

GLBTRT NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL TRANSGENDERED ROUND TABLE
OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

From the Editor

Hello, everyone!!

Thanks to all of you that have continued to show support for the newsletter by means of articles, reports and other submissions to the newsletter. It is through this kind of sustaining involvement that we will continue to have an interesting and informative newsletter! Keep sending in those articles!

Ken Wells, *GLBTRT Newsletter Editor*
kenwells@ufl.edu

Fund Raising Committee

Thanks to the generosity of 60 individuals we have raised to date about 40% of the \$40,000 that we set as our initial fund raising goal for the GLBTRT Book Award Endowment. The actual amount raised is \$15,401. If everyone else in our membership gives \$55, we will easily be able to reach our goal of \$40,000. In early December the Fund Raising Committee will be sending a letter to all of our members asking that they consider a donation to the Book Award Endowment as they make year-end charitable contributions. ALA's Development Office is providing the Committee with postage-paid remittance envelopes. These envelopes will be pre-printed with the GLBTRT Book Award Endowment as the recipient of the funds. This should make it much easier to send a donation back and direct it to the GLBTRT Book Award Endowment.

Jim Simonis
Chair, Fund Raising Committee
Simonis@lemoyne.edu

Web Committee

The GLBTRT web page has moved! Point your browsers to:

<http://library.auraria.edu/libq/GLBTRT>

Over the next few months our committee will be investigating getting our own domain name so that future moves for the web page will be seamless. We will also be evaluating current content with an eye to new additions.

Please send any suggestions / comments to me at Ellen.Greenblatt@cudenver.edu

Ellen Greenblatt
Ellen.Greenblatt@cudenver.edu

From the Co-Chairs

Hello everyone,

As we approach midwinter ALA in Philadelphia, Steve and I would like to encourage everyone, who will be attending midwinter to think about committee positions that remain open. These include the following:

Subcommittee on Library Services to Poor & Homeless (open)
Representatives and Liaisons
ADA Assembly (open) 1 year
Diversity Council (we have position open here for 1 year),
Education Assembly (open) 1 year
Legislation Assembly (open) 2 - 1 year positions
Literacy Assembly (open)

If you are interested in becoming the RT rep to any of these assemblies, please let Steve or I know.

PLA program

The Public Library Association (PLA) has requested program ideas for the Seattle 2004 Conference. Ideas are due in January to PLA so we need to have this discussion before midwinter. Some ideas have already been put forward but we would like to know of others. If you have ideas about a program for this conference, please contact Steve, Damian or me.

Groups have been appointed to update existing bibliographies and in some cases, put together new ones. The bibliography groups serve under the WebMaster/Clearinghouse Committee, which is chaired by Ellen Greenblatt. If anyone would like to participate on this committee or start a new bibliography, please contact Ellen directly [Ellen.Greenblatt@cudenver.edu].

We look forward to seeing you in Philadelphia.

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Treasurer's Report

This is my second to last report that I will be making as roundtable treasurer and I wonder who my successor will be? Just think after June 2003, you will not have to listen to my endless speeches about why we need you to give the roundtable money nor have to justify why monies should be budgeted for a specific project. If anybody is interested in this job please contact me with any questions you have about the job duties.

As we move towards midwinter I will be working on the proposed budget for the next fiscal year. This is the time for all committee chairs to review the committee budget and send requests for changes with justification to me. The proposed budget will be discussed at midwinter steering committee and must be submitted to OLOS by February. If you do not remember you budgeted amounts contact me ASAP.

Last week I received the latest round of finance reports. As of August 31, 2002 we have \$13332.67 in our accounts for use as operating funds. This is pretty good for a group that started off four years ago with \$5000.00 in debt as a brand new roundtable. The dues income last year was \$5532.84, which is well over the budgeted amount of \$4800.00. Donations to operating expense were down but the pitch for the past year has been toward the book award endowment fund. Careful spending has kept our expenses low.

