

Celebrating 50th Issue and 25 Years !



Lambda Archives of San Diego

Formerly Lesbian and Gay Historical Society of San Diego

Collecting, Preserving, and Teaching LGBT History

Summer 2012

Pride Edition

www.lambdaarchives.org

Newsletter
Issue 50

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... and more

*Thank you to the
donors of materials
and labor for
making production
of this newsletter
possible.*

At 25, Lambda Archives Comes Out, Moves, and Finds A Partner!



Pride volunteers join Lambda Archives in preparing for move.

Lambda Comes Out

At 25 years old, Lambda Archives of San Diego has “come out of the closet” as we finally feel safe enough to publish the physical address - **4545 Park Blvd., Suite 104** - there; we’ve said it! Indeed, times have changed and we no longer feel it necessary to hide as we did for much of the last 25 years. Of course, we will continue to take all necessary steps to safeguard your valuable resources; we take very seriously our role as the guardians of your contributions and history.

We are so pleased that we will have our first-ever dedicated exhibit space within our

own premises. We will finally be able to display many of the wonderful artifacts we have been safeguarding over the years. Please be sure to come and visit us on August 5, 3pm–6pm. Your history is on display!

Moves

We didn’t need to move far to accomplish this, but what a huge difference. LASD still has the same landlord (**Diversionsary Theatre**), but is now a bottom! Bottom floor, that is! We have taken over the bottom floor of the Diversionsary Theatre holdings. This move, from our ~850 square feet of leasehold on two floors, consolidates us into ~2400 square feet in one glorious contiguous space.

It took a lot of vision and labor, but we’ve done it. It couldn’t have happened without the vision of the Board and our friends, Architect **Keoni Rosa** and Designer **Michael Metzger**, Construction Leader **Sergio Vilasenor**, and numerous volunteers from **San Diego State University**, **San Diego Labor Council**, and **Pride**. Thank you, Lorena Gonzalez, Daniel/IBEW, Cheli Mohammed/Pride and numerous volunteers for your exceptional support and allowing us to complete renovations and move on a close to zero budget!

See “Partner” on page 3

Lambda Archives Open House

4545 Park Blvd., # 104

San Diego, CA 92116

August 5, 3:00pm –6:00 pm

Celebrate with us as we open our doors to all our friends and neighbors. See our inaugural exhibit and hear our plans for the future.

Light refreshments; no cost.

Please RSVP to www.lambdaarchives.org or 619.260.1522.

25th Anniversary Gala

at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego

September 7, 6:00pm –10:00 pm

Celebrating our Pioneering Community Organizations
and
The End of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”

Creative Formal Attire/Uniforms Welcome

Ticket Info: www.lambdaarchives.org

President's Message



Maureen Steiner

Greetings. This is my first opportunity as your new President to write to you in our newsletter. I am lucky to be included here, our 50th edition. I feel I should say something momentous! Then I realized how much of our communication is now “of the moment” – so non-permanent and even non-tangible. It made me think of the importance of the Lambda Archives and similar institutions.

An archival facility is the keeper of material history. Here, the past is tangible. It is real. It tells a story that goes beyond a tweet or an email; beyond the fleeting and ephemeral mindset of today. It seems to me that we will only become more important, not less, in “the digital age.”

For example, the California FAIR Act, requires the fair, accurate, inclusive, and respectful representation of LGBT persons in our public schools. In order to develop appropriate curricula, educators will come to places such as LASD, ONE in Los Angeles, and the LGBT History Center in San Francisco to learn about LGBT peoples. These are the facilities where

researchers will learn about the people, the historical context, and the internal thinking of the groups and organizations that have been instrumental in the changes we record as “history.” This is how meaningful curriculum will be developed; a curriculum that will not only teach headlines and milestones, but will go beyond rote memorization to encourage real and critical thinking.

Most importantly, archival material will allow the FAIR Act to accomplish its most important purpose: to give young persons the opportunity to develop respect for differences and accept positive images of gayness. This will help improve wellness and most likely even save lives.

