

VISIT OUR BOOTH AT SAN DIEGO PRIDE 2013!!



Lambda Archives of San Diego

Collecting, Preserving, and Teaching LGBT History

www.LambdaArchives.org

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Issue 51

Summer 2013

San Diego Celebrates!!!



DOMA and Prop 8 Fall June 26, 2013

Lambda Archives Annual Gala
Heroes, Pioneers, and Trailblazers
20 Years at the Table
Celebrating San Diego's Openly LGBT Elected Officials

Friday, September 6th, 2013
6pm-9pm

Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) Bay View Officers' Club

Early Bird: \$85/person thru July 31; Aug 1 - Sep 1 - \$100

Groups of ten or more: 10% off regular pricing

Ticket sales must end Sept 1

Call for more info: 619.260.1522 or Visit us at: lambdaarchives.org



20 YEARS
AT THE
TABLE

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

President's Message



"The laws of our land are catching up to the fundamental truth that millions of Americans hold in our hearts: when all Americans are treated as equal, no matter who they are or whom they love, we are all more free."

President Barack Obama in reaction to Supreme Court ruling declaring DOMA unconstitutional.

Maureen Steiner

The Supreme Court rulings of June 26, 2013 regarding California Prop.

8 and the Federal Defense of Marriage Act are so profound and joyful for us as members of the LGBT community, that I cannot say anything more meaningful to you here. These huge milestones, on the anniversary of the Supreme Court *Lawrence v. Texas* and near the eve of the Stonewall Riots, mark this as forever the greatest day in LGBT civil rights. However, my joy is somewhat tempered; there is much to be concerned with regarding LGBT rights and basic human rights. This same Court struck down critical components of

the 1964 Voting Rights Act because, it seemed to reason, now that we have a man of color in the White House and blacks voted in significant numbers, we don't need the law anymore. It also rejected an employment harassment case, saying that if someone can't fire you, the employer is not responsible for the harassment.

Yet, how about that Wendy Davis, Texas State Senator standing up to the anti-choice crowd and filibustering for almost thirteen hours? That was a real show of courage, class, and conviction.

On a completely different note: "Big Thanks" to Kelly Revak for the comprehensive Disaster Preparedness Plan she has developed. We are now ready to do the best we can to protect and salvage the materials housed here at LASD.

*In Solidarity,
Maureen*

We Proudly Welcome New Board Members!

Charles Kaminski



Chuck Kaminski has resided in San Diego since 1975 and just retired as a Principal Architect at UC San Diego, Facilities Design + Construction. Chuck has been extremely active in supporting numerous issues and activities, including Partners for Livable Places, San Diego, where he eventually served as President. He has also been an active supporter of Citizens Coordinate for Century 3, C3, serving on its board from 2005-2011.

Chuck has volunteered at Mama's Kitchen and Auntie Helen's and, along with his husband Jeffrey, supports the LGBT Center and Lambda Archives. Chuck and Jeffrey reside in Talmadge.

Omar Passons



Omar Passons is a public works and land use attorney with the law firm Stutz Artiano Shinoff & Holtz APC. He is President-elect of the Earl B Gilliam Bar Association and serves on the San Diego Foundation Center for Civic Engagement Leadership Council. He is a committed advocate for better, safer neighborhoods, a foodie and heavily involved in supporting San Diego's craft beer community. Omar is excited to

help diverse communities see the importance of preserving and protecting San Diego LGBT history.



Archives Update

Kelly Revak, Archivist

Getting Our House In Order

Over the last year we have made tremendous strides in organizing and cataloging the Lambda Archives collections. We're finally starting to feel fully "moved in" to the new space, with all our collections in order. In fact, a recent assessment by the **California Preservation Program** found that **"The Archives' facility and operations are exemplary."** The assessor also commented **"The Archives organization and physical layout is very well designed for preservation of the collections."** After spending over a year renovating our new facility, having this independent validation of the quality of the space and our treatment of collections is reassuring.

Pictures Worth a Thousand Words

Thanks to the hard work of many student volunteers and interns, the majority of the sub-collections at the Archives (VHS and cassette tapes, T-shirts, buttons, posters, plaques, etc.) have now all been cataloged. In many cases, each item has been photographed as well. Researchers can use these "reference images" to locate items rather than directly handling fragile objects in the archives, thus increasing object lifespans. These images can also later go online, so folks worldwide can see what is in our collections.

