



Volume 23, Issue 2

February 2023

H A P P Y

Valentine's

D A Y

www.GayDayton.org



*Map
Events
Articles
Calendar*




*Women's
Valentines
Dance*




11

Feb

 **7 pm-12am**


 **Food, Cash Bar, \$5 Speed
Dating & Dancing**

 \$20 non-members
\$15 members
\$20 at the Door


 **The Greater Dayton LGBT Center
24 N. Jefferson St.
Dayton, Ohio**

www.Daytonlgbtcenter.org

Calendar of Events



Feb. 01, 2023		First Day Of Black History Month	
Feb. 01, 2023		National Black AIDS/HIV Awareness Day	
Feb. 01, 2023	7:00 PM	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center
Feb. 02, 2023	6:00 PM	Monthly Board Meeting	Center
Feb. 07, 2023	6:00 PM	Men's Dining	Spaghetti Warehouse
Feb. 08, 2023	7:00 PM	Positive Attitudes	
Feb. 03, 2023	7:00 PM	Yoga at the Center	Center
Feb. 11, 2023	7:00 PM	LGBT Center Women's "Valentine's Dance"	
Feb. 12, 2023	4:00 PM	PRIDE Planning Meeting	Center
Feb. 13, 2023	7:00 PM	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center
Feb. 14, 2023		Happy Valentines Day	
Feb. 14, 2023	6:00 PM	Men's Dining	Spaghetti Warehouse
Feb. 14, 2023	7:00 PM	PFLAG Monthly Meeting	Center
Feb. 14, 2023	7:00 PM	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center
Feb. 16, 2023	7:00 PM	Yoga at the Center	Center
Feb. 18, 2023	8:00 PM	HIV/STI Testing	Center
Feb. 20, 2023	7:00 PM	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center
Feb. 21, 2023	6:00 PM	Men's Dining	Spaghetti Warehouse
Feb. 21, 2023	7:00 PM	Gatlyn Dame Group	Center
Feb. 22, 2023	7:00 PM	Positive Attitudes	Center
Feb. 23, 2023	7:00 PM	Yoga at the Center	Center
Feb. 26, 2023	7:00 PM	TDOR Planning for 2023	Zoom
Feb. 27, 2023	7:00 PM	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center
Mar. 01, 2023		First Day Of Women's History Month	



Gay Dayton is published monthly by Gay Dayton, LLC

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Book Reviews

by: Terri Schlichenmeyer

aka: "The Book Worm"

bookwormsez@yahoo.com

"Plain: A Memoir of Mennonite Girlhood" by Mary Alice Hostetter
c.2022, University of Wisconsin Press \$26.95 160 pages



Every kid wants to fit in.

The shoes everyone else has are mandatory, and flashing a movie character is key. Same brand of notebook, even the same kind of pens could matter if you hoped to be on the good side of the Popular Kids. Everyone wants to fit in but in the new book, **"Plain" by Mary Alice Hostetter**, going against the tide can eventually work out fine, too.

The table in the kitchen where Mary Alice Hostetter grew up was a long one; it had to be, to fit twelve children and two parents. The kitchen was the hub of the large Mennonite

family, and though her parents never *said* the L-word, "treats like doughnuts were as clear an expression of love as hearing the words." Born in her parents' bedroom in rural Pennsylvania, Hostetter remembers that there was a strict division between women's work and men's work among the pacifist Mennonites. Her father and brothers tended the farm, while her mother tended home and children. And yet, when she was needed, Hostetter was allowed to do "boy's work," and it left a heady feeling.

Figuring out her own recipe for soup at age ten was a moment of pride, but Hostetter longed for more. What was it like to have your own bedroom? How would feel to have sunshine on her legs instead of a long dress, for modesty?

