

GLBT Historical Society
Dr. John P. De Cecco Archives and Special Collections
Holdings Related to the World War II Period

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Prepared by: Aaron Aruck

This research guide is intended to help users locate holdings related to the historical experience of LGBTQ people during the World War II period at GLBT Historical Society. The research guide is broadly designed to include both collections that relate directly to armed conflict and military service and collections that highlight other aspects of the period such as the wartime mobilization of civil society, industrial labor, migration and travel, and social cultures of nightlife, performance, and dating.

This research guide highlights holdings in the following areas:

- Manuscript Collections (Personal papers and organizational records)
- Oral histories
- Periodicals
- Online resources

Other collections may contain relevant materials. Researchers are encouraged to also conduct their own searches of the [catalog](#) and archive finding aids. Please contact the GLBT Historical Society archivist (reference@glbthistory.org) with any questions or comments.

Historical Context

Historian John D’Emilio famously called World War II a “national coming out experience” for LGBTQ people in the United States.¹ This conflict demanded an unprecedented mass mobilization of both military members and civil society, and millions of people moved to increasingly urbanized zones in the United States for military placements, industrial wartime manufacturing (especially for young women), and many other reasons. This mass mobilization is often framed as a predominantly male experience, but women were actively involved in war materials manufacturing and served in nursing units, the Navy Corp, and the Women’s Army Corps (created in 1942 by Public Law 554). Away from familial and community restrictions that had previously prohibited both personal sexual exploration and large-scale development of sexual communities, people in cities like Los Angeles and San Francisco began to form visible queer communities with bars, theaters, bookstores, restaurants, bathhouses, and gyms particularly geared towards homosexual people. The organization of military service and wartime labor also produced homosocial contexts that offered many opportunities for queer intimacy.

While World War II in significant ways can be seen as a liberating point for queer desire, moral panic in the U.S. and elsewhere also prompted a simultaneous persecution and surveillance of

¹ John D’Emilio, *Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities: The Making of a Homosexual Minority in the United States, 1940-1970* (University of Chicago Press, 1983), 24.

queer people. The military decriminalized very old sodomy prohibitions in the armed forces and instead moved homosexual desire and homosexual sex into the realm of psychiatric medicine; having and acting on homosexual attraction was no longer criminal as much as it was psychopathic. Under this medicalization of homosexuality, many gay servicemembers were administratively (not criminally) dishonorably discharged and stigmatized by military leadership as the military worked to formalize its anti-homosexual policies. However, wartime demands for skilled servicemembers often required the military to tacitly tolerate and overlook homosexuality among the troops. Nevertheless, the military's ongoing "learning" process to define homosexuality, identify homosexuals, and remove them from service would set a powerful precedent for post-war life in the U.S., where we see federal and local governments utilize psychiatric understandings of homosexuality and sexual deviance to target, fire, and in some cases incarcerate LGBTQ people, often in the tenuous furtherance of anti-Communism campaigns. This marginalization made sexual enclaves in cities even more significant for LGBT people, and resistance to these persecutions would lay the groundwork for the gay rights movements of later decades.

Manuscript Collections

Note:

Several of the manuscript collections contain significant portions of oral histories distributed throughout larger manuscript and personal paper collections.

Randy Alfred Subject Files and Sound Recordings.

Collection Number: 1991-24.

Randy Alfred was a freelance journalist and radio talk show host in the San Francisco area during the 1970s-1980s. Collection contains research files (clippings, fliers, brochures, correspondence, and notes) and audiotapes--primarily concerning lesbian and gay issues and organizations in San Francisco during the 1970s and 1980s--assembled by Alfred in the course of his hosting of the KSAN public affairs radio show *The Gay Life*. Several interviews with scholars like Alan Berube and Stuart Loomis in this collection discuss gay life in San Francisco in the World War II period. http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/glbths_1991-24.pdf.

Alan Bérubé Papers.

Collection Number: 1995-17.

The Allan Bérubé Papers document the personal life, family history and professional work of Allan Ronald Bérubé (1946-2007), a community historian, teacher, author and activist. The collection includes his extensive research files on the topics of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender history, particularly related to the military service of these individuals during World War II. Of particular note are Bérubé's writings and research files on the Marine Cooks and Stewards Union. These include several unfinished manuscripts and many oral histories he conducted for his community history book project *Coming Out Under Fire* (published in 1990). <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c83f4rcg.pdf>.

Pat Bond Papers.**Collection Number: 1995-16.**

In 1945, Bond joined the Women's Army Corps (WAC) with the hope of meeting other lesbians. In the army, she cared for wounded soldiers returning from the South Pacific and later served in occupied Japan. In 1947, in Tokyo, 500 women were dishonorably discharged from the army on the charge of homosexuality. Pat escaped this "witch hunt," in which many lesbians testified against each other in trial, because before going to Japan she had married a gay man, Paul Bond, in San Francisco. The collection consists of the background research, notes, early drafts, and manuscripts for Pat's four one woman shows. Also included are Pat's correspondence, her poetry, writing practice, character sketches, stories, incomplete manuscripts, as well as reviews and awards for her shows. Finally, the collection includes Pat's diaries from 1966 through 1987. Some of the diaries are journals with substantial entries; however, most of the diaries are date books in which Pat kept a record of her daily life, including comments about the weather and doctors' appointments as well as notes about friends and relationships.

