

Northern Lambda Nord Communiqué

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Volume V: number 6

June/July 1984

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▼ Well, summer has arrived. I counted 18 people at our first picnic of the season at Arnold Brook Lake near Presque Isle. Though it was in the 90's/mid 30's in N-B, only 3 people braved the water. I hope the weather is as nice for each of our summer outings.

June is mid-year and so it's time again to choose -- the Executive Committee, I mean. We're meeting this month in New Brunswick, near Woodstock. If the weather permits, we'll have a picnic and swim a few miles from our host's home, so make sure you arrive on time before people leave for the picnic spot. We'll be voting for the 6 Executive members who will serve for 6 months. If you're interested in helping Lambda continue, why not put some energies into the Executive.

At the June meeting, we'll hear reports about the recent presentations at the Aroostook Mental Health Centers and the current status of the grant request and the Winter Carnival case.

Two men from Minnesota will be visiting Fort Kent during the middle of July, so a party is planned to welcome them to our area. And another special party will be held in August for Dale McCormick. She's an openly lesbian delegate from Maine to the National Democratic Convention in San Francisco in July. She'll be coming up here to talk with us about her experiences in S.F. and to ask for financial help to defray her transportation expenses, which must be paid from her own pocket. Members--- check the enclosed calendar for specifics. Oh, one more. Two women in Caribou are having a special gathering for women on July 4th. Details on the calendar.

Please note that this is a double issue, one of two during the summer. The next issue will be dated August/September. Then in October, it's renewal time again! ▼

▼ IT'S OUR PAPER

Members' newsletters include the June issue of *Our Paper*. This month's edition includes an interview with Lambs plus FLAG and Saint John people (interviewed at the Maine Symposium in Orono this past March); the irregularly-appearing column, "Aroostook Report: News and Views from the Top of Maine";

an article about New Brunswick, "The Canadian Scene", written by a FLAG/NLN member, Hank; an article about the successes we had at the Maine State Democratic Convention at which a strong gay-lesbian rights plank was adopted (which includes endorsement of a state rights bill) and at which Dale McCormick was chosen to go to S.F.; an article by Dale describing the events leading up to and including her successful bid to represent Maine as a lesbian delegate; much more. Our Paper deserves our support. Why don't you subscribe! (OUR PAPER, POB 10744, Portland, 04104 -- \$10 for 12 issues - one year) ▽

▼ P'TOWN GUIDES AVAILABLE

Are you going to the tip of the Cape this summer? Bibliothèque Lambda has 12 copies of the Provincetown Business Guild's 1984 guide to the gay haven at the tip of Cape Cod. They are free to Lambda members. Just ask for one at our next gathering or drop a note to the POB and we'll send you one by mail. (including postage will help.) ▽

▼ BIBLIOTHÈQUE LAMBDA

Again, a sincere merci goes to our Brooklyn benefactor of books, Paul Groves. He has donated three more cartons of hardcover books to the library, nearly 40 copies. Will we ever get the list compiled? ▽

▼ DONATIONS

At the May general membership meeting in Frenchville, it was voted to increase the suggested donation for non-members to Lambda parties, from \$2 to \$5. Please pass the word. ▽

▼ MAINE CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION MAILING

Members who are residents of Maine, please note: The Maine Civil Liberties Union has sent NLN postage-paid mailings to send to each of our Maine members. The mailings are from Diane Matthews, the lesbian who won re-instatement in the ROTC program at UMO after being separated for admitting to being gay. The MCLU helped her in her legal fight; now they are asking for our financial help. The MCLU has been a consistent supporter of gay/lesbian rights; they are now working on the NLN/Caribou Winter Carnival issue. When you receive the mailing in the next few days, take a moment to read it. Give them whatever you can afford. It will all come back to us in the long run. ▽

▼ THE NEWFIES ARE COMING OUT

For more than two years the organization known as GAIN, Gay Association in Newfoundland, has been serving the island province. We recently received this letter from Wally of GAIN:

"Dear NLN: Hello. Enclosed is a cheque to help cover the printing and mailing of *Communiqué* to the Gay Association in Newfoundland. We enjoy your magazine and congratulate you on the achievement of such a project. In return we ask that you enclose our address in your Lesbian-Gay Guide and encourage any of your readers who are planning on visiting St. John's, who would like any info in the gay life or the general Newfoundland society to write us.