We still have a way to go to reach the \$40,000 mark for the book award endowment fund. So if you wish to see what I look like in formal banker drag come up with the cash. (I have started to look for a new suit for the occasion). Once this goal is met we will move to the next level of funding so we can start the third book award for children's/young adult materials.

This past Sunday (11.3.02) I had the pleasure of dining with our founder Israel David Fishman. In February of this year I attended a party at his home here in Brooklyn to celebrate his 64th birthday. At that time Israel asked his friends to donate money to the book award endowment fund instead of gifts. After dinner this week, we talked about the current status of the endowment fund and other matters relating to the roundtable. He was very honored that we named one of the book awards after him. I reminded him if it were not for the work that he did these 32 years ago this group would not exist today. We all owe Israel a great debt for taking these steps to form the Task Force on Gay Liberation. It is important that the membership thank both Israel and Barbara Gittings for the work that they have done over the years that helped improve the world we live in.

On a personal note, I would like to inform everybody that I have embarked on a new series of outside projects that will be using the many talents that I have developed over the years as a library manager. This past month I have spoken with the current director of the Leather Archives and Museum Master

Rick Storer. Master Storer was looking for assistance with the grant writing process. I will now be working with the archives in researching and writing grants for various projects. I have also volunteered to assist in the archival and material collection process for the New York City area. These tasks will help preserve a part of our culture for the future and I wonder what interesting things I will learn.

Yours in Black Ink,

Norman Eriksen, Treasurer GLBTRT
Division Chief General Reference Center
Brooklyn Public Library
n.eriksen@brooklynpubliclibrary.org

IGLHRC Needs Your Help!

Dear librarian,

I got your name through a research librarian friend who thought you might be able to help the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission with trying to formulate an organization-wide filing system for (probably) both paper and electronic documents.

We have gotten to the stage of refining a prototype set of filing system categories and sub-categories (a thesaurus), and very soon we'll be researching technology to help us make our system as user-friendly as possible. We hope to have a working test model ready by February or March 2003.

We are open to bids from consultants who are willing to give us a non-profit rate, but of course we'd love to have services donated (and we'd be happy to issue a receipt for your tax-deductible in-kind service donations). We also may be open to working with an MLS student, supervised by someone with adequate professional librarian experience together with someone from our staff.

Our particular areas of library science from which we'd like specialized help are: general (traditional library science), technical, and human rights. Resources you can recommend for indexing and/or thesaurus creation in these fields of specialization would be particularly helpful.

Please get back to me at sara@iglhrc.org as soon as you can, by Nov. 15 ideally, with any leads on people - or alternately, on-line research resources - to help us with this project.

Thank you for your generous help,

Sara Moore, sara@iglhrc.org
IGLHRC Information Sharing Committee

Stonewall Book Award Rpt.

The Stonewall Book Awards Committee has been hard at work. To date more than 100 books have been read or examined for possible nomination and several calls for nominations were posted on email, listservs, and in this very newsletter.

The committee wishes to thank all of you who nominated a book or who passed along the various calls for nominations. As a result of all these efforts, 62 titles were nominated. A title/author list appears below. Somewhere among these titles are next year's winners. Stay tuned for the official announcement during ALA Philadelphia.

Literature:

Americano, by Emanuel Xavier
At Swim Two Boys, by James O'Neill
Bear Me Softly Over, by Sheri Joseph
Bent On Writing
Birthday of the World, by Ursula K. Le Guin
Black Like Us: A Century of Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual African American Fiction, by Devon W. Carbado (Editor)
Boulevard: A Novel, by Jim Grimsley
Christmas Poems, by Krandal Kraus
Cootie Shots: Theatrical Inoculations Against Bigotry for Kids, Parents, and Teachers, by Norma Bowles, editor
Drowning in fire, by Craig Womack
Edinburgh, by Alexander Chee
ETYM(BI)OLGY, by Liz Waldner
Fingersmith, by Sarah Waters
Fire Logic, by Laurie J. Marks
Flesh Wounds and Purple Flowers: The Cha-Cha Years, by Francisco Ibanez-Carrasco
Godspeed, by Lynn Breedlove
Hunger, by Jane Eaton Hamilton
King and King, by Linda de Haan; Stern Nijland
Landscape with Human Figure, by Rafael Campo
Lantern Bearers, by Ronald Frame
Last Night, by Brendan Lemon
Letters to Montgomery Clift: A Novel, by Noel Alunit
Limits of Pleasure, by Daniel M. Jaffe (Editor)
Lover's Legends
Martian Child: A Novel About a Single Father Adopting a Son, by David Gerrold
Middlesex, by Jeffrey Eugenides
Notes From A Welfare Queen In The Ivory Tower, by Laura Alexandra Harris
One Man's Trash, by Ivan E. Coyote
Paradigm of Earth, by Candace Jane Dorsey
Passing, by Eloise Klein Healy
Seeing double rose windows
Self and Simulacra, by Liz Waldner

Sissy Duckling, by Harvey Fierstein
Source, by Mark Doty
Stay, by Nicola Griffith
This place called absence, by Lydia Kwa
What we have lost: new & selected poems, by Jeffery Bean
Where was I where I am, where I'm going, by Lawrence Hubbard
Woman Who Gave Birth To Rabbits, by Emma Donoghue
Year of Ice, by Brian Malloy

Nonfiction:

Found Tribe, by Lawrence Schimel (Editor)
Gay Rebel of the Harlem Renaissance: Selections from His Work, by Richard Bruce Nugent
Glenway Prescott, by Jerry Rosco
How Sex Changed: A History of Transsexuality in the United States, by Joanne Meyerowitz
Insurgent Muse: Life and Art at the Woman's Building, by Terry Wolverton
Land's End: A Walk Through Provincetown, by Michael Cunningham
Leading the Parade: Conversations with America's Most Influential Lesbians & Gay Men, by Paul D Cain
Love Stories: Sex Between Men, by Jonathan Ned Katz
Memoir of No One in Particular, by Daniel Harris
Monster Adventures in American Machismo, by Brian Bouldrey
Rare and Commonplace flowers, by Carmen Oliveira
Running with Scissors, by Augesten Burroughs
Sex-Crime Panic: A Journey to the Paranoid Heart of the 1950s, by Neil Miller
Soul Beneath the Skin, by David Nimmons

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Chicago, IL 60611.

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email: *kenwells@ufl.edu*

**2003 ALA Midwinter Meeting Schedule
Philadelphia, PA January 24-29, 2002
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Round Table**

Time	Meeting / Event	Location
Friday, January 24		
9:00am–12:00pm	Financial Planning Seminar (BARC)	MAR – 304, 305, 306
4:00pm–5:30pm	Round Table Coordinating Assembly	MAR – 403/404
7:30pm –9:30pm	OLOS Advocates Dinner (OLOS)	LOEWS – Lescaze
8:00pm –10:00pm	Steering Committee I	LOEWS Z – Congress A/B
Saturday, January 25		
8:30am – 11:00am	All Committee Meeting	RAD – Assembly Room
2:00pm – 5:30pm	Book Awards Committee (closed)	LOEWS – Jefferson
Sunday, January 26		
12:00pm – 3:00pm	Book Awards Committee (closed)	LOEWS – Congress C
6:00pm – 8:00pm	GLBT RT Social	Independence Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia 18. S. 7th Street (a five block walk east on Market Street from the Convention Center)
Monday, January 27		
6:30am–7:30am	MLK Sunrise Celebration (SRR)	PCC – 113 A/B/C
8:30am – 11:00am	Steering Committee II	LOEWS – Congress C



! Midwinter Social !