<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/bond1.pdf>.

Everett Boucre Scrapbooks.**Collection Number: 2014-18.**

This collection includes two scrapbooks compiled by Everett Boucre, a dance instructor and performer who lived in Oakland, California. One dates from World War II and contains cut out pictures of war scenes and soldiers; the other includes pictures of men's clothed genital areas. These date from the 1950s-1970s. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8n58pr9.pdf>.

June Campbell Papers.**Collection Number: 2018-20.**

June Campbell was a lesbian woman who served in World War II. This collection contains scrapbook material and photographs of Campbell and her partner, Mary Ellen "Jo" Johanson, a photographer and designer, as well as other women serving in the Marine Corps in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii during World War II. This collection also includes a couple of earlier photos from the late 1800s to the 1910s of members of Campbell's family. Later photos show Campbell's life with friends in Laguna Beach, California. This collection also includes some correspondence, rosters, postcards, and ephemera. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c87h1rkz.pdf>.

John Coriolan Papers.**Collection Number: 2003-16.**

John Coriolan, author of numerous books including "A Sand Fortress" (Award Books, 1968), "The Smile of Eros" (Gay Sunshine Press, 1984), and "Unzipped - A Novella and Six Short Stories" (Gay Sunshine Press, 1983), donated "Lucky That Way," an unpublished typescript that includes a memoir, interviews, profiles, interviews, [photocopies of] photos and drawings. Coriolan grew up in the Midwest, attended college in the 1930s, and lived in New York City, Key West and San Francisco as an adult. In "Lucky that Way," Coriolan discusses erotic activity in World War II, his 13 year relationship starting in 1951, the sexual revolution of the 1960s, and the AIDS crisis of the 1980s. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8d79jb5.pdf>.

William P. Gaddis, Jr. Papers.**Collection Number: 2002-32.**

This collection documents the underground gay life of William P. Gaddis, Jr. during his military service in the United States Navy at the time of World War II and contains letters from his travels in the late 1950s, as a civilian, to major cities around the world seeking to connect with gay life across the globe. The correspondence begins in 1939 with letters received from a gay lover stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. It contains significant holdings relating to the lives of gays and lesbians during this time, recorded as personal correspondence in diary-like form. Much of the writing describes underground gay life in the San Francisco Bay Area from 1939 onward, as Mr. Gaddis was born in Berkeley and was stationed in this area during part of his naval career. The collection also contains a small number of photographs from this time, a larger number of negatives, a flyer produced in 1970 by the Society for Individual Rights as a warning to gay men about plainclothes police arrests at gunpoint at various San Francisco locations, and phonograph records with underground/coded gay content dating back as far as 1939. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/gaddis.pdf>.

Eric Garber Papers.**Collection Number: 1996-20.**

The Eric Garber papers document the professional work of this activist and groundbreaking historian who wrote extensively about LGBT people in the Harlem Renaissance and alternative sexualities in science fiction, fantasy and horror literature. This collection contains research and documents related to LGBTQ participants in the Harlem Renaissance (1918-mid 1930s) and various articles about gay soldiering as World War II began. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8dn44cw.pdf>.

Burt Gerrits Papers.**Collection Number: 1994-26.**

Burt Gerrits (1923-2008) was born in South Dakota, and moved to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1941. He served during WWII in the Navy, and his recollections of Navy life as a gay man were included in historian Allan Bérubé's book *Coming Out Under Fire*. The bulk of the Burt Gerrits papers consist of materials from three organizations in which Gerrits was active: The Gay Coalition on the Media, The Bay Area March on Washington Committee, and Mobilization Against AIDS. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8v69rg4.pdf>.

Ralph Green Scrapbooks and Photographs.**Collection Number: 1991-11.**

Eight scrapbooks and photo albums documenting the life of the late Ralph Green of Monterey, California. These albums span from the early 1920s to the early 1980s and include ephemera, clippings, and snapshots of gay men in San Francisco and Monterey, California. During the years 1942-1945, Green served in the 54th Fighter Squadron of the Army Air Corps, which saw action repelling the Japanese invasion of the Aleutian Islands. Several albums that make up this collection include clippings related to WWII and Green's time stationed in the Aleutians. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8sj1shs.pdf>.

Helen Harder Papers.**Collection Number: 2005-17.**

This collection documents the life of Helen Harder (nee Eleanor F. Sugg). Born in 1918, Harder was a flight instructor in the Women's Army Corps (WACS) in World War II. She later worked in a variety of fields including private industry, sales, civil service and education. Harder was interested in spirituality and wrote a number of small essays on the subject.

<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c84j0n1k.pdf>.

