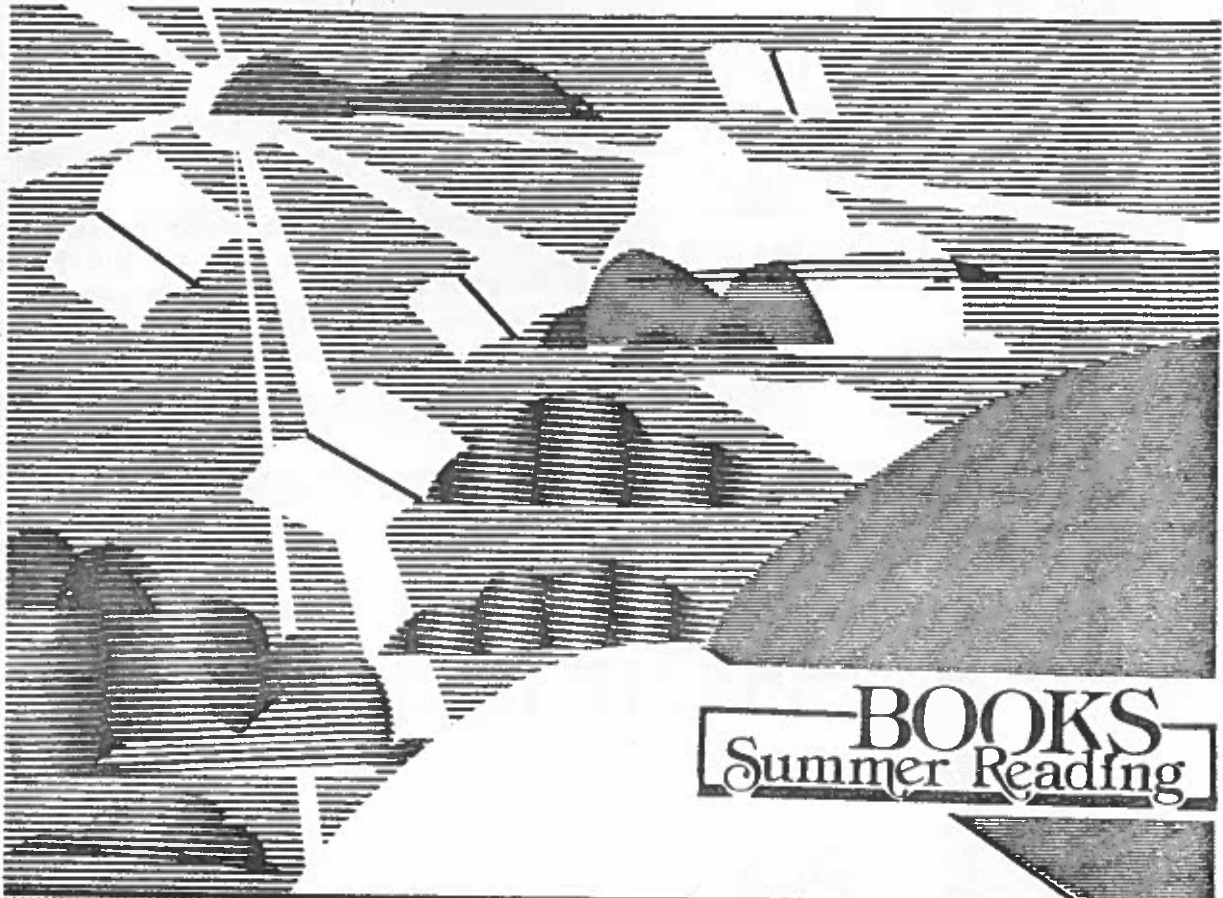




BOOKS
Summer Reading

GAYS OF THUNDER BAY
Magazine

Thunder
GAY

50¢

magazine

SUMMER ISSUE
June - July '82

Bi-Bi to May

"A GAY BI - BI TO MAY" was held at the Ukrainian Labor Temple on May 29th. The decorations, food, music and capacity crowd all made for a terrific launching into our summer social season!

