



Heritage Honor Roll

www.americansall.org/heritage/honor/roll

Every individual, group and business has a story worth telling. A legacy story can be presented in text and through photographs, home movies and other video and audio mediums. It can also be published in multiple languages and include hyperlinks to other Web sites important to the honoree. The Heritage Honor Roll may contain more than one legacy story for an individual or a group—or the legacy story may appear in more than one language—because members have opted to recognize different contributions of the same individual or group or wanted to share the story in their native language.

Leveraging the public's interest in legacy preservation enables Americans All to continue to pursue our education mission. We invest more than half of fees collected to strengthen social studies instruction and promote civic engagement, so K-12 students are better prepared to participate in our nation's democracy, economy and workforce.

See our [Sponsor Directory](#) for a listing of members and their honoree's legacy stories.

[Click here](#) to view the benefits of using an Americans All Heritage Honor Roll legacy story to best keep your loved one's memory alive, forever.

[Click here](#) to view a cost-benefit analysis of a newspaper obituary and an Americans All Heritage Honor Roll legacy story.

[Click here](#) to view our "Event, Anniversary and Memorial Announcement" Tool.

Every story has an introductory summary on this page.

About the Heritage Honor Roll

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Language State

and or
Last Name of Individual First Name of Individual Group Name

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Fay Rubenstein Jacobs [Fay Jacobs] (*June 29, 1948 -*) *Writer & Humorist* /node/553012

Fay Jacobs is a writer and humorist from NYC transplanted to Washington, DC, then Rehoboth Beach, DE. She has four published books, is a GLBT activist and is married to Bonnie Quesenberry. She has kept company with a long line of Schnauzers and lives by the motto "nothing is ever so bad if it's worth the story you can tell."

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Quesenberry-Jacobs [Quesenberry-Jacobs] (*March 1982 -*) *Gay Rights Activists* /node/553021

In 1982, Fay Jacobs, a writer, performer, public relations consultant and GLBT activist, met Bonnie Quesenberry, owner of a Baltimore Dental Laboratory who served her country with distinction in both the Army and Navy, have shared their lives as a couple for 34 years.

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Create a Legacy Story, Support Social Studies





Fay Rubenstein Jacobs *Writer & Humorist*

www.americansall.org/node/553012



Fay Rubenstein Jacobs (June 29, 1948 -) Writer & Humorist

Fay Jacobs is a writer, performer, public relations consultant and GLBT activist. She lives her life based on the advice of her father who said "Nothing is ever so bad if it's worth the story you can tell."

She was born June 29, 1948 in New York City. She is the daughter of Shirley Kelsey Rubenstein and Mort Rubenstein. She and her younger sister Gwen grew up in Queens, NY, Bellmore Long Island, Stamford, CT, and spent her high school years on 54th Street and 6th Avenue in New York City, where she fell in love with Broadway shows. She saw every hit show during Broadway's Golden Age of the mid-1960s.

She relocated to Washington DC for college at The American University graduating in 1970 with a BA in Communications and Theater, with her first employment in the promotions department of a local TV station.

Fay had a 30-year career in journalism, public relations and theater in the Washington, DC area, where she directed over 40 musicals and plays at both professional and community theatres. Her favorite was the **Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre**, an outdoor venue in Maryland. She edited *The Montgomery Village News* for 17 years before relocating to Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. There, she worked for 11 years as Executive Director for Rehoboth Beach Main Street, Inc. a tourism and economic development organization. In 2002 she won the Governor's Award for Delaware Tourism Person of the Year. Under her direction, RB Main Street won the **Great American Main Street Award** in 2009. In addition, she served on the Board of Directors for the GLBT service organization CAMP Rehoboth for 14 years, has written for its publication *Letters from CAMP Rehoboth* for 21 years and served as Feature Editor for 14 years.

Fay met her mate **Bonnie** in 1982. She owned a Baltimore Dental Laboratory. They were first married in 2003 in Vancouver, Canada when same-gender marriage became legal there. They celebrated their 30th anniversary (commemorating the day they met) in Rehoboth Beach with a religious ceremony by a rabbi, with the rite being recognized as a marriage by their religious congregation, but just as a civil union in Delaware. One year later on their 31st anniversary and one year anniversary of their Jewish wedding, they stood on the steps of the Supreme Court as Plaintiff Edie Windsor and her legal team gave oral arguments to overturn the Federal Defense of Marriage Act. Shortly thereafter, the law was overturned and Fay and Bonnie's Delaware civil union converted to full marriage equality.