Paul D. Hardman Papers.**Collection Number: 1996-06.**

This collection documents the political and professional life of activist Paul D. Hardman. Hardman was a World War II Navy vet and a longtime activist for LGBT veterans. The collection includes correspondence, research notes for Hardman's book "Homoaffectualism: Male Bonding from Gilgamesh to the Present," materials relating to the Alexander Hamilton Post of the American Legion, legal papers, and subject files. It also contains some materials from the Pride Foundation and Hardman's newspaper, "California Voice." The subject files relate primarily to gays and lesbians in the United States military. Legal papers consist of anti-discrimination lawsuits filed by the Pride Foundation and the Alexander Hamilton Post.

<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8jw8h6c.pdf>.

Lorraine Hurdle Papers.**Collection Number: 2018-12.**

This collection contains photographs, personal papers, memorabilia, correspondence, and other materials relating to the life of Lorraine Hurdle (1922-2014), a Black lesbian woman. Hurdle served in the United States Women's Army Corps (WAC) in Germany during World War II, and most of the contents in this collection document her career in the service during the war and after. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8jw8mwk.pdf>.

Phillis Abry Kaplan Records.**Collection Number: 1995-08.**

Phillis Abry Kaplan was a queer woman who served in World War II. This collection consists of her scrapbooks chronicling her service. The first scrapbook contains documents from the enlistment process; WAC handbooks and newsletters, and three issues of the magazine "Overseas Woman"; photographs and newspaper clippings from the training at Des Moines; photographs and certificate of completion from the Radio Institute in Newark; itinerary to Texas and snapshots from life in the South Plains Army Airfield; photos from the winter 1994 recruiting team (including pictures used in the documentary "Coming out under Fire"); and snapshots from Phillis' visit to her mother and sister. The second scrapbook includes photographs of Phillis' trip to Paris; postcards and theater programs; souvenirs such as metro tickets and ration cards; a list of the Company members, and a copy of Phillis' honorable discharge. The photographs are black and white positive images; they depict the everyday life of the WAC, from marching and driving a truck to holiday parties and skits in the barracks.

<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c87h1rp9.pdf>.

Alpheus Koon Papers.**Collection Number: 2019-80.**

The collection includes material related to ballet dancer Alpheus Koon, including World War II-era correspondence from Koon's friends, family, and lovers. From the correspondence, Koon appears to have been in intimate relationships with several of the male correspondents, including both servicemen and civilians. Material dates from circa 1938-1977, with the bulk of the material dated in the 1940s. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c85x2gv4.pdf>.

Henri Leleu Papers.**Collection Number: 1997-13.**

This collection comprises materials, covering half a century beginning in the early 1930's through the early 1980's, of Henri Leleu's life. The scope of the materials include personal papers, documents related to gay cultural events, documents related to Leleu's political activities, particularly with the Tavern Guild of San Francisco, work documents, ephemera collected from Leleu's travels, photographs, slides, and negatives. The bulk of this collection consists of photographic materials. At 33, Leleu was recruited into the Navy to serve in the Pacific Rim arena for the duration of World War II. For the next several years, he sent letters home either mildly complaining about the working conditions or sharing his delight and fascination with the military (see, especially, Box 1 Folder 3-4). At times, he had rather cushy jobs during the war, writing news releases for the Navy or doing administrative work. In any event, he must have enjoyed his life there, writing a two-page feature of his military experience for a local hometown paper and meticulously saving documents and photographs from this period of his life. http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/glbths_1997_13.pdf.

Collection of Lesbian Photographs.**Collection Number: 2008-01.**

This collection consists of 20 black and white anonymous lesbian photographs from a scrapbook, dating from World War II up to the early 1960s. Images include portraits of individuals, couples, and small groups at parties, in snow, and working on cars. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8x92j8z.pdf>.

Francine Logandice Collection.**Collection Number: 2002-04.**

Francine Logandice was a transgender entrepreneur who owned a resort on the Russian River and a number of successful bars in San Francisco – the 222 Club on Hyde, the Black Rose, The Depot in the Outer Mission, Francine's, Elaine's, Déjà Vu and Café San Marcos. The collection contains correspondence, books, book lists, notes, and research related to Logandice's passion project, the Bibliography of Impersonation, Transvestism and Transexualism. Logandice was born in New Jersey in 1928, joined the merchant marine at age 14 during World War II, and relocated to California in the mid-1960s before gender transitioning in 1969. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8fq9ztj.pdf>.

Stuart Loomis Papers.**Collection Number: 2002-37.**

The Stuart Loomis papers contain materials related to organizations and cultural events in which this longtime San Francisco resident participated. Loomis, a World War II veteran, was a professor at San Francisco State University. His collection includes board materials, correspondence, financial records, memos and newsletters from Operation Concern and other LGBT counseling groups and services; conference materials from the National Gay Health Foundation; clippings and an annual report from Huckleberry House; materials related to the Wednesday Forum; press releases, reviews and tributes to filmmaker Arthur Bresson, Jr. and his movies, "Gay USA" and "Buddies"; correspondence and other materials related to the World War II Project and the documentary "Coming Out Under Fire"; and graphics related to Hot Flash. The collection also includes ephemera, photographs, screenplays, and the essay, "Pygmalion Is Galatea: An Etiology of a Remarkable Case of Male Transvestism," by Stuart Allen. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c86m3ds0.pdf>.