At fourteen, she struggled with a main tenet of her faith; at fifteen, she accepted that tenet, attended church, and tried to be a good daughter, but

life outside the community beckoned. Hostetter wanted to go to college. Her parents wanted her to wait and see if she might want a family first. Her growing up was “such a beautiful way of life,” she says, and “I sometimes felt almost proud I was part of that way of life... until I remembered how eager I was to get away as soon as I could.”

In “Plain,” author Mary Alice Hostetter writes, among other gentle memories, of her mother as a storyteller. Can something like that be inherited? Because Hostetter is a storyteller, too – and a fine one, at that. If you’ve ever been a fan of “*The Waltons*” or Laura Ingalls Wilder, you have an inkling of the kind of old-fashioned tales you’ll find in Hostetter’s book. Life is quiet on her parents’ farm, she and her siblings each have two pairs of shoes (one for “good,” one for chores), dinnertime is family time, and modern things rarely appear.

The difference is that Hostetter’s tales are warm, but not cheerful. Proud, but also embarrassed. They chafe with the need to escape, but with one foot still on the farm and despite a quick, surprise happy ending and another kind of L-word, they leave hanging a wonder of what might have been.

But don’t hang. Instead, enjoy this book and leave it on the table, because you might want to read it again. “Plain” is worthy, and short enough to fit in your schedule now.



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Congratulations to the LGBT Center on the purchase of New Home!

by Randy Phillips

Over 45 years in the making, The Dayton LGBT Center has now purchased a place of its own! The Gay Center, as it was originally called, began in 1976 under the direction of Howard Getz. A group of men were gathered together, at the Stage Door bar, and were lamenting the fact that there was nothing for them to do outside of a bar setting. Mr. Getz then began a men's group that met in his home on N. Main Street in Dayton. The group grew and thrived and eventually out grew the home setting. The group began meeting in various borrowed locations through the years. A location in the Hills and Dales Shopping Center, a place on Salem Avenue, Shiloh Church, St. Paul's Church, MJ's Bar and Café, and Miami Valley Fair Housing, just to name a few. Much of this time was also spent as a virtual Center, only meeting at places for special events; otherwise helps were offered via the web or via the telephone. There has been some key leadership throughout the 45 plus years. After Mr. Getz stepped aside, Leon Bey served as president of the board for many years, followed by Vicki Hahn. During her tenure as board president, John Gantt stepped in as the Center's first executive director and under his leadership in 2001, began the 1st Pride Parade and festival. After Vicki's tenure, Joshua West stepped in as board chair followed by Bret Wendel, both resigning to pursue their career paths, after which, Randy Phillips stepped up to serve as board president. It was during this time that the Center continued to grow and expand their educational programs and support groups. In 2017 Randy signed a 5 year lease on the property at 24 N. Jefferson Street to lease a space with the Jefferson Sims Building, to truly call their home. To get the space at a price point they could afford, they took the space "As Is" without heating or air conditioning, and it in pretty rough shape. Randy and volunteers such as RJ McKay, Matt Ross, and Jerid Martel work hard to shape the space into a great workable space that our community could use, feel safe in, and grow in. In 2020, Randy accepted the role as executive director of the Center, and RJ McKay stepped in as board chair. The Center continued to flourish with record numbers of folks attending groups and events. When the pandemic hit, the Center quickly shifted to virtual meeting and when safety permitted hybrid meeting began with some people coming in-person and other attending online. This model proved to be very effective and continues to this day. As the lease on the current location was coming to an end, a search committee was put together, led by RJ. McKay, to find a property that

we could purchase and make it our very own home. A set of criteria was selected in looking for a home. Various properties were looked at with some checking a few boxes and others far off the mark. In September of 2022, Randy Phillips stepped away as executive director to assume a role with another non-profit, and Rick Flinn then stepped in as the current executive director of the Greater Dayton LGBT Center.