Congratulations to co co-ordinators Line and Arja, as well as Ken, Ramon, Patrick, and all the others who donated food, helped with the clean up or volunteered for work during the evening. Your energy and good spirits are appreciated!

UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS

JUNE 26 = "SUN FUN" Social at the Ukrainian Labor Temple.

JULY 24 = Social: location to be announced. Call our phonline.

AUGUST 13-16 = Weekend Canoe and camping trip. All equipment provided. Cost approx: \$25. Sign up at a regular meeting or call the phonline.

SEPTEMBRE 4-5 = "CONTACT-Why Not Now." A Northern Conference for lesbians and gay men. (Labor Day weekend).

REMINDER: GIB regular meetings are bi-weekly during the summer months, starting June 8th. See you there.

COMMUNITY

GAYS OF THUNDER BAY
Magazine

SUMMER ISSUE
June - July '82

Thunder
GAY
magazine

CONTRIBUTORS to this issue: Arja, David, Doug, Ken, Michael, Ray, Rick.

2nd Anniversary Awards hi-lite dance

GIB's Second Anniversary was celebrated in April at the Strathcona Country Clubhouse.

Organizers Ken and Rob, as well as as their assistants, put together a splendid party! The location provided just the right atmosphere, with a fire in the fireplace, the bar in a separate room, a wide out-door deck to stroll away from the crowd if one wished (and enjoy a spectacular display of the northern lights, no doubt performing for our anniversary), and many new faces.

Following a practice established on our first anniversary, GIB gave framed certificates of merit to deserving members of the community who had worked and supported GIB services in an outstanding way during the past year. The awards were presented by David Belrose, last year's recipient. The 1982 awards went to three individuals: Doug, Patrick and Terry. Each in their own way have contributed on-going energy during the past year to specific GIB services. And they did so quietly and generously. We can all be justly proud of our 1982 award winners!

EDITORIAL

Another Raid!

If you are a straight magazine you can write about mutilating bodies, savage and brutal domination, whips, intercourse at thirteen, - practically any damn thing you want. If you are a gay magazine, the rules are very very different.

So while the straight magazines continue their pillage, the Body Politic is being watched, hassled and under continuous scrutiny by Toronto's thought police, the Morality Squad. With the retrial of the BP involving charges of sending immoral, indecent and scurrilous material through the mail beginning this week, OUR national newspaper was raided and charged with publishing obscene written matter. The first charges stem from an article Men Loving Boys Loving Men that appeared in December 1977 and even though the BP and its executive were acquitted a retrial was ordered after a Crown appeal. This latest raid occurred following an intimate and light-hearted look at fist-ing in the April issue.

Such are the politics of Ontoryo. Clayton Ruby, the paper's lawyer, was upset because the charges were laid just a few weeks after the patriation of the constitution. He told the Globe and Mail that the defence will be testing the new guarantees of freedom of the press and freedom of expression. "Any charge that involves suppression of

The Great Seal
of Canada's
Constitution.



Defence plans to
use Charter of
Rights...



the right to free speech is political. I hope to use this case to set some parameters that will protect working journalists."

These obviously political attempts to stifle the gay press must be put to end. We must fight to keep our culture out of the manipulative hands of straight authoritarianism. To do this, we can support the collective of the BP (ALL of them were charged this time). Donations can be made through GTB which will forward any monies collected to the Free the Press Fund. Keep us free. Give.

Doug Broman

forum

Comments:

Dear friends:

Just saw a copy of your current issue and want to say, "Bravo". It looks great.

And to say how well you folks seem to have handled the confrontation at the phonline. I work on the line in Toronto and I know what some of those feelings/fears are like... so hang in there and know

that you are not alone.

I used to live in New Liskeard years ago and seeing this issue makes me think back to the years when there was absolutely nothing in the north. It's great to see and hear what you're doing.

Keep it up!

Good wishes,
N. Taylor,
Toronto

Looking for intermediate players for tennis workouts. Call Rick, evenings, at 344-2068.