Vern Martelle Scrapbooks.**Collection Number: 2003-25.**

Vern Martelle (sometimes Verne Martell) was a female impersonator who performed in Europe, North Africa (USO during World War II), Las Vegas, Seattle (Garden of Allah Club), San Francisco (Finocchio's), and other locales. This collection is composed of two of Martelle's scrapbooks, which contain clippings, photographs and ephemera. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8v12bqx.pdf>.

Norman E. Nagem Photograph Album.**Collection Number: 2013-03.**

This album contains photographs of Nagem and his friends at parties and balls they attended in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. According to friends, Nagem had a small pension from working as a waiter at the Bohemian Club in San Francisco and owned a building in the Castro. He may have served in the Navy in World War II. Nagem had several long-term partners and many lovers. His idol was Joan Crawford--and he is shown imitating her in many of these photos. Another photograph shows Nagem and his friends at a Thoroughly Modern Millie party in 1966. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8qf90v4.pdf>. Also see Norman E. Nagem Photographs, Collection Number: 2000-25 (<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8q52wjf.pdf>).

Harold T. O'Neal Collection.**Collection Number: 2002-03.**

This collection is the life's work of filmmaker Harold (Hal) O'Neal. O'Neal started filming in Southern California in 1939 and continued through the 1980s. His films contain material about a wide variety of subjects on gay and general interest themes. Included is footage of the relocation of Japanese Americans to internment camps in World War II, female impersonators performing at the Beige Room in San Francisco, gay men socializing in the 1940s including drag and other camp images, and gay freedom day parades from 1978-1980. There are also numerous reels documenting his travels abroad with his partner of over 50 years. Selections

from the collection have been digitized. Contact the archivist for information regarding access.
<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8bk1kbc.pdf>.

Jiro Onuma Papers.

Collection Number: 2000-27.

This collection is from the estate of Jiro Onuma, a Japanese-American man. It includes photographs of Onuma (1904-1990), his friends, and family in the U.S. and in Japan and, notably, a photo of a group of Japanese-Americans (Jiro in the front row) taken in front of a dining hall at the World War II Japanese internment camp in Topaz, Utah. There are also personal papers and materials related to the pre-WWII physical culture movement.

<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8kd24vj.pdf>.

Ruth Reid Autobiographical Novel.

Collection Number: 2001-14.

This is a copy of an unpublished 400-page typewritten autobiographical novel, "Dark Birth," written by Ruth Reid. According to her friend, writer Jacquelyn Marie, Reid used that term because she changed names and used poetic license, but the stories were essentially true. Reid (1903-1981) moved to the San Francisco Bay Area after World War II and started a 30-year relationship with Kent Hyde, who was assigned female but lived publicly as a man. "Dark Birth" covers the ups and downs of a long-term, non-monogamous relationship, and depicts the Bay Area lesbian scene at the time. Reid owned a weaving business with a partner. Portions of Reid's novel appeared in print, and Marie decided to publish excerpts of it, interwoven with information about her life and times, in "Wife of a Lesbian: A Memoir by Ruth Reed," in 2006.
<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8xg9z32.pdf>. This finding aid includes a link the above mentioned memoir.

Phillip Richardson Oral Histories with World War II Veterans.

Collection Number: 1997-35.

This collection consists of Philip Richardson's 1997 interviews with gay men who were veterans of WWII; a copy of the raw data interview sheets for most of the subjects in his study; and a copy of his unpublished paper, "Queer Self Awareness and Public Acceptance."

<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8st7wr6.pdf>.

Ted Rolfs Papers.

Collection Number: 1997-01.

The Ted Rolfs papers document his life, from his childhood in Wisconsin in the 1910s until his death in San Francisco in the early 1990s. Rolfs left Milwaukee in 1929 and hitchhiked to New York. He spent the next 10 years doing art and design and then began working on ships as a cook. He was a lifelong member of, and activist in, the Marine Cooks and Stewards Union. Rolfs spent a few years in Seattle and then settled in San Francisco in 1953, residing here until his death. The collection consists of correspondence with family and friends, from 1929-1990; notebooks and datebooks; speeches; materials related to his activities with the Marine Cooks and Stewards; financial records; subject files; news clippings; personalia; audiotaped recordings

of family and friends; and photographs that span from the early 1900s to the late 1980s.
<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8wq09ph.pdf>.

José Sarria Papers.

Collection Number: 1996-01.

The José Sarria Papers include biographical material, correspondence, photographs, ephemera, artifacts and costumes documenting his career as an entertainer and activist in San Francisco over more than half a century. The collection includes memorabilia, costumes and photos related to Sarria's opera performances at the Black Cat Café and many other venues in the city. Early parts of the collection contain documents from the WWII period, including various photographs of Sarria in uniform and photographs and documents related to the US occupation of Berlin in the immediate post-war period. <http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c81v5h2f.pdf>.