Time seemed to be running out as a few of our leaders terms on the board would be running or terming out. There was talk of putting the search on hold as a new board president was elected in November of 2022 when Nycia Lattimore became board chair. Yet, it seems fate was in the design. Our real estate agent, Mike Embree, gave us a call to say a property was about to be listed by an old friend of the Center, Ed Grant, who was retiring from his printing business and putting his property up for sale. The day his property was listed by his agent, Ed received 4 offers from groups wishing to purchase his property. The deciding factor for Ed, was when RJ had written him a letter identifying some key advantages of selling to a non-profit. This, along with the Center's long standing relationship with Ed lead to his decision to sell his property to The Greater Dayton LGBT Center, Inc.

On Thursday, January 19th, 2023, all parties met at the LGBT Center to close on the sale and RJ McKay signed the paperwork for the Center to become the official owner of 136 N. St Clair Street, Dayton just one block from our current location, and the former home of The Graphics Terminal,



as former board members and former board presidents watched this historic event. It new home of the Center features 10,000 square feet almost double what is currently used. When the property was originally built it was designed as a car dealership and showroom, so it has a large open floor plan. Temporary walls were put into place to

accommodate the businesses since that time. Many of those temporary walls will need to be removed to open back up to fit the needs of the Center. This is no different that when we first took over the current space. Plans have been drawn up to make a space all our own, to fit our ideal needs for our community.

So **congratulations** to The Greater Dayton LGBT Center on achieving their New Permanent Home!

BLACK 2023

HISTORY

MONTH



How Did Black History Month Begin?

Black History Month began in the United States in 1926 when historian Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History proclaimed the 2nd week of February “Negro History Week.” The week was chosen because it coincided with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln on February 12th, and Frederick Douglass on February 14th. The Black communities have long celebrated both days together with great historical perspectives on the accomplishments of both great men.

Black educators and Black United Students at Kent State University first proposed Black History Month in February 1969. The first celebration of Black History Month took place at Kent State a year later, from January 2 to February 28, 1970.



Carter Woodson

Six years later, Black History Month was being celebrated all across the country in educational institutions, centers of Black culture, and community centers, both great and small, when President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.” Today, Black History Month is a time to honor the contributions and legacy of African Americans across U.S. history and society—from activists and civil rights pioneers such as Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Marcus Garvey, Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X and Rosa Parks to leaders in industry, politics, science, culture and more.

“We are all one - and if we don’t know it, we’ll learn it the hard way.” -

Bayard Rustin

Bayard Rustin was a mentor to Dr. King, as well as a ghostwriter and proofreader. Rustin was also the chief organizer for the March on Washington. During the March, King delivered his notable “I Have a Dream” speech. The speech given by the civil rights activist works in tandem with Rustin’s quote: both speak of the need for a united nation; a united community. Rustin’s words also remind us of the fact that those who are oblivious to our unity will not find out by means of sweet talk. They will find out “the hard way”. That phrase could refer to a number of events, from riots, to chaotic protests, and even war, and speaks to the need to work together toward harmony. When one of us is suffering, all of us suffer.

Annual Bowling For Pride Was A Tremendous Success!

The 15th Annual Bowling for Pride fundraiser took place on Saturday, January 28th, at Poelking Lanes in Kettering. One hundred and fifty two bowlers showed up and bowled three fun filled games beginning with a game called: Eight to Eat. Eight to eat is a game in which the bowler must knock down eight pins with their first ball. Then they must pick up the spare, if they accomplish this, they receive a gift card to a local restaurant to eat.

The second game is called Bingo in which players get to mark off various pin combinations in order to get a bingo's throughout the second game. Each team received a raffle ticket for each Bingo they received and at the end of the event a drawing was done so the winning teams took home a box full of various prized to share.