"We have dances at least once a month (sometimes two) with about 100 people in attendance. Over the summer we will be having outdoor activities and fundraising drives to buy our own building. There really is a gay community up here in the North Atlantic.

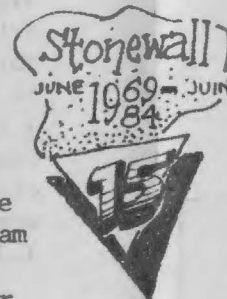
"We wish you all the best for the summer of 84 and look forward to all future issues of *Communiqué*. Bye for now. /s/Wally" ▽

▼ U.S. ARMED FORCES AND HOMOSEXUALS

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) with the help of the National Gay Task Force (NGTF) is challenging the U.S. Armed Forces' practice of discharging homosexual servicemembers and members having "homosexual tendencies" with less than honorable discharges. The suit is against the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Department of Defense, filed on behalf of eight named plaintiffs, the Vietnam Veterans of America, and approximately 5000 unnamed former service members who were issued less than honorable discharges because of sexual orientation and 10,000 current members of the military who have engaged in homosexual conduct during their military service. The suit alleges that because it uses a non-judicial administrative process to characterize military service as less than honorable rather than the court-martial process prescribed by the Uniform Code of Military Justice, the military exceeds its constitutional and statutory authority and violates plaintiffs' rights under the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment. The suit also maintains that within the administrative procedure, failure to demonstrate that homosexuality, homosexual acts, or homosexual tendencies actually affect performance of military duties is also in excess of constitutional and statutory authority and violates plaintiffs' rights. The suit asks that the court declare current discharge procedures illegal and order each named plaintiff's discharge be upgraded automatically or that the less than honorable discharges be reviewed and changed to accurately reflect the quality of military service. (Gau Community News, Boston) ▽

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- ▼ FREDERICTON: FLAG, POB 1556, Sta. A., E3B 5G2; FLAGline - 506/457-2156, Tues, Wed, Thurs, 8-10 pm.
- ▼ ORONO: Wilde-Stein Club, Memorial Union, Univ. of Maine; meets Sundays, 7 pm, Peabody Lounge, 3rd floor, Memorial Union.
- ▼ SAINT JOHN: LAGO-SJ, POB 6494, Sta. A., E2L 4R9.
- ▼ MONCTON: GLM (Gais et lesbiennes de Moncton), CP 7102, Riverview, E1B 1V0.
- ▼ HALIFAX: GAE (Gay Alliance for Equality), Box 3611, So. Postal Sta., B3J 3K6; 902/429-6969, M,T,W, 7-9 pm & Th, F, Sat, 7-10 pm.
- ▼ NEWFOUNDLAND: GAIN, Box 1364, Sta.C., St.John's, A1C 5N5.
- ▼ WEBWORK: women's correspondence club, New England & Maritimes - Box 131-N, Calais, Maine 04619.
- ▼ MAINE LESBIAN FEMINISTS: POB 125, Belfast 04915.
- ▼ OUR PAPER: A Voice for Lesbians and Gaymen in Maine - monthly newspaper, \$10 per year - POB 10744, Portland 04104.
- ▼ NORTHERN MAINE AND NEW BRUNSWICK: NLN, CP/POB 990, Caribou, Maine 04736 - Télégai/Gay Phoneline: 207/896-5888, Wed/mer, 7-9 pm (Eastern time/Heure de l'est)

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