Our Paper: Serving the Alternative Community

Winter 1-1986

Our Paper 01/1986

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/our_paper_sac

Part of the Cultural History Commons, History of Gender Commons, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Commons, Oral History Commons, Other English Language and Literature Commons, Other Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Commons, Public History Commons, Social History Commons, and the Women's History Commons

Recommended Citation
https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/our_paper_sac/69

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Periodicals at USM Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Our Paper: Serving the Alternative Community by an authorized administrator of USM Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jessica.c.hovey@maine.edu.
In a letter to Peder Baughman, Maine State Prison Warden Warren Magnusson says that he "agrees to allow visits [between Baughman and his lover] if you both agree not to engage in any physical contact." The letter, which was an attempt to clarify prison policy, further states that visiting rights will be revoked if the policy is not adhered to. It also states that prison officials are reviewing their visitation policies to deal with the issue of openly gay visitors and inmates. In a letter to Baughman, who lives in Augusta, was told that he would no longer be allowed to visit his lover, Daniel Nutting, at the Kennebec State Prison in Augusta. Apparently Baughman’s kissing and hugging of his lover in the prison visitation room had overstepped the bounds of acceptable prison behavior. Although rules given to visitors by prison officials do indicate that visitors and inmates may embrace and kiss at the beginning and end of each visit, Magnusson (as quoted in the Portland Press Herald) says, “The intent of that is for couples of the opposite sex. The intent is not what is allowed for individuals who are openly homosexual.” Magnusson did admit that such behavior “could be considered for homosexual males, as a father and son.”

Magnusson says that the visitation rules state that “physical displays which are offensive to other visitors and staff will not be tolerated.” “The visitor room is family oriented and we do not feel homosexual-type contact would be appropriate,” he says. According to Magnusson this is the first time that the question of visitation rights for openly gay partners has arisen.

According to Peder Baughman, the behavior in question was a “See-you-later-Homie type hug,” which he said violated the rules. Magnusson says that prison guards had been antagonistic to him in the past and he had once overheard one call him “a bleached blonde faggot.” Baughman is determined to fight the prison’s order because he feels he has been discriminated against. He says, “I will not be treated unfairly. I have a moral obligation to fight this, not just for myself but for other people who are suffering from this policy.” Baughman says that he has never been a political activist. He describes himself as a “conservative businessman who has worked hard to be respectable.” “I always thought I was as good as everybody else,” he said.

Baughman believes that prison officials were very surprised when he stood up for his rights. “They thought I was just another gay person who could treat as a second-class citizen and get away with it. They expected me to fold, but I hit back,” he said. He is looking into the possibility of filing a lawsuit although he has found attorneys reluctant to take the case because there are no laws in Maine protecting gay people from discrimination.

The incident and the subsequent publicity, which included a spot on the NBC Nightly News and coverage in USA Today and other papers nationally, has caused Baughman “a great deal of stress and anguish as well as potential damage to my business.” He owns two hairstyling salons in Augusta and Waterville. He reports, however, that he had had tremendous support from his parents, friends, and from clients although he has lost some business as a result of the publicity. He has been surprised how little support he has received from other gay people. “They are afraid to be seen with me because they’re afraid it will tell people that they are gay,” he says.

According to Baughman’s lover, Daniel Nutting, with whom he has “a contractual agreement similar to the legal obligations of marriage” has been sentenced to a maximum of one year in prison. Peder, who maintains a wonderful sense of humor despite the situation, says one of the most difficult things about losing visitation rights would be that he could not bring Daniel gifts and food during the holidays. “I plan to bring Pepperidge Farm cookies, and other goodies — you know, the kinds of things homosexuals eat,” he said.

Grand Jury Refuses To Indict

On December 11 a Grand Jury in Lewiston chose not to indict Robert Gravel in the shooting death of another Lewiston man. On November 3, 1985 Gravel shot and killed a man who was part of a group that had been harassing him for nearly a year. The Grand Jury apparently accepted Gravel’s testimony that he had been harassed to the point where he feared for his life. Although Grand Jury proceedings are secret, it is assumed that the jury felt that Gravel acted in self-defense and was therefore justified in his actions.

According to Gravel, a “gang” of neighborhood men in their 20’s began calling him antigay names on the street about a year ago. He ignored their taunts of “Faggot!” and “Queer!” but they persisted. Over a period of months the harassment came closer and became more frequent. Gravel says that he repeatedly invited him near his home, followed him when he went out and chased him on several occasions. On one occasion he was physically beaten. Eventually Gravel was able to obtain a court order against the “leader” of the group which required him to cease harassment, but the harassment continued from other members of the group as well as from the man against whom the order was issued. According to Gravel the taunts were often accompanied by threats such as, “No matter how long it takes, I’m going to kill you faggot.” Gravel says that he believed that the men were “out to kill me.” He says that in light of the ax murder of a gay Lewiston man this year and the killing of Charlie Howard in 1984, he took their threats seriously.
Letters

Norm Brilliant’s commentary about alcohol consumption at the “Maine Cares” benefit should be seriously discussed by all members of the gay community. His final question as to whether or not the “exploitation and abuse” of one social disease (i.e. alcoholism) is “justified in raising funds to obliteriate another” social disease (i.e. AIDS) shouldn’t go unanswered.

Consider: A page by page review of the same issue of OP reveals that there are ads which mention drinks, happy hour, champagne and wine; there are ads for five different bars; of the six ads for counselors, 2 specifically state that they each deal with alcohol and drug abuse; and in the list of monthly meetings, 7 out of 30 are alcohol abuse related.

Consider: In the article on the Maine Health Foundation, Inc. press conference, Albert Nickerson is quoted as saying that one of the goals of his organization is “the elimination of substance abuse in the gay and lesbian communities”. In the year-end report of this same organization, Doug Cruger writes that $1000 has been raised from money collected by the Woodford’s Cafe (whose ad in the issue mentions that every Wednesday ‘1/2 of all the money collected from drinks will be donated to the MHP to support AIDS work’).

Now, as a direct beneficiary of that same money raised by the Woodford’s Cafe, I hope my comments and observations don’t get interpreted as a criticism of that that feeds me. This question of alcohol sales for charitable income has been a concern right along of the participating groups and individuals (both funders and fund-spenders) in the fight against AIDS. Brilliant has simply moved the debate from the barroom to the sidewalk. I believe he was right to do so. So it is that I present these facts not as to fuel a fiery debate, but to help us all broaden our understanding of this very thorny issue.

I also recognize that I have mostly commented here about alcohol. By no means do I intend to single out that one substance. It’s just that alcohol is a legal substance and as such it, and the places where it is sold, can be advertised and consumed. It is also a cited substantiation, so its representation in OP is very easy to understand. I think the article I have written for this issue on the relationship between substance abuse and AIDS will demonstrate that alcohol is not the only concern. Our community has some serious thinking to do around the issue of substance use and abuse in general. Brilliant’s question is but one of many that can and should be asked. How well they be answered? That I don’t know. But I do know where the answer has to come from: us.

Gary L. Anderson

Classifieds

Help Needed

Reporters/correspondents needed to participate in the exciting Our Paper collective. Writers from Bangor, Augusta, Lewiston-Portland, Ogunquit and rural areas wanted to report on political, social news and events in your community. To help Our Paper broaden its community base and be of interest to out-of-town, dynamic collective, write Our Paper, P.O. Box 10744, Portland, Me. 04104.

Our Paper Annual Meeting

Tuesday, January 21 7:00 p.m.
at Our Books, Pine Street, Portland

Referrals: All Welcome

Our Paper Annual Meeting

5th from 7 to 8 pm at 125 Vaughan St. (corner of Vaughan and Carroll) in Portland. All are welcome.

Women, mid-30’s, looking for same to share house, sunny and spacious, in Deer­ring section of Portland. $300.00. Public relations profession by day; skier/yoga/peace activist after hours. Non­smoker please. Call days 892-6766, eve­nings 793; nights/weekends 773-6165.

GWM, 27: Happy, honest man who enjoys the outdoors, exercise and a flexible schedule seeks companionship. If you are a decent man who is social, have your situa­tion together and are ready to give and be given to, I’d like to meet and slowly get to know you. Similar age and Portland loca­tion a must. Serious responses to P.O. Box 1744, Portland, ME 04104.

Exciting, new Concept MLM – Multi Level Marketing. Earn $400-$2000 a month part time, plus start a credit line up to $100,000. (no matter what your credit line is). Let OmniCard take you there. Call 892-3135 between 5-9 pm. Now.

FRIEND WANTED – Very ancient, per­manently married, gay Maimical father, 72 years old and 71 inches long, World War 2 army home decor, looking for Portland area friend (plus?), 19 thru 91 years old, with brains as well as body, thoughts in addition to torso, for conversation, seasonal beachcombing, possible quarterly cheap trips haunting nonlocal museums, tour trap. An amateur retiree, deadly library-bum, politically leftist, economically downward mobile, do-good compulsive volunteer. HTLV3 tested negative. Take a chance; you have only your loneliness and postage stamp to lose. Write advertiser #/c Our Paper, P.O. Box 10744, Portland, Me. 04104.

Looking for other GM Portland jocks to share athletic endeavors. Weight training, x-country skiing, etc. Am especially interested in sports I’m not familiar with, such as racquetball, windsurfing (in season) and others. Call Peter at 774-6028 and let’s talk about it.

The rate for classifieds is $4 for 30 words. Each additional word, possible personal add $2 for handling. All ads must be prepaid. Mail ads to Our Paper, P.O. Box 10744, Portland, ME 04104.

We ask that you not use sexually explicit language in your personal. Responses to personals will not be opened by Our Paper and will be forwarded to you twice monthly.

The rate for classifieds is $4 for 30 words. Each additional word, possible personal add $2 for handling. All ads must be prepaid. Mail ads to Our Paper, P.O. Box 10744, Portland, ME 04104.

