Dr. Fritz Klein: Bisexual Pioneer

San Diego based Dr. Fritz Klein, age 73, died May 24, 2006 of a heart attack. Fritz Klein was an internationally-renowned authority who explored the complexities of bisexuality. He had founded what became known as the Bisexual Forum in New York in 1974 after he found there was very little data on this topic. In 1978 he published “The Bisexual Option,” the world’s first psychological study of bisexuality.

Throughout the years, he was the author of several other books, including Man, His Body, His Sex (1978) and Bisexual Gay Husbands (2001). He also authored numerous articles as well as edited journals on bisexuality. He developed the Klein Sexual Orientation Grid, a methodology used for distinguishing sexual traits and preferences over an individual’s lifetime.

Fritz Klein had been Lambda Archives’ landlord and an active supporter of our organization for the past 12 years. His interest in philanthropy is exhibited by bequests in his will to Lambda Archives and Diversionary Theatre and continued commitments to the bisexual community. Klein also created a

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Looking At 2007

President’s Report

By Frank Nobiletti, President, Lambda Archives of San Diego

As Lambda Archives of San Diego starts 2007, its 20th anniversary year, we have a number of plans. Overall, we are striving to become an excellent archival, research and educational center. In the long run, by achieving this, we can do our part to help build a stronger, healthier LGBT community.

Collaboration

In 2007, Lambda Archives will continue collaborating with other institutions. This past year, the Archives built a program involving many SDSU students. We are expanding that in 2007, when SDSU upper-division students will be interns and do special studies. This will provide many more hundreds of hours of students’ volunteer work, from collection development to writing newsletters to research.

In Fall 2006, Lambda Archives joined with The Center and Momentum San Diego (a local veteran’s group) to collect LGBT veterans’ oral histories in a countrywide Library of Congress project. Lambda Archives recruited more than a dozen student interviewers, and a few of the veterans as well. We will house the interviews, photos, and interviewers’ reflections, and The Center will host many of them on their web site. Lambda Archives anticipates much more emphasis on such collaborative efforts in the future.

New Cataloging Software

Lambda Archives has other goals: first, to provide a searchable website using professional cataloging software. Then, community members and researchers from all over would be able to read an online finder’s aid for each archival collection to determine if what they are looking for is here. This project will require an investment of thousands of dollars in hardware and software. We hope to get help from both software vendors and donors.

More Space

Lambda Archives is hoping to increase its square footage by 25% soon (and 25% more when we are able) preparing for an already-in-progress influx of collections from the activists of the 1970s. We have literally run out of room. Currently, we are

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The New Lambda Archives

Officers and Board members elected on November 5, 2006 are:

President Frank Nobiletti
Treasurer Frank Stefano
Secretary Victoria Bustillos
R. Arvid Nelsen
Sharon Parker

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President’s Report

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developing a comprehensive plan to ensure that we collect a diverse range of collections from community organizations, businesses and people in our region. And, we plan to offer to make arrangements with potential donors for future collections while the owners are living, rather than just attempt to obtain collections after community members have passed on. (Ask us for our Deed of Gift form to put with your will or trust.)

Remembering Fritz Klein

Lambda Archives is planning a major gala celebrating our 20th anniversary in 2007. We will announce at that time a wonderful bequest from Fritz Klein, since Klein wanted his bequest to be the impetus for a larger fundraising campaign for the Archives. To us, Klein was our generous landlord. But, in the field of the history of sexuality, Klein was one of the greatest figures in the history of the U.S. bisexual movement, and a major figure internationally as well. Our thoughts, thanks and condolences to Tom Reise, Klein’s partner.

Lambda Archives’ Future

The 20th anniversary campaign will further build the endowment fund to cover the cost of the larger space and to help ultimately fund a part-time, paid manager who would offer continuity and keep the Archives open for more researchers and volunteers. The near doubling of membership in 2006 also helps make such projects possible. As we always stress, because an archive has to be conservative financially, we must try to be sure that the basic costs will always be covered in perpetuity through endowment.

