

GAY BOOKWORM
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Quatrefoil Library -- 1619 Dayton Avenue -- St. Paul, MN 55104

Volume 4, No. 6

Nov 1989

WOMEN COME AGAIN TO QUATREFOIL

Approximately 45 women enjoyed each other at the second Women's Open House on Sunday, October 22. Attendees were taken on very personal, very private tours by the warm, spirited volunteers and board members. Seven women were recruited as members, contributing over \$100 in memberships and book sales, as they embraced the library's open, friendly atmosphere and engaged in stimulating discourse. Volunteers and guests alike reported feeling very fulfilled by participation in the event, and hope to be able to come again soon.

SEMI-ANNUAL BOOK SALE OCTOBER 21

Gross receipts from this book sale were \$701.50, about par for the course. We have had five book sales, grossing about \$3600, an average of \$720.00 per sale. October's sale was a decided success, not only because of the money raised, but because seventy-two people visited the Library, some for the first time, ten new and renewed memberships were received, and a number of visitors came from out of town. Executive Director David Irwin was a busy, busy person before, during, and after the sale. However, he said, "I thoroughly enjoyed the day, but I will be ready for bed tonight."

QUATREFOIL TAKES PART IN COOPERATING FUND DRIVE

The Cooperating Fund Drive (CFD) raises funds for 39 self-help, non-profit organizations, including Quatrefoil Library. The funds are raised through payroll deductions at metro area worksites.

1989 marks Quatrefoil's first year as a member of CFD; however, CFD has been in existence for over 11 years, raising more than \$2.25 million. (Its offices are located next door to the library.)

CFD funds social change groups that are developed and run by the communities they serve. Some of the other groups which belong to CFD include WAMM, the Red School House, Migizi Communications, KFAI Radio, and the Family Tree, which is also housed at 1619 Dayton.

Quatrefoil members are urged to support CFD's efforts at their worksites, or to inquire with their Personnel Office if CFD can present information at a particular worksite.

For more information, contact CFD at 647-0440 or see the poster near the newspaper rack in the Library.

GIVE THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Looking for a holiday or birthday gift? Want to send that someone special something special? Gift memberships are available at any time during the year. Just ask the volunteer on duty next time you visit the library.

FRIED GREEN TOMATOES?

Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle-Stop Cafe, by Fannie Flagg. (@1987, McGraw-Hill Book Co., 403 pages).

Anyone who grew up in a small town will enjoy this wonderfully fun novel set in Whistle Stop, Alabama. Whistle Stop, billed as the "Lake Wobegon of the South", has all the elements of small town life -- a cafe which is the town's nerve center; a weekly 'rag', The Weems Weekly, written by Dot Weems; and warm-hearted people and good times.

The town is also full of strong women. Lovers Ruth Jamison and Iddie Threadgoode run the cafe in the 1930's. Their story is told through the reminiscences of Iddie's now-elderly niece to another woman, Evelyn. Evelyn, during the course of the novel, learns to be strong and brave, now in the 80's, like Ruth and Iddie of Cafe fame.

"Fried Green Tomatoes..." will make you laugh and cry -- and wish you had been able to stop in for a cup of coffee at the Whistle Stop Cafe. Brew a cup, find an easy chair, and enjoy!

ANNUAL ELECTIONS

Ballots for the Quatrefoil Library Board elections are enclosed with this issue of the Gay Bookworm. Be sure to vote!

T-SHIRTS STILL AVAILABLE

Those wonderful T-shirts you saw at the Pride rally are still available. We have some in each of the sizes, (S-XL), and the cost is only \$10. Show your support for the library and your good taste, all at the same time.

LESBIAN/GAY WRITERS' GROUP FORMING

A Quatrefoil member is interested in starting a small group of writers who will meet on a regular basis to read and listen to original published and unpublished prose, poetry, and scripts. The group will be non-judgmental and supportive. If interested, leave your name with a library staffer or send a note to the library, to the attention of Vicki/Writers' Group.

MATURE GAYS AND LESBIANS

The group continues to meet the last Sunday of the month. The next meetings will be November 26 and December 31 from 2-4. Mark these dates on your calendars.

