



RENAISSANCE OF MADISON, INC.

COORDINATOR'S NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 1975

Varia

Perhaps it is the weather or some good changes that are going on with me but there seems to be a new spirit developing here in Madison. This Newsletter will not contain much depth but will lightly touch on a spirit that seems almost tangible to me.

First of all, I signed another contract to spend another year here in Mad City as Coordinator. Yes, there were some differences between me and the Renaissance Board, but we sat down and talked them through to our mutual satisfaction. I am, more than ever, convinced of the value of having a center and the good things that we can, and will, accomplish in the coming twelve months. Please feel free to come forth with your suggestions to any of us and share directions, etc. on what you think we might be doing.

Consenting Adult

Wow, I predict this will be the Gay novel of Fall '75. Laura Z. Hobson has written a sensitive, insightful and touching novel about the mother of a Gay son who, at 17, writes her a letter telling her he is a homosexual. The letter is written in 1960 and the novel continues through her struggles with this revelation until, 13 years later, she greets him at her door with his lover. Through analysis, college, rejection of his home, medical school and a contrived involvement in the Stonewall riot of June 1969, the story is told from the mother's viewpoint. Her odyssey through these events is beautifully told, and delightful reading. I can't recall being able to appreciate individual paragraphs or description in a long while. Read this one slowly! There will be much discussion of the politics, etc. of this novel including a promised article in an upcoming Advocate. Consenting Adult, Laura Z. Hobson, Doubleday, 1975. 246 p. \$7.95 cloth bound.

This book is available at Madison Public Library-- get your name on the waiting list! Excellent review by Martin Duberman in the book review section of the New York Times, Sunday July 6, 1975.

Swimming - Canoeing - Camping

Sound good this time of year. Check out the sandbars near Spring Green in the Wisconsin River. Canoe rental at Bob's (588-2826) for \$6.00/day, or \$1/hr. Rumor has it that nude swimming, canoeing and sunbathing are O.K. Check it out if you're interested. For further information, call the center.

Integrity

Integrity, a national Gay Episcopalian group, will hold their first national convention in Chicago, August 8-10. Bill Landram will report on this for the September newsletter.

(608) 257-7575
P.O. Box 687 Madison, Wis. 53701

Milwaukee Gay Community Services Center

We recently received a new flyer from Milwaukee GCS requesting our support. With peer counseling, referrals, rap groups and telephone information services, their services parallel ours. If you are in Milwaukee or have friends there check them out.

Milwaukee Gay Community Service Center
2211 East Kenwood Blvd.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211
(414)263-4110.
HOURS: Mon-Wed: 5-9 p.m.
Fri: 7-10, Rap Group.

Paris Baldacci, David Darby, and Joseph Kelly comprise the staff collective.

Fund Raising

In mid July John Lindert, Chuck LePard, and Les Miescke got out to each of you a reminder on the center's work and request for continued support. The follow-up calls have been less diligent -- I certainly have procrastinated on mine -- but you will be contacted in the next few weeks to continue, or to begin some financial support for the Center.

Small Envelopes

Some of you have been wondering just what those small envelopes addressed to Renaissance were doing in the envelope with the last Newsletter. It was felt that this would be a gentle hint that if you had made a pledge to mail it in. Actually, it is designed to facilitate any form of communication you wish to share with us. We will continue to include them for the same reasons. Comments are welcome.

Wisconsin on Tap

This Saturday (Orton Park, 2:00 P.M.) and Sunday (Warner Park 2:00 P.M.) check out this musical play about the history of Wisconsin. Children will love it! Featuring jugglers, King Kohler in a bath tub and more, this one hour show is a delight. Do pay careful attention to the lyrics -- the politics is labor-leftist which may not be everyone's cup of tea. But for free, you can't beat the cast's energy, enthusiasm, and vigor.

Lutheran Campus Center

At the request of Jerry Knoche, an "interview and exchange" of ideas was held at the Lutheran Campus Center on Thursday, July 24. All who participated seemed to come away with a deeper level of understanding and awareness. If only we could find other campus ministry organizations willing to initiate dialogue.

Discount

Enclosed in this envelope is a coupon good for 50¢ off on a five dollar purchase at Badger Liquor. This is a special promotion, paid for by Jim Petzold, to encourage the Gay community to patronize Badger Liquor. Check out their prices, say hello to Jim