A book is like a garden in the pocket.”

Let’s make Our Paper a place where people can get together and give and be interesting.

The Gay/Lesbian Alliance (formerly the Gay People’s Alliance) of the University of Southern Maine is seeking work-study students for the spring ’86 semester. Students must be able to work collectively and independently to help promote positive values, education, and awareness about gay and lesb­ian related issues, please contact GLA at 92 Bedford St., Portland 04104 or call 780-4805 for more information. We will train.

The Gay/Lesbian Alliance (formerly the Gay People’s Alliance) of the University of Southern Maine is seeking work-study students for the spring ’86 semester. Students must be able to work collectively and independently to help promote positive values, education, and awareness about gay and les­bian related issues, please contact GLA at 92 Bedford St., Portland 04104 or call 780-4805 for more information. We will train.

Is anyone interested in reviving the Unitarian Universalist ‘INTERPEER’ group in Portland? If you are, please contact Peter Burgess at 774-6028.

There will be an “organizational celebra­tion” and meeting of the Gay/Lesbian Spiritual Community on Sunday, January 5th from 7 to 8 pm at 125 Vaughan St. (corner of Vaughan and Carroll) in Portland. All are welcome.


Our Paper Collective

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recorded/correspondents needed to participate in the exciting Our Paper collective. Writers from Bangor, Augusta, Lewiston-Portland, Ogunquit and rural areas wanted to report on political, social news and events in your community. To help Our Paper broaden its community base and be of interest to out-of-town, dynamic collective, write Our Paper, P.O. Box 10744, Portland, ME 04104.

PUBLICATION POLICY

We will consider for publication any material that broadens our understanding of our lifestyle, and of each other. Views and opinions appearing in the paper are those of the authors only. All material submitted must be signed and include an address and/or phone number, so we can contact the author should we need to consider editorial revisions. However, within the pages of the newspaper, articles can appear anonymously, upon request, and strict confidentiality will be observed. No revisions or rejections of material will occur without dialogue with the author. We welcome and encourage all our readers to submit material for publication and share your comments, questions and positive feelings with us. Remember, Our Paper is Your Paper!! DEADLINE for each issue is the 10th of the month.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are $12 for one year (12 issues), $20 for two years, and $30 for three years. Make checks payable to "Our Paper". All submissions and correspondence should be sent to Our Paper, P.O. Box 10744, Portland, Maine 04104.

Our Paper Collective

Fred Berger Barb Puls
Skip Brushaber Bruce Smith
Ali Fitzgerald Tom Vose
Diane Elze P.S. Sunderland
Julia Flanagan Barbara Wood
Norm Brilliant

subscIutions

(VOICE 207-774-7599)

graphiti

Mailing Address: 547 Congress Street, Portland, Me. 04101

MAILING ADDRESS: 136 Commercial Street, Portland, Me. 04101

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

Robertka S. Kuriloff

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

301 Old Mill Road, Orono, Me. 04473

TELEPHONE: 207-774-7599

SILKSCREENED T-SHIRTS printed to your specs


tshirtsdesigned.com

page 2 • OUR PAPER
Commentary

Have You Heard?

by P.S. Sutherland

"Can you believe that John is still going up to the theatre and screwing around with people, even after he's been diagnosed with AIDS?"..."Did you hear that Michael has ARC?"..."Yeah, you're the fourth person who told me!"..."I saw Tom coming out of Dr. Allen's office. I bet that spot on his neck is KS." So we've found out that someone you know has been diagnosed with ARC. So you've heard it from three other people. So you see a problem in telling a couple of friends about it, since it's already "common knowledge." Then you hear that your friend has been fired from his job and lost his medical insurance because the word got to his employer.

You've noticed some strange spots on a friend's arm and realize that he seems to have lost weight since you last saw him. So you mention it to a friend who's also noticed the changes, and between the two of you, you come to the conclusion that it must be AIDS. You continue checking with others to get their opinions. Soon you get a call from a friend, stating that he's been evicted from his apartment because rumor has it he is dying of KS. He's afraid to explain to his family. The same family.

"It is extremely important for all of us that we bond together as a community in facing this crisis. It is also very important that we acknowledge the fear that lies within us, as that fear is real and will be expressed in some way, either positively or negatively. But what kind of impact are we creating on our people when we express these fears by passing along rumors and/or facts? We need to be aware that the passing along of such information may destroy that life that has been so carefully constructed. We need to be aware that we may facilitate tremendous personal loss, like the loss of employment, loss of friends, and loss of family.

Let's be extra careful and more aware of the impact of our words. And let's search to find more helpful ways of expressing our anxieties and fears that support our extended family. Let's reach out...instead of passing by..."

Forums

continued from page 1

Bureau of Health Director Dr. Bill Nersesian referred to the forums as "one egg in a basket," citing the need to provide a variety of educational opportunities for professionals, the general public, and the high-risk groups.

The first forum was held in Bangor on December 17. Upcoming forums are scheduled as follows:

PORTLAND Jan. 9 at 7pm at the Cummings Center, 134 Congress St.

PREQUE ISLE Jan. 22 at 7:30pm at the Univ. of Maine at Presque Isle, Wieden Auditorium

LEWISTON Feb. 4 at 7:30pm in the Lewiston Jr. High Auditorium

BETHEL Mid Feb. — date and location to be announced

BRUNSWICK Mar. 6 at 7:30pm at the Coffin School Auditorium

FARMINGTON Mar. 18 at 7:30pm at UMF, Lincoln Aud., LC-131

KENNEBUNK Apr. 3 at 7:30pm at the High School Aud.

Grand Jury

continued from page 1

On the night of November 3, four of the men entered Gravel's apartment building and attempted to break in both the front and rear doors of his apartment. Gravel called the police. The men fled downstairs. Soon afterward, with the police not arriving, Gravel went downstairs to see if they were gone. As he opened the outside door one of the men, who he believes was acting as a lookout, called to the others. That man ran toward Gravel. Gravel fired a shot into the air, but the man continued toward him. Gravel fired two more shots.

Robert Gravel says that "I never thought I could hurt anybody, but I was afraid to die." He says of the shooting, "It was the last thing I wanted to do." Since the incident he says that he has received support from his neighbors and the people he works with. At the Grand Jury hearing the State was represented by Assistant Attorney General Tom Goodwin, the same man who prosecuted the Charlie Howard case.

Dear Crabby,

I'm planning my vacation early this year. What do you suggest is the best gay hot spots?

Dear Crabby.

It is never evident from your column exactly what sex you are. Bare it all, will you?

Signed, Crabby.

Signed, Nosy

Dear Nosy,

Crabby has never been sure of the answer to this question. I went to a local hospital for a sex change just to see what I got so that I would know what I had. The doctors were unsure which way to turn as was a young intern I consulted on the third floor. Crabby is an impulsive buyer. I told them to give me one of each. Be prepared by my motto, and now we am.

Signed, Crabby.

Dear Crabby,

My lover makes me do the laundry, the dishes, dust the house and hundreds of other chores as well. This has been going on for five years now. What do I do?

Signed, Domestic

Dear Domestic,

Enough is enough. It sounds like it's time for a change. Why don't you come live with me for a while?

Signed, Love, Crabby.

Quotable

"I think if you just look at Jock, you've got to be excited."

—Maine House Republican leader Tom Murphy commenting on the candidacy of John McKernan, as quoted in the Maine Sunday Telegram.

End Up

A relaxing atmosphere where you can sample hot cocoa, mochas, gourmet teas, gourmet coffee, and an ever-changing selection of homemade pastries. We also serve Pizza and Sandwiches. Join us!

We are open each night 9:00-3:00 AM, M-T & Sun

9:00-4:00 AM, Fri & Sat

OUR PAPER • page 3
Condoms suffer from a bad reputation, to some extent deserved. E.P. Dutton Publishing, and, upon occasion, I have heard it directly from men. When condoms are not used properly, or when either partner is nervous or uncomfortable with the sexual situation, or if a man has allergic reactions to the latex, dye, or materials used to make condoms, or if he is using a condom he doesn’t like, the experience can be physically uncomfortable, emotionally trying, and definitely not fun.

Condoms can be reused two to three times, thus overcoming the higher cost. Unfortunately, there is skepticism about lambskins’ ability to prevent the transmission of viruses, so if you are using skin for safe sex, use spermicide and a K-Y jelly, as both are reasonably susceptible to heat, which deteriorates the material. When stored away from excessive heat, condoms have a shelf-life of about five years.

Condoms are relatively inexpensive, especially compared to the cost of medical care necessitated by a sexually transmitted disease. They are widely available in drug stores, STD and family planning clinics, and by mail. (Beware, though, of mail-order rip-offs — Gay Community News has been running an ad for ‘Man-to-Man’ condoms, ‘specifically designed for the Gay Man’.

At three for $4.50, these condoms are much more expensive than most, and the ad offers no explanation for the so-called special design. Condoms of this type do not require a prescription, a physical exam, or a fitting. They present no health hazards and are medically safe. Men who have premature ejaculation often find that rubber prolongs erection by decreasing sensitivity. Also, the rim found...
Drugs are known to have immunosuppressive effects...

The list of such factors and co-factors includes the presence of HIV virus and other infections and diseases (including hepatitis, herpes, etc.), cigarette smoking, ethnicity, psychosocial risk factors (including self-esteem, depression, coping mechanisms, and stress), stimulation of a dormant virus into activity as a result of various sexual practices, and the use of alcohol and other recreational drugs. To discuss all of these is not my intention at this time, instead I will limit this article to the suspected co-factors that have generated a lot of interest in the community due to the fact that people have been dealing for years now with the issue of substance use and abuse. In conjunction, such damage to the central nervous system (of which the immune system is a part) is and likewise capable of cellular destruction that is permanent. In conjunction, such damage to the central nervous system is that reason that a person, like a drug user, who has an impaired immune system is more likely to suffer an illness that could otherwise be controlled or managed by the immune system.