As a journalist and author, Fay is best known for award-winning humorous essays detailing life in the GLBT friendly resort of **Rehoboth Beach**. Combining advocacy and stories of life with her wife Bonnie, the books have been hailed as hilarious, provocative and a history of GLBT progress over the decades. She was the publisher of *A&M Books*, a successor to the legendary *Naiad Press*—a business she inherited from lesbian publishing pioneers Anyda Marchant and Muriel Crawford. In 2015, she merged *A&M* with the publishing house *Bywater Books*.

She has authored four **published books** of her essays: *As I Lay Frying – a Rehoboth Beach Memoir*, *Fried & True – Tales from Rehoboth Beach*, winner of the 2008 National Federation of Press Women Book of the Year for humor, *For Frying Out Loud – Rehoboth Beach Diaries*, winner of *ForeWord Reviews* Humor Book of the Year, a Goldie Award, American Library Association Over the Rainbow nomination and the 2011 National Federation of Press Women Humor Book of the Year. *Time Fries! Aging Gracelessly in Rehoboth Beach* was released in December 2013. Fay has written for *The Advocate*, *Curve Magazine*, *The Washington Post*, *Baltimore Sun* and more.

In retirement, Fay launched a new project, a touring one-woman show called **Aging Gracelessly: 50 Shades of Fay**. She has performed this oral memoir to sold out crowds all over the east coast, on an Olivia travel cruise and in NYC on Christopher Street at the Duplex. Critics have called Fay "the last comic sitting."

Wherever she goes she is accompanied by her wife and their Schnauzer Windsor (named for **Edie Windsor**).

To view Bonnie's story, [click here](#).

**Aging Gracelessly:
50 Shades of Fay
AN ORAL MEMOIR**

Join FAY JACOBS for an unforgettable evening of humor and inspiration.

Rife with Fay's signature humor and quick wit, this one-woman tour de force reminds us that nothing is ever so horrible if it's worth the stories you can tell. Join Fay as she tackles life, liberty and the aging process. From zip lines to skunk sprays, lesbian invisibility to marriage equality, this is one journey you'll be glad you made.

**The Duplex Cabaret Theatre
61 Christopher Street @ 7th Avenue, NYC
Saturday, May 7, 2016
9:30 p.m.**

TICKETS: Tickets are \$25 online, \$30 at the door. Two-drink minimum.
www.TheDuplex.com

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Get Involved TODAY!**

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Upgrade your membership in our Americans All program to include our Social Legacy Network so you and your family can receive additional benefits—electronic access to 1-12 social studies resources a membership in *Collegiate e-newsletters* and a membership card for discounts from our program partners—**CLICK HERE**

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Create a User Account for Americans All to become a point of contact so your school can access instructional resources for free—**CLICK HERE**

See a one-page graphic overview of our initiative—**CLICK HERE**



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www.americansall.org/node/553021

Quesenberry-Jacobs Gay Rights Activists



Fay Jacobs (born June 29, 1948) is a journalist and author, best known for award-winning humorous essays detailing life in the GLBT friendly resort of Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.

She was the publisher of A&M Books, a successor to the legendary Naiad Press—a business she inherited from lesbian publishing pioneers Anyda Marchant and Muriel Crawford. In 2015, she merged A&M with the publishing house Bywater Books.

She has authored four published books of her essays: As I Lay Dying – a Rehoboth Beach Memoir, Fried & True – Tales from Rehoboth Beach, winner of the 2008 National Federation of Press Women Book of the Year for humor, For Frying Out Loud – Rehoboth Beach Diaries, winner of ForeWord Reviews Humor Book of the Year, a Goldie Award, American Library Association Over the Rainbow nomination and the 2011 National Federation of Press Women Humor Book of the Year. Time Fries! Aging Gracelessly in Rehoboth Beach was released in December 2013. Fay has written for The Advocate, Curve Magazine, The Washington Post, Baltimore Sun and more.

Combining advocacy and stories of life with her wife Bonnie, the books have been hailed as hilarious, provocative and a history of GLBT progress over the past decades.

Fay, a native New Yorker, spent 30 years in journalism, public relations and theater in the Washington, DC area. She directed over 40 musicals and plays at various theatres in the area, and edited The Montgomery Village News for 17 years before relocating to Rehoboth Beach. There, she worked as Executive Director for Rehoboth Beach Main Street, a tourism and economic development organization. In 2002 She won the Governor's Award for Delaware Tourism Person of the Year. Under her direction, RB Main Street won the Great American Main Street Award in 2009.

In 1982, Fay met Bonnie Quesenberry (born Oct. 4, 1949), and they have shared their lives as a couple for 34 years as of 2016. Bonnie owned a Baltimore dental laboratory handling challenging medical cases for Johns Hopkins Hospital, Children's Hospital in Baltimore and others. Bonnie served in the U.S. Navy 1968-1971 and the U.S. Army 1973-1976. She studied dental technology at Baltimore Community College, worked in the field at the University of Maryland and started her own lab in 1977. She did a research project on the effects of acidulated fluoride on porcelain and was recognized for the work at the International Dental Congress in 1981. Bonnie operated the lab through the move to Rehoboth Beach and retired in 2006.

