

GAY BOOKWORM
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Quatrefoil Library -- 1619 Dayton Avenue -- St. Paul MN 55104 -- Volume 4, No. 4 July, 1989

FOUNDING FATHER TURNS OVER THE REINS

(It is with a combination of sadness and gratitude that we enclose the following.)

Many folks literally laughed when we opened a library on West Broadway in north Minneapolis in February of 1986 and said that we would let people check out books for \$10 a year. They told us it was a crazy idea. Well, it's an idea that went crazy. We have had over 750 people take us up on that offer over the last three years. Of course, we did have to raise the fee to \$15.

During that time over one hundred wonderful people have volunteered their services in one way or another. It has been my privilege to coordinate the volunteer program. Because we have NO paid staff, the volunteers provide a very important service. At present there are 63 people actively serving in a volunteer capacity.

During the last four years I have served as volunteer coordinator, president for two years, and board member for three. Gradually I have moved out of these positions. As of July 1, I will serve no official capacity except member and dedicated volunteer. I want to thank every one of you who has helped in any way. I know you will continue to make Quatrefoil the very best facility of its kind. Please continue to help Cathy Hoffman (824-0290) as she assumes the Volunteer Coordinator position until a new one is found. Thanks again to all of you.

Dick Hewetson

QUATREFOIL AT GAY PRIDE

Our own David Irwin was named one of this year's Grand Marshalls for the Gay/Lesbian Pride parade. He and the three other marshalls were honored at a reception at the Gay 90s on June 24. Congratulations, David.

About 35 people marched behind the Quatrefoil banner this year. If anyone caught the Channel 5 news that night, you saw the banner and signs held high in pride. A big thank you to Ed and Wall for co-ordinating and organizing the table - and particularly to whoever brought the sun umbrellas. The many members who staffed the table also deserve a lot of credit. Over 100 brochures, membership applications, and information sheets were handed out and a number of t-shirts sold. As with everything else that happens concerning the library, it couldn't have happened without the volunteers!

NEW BOARD MEMBER JOINS

Welcome to Greg Rosen, the newest Quatrefoil Board member. Greg joins the other members:

Ed Burke
Vicki Dunevitz
Cathy Hoffman
Peggy Miller
MJ Mulherin
Tim Perry
Kevin Sitter
Ed Swanson

The Board has been hard at work revising job descriptions, establishing standing committees, and doing long-range planning. Your input and concerns are welcome. Just contact any Board member at the library.

BIBLIOPHILES' BRAINSTORMING BASH

You're invited to a bibliophiles brainstorming bash, to explore ways to conjure up cash. Our library budget needs \$\$\$\$\$ real soon. Your creative energy would be a real boon. Planners and plotters, dreamers and doers, PLEASE COME.

The meeting will be on Wednesday, July 26, 7-8:30pm. at 853 W Minnehaha (northwest corner at Victoria). If you are unable to make the meeting but are willing to help, call Mary Jean at 487-3407 or 228-3270.

T-SHIRTS SPREAD THE WORD

Now you can let everyone know you're a supporter of the top Lesbian/Gay library in the upper Midwest (or maybe just someone who likes great T-shirts). We now have shirts with the Quatrefoil name and logo. They are black and lavender on white, and come in sizes S-XL. They are available at the library for \$10. Thanks to MJ and Cathy in particular for all their hard work, and to Steve for the logo.

NEED SOMETHING TO DO ON A RAINY SUMMER DAY?

Have you seen any good movies lately? If not, you haven't checked the video department at the library lately. The collection includes documentaries, comedies, tapes of the Quilt at the Dome and last year's visit by Harry Hay and John Burnside, male erotica, and tapes on safer sex. Our small but growing list of movies with particularly women's themes includes Personal Best, Lianna, Color Purple, and Waiting for the Moon. We also have a collection of the recent PBS series "ARTS OVER AIDS". Among items we are looking for are the 2-hour version of "Word is Out" and "The War Widow" (which was recently shown at the University).

The Gay Bookworm is published bi-monthly at 1619 Dayton Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104, for the members and friends of Quatrefoil Library: David D. Irwin, Executive Director, Dolly Ruark, Editor.

HELP WANTED

Quatrefoil has a number of volunteer openings for interested members. If you've been thinking of getting involved in something, this may be it!

We're hoping to fill these positions by September:

DONOR RELATIONS CO-ORDINATOR: acknowledge donations of money and materials - about 3 hours/week.

MEMBERSHIP CO-ORDINATOR: process membership applications; send letters to renewing members - about 3 hours/week.

VOLUNTEER CO-ORDINATOR: schedule and train (with assistance) monthly volunteers - 5 hours/week.

If you are interested in any of these, please leave your name at the library, c/o of Tim Penny.

Volunteers are also needed to work at the library once a week on Monday evenings and the third and fourth Wednesday of each month, from 7-9:30.

The boxing of our video collection is almost complete. Still needed is someone to catalogue them.

If you can help in any of these areas, please contact the Acting Volunteer Coordinator.