Substance abuse, on the other hand, is known to damage the immune system in two ways: first, such drug use can impair the immune system so that it may not be able to fight off infections (like HTLV-III), and second, such drug use can temporarily impair a person’s judgment so that s/he may participate in a high risk behavior that could expose him or her to such a virus as HTLV-III.

Substance abuse is a risk factor in the development of disease in the presence of such co-factors, and it is now clear that HTLV-III favors cells similar to those that are damaged by alcohol. Perhaps here is another way to prevent it.

Drugs are known to have immunosuppressive effects...
Organizations

Women's Community Project

If dreams really do come true, and hard work does pay off, Portland may soon have a central place to serve the women's community.

A coalition of women from Portland and other southern Maine communities has recently formed the Women's Community Project, a group that is looking for a suitable space to offer a variety of resources and services to women. Currently, the project has a mailing list of 70 individuals or organizations, and a strong nucleus of women who have been working together since last summer.

Joanne H. Clarey of Portland, one of the project's founders, says that obtaining a building is the group's primary goal, because it would be a solid base for other efforts. "It would be a symbol for other things we wanted to do," she said, in an interview in mid-December.

A central place for women could have multiple uses, Clarey said, "from referrals to more direct services, like child care and health care...or just plain space to get together safely."

Clarey noted that there are several women's organizations that have no permanent meeting place, such as the feminist group, and the Rape Crisis Organization.

As the former director of Women's Studies at the University of Southern Maine, Clarey says has the same vision. She noted that even if a building was purchased a place .

Clarey has hosted four well-attended meetings at her apartment. She was surprised by the immediate positive response, and says that initially she thought it would take four or five years to get a project underway.

"I have shortened that (timetable) now," she said. "I think already something has happened. We already have 70-plus women involved. I think we'll have something happening within a year. It may not be a building, but I think we'll have something concrete in a year."

Ideally, Clarey would like to see a building donated to the group, funds donated to buy a building, or a women's collective purchase a place.

Clarey said the group has not decided yet whether to seek non-profit status or to operate as a private enterprise.

She noted that even if a building was available for the Women's Community Project, it might take two or three years to make it suitable for operation. She believes the process of renovating it could be part of the project, with skilled tradeswomen teaching other women, who would pay for the hands-on-education.

For now, Clarey and the group are hard at work, seeking to educate people about the need for a central place for women. Also, the group is attempting to outreach to as many groups and individuals as possible, for ideas, donations and financial contributions.

"We need women from everywhere — all races, ages, religions, preferences and lifestyles — and would like to encourage them to voice themselves. This is an invitation to all women to come together in the planning process," Clarey said.

The fifth meeting of the Women's Community Project will be held Sunday, Jan. 5, from 11:30-2:00 p.m. at the YWCA at 87 Spring St.

Gay/Lesbian Alliance

As you can see by the heading, we've changed our name to begin the new year. The former Gay People's Alliance is now renamed the Gay/Lesbian Alliance. If you haven't stopped by the office, we maintain a lending library of reading material covering such topics as organizing, gay American history, women's issues as well as fiction and a file of articles dealing with AIDS. Everyone is welcome to borrow these materials for up to four weeks.

Our office is finishing its update of our mailing list, a resource we hope to use for publicizing events and issues. If you would like to be included in our mailings (our list is strictly confidential), please fill out the address blank included in our ad in this issue of Our Paper.

In addition to these activities, Charlie Dwyer and Laura Smith recently participated in part of teacher training workshops held in Bangor and Portland. The sessions were aimed at orienting teachers to the concerns of gay and lesbian teenagers as well as raising the teachers' awareness of the presence of teenagers struggling with issues of sexuality. The G.L.A. office provides speakers for this and other topics. If you would like to have a speaker for an event, workshop or class, please call our office.

Another resource available through the office, beginning January 13th, is peer counseling. Kim Anderson, who has worked as a counselor for the office in the past, will be available on Monday and Thursday from 4-7PM and other times by appointment. Counseling is available to everyone. For more information call us at 780-4085.

UPCOMING AND ON-GOING EVENTS

The GLA office is collecting names of parents and friends who are interested in forming a parents and friends of gays and lesbians support group in Portland. The group would be facilitated. All interested should contact the office.

In honor of our new name we are planning a potluck for January, in place of one of our Friday Night Discussion Group sessions. Plans are still in the works so call our office for the details.

We are hoping to organize two bus trips for spring. One would take place in May for those interested in attending Symposium in Presque Isle. Another would be a fun trip to the Boston Gay/Lesbian Pride celebration in June. More on these trips later.

One more note on upcoming events. The Maine Coalition on Undoing Racism, a newly formed group, will be sponsoring events to commemorate the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. on Jan. 20th (also a federal holiday starting in 1986). Watch for more details.

Please stop by our office at 92 Bedford St.

ANNUAL MEETING AND CELEBRATION

Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance

Saturday, January 18, 1986
University of Maine, Augusta — Jewett Hall

9:30 AM Registration
10:30 AM Guest Speaker David Sondras, openly gay Boston City Councilor. "Running Yourselves and Each Other for Office."
12:00-1:00 Lunch provided
1:00-3:00 Annual Business Meeting
Old Business New Business Election of Officers and Steering Committee
3:30 PM New England Regional Networking Session with guests from other New England states.
6:00 PM Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar)
7:00 PM Fundraising and Celebatory Dinner Holiday Inn, Augusta Honoring Rep. Gerry Connolly and other special guests

Dinner Tickets $15.00-$25.00 (sliding scale)
Pre-registration for dinner is a must.

Send Deposit to: MLGPA, Box 108, Yarmouth, ME 04096

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy, prosperous New Year!

New Year — New Dining Room — New Look

Please come in and check out our expansion.

Same comfortable atmosphere, quality service and great food.

129 Spring Street, Portland 772-1374
La Nouvelle Carte Bleue
by Greg O'Neill

Jungal synchronicity has an odd way of popping up in my life.

Meeting recently during my three month stay here in France, when I have the occasion to make purchases at major European department store, I encounter the question, "avez-vous une (do you have a) Carte Blanche?"

Fortunately, I do not. Otherwise, I'd be getting myself into some serious, irrevocable trouble! (However in this case it would only be financial, as the Carte Bleue or Blue Card is one of the more popular European credit cards.) Almost everywhere I go, I see the Carte Bleue emblem stuck in the window.

Last weekend I toured Amsterdam: One of my visits was to the house where Anne Frank and her family hid in an attic from the Nazis for close to two years during World War II. The house is now maintained by a civil group called the "Anne Frank Society." The tour begins with a thorough briefing on the causes and effects of World War II and concludes after the viewing of the Diary of a Young Girl, an excerpt of the last acts of prejudice occurring in our world today.

It is the Society's purpose "not only to commemorate the Anne Frank story, but also to mark the hideaway with a visible reminder that there was resistance in Auschwitz.

No formal consensus was reached at the meeting in terms of concentrating on a particular strategy. Rather, we agreed that there were enough of us with a wide enough range of interests that no one would be obliged to contribute his or her energies to an activity that he or she didn't feel strongly about. For the time being, we decided to work toward at least three objectives: 1) to provide each other with information and informal solidarity, 2) to monitor articles and stories dealing with AIDS and gays in local newspapers, checking them for accuracy and fairness and, when appropriate, writing to the papers to express our appreciation or dissatisfaction — also, to designate one of our members, Sadibh (Sive) Nielen of New Leaf Books, as a person whom newspapers or television journalists may contact for information or commentary; and 3) to invite other local individuals, presumably non-gay, who are involved in medicine, hospice work, or public education either to share information with each other or to draw up plans together for future projects.

Perhaps it is premature to speculate as to what projects we will eventually settle upon. Some members have already become involved in health groups established to fight AIDS and its related problems and are likely to pursue these other commitments in conjunction with whatever work the Support Group starts. At any rate, members felt a lot of enthusiasm for ideas such as setting up a food bank (a store of canned and dry goods for the benefit of a person with AIDS who is either physically or financially unable to shop for him/herself). Another idea which gathered support was providing a referral service for anyone with particular health-related questions or needs, for example, recommending a local doctor who was respectful of a gay man's sexuality. By meeting's end, two members of the group volunteered to travel to Portland in order to attend a meeting to familiarize Mainers with the "Buddy" system for people with AIDS, or other local individuals, to share the experience of those who will face in enlisting the trust of those they care for.

A second meeting is planned for Wednesday, January 8 at New Leaf Books, 438 Main Street in Rockland, from 7 to 9 PM. A snow date has been set for the following Wednesday, same time and place. We invite any concerned lesbians, gay men or bisexuals from Knox, Waldo, or Lincoln counties to attend. More information may be obtained by calling the bookstore at 356-0040.

Bay State AIDS Support Group Takes Shape
by Don Kellough

CAMDEN — There were ten of us, five women and five men, from half a dozen localities in the Mid-coast region, who gathered here November 14 in order to discuss the ways AIDS affected our lives and to talk over the different courses of action open to us as we confront this disease. Several of us had also attended the AIDS Summit sponsored by the MLOPA October 20 in Augusta, and through talking to each other at that time, we realized that we would like to carry out some of the goals "back home," which were being defined on a statewide level.

A large portion of the meeting was given over to defining the kind of effort we were willing to make. Did we want to target gay men and lesbians as the beneficiaries of our actions? Or did we also want to consider the possibility of reaching out to children, prisoners (Thomaston State Prison is in our neighborhood, so to speak), and others affected with AIDS, when these people appear in our area? Such questions may seem academic at this point, yet it may be useful to bear in mind that they reflect the difficulties of gay men and lesbians who have here in reaching out to each other as members of a self-identified group, not to mention dealing on a firm basis with other public groups in our communities.

