

South Eastern Michigan Gay and Lesbian Association Records

1.25 linear feet (1 SB, 1 MB)

1976-2011, bulk 1982-1988

Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Finding aid written by Leslie Van Veen on October 17, 2012.

Accession Number: UR002537

Creator: Association of Suburban People, South Eastern Michigan Gay and Lesbian Association

Acquisition: Nita Firestone donated The South Eastern Michigan Gay and Lesbian Association Records to the Walter P. Reuther Library in September 2012.

Language: Material entirely in English.

Access: Collection is open for research.

Use: Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library *Rules for Use of Archival Materials*. **Restrictions: Researchers may encounter records of a sensitive nature – personnel files, case records and those involving investigations, legal and other private matters. Privacy laws and restrictions imposed by the Library prohibit the use of names and other personal information which might identify an individual, except with written permission from the Director and/or the donor.**

Notes: Citation style: “South Eastern Michigan Gay and Lesbian Association Records, Box [#], Folder [#], Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University”

Related Material: Ernest L. Horne Papers
Bernard Firestone Papers

PLEASE NOTE: Folders in this collection are not necessarily arranged in any particular order. The box folder listing provides an inventory based on their original order. Subjects may be dispersed throughout the collection.

Abstract

The South Eastern Michigan Gay and Lesbian Association (SEMGLA) was formerly known as the Association of Suburban People (ASP). Primarily a gay male social organization, the group originally held meetings in Berkley, Michigan. Organization activities included fundraising, a political action committee, and collaboration with the Whitman-Brooks foundation to produce a conference called, “Establishing a Positive Gay & Lesbian Identity.” In an effort to recruit more women to the organization, ASP officers encouraged Nita Firestone to join them in a leadership position. By the mid-1980s, with increased visibility in the community, ASP evolved into Michigan’s largest LGBT educational organization and in 1985 changed its name to more accurately reflect its mission. Records of the association show the organization's evolution as a group. Activities are documented and material includes membership directories, conference and promotional materials, meeting minutes, publications, and photographs.

Important Subjects:

Gay community
Gay men
Gay rights--Michigan--Periodicals.
Gay rights movement
Gays--History--20th century.
Homosexuality.
Lesbians—Michigan

Important Names:

Nita Firestone
Thomas (Tom) Smith

Arrangement

Folders are listed by their location within each box. They are not necessarily arranged, so any given subject may be dispersed throughout the entire collection.

Box 1

1. Retzloff, Tim, Oral History Project, 2011 June
2. SEMGLA Membership Directory, 1985 December
3. SEMGLA Newsletter, 1985 August – 1987 September
4. ASP Newsletter, 1982 December – 1985 July
5. ASP Calendar, 1982-1984
6. News Clippings, 1985-1989
7. Correspondence, Senator Don Riegle, 1989 November 3
8. Cracker Barrel Protest Coalition
9. Flyers
10. Conferences, 1980-1988
11. Conference, Developing a Positive Lesbian / Gay Identity, 1986
12. Conference, Developing a Positive Lesbian / Gay Identity, 1987
13. Conference, Developing a Positive Lesbian / Gay Identity, 1988
14. Conference Brochures, 1980-1987
15. ASP Directory, 1983
16. Promotional Brochures & Flyers, 1980s
17. ASP Correspondence, 1983
18. ASP Newsletter, 1976-1977
19. ASP Membership Directory, 1983
20. SEMGLA Candidate Statements, 1987 June
21. Associated Organizations Promotional Material, 1986
22. Local Gay News Articles, 1984-1986
23. Human Rights Equality Stickers
24. SEMGLA Newsletter, 1985 August – 1988 October
25. ASP Newsletter, 1984-1985
26. ASP Meeting Minutes, 1984-1987
27. ASP Policy Book, 1983
- 28-29. Programs & Guides, Lesbian Activities, 1980s
30. News Clippings, 1983
31. News Clippings, Gay, National, 1985-1995
32. Brochures
- 33-34. Event Brochures
35. Overlooked Opinions Inc., Panelist Packet
36. Southeast Michigan Alternative Lifestyle Resource Guide
37. SEMGLA Social Commentary
- 38-39. Gay Pride Brochures
40. Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, 1988 April 7
41. SEMGLA Budget, 1988 January-June
42. SEMGLA Policies
43. Member Correspondence, 1985-1988

Box 2

1. Photograph, Eric Rofes, 1988
2. Photographs, March on Washington, 1993