A Month of Celebration: Maine and New Hampshire Celebrate Pride and the Passage of Civil Rights Legislation.

Southern Maine Pride
Symposium XXIII
Bangor Pride
Gay Times at Bar Harbor

Maine “Pride Guide” and Event Schedules inside
Concerned Maine Families bow out of referendum

by Paula Stockham
Paula@maine.com

An awesome day of History in the Making

The civil rights sweep of New England is now complete. All six New England states (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont) have banned discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Add Hawaii, Wisconsin, Minnesota, California, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia to the mix, and nearly one out of four people in the country live where discrimination based on sexual orientation is outlawed.

While extremists threaten to challenge Maine's civil rights law, remember it was only two years ago that Mainers organized the Right and defeated a vicious initiative that would have written gay men, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people out of state's constitution. New Hampshire not only passed its civil rights bill this year, but also stomped a hostile anti-marriage bill that would have banned recognition of marriages performed in other states as well. Rhode Island has long had hate crimes laws that ban hate crimes based on sexual orientation. Massachusetts and Rhode Island, strong efforts are underway to repeal the states' sodomy laws. Massachusetts has already made progress toward this goal. Vermont and New Hampshire to allow people to marry people of the same gender. This is good news for the future.

We just cheered all the more. Handshakes and hugs were exchanged generously. We congratulated each other, ousting our legislators and hugged them, too. And we smiled as we never had before.

As our number trickled away, I joined Brewer Representative Sandy Fisher on the State House balcony. He told me about the House debate last Thursday. When it was over he had been anxious to leave and get home. But in the parking lot, with the moon lighting the capital dome, he was captured by the events of the evening. "I just stood there for about ten minutes, he told me. "I'm thinking about how proud I am." He said he didn't think the House would have heard all the colors and the voices and the passion and the intensity that went into the debate.

It was a wonderful speech, delivered uncharacteristically from notes. It captured the significance and power of the moment. The moment of the signing was lost in the last round of enthusiastic applause. We just cheered all the more. Handshakes and hugs lingered among friends and acquaintances. We congratulated each other, sought out our legislators and hugged them, too. And we smiled as we never had before.

As our number trickled away, I joined Brewer Representative Sandy Fisher on the State House balcony. He told me about the House debate last Thursday. When it was over he had been anxious to leave and get home. But in the parking lot, with the moon lighting the capital dome, he was captured by the events of the evening. "I just stood there for about ten minutes, he told me. "I'm thinking about how proud I am." He said he didn't think the House would have heard all the colors and the voices and the passion and the intensity that went into the debate.

Living Free in New England

The civil rights sweep of New England is now complete. All six New England states (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont) have banned discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Add Hawaii, Wisconsin, Minnesota, California, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia to the mix, and nearly one out of four people in the country live where discrimination based on sexual orientation is outlawed.

While extremists threaten to challenge Maine's civil rights law, remember it was only two years ago that Mainers organized the Right and defeated a vicious initiative that would have written gay men, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people out of state's constitution. New Hampshire not only passed its civil rights bill this year, but also stomped a hostile anti-marriage bill that would have banned recognition of marriages performed in other states as well. Rhode Island has long had hate crimes laws that ban hate crimes based on sexual orientation. Massachusetts and Rhode Island, strong efforts are underway to repeal the states' sodomy laws. Massachusetts has already made progress toward this goal. Vermont and New Hampshire to allow people to marry people of the same gender. This is good news for the future.

We just cheered all the more. Handshakes and hugs were exchanged generously. We congratulated each other, ousting our legislators and hugged them, too. And we smiled as we never had before.

As our number trickled away, I joined Brewer Representative Sandy Fisher on the State House balcony. He told me about the House debate last Thursday. When it was over he had been anxious to leave and get home. But in the parking lot, with the moon lighting the capital dome, he was captured by the events of the evening. "I just stood there for about ten minutes, he told me. "I'm thinking about how proud I am." He said he didn't think the House would have heard all the colors and the voices and the passion and the intensity that went into the debate.

It was a wonderful speech, delivered uncharacteristically from notes. It captured the significance and power of the moment. The moment of the signing was lost in the last round of enthusiastic applause. We just cheered all the more. Handshakes and hugs lingered among friends and acquaintances. We congratulated each other, sought out our legislators and hugged them, too. And we smiled as we never had before.