Not only does initiating a group action in order to better understand the effects of AIDS entail making our individual sexualities more widely known among the public, it means possibly acting in the name of persons who do not recognize themselves in "us" (that is, "closed" men who run the risk of contracting AIDS in their sexual relations with other men) who do not want to have anything to do with being gay.

No formal consensus was reached at the meeting in terms of concentrating on a particular strategy. Rather, we agreed that there were enough of us with a wide enough range of interests that no one would be obliged to contribute his or her energies to an activity that he or she didn't feel strongly about. For the time being, we decided to work toward at least three objectives: 1) to provide each other with information and informal solidarity, 2) to monitor articles and stories dealing with AIDS and gays in local newspapers, checking them for accuracy and fairness and, when appropriate, writing to the papers to express our appreciation or dissatisfaction — also, to designate one of our members, Sadibh (Sive) Nielen of New Leaf Books, as a person whom newspapers or television journalists may contact for information or commentary; and 3) to invite other local individuals, presumably non-gay, who are involved in medicine, hospice work, or public education either to share information with each other or to draw up plans together for future projects.

Perhaps it is premature to speculate as to what projects we will eventually settle upon. Some members have already become involved in health groups established to fight AIDS and its related problems and are likely to pursue these other commitments in conjunction with whatever work the Support Group starts. At any rate, members felt a lot of enthusiasm for ideas such as setting up a food bank (a store of canned and dry goods for the benefit of a person with AIDS who is either physically or financially unable to shop for him/herself). Another idea which gathered support was providing a referral service for anyone with particular health-related questions or needs, for example, recommending a local doctor who was respectful of a gay man's sexuality. By meeting's end, two members of the group volunteered to travel to Portland in order to attend a meeting to familiarize Mainers with the "Buddy" system for people with AIDS, or other local individuals, to share the experience of those who will face in enlisting the trust of those they care for.

A second meeting is planned for Wednesday, January 8 at New Leaf Books, 438 Main Street in Rockland, from 7 to 9 PM. A snow date has been set for the following Wednesday, same time and place. We invite any concerned lesbians, gay men or bisexuals from Knox, Waldo, or Lincoln counties to attend. More information may be obtained by calling the bookstore at 356-0040.
An Interview With Judy Goldsmith, Former President of the National Organization for Women

by Elze

"...the women of this nation still do not have the constitutional protections of the Equal Rights Amendment. Let the enemies of equality make no mistake: we will have it."

—Judy Goldsmith, 1985 NOW National Conference

Keynote Address

Judy Goldsmith, former President of the National Organization for Women (NOW), keynote’d Maine NOW’s Thirteenth Annual State Conference in November and, while in Maine, graciously agreed to an interview with Our Paper.

An English teacher for fifteen years, Goldsmith directed this country’s largest feminist organization from December 1982 until her defeat last July in an election which left the organization reeling. Described by many as “a bitter struggle,” the election at the annual National NOW Conference in New Orleans saw Goldsmith lose to Ellie Smeal by 136 votes, with 1,542 votes cast. (Smeal served as NOW’s President from 1977 until 1982, stepping down because of the two-term limit prescribed in the by-laws.)

Speaking for “the majority of Maine NOW’s leadership,” National Board member and Portland resident Christine Torraca described the election as “a disappointment.” “Most of us felt Judy did an excellent job,” Torraca stated. “We were counting on her continued leadership.” Torraca applauded Goldsmith’s coalition-building with other national civil rights organizations, her commitment to lesbian and gay rights, her aggressive pro-choice stance, and her excellent relationship with national media as increasing NOW’s strength and credibility as a feminist organization.

Goldsmith grew up in poverty in Two Rivers, Wisconsin, a small Midwestern town of 10,000 people. She now lives just over the Potomac River in Arlington, approximately across the street from the Pent­agon — “a nice neighborhood,” she chuckles, “Ground Zero.” She joined NOW twelve years ago at the age of thirty-four.

Goldsmith debated Jerry Falwell of the Moral Majority in February 1985 at a Na­tional Press Club luncheon in Washington, D.C. She calls “tolerance” a “vaguely con­cept” and asserts, “We have to make that happen, really no question it would not have happened without NOW’s unique participation. That is something the enemies of equality are try­ing to make an ‘un-event’ — in 1984 terms, the Orwell novel, ‘This was an ‘un­event’: ‘This never happened.’ They're trying to cast a cloud over the whole reality of the Ferraro candidacy and what it meant to women because it was empowering for women. Whatever kinds of political problems surrounded it, that did not touch the fact that when women heard the news and when women saw Ferraro accepting the nomination in San Francisco, and when women saw her on the campaign trail, they felt proud and stronger and an increased sense of self-esteem. That was a very dramatic breakthrough.

The work we did on the abortion front, the vigil we had beginning this year were so dramatic and very powerful in the message we sent to the nation, as well as to the anti­abortion terrorists: ‘We will not back down to bullies.’ The official federal officials said it was going to be a high-risk weekend. We said, ‘Oh, this is going to be a high-risk weekend. We're going to be a high-risk weekend.”

Goldsmith’s coalition—the NOW’s unique participation—was dramatically so. I think that’s also true of Maine, though maybe to a lesser extent. De: Do you like Maine? This is your third trip up here.

JG: I love Maine. Some of what I like has to do with its parallels to Wisconsin, my home state which I love very much. It’s largely rural. There’s almost an innocence, in the positive sense of the word. The people are friendlier than in a lot of places I’ve been. It’s also a state that is like Wisconsin in that it is politically schizoid. Wisconsin has both an outstanding progressive tradition, the LaFollette political tradition, and Joe McCarthy!

DE: And Wisconsin is the only state with a gay and lesbian civil rights bill. Yet they have that very conservative senator you were talking about last night.

JG: Yes, both things are there — and very dramatically so. I think that’s also true of Maine, though maybe to a lesser extent.

DE: Looking back on your years as President of NOW, what do you feel particularly good about? What were you able to accomplish?

JG: Some things like, obviously, the Fer­raro nomination will always stand out as an historical breakthrough. While a lot of peo­ple made that happen, there’s really no ques­tion it would not have happened without NOW’s unique participation. That is something the enemies of equality are try­ing to make an “un-event” — in 1984 because they haven’t, by and large, felt the effects of it yet. But it is such a considerable, profound, direct attack and the need is so urgent. We have to understand that there is no one organization, as there is no one in­dividual, who can deal with all these prob­lems and pull it together. It takes all of our resources working together.

One of the major strategies of the Reagan Administration in its attack on human rights is a divide-and-conquer strategy set to us against each other. They know our strength is in our unity. They try divide-and-conquer where they can — black against white, male against female, straight against gay...

DE: Native American against gay with the AIDS funding. They took money out of health care for Native Americans and reallocated it to AIDS.

JG: Yes, absolutely. It’s a damnable tac­tic. It’s evil in the most profound sense of the word. But we are all so vulnerable to it. We all have some concerns about ter­ritoriality, protecting ourselves, taking credit for what we do. So the more we can understand that we have much more in com­
mon as people than there is that separates us, the stronger we will be and the more in­
vulnerable to those kinds of attacks.

Did you get surprised by the magnitude of Mondale and Ferraro’s loss?

JG: Yes, by the magnitude of it. Yes. Like a lot of other people I was stunned and traumatized by the magnitude. It made me feel for awhile very hopeless — that people could be so taken in by the “Dr. Feel Good Campaign” Ronald Reagan ran. It was depressing. Walter Mondale was so­


structure of the nation, upon the multi­


million dollar insurance industry, up against the right-wing with its vast funding base and its control of the media. If I try to think about that with some compassion I think we did pretty well.

On the other hand, in absolute terms, there’s so many more things you always want to accomplish. We did a number of things... the Equal Rights Amendment. Everything was put together very carefully. All the economic ini­
dicators were good. You could not say there had been a significant slowing in economic... in economic growth.

There was a standard campaign which made fun of Walter Mondale a caricature. One of the most dashing things about that campaign was... it was a campaign against the perceptions of Walter Mondale as a wimp. If, in fact, a person, in particular a male, who is caring and sensitive is a wimp, then we are in bad trouble as a na­
tion — which, in fact, I think we are. If the only respectable kind of national leader has


JG: This is not optimistic here. I don’t think people are dumb. I think a very slick game was run in 1984. Truthfully, I don’t blame Ronald Reagan but it was overwhelmingly well done. Everything was put together very carefully. All the economic indica­
tors were good. You could not say there had been a significant slowing in economic growth.

I’m no longer in a position to speak officially for the organization. We will have to see what happens. There is some history, of course, with Ellie’s past administration and we can look to that to see what has been done in the past. But what’s been done in the past doesn’t necessarily lock you in to what will be done in the future. There was not much chapter and state development before, but that doesn’t necessarily mean there won’t be. And it, of course, depends upon the organization at the state and chapter level. If that kind of program is important, this is a participatory organization. Policy is not strictly determined in the national office.

DE: Smeal has called for national mar­
ches. Do you think national marches can be effective for some purposes and how would you also caution us about them?

JG: National marches definitely can be effec­tive. The original Civil Rights march in 1963 definitely had an impact on the passage of the Civil Rights Act in 1964. The march we did on July Fourth in 1984 had an impact. I am a believer in marches and my participation in marches goes back to my activism in the civil rights and peace movements in the 1960’s.

My concern is focusing on them as vir­
tually the only visible strategy. As with the need to address a full range of issues, we need to pull out of our bag whatever strategy


means, both about the election itself and the message sent, and for our future. I also worry about political campaigns and the in­
creasing propaganda-like nature of those campaigns and the show biz aspect of them. More and more, parties are looking for media-types for their candidates, not statements of direction and policy. I plug the party line in to them and they can read the script in front of the television set. I am desperately wor­
dried about what that means about this nation as a whole.

