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MAINE LESBIAN FEMINIST NEWSLETTER
October, 1980

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"Maine Lesbian Feminist was organized at a workshop at Gay Symposium III. The purpose of the organization was, and still is, to provide a base for support, consciousness raising, & political action. Also, a celebration for Lesbians throughout the State of Maine." C.H.

Minutes from the Sept. meeting at Marjorie's in Cundy's Harbor

Not having received any minutes from the Sept. meeting, I called Marjorie to find out what happened. She told me the following: 8 people showed up on Sat and 2 showed up on Sun. (Sorry about all the confusion of dates last month). Since there were so few people, they both turned into beach days (and had great weather too!!) However, a few things did get decided. There would be no Oct. meeting. It seems there are a lot of other events going on where people are putting their energy. It was also decided that the Nov. 22 meeting would be in Belfast to coincide with the Nov. 22 Winter Crafts Fair & the Dance at the SBA. Location of meeting to be announced in Nov Newsletter.

Remember that Nov 2 is the Take Back The Night March
So, Let's all put our energies into this event & make it a success--and that means body count. All you 00000 from way up north and mid-coast---car pool it to Portland. Mn !!!

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THE SUSAN B. ANTHONY CLUB

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This is a club for Q identified Q. It was created with the intention of getting cultural, social & educational events happening in Maine for Q. So, if you want something to happen & keep happening, help by supporting the club or by using the space for Q events. Write to Susan B. Anthony Club c/o MLF PO Box 125, Belfast, Me 04915. Directions: Located in downtown Belfast, above the Grasshopper shop on Main St. Enter the door to the right of the Grasshopper, go up to the 3rd floor, go left & you are there!!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 11 - Sat - Dance at 8:30. Note time change for winter
Committee meeting at 8:00. Please be prompt
Nov. 1 dance-to be voted on at Oct 11 dance-coincides with TBTN*
Nov. 22 - Sat - Winter Crafts Fair at 7:00 followed by Dance at 8:30*
**Announcing our 1st Annual! Winter Crafts Fair. The Susan B. Anthony Club is going to be sponsoring a crafts fair featuring crafts made by all of us. Yes, we need you!! Time to come out of the closet with those hidden & not so hidden talents. It is going to be happening on Sat, Nov. 22 beginning at 7:00 & continuing thru the dance. We thought that the creators might also donate part of what they make to the club.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

**The North Shore Gay Alliance will be 2 years old Nov, 1980. For interested people the membership fees are \$10, \$20, the newsletter is available for \$3 per year, contact North Shore Gay Alliance, PO Box 806, Marblehead, Ma, 01945.

***Unicorn, a new quarterly publication, is designed to provide both the reader & writer with the opportunity to participate. A subscription is \$6/yr for individuals. Send subscriptions to Counterpoint Publications, PO Box CY 4422 Commonwealth Ave. Boston MA 02215.

Announcing the upcoming publication of the Q's Guide to USA & Canada. All listings are free, ad rates are \$100 per full page, \$55 per 1/2 pg, \$35 per 1/4 pg. Suggested retail price for the guide is \$3.95. Ferrair Publications PO Box 16054, Phoenix, Ariz 85011.

***The Powder Ridge Committee is interested in knowing who would like to receive further info about the Powder Ridge Conference. They are also publishing a quarterly newsletter, they are asking for a \$5 donation. Make checks payable to Lavender Left Network PO Box 512 Village Station, NY, NY 10014

***Boston-based author announces first collection of poetry "Finding Myself" by Elizabeth Anne Umlah Exclusive Distribution By: Counterpoint Publishing, PO Box CY442, 400 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Ma 02215 \$3 by mail order.