This is the invaluable contribution Lambda Archives of San Diego makes to all. This community and its members have helped bring this about by making donations, both financial and of personal collections. Please continue to do so and to include Lambda Archives in your estate planning. In addition to your collections and papers, we want something else: your body! Seriously, we would love to have you come and visit us.

Use your Archives, perhaps volunteer, use the library, and definitely learn new things! Meet new folks or reminisce with old friends. We are here because of you and for you. Please come visit; you might make a memory that lasts!

Yours in Solidarity,
Maureen

In Memoriam

Michael Portantino, 1958 - 2010, publisher, *Gay and Lesbian Times*, *Uptown News*, and others.

Michael was a huge part of the San Diego LGBT community for very many years. Through his publications, he became a very vocal and influential spokesman for us. We thank him for all he did to put LGBT issues “on the map” in San Diego and beyond. Michael’s archives and those of his publications have become a part of LASD. We have amassed his many photos and an entire run of his publication, *GLT*, in our archives. We have guaranteed *GLT*’s continued influence by sharing complete sets with three other archival institutions in California. In addition, the office furniture and supplies of *GLT* have become the backbone of our new LASD offices.

Dr. Joseph Columbo, 1954 - 2012, Professor of Theology and Religious Studies, University of San Diego

Joe, according to the University Of San Diego “*Inside USD*” website, “was an advocate for creating a welcoming and respectful campus environment for all students, including a strong commitment to gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgendered students. He helped establish LGBT organizations for undergraduates (SAESO, now PRIDE) and law students (BGLLSA, now PRIDE LAW) at USD.” Joe did not shy away from his identity as a gay man, no matter where and when. He always brought dignity and honor to the community at large, as well as a much need awareness and respect for LGBT issues within the Catholic university he taught at for 27 years.

Charles McKain, 1947 - 2012, Attorney and Community Political Activist

Charlie, native San Diegan and lifelong Democrat, partner to Bob McWilliams for 36 years, and key to district elections in San Diego, passed away in March. Prior to Charlie’s important input that helped push San Diego from “at-large” (city-wide) to district elections, San Diego had only two openly gay candidates, Al Best and Neil Good. Neither was elected. Charlie, through his deep study and knowledge of San Diego’s population and boundaries, was instrumental in crafting the first LGBT-friendly electoral district in the City of San Diego. This led to the election of San Diego’s first openly LGBT elected official, Christine Kehoe. In 2008, the City of San Diego recognized Charlie’s profound influence by recognizing July 8, 2008 as “Charles McKain Day.” Charlie and Bob were legally married in June of 2008.

Yours in the Struggle ... the Archives 25 years later.

Celebrating 25 years - the silver anniversary - is a tremendously significant milestone. *Silver is the metal most noted for the twenty-fifth anniversary due to its radiance and brilliance.* Lambda Archives of San Diego has indeed been a radiant and brilliant presence in San Diego's LGBT community for a quarter of a century, steadily and steadfastly fulfilling a role as the ambassador, teacher, and preservationist for our community's history.

We have such a sense of gratitude toward our "founding father" Jess Jessop, a true visionary who had the foresight to begin accumulating gay materials in 1970. He stored the first "collections" in his apartment, and had the thoughtfulness of planning to ensure that the Archives' work would continue well beyond his death. He is quoted in a San Diego Union article, "I want to live long enough to get this agency established. But it will not die just because I die." And, "if you don't document what's happening, it might not be remembered." (5/21/1989) Jessop set the stage for our history to be remembered and preserved.

I had the privilege of knowing Jess Jessop, albeit briefly, before his untimely death in 1990. While Jess had an innate sense of what the Archives could become, today I think he would discover that it went beyond his wildest imagination. It truly is his great legacy!

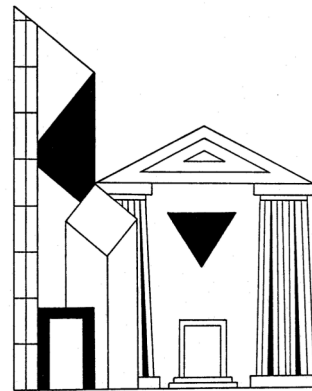
Created in 1987 as the Lesbian and Gay Archives of San Diego, the formative work was done by a small core of dedicated people (recruited, influenced, and directed by Jess). They sought to establish the Archives' goals, guidelines for methods of preservation, organizational procedures, and plans for soliciting materials and funding. Some of these

core people became board members, some continued as committed volunteers for ongoing work and/or special events, and some have been longtime donors who are dedicated to supporting this important organization. (Through our history, many of these core people have continued to uphold the work of the Archives.)

