



Hello, everyone!

I hope that 2006 is finding everyone well! My term as Newsletter Editor is drawing near it's end. The next issue will be my last as Editor. **John Bradford** will be succeeding me in this role, and I am confident that he will do an outstanding job! Please join me in thanking and congratulating him!

Ray Barber, our **Book Review Editor**, has asked me to pass on a message to everyone. Please send all book reviews directly to him at rbarber@penncharter.com, as he will look them over and format them appropriately for the newsletter, before sending them on to me. He maintains a list of reviewed



Leather Archives De Blase Papers Inventory Completed

In March, 2006, the preliminary inventory of the primary personal papers collection held by the Leather Archives and Museum, the legacy of the career of artist, writer, mammalogist and publisher Anthony De Blase, was completed after three years of transcription.. The forty-eight boxes contain a wealth of detailed information about topics as varied as the design and presentation of the now- famous " Leather Pride Flag", internal management of the widely circulated magazine *Drummer* (which served as the venue of publication for many pieces of erotic fiction and portfolios of photographic art), the origin and growth of the chapters of the National Leather Association, and the growth in public visibility and activism by the leather community through such gatherings as the Living in Leather conferences. The files also contain a substantial number of story manuscripts by both De Blasé and other authors (some later published in his collection *Flederfiction*, named for his nom de plume, *Fledermaus*, itself based on his research at Chicago's Field Museum on the bats of Iran.) . Other formats present in the collection include photographs, drawings, holdings of specialized periodicals, organizational minutes, and a voluminous array of De Blase's personal and business correspondence over several decades. The basic inventory will be refined and consolidated before a listing is placed on the home page.

Rob Ridinger
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Proposed Bylaw Wording Changes (changes are in bold)

IV. OFFICERS

Titles and Terms of Office:

- The Round Table shall elect two **Co-Chairs of differing gender identity**, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, each serving a term of two years.
- **One Co-Chair** and Secretary shall be filled during even numbered years.
- **One Co-Chair** and Treasurer shall be filled during odd numbered years.
- Officers may not hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms.



GUIDELINES FOR REVIEWERS

My goal is that we review many books, both books we recommend and books we do not recommend. These reviews should be professional, combining the best practices of the library profession and our unique perspective as GLBT individuals. Keeping in mind that The Newsletter is not infinitely expandable, these reviews should be between 120 and 180 words long. Yes, some books demand longer reviews because of their complexity, controversial nature or importance. When you feel that a book you are reviewing will need additional space please let me know so I can plan.

Reviews should clearly state what the book is about and include an evaluative section. It is always helpful if you can compare it to other books. The review should end with a clear recommendation and indicate audience. If there are situations or language which may cause problems these should be pointed out. Such situations, language, etc. need should not overly influence the recommendation unless they are inappropriate, extraneous to the book, or badly handled.

I think that LJ and Booklist are good models. The reviews I enjoy reading are from Kirkus, but I would be hard pressed to do one of that literary quality for every book I read.

Below is a sample review for you to consider. More are available upon request, or see other reviews in this issue. Please note the bibliographic form and the form for your byline.

This is a quick set of guidelines to get us through the current issue. Please help me by sending me your comments.

Ray Barber, *Book Review Editor*
rbarber@penncharter.com

Kings & Queens: Queers at the Prom. By David Boyer. Soft Skull Press.2004.160 p. paperback (ISBN1-932360-24-7) [306.766]

David Boyer uses the high school prom to wrap stories about coming out and living as a homosexual. The book is divided into sections with profiles from the 90's, 80's, 70's and 60's, and back through the 1930's. Each profile includes the date and place of their high school senior year, pictures and a summary, in their own words, about their senior prom. A postscript gives information on where they are now, and a bit about how they got there. Extras include a style guide, prom trends and a section on how the American idea of a senior prom has spread around the world. Each profile is surprisingly gripping and many make you think of your own high school experience. The pictures will bring knowing nods from older readers and gales of giggles from teens. This book offers a good window into the high school experience and would be a good addition to a YA or high school library collection.

Reviewed by Mark Singer, High School Librarian, retired.

Stonewall Book Awards Announced

At the social during the midwinter conference in San Antonio, the Stonewall Book Award Committee met, and selected this years winners as well as the Honor Book recipients.

