

APPENDIX A1

Charles Botts Memorial Library and Archives

AT A GLANCE:

Structure: an Alternative Ministry of Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church

Website: see <http://www.ResurrectionMCC.org/Ministries/Outreach.htm>

Curator: Larry Criscione

Staff: Leif Hatlen

Mike Kelley

Complete Estimated Size of Holdings: 10,000 books, 700 linear feet periodicals, 215 linear feet personal papers, 60 linear feet ephemera

Operating Hours: Every Thursday 1pm to 6pm, and by appointment.

Visitors per year: 100 - 150

Visitor demographics: Varied, usually scholars, community researchers, national and local journalists, students, graduate students (both Masters and Doctoral), LGBT community members.

Exhibitions per year: annual History Display at Pride Festival; occasional special displays

Publications utilizing Collection:

James T. Sears *Rebels, Rubyfruit, and Rhinestones: Queering Space in the Stonewall South*

OutSmart author Brandon Wolf

Bruce Remington, UH History Thesis, *Twelve Fighting Years*

John Goins, UH History graduate student, thesis in process

Media exposure: *OutSmart*, *Queer Voices* and *After Hours* radio shows (KPFT)

Total volunteer hours dedicated to archival work: 550 hours per year

HISTORY:

Presently housed within Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church (2025 W 11th St Houston, TX 77008-6320), the Botts Collection has origins that reach back into the 1970's. A large portion of the collection began in the library of the Awareness, Unity, and Research Association (AURA), a Fort Worth organization formed in the early 70's. The first book in the collection was Dennis Altman's *Homosexual: Oppression and Liberation*, published in 1971. Charles Gillis and Kenneth Adrian Cyr, founding members of AURA, worked to expand the collection. The AURA collection was re-named The Texas Gay Archives after the formation of the Texas Gay Task Force. When Charles and Ken moved to Houston in 1976 the collection came with them.

In 1977, Charles Gillis opened the first location of the Wilde 'n' Stein bookshop at 819 Richmond (property presently owned by the owner of Chapultepec). The Texas Gay Archives was kept in a small room behind the store that was also used as a meeting room.

Among the meetings that took place there were those that lead to the historic Town Meeting I. Wilde 'n' Stein eventually moved to a new location, at 520 Westheimer, that did not have space for the archives, so the collection was temporarily held by INTEGRITY/Houston, then Texas' oldest active gay organization. To avoid being confused with the growing Episcopal "Integrity" LGBT and allies group, INTEGRITY/Houston changed names to Interact Houston.

Interact Houston continued to house The Texas Gay Archives until the membership of Interact (under the leadership of Bill Buie, Richard Burckhardt, and Carl Hays) voted to merge the collection with a library then managed by Charles Botts at Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection on Decatur Street. Charles Botts himself worked at NASA and was an avid book collector and trader. He maintained an extensive personal collection of fiction with gay and lesbian connections. Botts continued to manage the collection, through both the move of the church to its present location on 11th Street, and through it's name change, to Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church. As a ministry of the church, the archive undertook special projects, including organizing clippings and other materials for its obituary project. Charles Botts died August 30, 1994. A small committee formed to carry on his work, and in 1994 Larry Criscione assumed the role of Curator.

As the library now exists, there is a large collection of ephemera – including posters, buttons, trophies, fliers, and scrapbooks. The Botts also houses approximately 10,000 books including biographies, directories, published studies, and novels written for the LGBT community, as well as books autographed by Truman Capote, Alan Ginsberg, and Barbara Jordan. The extensive periodical collection includes a full run of *TWiT* (This Week in Texas), *Outsmart*, and the *Houston Voice* as well as partial runs of earlier Houston publications such as *Nuntius*, *Pointblank Times*, *Montrose Star*, and *LXIX*. There are also many periodicals from outside of Texas represented such as *The Ladder*, *Drum*, *RFD*, and *Gay Sunshine*. The entirety of the periodical collection measures in at about 700 linear feet. The Organizational and Personal Papers Collections (which include many photographs) measure 215 linear feet. They includes the personal papers of local activists, such as Gary Van Ooteghem, who went before the Harris County Commissioners' Court on August 1, 1975 to speak out about gay rights and come out publicly about his own homosexuality. That act cost him his job as the County Comptroller and lead to a series of lawsuits that lasted through a U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in 1981.

APPENDIX A2

Gulf Coast Archive and Museum of GLBT History, Inc.