Well before the 10th anniversary, in 1993 under the guidance of the late Bruce Kamerling, - longtime curator at the San Diego Historical Society - the name was changed to Lesbian and Gay Historical Society, to more accurately reflect the Archives' expanding efforts in education, exhibits, and outreach. In 2003, after extensive discussion and deliberation, we adopted the current name Lambda Archives of San

Diego so our name would more accurately embrace our community's diversity.

The longstanding mission of the Archives is **to preserve and teach**. While a focus of our efforts goes toward the preservation of the artifacts, documents, and miscellaneous paraphernalia that comprise



Early Logo by Tim Grummon

our collections, we have also given attention through the years to outreach and education within and outside the

See "Struggles," page 7



It's always good to have strong friends!

Continued from page 1

Finds A Partner

Brand new **Executive Director of Pride San Diego, Dwayne Crenshaw** has made a proposal we couldn't refuse! We are now "**Partners with Pride**" under a new program developed by Pride. We don't want anyone to think we have abandoned our previous suitors - we are forever grateful to **Imperial Court de San Diego** for its support - and we will never be completely "monogamous." But, for now, we have accepted Pride's proposal to be partners and create "The Footsteps of Pride." Look for it at this year's Pride Festival (July 21-22).

Love Affair

We hope you will start a love affair with LASD that will never end. We are here for **you; it is your** history and **your** artifacts, **your** stories; we are only curators, but cannot exist without **your** support. Please fall in love with us!

Before



It all fits; just don't breathe too hard!



Meeting was possible in the old space — a little crowded, but possible.



During ...



Thank goodness for Girrrl Power!

Moving



Moving collections into a new space; a space with room to breathe ... and play!

Almost There...



With Your Help, We Can Make This Vision Happen.



LAMBDA ARCHIVES EXHIBIT ROOM

What we need an Angel to do:

- Find a handyperson for all the little details
- Finish/Purchase our Countertop
- Finish our Media Corner
- Purchase Exhibit Supplies and Picture Railings
- Purchase Window Coverings
- Replace the dying A/C Unit!

Please talk to any Board Member if you can help.



Archivist
Kelly Revak



Archiving 101: Collections v. Donations

Every time something comes into LASD, there has to be a decision on how to treat the item(s). Is it a historically relevant collection of materials which must be kept together, or is it a more general donation to the Archives various holdings? Here is a primer on the difference between an archival "collection" and a "donation."

Archival Collection

A collection is a distinct group of artifacts reflecting the history and identity of a group, individual, or organization. Usually the items have historical relevance tied to the person or group who donated it; therefore the items are kept together to preserve the distinct collection. Examples include meeting notes and records of organizations, personal items of historical relevance from community members, a collection of books and manuscripts by

local LGBT authors. Photos, audio-visual recordings, artwork and other materials created by or about the donor will always be treated as a collection. Anytime a collection comes into the archives LASD, works with the donor(s) to gather the important contextual information regarding the materials including: where and when they came from and what ties them together.

Archival Donation

A donation is an item or items that do not fit into a person, organization or other entity-based collection, though they have significance to our mission and the greater LGBT history of the San Diego. When we receive such items, they are catalogued and added to the appropriate area of LASD, though they are not always kept together. We will record how they were acquired, from whom, and when. For example, someone might bring in a box of books, a handful of fliers collected on a single day around town, or some political signs or t-shirts.



Non-archival Donations

We are grateful to receive archival collections and donations as well as additional materials that we can use in fulfilling all three parts of our mission — collection, preservation, and education.

We need special archival boxes and other expensive supplies for the safe-keeping of materials. Each box alone costs about \$20. Other needs include special software and expensive scanners to preserve photo images and make them available for research and display.

We are extremely frugal and have become great scavengers in the last year. We equipped our workspace with desks and tables inherited from the offices of the GLT and a retiring architect.