Claude Schwob Papers.

Collection Number: 2003-12.

The Claude Schwob papers document the scientist's professional, personal and erotic life. Schwob (1910-2000) was a research nuclear chemist who worked on the Manhattan Project, the confidential military scientific endeavor that ultimately led to the development of nuclear weapons (1939-46). After his time in New Mexico, he relocated to San Francisco and worked at the U.S. Naval Radiological Defense Lab. He was one of the nation's leading experts on radiation. On the personal side, Schwob befriended, took nude photographs of, and mentored many men. About half of the collection consists of prints of these photographs, and the other half contains correspondence, ephemera, and Schwob's scientific and erotic writings.
<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8r49xvh.pdf>.

Wide Open Town History Project Records.

Collection Number: 2003-05.

This collection contains research files and oral histories from Nan Alamilla Boyd's groundbreaking history of queer San Francisco to 1965, "Wide Open Town." Highlights of the collection include audiotapes of 41 separate interviews, some with transcripts; and photographs and archival materials donated by Boyd's subjects, which date back to the 1930s. This collection also includes research materials about queer nightlife before, during, and after WWII.
<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8154hp7.pdf>.

Murl and Art Willoughby Scrapbooks.

Collection Number: 1997-09.

This collection contains black and white snapshots taken from two photo albums documenting the long-term relationship of two men, Art and Murl Willoughby, with images spanning the years of 1939 to 1961 (mainly 1940s). Included are photographs of family and friends, World War II and Civilian Conservation Corps, visits to Death Valley and a beach in New York, Murl's basketball team material, and photo booth snapshots. There is also one folder with a letter to Murl from his mother. Collection also contains two folders of photocopies of the original scrapbook pages from which the images were removed.
<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c88058hx.pdf>.

Collection of World War II-era Photographs.

Collection Number: 2000-23.

Collection contains 21 anonymous black and white photographs of men (groups, duos, single) in World War II military uniforms. Two of the photographs have handwritten captions on the back about the men pictured.

<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8tt4xwk.pdf>.

World War II Project Papers, 1892-1996.

Collection Number: Ascension Number 1995-16.

The World War II Project Papers contain assorted research files relating to the history of homosexuals in the military. The period covered ranges from 1892 to 1996, but the vast majority of the holdings are from 1941 through 1947 and specifically relate to the issue of gay men and lesbians who served in the military during World War II. The collection has several strengths, including nearly 100 oral history interviews primarily conducted with gay male and lesbian veterans; personal correspondence and papers that reveal the subjective experiences of homosexuals while serving in the military (see, especially, the Harold Clark Papers in Series 3); several thousand pages of declassified military documents relating to the surveillance, regulation, and disciplining of military personnel sexual behavior and orientation; and photocopies of several hundred published articles discussing sexuality, psychology, and military service. Also of interest are the Project's administrative files, which include information about how Berube obtained funding and correspondence Berube received from oral history interviewees and individuals who read his articles published in the Advocate and Mother Jones. The collection also includes a complete copy of the 1957 "Crittenden Report" that examined the situation of homosexuals in the United States Navy and several boxes of subject files relating to the social and cultural history of the Second World War.

<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/wwii.pdf>.

Oral Histories

Note: The GLBT Historical Society has extensive oral history collections related to World War II, many of which were gathered by Allan Bérubé for his study of gay and lesbian service members during World War II. Below is a list of select oral histories that have transcripts available online, but this list is only a fraction of the available oral histories. For a more exhaustive search, including those oral histories that do not currently have online transcripts attached, simply use "World War II" as the keyword in the search bar for oral histories on the Society's website here:

<https://www.glbthistory.org/catalog-search>.

OHCNumber: 02-001

Interviewee: Abry, Phillis (Phillis Kaplan)

Interviewer: Alice ? (Tape marked AYH)

Interview Dates: 2/19/1993

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 97-031

Interviewee: Alinder, Gary

Interviewer: Gabriel, Paul

Interview Dates: 7/31/1991

Description: People: Garrison Keillor, Paul Robeson, Abbie Hoffman, Jerry Rubin, Jim Fouratt, Martha Shelley, Robin Morgan, Saul Linsky, Cockettes, Leo Laurence, Elliot Blackstone, Goldie Glitters Events: MOW 1965, anti-Vietnam war movement, antiwar movement, 1968 Ch

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-178

Interviewee: Anonymous (Court Reporter)

Interviewer: Berube, Alan

Interview Dates: 7/17/80

Description: Interviewee was a court reporter for people who were court martialled during World War II, many of whom were accused of being homosexual.

