

Communiqué

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NORTHERN
L A M B D A
N O R D

ANOTHER CLERGY RESPONDS TO SURVEY

The Rev. Perry A. Kingman, Senior Priest of the Aroostook Episcopal Cluster, has responded to the recent survey sent by the Gay-Lesbian Phoneline to determine if area clergy would accept referrals. Rev. Kingman, who is currently serving five churches alone, is "open to helping referrals from your Phoneline to consider the place of religion in relation to their sexuality." ▼

ARE THEY SYMPOSIUMS OR SYMPOSIA?!

The Maine Lesbian and Gaymen's Symposium is the annual statewide conference. It was first held at the University of Maine at Orono in 1974, sponsored by the Wilde-Stein Club, that school's gay & lesbian student group, which still exists. Subsequent years saw the Symposium alternate between the Orono and Portland/Gorham campuses of the University, sponsored by Wilde-Stein and the Gay-Lesbian Alliance at the University of Southern Maine. In 1986, that two-venue cycle was broken when Northern Lambda Nord hosted Symposium XIII at the University of Maine at Presque Isle; Lambda entered the rotation and sponsored the conference again in 1989. NLN will host Symposium XIX, May 22-25, 1992; volunteers will be needed.

This year, Symposium XVIII will be at the Portland Campus of the University of Southern Maine over the Memorial Day weekend, May 24-27, 1991. Call the "Symposium Hotline" at 207/780-5656 and they'll send you a registration packet. ▼

NO ONE WALKED OUT

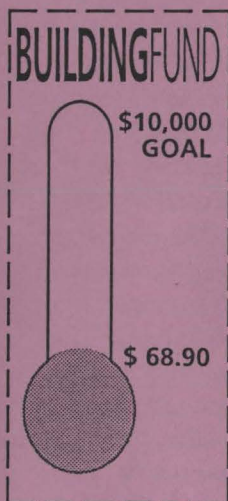
CARIBOU UNITARIAN CHURCH BOARD - A CORRECTION

Last month's *Communiqué* reported that members of the Board of the Caribou Unitarian-Universalist Church walked out of a meeting when their minister, Rev. Sydney Wilde, informed them that she would be leading a discussion group for Lambda. That was not correct.

According to a letter from Rev. Wilde, "I think the confusion arises from my story of two people in my previous church who would walk out on my sermons about Gay Rights.

"When I told my [Caribou] Board that I would be speaking at your meeting what I perceived was some dis-ease (which may have been my own projection) with the possibility that I or the Church would become identified as a champion of Gay Rights. Most of our members are willing to be supportive, only a few are willing to be champions. If any of you wish to visit or join our church you will be welcome. If you identify yourself as Gay you will still be welcome. But, if you expect everyone in the church to be totally open and free of prejudice, you will be disappointed. We are, after all human and thus imperfect. Some of us are more in touch with our prejudices than others, but we try.

"I wish you all a happy Easter Season and I hope there will be another opportunity to meet with you. It was a delightful evening. Thanks again for the opportunity and the Trust. /s/ Sincerely, Sydney Wilde ▼



BOOK REPORT

Northern Lambda Nord's lending library, **Bibliothèque Lambda**, has around 800 volumes in its collection. Volunteers are cataloguing the books, which include fiction, non-fiction, and reference materials. A "library party" will be held April 20 to collect information about the books. People will help fill in forms with details about each book; this information will then go into the computer and a master library list will be sent to each Lambda member. To give people an idea of what's in *Bibliothèque Lambda*, a sampling of books in the library is published in *Communiqué* each month.

☞ **REFLECTIONS OF A ROCK LOBSTER; A Story About Growing Up Gay** by Aaron Fricke (1981). "No one in Cumberland, Rhode Island, was surprised when Aaron Fricke showed up at the High school prom with a male date. He had sued his school for the right to do so, and the papers had been full of the news ever since. Yet only a year earlier, Fricke would never have dreamed of being so open about his gay feelings." This is an account of how one young person came to terms with his homosexuality.

☞ **THE LESBIAN MYTH: Insights and Conversations**, by Bettie Wysor (1974). "Mention the words *female homosexuals* and explanations lock-step into place: *immoral, unnatural, sick, unhappy*. What are the origins of these condemnations?" Wysor examines four areas: biblical misinterpretation, ignorance of clinical anthropology, indifference and sexism in psychiatry, and literary role-playing. Topics also include motherhood, the

lesbian lifestyle, and lesbian sexuality.