As our number trickled away, I joined Brewer Representative Sandy Fisher on the State House balcony. He told me about the House debate last Thursday. When it was over he had been anxious to leave and get home. But in the parking lot, with the moon lighting the capital dome, he was captured by the events of the evening. "I just stood there for about ten minutes, he told me. "I'm thinking about how proud I am." He said he didn't think the House would have heard all the colors and the voices and the passion and the intensity that went into the debate.

It was a wonderful speech, delivered uncharacteristically from notes. It captured the significance and power of the moment. The moment of the signing was lost in the last round of enthusiastic applause. We just cheered all the more. Handshakes and hugs lingered among friends and acquaintances. We congratulated each other, sought out our legislators and hugged them, too. And we smiled as we never had before.

As our number trickled away, I joined Brewer Representative Sandy Fisher on the State House balcony. He told me about the House debate last Thursday. When it was over he had been anxious to leave and get home. But in the parking lot, with the moon lighting the capital dome, he was captured by the events of the evening. "I just stood there for about ten minutes, he told me. "I'm thinking about how proud I am." He said he didn't think the House would have heard all the colors and the voices and the passion and the intensity that went into the debate.

It was a wonderful speech, delivered uncharacteristically from notes. It captured the significance and power of the moment. The moment of the signing was lost in the last round of enthusiastic applause. We just cheered all the more. Handshakes and hugs lingered among friends and acquaintances. We congratulated each other, sought out our legislators and hugged them, too. And we smiled as we never had before.

As our number trickled away, I joined Brewer Representative Sandy Fisher on the State House balcony. He told me about the House debate last Thursday. When it was over he had been anxious to leave and get home. But in the parking lot, with the moon lighting the capital dome, he was captured by the events of the evening. "I just stood there for about ten minutes, he told me. "I'm thinking about how proud I am." He said he didn't think the House would have heard all the colors and the voices and the passion and the intensity that went into the debate.

It was a wonderful speech, delivered uncharacteristically from notes. It captured the significance and power of the moment. The moment of the signing was lost in the last round of enthusiastic applause. We just cheered all the more. Handshakes and hugs lingered among friends and acquaintances. We congratulated each other, sought out our legislators and hugged them, too. And we smiled as we never had before.
Date Set for “Love Makes a Family”

“Love Makes a Family: Living In Lesbian and Gay Families,” the national photo exhibit of Lesbian and Gay families, will be available for viewing in Portland during Pride Week ’97. The exhibit will be on display Saturday, June 21, 1 - 4 p.m. at the Festival in Deering Oaks Park. On Sunday, June 22, the exhibit will be shown at the YWCA, 87 Spring Street. The YWCA exhibition will be from held from 3 - 6 p.m. The exhibit consists of 20 framed photos along with 40 framed texts that complement the photos. The exhibit is designed in part to celebrate the diversity of families in America and bring more visibility to Gay and Lesbian families. “Love Makes a Family” is brought to Maine by SoMePride.

The YWCA exhibit will be accompanied by a Family Forum and an Ice Cream Social. The forum consists of a panel of families gathered to discuss the meaning of family. The exhibit will be facilitated, and there will be opportunities for audience participation. There is no charge for admission, but donations are appreciated. Ice cream will be provided but please bring your own ice cream sundae toppings.

Exhibit organizers are still looking for families to be a part of the Pride Week Family Forum. For more information contact Barry Horn by calling (207) 286-3718 or e-mail Barry at mkoerber@biddeford.com.

The AIDS Project Portland

PREVENTION/EDUCATION FOR GAY, BISEXUAL, AND MARRIED AND QUESTIONING, AND OTHER MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN

Summer/Fall Programs

Drop-in Discussion Groups

For all men regardless of HIV status. Eight-week, time limited groups in Portland, Ogunquit, and Kennebunk. Meet other men in a comfortable supportive atmosphere to discuss topics like sexuality, dating, safer sex, coming-out etc. Eight-week group begins Saturday, June 28th 4-6pm at the Willow Tree Restaurant, Rte I, Wells and meets every Saturday until August 26th. Portland groups begin in September. For more info call Gerry at (207) 774-6877.