With the conclusion of our last campaign we have secured permanent coverage of that 5-10% of the past budget that we used to scramble for each year. Many thanks to all those who made the 2006 campaign a success. Gifts ranged from $1,000, $2,000, $1,000 $500, to $35. Thank you all.

And while on the subject of ‘Thank you’s’, I would like to thank retiring board members Doug Moore and Dennis Fiordaliso for their many years of stellar service to our community through Lambda Archives.

For the Youth

All of this effort has a purpose. As a teacher at SDSU, I see the strength, diversity and potential of the younger LGBT generation – but also the dangers many of them face, ranging from assaulted self-esteem to homelessness to the crystal meth crisis. I am glad that Lambda Archives can be a part of helping them face down those dangers, enabling them to enrich their sense of themselves, and see their place in their community through its history. They deserve as much. In conclusion, I anticipate 2007 being a productive year. I invite you to join with us to make it so.

Zimmerman Brings Lesbian History Alive

Bonnie Zimmerman raises funds at The Center for the Archives.

Bonnie Zimmerman, Associate VP for Faculty Affairs at SDSU and active member of the LGBT community in San Diego, presented a visual and narrative history titled ‘Amazons and Women-Loving Women’ – Pathways to the Modern Lesbian, at The Center on October 11, 2006 as a benefit for Lambda Archives.

This presentation provided memorable insights of lesbianism, past and present, to the more than 90 individuals who attended. The event brought in nearly $1,000 for Lambda Archives.

Thanks also to Edna Myers who coordinated all the arrangements for this interesting evening.

The Center Honors Pride Activist Doug Moore

Doug Moore has been an active part of Lambda Archives since its inception, but he has been active much longer in Pride. He has just completed his 31st year of involvement with San Diego Pride’s organization. He has served in every capacity with Pride and continues on its board. Throughout the years he has amassed one of the largest collections of Pride materials in the world and is also a co-founder of InterPride, an international association of Pride organizations.

Archives Meets Endowment Fund Challenge

In 2006, Lambda Archives of San Diego succeeded in meeting a challenge from a member which involved a match to endowment funds of up to $10,000. Lambda Archives is extremely grateful to both the member who undertook this challenge, and all members and friends who helped us reach and match this milestone.

During 2006, Lambda Archives broadened its approach to endowment funding by opening an account with the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation. The primary endowment fund is with the larger San Diego Foundation. We now offer the option to any new donor to specify into which fund they would like their contribution to be placed.

This year’s successful match of endowment funding, as well as the unexpected bequest received from Fritz Klein, will be used as a focus for emphasizing endowment funds in 2007. Expect to receive more information about becoming a part of this legacy this year.
Klein: Archives Mourns Important Supporter

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He received a BA from Yeshiva University in 1953 and later obtained an MBA from Columbia University in 1955. He studied medicine in Germany at Bern University, Switzerland, obtained his MD in 1971 and became a psychiatrist. He continued his practice for the rest of his life, specializing in bisexuality.

Lambda Archives is privileged to house The Bisexual Archives, a sister archive started by Klein that includes some of Klein’s original materials as well as manuscripts and publications from bisexual groups and individuals. Lambda Archives is grateful to him for his generous gifts, and his support for more than a decade.

Klein is survived by his partner of six years, Tom Reise, and by a community that loved him.

Membership: Keep Spreading the Word!

During 2006, Lambda Archives has actively pursued an increase in membership, which will continue to be emphasized for the 20th Anniversary Year of 2007. Lambda Archives doubled its membership in 2006 and we hope to grow even more dramatically this year.

We ask your support by continuing your own membership, and also by spreading the word about our mission and asking anyone you know to come join us. If you prefer, just send us a person’s name and address and we will be happy to contact her or him with an invitation to join our organization.

Thanks again to all who have helped us by membership, or other activities these past years. We hope you will be an active part of our 20th Anniversary Year.

