

Quatrefolio

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Quatrefoil Library
1619 Dayton Ave, Suite 105
St. Paul, MN 55104

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David Irwin's Life Celebrated and New Endowment Created in His Memory

By Scott Breyfogle

On Saturday, May 16, 2009, friends, family and other supporters of the Quatrefoil Library gathered to celebrate the life of co-founder David Irwin.

As previously reported, Irwin passed away on Tuesday, January 13, 2009, at the age of 89 and as he had requested, we celebrated his life with a party rather than a memorial service.

Dick Heweston, David's former partner and co-founder of the Quatrefoil Library, gave a moving tribute to Irwin's legacy; speaking of David's love of literature, finding rare QLBT books, education and of his family. Dick also spoke of how the library has grown beyond the original place that he and David opened so many years ago.

During the event, a new endowment in David's memory, the *Irwin Fund*, was announced. A silent auction was held and contributions were made, helping raise money for this new fund. The *Irwin*



Kathy Robbins, Dick Heweston,
David P. Bergstrom and Will Bergstrom

Fund will help continue David and Dick's dream by improving and expanding the library's mission.

The Quatrefoil Library Board of Directors would like to thank everyone who attended and contributed to this event. Specifically, the board would like to thank Dick Heweston and David P. Bergstrom, the nephew of David Irwin, for their generous support of this celebration.

Happy Pride from the Quatrefoil Library!

For over 23 years the Quatrefoil Library has been part of the greater Twin Cities GLBT community. As the library celebrates with you; we would also like to remind everyone of the vital role the Library plays in the community. Unlike your standard neighborhood library, Quatrefoil prides itself on collecting, maintaining, documenting and circulating gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer materials and information in a safe and accessible space to promote understanding, an appreciation of diversity and history, and our value in the community.

It is also during this time, we would like to remember those pioneers within the GLBT community who have made our world a better place to live in; from those who stood their ground at Stonewall, to those who spoke out and fought for our rights, to those who had a vision like Dick Heweston and the late David Irwin, who envisioned and opened the first ever GLBT library in the Twin Cities.

As Michael Thomas Ford wrote in the *San Francisco Chronicle* on Sunday, June 13, 2004, "If you don't know where you come from, you can hardly be expected to know where you are going. And as even the quickest of glances will reveal, the changing face of Pride is a reflection of the changing face of queer life. In its pageant of banners and signs, its people and its music, we see our dreams and our joys, our accomplishments and our challenges."

Stonewall: A Historical Perspective

By Robert Frame

Before the 1960s, a few well-mannered activists in large cities worked within the system for kinder treatment of homosexuals, seeing this as the only real option for improving lives. Until forty years ago, police routinely raided bars catering to lesbian women, gay men, and drag queens "arresting many patrons often with news photographers alerted in advance, and publishing their arrest and personal information". Many people got fired from their jobs and outed to non-supportive family.

"LIKE BEING IN A WAR ZONE"

On June 28, 1969, those at the Stonewall Inn in New York City were fed up. Police shut the bar down and herded patrons outside, brutalizing some; but on this night, the crowd raged back and stunned cops huddled inside the club. Riot police rescued

their colleagues, but that night, and in the nights that followed, gay folks claimed space in the streets while police tried to control and arrest them. One man remembered that it was "like being in a war zone." Many were struck by joy and elation at fighting back and at least for a time winning. These riots struck a spark of change: organized activism that moved way beyond polite petitions and spread among New York's GLBT citizens and to large cities around the country.

The difference from today could hardly be more dramatic. Battles remain to be won, to be sure. Activism, care, and community existed before the Stonewall Riots, inside and outside bars. But to work from inside positions of power and from outside, where activists continue to demonstrate a queer imagination, is a kind of struggle unimaginable in mid-century America. I write this on Memorial Day, and say, "hats off to those warriors before and since Stonewall."

Stonewall-related Books and Movies Available at the Quatrefoil

Books:

Carter, David. *Stonewall: The Riots That Sparked the Gay Revolution*.

New York, NY: St. Martin's Press, 2004. HQ 76 .C3 I55 2004

Cruikshank, Margaret. *The Gay and Lesbian Liberation Movement*.

New York, NY: Routledge, 1992. HQ 76.8 .U5 C78 1992

Deitcher, David. *The Question of Equality: Lesbian and Gay Politics in America Since Stonewall*.

New York: Scribner, 1995. Quarto HQ 76.8 .U5 Q47 1995

Duberman, Martin. *Stonewall*.

New York, NY: Dutton, 1993. HQ 76.8 .U5 D85 1993

McDarragh, Fred W. and McDarragh, Timothy S.

Gay Pride: Photographs from Stonewall to Today.