The Bible

There are ___ books in the Bible. The Bible is divided into ___ parts, known as the ___ and the _____. There are ___ books in the Old Testament and ___ books in the New. There are ___ chapters in the entire Bible. The Old Testament has ___ chapters and the New Testament has ___ chapters.

Clip and mail this quiz to: PO Box 3294, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 5J8

If you are interested or curious to know what the Bible has to say about itself then send your question and comments to the quiz address above. Or, perhaps you may be interested in attending a Bible group at the office. Feel free to write or contact me with your constructive comments. I would be pleased to hear from you. I may be reached at the above address or at the office. Ray.



FILM

A SLIGHT REVIEW OF "PERSONAL BEST"

by Arja Lane

Once upon a time, not too long ago, and a bit ahead of their time, there lived these two princesses, I mean these two dykes; well, actually, they were only athletes, but they were women too... They came to live in the kingdom of sport for a few years because they were both in search of their personal best. Finding it meant fighting the dragon of competitiveness who lived in the arena of athletics, against constant taunting from the wicked wizard of manipulation and control, and with very little help from the peasants of the village. But with all the odds stacked against them, the two win some incredible battles.

If this sounds like a fairy-tale of sorts, it's because I'm trying to exemplify the general mood of a motion picture that treated some heavy issues very lightly and unrealistically, although not totally insensitively, considering where it came from.

Although *Personal Best* dabbles around with some potentially interesting aspects of life, like lesbianism, love, competing, it fails

to focus on any one long enough to develop a statement, or to allow for new illuminations to surface.

The female nudity (of the new physically fit type), photographed from a het-male perspective too



Patrice Donnelly, Jodi Anderson and Mariel Hemingway:

obviously at times, coupled with all the straight sex-talk in the sauna scenes serves to make this a very

heterosexual male-oriented film. Showing Chris and Tory playing with each other sexually a couple of times does not a lesbian film make. But then, as Mariel Hemingway (Chris) maintains *Personal Best* "isn't a statement about lesbianism. It's a statement about love and physical movement."

And what movement! Beautiful coordination of female bodies full of flexing muscles, tensing, relaxing, sweating (makes me ache)—the kind of muscles that make you want to go and buy a year's membership at the 'Y'.

The love and respect that developed between the two women was tender and encouraging; although it just seemed to be there in the end, surprising me with its strength as it hadn't been obviously developed throughout the earlier part of the film. Even the wicked wizard of manipulation and control (the coach)

lost his power in the end. Although the coach managed to split them up as lovers, the two women came together in the end to accept each others differences and grew to care enough to encourage each other to strive for the best they could. Amazingly enough, both Chris (Mariel Hemingway) and Tory (Patrice Donnelly) came across as such strong characters: Chris grew from an exploring child to a caring woman; Tory, from a serious teacher to a more carefree spirit.

So, as all fairy-tales, this one had a seemingly happy ending, too. Undoubtedly though, from my point of view, even for a fairy-tale, it was definitely anti-climatic to see Chris get all excited about this male water-polo jock when Tory was around...

SUMMER VANITY: DO YOU WANT TO KNOW THIS?

Suntan as a status symbol is a fairly recent phenomenon. For centuries the sun used to mark field hands and other outdoor laborers as members of the working class, while the rich treasured their fair skin. In the years following the industrial revolution, when the poor left the sun and grew pale in factories, a suntan gradually came to distinguish those who could afford the luxury of sun year-

round. Despite warnings in recent years that excessive sun can damage the skin and causes most skin cancer—a suntan may still be sought in some circles. It can't be justified on grounds of health. Skin cancer is most common in aging skin. Since excessive exposure to the sun's rays results in premature skin aging, skin cancer may appear in sun worshipers earlier than otherwise.

FEATURE

In God's Image?

The United Church and homosexuality

Traditionally, the Christian church has been hostile to homosexuality and gay people. With a long history of oppression and condemnation, many gay people have either abandoned the church or suffered the trauma of conflict between their sexuality and their religious beliefs.

