The Queer Omaha Archives: The First 5 Years

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The Queer Omaha Archives:
The First Five Years

Amy Schindler, she | her | hers
Director, Archives and Special Collections
UNO Libraries

NCompass Live
October 6, 2021
Land Acknowledgement

We would like to begin by acknowledging that the University of Nebraska at Omaha is a metropolitan university with campuses, programs, service learning, and community engagement spread across the past, present, and future homelands of the Pawnee, Ponca, Oto-Missouria, Omaha, Dakota, Lakota, Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Kaw Peoples, as well as the relocated Ho-Chunk, Iowa, and Sac and Fox Peoples. Please take a moment to consider the legacies of more than 100 years of displacement, violence, settlement, and survival that bring us together here today.

https://native-land.ca/
About the QOA

• LGBTQ+ collecting initiative began after community consultation
• Collect, preserve, & share LGBTQIA2S+ history
• Archival material includes:
  – Photos & scrapbooks
  – Fliers, posters, & signs
  – Video & audio recordings
  – Correspondence
  – Meeting minutes + more
What is in the Archives?

• 40+ individual & organizational donors
• 80+ cubic feet & 3 GB of archival material
• 3,000+ book, magazine, and newspaper titles
  – Books: fiction and non-fiction, mostly U.S.
  – Local newspapers & magazines
GAY FREEDOM

newsletter of the
Omaha Gay Freedom League

Issue #1
August 19, 1972

WHY A GAY WOMEN'S CAUCUS?

Gay women have many different problems than do gay men, and considerably different interests (frequently). Hopefully, a women's caucus will provide us a chance to get together with our interests, problems, and projects.

We can deal with things as a group that are not the province of men. Saturday, Aug. 26th, we will have a table at the Nebraska Women's Equality Conference. While there we will distribute literature, talk with people generally participate in the conference (for after all, we are women), and caucus. We might even get a few of the lateness out of their closets.

FIGHTING POLICE HARRASSMENT IN OMAHA

We are going to be talking to police officials about gay rights. Anyone who feels he has been harassed by police, is being harassed, or is harassed in the future, please contact the ODFL — we want to know. We want to collect reports and affidavits of harassment by either police or "sissy busters" to substantiate our case.

We can rent city pools for a swim party if we want. If you're interested in a gay swim party followed by a poolside dance, contact an ODFL chairperson or committee. SOON.

If you want to talk about others or problems about being gay, or just have something to say, contact the Omaha Gay Freedom League.

We don't have a phone yet, but you can write us at this address:

Omaha Gay Freedom League
P.O. Box 1226
Downtown Station
Omaha, NE 68104

We'll get in touch with you.

GAIN GAY AWARENESS IOWA NEBRASKA

Daub Campaign Sparks Anger in Gays

The candidate for Mayor of Des Moines, William "Daub" Ingles, has run a campaign on the backs of homosexuals. His anti-gay campaign has provoked the anger of gay Iowans.

In light of the recent anti-gay activity in Des Moines, GAIN (Gay Awareness Iowa Nebraska) has called for a demonstration against the re-election of Daub. GAIN members have worked to publicize the effects of the Daub campaign on homosexuals.

A recent anti-gay demonstration, organized by Dennis Tatman, was met with hostile reaction from the crowd. Daub supportersIraq reaction from the crowd. Daub supporters th

Daub Gays Discuss Objections to TV Ad

In a recent interview, Daub supporters discussed their objections to the TV ad. They argued that the ad was unfair and that it misrepresented the views of homosexuals.

The ad, which featured a drag queen and a transvestite, was met with enthusiastic approval by the crowd. The event was supported by the local GLBT community, who advocated for the rights of homosexuals.

Lincoln Gay News

As the election approaches, GAIN members are working to mobilize the gay vote. They are calling for a boycott of the Daub campaign and are encouraging voters to support candidates who are committed to the rights of homosexuals.

April Fool's Day

This year's April Fool's Day pranks included a series of anti-gay incidents. GAIN members worked to publicize these incidents and to call for a day of solidarity.

The day began with a series of anti-gay incidents, including vandalism and verbal harassment. The incidents were met with a wave of support from the community, who demanded justice for homosexuals.
The New Voice of Nebraska, 1984-1998

All issues are available on the website.
The archives is seeking more issues of these newspapers. These titles are not available online.
The GayZette, 1999-2016

All issues are available on the website.
Terry Sweeney & Pat Phalen Papers
National Events, Local People
Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha
Lavender Couch

Appearing Live at 2001
Lincoln, NE
Sunday March 27th
It sure is swell being a gal, isn't it?
9:00 pm show time

Sitting Down With Lavender Couch, 30 Years Later

Virtual Event
June 23, 2021
6:00 P.M.

Tape Release Party
Friday Nov 18, 8 pm at the Capitol Bar
Free admission
This ticket only!!!!!!
21 and over
LGBTQ+ Voices: The Queer Omaha Oral History Project

• Sharing your story in audio form
• 50 interviews collected
• Past funding from individual donors, Humanities Nebraska and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, and matching awards from UNO Libraries’ Eugene S. and Sunny M. Thomas Fund for Innovation
Outreach

artist talk featuring

CASSILS

Co-sponsored by the Department of Art & Art History, the Department of Sociology & Anthropology, UNO Libraries, and Queer and Trans Services
UNO Libraries Archives and Special Collection

"You are okay. You are loveable. You have a right to exist."
~ Ferial Pearson

All quotes taken from LGBTQ Oral History Collection
Supporting the Queer Omaha Archives

• Donate material to the archives
• Visit and share the collection
• Make a financial contribution
• Volunteer to be interviewed

Visit library.unomaha.edu