DE: Getting back to NOW — my percep­tion was that NOW under your leadership had direction addressed economic issues for women more than it had previously. Is that accurate?

JG: The majority of our attention to those issues more visibly. NOW has always had a strong commitment to winning economic justice. I think we did a lot more visibility with the work we did on pay equity or comparable worth, affirmative action, the issues of discrimination in in­


See you there!

 Celebrate the New Year at Papa Joe’s!

Beginning at 7:00 p.m., on New Year’s Eve, we’ll be pro­


Beg’t'nning at 7:00 p.m. on New Year’s Eve, we’ll be pro­


rporate. What do we need a $3-million budget for anyway?” Our budget was $3­


million at the time for the next year. Well, we need $3­


million; we need $30­


million; we need $300­


million because that allows you to pay for telephone calls, for printing of materials, for travel, for organizers to get out there and make it hap­


en, to buy television advertising! We’re go­ing to have to do more television advertis­ing!” It is the only reality that exists for the majority of people in this country.

DE: Is there anything you don’t feel proud about? Or something you would have done differently?

JG: I can’t think of anything I have regrets about. In terms of direction and strategies, I don’t feel good about what we did and I don’t have any regrets.

One other thing I feel really good about was the strengthening of the chapter and state connection program. Our strength is really in the grassroots. We wanted to move away from a strong centralized organiza­tion. Obviously only respectable kind of national leader has people being interviewed and quoted in newspapers. One woman sounding very ir­


DE: What do you think this says about the voting American public?

JG: It is not optimistic here. I don’t think people are dumb. I think a very slick game was run in 1984. Truthfully, I don’t blame Ronald Reagan but it was overwhelmingly well done. Everything was put together very carefully. All the economic indica­tors were good. You could not say there had been a significant slowing in economic growth.

I’m no longer in a position to speak officially for the organization. We will have to see what happens. There is some history, of course, with Ellie’s past administration and we can look to that to see what has been done in the past. But what’s been done in the past doesn’t necessarily lock you in to what will be done in the future. There was not much chapter and state development before, but that doesn’t necessarily mean there won’t be. And it, of course, depends upon the organization at the state and chapter level. If that kind of program is important, this is a participatory organization. Policy is not strictly determined in the national office.

DE: Smeal has called for national mar­
ches. Do you think national marches can be effective for some purposes and how would you also caution us about them?

JG: National marches definitely can be effec­tive. The original Civil Rights march in 1963 definitely had an impact on the passage of the Civil Rights Act in 1964. The march we did on July Fourth in 1984 had an impact. I am a believer in marches and my participation in marches goes back to my activism in the civil rights and peace movements in the 1960’s.

My concern is focusing on them as vir­
tually the only visible strategy. As with the need to address a full range of issues, we need to pull out of our bag whatever strategy


means, both about the election itself and the message sent, and for our future. I also worry about political campaigns and the in­creasing propaganda-like nature of those campaigns and the show biz aspect of them. More and more, parties are looking for media-types for their candidates, not statements of direction and policy. I plug the party line in to them and they can read the script in front of the television set. I am desperately wor­
dried about what that means about this nation as a whole.

DE: Getting back to NOW — my percep­tion was that NOW under your leadership had direction addressed economic issues for women more than it had previously. Is that accurate?

JG: The majority of our attention to those issues more visibly. NOW has always had a strong commitment to winning economic justice. I think we did a lot more visibility with the work we did on pay equity or comparable worth, affirmative action, the issues of discrimination in in­


rporate. What do we need a $3-million budget for anyway?” Our budget was $3­


million at the time for the next year. Well, we need $3­


million; we need $30­


million; we need $300­


million because that allows you to pay for telephone calls, for printing of materials, for travel, for organizers to get out there and make it hap­


en, to buy television advertising! We’re go­ing to have to do more television advertis­ing!” It is the only reality that exists for the majority of people in this country.

DE: Is there anything you don’t feel proud about? Or something you would have done differently?

JG: I can’t think of anything I have regrets about. In terms of direction and strategies, I don’t feel good about what we did and I don’t have any regrets.

One other thing I feel really good about was the strengthening of the chapter and state connection program. Our strength is really in the grassroots. We wanted to move away from a strong centralized organiza­tion. Obviously only respectable kind of national leader has people being interviewed and quoted in newspapers. One woman sounding very ir­
You do what accomplishes something. Huge marches make us feel good. It's good for us. It's empowering to be together in large numbers and feel our strength. But if that is the only reason we do it, that is self-indulgent because it has to have another purpose. Another thing about nationwide marches if you do them, for example, in Washington, D.C., is that there is a limitation in the value of such a march. They are big in Baltimore, Wisconsin and in Tempe, Arizona. Don't necessarily care about what happens in Washington, D.C. or how many people go there. That's not to say it can't have some impact, but along with a Washington-based march it also needs to have nationwide street actions taking place in Baltimore and Two Rivers and Tempe because that's where it really has an impact — where people can see they know on the streets, supporting abortion rights, supporting lesbian and gay rights, supporting the Equal Rights Amendment. We need to have all of that in order to win and winning is what we're about — not just the struggle. We dare not get caught up in the romance of the struggle. That will be the end for us as activists because it's fun to sit around and tell the war stories, but if we don't somewhere win for the constituencies of the people then we're failing them. You do have a vision of where you'd like to be in three years? I'm sure you've been asked a million times, "When are you going to run for office?"

JG: Yes. Yes, I've gone back to Wisconsin to check out the possibility of a House and Senate race. I had some very good discussions with people in the political structure, with the NOW people in the state who are wonderful, and with other people. There was wonderful support. It was very encouraging. In practical terms, however, this is a very short timeline to mount an effective winning campaign and I don't like campaigns that aren't winning campaigns. When I do it, really want to do it right and with the best possible shot at winning. I've decided not to do it in '86, but I have certainly not foreclosed the possibility of '88 or sometime in the future. I'm still very strongly committed to seeking public office. In the meantime, I'm getting a feel for the speaking circuit so I can continue to address the issues in a public forum, as well as have some modest economic support base. And I'm also looking at the possibility of writing a magazine column. I would love to be able to put together enough of a financial support system that I could write a book or two or three. I have about six in my head. I'd like to get out. I would also like to get back to teaching. I don't think I can do it exclusively any longer. I've become too much of an activist. When I fantasize, I go beyond what is necessary. I take a lot of the activists all around the nation — some of the most wonderful people in the country — good, dedicated, hard-working people. I will never cease being immensely grateful for the experience. It has made me more committed than I've ever been.

I will never cease being immensely grateful for the experience. It has made me more committed than I've ever been.

We are shamed before the world because two out of three adults living in poverty are women and one out of four of our nation's children suffer the dispiriting effects of poverty...It completely denies the promise of this nation which is supposed to be a land of freedom and justice and opportunity for all.

DE: Were you surprised at your loss of the election?

JG: Yes. I think the group of people who voted were, in terms of numbers, not representative of the organization. I think it has a very good chance. They had a very good count going into New Orleans of the 2500 delegates who were entitled to go. If there had been 2500 delegates there, there would have been 60-40. As it was, there were a little more than 1500 and it came out the other way. But that was the election. It was all for us as activists and that's the reality that came out of the conference.

DE: What do you think the major challenges will be for NOW and the women's movement over the next five years? Obviously, maintaining reproductive rights one.

JG: It's critical. There is a determined effort to kill the right to choose. These economic issues are extremely urgent. The Reagan Administration is doing everything it can to kill affirmative action. These are issues that are particularly important to the corporate community, who have always benefited economically from discrimination against women. If you look at the wage gap — a very humiliated entity, not a humiliated being, not someone with brothers and sisters. It is something you can then go out and shoot. Making real and making human the realities of the lives of lesbians and gay men is an extremely important thing to do. It's tough to make more than the highest paid woman. There is not the absolute resistance on the part of the public that we sometimes assume. I believe there is a considerable willingness on the part of the public to think about this.

The other front is legislative initiatives. In Wisconsin again in the House I found a lot of support, a very, very effective. It has to be expanded. As the fight against sex discrimination, if you can make people know and believe that there is a good public policy, the power of the people cannot be stopped. As long as all the attitudinal baggage people have grown up with before discrimination becomes illegal. The laws have made the change. As with the laws against employment discrimination, what you simply do is make it literally too expensive for them to exercise their prejudice. You may have
If Barbie Were a Goddess

by R.J. Blessington

When I was a girl, my female heroes were Annie Oakley, Supergirl, Peter Pan (whom I thought was female, thanks to Mary Martin's theatrical genderfuck), and Wonder Woman. I wasn't allowed to have guns, but I was allowed to ride a hobby horse in a fringed skirt and cowboy boots, so Annie Oakley was a durable fantasy for me. Supergirl, I always knew, was bogus, an afterthought to Superman and Superboy. But I was a hardliner. I still prefer to believe of those origins from Krypton, so I defer to S-girl's undeniable ability to undress me with her X-ray vision. Peter Pan gave me permission to jump up and down, while swinging my golden lasso gave me the chills. Then Lynda Carter took all the mystery out of Wonder Woman, who was further exploited by Ms. magazine and the so-called Wonder Woman Foundation; she became a comic book superhero appropriated by adults for capitalist and propagandist purposes. (And hey — I take my heroes seriously!)

Well, over the years, I've learned that no one, no even heroes, are perfect. Accepting this, however, is a little more than I can bear. I've been given up. If heroes can't be perfect, than who wants heroes? (My sexual preference notwithstanding, I have a crush on Mr. Spock, but he's a love interest, not a hero. And I bet he gives great head.)

