

Gerber/Hart Library and Archives

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Jack Rinella Collection

Accession Number: 96-3

Fonds/Provenance: **Jack Rinella [Joseph F. Laiacona]**

Series Number:

Title: **Jack Rinella Collection, 1994 - 1996**

Date Range: 1994 – 1996

Extent: 1.5 linear feet (3 boxes)

Location: K2B – K2C (Row K, Bay 2, Shelf B – Row K, Bay 2, Shelf 3)

Collection History:

Joseph F. Laiacona, born December 1, 1946, moved to Chicago in 1991.

Under the pseudonym Jack Rinella, has written on and been active in Chicago's BDSM/Leather scenes. He wrote the weekly column "Leather Views" for *Gay Chicago Magazine* from 1992 – 2008 and wrote several books such as *The Master's Manual*, *The Compleat Slave*, and *Partners in Power*. He also led lectures and seminars. He was a founding member of MasT-Chicago and an associate member of the Chicago Hellfire Club.

Laiacona worked as an educator. He also ran in the Democratic primary for 40th ward alderman in 2009 and in the general election for 39th ward alderman in 2015.

Custodial History:

Collection was donated by Jack Rinella, and consists of copied transcript of the originals held at the Chicago Historical Society and the Leather Archives and Museum (Chicago). The original videos by Rinella are at the Leather Archives. The original oral histories conducted by Sprague are held at the Chicago Historical Society. Permission was given by Chuck Renslow in 1995 to Gerber/Hart and the Chicago Historical Society to have copies of the interviews for their collections. The collection was received at Gerber/Hart on August 22, 1996 and prepared by Russell Kracke on September 15, 1997. The condition listed was excellent.

Scope and Content:

This collection is a series of transcribed oral histories conducted by Jack Rinella and Gregory Sprague

as part of Rinella's research on the history of leather. Rinella expanded the scope to the history of Gay Liberation and of Chicago as he became more familiar with the materials being presented through the interviews. The project was funded by Chuck Renslow.

The interviews contained in this collection were conducted primarily by Rinella on gay and lesbian individuals, some prominent figures, who were familiar with or who were actually involved in the making of Chicago's gay and lesbian historical past. The collection contained 65 interviews by Rinella and eight interviews by Sprague, totaling 75 interviews.

The following transcribed interviews were conducted between 1980 and 1982 by or under the direction of Gregory Sprague (who died in 1987) or his assistants. Sprague's interviews can be found as listed in this collection as follows:

- Interview One with Jim Bradford (Box 1, File Folder 5 and 6)
- Interview with Ira Jones (Box 2, FF 32)
- Interview with William Kelley (Box 2, FF 34)
- Interview with Merle Markland (Box 2, FF 45)
- Interview with Step (Stephan) May (Box 2, FF 46)
- Interview with Michael Shallow (Box 2, FF 66)
- Interview with Samuel Steward (Box 3, FF 70)
- Interview with Henry Wiemnhoff (Parts I and II) (Box 3, FF 78)

The remaining 67 interviews were conducted by Rinella from 1994 to 1996.

Arrangement:

The interviews are listed in one single series, designated as "Interview with..." followed by the interviewee, and then by the interviewer. They are filed in alphabetical order by the interviewee.

Series:

1 Interviews

Container List:

BOX 1

Series/File List:

0. Finding Aid

1. Interviews

1. Interview with Damien Aiello, August 1, 1995, by Jack Rinella
2. Interview with Norm Altman, August 1, 1995, by Jack Rinella
3. Interview with Tracy Baim, July 13, 1995, by Jack Rinella
4. Interview with Pat Batt, July 26, 1995, by Jack Rinella
5. Interview One with Jim Bradford, January 22, 1980, by Gregory Sprague, pages 1 – 44
6. Interview One with Jim Bradford, January 22, 1980, by Gregory Sprague, pages 45 – 89
7. Interview Two with Jim Bradford, December 9, 1995, by Jack Rinella

8. Interview with Wayne Bradley, August 4, 1995, by Jack Rinella
9. Interview with Jim Bruce, May 1994, by Jack Rinella
10. Interview with Leo Cardini, June 23, 1994, by Jack Rinella
11. Interview with Gary Christopher, July 1, 1995 and August 8, 1995 by Jack Rinella
12. Interview with Ann Christophersen, August 31, 1995, by Jack Rinella
13. Interview with Jon-Henri Damski, Part One, August 2, 1995, by Jack Rinella
14. Interview with Jon-Henri Damski, Part Two, Undated, by Jack Rinella
15. Interview with Jay Deacon, August 8, 1995, by Jack Rinella
16. Interview with Tony DeBlase, January 14, 1996, by Jack Rinella
17. Interview with Laurie Dittman, July 26, 1995, by Jack Rinella
18. Interview with Tom Dombkowski, July 25, 1995, by Jack Rinella
19. Interview with Kit Duffy, August 8, 1995, by Jack Rinella
20. Interview with Ron Ehemann, April 11, 1995 by Jack Rinella
21. Interview with Jim Flint, July 11, 1995, by Jack Rinella
22. Interview with Grant Ford, June 5, 1995, by Jack Rinella
23. Interview with Jack Fritscher, July 27, 1995, by Jack Rinella
24. Interview with Rick Garcia, July 26, 1995, by Jack Rinella
25. Interview with Bill Gary aka Flowers, August 3, 1995, by Jack Rinella
26. Interview with Vernita Gray, August 1, 1995, by Jack Rinella