We have had invaluable volunteered labor and support from Unions and students. It is all part of our success and our ability to serve you. Please come and see how you can participate and donate.

Pablo Ben

Pablo Ben teaches history at SDSU and is currently writing a book on the history of sexuality and the formation of modern homosexual identity in Buenos Aires between 1880 and 1955.

Professor Ben was born in Argentina where he grew up and studied anthropology at the University of Buenos Aires. He later moved to the U.S. and studied Latin American history at the University of Chicago.

After a few years teaching at the University of Northern Iowa, Professor Ben moved to San Diego around a year ago. He soon found out about our archive and offered to work as a volunteer. Now he is helping to gather and curate a collection of documents from the San Diego LGBT Pride movement over the last four decades.



Struggles, Continued from Page 3

LGBT community. It has been impressive that we have hosted many non-gay groups from high schools, universities, and other organizations who clearly are interested in learning about LGBT history. **Only through knowledge can we end discrimination.**

Throughout the years, we have seen substantial growth and change in the community which has altered the Archives. Beginning in the early 2000s, the volunteer base began expanding exponentially and included more students who have brought new energy and contributed fresh ideas. This helped us branch out in new directions. With their technical savvy, younger generations have been instrumental in bringing us into the 21st century. Thanks to them, we have digitally documented many photographs, videos, documents, and other materials to make them available online. Their eagerness and hard work have been invaluable in preparing landmark displays such as those at Pride and City Hall.

As one who has been associated with the Archives since its second year, I fondly and proudly recall the history that has been made during our quarter-century, not only in the San Diego LGBT community but within the Archives as well. We have been a model for other LGBT archival organizations and have

participated in archivist conventions, sharing ideas and acquiring information to keep moving forward in preservation practices. For years, we had an annual presence in the San Diego Main Library, reaching a wider audience with our month-long displays and exhibits during Pride and LGBT History Month.

We stand on the shoulders of those who came before us. The Archives has grown and continued to succeed under the guidance of these individuals who served as President throughout the years: Debbie Zeyher, Bruce Kamerling, Sharon Parker, Doug Moore, Frank Nobiletti, and currently Maureen Steiner. There are countless other people, too many to list here, but we are extremely grateful for their contributions and un-failing support.

Yes, it is timely to reflect upon the simple beginnings. While at times the progress seemed to be made with baby steps, other accomplishments occurred with a great leap. From the rather clunky word processors/computers and microfiche records in a cramped room without windows, to our current internet-wired, multi-room facility, we have experienced immense success in expanding outreach and providing historical information. It is great knowing that someone across the nation can click on our site and learn about LGBT history. I am amazed in con-

sidering how much we have done from our small beginning.

Just as Jess usually signed his correspondence to individuals and community organizations with "Yours in the struggle" it is now **Ours in the struggle** ... we must accept the challenge, own it, and go forward with our efforts!

It is our pleasure to acknowledge the other community organizations that concurrently celebrate their 25th anniversary: San Diego Women's Chorus, Diver-sionary Theatre, Bourbon Street, and San Diego Gay Men's Chorus.

Congratulations!

"Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." - Henry Ford

It doesn't matter where you go in life, what you do ... it's who you have beside you.—Unattributed

By Sharon Parker, Past President



Logo by
Julie
Warren

Phyllis McGrath

Phyllis McGrath has been retired for some time from a succession of great career positions. She has served as an elementary school teacher, worked for the Assembly office of Susan Davis, and assisted a top design firm. Moreover, Phyllis



has dedicated time to improving the community by working for the League of Women Voters and C-3. Currently, her time is spent enjoying her six grandchildren and helping out Lambda Archives.

Lambda Archives is grateful to have Phyllis as the new Administrative Assistant in the office.

Gabriel Fontana

Gabriel is a Student Intern turned **Board Member** who is now responsible for coordinating student recruits! Gabriel is currently studying for a Masters Degree in Education and plans to earn a teaching credential. He hopes to stay in academia and nurture his interest in history.

Gabriel describes himself as "Friend of the Cause," who became interested in the LGBT movement because of the many parallels it has with the Civil Rights Movement.