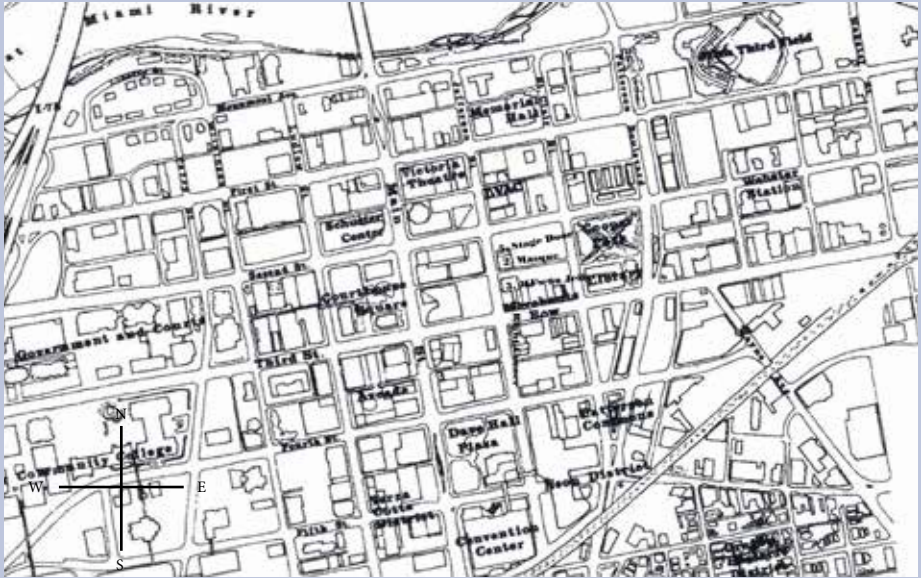
While the first two games are loads of fun, I do believe it is the third game that really caps off the event. This game is called: "Garbage Bowl," which is a very special game that you must follow the instruction on the paper that is provided. In various frames you may have to throw the ball in various fashion, such as, between your legs granny style, or turn around in circles three times before releasing the ball. I hope you don't get drunk easily. You may also have to face the lane backwards and bowl between your legs.

Please don't expect high scores. In fact, if you are a really serious bowler, perhaps this event is not for you. This event is strictly for fun, and lots of it.

Of course, I must mention all the wonderful prizes that were donated to the Center to use as Raffle Prizes, most notably, Oxballs adult toy company that continues to support the event with many fun filled prizes, and always a great conversation piece.

This year's event did take place one whole month earlier that is typical due to scheduling with the bowling alley. So next year, whether it be in January or in February, make sure you get your tickets early for this fun filled event, as it always sells out quick. This year all tickets were sold out two weeks before the actual event. In fact, this event has sold out all tickets for the past three years it was held. All proceeds go towards the Dayton PRIDE Celebration the first weekend in June.

Gay Dayton Map



18 +	18 and Up	E	Other Entertainment	N/H	Neighborhood
A	Alternative	F	Food	S	Strippers
AH	After Hours	G/S	Gay/Straight	T	Mature
C	Country	K	Karaoke	V	Video
D	Dance	L	Leather	W	Women
DG	Drag	M	Men	Y	Young

1. Argo's, 301 Mabel Street 252-2976 (M,L,E,S)
2. Evolution, 130 N Patterson 203-2582 (18+,Y,G/S,D,E,V,DG)
3. MJ's on Jefferson, 20 N. Jefferson 223-7340 (18+,F,M,D,S,E,DG,V,K)
4. Right Corner, 105 E. Third St 228-2033 (NH,M,T,E)
5. Stage Door, 44 N. Jefferson St 223-7418 (M,L,C,K,T,NH,E)
6. Natalie Clifford Barney Historical Marker
7. The Greater Dayton LGBT Center, 24 N. Jefferson 274-1776

www.GayDayton.org

mjsonjefferson.com



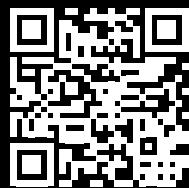
20 N Jefferson St - Dayton, OH - 45402
Phone (937) 223-7340

MASKS SUGGESTED

Open Daily @ 3 pm ~ 2:30 am



Beer Menu



Bourbon Menu