*You can write to newsletter to find out

Schedule for TBTN: 1pm-5pm - Workshops, Luther Bonney Hall, USM
6:30 pm - Rally, Deering Oaks Park
7:30 pm - March 9:00 pm - Keynote Speaker. USM
9:00 pm - Keynote speaker, USM

THE NIGHT WON'T BE TOOK WITHOUT TAKERS

For the past 2 months, Q in the Portland area have been organizing a "Take Back the Night March." Recently, the date was changed from Sept 27 to Oct 25, due to the immensity of the undertaking & the many tasks yet to be completed.'

The focus of the workshops, rally, dinner & the evening March through Portland is to unite Q in addressing the issues surrounding violence in our lives & to promote positive changes & collective support.

For this event to take place, many Q are desperately needed to participate in the following task groups:

1. Outreach, Education & Public Relations - One of the major purposes of the March is to educate the community on the trauma & impact that violence has on our lives. We need help in mailing, leafleting, contacting and/or speaking to community groups, & media outreach.

2. Workshops, Presentations, Information Tables - We want to offer workshops that address the political, social, psychological, economic & legal aspects of violence against us, in its many forms, & strategies to combat such acts of aggression. We welcome individuals & organizations to facilitate workshops, set up information tables, and/or conduct presentations (eg. self-defense, martial arts, theatre). For this task group, contact Ann Houser, 224 Ocean Ave, Portland 04103. 774-7166

3. Dinner, Keynote Speaker, Rally, Post-March Celebration - These activities will be a statement of our strength & a celebration of our spirit & unity. Much energy is needed to organize these events

4. Art, Rituals, Songs, Chants - Q have been working to create expressions of our rage, unity & power through a variety of artistic mediums. If you are musically or artistically inclined, or wish to be, contact: Gina Kelly, 773-7152

5. Follow-Up, Future Action - Hopefully, organizing efforts, continuing education & political change will emerge from the events of Nov 1. Calling all activists & potential burn-outs!!!

6. Child Care - We are welcoming men to help us by providing child care throughout the day & evening. We feel such support will increase the direct participation of Q in all "Take Back the Night" events.

7. Fundraising - We are hoping to have Andrea Dworkin as a keynote speaker at the rally. \$\$ is needed for speakers' fees, printing & postage. Need we say more????

In the past few years, Q have been marching to "Take Back The Night" throughout the US & Europe. It is time for Q in Maine to make a statement. Collectively, we have the power & the potential to "Take Back the Night" and to affirm our right to be free from violence & harassment. If you are interested in participating contact Betsy Whitman, 101 Danforth St., Portland, 775-0232.

*** The 2nd Annual NELAA (Northeast Lesbian AA & AlAnon Conference will be held in Boston On Oct. 10,11,12 to be held at the University of Mass. Downtown Campus, 100 Arlington St. Childcare & housing provided, suggested fee \$15 payable to NELAA. Send \$ at registration info to GCN, Box 83, 22 Bromfield St., Boston Ma 02108

**This Conference is Drug & Alcohol free

*** NEW LEAF BOOKS - Yer local store for books by & about Q, alternative energy, health care & nutrition--has new hours for the winter. Mon thru Sat - 10 to 5, Sunday, noon to 5 Starting Oct there will frequently be events in the store on Sun afternoons--watch this space for more info

Oct 19 Sunday 3:00 pm

Barbaria Maria will read her poetry

Nov 2nd - Sunday 3:00 pm

Karen Saum will show the Q's Media Network film on May

Sarton "She Knew a Phoenix"

Admission free for both events, Y'all come.

***RISE presents "Death as a Normal Life Crisis with Mary Beyer, RNC. Nurse Counselor, Franklin Memorial Hosp Farmington Me. Tues, Oct 7, 1980 at St. Paul's oblate house, 136 State St. Augusta Me. Registration *8:30-9:00 Program 9:00-4:00 for more info write to RISE PO Box 728 8 Highwood St., Waterville, 04901

Events & Happenings cont

"Maine Gay Symposium VIII"???