☞ **GAY COMIX: Lesbians and Gay Men Put it On Paper!** (Nos. 1, 2, 3 & 4) published by Kitchen Sink Comic, Inc (1980-1983). These are just four of a series of comics by gay and lesbian cartoonists. Stories include "My Deadly Darling Dyke", "Another Coming Out Story", "One Step Ahead of the Homophobes", and "She's My Two Timin', Truck Drivin' Mama".

☞ **AFTERLIFE** by Paul Monette (1990) The award-winning author of *Borrowed Time*; Monette's novel is about the "traumatic afterlife for a trio of grieving AIDS 'widowers' who support and comfort one another" in this "brilliant, poignant and painfully funny novel".

'OUTINGS' ARE ON POSTERS IN NEW YORK CITY

The controversial practice of "outing" allegedly gay and lesbian public figures has taken to the streets. A gay rights group calling itself Outpost has begun plastering Manhattan with signs featuring a black-and-white photograph of a celebrity and the caption, **ABSOLUTELY QUEER**.

The stars include a well-known television producer and a movie actress. "It was a good grass-roots way to get our message across," says Ken, a member of Outpost who did not want his last name used. "This is not necessarily a bad thing to be called 'absolutely queer.' We are also going to do people who are already 'out.'" The 11x17" posters, which say, "Cleaner closets today mean a better tomorrow," have been spotted in subway stations and outside Lincoln Center and the studios of Fox Television and WABC-TV. Ken would not reveal the group's next targets. "We'd like to keep it a surprise," he says. ▼

OUR PLACE IS IN THE U.N.

For the first time in the history of the United Nations, gay and lesbian international activists have lobbied for official recognition and inclusion in the U.N. But officials with the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA), which submitted the application for recognition in 1990 and testified at the U.N. in January, 1991, say their bid for recognition has been postponed until 1993 by delegates who were unable to reach an agreement. The ILGA, which represents gay and lesbian groups throughout the world, is seeking consultative status with the ECOSOC - the Economic and Social Council of the U.N., which oversees, among other things, human rights issues. Consultative status means ILGA would be able to intervene in human rights issues at the U.N. ▼

NEW/NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK

The New Brunswick Coalition for Human Rights Reform/
Coalition pour la réforme des droits de la personne au Nouveau-Brunswick has received a grant for

\$54,000!!!

The grant was awarded by Canada Health and Welfare, a government agency.

The goal of the Coalition is inclusion of "sexual orientation" in the New Brunswick Human Rights Code. This money will cover the costs of printing of the extensive briefs which have been prepared, as well as pay postage and other much-needed office expenses. In 1990, Northern Lambda Nord gave the Coalition a grant to help defray the costs of their newsletter. NLN also donated around \$330 CDN when our Canadian bank account was closed.

It's too bad that the U.S. Department of Health won't give a similar grant to the Maine Lesbian-Gay Political Alliance, whose goal is similar to that of the Coalition. Here's just ONE dissimilarity between the U.S. and Canada! ▼

ANOTHER N-B CLUB

Nigadoo in northeastern New Brunswick is the site of this province's newest gay-lesbian bar. *La Brocheterie du vieux Moulin* is open every Friday and Saturday night. Nigadoo is out 8km north of Bathurst.

Do more
than belong.
Participate.

NEWS & FEATURES
in this issue: *AND NEW*:
The *ADVOCATE* (Los Angeles), *NEWSLETTER*
of the New Brunswick
Coalition for Human
Rights Reform/
*Coalition pour la
réforme des droits de
la personne au
Nouveau-Brunswick*
(Fredericton), the
International Lesbian
and Gay Association
(Brussels, Belgium) and
New York magazine
(New York City). ▼

SO THEY SAY

The right-wing campaign to pass restrictive laws on abortion, to maintain sodomy laws, and to defeat lesbian and gay civil rights bills must be seen for what it is: an organized effort to maintain and extend the state's control of our lives — as women, as lesbians, and gaymen. - Molly Yard, President, National Organization for Women (NOW)



"GENTLEMEN WITHOUT CAPS WILL NOT BE SERVED."