When I was a girl, my female heroes were She-Ra, Princess of Power, and her magical steed, a talking, flying miniskirt, and strapless, skin-tight bodice. She also wears a winged helmet that is designed to allow her thick long tresses to fall teasingly around her shoulders and fly in the breeze. This outfit is completed by a naughtily little neck choker, understated, yet obvious.

The fashion show does not end here, however. She-Ra pals around with several other Vogue magazine Amazons. There's Queen Angella, the winged ruler of Etheria. She recharges her battery pack with light from the full moon and has a deep, powerful voice with boarding-school diction. Queen Angella has a hand-maiden (?) who refers to the queen as "Mother," but I suspect that their relationship is closer to something out of The Marquise and The Novice. Another girlfriend of She-Ra is Frosta, the empress of an ice planet populated by a Viking-line culture of muscular men (shades of Flash Gordon). Frosta and Queen Angella dress similarly to She-Ra, and are built like her, too, though I noticed that Queen Angella, as befitting a matriarch, has flatter thighs. Maybe she works out. I've always been a sucker for the older, more mature woman; Angella, with her full, red lips, is no exception. Frosta and She-Ra, by comparison, are mere pipsqueaks.

Another female character, who is not very "attractive," is Madame Razz. With floppy hat, warty nose, and talking, flying broom (all the methods of transport, whether animate or otherwise, seem to talk and fly), Madame Razz cannot be mistaken for anything but a witch. She also has a Brooklyn accent and provides a comic sidekick for She-Ra, who is not exactly humorous but is, let's face it, uptight-assed. BUT — what does She-Ra actually do? Well, as far as I'm concerned, if she just spend her afternoons flying around on Swift Wind, giggling and hoarsing around with Frosta, Queen Angella et al., I would be content. But, noooooo — the Princess of Power has devised herself to assisting the various oppressed tribes of the galaxy.

The enemies are androids, lizards, trolls, evil-doers, with a moderate amount of acrobatic skills and instantaneously she is gifted with acrobatic skills and instantaneously she is gifted with

Okay, first, the bad news about She-Ra. She-Ra herself Depends on the badness of racism, but the program is racist. It is also sexist, and generally cliche-ridden. All the humanoid characters are white; they are also well-built and standardly attractive, a la Barbie dolls. The animation is mediocre, and the design and story line are derivative (these are serious shortcomings that are symptomatic of what's wrong with commercial television). Nonetheless — erasing the inexcusable — I found myself attracted to She-Ra. She-Ra is sultry, minimally dressed in high-heeled boots, miniskirt, and strapless, skin-tight bodice. She also wears a winged helmet that is designed to allow her thick long tresses to fall teasingly around her shoulders and fly in the breeze. This outfit is completed by a naughtily little neck choker, understated, yet obvious.

The fashion show does not end here, however. She-Ra pals around with several other Vogue magazine Amazons. There's Queen Angella, the winged ruler of Etheria. She recharges her battery pack with light from the full moon and has a deep, powerful voice with boarding-school diction. Queen Angella has a hand-maiden (?) who refers to the queen as "Mother," but I suspect that their relationship is closer to something out of The Marquise and The Novice. Another girlfriend of She-Ra is Frosta, the empress of an ice planet populated by a Viking-line culture of muscular men (shades of Flash Gordon). Frosta and Queen Angella dress similarly to She-Ra, and are built like her, too, though I noticed that Queen Angella, as befitting a matriarch, has flatter thighs. Maybe she works out. I've always been a sucker for the older, more mature woman; Angella, with her full, red lips, is no exception. Frosta and She-Ra, by comparison, are mere pipsqueaks.

Another female character, who is not very "attractive," is Madame Razz. With floppy hat, warty nose, and talking, flying broom (all the methods of transport, whether animate or otherwise, seem to talk and fly), Madame Razz cannot be mistaken for anything but a witch. She also has a Brooklyn accent and provides a comic sidekick for She-Ra, who is not exactly humorous but is, let's face it, uptight-assed. BUT — what does She-Ra actually do? Well, as far as I'm concerned, if she just spend her afternoons flying around on Swift Wind, giggling and hoarsing around with Frosta, Queen Angella et al., I would be content. But, noooooo — the Princess of Power has devised herself to assisting the various oppressed tribes of the galaxy.

The enemies are androids, lizards, trolls, evil-doers, with a moderate amount of acrobatic skills and instantaneously she is gifted with

Alliance of interplanetary gangsters called the Horde. She-Ra and friends lead assorted interplanet a ry gangsters called the Horde. She-Ra and friends lead assorted interplanetary gangsters called the Horde. She-Ra and friends lead assorted
discussions around being nice to all sentient beings. End of program.

Where does that leave me at 5:00, when the show is over and She-Ra recedes back to her mundane existence as Adora? Well, with a not-so-subtle feeling that I've been had, for one thing, because the stores are filled with She-Ra dolls, Frosta dolls, Queen Angella dolls (I'm tempted), Swift Wind dolls, etc. And because, if I were a kid, I'd eat up the way I ate up all the other shirty cartoon shows, like Yogi Bear and the Flintstones. And because, this stuff, for all its presumed towards making female role models for girls, is sexist, racist, violent, simplistic trash. I mean, I could end up feeling very bad about liking, or more than liking, She-Ra. But, why bother? 5:00 means it's time for returns of — "Star Trek!

New Year's 1986 at the Underground-Ritz...

Welcome the New Year at our biggest celebration ever!!

In the front lounge two shows with the fabulous Rosanna Morelli.

The best sounds and the hottest videos of 1985 in the disco.

Complimentary champagne

Hors d'oeuvres served from 8-10 p.m.

Tickets: $5.00 advance
$6.00 door

John K. McCall, M.Div.
Pastoral Counseling & Psychotherapy
for Gays
Groups, Individuals & Relationships
500 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine 04101
772-3176

D.E. Postlavage [Effes] M.A.
Psychology & Counseling
Holistic Counseling for Individuals, Couples & Families
Anger Loss Fear Health
Drugs Power Sex Alcohol

Judith Lippa, MSW
Licensed Clinical Social Worker
Psychotherapy
Individuals, Couples, Families
Suite 423
142 High Street
Portland, ME 04101
773-1235

D. E. Postlavage (Effes), M.A.
Psychotherapy
Individuals, Couples, Families

Rose Bary Nemier
M.A., M.Div.
Lesbian/Feminist Counselor

Portland, Maine
Tel. 879-0371

OUR PAPER • page 11
The Human Rights Campaign Fund Honors
Sarton and Barry

Mayor Marion Barry of Washington, D.C., and poet/author May Sarton of York, Maine, were honored in November at The Human Rights Campaign Fund’s 1985 New England Dinner Celebration. The largest New England dinner ever, with 425 people attending, the gala event at Boston’s Lafayette Hotel raised over $30,000 for the HRCF. Former Massachusetts state legislator Elaine Noble, the first openly gay person elected to public office, and U.S. Congressman Gerry Studds, the only openly gay member of Congress, served as honorary co-chairs.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund, the only national political action committee contributing to congressional candidates based upon their support for lesbian and gay issues, recently launched the AIDS Campaign Trust to financially back politicians who will support increased government funding for AIDS. In 1984, the Fund contributed approximately $77,000 to political campaigns. Among the recipients was Studds who received $10,000, the maximum donation possible. This past summer the HRCF joined with other national civil rights organizations to call for passage of the Civil Rights Restoration Act which would strengthen federal anti-discrimination legislation gutted by a 1984 Supreme Court ruling.

Vic Basile from Washington, Executive Director of the HRCF, and Vivian Shapiro from New York, National Co-Chair, attended the last of the organization’s fall awards dinners following ones in New York, Washington, Dallas and San Francisco. Shapiro received a hearty round of applause when she spoke about the political and fundraising work being done by the assembled activists and energetically affirmed, “We say that 22 million people in this country need this to happen right now!” Twenty-five percent of the proceeds from the $130-a-plate affair was earmarked for Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, New England’s public interest gay and lesbian law organization. GLAD has been playing a central role in Massachusetts’ foster care controversy.

Boston activist and author Eric Rofes, who recently became Executive Director of Gay & Lesbian Services Center of Los Angeles, cited in his opening remarks Madison’s Tolerance Day cancellation as one of the past year’s attacks on New England gays and lesbians. Going on to list the advances made on political fronts, Rofes then praised the community’s continued courage and unity in responding to the AIDS crisis.

U.S. Representative Barney Frank (D-Mass.), himself a recipient of HRCF dollars, presented awards to state and local elected officials who have fought for gay/lesbian rights legislation — City Councilor Malcolm Parmelee III (Providence), State Representative Linda J. Kushner (Providence), Alderman Peter Lackowski (Burlington), Maine Senator Mary Najarian, and State Representative Byron Rushing (Boston). Dale McCormick of MLGPA accepted the award for Najarian who was unable to attend.

Frank applauded the fund for “giving members of Congress the courage of their convictions” and asserted, “If we were to have secret ballots, the anti-gay nonsense would simply be defeated.” He charged politicians with “suffering from cultural lag” in fear of recriminations for supporting anti-discrimination legislation, countering with, “Study after study has been done and you simply cannot show — through Congressional analysis or any other statistical technique — any significant impact on people who vote against discrimination and for basic civil rights for gay men and lesbians.” The audience laughed when he jokingly announced, “I am pleased to inform you that the first non-gay national organization has come forward to support a repeal of the law prohibiting gay

“We are stretched to meet a new dimension of love…”

—Poet May Sarton

continued on page 13
HRCF 1985 New England Dinner Celebration

"To protect the kinds of gains we're all proud of, we must register to vote in large numbers. We must run for every office we can find."