Fay and Bonnie were married in August 2003 in Vancouver, Canada when same-gender marriage was still illegal in the U.S. They renewed their vows in 2012 with civil union in Delaware, performed by a rabbi and recognized by their religious institution. That marriage became legal in the U.S. in 2013.

In one of her essays, Fay describes meeting Bonnie: "In March 1982, I was over 30 and recently out of the closet. I heard of a women's dance in Baltimore at Johns Hopkins Glass Pavilion. My 1982 internalized homophobia screamed "What moron books a gay dance in a glass room?" Yes, the ballroom was glass. Purple balloons and lesbians were visible from the parking lot. I got a case of the vapors but finally got the courage to go inside. There, friends introduced me to Bonnie. Her date was late. We talked, we danced. We've been together ever since. Bonnie was into camping and softball; the only diamonds I ever saw were at Tiffany. My accent screamed Noo Yawk, Miss Baltimore said, "I love gewin' downy ocean." It took me ten minutes to figure out she meant a trip to the beach. I'd never had a soft shell crab; she'd never had a knish. She owned a dental lab; I was dental-phobic. I directed plays; she'd seen Hello, Dolly once. We just laughed. By the following November we'd bought a home together, and fled, in 1999, to gay-welcoming Rehoboth Beach. We celebrated our 31st anniversary on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court, the day of oral arguments in Windsor vs. the United States – the case to overturn the Federal Defense of Marriage Act. We held a sign saying "If Gay Marriage Was Legal, today would be our 31st Anniversary." We made all the papers and networks, and loved it when young people, gay and straight read our sign and went "Awwww."

To view Fay's story, click here.



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Legacy Partner Alliance

www.americansall.org/legacy-partners

Legacy Partners are families, groups, schools and local, regional and/or national groups, businesses or organizations whose missions reinforce our goals of creating and sharing legacy stories and supporting excellence in social studies instruction.

Legacy Partners participate in our program at no cost because they:

- Generate a home page or home pages (in multiple languages) on our Web site to share information about themselves, better connect with their clients and customers, and demonstrate their commitment to strengthening their community;
- Host, on their home page(s) on our Web site, legacy stories published on our Heritage Honor Roll—created by members of the Americans All program—to provide additional exposure for these stories; and
- Share discounts on goods and services and other benefits with Social Legacy Network members and other Legacy Partners.

Legacy Partners receive a free Gift Coupon for everyone they purchase as a thank-you from our foundation for supporting our mission. They also receive e-newsletters with information on legacy preservation and social studies education as well as life lessons and money-saving tips. Moreover, they can access Americans All logos and marketing templates to communicate the importance of our program to their current and future clients and customers.

The terms appearing in the category field are the most common ones used to describe businesses and service providers. If you want to recommend an additional category, [contact us](#) and enter "Category" in the e-mail subject line. We will notify you if we can add your recommended category to our database.

[Click here](#) to become a point of contact, so your Legacy Partner group, business or organization can support its community and our program.

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Legacy Partner Name	City
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Language	State
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Jacobs-Quesenberry

[Family Circle and Histories](#)

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Organization ID Number: 563132

English version

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Jacobs-Quesenberry

www.americansall.org/node/563132

Family Circle and Histories

In 1982, Fay Jacobs, a writer, performer, public relations consultant and GLBT activist from NYC to Washington, DC, then Rehoboth Beach, met Bonnie Quesenberry, owner of a Baltimore Dental Laboratory who served her country with distinction in both the Army and Navy, have shared their lives as a couple since August 2003.

Fay was the publisher of A&M Books, a successor to the legendary Naiad Press—a business she inherited from lesbian publishing pioneers [Anyda Marchant](#) and [Muriel Crawford](#). In 2016, she merged A&M with the publishing house Bywater Books. She has authored [four published books](#) of her essays: *As I Lay Frying – a Rehoboth Beach Memoir*, *Fried & True – Tales from Rehoboth Beach*, winner of the 2008 National Federation of Press Women Book of the Year for humor, *For Frying Out Loud – Rehoboth Beach Diaries*, winner of ForeWord Reviews Humor Book of the Year, a Goldie Award, American Library Association Over the Rainbow nomination and the 2011 National Federation of Press Women Humor Book of the Year.

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Legacy Stories from the Americans All Heritage Honor Roll

We are pleased to host and share these legacy stories created by honorees' family, friends and associates. They, like us, appreciate that heritage and culture are an integral part of our nation's social fabric and want to help students participate effectively in our nation's economy, workforce and democracy.

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