



# TransCentralPA Newsletter

*Serving the Transgender Community of Central Pennsylvania since 1989*

June 2009

WWW.TRASCENTRALPA.ORG

Volume 20, Issue 6

## GROUP

**June Dinner** We'll be meeting at Café Fresco ([www.cafefresco.com](http://www.cafefresco.com)) for our June pre-meeting dinner on Saturday, June 13, at 5:30 pm. We'll sit down promptly at 6:00 pm. Menu items are priced between \$10 and \$30 with most entrees around the \$22 range. Please RSVP if you plan to attend at [info@transcentralpa.org](mailto:info@transcentralpa.org).

**June Meeting** Our next meeting will be Saturday, June 13, at 8:30 pm. Doors will open at approximately 8:00 pm for those needing to change. We will have our discussion groups, social time and some cookies.

**May Meeting Stats:** We had 13 people join us for dinner at Scott's Grille in May and 25+ people attended the group meeting with 2 people joining the group!

**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 professionally printed brochures for the group to hand out at community events, speaking engagements, visitors, guests and others that are interested in our group.

**Pride Volunteers Needed** The Central Pennsylvania Pride fest is Jul 25. Trans-CentralPA will be marching in the parade in the morning and manning a booth at the event. If you are interested in either or both, please email us or talk to Jeanine.

## LOCAL

**Job Opening** The LGBT Community Center Coalition is looking for an Interim Program Director who will have responsibility for implementing the initial operational and strategic priorities of the organization as determined by the Board of Directors. The position is contemplated as a part-time (25 hours per week) temporary (6 month) position prior to the hiring of a

## Announcements

full-time Executive Director. Visit their website to contact them: [www.centralpalgbtcenter.org](http://www.centralpalgbtcenter.org)

## EVENTS

**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](mailto:emilyplatt@netcarrier.com)

**Philadelphia TransHealth Conference** Jun 11-13, 2009. For more information, visit [www.Trans-health.org](http://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](http://www.cdspub.com/batb.html) for more info and details.

## OTHER

**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/](http://www.transfaithonline.org/transhealth/).

**One Step Forward** On April 28th, the United States House of Representatives voted 249 to 175 in favor of the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act (H. R. 1913), moving one step closer to the passage of the first federal law to include gender identity and transgender people in a positive way. Visit [www.NCTEquality.org](http://www.NCTEquality.org) for more info.

**Benefits** Last fall, the Trustees of the Pennsylvania Employees Benefit Trust Fund (PEBTF) voted to allow Commonwealth employees to extend their benefit coverage to certified domestic partners, effective July 1, 2009. Benefits include Medical (HMO and PPO Only), Prescription Drug, Dental, Vision, Hearing Aids.

**Farewell** Longtime Transgender Activist Virginia Prince has died at the age of 96.



## Central PA Pride Details

The 2009 Central PA Pride Parade starts at 10:00 am Saturday, July 25th. TransCentralPA will assemble about 9:30 am at North & Front Street in Harrisburg which is where the parade starts. The parade ends at the festival site (by the Comfort Inn) at the bottom of Front & Vine Street. We suggest that you park in the free lot there (on the left side of 2<sup>nd</sup>, just past the Paxton Street light as you come into Harrisburg from 83 on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street) and walk up to the assembly area. That way you are parked early in the best place when it comes time to leave the festival!

Our President Jeanine R. is organizing the parade participation, so please let her know if you plan to march. Remember, it's not only open to members, but also guest, friends, spouses, significant others, kids—so come join us! It is about a mile walk, and it's usually hot, so wear footwear and clothing that is comfortable and best projects the transgender person to the public.

The group has purchased 17 wristbands (which admits you to both the parade & festival) for the first people to commit to marching and/or helping 'man' TransCentralPA's booth. Please contact us by sending an email to [info@transcentralpa.org](mailto:info@transcentralpa.org)

**Our meeting night is now the Second Saturday of the month**

## From the President



Jeanine Ruhsam

Thanks to all of you who participated in the LGBT Community Center Coalition & Common Road's (catered by St. Michael's Lutheran Church, whose gent's know how to prepare yummy food!) reception on May 8th. It was held at the Open Stage Theater in Harrisburg following a great performance of "Hedwig & The Angry Inch", and the musical's lead, Stuart Landon (along with his sister and boyfriend) was delighted to join in the mixer and get to know a few "real" trans people.

Ted Martin, President of the LGBTCCC & Common Roads, gave a short talk to the gathered group in which he expressed the Coalition's desire for greater inclusion of the Transgender community within the larger LGB community. I accepted Ted's request to address the audience, and gave a short talk about what it means to be transgender, how and why we are allies and partners in the LGB community, and also how we differ, with our own very special challenges.

Well, that evening seems to have had some impact. Ted & the Coalition have recently asked for a couple of us from TransCentralPA to consider serving on the Center's board of directors - a great

honor, and a significant gesture of acknowledgement of the transgender population of central Pennsylvania.

We are making great strides....and I am now going to ask each and every one of you that read this newsletter to literally take some great strides: please plan now to join the TransCentralPA group marching in the Harrisburg Pride Parade on Saturday, July 25. This is the third year the parade has occurred during the Pride Festival of Central PA, and the third year TransCentralPA has had a marching group carrying our banner. Last year we doubled our number over the year before, and this year it would be wonderful to double it again! To help insure that, we are offering 17 free wristband passes to the first people who commit to marching in the parade. Remember: our numbers send a BIG message: that we transgender people are a significant population of worthy and good citizens.

I look forward to seeing you at the July meeting- I'll not be at June's meeting, as it is my dear mother's 87th birthday, and I will be spending it with her. Gretchen, TransCentralPA's Secretary, will lead the dinner gathering and meeting- have a very wonderful time...I'll miss you!

Warmly, Jeanine

## Calendar of Events

Bold items are TransCentralPA sponsored

Jun 2	<a href="#">Chicago's Be-All 2009</a> Chicago, IL
Jun 7	Jersey PRIDE Asbury Park, NJ
Jun 11	<a href="#">Trans-Health Conference</a> Philadelphia, PA
<b>Jun 13</b>	<b>TCPA Dinner</b> <a href="#">TCPA Group Meeting</a>
Jun 14	Philadelphia PRIDE Philadelphia, PA
Jun 20	Baltimore PRIDE Baltimore, MD
Jun 20	Lancaster PRIDE Lancaster, PA
Jun 27	Trans-Masculine Alliance Mtg Baltimore, MD
Jun 27	Tran-quality Meeting Baltimore, MD
<b>Jul 11</b>	<b>TCPA Dinner</b> <a href="#">TCPA Group Meeting</a>
<b>Jul 25</b>	<b>Central Pennsylvania PRIDE</b> <b>Harrisburg, PA</b>
<b>Aug 8</b>	<b>TCPA Dinner</b> <a href="#">TCPA Group Meeting</a>
<b>Nov 14</b>	<b>Fall Achievement Benefit</b> <b>Lancaster, PA</b>

Visit [www.TransCentralPA.org](http://www.TransCentralPA.org) for more event info!

Did you catch this article about Lady Ellen, one of our presenters at Keystone?

[www.nj.com/insidejersey/index.ssf/2009/05/charmed.html](http://www.nj.com/insidejersey/index.ssf/2009/05/charmed.html)

### Special Deal for Members & Guests!



	Standard Room	All-inclusive Business King
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.

## TransCentral PA

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

[www.TransCentralPA.org](http://www.TransCentralPA.org)  
[info@transcentralpa.org](mailto:info@transcentralpa.org)