GAY CIVIL RIGHTS BILL IN MAINE

SENATE, HOUSE TO VOTE IN EARLY APRIL

The seventh attempt to amend the Maine Human Rights Act to include gays, lesbians, and bisexuals is nearing a vote. LD.430, "An Act to Prevent Discrimination" is currently in the State Legislature's Judiciary Committee, and their vote is expected to become public this week (the last week of March). They're expected to recommend passage. **The Senate may vote on the bill as early as Monday, April 1!** **THIS WEEKEND IS THE TIME TO CALL YOUR STATE SENATOR!!!** Aroostook County has three members of that body: Ray Theriault from northern Aroostook, Don Collins from central Aroostook, and Margaret Ludwig from southern Aroostook. **THEY NEED TO HEAR FROM EVERY ONE OF US!** You can be sure that they've heard from the

friends of Jasper Wyman and the Christian Civic League, who fear that the bill may pass both Houses of the Legislature this year, so they've launched a massive postcard campaign against passage. Call your Senator at home early Saturday, March 30, and keep trying until you talk with him/her. Urge them to vote for LD.430. If you don't want to give them your name, tell them your fears - why you want to remain anonymous. There's a chance that all three may support the bill this year; the Maine Council of Churches supports it - the Council includes the Roman Catholic and Episcopal Churches, representing nearly a quarter million Christians in Maine.

CALL YOUR SENATOR! If we don't demand our equal rights, no one will do it for us!
If you don't know your district, call your town office!

→ AROOSTOOK DELEGATION

SENATE DISTRICTS:

- 1 - Ray Theriault, 834-3082
- 2 - Don Collins, 498-8579
- 3 - Margaret Ludwig, 532-2715

HOUSE DISTRICTS:

- 140 - Rodney Bowers, 365-4275
- 141 - Nason Graham, 532-7790
- 142 - Mary McBride, 769-0421
- 143 - Jim Donnelly, 764-0276
- 144 - Carolyn Mahany, 488-2741
- 145 - Susan Pines, 325-4821
- 146 - Wilfred Bell, 496-8071
- 147 - Malachi Anderson, 492-1771
- 148 - Hilda Martin, 868-2802
- 149 - Ed McHenry, 728-4365
- 150 - Judy Paradis, 728-4854
- 151 - John Martin, 444-5556

Communiqué

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Gay/Lesbian G•U•I•D•E Lesbienne/Gai

NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD (NLN), CP/POB 990, Caribou, Maine 04736 USA. Gay-Lesbian Phoneline/Télégaie - 207.498-2088

AROOSTOOK AREA GAY/LESBIAN AA GROUP meets Sundays, 7pm (Maine time) in Madawaska. Groupe bilingue/bilingual group. Call NLN Phoneline, 207.498-2088 to contact.

AM CHOFSI Maine Jewish group, meets monthly; 207.871-1014 (Bob)
DOWNEAST LESBIAN GAY ORGANIZATION (DELGO), Unitarian Church, 126 Union Street, Bangor 04401, 942-6503

DIGNITY/MAINE Catholic group, POB 8113, Portland 04104
GAIS & LESBIENNES DE MONCTON/ GAYS & LESBIANS OF MONCTON (GLM) CP/POB 7102, Riverview E1B 1V0, 506.858-1013

GAY/LESBIAN ALLIANCE University of Southern Maine, 92 Bedford Street, Portland 04102, 207.780-4085

GAY/LESBIAN COMMUNITY NETWORK POB 212, Bangor 04401, 862-5907/866-7958

GAY/LESBIAN PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP Portland, 780-4085/772-4741

GROUPE GAIE DE L'UNIVERSITE LAVAL (GGUL) CP 2500, Pavillon Lemieux, Cité Universitaire, Sainte-Foy, Québec G1K 7P4, 418.648-2751

HARBOR MASTERS, INC. leather-levi group, POB 4044, Portland 04104

INTEGRITY Episcopalian group, St. Matthew's Church, 18 Union Street, Hallowell 04347, 623-3041/845-2985
LESBIAN/GAY COMMITTEE, MAINE CHAPTER,

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS POB 5112, Station A, Portland 04102

MAINE BISEXUAL PEOPLE'S NETWORK POB 1792, Portland 04104, 874-6596 (leave message)

MAINE LESBIAN-GAY POLITICAL ALLIANCE POB 232, Hallowell 04347

NEW BRUNSWICK COALITION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS REFORM/LA COALITION POUR LA REFORME DES DROITS DE LA PERSONNE DU NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK POB/CP 1556, Station/Succursale A, Fredericton E3B 5G2

OUR PAPER: A Voice for Lesbians and Gaymen in Maine, published monthly, 9 Deering Street, POB 10744, Portland 04104, 761-0733

OUTRIGHT: Portland Alliance of Gay & Lesbian Youth, age 22 and under, POB 5028, Station A, Portland 04102, 774-HELP/774-TALK

PARENTS & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS & GAYS (P-FLAG), POB 2080, Great Island, Brunswick 04011, 725-4769/729-0519/623-2349

PWA (People With AIDS) COALITION OF MAINE 377 Cumberland Avenue, Portland 04101, 773-8500

WILDE-STEIN CLUB Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono 04469