AT A GLANCE:

Structure: 501c3

Website: <http://www.gcam.org/>

Chair: Craig Farrell

Curator and Treasurer: Judy Reeves

Secretary: Mark Baladez

Complete Estimated Size of Holdings: 4416 cubic ft, 4000+ sq ft display space

Operating Hours: Permanent displays open 9am – 5pm; office and archival storage space open to the public by appointment

Visitors per year: 65,433 website visitors since October 7, 1999

Visitor demographics:

Greater Houston Area

Germany & Japan (because we started the Interarchive List they'd heard of us)

Exhibitions per year: Permanent rotating exhibit; satellite exhibit at EJ's Bar; annual exhibit at Pride Festival; special exhibitions, averaging three per year.

Publications utilizing Collection:

OutSmart articles by Ella Tyler, Ann Walton Sieber, Tim Brookover, Nancy Ford & Brandon Wolf since 2000

Other publications include the *Texas Triangle* as well as *Out & About*, *Houston Press*, Houston Independent Media Center

"Montrose: The Transformation of a Neighborhood" (Film documentary) GCAM provided historic pictures for the project.

Media exposure: OutSmart Magazine, TWT, Houston Holocaust Museum, UPI Science Report, and the Houston Chronicle (can be read on our web page). *Queer Voices* and *After Hours* radio shows (KPFT)

Total volunteer hours dedicated to archival work: 1,500 hours Curator, 600 Executive Board, 500 members/other volunteers

HISTORY:

The Gulf Coast Archive and Museum of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender History, Inc. was founded as a 501c3 in 1999 by a group of concerned activists in Houston, TX who wanted to preserve collective LGBT histories for posterity and education through the utilization of a museum or similar venue. In 2000, Houston's Mayor Lee Brown honored GCAM by issuing a Proclamation that was presented at our Grand Opening by Anise Parker, an openly gay politician who served on GCAM's Board of Governors. As a membership organization, GCAM hosts monthly meetings at the GLBT Cultural Center in the Montrose Counseling Center, 401 Branard, 1st floor in room 117 at 7:00 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

The original founders of GCAM include Judy Reeves, Bruce Reeves, Jimmy Carper, Rick Hurt, Ray Hill, Teresa Mauney, Frank Parsley, Ralph Lasher, Dan Medina, Pat Turner, Ella Tyler, Brandon Wolf and Stan (last name withheld). Beyond the Executive Officers, GCAM is also supported by a Board of Governors (including Wallace Saage, Curator of Collections at The Heritage Society) and an Advisory Board (including Steven Strom, Assistant Manager of the Houston Public Library Archives, and historian James T. Sears, author of *Rebels, Rubyfruit, and Rhinestones: Queering Space in the Stonewall South*).

The first location of the museum was across the street from the spot where Fred Paez was murdered in 1980, a warehouse on the South East corner of Capitol and Dowling. After several changes of venue, GCAM now proudly displays many pieces of art and artifacts on the more than 4,000 feet of wall space at the GLBT Cultural Center on the first floor of the Montrose Counseling Center building. Appointments can be made for access to the archives through the Curator. GCAM has also mounted satellite exhibits throughout the city and arrangements can be made for temporary exhibits for special functions. For example, in each of the first three years, GCAM mounted full exhibits at the EMPOWER Expo, a GLBT business exposition in Houston. Other special functions have ranged from a small exhibit in Theatre Suburbia lobby for the run of the play "Comfort & Joy," and a one-evening exhibition to complement the world premier of "Wendy Chicago: the documentary," a 20 minute film on the life of "our oldest living drag queen".

GCAM's archival holdings include a wide range of artifacts and ephemera: **posters** such as signed/numbered Houston Series 8 Baseball, a rare holding from the Gay Olympics; **clothing**, including historic leather vests and drag stage outfits; **original artwork** for the cover pages of local publications; over 100 linear feet of **photographs** chronicling almost every major GLBT event in Houston's recent history; **manuscripts and personal papers**; **video and audio recordings** occupying 20 linear feet; **periodicals** including the complete set of TWT (This week in Texas) and the Voice (the 1st issue of the Montrose Voice being framed); and over 5,000 **books** and paperbacks. Due to the size of its permanent display space, the majority of holdings are housed in temperature controlled storage units.

APPENDIX A3

Rice University

AT A GLANCE:

Structure: Private University

Website: www.rice.edu

Established: Sept. 23, 1912

Student Body: 3,102 undergraduates and 2,237 graduate students

About the Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Rice:

The Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality at Rice is a wellspring for interdisciplinary inquiry and critical knowledge. The Center's programs and activities include an undergraduate program, a graduate certificate program, a postdoctoral fellowship program, four research clusters, the journal *Feminist Economics*, and an innovative community partnership, Houston ARCH.

Established in 1991, the undergraduate major in the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality offers students the opportunity for intensive research and course work with the Center's affiliated faculty. The recently established minor in Poverty, Social Justice and Human Capabilities Program provides undergraduates with cross-disciplinary critical perspectives and summer internship experience.