It is especially encouraging then to find that the United Church of Canada has begun the process of questioning traditional attitudes and struggling with the whole area of sexuality. In 1980, the church published *"In God's Image...Male and Female: A Study On Human Sexuality"*, which is a major report that questions traditional sexual ideas and attitudes. Re-evaluating the usual scriptural interpretations, the report examines male/female roles, sex/role stereotyping, homosexuality and other questions. In so doing, it presents some extremely progressive and positive ideas. To give a sampling, here are some quotes from the report:

"There is a unity to our sexuality - each of us is at once both masculine and feminine, both male and female" p. 57

"We affirm that neither homosexual nor heterosexual persons consciously choose their sexual orientation". p. 57

"Homosexual and heterosexual persons alike can be adaptive, creative and responsible members of society and the church." p. 58

"The Christian church affirms the infinite value of human persons and views as evil any injustice or discrimination that debases a person's life. A person's sexual orientation should not be grounds for such discrimination." p. 98

Before we assume that the church has changed its attitudes however, we must remember that this is a study that was designed to promote discussion and eventually lead to policy decisions in coming years. What has been encouraging is the fact that, here in Thunder Bay at least, this

task has been undertaken diligently and seriously by clergy and lay members of the United Church.

Over a year ago, two members of GTB were invited to a discussion group of United Church people to participate in a dialogue on the question of homosexuality. Many serious and important questions were raised and we were impressed by the sense that these people were genuinely trying to understand our position and to deal with their own varying attitudes and preconceptions.

Just recently, GTB was invited back to another study session, this time with some 25 clergy and lay members who were attempting to develop their understanding and positions in relation to *"In God's Image"*. Once again we were impressed by the sincerity and depth of the questions that people had, and by the fact that there was a real attempt to grapple with issues that were very difficult for many of them. By the

end of the evening, the two of us from GTB were exhilarated by the discussion and we felt that one more step had been taken in breaking down prejudice and misunderstanding.

At the very least it would seem that the church will condemn discrimination against gay people, and there will be serious consideration of the question of ordaining homosexual ministers. Whatever the formal results of the ongoing study of sexuality, we feel that many of the people involved will now have a better understanding of gay people. This kind of educational outreach is one of the reasons why an organization like GTB is important for us all in the long term.

For anyone interested in further information or exploration of the broad issues involved in human sexuality, GTB has a copy of *"In God's Image"* available through our office.

David Belrose \ \ \

FLAUNTING IT

Michael Sobota

"Do things that support each other."
Julian Beck

There sure is a lot of negative energy around. And for the moment, I limit my remarks to our local scene, rather than branch out to a larger view.

Example: a number of us (it doesn't matter how many) are sitting in the GTB office waiting for a meeting to start and one of those present says: *"Where is everybody; how come the rest aren't here?"* then goes on to suggest there's no point in calling meetings if *"the others"* don't show up. Usually this is delivered in a righteous tone and immediately deflates the atmosphere in the room.

The above has occurred at a number of meetings I've been present at. Seldom is there an acknowledgement, in a positive way, of those members who are there. Seldom is there a suggestion to rally our energies and get on with whatever needs to be done, rather than use the low attendance as an excuse to berate everybody not there, or simply

cancel the meeting altogether.

Another example: we used to have a lot of volunteers, especially members of our executive, stay through the conclusion of our socials, help in the clean-up and see that everything got taken care of satisfactorily before leaving. This is no longer the case. Think about when was the last time you contributed this kind of support.

And then there is the usual background chatter, nagging at GTB, quick to point out our weaknesses, saying we are useless or have our priorities all screwed up, etc. Lately the background chatter has occasionally moved to the foreground.