The GLBT roundtable's midwinter social will be held at the Independence Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia. The social will be on Sunday, January 26, 2003 from 6-8pm. The Independence Branch is located at 18 So 7th Street, about a five block walk east on Market from the convention center and major hotels. The branch is home to the Barbara Gittings collection of Gay and Lesbian Literature and both Barbara and Kay have been invited. There is a \$5 donation to help defray the cost of the social. Many thanks to Rod Macneil of the University of Pennsylvania and Marianne Banbor of the Independence Branch staff of the Free Library of Philadelphia for organizing this.

Damian Lambert. Program Chair
dglm Lambert@hotmail.com

ⓘ Point of Information ⓘ

ⓘ As many of you know, the position of Treasurer will be part of the election next spring. If anyone is planning to run for this position, you should plan to attend the financial planning seminar at midwinter on Friday morning.

ⓘ BARC is hosting a Financial Planning Seminar on Friday morning. They are hoping all round tables are represented. The "official attendees" should be the current round table president, the president-elect and any financial officer such as treasurer, assistant treasurer or secretary-treasurer. In addition, they would welcome other members of the round table leadership, especially potential officer candidates, as they will be assuming their offices at annual conference.

ALA Travel Info

GLBTRT Website: <http://library.auraria.edu/libq/GLBTRT>

Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau
16th St & JFK Blvd
215/636-3402, 800/225-5745
Website: <http://www.pcvb.org>

ALA Travel Desk: 1-800-424-5249 or 1-847-940-2155
Identify yourself as an attendee of ALA Midwinter to qualify for specials or discounts for hotel/airline reservations.
Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm
Or make reservations online:
<http://www.ala.org/events/midwinter2003>

United Airlines: 1-800-521-4041
United Airlines is offering a 5% discount off any restricted United published fare, including first class, when the ticket is purchased for conference attendees. A 10% discount is available for unrestricted, fully refundable coach fares. An additional 5% will be available if the reservation is made more than 30 days in advance. To get the discounts, use the following meeting ID code when calling the ALA Travel Desk or when calling United: **502CQ**. An Internet rate of 10% is also available.

Rail & Bus Service:
Two Amtrak trains go to Philadelphia at the 30th Street Station and Market. For reservations, contact Amtrak at 1-800-872-7245, or at <http://www.amtrak.com>

All Greyhound buses arrive and depart from 1001 Filbert Street, downtown. For information, contact Greyhound at 1-800-229-9424 or at <http://www.greyhound.com>

Rental Cars:
ALA has negotiated exclusive rates with AVIS for rental cars during the meeting. For rates and reservations call 1-800-331-1600 or go to <http://www.avis.com/>. You must mention the Avis Worldwide Discount Number (AWD) **D005980** to receive the discount.

Airport Transportation & Information:
Transportation services at the Philadelphia International Airport are available through SEPTA, with rail and bus services to the city, rail and bus stations. Shuttle buses, taxis and limousines are also available.

Taxis and shuttle buses:
Taxis are available 24 hours a day, from Zone 5 outside baggage claim. A flat rate of \$20 is charged for a ride to the downtown area. Shuttle buses and limousines are available from Zone 7 outside baggage claim.

Train Services:
SEPTA R1 rail service provides service from the airport to the downtown area. A one-way ticket on the R1 costs \$5, stopping at Eastwick Station, University City, 30th Street Station, Penn Center Suburban Station and Market East/The Gallery Station. Transit from the airport to downtown takes approximately 20 minutes, and trains depart every 30 minutes, running from 6:00am to midnight. For further information, contact SEPTA at 1-215-580-7800.

Bus Services:
Buses are available from Zone 1 with one-way fares of \$1.60.



Going OUT in Philadelphia?