BOX 2

27. Interview One with Renee Hanover, January 3, 1995, by Jack Rinella
28. Interview Two with Renee Hanover, July 25, 1995, by Jack Rinella
29. Interview with Agnes Hassett, June 16, 1995, by Jack Rinella
30. Interview with Dewey Herrington, July 15, 1995, by Jack Rinella
31. Interview with Roger Hickey, August 1, 1995, by Jack Rinella
32. Interview with Ira Jones, June 17, 1981, by Gregory Sprague
33. Interview with Rick Karlin, July 25, 1995, by Jack Rinella
34. Interview with William Kelley, February 17, 1980, by Gregory Sprague
35. Interview One with William Kelley, January 6, 1995, by Jack Rinella
36. Interview Two with William Kelley, July 12, 1995, by Jack Rinella
37. Interview with Ralla Klepak, August 4, 1995, by Jack Rinella
38. Interview with Walter Klingler, June 27, 1995, by Jack Rinella
39. Interview with Doug Kreis, March 16, 1996, by Jack Rinella
40. Interview with Marie Kuda (transcription of her Lesbian History slide presentation),
Undated
41. Interview with Frank Lemi, July 13, 1995, by Jack Rinella
42. Interview with Jerry Leppke, June 11, 1994, by Jack Rinella
43. Interview with Joe Loundy, July 20, 1995, by Jack Rinella
44. Interview with Bob Maddox, July 14, 1995, by Jack Rinella
45. Interview with Merle Markland, January 19, 1981, by Marjorie Miller
46. Interview with Step (Stephan) May, December 30, 1981, by Gregory Sprague
47. Interview with Kent McClure, July 28, 1995, by Jack Rinella
48. Interview with Harley McMillian, June 7, 1995, by Jack Rinella
49. Interview with Frank Olson, June 27, 1994, by Jack Rinella
50. Interview with David Ostrow, August 13, 1995, by Jack Rinella

51. Interview with Richard Pfeiffer, July 19, 1995, by Jack Rinella
52. Interview with John Power, April, 6, 1996, by Jack Rinella
53. Interview with Cliff Raven, June 15, 1995, by Jack Rinella

BOX 3

54. Interview One with Patrick Finnegan Renslow, December 27, 1994, by Jack Rinella
55. Interview Two with Patrick Finnegan Renslow, June 5, 1995, by Jack Rinella
56. Interview with Dave Riley, July 13, 1995, by Jack Rinella
57. Interview with Linda Rodgers, July 17, 1995, by Jack Rinella
58. Interview with Chuck Rodocker, March 18, 1996, by Jack Rinella
59. Interview with Larry Rolla, June 9, 1995, by Jack Rinella
60. Interview with Steve Rosenberg, August 3, 1995, by Jack Rinella
61. Interview with Karen Ross, July 25, 1995, by Jack Rinella
62. Interview with Bob Rothchild, June 4, 1995, by Jack Rinella
63. Interview with Bruce Scott, June 20, 1995, by Jack Rinella
64. Interview with David Seat, June 12, 1995, by Jack Rinella
65. Interview with Jim Serritelli, July 10, 1995, by Jack Rinella
66. Interview with Michael Shallow, July 24, 1985, by Gregory Sprague
67. Interview with Jack Siebert, December 11, 1995, by Jack Rinella
68. Interview with Jack Sitar, November 7, 1994, by Jack Rinella
69. Interview with Max Smith, July 24, 1995, by Jack Rinella
70. Interview with Samuel Steward, May 20, 1982, by Gregory Sprague
71. Interview with David Stienecker, July 19, 1995, by Jack Rinella
72. Interview with Velma Tate, July 31, 1995, by Jack Rinella
73. Interview with Joe Turek, June 29, 1995, by Jack Rinella
74. Interview with Rodman Vincelette, June 13, 1995, by Jack Rinella
75. Interview with Dennis Walsh, June 19, 1995, by Jack Rinella
76. Interview with Guy Warner, July 26, 1995, by Jack Rinella
77. Interview with Jim Wickliff, July 31, 1995, by Jack Rinella
78. Interview with Henry Wiemhoff, Parts I and II, July 27, 1980, by Jack Rinella
79. Interview with Jerry Williams, June 15, 1995, by Jack Rinella
80. Interview with Bob Yuhnke, March 15, 1996, by Jack Rinella
81. Interview with Mark Zimmerman, August 7, 1995, by Jack Rinella

Separations:

None.

Restrictions:

Jack Rinella is to be contacted for formal verification as he said materials may be used, but not published until his book on the history of Chicago liberation movement comes out.

Related Fonds/Series:

Gregory Sprague

Subject Headings:

Gay liberation movement
Gay men—Civil rights
Gays—Social life and customs
Leather bars—Leather lifestyle
Lesbians—Civil rights

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