ACLA Update (April 1997)

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AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn

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Maine AIDS Walk '97

Plans are well underway for the May 4th Maine AIDS Walk in Lewiston-Auburn. Volunteers are calling area businesses to sell ads for the program booklet, and we've sent a mailing to folks we know in area schools and churches, asking them to form teams of walkers to join us.

This year, the usual ten or so statewide walks will be divided between spring and fall. At this point, plans are as follows:

May 4th Walks

Lewiston-Auburn: AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn
Brunswick: Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services
Augusta: Dayspring AIDS Support Services

May 4th Walks

Lewiston-Auburn: AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn
Brunswick: Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services
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Fall 97 Walks

Oxford Hills
Mexico
Ellsworth
Bangor
Belfast
Others may be planned as time goes on...

Here in Lewiston-Auburn, we're planning on a rousing musical send off for our walkers, and we're rounding up prizes for teams and individuals who bring in the most contribution. So far, we've got...

Lady's 14 carat gold and silver ring from Thomas Sangillo's Jewelers
Basket of hair care products from Strand's
A pizza party from Little Caesars
Lunch for six from Sam's Italian

Gay Men's Retreat '97

The AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn is sponsoring the First Annual Gay Men's Retreat Weekend from Friday, May 30 to Sunday, June 1. The interactive workshops and activities address issues of whole health (mental, physical and spiritual) with an emphasis on having fun. Although there is no theme for the retreat per se, the focus is on celebrating the diversity of men and their experiences.

Why offer a retreat for gay and bisexual men? GMR recognizes that men/boys are socialized differently than women/girls and that the experiences of men who identify themselves as "gay" or "bisexual" often differ from those who identify themselves as "straight." Because of the rural nature of Maine, many men often feel isolated. By offering a comfortable space and a safe atmosphere for men to share their experiences, the planning committee of GMR hopes that the retreat will create new social networks and empower men.

GMR is open to gay and bisexual men over the age of 18. Until March 21, registrations will be accepted from men living in the Tri County area (Oxford, Androscoggin and Franklin counties). After March 21, registration is open to all men. Directions to the lodge will be mailed with the confirmation letter. The cost of the retreat is $30, which covers meals, activities and lodging. Because there are only 30 spaces available, folks are encouraged to register early.

For more information, a registration brochure, or to volunteer, call AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn at 786-4697 or write GMRIP, P.O. Box 79777, Lewiston, ME 04243-7977.
The May ACLA Update will be mailed out on April 17 and 18th. If you would like to help us fold, sticker, label and sort, we can promise coffee and interesting conversation. Give Gracia a call.

The Freezer at the AIDS Coalition now has single-serving frozen meals available for folks with HIV/AIDS. Come by any Tuesday from 10 am to 2 pm, or call to set another time.

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Thursday, April 24
Great Sexpectations: Jeffrey, a humorous look at a gay man’s struggle with living, loving and dating in the Age of AIDS. Plus another episode of AbFab. Films begin at 7pm at the ACLA office.

Support Group at The AIDS Project Auburn Office for people whose partners have died of AIDS Thursdays 1-2:30 One Auburn Center More Info: Call Diana Carrigan

Save the Date
Maine AIDS Walk Sunday, May 4, 1997

ACLA
P.O. Box 7977
Lewiston, ME 04243-7977