



COMMUNIQUE

VOLUME XIX: NO. 4
AUGUST/AOUT 1998

From the Director's Pen

Has NLN Run Its Course?

by Donald Weatherford, Director

Well, we are standing at a fork in the road and all I can do is sit here and scratch my head in a quizzical way. We, being NLN, that is. There is talk going on that I think needs to be brought to your attention and hopefully we can get a little feedback from you as to what direction we should take.

At the last meeting of your steering committee, I asked a question, *Has Northern Lambda Nord run it's course?* The conversation that ensued was, to say the least, interesting. For an hour many theories were placed upon the table as to what got Lambda in the state that it is in. What I got from the conversation was that nobody on your steering committee wanted to see NLN end! There are things that still need to be accomplished. I, personally, do not think my question was answered.

Let's look at the facts for just a second. NLN has gained much ground in the battle that we face, but in the process, it appears that NLN has lost the main thing that is needed for the mere survival of this organization. It has lost the people. Why? A question that has perplexed all of us. Somewhere along the way, the people got off the train. The mission statement of this organization is as follows *The primary mission of Northern Lambda Nord is to advance the interests and well being of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered community of the Upper Saint John River Valley and Aroostook County, Maine.*

This organization was created because there was a need. Is the need gone? Has NLN lost contact with the ones that it was designed to serve or is it simply that the people have lost interest and feel there is no need for this organization? People are moving away, thus membership is down about 20%. Participation in the social activities has been down to ten or twelve people, hence the reason for the decrease in doing big events.

I am lost as to what to think. So I am asking you, **WHAT SHALL WE DO?** Should NLN call it quits? This organization was created by you, for you. *Where do we go from here?* I am asking for your feedback.

A few things to consider. If we remain a viable organization, we need the people's participation. *This is your organization.* If you think that NLN has run its course, let us know via mail, phone, etc. As it stands right now, your steering committee has decided to ride the plateau. Sort of a wait-and-see attitude. Let us know what you think.

Well, that certainly was a downer, but I do hope that you all are enjoying this great summer that we are having. Why the other day I thought I was back in the South. I mean the heat index was in the '90s! May you continue to enjoy this beautiful weather and have a safe summer. Until we meet again, take care.

Donald ▼

Calendrier Northern Lambda Nord Calendar



sunday/dimanche

monday/lundi

tuesday/mardi

wednesday/mercredi

thursday/jeudi

friday/vendredi

saturday/samedi

AUG 98

Sun, Aug 2 - day 2 of WEEKEND ON LONG LAKE - 2

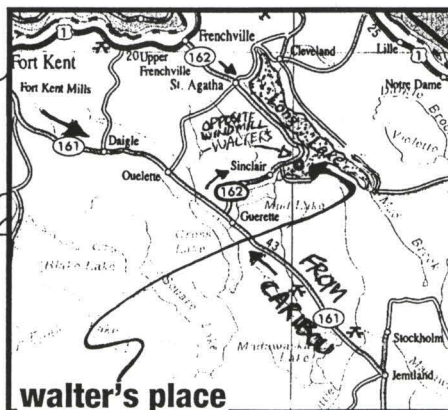
SPIRITUAL GATHERING the 3rd SUN. at the COMMUNITY CENTER 658 Main St. Caribou 11am-M • noon-N Everyone is welcome. 16

OTHER EVENTS
• August 14: AUGUSTA PRIDE EVENTS and the beginning of the PHISH concert weekend
• October 11 (Columbus Day weekend): MAINE CIVIL RIGHTS MARCH in Bangor

OPEN HOUSE EVERY WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY

at the COMMUNITY CENTER 658 Main St. Caribou • 7-9pmM • 8-10pmN

3 4 5 6 7
10 11 12 13 14 21 28 29



1
Sat-Sun, Aug 1-2 - annual WEEKEND ON LONG LAKE - (PART 1) at Walter Fournier's, Sinclair (Mamie's Fishing Wharf) from 1pm Saturday until - swimming, lawn games, bbq, bonfire, relaxing, dancing in the 'barn'. Bring bbq foods, a beverage, lawn chair, games, a friend. There's room to camp out with tent or camper, 207-543-7878

13
Monthly NLN Meeting at Community Center, 6:30pmM 7:30pmN Your Ideas & input welcome

28
HELP Fold & Stuff newsletter & calendar, at Community Center, 7pmM/8pmN

29
Sat-Sun, Aug 29-30 - another WEEKEND ON LONG LAKE - at Walter Fournier's, Sinclair from 1pm Saturday until... Swimming, lawn games, bbq, bonfire, relaxing, dancing in the 'barn'. Bring bbq foods, a beverage, lawn chair, games, a friend. There's room to camp out tent or camper, 207-543-7878