.org

Transgender Day of Remembrance Candlelight Vigil

3rd Street (front) Steps of the
Pennsylvania Capitol Building
Sunday, November 20th
4:30 - 6:00 pm

Come join us at the steps of the Pennsylvania Capitol Building for a candlelight event to memorialize those who were killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice. The event is held in November to honor Rita Hester, whose murder on November 28th, 1998 kicked off the "Remembering Our Dead" web project and a San Francisco candlelight vigil in 1999. Rita Hester's murder — like most anti-transgender murder cases — has yet to be solved.

Although not every person represented during the Day of Remembrance self-identified as transgender — that is, as a transsexual, cross-dresser, or otherwise gender-variant — each was a victim of violence based on bias against transgender people.

We live in times more sensitive than ever to hatred based violence, especially since the events of September 11th. Yet even now, the deaths of those based on anti-transgender hatred or prejudice are largely ignored. Over the last decade, more than one person per month has died due to transgender-based hate or prejudice, regardless of any other factors in their lives. This trend shows no sign of abating.

The Transgender Day of Remembrance serves several purposes. It raises public awareness of hate crimes against transgender people, an action that current media doesn't perform. Day of Remembrance publicly mourns and honors the lives of our brothers and sisters who might otherwise be forgotten. Through the vigil, we express love and respect for our people in the face of national indifference and hatred. Day of Remembrance reminds non-transgender people that we are their sons, daughters, parents, friends and lovers. Day of Remembrance gives our allies a chance to step forward with us and stand in vigil, memorializing those of us who've died by anti-transgender violence.



Eighth Anniversary Awards Ceremony

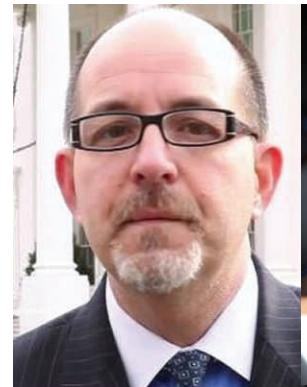
Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

State Ballroom, [The Mayflower Renaissance Hotel](#)
1127 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036.

Please join NCTE in celebrating the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. **HUD Secretary Donovan will make history as the first Cabinet Secretary to attend and keynote a transgender function.** NCTE is proud to recognize HUD for advancing the fair and equal treatment of transgender people in housing programs.



Secretary Donovan



Bond Brian



Donna Cartwright

The event will also honor former White House official Brian Bond with the Distinguished Ally Award, and founding NCTE board member Donna Cartwright with the Julie Johnson Lifetime Achievement Award.

Light hors d'oeuvres (with vegan and vegetarian options) will be served.

www.TransEquality.org



TransCentralPA

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

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