I'll offer a couple examples to balance that kind of shit:

I think of the three men who were named as merit winners at our 2nd anniversary social. They have all worked a long time for GTB and for the gay community here, even before GTB existed. Their support is consistent, strong, quiet. They don't seek titles, they seldom draw at-

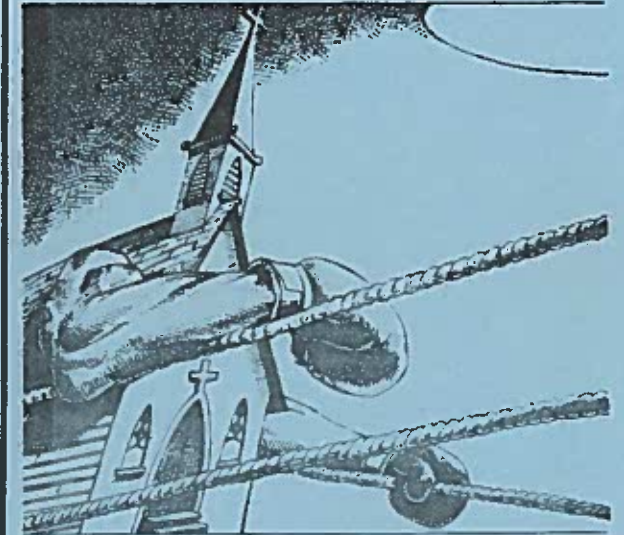
tention to themselves. They are helping build a better gay community here. Their energy supports us all.

There are many others: Rob Deslaurier, our past-president, worked countless hours on our phonenumber, at our socials, on our newsletter. Teresa, new in town, contacted us and immediately volunteered her skills and background to work on our phonenumber. Line, who has taken over our presidency with enthusiasm and vigor.

Line and Arja are two beautiful women: late Saturday night after our last social, and after just about everybody had left the premises, I returned downstairs to consult with Line about paying the hall rent and discovered these two mopping up flooded floors from overflowed toilets. They were grumpy, cheery and straightforward about getting this work done. I love them both.

Let's mop up the negative shit and help make a cleaner, more supportive atmosphere.

Worth Noting:



Rt. Rev. Lois Wilson, Moderator of the United Church of Canada (the first woman to head any church in North America), on the subject of ordaining women to the ministry:

"I hope they will question, particularly, what we are emerging from as women and not repeat men's patterns. I think one of the gifts we have to offer is vulnerability, openness without control. Maybe we can free others up for that style of ministry instead of the authority model where you are always in control."

BOOKS

A BASIC LIBRARY
by J.K. Lipinski and M. Sobota

For \$99.95 you can own a core library of gay thought. Books on history, politics; on how to do it, with whom, where and how often; books on why; and the books of poetry, fiction, plays, biographies and autobiographies written by men who did do it and those who did not do it (but wrote about it anyway). These are the classics. The beginnings of a basic library. They should be read. And reread.

Andre Gide	THE IMMORALIST
	IF I DIE
Christopher Isherwood	A SINGLE MAN
	CHRISTOPHER AND HIS KIND
Gore Vidal	THE CITY AND THE PILLAR
Edmund White	STATES OF DESIRE
John Snodgrass	FOR MEN AGAINST SEXISM
G.R. Bucher	STRAIGHT/WHITE/MALE
Mary Renault	THE CHARIOTEER
Jonathan Katz	GAY AMERICAN HISTORY,
	LESBIAN AND GAY MEN IN THE USA
C.A. Tripp	THE HOMOSEXUAL MATRIX
Vern L. Bullough	HOMOSEXUALITY:
	A HISTORY FROM ANCIENT GREECE
	TO GAY LIBERATION
Martin Sherman	BENT
Landford Wilson	FIFTH OF JULY
Harvey Fierstein	TORCH SONG TRILOGY
John Lahr	PRICK UP YOUR EARS
Stan Persky	WRESTLING THE ANGEL
Edmund White and	THE JOY OF GAY SEX
Charles Silverstein	

Mitch Walker	MEN LOVING MEN
Gay Left Collective	HOMOSEXUALITY:
	POWER AND POLITICS
John Rechy	THE SEXUAL OUTLAW
Michael Rumaker	A DAY AND A NIGHT
	AT THE BATHS
Howard Brown, MD	FAMILIAR FACES,
	HIDDEN LIVES
Andrew Hodges	WITH DOWNCAST GAYS
and David Hutter	

These twenty-four books are almost all available in paperback editions, meaning this start toward a basic gay library can be purchased for under \$100. And though some of the titles might have to be looked for in special stores, many of them are on the shelves now in the mass-market chain stores (Coles, etc.).