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Alexander Inn
Spruce (at 12th)
215/923-3535, 877/253-9466
Website: www.alexanderinn.com
Email: info@alexanderinn.com

Antique Row B&B
341 S 12th St (at Pine)
215/592-7802
1820s town house, full brkfst
Website: antiquerowbnb.com
Email: bp341@aol.com

Gaskill House B&B
312 Gaskill St
215/413-0669
small, upscale B&B, full brkfst, fireplaces, on Society Hill, walking distance to Independence Hall
Website: www.gaskillhouse.com
Email: gaskillbnb@aol.com

Glen Isle Farm
30 miles out of town, in Downingtown
610/269-9100, 800/269-1730
full brkfst

Uncles Upstairs Inn
1220 Locust St (at 12th)
215/546-6660

BARs:

12th Air Command HQ for Men ♀
254 S 12th St (btwn Locust & Spruce)
215/545-8088
Email: manager12@yahoo.com

Bump ♀ ♀
1234 Locust St (at 13th)
215/732-1800
4pm-2am, till 5am Fri-Sat, clsd Mon, also restaurant, Sun brunch

Key West ♀ ♀
207-209 S Juniper (btwn Walnut & Locust)
215/545-1578
4pm-2am, from 2pm Sun, 4 bars, lunch served, also sports bar

The Post ♀
1705 Chancellor St (at 17th)
215/985-9720
12p-2a, Sun brunch, dancers Fri-Sat
Website: www.thepostbar.com

Tavern on Camac ♀ ♀
243 S Camac St (at Spruce)
215/545-0900
noon-2am, DJ wknds, also restaurant

Tyz ♀
1418 Rodman St (15th & Richmond)
215/546-4195, 11pm-3am

Uncle's ♀
1220 Locust St (at 12th)
215/546-6660, 11am-2am

Venture Inn ♀ ♀
255 S Camac (at Spruce)
215/545-8731
11am-2am

Woody's (VERY popular)
202 S 13th St (at Walnut)
215/545-1893
11am-2am, 18+ Wed, karaoke
Mon, Latin Th
Website:
www.woodysbars.com
Email: woodwid@aol.com

BOOKSTORES:

Afterwords
218 S 12th St
215/735-2393
11am-10pm

Giovanni's Room
345 S 12th St (at Pine)
215/923-2960
open daily, legendary lgbt bookstore
www.gioannisroom.com
Email: giophip@netaxs.com

Ring of Fire Books
35 N Narbeth Ave, Narbeth
610/617-3442, used books

GYMS:

12th St Gym
204 S 12th St
215/985-4092
5:30am-11pm, day passes

RESTAURANTS:

Astral Plane
1708 Lombard St
215/546-6230
lunch, dinner, full bar
www.theastralplane.com

Judy's Cafe
627 S 3rd St (at Bainbridge)
215/928-1968
5:30pm-11pm, Sun brunch
from 10:30am, full bar

My Thai
2200 South St (at 22nd)
215/985-1878
5p-10p, till 11p Fri-Sat, full bar

Sisters ♀
1320 Chancellor St (at Juniper)
215/735-0735
5p-10p Wed-Sat, Sun brunch
www.sistersnightclub.com

White Dog Cafe
3420 Sansom St (at Walnut)
215/386-9224
lunch & dinner, brunch wknds,
full bar, eclectic American
Website: www.whitedog.com

OLOS Strategic Planning

Hello Round Table Members,

I wanted to tell you all about a wonderful time I had about a month ago. I was invited to attend the strategic planning session for the ALA Office of Literacy and Outreach Services. I can hear the questions and the laughs already. What? He enjoys strategic planning? Jeez, don't hire HIM the next time that resume comes around. I really did have a good time at the three-day event. It was good for me to go and get a better idea of where the OLOS fits within ALA and where the Round Table fits within OLOS.

For those of you unfamiliar with ALA structure, the GLBT Round Table is structurally part of the Office of Literacy and Outreach Services. Unlike the divisions of ALA, Round Tables have no directly employed staff at ALA headquarters. Each Round Table has been placed within one of the ALA staff offices. These are the people at ALA that we on the Round Table call when we need assistance from ALA in any way. Whether it's scheduling meetings at conferences, to arranging checks that reimburse members or granting our Stonewall Book Award winners their award. If you are not familiar with the OLOS staff you can visit the OLOS homepage at <http://www.ala.org/olos>.

