

Communiqué

Volume XII: no. 8 octobre/October 1991

SYMPOSIUM PLANNING COMMITTEE BEGINS TO MEET MONTHLY

Members of Northern Lambda Nord have formed a planning committee for the Maine Lesbian and Gaymen's Symposium XIX, the state's annual conference. Meetings are scheduled for the third Sunday of each month. All interested persons are encouraged to attend.

The Symposium, Maine's 19th gathering, will be held over the Memorial Day weekend, May 22-25, 1992, at the campus of the University of Maine at Presque Isle. This is the third time the conference has been held in Aroostook County. Until 1986, Symposium rotated annually between the Orono/Bangor and Portland/Gorham campuses of the University of Maine. At those two venues the local gay-lesbian student groups sponsored the conference: the Wilde-Stein Club at Orono, which initiated the Symposium, and the Gay-Lesbian Alliance at the University of Southern Maine's Portland and Gorham campuses.

Northern Lambda Nord's sponsorship in 1986 set a new standard for the event. As in previous years, Symposium was held on a University of Maine campus. But in Presque Isle it was hosted by a non-student organization. It was also scheduled for a three-day holiday weekend rather than a two-day weekend in order to allow for travel time to and from northern Maine. Some traditions were continued: holding all plenary sessions, workshops, films, and the dance on the campus. But some things underwent changes. Housing at Orono and Portland was always provided by

Do more
than belong.
Participate.

local people who offered Symposium participants extra beds, couches, and floor space in their homes. In Presque Isle that was not possible; there wasn't enough floor space in the few homes available to house the 135 people in attendance. So all conference-goers stayed in a dormitory on campus. A meal plan was provided so most people ate in the campus dining hall. This created a real sense of community, a lesbian and gay college for three days. There was plenty of informal social time to meet and get to know a lot of new friends. Subsequent Symposia have continued offering on-campus housing and meals.

Presque Isle was again the site of the 1989 Symposium and will repeat that role in 1992. Plans for Symposium XIX include the second annual Symposium Lip-Sync Contest, a possible mixed doubles tennis tournament, and live entertainment. The planning committee is considering one of several groups to provide Saturday night entertainment before the dance: The Flirtations, an acapella gay male singing

concluded on page 2

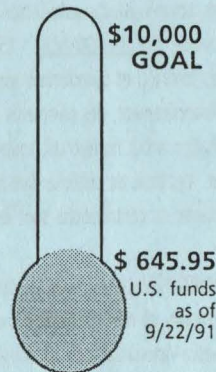
NEW BRUNSWICK ELECTION

LIBERALS WIN, NDP GAINS FIRST SEAT IN LEGISLATURE

By the time it was over, the Liberals, who had held all 58 seats in the New Brunswick Legislature, maintained their majority with 46 seats. The newly formed anti-bilingual party, COR - Coalition of Regions party - will form the official opposition with 8 seats. The Progressive Conservatives have 3 seats. And for the first time, the leader of the provincial New Democratic Party, the NDP, has a seat in Fredericton. NDP leader Elizabeth Weir represents Saint John South. In her victory speech she noted how many people were responsible for her victory, people from diverse backgrounds working together. She made special mention of the "extremely hard work of the gay community in this campaign".

With the start of a new legislative session in New Brunswick, this is probably the time when the provincial "lesbian-gay civil rights bill" will be passed through inclusion of the term "sexual orientation" in the N-B Human Rights Code. The Liberals have tabled the amendment. Elizabeth Weir is the leader of a party which is extremely outspoken in support of civil rights for gay people. The New Brunswick Coalition for Human Rights Reform has been working towards adoption of a Human Rights Code amendment for several years. The Liberal victory and an NDP seat in the legislature bode well for a Coalition success. ▼

BUILDING FUND



The NLN Building Fund is designed to raise money for a community center for this region. The center would house the phoneline, library, office, meeting space, and party space. Since NLN is a 501(c)3 group, all donations are tax-deductible on federal U.S. income tax; merely ask for a receipt. Donations of any amount - U.S. or Canadian funds - are appreciated. ▼