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-009

Interviewee: Barrett, David

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 2/22/1983

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-006

Interviewee: Barrett, David

Interviewer: Dong, Arthur

Interview Dates: 6/18/1993

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-004

Interviewee: Barrett, David

Interviewer: Dong, Arthur with Alan Berube

Interview Dates: 3/13/1993

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-008

Interviewee: Bate, Neal

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 10/20/1981

Description: Processes/themes: military, merchant marine, World War II, artists, arts, erotica, bar culture People: Paul Cadmus, Bernard McFadden, Rae Bourbon, Carol Davis Places: Hollywood

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-010

Interviewee: Bernstein, Richard (Feldman, Eugene)

Interviewer: Berube, Allan and John D'Emilio

Interview Dates: 1/2/1982

Description: Religion, Judaism, World War II, Ethnicity, Civil Rights, Literature, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-013

Interviewee: Blair, Stephen

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 4/12/1991

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-015

Interviewee: Bond, Pat

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 5/18/1981

Description: World War II, military, lesbian

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-019

Interviewee: Carlow, Stan

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 8/24/1981

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-021

Interviewee: Coleman, Charlotte

Interviewer: unknown

Interview Dates: 2/16/1993

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-022

Interviewee: Crawford, Mary

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 2/17/1983 - 3/4/1983

Description: World War II, military, lesbian bars, New York City, abortion, bisexuality, butch-fem, 1930s, Depression.

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-025
Interviewee: Davis, Sarah
Interviewer: unknown
Interview Dates: 9/10/1993
Description: World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 80-002
Interviewee: Davis, Sarah Ann
Interviewer: Castillo, Joann
Interview Dates: 7/6/1980 - 7/12/1980
Description: lesbian, military, World War II, 1940s, bar culture
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-028
Interviewee: Devine, Raymond
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 4/4/1982
Description: World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-032
Interviewee: de Winter, Rebecca (pseud)
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 3/15/1984
Description: World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 94-022
Interviewee: Fabian, Jerry
Interviewer: Walker, Willie
Interview Dates: 11/30/1989 - 1/23/1990
Description: family heritage, ethnicity, 1930s, Los Angeles, San Marino, opera, sexual awakening, education, Berkeley, UC Berkeley, sailors, merchant marine, World War II, venereal disease, Oak Room, bar culture, Black Cat, Beige Room, Finocchios, Mona's, Paper Doll
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-040
Interviewee: Garten, Michael
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 2/14/1984
Description: World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 08-001
Interviewee: Gelbman, Frank
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 2/14/1984
Description: World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-041
Interviewee: Gelbman, Frank
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 2/12/1993
Description: World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-047
Interviewee: Gilman, Charles
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 1/20/1981
Description: World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-059
Interviewee: Harder, Helen
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 5/11/1982
Description: lesbian, South, race, literature, 1940s, World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-061
Interviewee: Howard (pseud.)
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 12/13/1982
Description: World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-062
Interviewee: Jacober, Frank
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 4/21/1985
Description: World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-064

Interviewee: Jones, John (pseud.)

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 11/20/1983

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-065

Interviewee: Kehoe, Monica

Interviewer: Berube, Allan and Peg Cruikshank

Interview Dates: 12/16/1981

Description: lesbian, military, 1940s, relationships, Mills College, World WarII

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-066

Interviewee: Kepner, Jim

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 6/2/1981

Description: world war II, bar culture, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-068

Interviewee: King, Pete (pseud.)

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 3/20/1986

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-069

Interviewee: Knieval, Jack

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 11/6/1982

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-072

Interviewee: Lee, Bruce

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 5/28/1980

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 94-045

Interviewee: Loomis, Maurice

Interviewer: Duggins, Jim

Interview Dates: 11/8/1994 - 11/18/1994
Description: education, military, world war II
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 95-043
Interviewee: Loomis, Stuart
Interviewer: Duggins, Jim
Interview Dates: 3/4/1995 - 6/14/1995
Description: military, gay male, world war II
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-082
Interviewee: Loomis, Stuart
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 3/24/1980
Description: military, gay male, world war II
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 95-109
Interviewee: Loomis, Stuart
Interviewer: Breedan, Jim
Interview Dates: unknown
Description: literature, world war II
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-086
Interviewee: Lowell, Evelyn
Interviewer: Berube, Allan and unknown
Interview Dates: 6/16/1986
Description: World War II, military, theater, This is the Army, Hollywood, Camp Upton
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-087
Interviewee: Mailloux, Raymond
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 5/16/1983
Description: World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-081
Interviewee: Loomis, Maurice
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 2/20/1983
Description: military, gay male, world war II

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-089

Interviewee: McClure, Richard

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 3/12/1979

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-090

Interviewee: McDonald, Bob

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 5/17/1983

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-099

Interviewee: Peterson, George (pseud)

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 5/19/1983

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-105

Interviewee: Plant, Richard

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 5/25/1983

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-095

Interviewee: Myers, Raymond

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 3/18/1984

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-127

Interviewee: Sepia (pseud)