Ph.D. students from across the humanities and social sciences come to the Center's graduate certificate program to engage debates in gender, feminist, and sexuality studies, meet visiting scholars in small colloquia, and enrich their doctoral work with teaching assistantships and dissertation support.

In the Center's research clusters, lectures and seminars, faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students meet for lively intellectual exchange on sexuality studies, gender and health; gender and urban life; women and global poverty; race and nation.

APPENDIX A4

Transgender Foundation of America Archive, Houston

AT A GLANCE:

Structure: 501c3

Website: <http://tgctr.org/archive.shtml>

Archive Committee Chair: Jo Collier

Archive Manager: Edwin Erwin

Complete Estimated Size of Holdings: 60 cubic ft, 850 sq. ft display space

Operating Hours: Monday through Friday, 1pm to 4pm, and by appointment.

Visitors per year: 1,365 visitors

Visitor demographics: Primarily community members who use the center for meetings, ranging in age from teens to late sixties. Exposure on the news has begun to attract Houston residents from outside the transgender community. The TFA Facebook page has also attracted visitors from as far as Dallas, TX, Louisiana, Illinois, New York, Canada, and Mexico.

Exhibitions per year: The Transgender Center of Houston, which houses the collection, opened on 25 July 2008. The Center has a large number of items on permanent display throughout the building. Began participating in the annual History Tent exhibit at this year's (2009) Houston Pride Festival. Board members have taken representative items from the collection to a number of special functions.

Publications utilizing Collection:

Outsmart: Houston's Gay, Lesbian, Bi and Trans Magazine

Media exposure: KTRK (ABC, local channel 13) news segment 5/19/09; After Hours and Queer Voices (KPFT radio)

Total volunteer hours dedicated to archival work: Approximately 150 hours since March 2009, when the Archives Committee had its first meeting.

HISTORY:

What is now the Transgender Foundation of America has its roots in a social gathering that began in the area of the Texas towns of Santa Fe and Alvin, in 1998.

In 1999, Cristan Williams, a member of the group, heard of a young person whose transgender status had caused them to be thrown out of an area shelter. After making numerous unsuccessful calls to other area shelters, Ms. Williams took the young person to her own home. This occurrence prompted the creation of C.A.T.S. (Community Awareness for Transgender Support). They obtained 501c3 status and started a shelter for transgender people in Galveston. A lack of funding eventually led to the closing of the shelter in 2002.

After the homeless shelter closed in 2002, CATS did little more than host one female to male transgender meeting a month. In 2008, CATS changed its name to the Transgender Foundation of America (TFA) to reflect its renewed energy, direction, and focus.

The board members of TFA noted that many transgender people were unaware of their history. As a consequence they did not understand how the social views that affect their daily lives had come into being. Neither did they know of their historical ancestors from whose lives they could draw courage and inspiration.

Therefore, before construction began at what was to become the Transgender Center, TFA began an aggressive campaign of finding and preserving transgender history. Once the TG Center opened, the archive (which began as the personal collection of Cristan Williams, a founder and board member of the TFA) had grown to a sufficient size to display historical content throughout the entire Center.

The initial collection consisted mainly of items purchased through book dealers and auctions. In addition to newspapers, periodicals, and books, there are many museum quality artifacts in the form of statuary, daguerreotypes, photographs, movie posters, and artworks from around the world. This eclectic, wide-ranging group of items forms a contextual backdrop for the organizational and personal papers the Archive is beginning to acquire.

A portion of the collection also includes a non-circulating, non-fiction collection of reference books and thesis papers covering gender roles, sexism, transgender history, gender variant issues, and autobiographies of transgendered individuals. A number of students and educators who are members or supporters of the center have begun to donate copies of their writings to this library. It is the aim of the Archive Committee to develop the library into a world-class resource for researchers.

APPENDIX A5

University of Houston

AT A GLANCE:

Structure: Public University

Website: www.uh.edu

Established: 1927

Student Body: 36,000 students in nearly 300 undergraduate and graduate academic programs

About the Minor in Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies:

The GLBT Studies minor at the University of Houston was established in 2008, and is housed within the Department of Women's Studies. The minor aims to recognize the scholarly importance of GLBT people and their contribution to politics and theory. It offers students a rich interdisciplinary framework in which to understand and critically examine a rapidly expanding and dynamic academic field. The minor allows students to question and analyze the complex roles and implications of sexuality, gender and sexual identity.

Supporting the minor, the M. D. Anderson Library contains many holdings significant to GLBT studies, both in the general stacks, and in special collections.