Originally from San Bernardino, Gabriel enjoys basketball and rock climbing when he isn't studying or bartending.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Last year (2011) was one of exciting changes at the Archives, and the increased activity can be seen in the budget data below.

	2010	2011	2012 (projected)
Income	\$ 40,205	\$ 96,938	\$ 83,853
Expenses	\$ 35,732	\$ 86,790	\$ 74,006

Our move to expanded facilities on the ground floor of the Diversionary Theatre building has tripled our floor space and provided room for a research library and a public exhibit space. It has also tripled our rent and utilities, requiring an additional \$24,852 per year. Fortunately, some 20 of our members and donors responded to this need and made annual pledges for 3 years to help raise this amount until an increased membership base (that's you!) can support it. Approximately 75% of the required amount has been raised (additional pledges are most welcome).

The cost of remodeling the new space (about \$23,000) was covered by savings (\$11,141) set aside several years ago, and by a number of bequests, including a \$10,000 gift from the estate of Phil Flick, a \$3500 gift from the liquidation of the San Diego chapter of SAGE, and \$2861 from the sale of telephone gear inherited from the *Gay & Lesbian Times*.

In February 2011, we received a \$25,000 grant generously funded by the California Institute of Contemporary Art to begin the digitization of our vast photo collections. This work has gone very well, and the Institute awarded us a second \$25,000 grant in May of this year. These grants support only the digitization work and do not contribute to our general operating expenses. For that, we rely on members and donors like you.

Through the great generosity of Frank Stefano we have been able to purchase archival quality display cases for our new exhibit space. Our first Open House will be Sunday, August 5 from 3 to 6 PM. Please come and see the new facilities.

A very successful fundraiser, that netted about \$3000, was held in February at the Snooze restaurant. Our principal fundraiser for the year will be our 25th Anniversary Gala, Friday Sept 7, at 6 PM at the Officers Club at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot. We look forward to seeing all of you there.

By Mel Merrill

Membership at All-time High

We are excited to announce that our membership has grown to the highest it's ever been! We had a major boost following our 1st Annual Pajama Party at Snooze! If you don't want to miss the 2nd Annual, be sure to join now and to be sure to get your advance notice. And opportunity for discount pricing. We currently stand at 124 active memberships.

Through automatically recurring monthly payments via credit card, you can purchase a Sustaining Membership for just \$10 a month and a Sponsoring Membership for just \$20/month!

Levels and Benefits

Single (\$40 annually) and Family (\$60 annually) memberships include these benefits:

Receive our semi-annual newsletter,
Check out books from our extensive LGBT library,
Notification of Special Events and Exhibit Openings.

Sustaining Membership (Single or Family): \$125 annually or just \$10 per month

Receive our semi-annual newsletter,
Check out books from our extensive LGBT library,
Notification of Special Events and Exhibit

Openings,
Reduced prices to select LASD fundraising events.

Sponsoring Membership (Single or Family): \$250 annually or \$20 per month

Receive our semi-annual newsletter,
Check out books from our extensive LGBT library,
Notification of Special Events and Exhibit Openings,
Reduced prices to select LASD fundraising events,
Complimentary invitations to Members Only events.

Mel Merrill, Treasurer

Mel Merrill came to San Diego in 1960 out of graduate school and went to work for General Atomics designing nuclear reactors. In 1979, he sought and (after a government hearing) received a Secret level security clearance as an openly gay man.

Coming out around 1970, Mel first encountered the LGBT community through men's rap groups at the Center's original B Street site. Since then, he has been an adamant supporter and donor to the Center. In 1980, he joined with six other community members to buy the building that became the Center's second site on 30th Street.

Mel retired in 1986 to enjoy skiing, but has kept involved in the community. He has helped run the phone hotline for the San Diego AIDS Project and participated in the pioneering campaigns of openly gay candidates like Al Best (1979), Neil Good (1987) and Christie Kehoe (1993). The Center has two rooms named after Mel in appreciation of all he has done.

But it doesn't stop: he currently serves on the Allocation Committee for the HIV Funding Collaborative at the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation. He continues to volunteer and donate to political campaigns, the Victory Fund and the Servicemen's Legal Defense Network. Mel became the treasurer for LASD in 2011 - and somehow still maintains a great sense of humor; one of the best in San Diego!