Among the many titles we had a chance to consider, the final five in each category clearly stood out among the rest, and when it came time to select the winning title in each category,



Gay, lesbian, and transgender issues in education. Edited by James T. Sears. Harrington Park Press. 2005. 209 p. paperback (ISBN 1-56023-524-1)

James T. Sears collects a fascinating range of articles and essays first published in the *Journal of Gay and Lesbian issues in Education* into one well-organized volume. International in scope, the book addresses issues in the education of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered youth worldwide.



The first section of the book offers essays written by youth in several countries, commentary written in response by the editors of the journal, and the youth's return response. These essays give a living face and voice to a population that is often too distant and seen as merely a problem to be solved, not as a living population.

The second section consists of research-based articles addressing the diversity of the GLBT youth population, the history of LGBTQ studies in higher education, and bullying in Canadian schools. The final and most directly applied section addresses a wide range of existing programs in high schools and colleges. The examples and discussion of successful programs, and of potential pitfalls, will be of much interest to anyone involved in a GLBT student program, whether established or nascent.

This book is highly recommended for academic libraries with general or Education collections and for teacher professional development collections in high schools.

Reviewed by **Susan Swogger**, Director of Library Services at Argosy University/Phoenix (AZ).

Babyji. By Abha Dawesar. Anchor Books. 2005. 356pp. \$13.00 paperback (ISBN: 1400034566)

The 2005 Stonewall Book Award winner for fiction brings us a unique heroine in an unexpected locale. Anamika Sharma is a 16-year-old honor student and physics whiz living with her parents in Delhi, India, circa the late 1980s. Her boundless curiosity and enthusiasm for life lead her to explore her own sexuality as well. With few or no qualms, Anamika embarks upon affairs—or “freelances,” as she puts it—with both an older divorced woman and her

family's married female servant.

Simultaneously, she explores a possible sexual relationship with a female classmate, almost becomes intimately involved with the father of her best male friend, and must also deal with school-related issues. As the world becomes increasingly complex for Anamika, she juggles it all with a combination of wide-eyed wonder, self-certainty, and intellectual curiosity. Ultimately, she leaves India to study in America, older and

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Ferri, Richard S. **Confessions of a Male Nurse**, by Richard S. Ferri. New York: Harrington Park Press, 2005. hardbound 16.95 (ISBN: 1506023296X)

This witty and sometimes raunchy novel relates in vivid,







Sonny's House of Spies, by George Ella Lyon. New York: Atheneum, 2004. Hardbound, \$16.95 (ISBN: 068981685)

Small towns, someone has said, are like movie sets behind which people play out their lives. This is doubly true of the small Alabama town where Sonny Bradshaw is

from *Sonny's House of Spies* by George Ella Lyon (ISBN: 068981685) © 2004 Atheneum. Secrets that (Eds. & res. is) T&T

The GLBT Round Table needs your time, talent, and energy if our success in contributing toward libraries and library professionalism is to continue. Filling out and sending this form is one way to let the Round Table know about your interest in serving on committees or in a leadership role. We are eager to learn about how you want to work as a part of the Round Table team.

If you have questions, please contact **Lewis Day**, Membership Committee Chair: lewis_day@harvard.edu

Name:
Library/Organization:
Address:
City:
State:
Zip Code:
Phone Number:
Fax Number:
E-Mail address:

On which of these committees would you be willing to serve?

Programming: plans and conducts programs, the annual book award breakfast, and social activities; coordinates logistics and local arrangements for the Annual and Midwinter meetings.

Fundraising: develops goals, prepares budgets, and seeks external funding.

Library Information Clearinghouse: identifies, obtains, and distributes materials related to collecting or cataloging gay, lesbian, or bi-oriented materials for libraries; maintains website.

Newsletter: compiles, produces, and distributes newsletter, including GLBT related book reviews.

Book Awards: reviews materials, selects winner(s), determines appropriate awards.

External Relations: coordinates publicity; disseminates Round Table information to interested parties outside ALA; coordinates Round Table correspondence for communications within ALA; develops membership information.

If you've checked multiple, please indicate order of preference:

On which committees have you served in the past, and in what capacity?

Are you willing to serve in a leadership position with one of the committees? Yes No

If yes, please indicate committee preference?

Are you willing to serve as an elected officer? Yes No

Would you be willing to help with any of the following?

Read Aloud Coordinator | Book Review Editor | Book Reviewer