If you go to that page you will notice that OLOS is the parent group in ALA for anything to do with outreach and literacy. So other roundtables that OLOS serves include the Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT) and the Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT). In addition, OLOS serves as liaison for ALA to all of the Librarian Associations of Color, BCALA, AILA, APALA, CALA, and REFORMA. OLOS also serves committees and groups within ALA that focus on services to; the homeless, rural areas, minority concerns, non-readers, people with disabilities and services by bookmobile. So, OLOS provides resources to library and information workers who provide services to traditionally underrepresented groups.

It was really nice to go meet with all these disparate groups in Chicago to plan for OLOS' future. I say this because not once did I have to explain how service to GLBT library patrons, or services for GLBT library workers fit in with the rest of the group. Everyone there saw us as part of the overall reach of OLOS. And OLOS does all these things, for all these groups, with a staff of three and-a-half full-time employees.

OLOS receives no money in dues as part of our membership monies. Their budget derives directly from ALA general monies. OLOS has no endowment, like the Intellectual Freedom Foundation within the Office of Intellectual Freedom, which supports some of their work. So, one of the ideas that rose from the planning session was that several of us wanted to see whether we could put together a "friends" group for OLOS. We wanted to begin getting a group of ALA members who could

advocate for OLOS within ALA from a member's viewpoint, with members concerned for service in these areas.

We spent several minutes working to put together a time for the Advocates of OLOS to meet at Midwinter. Unfortunately every time selected was bad for a couple of people. So the meeting was set for Friday evening January 24, 2003, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. This time, I know conflicts with the RT Steering Committee 1 meeting that evening. I listed the meeting though, under Round Table activities, with the hope that one of you that doesn't need to be at Steering Committee will feel that you might want to sit in on the Advocates group and give us a report on the next steps for OLOS. As OLOS is our "parent" group within ALA, I believe it is in our interest to continue to be represented in this setting. I was glad that we were included in the planning and I think we ought to make sure we remain in the minds of other ALA members when services are discussed.

Steve Stratton
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OUToberfest in AZ!

Tucson-Pima Public Library's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Services Committee set-up a booth at the Tucson GLBT Pride Celebration, aka OUToberfest. We have our pride event in October since its so damn hot in June here in the desert.

This is our 6th year at the event, the first four years we produced puppet shows that focused on some aspect of gay life; our first performance was The Stonewall Riot using Barbie and GI Joe dolls as the actors. Our highest accolade was a bonafide Stonewall Veteran saying it was the best rendition of the event he'd ever seen. We went on to produce: A Tribute to Harvey Milk, Don't Ask Don't Tell and Queers in Space. We used a variety of objects as the puppets from socks, back to dolls to making our own papier mache puppets. We had a blast developing, writing and producing the shows, but after four years and a lot of work we decided it was time to move on. For the past two years we have focused more on what the library can offer the community. We bring a variety of materials, which people can check out (if they have a card), library card applications and bookmarks. The various bookmarks we've developed focus on GLBT issues, genres and what the committee is and does. We hand out knick-nacks from previous children's and teen summer reading programs, look fabulous and shmooze.

It is a great way to present the library, encourage community involvement and meet people. In fact many attendees (about 7,000-8,000 people more or less) ask us about the puppet show or who we're bringing for the author event in June. I guess we've

become sort of a fixture there, like the drag show and beer booth. It feels good to do it. People might not even use the library, but they like the fact that we're there - they tell us so. I guess its a way of seeing their tax dollars at work for them.