MATURE GAYS AND LESBIANS

The group will continue to meet the last Sunday of the month. The next meetings will be July 30, August 27, and September 24 from 2-4. Mark these dates on your calendars.

MISSING PEOPLE/OVERDUE BOOKS

In the last issue of the BOOKWORM, names of people with long-overdue books were listed. Library policy is to ensure the confidentiality of member's names. In our eagerness to recover materials so that others may enjoy them, it was not our intention to alter that policy. Please be assured that this will be a one-time occurrence.

IN SEARCH OF LOST MEMBERS

Upon reviewing our files, we have found that there are about 100 people whose memberships ran out between January and June of this year, and have not been renewed. This is the equivalent of \$1500 in memberships that could greatly help the library meet its budget.

If you have received a renewal notice in the past several weeks, please take time to send it in right away. If you are unsure if and when your membership has lapsed, call the library. We will be updating the mailing list August 1st, and any memberships not renewed by that date will be removed from the list. We know it's your intention to renew, so do it now, before it slips your mind.

CFD UPDATE

Quatrefoil is now a member of the Cooperating Fund Drive and will be an active participant in the fall of 1989. More information about how you can contribute at your place of work will be available in the next newsletter.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 30 - Sept 9 - Art exhibit by Satyarthi - details unavailable at press time - please call the library for further information

August 20 - Deadline for next Bookworm

COME SEE US

Quatrefoil Library is located at 1619 Dayton Av, St Paul. That's one block northwest of Snelling and Selby. We're convenient to #4, #16 and #21 bus lines. The library is open Monday-Thursday evenings 7-9:30, and 12-4pm Saturdays. Our phone number is 641-0969. The library is wheelchair accessible via the elevator at the southwest entrance of the building.

STATISTICS FOR APRIL 1989

Library Open 22 days
Director In 19 days - 121 Hours
38 Volunteers - 146 hours
Men In - 242
Women In - 120
Total -362
Telephone Calls - 48
Items Checked Out -343

STATISTICS FOR MAY 1989

Library Open 23 days
Director in 11 days - 70 hours
38 Volunteers - 146 hours
Men in 271
Women In - 95
Total - 366
Telephone Calls - 53
Items Checked Out -310

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Gay Pride Sunday was a great day for me! Enjoyed riding in a convertible as a Grand Marshal and seeing some people I had not seen in years. Our contingent from the Library looked good, with our new T-shirts, the signs and our beautiful banner which we used for the second year. Our volunteers did a beautiful job of organizing and relieving me of all the headache. I would like especially to thank Ed Burke, Wal Strand, Tom Goodwyn, Cathy Hoffman, Vicki Dunevitz, Dolly Ruark and those who marched and staffed the display table afterward.

If you read the statistics for May, above, you will note the Director was only in the library 11 days. The reason for this is that I spent 12 days in England and four days in Amsterdam. I stayed with a niece in Bicester, Oxfordshire and traveled to Edinburgh, London, and Oxford. Found several older gay books in London and they are now on our shelves. Also, purchased some new books published in the UK, but they have not as yet arrived.

HELP US SERVE YOU BETTER:

Please return books promptly. We try to keep abreast of the overdue books, but it is sometimes hard to keep up with everything. It takes time and postage to remind people of their overdue books.

If you move, please advise us as soon as possible so we are not sending mail to the wrong address or telephoning you at a number which is no longer yours.

Renew your membership promptly. We are depending on the steady renewal funds to keep the library going.

Deadline for next Bookworm. August 20, 1989. We are interested in your comments, book reviews, and articles.

ON-GOING WISH LIST FOR QUATREFOIL

For the Periodicals Section:

- We have #8 (1971), Vol 1 #4&5 (1971), and Vol 2 #3 (1972) of Gay Vue, published in Mpls. in 1971-72. We are looking for all other issues.
- In Touch: Vol 1, #1: 130 & 140*
- Journal of Homosexuality: Vol 6, #1-3

For the Office and clipping files:

- six or eight letter-size, 4-drawer file cabinets

For the Patrons:

- New or good-condition used audio and video tapes or records

For the PIPE DREAMS:

- A micro-reader/printer - approximately \$1800
- Another Macintosh computer - approximately \$1800
- TV/VCR - approximately \$500

EDITOR'S NOTE

Recently I read Valerie Taylor's Ripening, which she calls the "conclusion to the Erika Fromm series" begun in the 1950's. While I was disappointed in the book - she tries to cover 20 years in 169 pages - one particular word caught my eye. She refers to one of her characters as a Presbyphile: a lover of the elder, in this case, women. Unfortunately, this welcome addition to my Lesbian Lexicon is the most lasting impression from the book. I was particularly disappointed in Ripening because her previous book, Prism, was almost a first-of-its-kind. While many Lesbian novels deal with young, beautiful women coming out together, Prism is the story of two women in their sixties finding love together. Truly a book of interest to us Presbyphiles.

A pictorial history of the library is being put together. If you have pictures of past library events you would like to donate to the album, please send them to the library, ATTN: Dolly. The album will be an ongoing, permanent display at the library.

The Quatrefoil Library
1619 Dayton Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55104

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