Community Networking Dinners (York County)

Quarterly gatherings designed to provide networking and meeting opportunities for all married and gay, gay, bisexual, transgender, and all other men who have sex with men regardless of HIV status. Events are free and open to all men with an interest in promoting healthy and safe sexuality. Next program is a cookout/dinner, 4pm, Saturday, July 12 at the Willow Tree Restaurant, Rte I, Wells.

Safer Sex Workshops for HIV-Negative Men

For gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men, designed to support HIV negative men in staying negative. Meetings will be held in Portland and Southern York County. Pre-registration is required. First series meets at TAP, 142 High Street Portland (6th Floor) three consecutive Tuesdays, July 1, 8, and 15. This workshop series will be offered once a month through the end of the year. Pre-registration is required. Call Gerry at (207) 774-6877.

All Programs are free

The Hub
Southern Maine Technical College
Fort Road • South Portland

Join the community to dance after the show!

WE WORKED HARD ... WE WORKED TOGETHER ... WE WON!

Above & Beyond... PRESENTS

A GALA NIGHT OF COMEDY

Starring

Kate Clinton

Special Guest

Bob Smith

Proceeds to benefit

THE MAINE LESBIAN/GAY POLITICAL ALLIANCE

Friday, June 13, 1997 • 8 pm • $20
Presented in conjunction with Symposium XXIII

The Hub
Southern Maine Technical College
Fort Road • South Portland

SIGN-UP FOR A SUPER SUPPORTER CABARET TABLE!
You, Your Business and/or Your Friends can Support the Important Work Being Done by MUGPA

Tickets available at:
Drop Me A Line
611 Congress Street, Portland

CHARGE IT!
207.773.6974
SYMPOSIUM XXIII

Community "Come-in-Unity"

June 13-15, 1997
Southern Maine Technical College
on the Ocean at Spring Point

Symposium XXIII will open a week of festivities for the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgendered Community which will culminate the following weekend with the incredible Southern Maine Pride Community Festival!

Many diverse workshops (both to enlighten and enliven), discussion panels, women's health clinic, beach volleyball, kayaking, raffles, and much, much more!

Black Tie Caterers of South Portland will be providing Marvelous Meals!

Don't miss Lisa Vaccaro, Maine's hottest DJ! Two nights of dancing!

We are here at last!! The annual gathering of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community - Symposium XXIII - and this year we have so much to celebrate!!! The civil rights bill passed and has been signed by Governor King! We hope everyone will be able to join us for this exciting Gayia weekend of laughter, play and enlightenment.

Registration starts at noon on Friday, June 13th, with dinner served that evening from 6:00-7:00 p.m. The Comedy evening begins at 8:00 p.m. with special guest Bob Smith, followed by the incomparable KATE CLINTON. The evening moves to the dance floor with DJ Lisa Vaccaro - its finally time for a big community celebration - OUR RIOT! The evening moves to the dance floor with DJ Lisa Vaccaro - its finally time for a big community celebration - OUR RIOT!

Registration starts at noon on Friday, June 13th, with dinner served that evening from 6:00-7:00 p.m. The Comedy evening begins at 8:00 p.m. with special guest Bob Smith, followed by the incomparable KATE CLINTON. The evening moves to the dance floor with DJ Lisa Vaccaro - its finally time for a big community celebration - OUR RIOT! The evening moves to the dance floor with DJ Lisa Vaccaro - its finally time for a big community celebration - OUR RIOT!

Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. features our keynote speaker URVASHI VAID, long-time community activist, author, former Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and current Director of its National LGBTQ Institute in Washington, D.C., who will be sharing her enormous experience and vision with us. Urvashi will be available to sign her book (Virtual Reality: The Mainstreaming of Gay and Lesbian Liberation) afterward.

BOB SMITH is the featured entertainer for Saturday night. He has appeared on the Tonight Show and his own HBO special - you won't want to miss this rare appearance. Once again, after his performance the dance floor rolls out to cap off the evening!

Sunday morning features brunch at 9:00 a.m. with workshops, community meetings and the closing circle for Symposium XXIII at 12:30 p.m. This will be a wonderful time to spend with friends - both new and old - and a great opportunity to participate discussions concerning community issues.

As you can see by the Symposium XXIII registration form, some really exciting and diverse workshops will be taking place over the weekend and we hope you will avail yourselves of this opportunity to participate. This year's registration can be handled, for your convenience, by credit card. There are also a limited number of scholarships available. Volunteers are needed as always!! Give us a call if you can if you can help. THIS WEEKEND IS FOR YOU!!! To register call 785-3664. See you there!!