SDSU Student Joins Archives’ Board

Victoria Bustillos, originally from Silver City, NM, is a student at SDSU currently working toward a Bachelor’s Degree in Social Work. She has joined the Board with the responsibility of both Secretary and Collection Processing. She brings a dynamic presence and is interested in helping to empower individuals, especially youth, to reach their full potential. She is a most welcome addition to the Lambda Archives Board.

Update Folds; Donates Massive Collection

With sadness, Update ceased publication with issue # 1266 on March 19, 2006. However, Lambda Archives is grateful that we can announce Tom Ellerbrock, Update’s owner, has given the publication’s records to Lambda Archives to ensure the paper’s history is preserved.

Don Hauck, at the time a bartender at a then-popular bar called ‘The Riff Raff’ (across the street from the Santa Fe Railroad Station), was the founder of Update. He was the San Diego distributor for several national gay publications and saw the need for a new local newspaper. He discussed this with his friend Howard Rouse who had opened West Coast Production Company, a new concept in bars in 1979. Together they launched Update.

First Issue

The first issue of Update on March 23, 1979 featured headline news of a recent police raid at the Fourth Avenue Club, which subsequently resulted in the founding of the Gay Alliance for Equal Rights. On Page 1 of that first issue, Don promised readers that “you will see a brand new concept in news as it relates to our gay community.” Don would remain the central driving force of Update until his death on June 15, 1992.

Tom Ellerbrock later became publisher and created an annual celebration to commemorate Update’s birthday, inviting the entire LGBT community to participate. He also created the Crystal Heart Awards, an annual event to provide thanks and recognition to people in the LGBT community.

20th Anniversary

In the March 1999 Special 20th Anniversary issue of Update, Tom Ellerbrock said it was almost unheard of for a gay paper to reach that age. The paper was to continue publishing for another seven years beyond that date.

It is important for our community to be aware that Lambda Archives is now the sole holder of not only copies of all issues, but also indexes to early issues, major photo files, personal display and copy material, as well as awards, citations, proclamations and items of recognition which Update received over the years. There is also personal correspondence and photos of Donald Hauck and other data with his partner Howard Rouse.

Processing the Update Collection

All this material continues to be slowly indexed and catalogued under the direction of Victoria Bustillos and Sharon Parker. Many more hours of volunteer time are needed to process this large collection for future use by others. This acquisition is a treasure for researching what happened in San Diego from 1979 to 2006.

Thank You, Tom Ellerbrock, for entrusting this valuable collection to Lambda Archives.
**Membership Application & Donations:**

Name(s) ______________________________________

______________________________________

Address  ______________________________________

______________________________________

Phone  (____)____________________________

E-mail ______________________________________

- □ Major Donor  $250
- □ Sustaining Member  $120
- □ Sustaining Couple  $180
- □ General Member  $25
- □ General Couple  $40
- □ Student/Limited Income  $15

Business Membership:

- □ Regular  $200
- □ Non-profit  $60

**In Addition to my membership above I would like to make a contribution of $__________ for:**

- □ Endowment fund
- □ General operating fund
- □ Other _____________
- □ Contact me about volunteer work

**Membership $______**

**Contribution $______**

**Total Amount Enclosed $______**

Lambda Archives is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and all monetary donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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**Contact Info**

General email: info@lambdaarchives.org

Newsletter email: newsletter@lambdaarchives.org

Website: www.LambdaArchives.org

Phone: (619) 260-1522

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**Photos of Bonnie Zimmerman on Page 2 and Victoria Bustillos on Page 3 by Beatriz Mendoza**

www.musecreative4u.com

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**Volunteer & Visiting Hours:**

1st & 3rd Thursday of each month: 6:30—8:30 pm

1st Sunday of each month 11am except on holiday weekends

Other times by appointment

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**LAMBDA ARCHIVES OF SAN DIEGO**

P.O. BOX 40389
San Diego, CA 92164-0389