Interviewer: Berube, Allan

Interview Dates: 3/14/1984

Description: World War II, military

TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-128
Interviewee: Small, Ben
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 7/22/1980
Description: World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-131
Interviewee: Smith, Betty (pseud)
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 3/18/1984
Description: World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-083
Interviewee: Loomis, Stuart
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 2/8/1993
Description: military, gay male, world war II
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 03-003
Interviewee: Wood, Perry
Interviewer: Olson, David
Interview Dates: 2002
Description: White Horse Inn bar patron. University of California, Berkeley. Sea Scouts. Arrest for sex with minors. Navy ROTC. World War II. military. Oakland.
TRANSCRIPT

OHCNumber: 02-101
Interviewee: Pendleton, Wyman
Interviewer: Berube, Allan
Interview Dates: 2/8/1993
Description: World War II, military
TRANSCRIPT

Periodicals

Title: Bay Area Reporter
The digitized archives of the *Bay Area Reporter* contain many relevant articles, particularly about WWII veterans' post-war lives, social commemorations, and other forms of memorialization: <https://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=cl&cl=CL2.1995.09&e=-----en--20--1--txt-txIN-----1&sp=BAR>.

Here is a faceted search for WWII:

<https://cdnc.ucr.edu/?a=q&hs=1&r=1&results=1&txq=world+war+II&dafdq=&dafmq=&dafyq=&d atdq=&datmq=&datyq=&puq=BAR&txf=txIN&ssnip=txt&oa=&oa=1&e=-----en--20-BAR-1--txt-txIN-world+war+ij-----1.>

Title: Shawger's Illiterary Digest

Alternate Title: The Illiterary Digest

Holdings: #22 (Mar 1945), #23 (Apr 1945); 'Sixth edition' (May 1946)

Title: Hobby Directory

Holdings: 1946: Jly, Spt, Dec; 1947: Mar, Jun, Spt, Dec; 1948: Mar, Jun, Spt, Dec; 1949: Mar, Jun, Spt, Dec; 1950: Mar, Jun, Spt, Dec; 1951: Mar, Jun, Spt, Dec; 1952: Mar

Title: AVER

Alternate Title: AVER Newsletter/ Veterans C.A.R.E. Aware/Aware

Type: Newsletter

Organization: American Veterans for Equal Rights (AVER), Veterans Council for American Rights and Equality (Veterans C.A.R.E)

Holdings: 2002 May

Title: Aware

Alternate Title: AVER Newsletter/ Veterans C.A.R.E. Aware/Aware

Subtitle: Veterans Council for American Rights and Equality, Inc.

Type: Newsletter

Organization: American Veterans for Equal Rights (AVER), Veterans Council for American Rights and Equality (Veterans C.A.R.E)

Holdings: 1991: Jan.

Title: Citadel Courier

Subtitle: The Official Publication of the Federation of the United States Gay and Lesbian Veterans

Organization: Federation of the United States Gay and Lesbian Veterans

Holdings: vol. 1 #1 (Nov 1986); vol. 2 #1 (May 1987)

Title: Lavender Veterans for Peace Newsletter

Organization: Lavender Veterans for Peace

Holdings: #1 (Mar 6 1988) - #3 (Oct. 31, 1988)

Title: Post Intelligencer

Alternate Title: Intelligencer/Alexander Hamilton Post 448

Subtitle: Alexander Hamilton Veterans Association

Organization: American Legion, Alexander Hamilton Post #448

Holdings: Vol. 2, #11 (Dec. 1986); Vol. 3, #3-#[4], (Mar.-Apr., 1987); Vol. 3 #6 (June 1987); Vol. 4, #1, #4, #8-#9 (1988); Vol. 5, #1-#3, #5, #6-#8, Sep.-Nov., #12 (1989); Vol. 6, #3-#6, Aug., #9-#[12] (1990); Vol. 7, [#1]-[#5], #6-#12 (1991); Vol. 8, #1-#12 (1992); Vol. 9, #1-#4 (1993); Vol.

10, #5-#12 (1993); Vol. 11, #1-#12 (1994); Vol. 12, #1-#11 (1995); Vol. 13, #1, #4-#5, #7-#11 (1996); Vol. 14, #1-#10 (1997); Vol. 15, #1-#12 (1998), Vol. 16, #1-#12 (1999); Vol. 17, #1-#12 (2000), Vol. 18, #1-#3, #5-#7 (2001), vol. 21 #11 (Nov 2004)

Title: The Newsletter

Alternate Title: Veterans C.A.R.E. (Rohnert Park, Calif.)/ Veterans C.A.R.E. Redwood Empire

Subtitle: A Publication of the Redwood Empire Veterans Council for American Rights and Equality

Organization: Veterans Council for American Rights and Equality (Veterans C.A.R.E), Redwood Empire

Holdings: 1988: Feb, Apr - Dec; 1989: Mar, Apr - Jun, Nov, Aug - Dec; 1990: [Feb] - Dec; 1991: Feb - Jun, Aug - Dec; 1992: Feb - Jun, Sep - Dec; 1993: Jan/Feb.