LAST CHANCE TO WIN A CD PLAYER

Have you entered the drawing to win a Seiko portable CD player? There are less than two weeks left! Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5, and Canadian and U.S funds are accepted at par. All proceeds will go into the Building Fund, whose goal is \$10,000us towards establishing a community center in this area. Tickets are available at the Phonline open house every Wednesday, at the next NLN pot luck meal, October 5, and at the membership drive party, October 12. The winning ticket will be drawn at midnight at the October 12th party; you need not be present to win, but we hope you'll be there! ▼

Planning to visit the Rockland-Camden-Belfast area of Midcoast Maine?

Plan to stay at

The Old Massachusetts Homestead Campground

since 1971, conveniently located on U.S. Route #1 just 7 miles north of downtown Camden, with a choice of overnight cottages, tent sites, or trailer spaces with hookups. There's a laundry and camp store, too. Call 207.789-5135



continued from page 1

group; Lucy Blue Tremblay, Olivia Records recording artist from Montréal; and Funny Gay Males, three comics. Cost is an important factor. Lambda is applying for a grant of nearly \$9000 to help finance Symposium, which has an entire budget of over \$23,000. The committee needs more suggestions for entertainment. At Symposium XVI in Presque Isle, "Ten Percent Review", a gay and lesbian cabaret group, was excellent. It's hoped that next year's entertainment will be as good.

The committee has already arranged for two keynote speakers: Anne Bishop, activist from Halifax, and David Scondras, openly-gay member of the Boston City Council. Suggestions are needed for workshop topics. If you've never attended the Maine Symposium, that doesn't matter. More help is needed to plan this event. Attendance for Symposium XIX is forecast at 150-175. If the two previous Presque Isle conferences are a guide, registrants will be 50-50 men-women, and 40% Canadian/60% American.

If anyone has any ideas about entertainment, workshop topics, or any other aspect of a conference, or would like to get involved, be at the next Symposium planning meeting, October 20th, 2pm (Maine time) at the Phonline office in Caribou. ▼

Communiqué

COMMUNIQUÉ publié dix fois par année par NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD, une organisation pour la communauté lesbienne-gaie-bisexuelle au nord-ouest du Nouveau Brunswick et au nord du Maine (les comtés Madawaska-Victoria-Carleton-Aroostook). **ABONNEMENTS** - 10\$ par année. **COTISATION NLN** - 15\$ par année, dans lequel inclus la subscription. Les fond E-U et canadiennes sont acceptés au par. Ceux qui ont de la difficulté financièrement, des paiements à terme peut être organisée. NLN est une organisation à but non-lucratif; toutes donations sont taxe deductible aux E-U seulement. Les tarifs de publicité dans le COMMUNIQUÉ sont disponible. Vos commentaires et contributions sont les bienvenue.

COMMUNIQUÉ is published ten times yearly by NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD, an organization serving the lesbian-gay-bisexual community of northern Maine and northwestern New Brunswick (Aroostook-Madawaska-Victoria-Carleton counties). **SUBSCRIPTIONS** - \$10 per year. **NLN MEMBERSHIP** - \$15 per year, which includes a subscription. U.S. and Canadian funds are accepted at par. Low-income people may make arrangements to pay in installments. NLN is a non-profit organization; all donations are U.S. tax-deductible. Advertising rates in COMMUNIQUÉ are available upon request. Your comments and contributions are welcome.

Gay/Lesbian G·U·I·D·E Lesbienne/Gai

NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD (NLN), CP/ POB 990, Caribou, Maine 04736 USA. Gay-Lesbian Phonline/Télégai - 207.498-2088
AROOSTOOK AREA GAY/LESBIAN AA GROUP meets Sundays, 7pm (Maine time) in Madawaska. Groupe bilingue/bilingual group. Call NLN Phonline, 207.498-2088 to contact.
AM CHOFSI Maine Jewish group, meets monthly; 207.871-1014 (Bob)
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, 862-5907/941-2189

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