Art, Therapy, and Religion - Significant Archives Collections

It is with gratitude that I said goodbye to the Archives where I began volunteering 16 years before. My partner, Sharon Parker, was Volunteer Coordinator at the time (now past-President) and the Archives brought us together. I consider all of you our matchmakers!

I have originated and developed the following three collections at Lambda Archives:

Psychotherapy: Theory and Practice

This collection starts with documentation of the bias that homosexuality is an illness - a carryover of that attitude years after it was removed from the official Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. Books were being published on Conversion Therapy, as if therapy trying to change a person's sexual orientation was a legitimate approach. Sixteen years later, the literature and books are all very affirmative, many written by out LGBT authors and therapists. It is a different world: mainstream.

I'm glad that this rapidly transitional period in my own professional field of psychotherapy has a measure of documentation at the Archives. My hope is that students and other researchers will not only make use of what is there, but will add more.

Religion

Religion: Judaism is the next collection. It includes theology,

e.g. commentaries on the "abomination" passage in the Bible, by gay and gay-friendly rabbis. It claims prominent Jewish San Diegans: e.g., Bonnie Dumanis. It also documents early LGBT groups in San Diego, like Yachad, and the lesbian group B'not Vashti. Now we have www.jproude.org, which meets at the Jewish Community Center and is also sponsored by The Center. United Jewish Federation is not listed as one of its sponsors on the website. I am waiting.

Queer Artists Project

Queer Artists Project (QAP) is very close to my heart. Such a project was first conceived by Bruce Kamerling, a prominent artist as well as the late president of the Lesbian and Gay Historical Society of San Diego, as we were known in 1995. Queer Artists Project was launched shortly before Pride in 1995. I was fortunate to confer with Bruce, who remained consultant to the project up until his death that October.

This specialized collection represents the voice of San Diego/Tijuana in the contemporary discourse on queer art and queer art history. Both emerging and established artists are in the collection and are welcome to participate in the future.

This project is not looking for a particular style, content, media, sensibility, or politics of art. It does not ask what gay art looks like, but rather how are San Diego/Tijuana artists looking at the world. The answers are as varied and unique as the individual artists. All of the participants, however, must join to

See "Collections, page 10

mentation and digitization standards.

Our new space gives us a new opportunity to really gain serious momentum on our digitization project. The greater work area and increased organization mean faster more efficient work, particularly important for our delicate photograph collection. Because of the fragile nature of film and photos, they are housed in a room within a room which is calibrated to a constant temperature. It is exciting to finally being in a position to move forward quickly with this important work.

Prioritizing collections for digitization was an important part of preparation. At the top of the list include the most fragile items. Consideration is also given to historic importance and relevance to our mission. We chose to focus on San Diego's first Gay Pride Parade, the first "Gay-in," LGBT community anti-Vietnam War demonstrations for initial completion.

To date, we have spent about \$10,000 of the initial grant money on equipment. We have scanned about 1500 photos in our initial effort. About 500 of them are now available on-line for you to view at www.flickr.com/lambdaarchives or at our website, www.lambdaarchives.org.

We have seen an influx of donated collections as a result of this effort! When we hold future galas this project will improve the public's ability to connect with our history!

By Sam Merlo



DIGITIZATION GRANT

Grant provided by California Institute of Contemporary Art

The generous grant received from CICA supports two part-time archivists, five interns and twenty-two student volunteers to properly preserve our collections unlike ever before.

Our archivists have experience and knowledge of current global archival standards. However, for this project they reached out to connections in places like the New York Public Library, the California State Archives, the Special Collections at SDSU, and the Special Collections at UCSD. From here real working models could be compared to create our own docu-

DOUG MOORE PRIDE COLLECTION



Doug Moore

We have recently acquired an amazing collection of original records on the history of the LGBT movement in San Diego from the 1970s to today. I am referring to the Doug Moore Pride Collection, kindly donated by the long-time activist whose name now identifies such collection.

Born in Los Angeles in 1944, Doug Moore moved to San Diego in 1972 and came out of the closet in early 1975 during a crucial time for sexual politics.