SYMPOSIUM XXIII

KATE CLINTON

COMEDIANNE EXTRAORDINAIRE

URVASHI VAID

ACTIVIST, AUTHOR, KEYNOTE SPEAKER

BOB SMITH

FUNNY GAY MALE

Call 207-785-3664 to register by MasterCard/VISA or send your check to:

SYMPOSIUM XXIII
P.O. Box 709
Union, ME 04862

Registration Schedule (subject to change):

Friday, June 13, 1997

8:00-9:00 Breakfast
9:00-10:20 Keynote - Urvashi Vaid (will be available for book signing afterwards)
10:30 - noon Workshops
11:15 -1:15 Lunch
1:30 - 5:00 Workshops (also kayaking, volleyball, open time, etc.)
5:30 - 6:30 Dinner (being served in The Hub)
6:30 - 7:15 12-step meeting
8:30 - 10:00 Comedy with Bob Smith
10:30 — Dance with DJ Lisa

Saturday, June 14, 1997

6:00 - 8:00 Kayaking, beach walking times...
7:45 - 8:45 Breakfast
9:00-10:20 Keynote - Urvashi Vaid (will be available for book signing afterwards)
10:30 - noon Workshops
12:15 -1:15 Lunch
1:30 - 5:00 Workshops (also kayaking, volleyball, open time, etc.)
3:30 - 5:00 Workshops (also kayaking, volleyball, open time, etc.)
5:30 - 6:30 Dinner (being served in The Hub)
6:30 - 7:15 12-step meeting
8:30 - 10:00 Comedy with Bob Smith
10:30 — Dance with DJ Lisa

Sunday, June 15, 1997

7:00 - 9:00 Open time (kayaking, beach walks, etc.)
9:00 - 10:00 Breakfast
10:00 -11:30 Workshops (to be repeated if needed based on interest) otherwise free time to play, converse, relax
10:00 - 11:30 Annual Town Meeting
11:30 - 1:30 Closing Circle
1:30 — On you are welcome to remain and enjoy the surroundings
WE DID IT! AT LAST WE REALLY DID IT!

History was made in Maine on Thursday, May 8, 1997. The 118th Maine Legislature passed L.D. 1116, "An Act To Prevent Discrimination." The bill will make it illegal to discriminate against an individual based solely on sexual orientation.

The Senate passed the bill with a resounding 28-5 on May 7, sending a clear message that Maine stands for fairness and justice. Although the House tally was touch and go for a couple of months, the House final count was 84-61 to prevent legal discrimination against gays, lesbians, and bisexuals once and for all. To finish the deed, Gov. King signed the bill on May 16.

This is a victory for all Maine citizens. Gays, lesbians, and bisexuals will now be afforded the same legal protections against discrimination that heterosexuals have enjoyed.

Thanks go out to the many fair-minded legislators who stood up and voted for what was right, fair, and just.

This has been a long battle (20 years), and we now join ten other states (New Hampshire just passed their bill on Tuesday, May 6!) who extend civil rights protections to ALL their citizens—gays, lesbians, and bisexuals included.

We owe sincere thanks to Karen Geraghty, Laura Fortman, Ned McCann, Sally Sutton, Betsy Sweet and many other loyal supporters, who worked day and night for the passage of this bill.

A Word from the President...

After twenty years of working on pro-gay legislation, the GLBT communities have reason to celebrate. Passage of LD 1116, "An Act To Prevent Discrimination," is a dream finally realized. Once Governor King signs the bill into law, we will become the 11th state in the country to provide civil rights protection for our gay, lesbian, and bisexual citizens. We will become the sixth of six New England states (New Hampshire just passed their anti-discrimination bill on May 6!) to offer these protections.


The GLBT-rights movement in Maine is finally enjoying some long deserved momentum. The battle for this bill began in 1977 and was re-introduced to the state legislature each session for twenty years, excluding 1995.

The tide starting turning in 1992 when the citizens of Portland defeated a (Carolyn Cosby) referendum to repeal a city council decision adopting a human rights ordinance. In 1993 both the House and Senate passed the statewide anti-discrimination bill for the first time ever. Unfortunately, it was vetoed by then-governor McKernan. In 1995 Maine citizens defeated a statewide (Carolyn Cosby) anti-gay referendum, leaving the state exhausted, yet empowered. Finally this year the anti-discrimination bill passed the House and Senate, AND WAS SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR.