The 1st committee meeting for the 1981 Symposium for Lesbians & Gays was held Sept 3 at Jewett Hall, UMA. The Symposium will be held (tentatively) the wkend of April 25 at Luther Bonney Auditorium at Univ of Southern Me in Portland.

In reading the minutes sent to me (I didn't attend), I discovered 2 very disappointing outcomes of the 1st meeting. First is the theme "Star Wars" has been chosen for a play to be presented at the sympo. 2nd is the changing of the name back to "Maine Gay Symposium" after having MLF request the change last year to include Lesbian. "Maine Lesbian/Gay Symposium VII". The change last year was discussed at length & then voted on with only 2 opposed out of 23 attending. I don't believe I need say more-except please write your feelings about the change to Symposium VII c/o Susan Henderson, 38 Westminister Ave, Portland, 04103 or call 772-7631 or even better yet go to the next Planning Committee meeting to be held at Jewett Hall UMA at 1:00 pm date to be announced & express your outrage & lets find out what's going on with our Symposium. Kathy D.

000 I encourage as many Q as possible to take an active part, to ensure a Q's presence is felt in the planning of all areas of the Symposium, & more important a feminist viewpoint-along with obtaining Q's music for the Sat. evening dance. Janice L.

000 The Third exciting year of the Lilli Vincenz Memorial Open House (a.k.a. "Tuesday Night") is about to begin: Oct. 7, 1980

This is a winter-time open-house for gay Q, held at Jan's in Belfast each Tues night, from 7 until whenever people leave. Bring what you want to eat or drink-there's coffee & tea available. There are 3 rooms, so different things go on at once, depending on the crowd: talking, backgammon, listening to records, playing instruments, dancing, bridge, chess, poetry reading, diet sharing, knitting, needlepoint, laughing, politics, and so on & so forth. This is an activity to help get rural Q through the winter as well as a place to bring the new Q in town who wants to meet people...See you on the 7th.

*** Phyllis Austin & Sandi Harris are sponsoring a backpacking trip to Caribou Mt, Me Oct 24-26, cost \$50 plus \$20 room & board \$35 deposit required for registration. The workshop is called A Mountain Meditation retreat for Q, its goals are meditation & centering & rediscovering our own internal process. The fee will be negotiated in some cases. To register (make check payable to Cynthia Finn) send deposit to Tova Schwartz, 23 Bay St, Cambridge Mass For more info call Sandi at (617) 661-2537 or (207) 676-4038.

***The Gay People's Alliance in Portland announce the beginning of Lesbian/Gay support Groups on Sun Sept. 28, 2-4 pm Q's meeting 92 Bedford St., men's meeting 94 Bedford. For more info call 780-4085

***The Wallflower Order Dance Troupe will be performing Dec 4 in Amherst Mass, Dec 6 Boston, Mass & Dec 8,9, & 10 in NYC. For more info contact Ruth Davidson, 117 N. Pleasant #2, Amherst, Ma 02139: Allegra, 267 Allston St., Cambridge Ma 02139: Q's Music Production 20 W 22nd St NY, NY 10010. The Wallflower Order performed in Portland Me 2 years ago & anyone who saw the performance is sure to remember it as being inspiring and very exciting.

***Northcountry Center presents Perspectives for the Human Service Provider

Therapeutic Massage: Body Mind Integration Technique
Sat., Oct. 25, 1980 Peter Gardner, MA

Networks: Building Support Systems in Groups
Sat Nov. 15 Ilka Peck, MSW

The Emotionally Disturbed Child: A Developmental Approach
Sat, Jan 10, 1981 Lila Moses, ACSW

Homosexuality: Issues for Human Service Providers
Sat. Feb. 21, 1981 Susan Galvin, MSW

Solutions to Human Problems For more info-write Northcountry Center
59 Court St., Augusta, Me 622-9433

***Is there a Lavender mark on your envelope? You know what that means!! Please send subscriptions to MLF PO Box 125, Belfast, Me 049. Checks payable to MLF NewsletterName_____

Thank you!!