San Diego saw its' first "sitting out in the park" in 1974, but it was in 1975 that the first Pride march was organized.

Moore joined the Metropolitan Community Church in San Diego right when they were preparing the placards for this first demonstration of gay pride. He still remembers the chanting and small groups of people carrying placards together with others who came from the bars. Organizations like the Imperial Court, the MCC and Dignity, and radical groups like the Socialist Workers Party were present at the time. It was a highly charged political climate and a more fragmented movement and yet, as Doug recalls, "there was unity at the time to come up with an activity."

San Diego Pride became more organized in the 1980s, when the march evolved into a parade and added a full blown festival. In these years the event emphasized the visibility of lesbians and gays from all walks of life. Gradually, the organization began to include floats, trucks carrying people, businesses, dignitaries and – more importantly – a growing crowd. Although only one mile long in the eighties, participation in the parade expanded so much in the 1990s that it became necessary to modify its original route for everyone to fit in. Throughout all these years, Doug's participation in a variety of leadership positions never waned. Fortunately, he took

care of every important item he could to document his efforts and that of so many other LGBT people.

The Doug Moore Pride Collection includes a wide variety of materials. For the nostalgic who may want to relive the first time they celebrated Pride, there are t-shirts, buttons, flyers, and other LGBT artistic expressions created throughout the decades. For those who crave insider details, this collection preserves the internal minutes of every meeting. There are also fundraising records, application forms signed by hundreds of LGBT groups, and much more.

We thank Doug Moore for his donation as well as for his foresight. We invite you to come and see how proud you, too, can feel of your history. We also want you to become a volunteer to curate and classify this collection of 55 boxes full of tens of thousands of documents. Everyone is invited to come and help keep LGBT memory alive. And remember, pay attention to coming news and events to keep our memory alive. You may be surprised at what we have to offer.

By Pablo Ben

*We are proud to be
2012
"Partners in Pride"*

Continued from page 9

Collections

combat invisibility, to preserve and transmit our history and heritage, and to say "we were here and we ARE here."

For the future, I envision a page on our website for Queer Artists Project, which would have a directory of websites of LGBT artists in the greater San Diego/Tijuana area. It's all on the internet. The slides we have in the QAP Collection are now historical artifacts. This would be an incredible digital resource, widely available. I hope one or more of you feel moved to continue and expand QAP in this way.

The ephemera in the QAP boxes are irreplaceable. Go and see what is in them! You may be surprised.

By Susan Richards

www.susanrichardsmultiplevisionsstudio.blogspot.com

See Us At Pride!
July 20-22

**Come to our booth
on the left, next
to the Coffee Garden!**

Acknowledgements and Thanks

So many Friends and Supporters! What a pleasure it is to say "Thank You."

First, our Past President, **Frank Nobiletti**, continues to play a very significant role at Lambda Archives of San Diego. Frank, for several years, has been the primary recruiter and organizer of volunteers to the Archives and continues to be so today. Frank has also been the chief organizer and the "mover and shaker" of our renovation and expansion efforts.

I thank Frank for everything I have already learned from him and I look forward to continuing to serve with him and learn from him, as well as the other members of this extraordinary Board. **Jayson Schmidt** and **Marc Jones** have a phenomenal history with the organization and Board. As we have had to struggle with the costs of our expansion efforts, **Mel Merrill** has stepped in to do a great job as Treasurer. **Frank Stefano** continues his support of Lambda Archives in so many ways, including his agreement to serve as interim Membership Chair. Our newest member is **Gabriel Fontana**, Internship Coordinator. **Lee Cain** will be taking over as Database Manager and **Megan Burns** as Member Services Coordinator.

Without **Sam Merlo** and **Holly Smith** we would not be bringing you this newsletter. **January Riddle** will be helping with our newest endeavor: in-house exhibits, and **George Gastil** (Lemon Grove City Council and History Professor, Grossmont College) and **Cecelia Kouma** (Playwrights Project) will lend their experiences in recording oral histories. We are fortunate to have several videographers contributing to our efforts: **Sally Hall** (That's So Gay Live!) and **Lisa Kove** (DOD Fed-Globe) and **Sun Moon Vision Productions**.

