Outright Bus Trip Memorable

Carol Leech

At 8:00 pm on Friday, October 9, 1992, thirty-eight people left from Burlington on a bus chartered by OUTRIGHT, VT. to see the Names Project Memorial Quilt displayed in Washington, D.C. The bus made stops in Brandon and Rutland to pick up passengers along the way. The bus was equipped with a VCR, several monitors, and reclining seats which made the twelve hour trip comfortable and fun.



Include us in your celebration of men who love men and women who love women.

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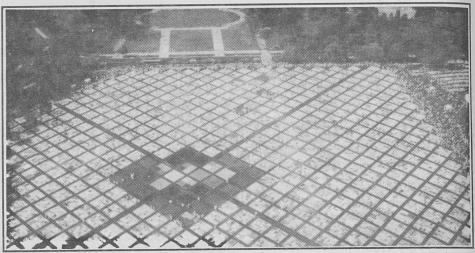


Photo Peter Thomas

After a rainy ride, the bus arrived in Washington, D.C. on Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m. to clearing skies overhead. Due to the rain and wet ground, the opening ceremonies were canceled and the ceremonial unfolding of the Quilt was delayed by three hours. This did not alter the plans of an estimated 90,000 to 250,000 people who flocked to Washington, D.C. to view the display, attend the candlelight vigil, or to take part the many scheduled political and social events throughout the weekend.

Although our time in D.C. was limited to twelve hours, we were able to take the time needed in viewing many of the 20,000 3 foot by 6 foot panels on display. About 3,000 new panels were also brought to to be displayed during the weekend. We observed the care given by some of the 4,000 volunteers in accepting and displaying each new panel.

In addition to seeing the usual sights in D.C., including a trip to the Lambda Rising Bookstore at Dupont Circle, we gathered at the Lincoln Memorial's reflecting pool in the evening to witness the tens of thousands of candles lit in the night at the Candlelight vigil. We were scheduled to

travel back to Vermont at 8 p.m. on Saturday night so we were not able to stay to hear all of the speakers or to take place in the March, but were thankful to have shared in a part of our history. This was truly an experience we will cherish in our hearts forever.

Anyone wanting information on how to make a panel can contact the NAMES Project Foundation, 1613 K St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006 or by calling 202-29 NAMES.

OUTRIGHT, VT. will be sponsoring buses to take people to the April 25, 1993 March in Washington, D.C. Don't miss the opportunity to join us for another historical event. Information on this event will be publicized in February, 1993. And don't forget to get your tickets for the Flirtations on December 12 at the Peace and Justice Center in Burlington, Annie's Place in Montpelier, and at the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-Op in Middlebury. And yes, we are making plans for an OUTRIGHT Prom in April '93. For more information or if you are interested in getting involved with planning any of these events please call the OUTRIGHT office at 877-9677. ▼

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