ADDRESS_____

Announcements & Information

Falls Village Inn - for Q to be together - a retreat from the bars, in northwest Connecticut. Renovated barn w/kitchen. Rooms in old colonial home. Woods/river/pool/tennis court/ski weekends. Women owned and managed. Call Karen or Jan, N.Y.C. (212)369-0741 or Ct (203)824-7479.

Morgan Owenwald, 158 Garfield Pl #R, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11215, wants to start a lesbian photography directory; right now working on a mailing list of photographers & when she gets the final directory together, will contact each woman for a little more information about herself.

JEB, J.E. Biren, c/o GladHag Books, P.O. Box 2934, Washington, D.C. 20013, is working on a magazine for lesbian photographers called The Blatant Image. Open to all lesbian photographers for contributions, etc. Contact her for more information.

Timely Books announces the publication of By Sanction of The Victim by Patte Wheat, Forward by Leonard L. Lieber, National Administrator & co-founder of Parents Anonymous. "The book is based on an actual, documented case of child abuse. This book cries out for all the millions of abused children in the world; it screams for us to become involved, and reaches out a strong hand of help to the abusers themselves." Send \$5.50 to: Timely Books, P.O. Box 267, New Milford, Connecticut 06776.

"Lesbian Mother Retains Custody in NOW LDEF Case." "The integrity of a lesbian family unit has been recognized and protected in an important recent state court ruling. In a precedent-setting decision, a New Jersey Superior Court judge has ruled that a lesbian mother would retain custody of her children while living with her partner. In an opinion issued July 22, 1980 in Belmont vs. Belmont, the court rejected Edward Belmont's argument that his former wife Rosemary Dempsey's sexual orientation was detrimental to the children. The New Jersey trial court found that 'there is no evidence of any social, emotional, or psycho-sexual damage as a result of their mother's sexual orientation or lifestyle...the children are doing well in every respect and are being raised in a loving, though unconventional, family.'" (National NOW Times, Sept., 1980).

Tarot and/or Psychometry Reading. Private consultation by appointment only. \$5.00 for 1/2 hr. Contact: Sandy, Box 561, Augusta, Me. 04330

A Gay Bibliography, 6th Edition, 1980. A selective non-fiction list of 563 items in 16 pages. Books, articles and pamphlets are grouped under topical headings: Law and Civil Rights, Human Sciences, Gay/Lesbian Movement, Religion, Literature and the Arts, History and Biography, General. There are separate sections for Periodicals (213 titles), and for Bibliographies and Directories (i.e., other lists). Prices: 1 or 2 copies, \$1 each; 3 to 9 copies, 85¢ each; 10 or more copies, .70

"Administration Opposes Ban on Gay Aliens" "The Carter Administration announced at the end of June that it would support the repeal of the prohibition against the entry of lesbians and gay men into the United States. Presidential Assistant for Public Liaison Anne Wexler announced the President's stand in a letter to NGTF to Co-Executive Director Charles F. Brydon and Lucia Valeska. In her letter, Wexler said that the Administration's position was based 'upon the President's human rights policies and the nation's responsibility to be consistent with our immigration expectation of other countries.' As one of the signatories of the 1975 Helsinki accord, the United States is obligated to promote easy travel as one way of encouraging human liberty."

+++ Every Q Knows: An 8 week course to tickle/explode your feminist perspective. We will explore patriarchal control of our lives & how as Q we survive & create.

Two locations: Bangor Oct 13 - Dec 1 Mondays 7-9 pm
Sedgwick Oct 15- Dec 3 Wednesdays \$40 (negotiable)
Call 469-7112 after 9/24 to register Taught by Karin Krut BA Feminist studies, former staff of New Haven Project for Battered Q

+++ Massage for relaxation & health sliding scale/will travel
call Karin 469-7112