For more information on how to do this type of outreach feel free to contact me or the committee at GLBT@ci.tucson.az.us

Richard DiRusso
rdirus1@ci.tucson.az.us

Give a book for Christmas

Looking for that little "something special" for your holiday gift-giving for a young niece or nephew, or perhaps a grandchild? Want to help bring them up right and more open-minded by exposing them to how the "other half" lives? There are many more books available these days in addition to those old favorites "Daddy's Roommate" (originally published 1991), and "Heather has Two Mommies" (10th anniversary edition pub. 2000).

For the subtle approach there's "Jack and Jim" (2000) by Kitty Crowther, about a blackbird who befriends a seagull and how their friends react to their unusual relationship. Then there are "1-2-3: A Family Counting Book," and "A-B-C: A Family Alphabet Book," both by Bobbie Coombs (2000) which picture lesbian or gay headed families on each page; a great introduction to the idea of alternative families for young children.

Actor and playwright Harvey Fierstein (of "Torch Song Trilogy" fame) has written a poignant growing-up-different tale, "The Sissy Duckling," (2002) whose main character many of us can relate to. Elmer is a duckling who loves art and baking, but can't find another boy duckling who shares his interests. His papa tries to get him to play baseball, but he'd rather do anything but. Word gets around, and he's ostracized both at school and at home. But after some heartfelt goings-on, Elmer saves the day and earns everyone's respect. This is a cute fairy tale with a clear message about valuing everyone for him/herself.

A much less serious book is "King & King" (2000) by Linda de Haan, which is very like an old-fashioned fairy tale - but with a great twist. The queen wants her son to settle down and get married. She parades the loveliest princesses by him, trying to get him to choose the one who will be his perfect bride. But it isn't until a princess shows up with her hunky brother that sparks fly, and the prince (and everyone) finally realizes why it took until then for him to meet his perfect mate. The two prince charmings then marry and live happily every after.

If you'd like to introduce young ones to lesbians with a varied diet, there's "Mama Eat Ant, Yuck!" (2000), about the world of Mama and Mommy seen through the eyes of their one year old daughter, Emma.

For those of you enamored of small 4-footed creatures, a great book is "Lucy Goes to the Country" (1998). This tells the story of a city cat whose "two Big Guys" decide to spend weekends in the country. The guys are pictured as a close loving couple in various situations which many of us can identify with.

Most of these picture books are for ages 4 to 8 (and anyone with a sense of humor or agelessness); most are available in paperback editions for \$8.00 to \$12.00 through Amazon.com or your local with-it bookstore.

Steve Russo, in snowy NH
Stevrus@aol.com

Leading the Parade: Review

Paul D. Cain wrote *Leading the Parade* to prevent the loss of the oral histories and stories of the leaders of the American gay and lesbian movement. He interviewed forty three men and women who played an important role in gay history in the United States. Thirty nine of those interviews are included in this book. He chose people "who have possessed and displayed incredible courage, enviable skills, and unwavering tenacity. While they may have little else in common, all have demonstrated the ability to risk, whether reputation, family, church, or society."

Leading the Parade is divided into five sections: "Starting from Scratch", "Building on a Firm Foundation", "The Written Word", "Political Creatures", and "Creating a New World". Each interview is packed with information. Besides the interviewee's own words, Cain includes biographical details, quotes from magazines and newspapers, and comments by other influential gay and lesbian men and woman. Standout interviews include those with Barbara Grier (the cofounder of Naiad Press), the author Rita Mae Brown, Dick Leitsch ("militant moderate" and President of the Mattachine Society of New York), Cleve Jones (political activist), and Brent Nicholson Earle (AIDS fundraiser).

This book should be included in any library collection. It is a fine reference tool and includes a useful index and bibliography. It is also an interesting "just browsing" book. Even after I'd finished it I would find myself picking it up to reread certain parts. I was surprised by how many of the names I knew and I enjoyed reading about people that were unfamiliar to me. Cain succeeds in portraying, through their own words, some of the men and women that have influenced and changed the American gay and lesbian movement. History comes to life through Cain's conversations with the people involved in "leading the parade."

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