Kelly Revak continues to give us the benefit of her experience and knowledge as Archivist. (Without her we wouldn't know where anything is!) **Daniela Hudson** lends insightful librarian and archivist sensitivities to our operations. **Diane F. Germain** does Collections Development. Thanks so much to **Jan Voogd** for

the very constructive "Strategic Assessment" that is an important part of our growth and grant application process.

Very special thanks to all the volunteers who have come out of the goodness of their hearts (or for school credits!) to help us get our 'house in order.' They are numerous, so forgive me if I overlook someone, but it is important to acknowledge the hours and goodwill they have given. First and foremost, the man who really moved our renovation forward: **Sergio Villasenor**, with able assistance from student **Robert Reed**, and so many others - **Regina Dowdy**, **Chris Hansen**, **David Heinkle**, **Javier Nicholas**, **Nelson Kang**, **Justin Hill**, **Brian Johnson**, **Tom Hamilton**, **Rikki Bowers**, **Marissa Bowers**, and many others who wielded crow bars, hammers, and paint brushes. In various capacities: **Houman Kargar**, **Maguy Alexandre**, **Erin Dummer**, and more.

Especially, I want to thank our colleagues and friends at **San Diego Pride**, led by the incomparable **Cheli Mohamed** and **Ben Orgovan**. Yay, Cheli and Ben, for bringing a crews of volunteers and endless coffee, bagels, and pizza for Saturday work mornings. Thank you to all who painted, cleaned, moved boxes, setup desks, recycled binders ... in short, whatever it took. You include **Brian Thai**, **Brenda Straley**, **Rosie Ciraco**, **Leah Straley**, **Cindy Uybungco**, **Josie Prado**, **Jan Voogd**, **Neal Ector**, **Kevin Buckhouse**, **Daniel Castanan**, **Edwin Lohr**, **Kevin Hunt**, **Jennifer Sieber**, **Adrian Espinal**, **Mike**, and more. We got so much accomplished and we are so grateful for the support and friendship.

I have other thanks - to the few tradespeople we have actually had to hire who have been so generous with us and have given invaluable information and advice as well as discounted services, to our volunteer architect **Keoni Rosa** and designer **Michael Metzger**, **Diversionsary Theatre**, and to all of you, for your ongoing interest, support, and donations. We do it for you and we couldn't do it without you!

Wow! Just writing about all this is almost

exhausting! But believe me, being with all these people is so energizing and FUN! And this is just part of it: I haven't told you about our grant applications - thank you to **Tryce Czczyńska**, **Vickie Heithaus**, and **Kelly Revak** for your efforts. We are grateful for the extraordinary confidence shown in us by **Tom Reise**, Board Member of **California Institute for Contemporary Art**. Tom was instrumental in introducing us to CICA, which awarded us two successive grants to digitize our photo collections. Many of those photos came from the generous donation of collections and cash from **S.A.G.E** and the continued extraordinary support from the **Imperial Court de San Diego**.

We have become "**Partners in PRIDE**" and will have something special for you at the *America's Finest Pride Festival*. Besides all the old, of course, you will enjoy something new this year. *Not telling - you will have to come and see!* Look for us in the same location as last year - half way down on the left side by the coffee and art garden. Special thanks to **Patrick Salvatierra**, former Pride and Exhibits Coordinator and **Stephanie Souto**. We miss you and your talents!

Many of you enjoyed our **1st Annual Pajama Party at Snooze!**, a co-production with my cohort, **Elaine Graybill**. If you liked that, you will love our upcoming events: **Open House** on **August 5th** and our sure-to-sparkle **25th Anniversary Gala** at **Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego** on **Sept. 7**. Ask and tell - uniforms welcome!

Keep your eye on our website, www.lambdaarchives.org, (thanks, **Pat McArron**) for upcoming chances to join in the fun. We are *Out* and we are *Proud*. Be part of the new Lambda Archives.

In Solidarity and Gratitude,
Maureen Steiner

PS: *If you should have been listed above and aren't see me at our Open House (Aug 5, 3 - 6pm) for a special thank you!*



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