There are many people to thank for this victory, including yourself. As a member or supporter of MLGPA, you have contributed either financially or with your time and effort, and this victory could not have happened without you. I hope you will take the time to reflect on the progress that has been made, the goals which have been achieved, and the ability of our community when we all work together.

As for MLGPA, there is no time to rest on our laurels. We may be faced with a referendum to repeal the law, and we will position ourselves to succeed in defeating that referendum. We would appreciate all the support you can give us in fighting the next battle. (Perhaps our next battle will be our last - with Cosby).

In solidarity,
Betsy Smith

MLGPA Calendar of Events:
Saturday, June 7-Victory
Party for LD 1116, 7pm-midnight, Augusta Civic Center.
Saturday, June 7-Boston Pride, for information call 617-739-4567. An MLGPA contingent is going down, if you're interested please call the MLGPA office at 1-800-556-5472 (761-3732).

Friday, June 13, 8:00pm-Kate Clinton, comedienne extraordinaire, Southern Maine Technical College, S. Portland. For tickets call 773-6974.

June 13-15-Symposium XXIII, Southern Maine Technical College, featuring Urvashi Vaid as keynote speaker and Kate Clinton, comedienne extraordinaire. For information call 785-3664.

June 19-MLGPA Monthly Board meeting, 6-9pm, MEA, Augusta (open to all).

June 19-22-Southern Maine Pride:
June 19-Opening Photo Exhibit "Love Makes A Family" and Pridelights Concert.
June 20-Annual Pier Dance.
June 21-Rally with Candace Gingrich, Parade at noon from City Hall, Pride's Festive Stage June 22-Premiere of "exposure" and Sunset Cruise. For information call 879-7323.

July 12-Bangor Pride. Parade starts at 11am, Festival from 12-3pm. For information call 942-7681.

July 21-MLGPA Monthly Board meeting, 6-9pm, MEA, Augusta (open to all).

July 19-Cape Cod (Mass.) Gay Pride. For information call 508-564-4535 or 508-790-8782.

August 16-18-Gay Times Bar Harbor, a GLBT weekend retreat of workshops, speakers, and entertainment. College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor. For information call 244-4062.

August 21-MLGPA Monthly Board meeting, 6-9pm, MEA, Augusta (open to all).

Community Pride Reporter June 1997 Page 5

FMI: 207.775-6684 ext #32

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Inclusive, non-homophobic, liberation-based
The Gospel of Jesus, The Christ, for all people

Northern Lights MCC of Augusta, ME 4:00 pm Sunday. Communion each week 2.3 miles from Cony circle on Rt. 201 FMI: Bill at 207-453-9790

Immanuel Baptist, 156 High Street
FMI: 207-775-6684 ext #32

Circle of Hope MCC of Portland, ME 4:00 pm Saturday
FMI: 207-775-6684 ext #32

Interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Women's TRAVELER 97

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com

Women's TRAVELER 97

For a free catalog of lesbian & gay travel guides, call 1-800-462-6594

womanstraveler.com
A Conversation With Kate Clinton

Recently you were on the Oprah Winfrey show, how was that for you?

"It was very last minute, and it was a take off of a show called "Comics on Delivery" or "COD," and Oprah wanted to do happier, cheerier shows and she wanted to do a show where comedians would help people with their problems and I had to help a woman who had a fear of public transportation, now keep in mind she was from a small town in Minnesota, with about 1100 people, so she should be afraid of public transportation, then they brought her to New York and I helped her on the subway.

How long has it been since you've been on the subway?

"Well, I've been living in New York, so um, it doesn't mean I was any good at it, but I was a little more used to it than she was, so we had fun. We started taping on a Wednesday and I flew to Chicago on Thursday and taped the show with Oprah and then it aired the next week and she was just wonderful and I got to thank her for showing America its fun to READ. (she chuckles)

Did you help her in her over her fears?

"I don't know. You know it was kind of funny because you are so concerned with filming that I would turn to her and see this stricken look on her face and I say, "oh, my god, that's right, you're afraid of public transportation." Though by the end of the day she was helping to block shots. (she laughs) but she was lovely.