All older gays and lesbians are invited to a Thanksgiving Dinner Gathering on Thanksgiving Day, November 23, Pot Luck (what else?), 3-7 p.m. It will be held at a party room at 110 West Grant Street in Minneapolis. Please call Ann Viitala at GLCAC, 822-0127, to get more information or to sign up to attend.

ANNUAL MEETING PLANNED

Our first annual meeting will be held during Birthday Week, (the first week in February). A spaghetti dinner will be served, and entertainment will follow a short review of the year. The exact date has not yet been finalized. If you would like to help plan this event, contact Cathy Hoffman at the Library.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 23 -- Library closed due to the holiday
November 5 - December 15 -- Art Exhibit by Jonathan Hanft - opening Sunday
November 5, 2-4pm
December 11 -- deadline for next Bookworm
December 25 -- Library closed for holiday
January 1 -- Library closed for holiday
January 14 -- opening of exhibit of works by Christine Cottom

STATISTICS FOR AUGUST 1989

Library open 23 days
Director in 21 days - 137 hours
35 Volunteers - 165 hours
Men In - 229
Women In - 76
Total In - 305
Telephone Calls - 52
Items Checked Out - 424
New Members - 16

STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER 1989

Library open 20 days
Director in 18 days - 104 hours
35 Volunteers - 142 hours
Men In - 190
Women In - 131
Total In - 321
Telephone Calls - 45
Items Checked Out - 321
New Members - 12

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.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

This has been a busy and exciting month for me. I had received a catalog from a book dealer in Stockton, California, earlier this fall and ordered two books from him. One of them, *A Far Country* by James H. Ramp, published in 1967, has been added to the Historical Erotica Collection. In his catalog, the dealer noted that another book of James Ramp had been pirated and published with a different title and author on the cover. We have the pirated edition on the shelf and I re-read it. The style of the author and the use of the word "possibles" to mean a person's personal belongings led me to think that James Ramp and Carl Branch might be the same person. While searching in *The Mattachine Review* for something totally

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unrelated I found a story by James Ramp, entitled "The Prablum," published in 1964. This same story appears in a book of short stories, All Shades of Gay by Carl Branch published in 1968.

In our Historical Erotica Collection we have 19 books, published between 1966 and 1971, by a man named Carl Corley who was an artist as well a writer. Many of the books have colored illustrations by the author on the covers. I had heard nothing of the man since the early 70's. Recently a member brought in a new magazine called *GUYS* which is being published by First Hand Magazine and which had its premier edition in April, 1988. In it was a cartoon by Carl Corley with the distinctive logo that he used on the covers of his books. I wrote to Mr. Corley in care of the magazine, and suggested in my letter that we were wondering if it would be possible to have an exhibit of his art in the Library. On October 18, I received a very gracious letter from him, saying that it was possible and he would start getting the pictures ready for an exhibit.

These two happenings have been a lot of fun -- almost like figuring who done it in a detective story -- and makes me feel that the business of being the director of a gay and lesbian library is all worth-while.

Our membership continues to grow. Our new Membership Coordinator, Randy Kraemer, processed forty-two memberships October 23. He is doing a great job and deserves credit doing his job so well. Roger Kozan, our former Membership Coordinator has moved to Seattle, Washington. Our good wishes go with him and we thank him for a job well done. His efficient operation made it so much easier for the volunteers who succeed him.

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:

- *Loring Park Reporter*, Mpls. - have one issue, Feb. 1979
- *The Rag*, Mpls. - have two issues, Jan. 15-31 and Feb. 1-15, 1981.
- *Uptown Voice*, Mpls. - have Issues 11, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, and 24.
- *In Touch*: Nos. 66, 69, 71.
- *RFD*: Nos. 1, 2, 4.
- *Journal of Homosexuality*: Vol 6, #1-2, and Vol. 16, 1988-89.

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

The photo album is now on display in the library. Take a few minutes to enjoy some of the Library's history. If at any time you have contributions to make, please leave with them with the volunteer on duty.

A member is searching for the origin of a literary reference she recently came across. The context seems to indicate homosexual connotations to the phrase. If anyone knows the origin of "They Stood Together" or "Standing Together", please call Mary at 483-4191.

Thanks to Cathy for her review of "Fried Green Tomatoes". We look forward to more of the same from others, as well. Now that you've seen one, you needn't be shy. Send your comments on a favorite book to the Bookworm at the Library.