Title: World War II Project Newsletter

Organization: World War II Project

Holdings: #1 (Apr 1985) - #6 (Dec 1986)

Title: Vice Versa

Subtitle: America's Gayest Magazine

Holdings: photocopies of originals: vol. 1 #1 (Jun 1947) - #6 (Nov 1947), #8 (Jan 1948) - #9 (Feb 1948); vol. 2 #2 (date?); typed originals: vol. 1 #1 (Jun 1947), #9 (Feb 1948)

Note: There are also multiple periodicals from the time period that catered to specific interests in physical fitness, male physique/muscle building, and general health. See, for example:

Title: Health & Efficiency

Subtitle: The World's Leading Naturist Journal, Est. 1900

Holdings: Vol. 17 #9 (Sep 1947)

Title: La Culture Physique

Holdings: 1929: #474 (Oct); 1937: #570 (Oct); 1947: #647 (Dec); 1953: #714 (Jul)

Title: Modern Sunbathing and Hygiene

Holdings: Vol. 17 #13 (Apr 1948); Vol. 22 #5 (May 1952)

Title: Muscle Power

Holdings: vol. 1 #4 (Jly 1946), #5 (Aug 1946); vol. 2 #4 (Feb 1947)

Title: Strength and Health

Alternate Title: Strength & Health

Holdings: 1936: Vol. 4 #12 (Nov); 1939: Sep; 1941: May, Sept; 1942: Mar, Dec; 1943: Sep, Oct; 1944: Feb, Mar, Apr, May; 1945: Aug, Nov; 1946: Feb, Apr, Nov; 1947: Jul, 1948: Oct, Dec; 1949: Strength and Health Strength & Health Jan, May; 1961: Feb, Nov; 1962: Feb, Apr, Oct; 1963: Feb

Online Resources

The GLBT Historical Society also has digital collections that document the historical experience and lives of LGBTQ people during the World War II period. These digital collections are easily accessible and great for teachers, students, and lifelong learners.

Gay Men in the Military

Gay men have a long history of serving in the United States military. This primary source set provides insights into the experiences of gay servicemen spanning several generations and conflicts. Topics include blue discharges; serving during the Second World War; gay life and relationships during the Vietnam era; and serving under Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

<https://www.glbthistory.org/primary-source-set-gay-men-in-the-military>.

Lesbians in the Military

Lesbians have been serving in the United States military for generations. The sources selected here document lesbian servicewomen's experiences from World War II to the Gulf War to contemporary conflicts. Topics include serving during Don't Ask, Don't Tell; lesbian relationships during the Second World War and throughout the postwar period; and the struggles and pride that came with military service.

<https://www.glbthistory.org/primary-source-set-lesbians-in-the-military>.

Jiro Onuma Papers.

Jiro Onuma was a Japanese-American man. The collection includes Onuma's passport documentation and images of Onuma and his friends and lover in 1930s San Francisco and at Tule Lake internment camp, where Onuma was forcibly incarcerated during World War II.

<https://www.glbthistory.org/jiro-onuma-papers>.

José Sarria Papers.

Sarria (December 13, 1922 – August 19, 2013) was a drag performer, politician, and community leader. After serving in the Second World War and dropping out of college because a solicitation arrest made it impossible for him to work as a teacher, Sarria became a cocktail waiter at the Black Cat, a bohemian bar with a largely gay clientele. There, he became locally famous for his opera parodies and his outspoken gay pride. He ended each performance with a song called "God Save Us Nelly Queens." In 1961, Sarria ran for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors — the first LGBTQ+ person to run for office in the United States — and in 1965, he founded the Imperial Court System, a queer charitable organization known for the elaborate courtly titles and pageantry adopted by its members.

<https://www.glbthistory.org/primary-source-set-sarria>.

Wide Open Town Records

Included here are selected photographs from the Wide Open Town History Project records (collection #2003-05). *Wide Open Town* is Nan Alamilla Boyd's groundbreaking history of queer

San Francisco to 1965. Photographs highlight Mona Sargent's clubs, including Mona's 440, and lesbian nightlife. <https://www.glbthistory.org/wide-open-town-records>.

Harold T. O'Neal Videos

Filmmaker Harold T. O'Neal produced several films with content from the WWII period. His films depict a wide variety of queer life, from the bar scene and socializing to military experiences. Videos include one of Japanese relocation to internment camps and a rubber drive (1942), and another of soldiers training at the Santa Ana Army Airbase (1944).

<https://archive.org/details/glbthistoricalsociety?and%5B%5D=creator%3A%22o%27neal%2C%20harold%20t.%22>.

Pioneering Periodicals Exhibit

This online exhibit includes digital copies of publications related to LGBTQ people and their lives prior to 1960, when such periodicals were both legally and socially prohibited from wide-reaching popular press. Queer people attempted to get around these prohibitions in an effort to foster community. Glimmers of these efforts appear in three periodicals displayed here: Shawger's Illiterary Digest (1945–1946) and Vice Versa (1947–1948) circulated privately in a tiny number of copies, while The Hobby Directory (1948) reached wider networks, but with its queer content coyly coded.

<https://artsandculture.google.com/u/1/exhibit/bwISSrx7J8tHIQ>.