If you find yourself currently low on cash and some of these books perk your interest, some are available in the GIB office; others can be had for free through the city library branches. Check through their card catalogues.

From time to time we will update and add to this list, as new books become available. This is not an exclusive list. Merely a beginning. Read. Enjoy. Reread.

BOOKS

SUMMER 1982

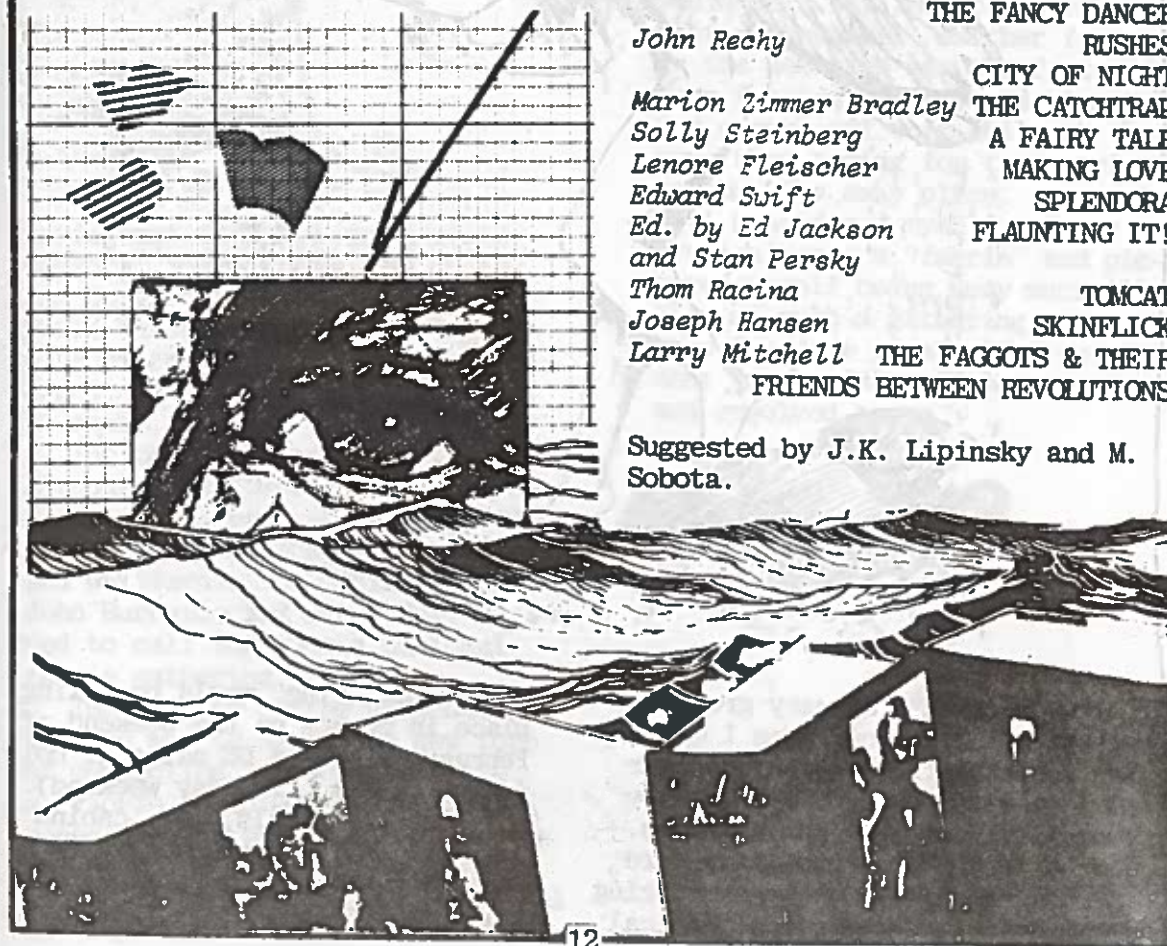
The beach. Your towel, your swimsuit, your book. The essentials.