—Mayor Marion Barry of Washington, D.C.

demanding range where despair and hope must intertwine. How grow to meet it? Intention here can neither move nor change the storms. Movements come and go from the District of Columbia since the college won't pledge not to discriminate against gay student groups.

Barry recalled his early support of lesbian and gay rights when he was President of the D.C. School Board, telling the crowd, "I indicated then that every person who was qualified to teach would be hired in our school system without regard to his or her sexual preference."

Calling himself "bullish on Washington," Barry teased Bostonians when he referred to Washington as "the mecca for the gay and lesbian community," "the international capital of the world," and commented that Boston and Cambridge are only beginning to catch up to D.C. in their efforts to pass gay and lesbian rights ordinances. On a more serious note, he did praise the D.C. ordinance for being "the strongest human rights law of any in America" and said that its existence demonstrates "you can be strong on lesbian and gay rights and still get elected mayor a major city."

Barry warned people not to become complacent in the face of political victories, reminding everyone of Frederick Douglas' words in 1848, "Power concedes nothing without a fight. It never has; it never will," and added, "That was true then. It's true now." He asserted, "To protect the kinds of gains we're all proud of we must register to vote in large numbers. We must run for every office we can find." The crowd enthusiastically applauded when he said, "I'm convinced if you don't run you surely can't win, but if you do run you just might win."

Donations to the Human Rights Campaign Fund can be sent to: HRCF, P.O. Box 1396, Washington, D.C. 20013.

AIDS-Line 1-800-851-AIDS

THE GOOD EGG CAFE
705 Congress Street
773-0801
breakfast Plus!

Paul Stuart Photography
24 Exchange Street • Portland, Maine 04112
(207) 774-7188

Photo: Elie

Maine's Richard Steinman greets Nancy Roth, Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby.

(Left to right:) Honorary dinner co-chair and former Massachusetts legislator Elaine Noble; Ellen Ratner, Noble's business partner; and Rep. Gerry Studds, the first openly gay U.S. Congressman and dinner co-chair with Noble.

(Left to right:) Mayor Marion Barry of Washington, D.C.; Eric Rofes, Dinner Chair; and Via McCarthy, lawyer and 1986 candidate for the 8th Congressional District seat currently held by Tip O'Neill.

(Left to right:) Honorary dinner co-chair with Noble.
OUT FROM UNDER
SOBER DYKES & OUR FRIENDS

Edited by Jean Swallow
Published by Spinsters Inc. 1985.

OUT FROM UNDER is a series of essays, interviews and creative writings that grew from Jean Swallow's need to connect with other lesbians who were recovering from alcoholism and drug addiction:

"It was like being in a desert at noon in the middle of summer: I knew something was alive out there, but I couldn't find it."

This anthology includes and then goes beyond the traditional scope of substance abuse treatment (inpatient and outpatient programs, Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon). It gives an analysis of how the dynamics of oppression perpetuate addiction among lesbians, something very few of these programs have been willing to address. At first, to this die-hard traditionalist, Swallow's message seemed sacriligious. But then, as I read on, I began to realize that women might have special needs — our experts are only just beginning to realize that they have somehow missed the boat and caught the dingy. Swallow dares to state these facts and, without wasting time, moves on.

OUT FROM UNDER shows that to recover lesbians first need to accept that addiction is a terminal disease, not a moral issue, and then that we need somewhere, somehow, with someone to name our whole experience, not just the parts that might be accepted or understood. The silence is not golden. It serves only to isolate us to the point where sobriety and denial of self no longer seem preferable to drunkenness and oblivion, and sometimes the difference between naming and silence is the difference between life and death.

In naming some of our experiences Swallow has included stories of lesbians who have and haven't joined AA or NA or Al-Anon, and lesbians who have and who haven't used rehabilitation centers and who are all staying sober and growing. She divides the book into four sections.

Part 1, "The Days of Our Recovery", is a series of ten selections that map out the times before-recovery, finally quitting (drugs or alcohol) and shortly afterwards. This section talks of the strengths and fears of lesbian addicts and how they begin to take sobriety work for them. These poems, journal selections, fairy tales and short stories are inspiring.

"The Healers Among Us", Part 2, assumes that women don't abuse drugs (alcohol is a drug), we were abused by drugs. I have trouble with this concept, in fact I don't agree. I don't agree with any theory that places women only as victims with no choices and no responsibilities but I like the alternative detox methods described within this section, especially the focus on healing the body so the mind and emotions can clear. There is excellent information here although it is also clear that Swallow moves primarily within a white middle class framework. For example megalamin therapy is completely outside of one's framework when getting the money together just to put some kind of dinner on the table is a draining and major effort. I left these essays with the perverse addict-type of thinking that went something like this, "But I LIKE coffee in the morning. And God! How good it would be to have a cigarette!" (I quit smoking years ago.)

Part 3, "The Politics of Our Addictions", leaves a lot to be desired, mostly a more thorough analysis. One of the essays especially reminded me of the good 'ol days when the big 'they' was out to get poor little 'ol stoned-but-correctly-political-me. Here in the book I stopped being mad at all the traditional self-help programs and therapies and re-recognized their immense contributions. This section does begin a very necessary task but it is only a beginning and, hopefully, it will be improved upon.

"The Way Forward", Part 4, is just that: the way forward, new lives. This section is wonderful and the stories are beautifully written. I cried with the authors, felt freshly vulnerable, freshly strong and regenerated. I grew with the characters to rediscover miracles, "So this is what it's like! I never knew! And you say you love me... and I am able to believe you mean it..." This section is somehow connected to a concert last year of Sweet Honey On The Rock. They said, "Hear the strong black woman inside you saying you will survive. You will dare to dream your dreams. And never doubt that they are precious!" This section offers the poignancy of the climb up and out of hell where sobriety and denial of self no longer seem preferable to drunkenness and oblivion, and sometimes the difference between naming and silence is the difference between life and death.

In naming some of our experiences Swallow has included stories of lesbians who have and haven't joined AA or NA or Al-Anon, and lesbians who have and who haven't used rehabilitation centers and who are all staying sober and growing. She divides the book into four sections.

Part 1, "The Days of Our Recovery", is a series of ten selections that map out the times before-recovery, finally quitting (drugs or alcohol) and shortly afterwards. This section talks of the strengths and fears of lesbian addicts and how they begin to make sobriety work for them. These poems, journal selections, fairy tales and short stories are inspiring.

"The Healers Among Us", Part 2, assumes that women don't abuse drugs (alcohol is a drug), we were abused by drugs. I have trouble with this concept, in fact I don't agree. I don't agree with any theory that places women only as victims with no choices and no responsibilities but I like the alternative detox methods described within this section, especially the focus on healing the body so the mind and emotions can clear. There is excellent information here although it is also clear that Swallow moves primarily within a white middle class framework. For example megalamin therapy is completely outside of one's framework when getting the money together just to put some kind of dinner on the table is a draining and major effort. I left these essays with the perverse addict-type of thinking that went something like this, "But I LIKE coffee in the morning. And God! How good it would be to have a cigarette!" (I quit smoking years ago.)

Part 3, "The Politics of Our Addictions", leaves a lot to be desired, mostly a more thorough analysis. One of the essays especially reminded me of the good 'ol days when the big 'they' was out to get poor little 'ol stoned-but-correctly-political-me. Here in the book I stopped being mad at all the traditional self-help programs and therapies and re-recognized their immense contributions. This section does begin a very necessary task but it is only a beginning and, hopefully, it will be improved upon.

"The Way Forward", Part 4, is just that: the way forward, new lives. This section is wonderful and the stories are beautifully written. I cried with the authors, felt freshly vulnerable, freshly strong and regenerated. I grew with the characters to rediscover miracles, "So this is what it's like! I never knew! And you say you love me... and I am able to believe you mean it..." This section is somehow connected to a concert last year of Sweet Honey On The Rock. They said, "Hear the strong black woman inside you saying you will survive. You will dare to dream your dreams. And never doubt that they are precious!" This section offers the poignancy of the climb up and out of hell where sobriety and denial of self no longer seem preferable to drunkenness and oblivion, and sometimes the difference between naming and silence is the difference between life and death.

In naming some of our experiences Swallow has included stories of lesbians who have and haven't joined AA or NA or Al-Anon, and lesbians who have and who haven't used rehabilitation centers and who are all staying sober and growing. She divides the book into four sections.

Part 1, "The Days of Our Recovery", is a series of ten selections that map out the times before-recovery, finally quitting (drugs or alcohol) and shortly afterwards. This section talks of the strengths and fears of lesbian addicts and how they begin to make sobriety work for them. These poems, journal selections, fairy tales and short stories are inspiring.
Entertainment

At The Bars

All of Maine's gay bars are planning special events to celebrate the New Year. Some highlights:

Cycles (Portland) will feature a complimentary champagne breakfast at midnight. No cover charge.

Entre Nous (Portland) will present Ellen Faulkner and other local talent in a cabaret performance. They will serve free hors d'oeuvres and munched, with champagne at midnight. No cover charge.

Papa Joe's (Augusta) will serve a light buffet with champagne at midnight, party favors and hats. There will be a $5.00 cover charge. Advanced reservations are necessary only for large groups.

The Underground (Portland) will serve hors d'oeuvres until 10:00 and provide champagne and party favors as well as complimentary limousine tours of Portland. There will be disco dancing from 8:00 pm until 2:00 am and two performances by singer Rosanna Morelli in the front lounge. Tickets are $50.00 in advance and $60.00 at the door.

Sportsman's ( Lewiston) will serve a roast beef dinner from 7:00 pm with champagne and noisemakers. The cover charge is $5.00.

The Back Room ( Lewiston) which the owner describes as a "mixed" bar, will provide a special buffet with favors and hats.

*State law allows all bars to remain open until 2:00 am on New Year's.

