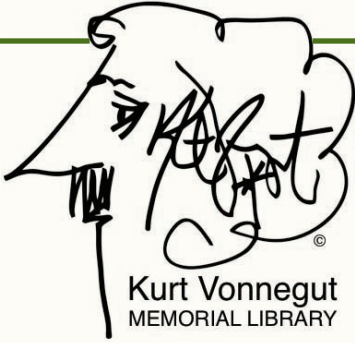


THE Vonnegutian

* MAY/JUNE 2010

VONNEGUTLIBRARY.ORG



Kurt Vonnegut
MEMORIAL LIBRARY

greetings!

Night of Vonnegut was a ball! We raised nearly \$8,900 and entertained nearly 150 people. The event allowed us to show the Vonnegut community what we have to offer, thank those

individuals and sponsors

who support us and welcome new fans who were

experiencing KVML for the first time.

Hosted by local political reporter

Jim Shella, the event started off with dinner

and jazz by the Tim Brickley Trio, and a silent

auction of a piece of Vonnegut's artwork. The

look-a-like contest was hilarious and the winner,

Peter Dean, generously donated his Rathskeller

gift-certificate award to

KVML. A panel discussion followed

that included Vonnegut's friends Victor Jose, David Hoppe, Manny Martinez and

Phil Watts. Len Mozzi, Constance Macy



and Ben

Tebbe performed dramatic readings that inspired both laughter and tears.

Our Vonnegut trivia game show contestants proved to be knowledgeable on all-things Vonnegut. With the event behind us, we must focus on raising funds to build our collection so we can open our doors later this year. As it will cost nearly \$100,000 to fill our space, we're asking you to please donate to the KVML. We have volunteers willing to staff the library, so now all we need are the items we want to show the world. Please help.

Best regards,

Julia

JULIA WHITEHEAD
Founder and President



If you'd like to donate, please visit us online at vonnegutlibrary.org or mail a check to:

KURT VONNEGUT
MEMORIAL LIBRARY
340 North Senate Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

The Real Billy Pilgrim

The Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library will be sponsoring a free public lecture on June 8 by noted historian Grant Holcomb. Holcomb will tell the story of the real-life soldier who Vonnegut used as the model

for Billy Pilgrim, the central character in his classic novel "Slaughterhouse-Five."

This free lecture will be held on June 8 at 7 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 East Michigan St., Indianapolis, IN 46204. Over the years, Vonnegut has said the Billy Pilgrim character in his book was based on a young

Rochester, New York man who, like Vonnegut, served in the 106th Infantry, was captured by the Germans during the Battle of the Bulge and held as a POW in Dresden, Germany. Unlike Vonnegut, however, the real-life Edward R. Crone didn't survive the war and, unlike Billy Pilgrim, he didn't return to upstate New York to marry and raise a family.

During his lecture, Holcomb will discuss Crone's early years in Rochester, his service during the war, his relationship to the character in Vonnegut's novel and how it took his parents five years after the war to locate their son's body and bring him home for burial. Holcomb worked with Kurt Vonnegut on developing this presentation and is coming to Indianapolis to share insights into this important character in Vonnegut's work.

...vonnegut has said the billy pilgrim character in his book was based on a young rochester, new york man who, like vonnegut, served in the 106th infantry...



VONNEGUIDANCE

How did Vonnegut affect YOU?

SARAH BURNS GILCHRIST IS A VOLUNTEER FOR THE KURT VONNEGUT MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND A LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATE AT IUPUI.

Kurt Vonnegut's novels promote continuity and connectivity: of story lines, of characters, and of real people and places. I didn't realize how much his world view had influenced my own until I read "Between Time and Timbuktu or Prometheus 5," and was reintroduced to one of my favorite short stories. As a Cold War baby, I was made keenly aware of the destructive power of unchecked control, so the dancers forced to become equal by wearing weights onstage was a strong metaphor. It reminds me that we need to encourage free thinking and self-realization to make better communities. To me, Vonnegut always conveyed that message with wit and a wink of his eye.

SO IT GOES ...

June

The KVML is sponsoring a lecture by Grant Holcomb at 7 p.m. on June 8th. The event will be held at the Athenaeum. If you have any questions, or would like to reserve a spot, please email julia@vonnegutlibrary.org.

The book club is reading "God Bless You Mr. Rosewater" and the discussion is June 24. If you haven't reserved your seat in the book club, or have questions please email bookclub@vonnegutlibrary.org.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE YOUR STORY, PLEASE CONTACT US AT NEWSLETTER@VONNEGUTLIBRARY.ORG.

if you'd like to make suggestions for future articles, or have comments, please email newsletter@vonnegutlibrary.org.