New Archives Location Draws Elected Officials



Mayor
Bob Filner



Congresswoman
Susan Davis



City Council Member
Marti Emerald

Our contribution to the understanding and documenting of LGBT history is receiving the recognition of our elected representatives.

Thank You, San Diego Pride

Lambda Archives received a **\$2,500 grant** from **San Diego LGBT Pride** for a crucial infrastructure repair project. Stephen Whitburn, General Manager of San Diego LGBT Pride, presented the Board of Lambda Archives with a giant check at the **Second Annual Pajama Party at Snooze Restaurant**. This money will be combined with a previous award of \$2,500 from SDGE - obtained with the help of Pride - to replace an inadequate air conditioning system in the archival space. At right, Stephen presents the check to Archives Board President Maureen Steiner, as Sister Ida and Will Rodriguez-Kennedy look on.



Featured Collection

An Exciting Donation to the Archives!

You know that **big rainbow Pride flag** that's been flying in the heart of Hillcrest? Lambda Archives is now the proud home to the very first flag. Big thanks to the Hillcrest Business Association for preserving this important part of our local history. We'll take good care of it! At right, Benjamin Nicholls of the HBA presents the flag to the Archives.



Did you know that a **monument to San Diego's LGBT History and Hillcrest** is being built at the base of that flag pole? Lambda Archives was pleased to provide the research and writing of the monument text. It will be unveiled at the **Spirit of Stonewall Rally** kicking off Pride weekend, Friday, July 12, 6-7 pm.

Double Your Donation With Matching \$\$\$

The San Diego Human Dignity Foundation has announced a one-year program of **matching grants** for which Lambda Archives is eligible. They will designate up to \$50,000 to match qualifying donations to participating LGBT non-profit organizations for the time period of **July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014**.

The program will match up to \$500 from any one donor in a single year up to a total match of \$5,000 to Lambda Archives. **This is a great opportunity to double the impact of your contribution** to the ongoing mission of the Archives. We hope both current and new members will participate!

Donation checks made out to San Diego Human Dignity Foundation and designated for Lambda Archives may be sent to the Foundation at P.O. Box 33245, San Diego CA 92163-3245.

Sam Mills - Another Shiny New Archivist!



First, I've got to say how thrilled I am to be joining the Lambda Archives team. I showed up as a volunteer last year, looking for something useful to do in my spare time while I finished out my Library Science degree. Since then, I have been constantly delighted by the love and hard work poured into this organization by its volunteers and community members. What we are doing here is exactly what I envisioned when I entered graduate school with my eyes all bright: preserving history for the benefit of people.

I'll be spending most of my time on the ongoing photo digitization project – which, by the way, is now entering its third year! We've got about 5,000 photos scanned and the pace is increasing every semester. **One of our biggest objectives with this project also happens to be one of our biggest challenges:** that of identifying the people and places in the photos. In order to make these photos accessible, we need to give them keywords with names of people, places and topics, among other things. **This is where you come in!**

You can see our current photo groups at www.flickr.com/lambdaarchives/sets, and we'll be adding more all summer. We encourage everyone to check out the images we've posted on Flickr and leave us a comment if you recognize somebody or something, or can give us more descriptions.

So, if you've got a good eye for detail and fond memories of local LGBT organizations in the '80s and '90s, then **I want to hear from you!** You can make an appointment on your own or wrangle up some of your friends and make a party out of it. Please contact me at 619-260-1522 or email me at sam.lambda.archives@gmail.com.



A big thanks to volunteers and interns for their time and effort on the digitization project and other Archives activities.

Successful First Season of Exhibits in New Space



Photo courtesy of Syd Stevens

Queer Artists Project

Left: The Queer Artists Project, which celebrates the art and culture of the greater San Diego LGBT and ally communities, held its first exhibition March 15 - June 15. The creative vision of past and present artists was presented in drawings, paintings, photographs, fiber art, glass art and sculptures.



Our First Exhibit

Right: The initial exhibit at Lambda Archives showcased some of its most interesting and important artifacts. These items displayed the breadth and scope of our holdings, both in types of materials and diversity of topics represented. The public delighted in seeing their community history out and open.



We Welcome Everyone...

- Visit our website, www.LambdaArchives.org for hours and to find out more about who we are and what we do
- Have a collection to donate? Call us! 619.260.1522
- Check us out on facebook: www.facebook.com/LambdaArchives

We are located at 4545 Park Blvd, Ste 104, San Diego CA 92116

I FOUND IT IN
THE ARCHIVES