Summer Favorites:

A book.
A book to peer over.
A book to put under your head.
A book to keep your hands busy.
A book to be dropped. A lady would drop a handkerchief.
A book to tell as much about you as your Speedo.
A book to read?

Armistead Maupin	TALES OF THE CITY
	MORE TALES OF THE CITY
Mary Renault	THE PERSIAN BOY
William Burroughs	CITIES OF THE RED
	NIGHT
Christopher Isherwood	DOWN THERE ON
	A VISIT
	A MEETING BY THE RIVER
Wallace Hamilton	KEVIN
Patricia N. Warren	THE FRONT RUNNER
	THE FANCY DANCER
John Rechy	RUSHES
	CITY OF NIGHT
Marion Zimmer Bradley	THE CATCHTRAP
Solly Steinberg	A FAIRY TALE
Lenore Fleischer	MAKING LOVE
Edward Swift	SPLENDORA
Ed. by Ed Jackson	FLAUNTING IT!
and Stan Persky	
Thom Racina	TOMCAT
Joseph Hansen	SKINFLICK
Larry Mitchell	THE FAGGOTS & THEIR
	FRIENDS BETWEEN REVOLUTIONS

Suggested by J.K. Lipinsky and M. Sobota.



On the road to FAERIE Consciousness

— Ric Taylor —



It was a late January grey wet afternoon in Vancouver as I made my way down the third floor corridor of the city's main public library where I was stopped in my tracks. There, tacked to a bulletin board was a mimeographed flyer announcing that a 'Northwest Regional Radical

Faerie Gathering" would be taking place in Oregon on the weekend of February 13-15 (A US national holiday - thus a three-day weekend).

Vegetarian meals, warm cabins and unidentified workshops were all that were promised at a retreat location at the foot of Mt. Jefferson.

The cost - \$45 or whatever one could afford. All Gay Men Welcome. So what is a "radical faerie"? Though the term wasn't new to me,



having met it R.F.D. a quarterly faggots' journal from the US and the Body Politic (especially a Robin Hardy article detailing his attendance at the Colorado gathering), I had little idea what it meant.

The movement has a short history. Although small gatherings had previously occurred, it was in 1979 that a group of men from Arizona and California, co-ordinated by John Burnside and Harry Hay, decided to call together a national faerie gathering.

The purpose of the national gathering was to develop a new form of connection between gay men - a "faerie consciousness". This consciousness was to emphasize the unique contribution of faggots to both political/social and spiritual developments of the 60's and 70's.

Gatherings happened in Arizona (1979), Colorado (1980) and New Mexico (1981). These gatherings attempted to create for gay men a separate place where the myriad conflicts with straight society could be left behind and a true faerie/faggot brotherhood could be born. The men at the gatherings started an exploration of a faerie heritage, set up a faerie network, as well as shared faggot gifts and skills.

A group of Northwest faeries decided that a regional gathering would be a way to focus Northwest faerie energies. Another factor in the decision was the fact that poor faeries have a hard time taking a week off work while at the same time paying for transportation to some far away place.

I considered myself neither a "radical" nor a "faerie" and pictured myself being very much ill at ease at such a gathering. But I knew I had to go and find out. I sent in the \$20 pre-registration and resolved to go.



NEXT: The Northwest Radical Faerie Gathering

Grays T^{of} Thunder Bay

GAYS OF THUNDER BAY is an organization of lesbians and gay men from the Thunder Bay region.

OUR MAILING ADDRESS is: G.T.B.
P.O. Box 2155
Thunder Bay P, Ontario

OUR PHONELINE is open every Wednesday and Friday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. At other times a recording advises callers of activities. Reach the phoneline by dialing:

(807) 345.8011

All persons interested in the gay movement in this area are welcome to contact us with offers of help, donations and so on!

GTB