

**Southwest Virginia LGBTQ+ History Project
Meeting at the Roanoke Public Libraries
February 13, 2024**

ATTENDANCE: 3

First 30 minutes: pizza & and making queer Valentine's cards

1) ARCHIVES

- a) Roanoke College research assistant:
 - i) *Blue Ridge Banner* (1990-1995) now fully digitized:
<https://swvalgbtqhistory.org/physical-archives/>
 - ii) By May, the *Blue Ridge Messenger* (1997-1998) should also be done. Beyond that, maybe the Ricketson Library newsletter (c. 2000-2001).
- b) Graduate-level (MLIS) intern from Old Dominion University finished work in December:
 - i) A new subject index for the *BRLP*, covering the entirety of the 1980s, launched! View it here:
https://swvalgbtqhistory.files.wordpress.com/2023/10/bria_brlp-subject-index-v.1-oct.-23.pdf
 - ii) An updated index covering c. 1980-1995 should come out soon

2) ORAL HISTORIES

- a) LL interview added to collection!
- b) Next steps?
 - i) KS: interview w/ G this spring

3) PODCAST

- a) Episode 6 on LGBTQ housing and homelessness was released in December!
- b) Episode 7 will focus on queer youth in our public schools and come out in Spring 2024
- c) Episode 8 (potentially) may be a collab with Washington & Lee students in Fall 2024

4) WALKING TOURS

- a) Videos highlighting walking tour stops - turned out great!
- b) tour guide training & staffing update
 - i) KS will offer tour guide training in March 2024:
 - (1) Invite new guides to take the March 10 public tour
 - (2) Then training the next weekend w/ KS
 - ii) 2024 tour schedule is finalized; flyer & graphics published
- c) Brochure - GSR have JM update with new website URL & QR code(s) by March 2024

5) TRANS WELLNESS FUND

- a) Updates:

- i) As of February 14, 2024:
 - ii) Money distributed: \$2,275
 - iii) Money remaining: \$0
 - iv) Total applications received: 127
 - v) Total awardees: 8
 - vi) Percentage, BIPOC awardees: 75%
 - b) MOU between LGBR and History Project to manage the Trans Wellness Fund - agreed to, in principle:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wXvOfVXvwh6yTQhvMCfY60D-r5IUFBfyu5f1qi1JdmA/edit?usp=sharing>
 - i) Need to create PayPal donation link/button & place on Hist Proj website
 - ii) Need to create social media campaign to get folks to donate to the fund
 - c) Due to the lack of the finalized MOU agreement, History Project agreed at this time to close the fund until there is \$ in it again
- 6) EVENTS
- a) KS will lead Bar Crawl on Friday, May 3rd!
 - i) KS will bring in draft itinerary & promotional materials to next meeting for approval
 - b) KS will take the lead on the Community Picnic in June
- 7) ROANOKE COLLEGE DIVORCE
- a) Our new, independent website is live at swvalgbtqhistory.org.
 - b) As for the digital archives, we'll look into preserving our digital archives materials (PDFs and metadata) off of RC platforms so that it can be used in a different, future setting if desired
- 8) NEXT MEETING?
- a) Tuesday, April 9th, 6pm