Chicago, IL: A Cappella Books, 1994. HQ 76.3 .U5 M39 1994

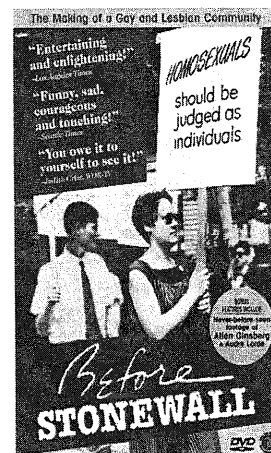
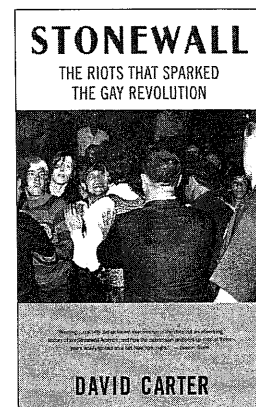
Movies:

After Stonewall (1999), First Run Features. DVD A2588

Before Stonewall (1985), First Run Features. DVD B4153

Stonewall (1996), Strand Releasing. DVD S8819

Stonewall 25 (1994), Peoples Video Network. VHS S8811



Help Us Reach Our Goal to Build the Library's Collection

By Cathy Croghan

In 2004 the Quatrefoil Library Board initiated the *Spring Collection-Building Campaign*. These gifts are dedicated to the purchase of materials—none of the funds will be used for general operating expenses. In the past, Quatrefoil depended almost entirely on donations from members and friends to fill its shelves. We still welcome these gifts, but are anxious to more fully meet the needs of our user community by purchasing items that are new and in high demand.

In addition to fulfilling regular suggestions that come from our members, we would like to expand the collection by adding:

- **More DVDs**, the most popular items in our collection - we'd like to bring you more documentaries, more of your favorite GLBT TV shows. Movies you won't find anywhere else!
- **More genres of books**—GLBT fiction, mysteries, sci-fi, plays, and poetry
- **More research books**—GLBT history, biographies, politics, queer theory...

It's not too late to support the Quatrefoil's 2009 *Spring Collection Building Campaign*. So far we have raised \$2,600 toward our \$5,000 goal. If you have not already done so, please consider making a tax deductible gift. Mail or bring your gift to the Library today.

Help Preserve Quatrefoil for the Future

By Cathy Croghan

Join the *Quatrefoil Legacy Society* by including the Library in your will, or as a beneficiary of your retirement plan or life insurance policy. By remembering the Library, you ensure the availability of this important community resource for generations to come.

Please use the following language: *Quatrefoil Library, a Minnesota Non-Profit Organization with offices currently located at 1619 Dayton Avenue, Suite 105, St. Paul, MN 55104. Fed Tax ID #36-3297803.*

For more information about the *Quatrefoil Legacy Society* please contact Art Stoeberl at 651-636-7356.

Walk on Water

Directed by Eytan Fox
an Israeli, 2004, TLA Releasing DVD
A Review by Robert Frame

Eytan Fox's first-noticed movie here in the United States had a somewhat limited release. It made a splash in Israel because the adorable lead, Lior Ashekenazi, is a big star there. This movie has an undeniable gay component: one of the three leads is a gay German boy.

His sister has joined an Israeli kibbutz, her brother comes to visit her, their grandfather is a former Nazi who has hidden out in Argentina since 1945, and the third main character, a Mossad officer, is assigned to see what he can discover about this Nazi relative. He poses as a tour-company guide: nearly daily suicide bombers detonate themselves in Israel, and she is worried about her brother's safety.

Even the simplest sketch of the scenario makes it clear this movie tackles big issues: Mideast politics, Nazis who hid successfully, familial and cultural clashes (see: "why is the sister in a kibbutz?"), and various levels of both homophobia and homo-acceptance. This movie, I think, is a classic successful example of having a central gay character whose sexuality is important but not the central thing to the plot, or even to the character. It may not do a complete examination of all the issues it takes on, but the film is highly satisfying, A-level material.

Surveillance 24/7: Walls Have Eyes

A 2008 British DVD release
A Review by Robert Frame

Billed as a "fast-paced thriller" in which Adam, a gay teacher, is cast adrift after his one-night stand disappears and is presumed dead, with a motive that seems to lead all the way to the British royal family (and - not really a spoiler - to the dead trick's love affair with a prince). The conceit embodied in the title is eerily perfect for our present: Britain has arguably the most comprehensive closed circuit television system in the world. While Adam is lost as to what is going on, how much danger he and his friends are in, and who he can trust, we see all this from a mix of CCTV, cell phone video, and on-screen reportage: in other words, the real-world surveillance within which Adam (and everyone else) lives. It works better than it sounds. While the plot logic gets weak at the very end, billing the movie as a "fast-paced thriller" is fair: all in all, I found it very enjoyable.

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Quatrefoil Library

1619 Dayton Avenue, Suite 105
St. Paul, MN 55104-6206
651-641-0969
www.qlibrary.org

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Renee Leckscheid, Jennifer Schultz

Contributors

Cathy Croghan, Robert Frame,
Karen Hogan, Kathy Robbins



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Library Hours

Mon - Fri : 7pm - 9pm
Sat: 10am - 5pm
Sun: 1pm - 5pm
Closed Holidays

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www.qlibrary.org

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