New Year's/Portland Features "Sweet Honey"

"Sweet Honey in the Rock", an a cappella gospel singing group will be one of the three featured performing groups at this year's New Year's/Portland celebration. The five singers mix a strong feminist, peace-and-justice message with traditional gospel music to "enlighten and inspire people to get up and change things." They will perform at the Portland City Hall Auditorium at 8:30 and 10:30.

New Year's/Portland is a city-wide celebration produced by the Maine Festival of the Arts which this year will feature 86 events at 20 locations. For a single $6.00 fee (half price for juniors and seniors) participants can wander from one performance to another from 2:00 pm until midnight. The evening will culminate with a parade and a fireworks display on Monument Square.

The other featured performers will be Mose Allison, jazz pianist and vocalist (Portland High School Auditorium, 8:00 & 11:00), and Jesse Winchester, folk and rock songwriter and guitarist (First Parish Church, 7:00, and Portland High School Auditorium, 9:30).

The night's performance will range from the serene to the outrageous. There will be a special emphasis this year on ethnic music with performances by a steel band, a Greek folk music ensemble, a mariachi band, and an American country music group. There will be classical music performances by the Portland Brass Quintet, The Festival Chamber Ensemble, and other groups. There will be comics - Abrams and Anderson - jugglers, mimes, and storytellers.

Dance performances will include the Ram Island Dance Company performing works by the new Artistic Director Daniel Mckensky, Oxygen Deficient, and an all-girl break-dancing group. For those people wanting to do their own dancing, a traditional New Year's Square and Round Dance will run continuously from 7:30 to 11:30 at the YWCA gym. The Maine R&B All-Stars and the Morning After will perform an acappella vocal group whose act (the program notes tell us) is "everything from new wave to show tunes, from the traditional to the bizarre, with a generous helping of original material, dark glasses, and spordic appearances as the unpredictable Libyan Hit Squad." (State Street Church, 5:00 and 8:30, Porteous window, 7:30.)

The Heaven Knows, Anything Goes Beauty Contest, in which "contestants representing every gender must survive the swimsuit and talent events to qualify for the evening gown competition." Should be good! (Chestnut St. Church, 10:30.)

In addition to these and other performances, there will be free admission to the Portland Museum of Art for the evening. All performances will be seated on a first-come, first-served basis. Special free shuttle buses will circulate between performance locations. Most (not all!) sites are wheelchair accessible. No alcoholic beverages will be served or allowed at any New Year's/Portland events.

Tickets (actually buttons) can be purchased at any event or in advance at Deer Ice Shops, Portland Wine and Cheese, or X-Press Copy.

New Year's/Portland--Features "Sweet Honey"

Fleshapoids will provide rock music for dancing at the Portland High School Gymnasium from 7 to 11:30.

Among the more outrageous events (for all of us outrageous gays and dykes):

--The ever-popular Delta Production will present "Destination Moon", an acapella cabaret featuring Omar Ricardo and the Charlie Brown Orchestra, with choreography by Jolene McGowan and special "guest goddess" Lynette Breton. (State Street Church, 3:30, 7:00, and 10:30.)

Resolutions by Dave M. Wellman

The new year is here and once again most people are making their 1986 New Year's Resolutions. Vowing to quit smoking at the stroke of midnight...but as soon as the pressures of everyday life get to them, they light-up to relieve the anxiety. TRY AGAIN NEXT YEAR. Promising to cut down on "luxuries"...but when they see a sale or that once-in-a-lifetime bargain, it's spend, spend, spend! I'LL DO BETTER NEXT MONTH. Of course with each broken vow or promise, there is an excuse.

We're all the same, every single one of us. We make 'em but most of us don't keep 'em. In a sense, they are like the predictions in THOSE garbage papers (they will remain nameless). We are predicting our own future. The funny part about it, like 99 percent of the predictions in THOSE garbage papers, our future predictions don't come true. The reason being...WE DON'T WANT THEM TO.

Resolutions are fun and that's why we make them. It's a tradition that has been around for a long time and one that will probably never fade.
Lesbigay Network

Meetings

SUNDAYS

Northern Lambda Nord - last Sunday of the month - business meeting, 1:00 pm, followed by a potluck.

Bates Gay/Lesbian/Strait Alliance - for discussion, support and planning - every Sunday, 8:30 p.m. in Hirasewa Lounge, Chase Hall, Bates College, Lewiston.

Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance (MLGPA) - every second Sunday of the month. Meetings rotated throughout state. See Calendar listing for location and time.

Maine Connection AA Roundup, second Sunday of every month, 2:00 pm, 125 Vaughan St., Portland.

MONDAYS

Feminist Spiritual Community - every Monday, 7:00 p.m., State Street Church, Portland.

Seacoast Gay Men - every Monday, 7:00 p.m. (except 1st Monday and holidays). Unitarian Universalist Church, 292 Main St., Portsmouth, NH (side door basement), call Mark 207-646-2748

The Gay/Lesbian Parents Support Group meets Monday evenings at 7:00 at the USM Student Union, 92 Bedford St., Portland. For further information call 780-2085 or 772-4741.

TUESDAYS

Greater Portland N.O.W. - fourth Tuesday of the month, Y.W.C.A., 87 Spring St., Portland, 7:30 pm.

Alcoholics Anonymous - Gays in Sobriety - every Tuesday, 7:30 pm, First Parish Universalist Universalist Church, 425 Congress St., Portland.

Mid-Coast Parents and Friends of Gays meets second Tuesday of each month, 7:30, Brunswick, call 729-9483.

Bangor Area Gay/Lesbian/Strait Coalition (BAGLSC) - every second Tuesday of the month. Meetings rotated throughout state. Second Tuesday of each month, 7:30, Our Books, 4 Pine St., Portland.

Our Paper staff meeting - every Tuesday, 7:30 pm, Our Books, 4 Pine St., Portland. New members are welcome.

WEDNESDAYS

Fredericton Lesbians and Gays (FLAG) - second Wednesday of the month - Fredericton, N.B., Canada.

SUNDAYS

Bangor Area Gay/Lesbian/Strait Coalition (BAGLSC) - every third Sunday of the Mid-Coast Parents and Friends of Gays.

Mountain Coalition - every month at 87 Sunset Strip in Brewer.

Bangor INTERWEAVE - Thursday, 7-9 pm, USM Women's Forum, 232 Court St. (Feminist Health Center), Orono.

CMG/LAC rap sessions, 2 Bates St. (at corner of town), Lewiston.

AIDS Anxiety Discussion Group meets at Snow Bowl Lodge on Hosner St. at 20 miles of undomesticated woodland skiing. Some experience required. Meet at Snow Bowl Lodge, 10:30 am. For more information contact Laura Smith at 797-2350 or Michael Rossetti (617) 522-9194.

THURSDAYS

Lesbian/Gay Alcoholics Anonymous - every Thursday, discussion meeting at 8 Unitarian Church, Main St., Bangor.

Wilde-Stein Club - Thursday evening, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Sutton Lounge, Memorial Union, UMO.

Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous - every Thursday, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Our Books, 4 Pine St., Portland.

CAMC/AIDS support group, every Wednesday at 7:00 at the USM Student Union, 92 Bedford St., Portland.

Calender

Thursday, Jan. 2
AIDS Anxiety Discussion Group, Our Books, 4 Pine St., Portland, 7:00.

Saturday, January 4
Ski - Explore Sebago Lake State Park with Chiltern Mountain Club. Flat, easy trail and ski lift to park off Rt. 102 in Casco. Meet at park headquarters at 11:00 am, lunch on the trail, finish the day around 3:00 pm. For more information contact Laura M. Smith, 797-2350 or Michael Rossetti (617) 522-9194.

Sunday, Jan. 5
Gay/Lesbian Spiritual Community, 125 Vaughan St., Portland, 7:00.

Wednesday, Jan. 8
Midcoast AIDS Support Group, at New Leaf Books, 438 Main St., Rockland, 7:00. Call 596-0040 for information, snow date is January 15.

Friday, January 10
Movie Night at GLA. Call 780-4085 for more information. 7:00 pm, GLA, 92 Bedford St., Portland.

Sunday, January 12
Cross Country Ski at Snow Bowl in Camden with Chiltern Mountain Club. 20 miles of undomesticated woodland skiing. Some experience required. Meet at Snow Bowl Lodge on Hosner St. at 10:00 am. For more information contact Laura Smith at 797-2350 or Michael Rossetti (617) 522-9194.

Wednesday, Jan. 15
Kristen Kreamer speaking on infection control precautions for people with AIDS, their families, and friends. AIDS Discussion Group, at Our Books, 4 Pine St., Portland, 7:00. All welcome.

Friday, January 17
Jim O'Brien, area lawyer, will discuss the legal needs of gay men and lesbians. 7:00, GLA, 92 Bedford St., Portland.

Sunday, Jan. 18
MLGFA annual meeting. UN of Maine at Augusta, Jewett Hall, 10 to 5, dinner at 6 at Holiday Inn.

Tuesday, Jan. 21
Our Paper Inc. annual meeting, at Our Books, 4 Pine St., Portland, 7:30. All welcome, refreshments.

Friday, January 24
Terry Wright speaks on nutritional therapy to combat AIDS. 7:30, GLA, 92 Bedford St., Portland, Me.

Saturday, Jan. 25
Women's Dance, 54 Cumberland St., Brunswick, 8:30 to 12 pm. Donations to benefit Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance.

Thursday, Jan. 30
Frank Banks will moderate a discussion on "Beginning a new relationship in the age of AIDS." AIDS discussion group, at Our Books, 4 Pine St., Portland, 7:00.

Friday, January 31
Gay/Lesbian Alliance Pot Luck Supper, for time and location call the GLA at 780-4085.

The Miller Inn & Bakery

Main Street
Bethel, Maine

"The Sweeter the Eats
the better the They be"