You are living in Provincetown now?

"Well I'm sort of in two places. I have a place in New York where I moved about a year ago, but I kept my house in Provincetown and I had been living there for many years so I'm sort of back and forth.

Do you drive there and back? How long does it take?

"Well, it's about a five and a half hour drive in slow traffic, but there is a small nine seater plane that flies out to New York.

You'll be coming to Maine Pretty soon for the MLPGA Benefit:

"Yes, I am so pleased you were able to pass the antidiscrimination law there. Twenty years it took.

Where were you 20 years ago?

"20 years ago, let's see, 20 years ago, I was teaching high school. I taught twelfth graders. I probably, oh my goodness the day after Memorial Day weekend and I had juniors and seniors so all the seniors were accepted to college were obnoxious and the others weren't going to school and were making more than I was at the time and it was a difficult time to keep them interested and out of trouble. It was Prom time and it was year book time, final papers and grades to get ready to close up the place, (she shudders) that's where I was 20 years ago.

How have you seen the political climate evolve over the years, having traveled so much, you must have a sense of the climate out.

"I began working out and about as a lesbian comedian in 1981 and I have seen a lot of changes. I really got my comedy training in the lesbian culture and lesbian clubs and even in lesbian music festivals and lesbian comedy festivals. In the mid eighties because we were all beginning to realize the seriousness of AIDS, I started to do more gay and Lesbian work, a lot more benefits for a lot of Gay and Lesbian organizations and you know it's just through 25 years of work it's just been a sense of increased visibility and I've been doing a lot of work and other people have been doing a lot of work and more people have come on to do the work and increase visibility and there are people in all kinds of jobs who are coming out and you know the media is a two edged sword cause you have Ellen coming out and you have a national conversation about a persons coming out process, should she, could she, would she, will she.

You are considered one of the trail blazing for many young performers, who were your role models?

"When I was first coming out there weren't many performers, but there were a lot of wonderful musicians, there was Chris Williamson and Meg Christian and a lot of early women's music singers. They gave us a lot to build a culture in which I came out into.

The people that were my role models were people like Mary Daly who was a Radical Lesbian Philosopher who really blew my doors off and Adrienne Rich who was a feminist writer and a wonderful poet. They didn't get a lot of laughs, but they were my comics. I don't know, they helped me to become comfortable with humor because a lot of women don't trust humor because it's always used against them. So, they really helped me to gain a philosophical base which enabled me to feel comfortable and confident in what I was doing and then I was able to tell jokes (she laughs), what would the world be without laughter?

That is certainly what Ellen's show is. She is very funny and she was able to deal with a lot of topics. People just didn't want to hear about in a very funny and humorous way, and it's what I claim, the best about humor that it has the openness where people do laugh and are able to hear things that they wouldn't ordinarily be able to hear.

So, what do you see for yourself in the next 20 years?

"AUGH, she laughs. I'll be getting modern maturity, she jokes. I hope to have all my teeth.

By the way, you have great teeth.

"I know, I had a run in the 7th grade that didn't believe I never wore braces. I told her that no, these are my teeth and she said "you're lying." I said no. Right now I am finishing a book for Bantam Books which will be out in early 98 called Communicate, it's a book of humor, the chapters are Adjudicate, where I discuss our legal system and it goes all throughout the alphabet including Fornicate which is sadly before lubricate. And so that's what I'm doing, I just want to continue to perform and to write. I've also been writing a column for a progressive magazine in Wisconsin and I want to continue to write columns and perform.

Would you run for office?

"Oh, no, no we've never had enough Clinton's in office, though I would be the Clinton that doesn't disappoint.

Have you worked with Bob Smith before?

"I have, Bob and I are both from Buffalo, N.Y. we like to think of ourselves as the Buffalo Gals. I love Bob, he's actually worked in Provincetown and a number of summers we were able to share bills on different benefits and I really think he is a wonderful writer and performer."

Weren't you on the writing staff of the Rosie O'Donnell show?

"Yes I was. I worked there for about six months and I had the book deal with Bantline and they kept wanting that book. Can you imagine that? So I left the show, but it was a wonderful experience. Rosie is a trip, she's one of the funniest people. You must get a mix of both good and bad mail and reviews.

I don't read the bad or the good, I've never read reviews, good or bad. I just think I don't want anything that would keep me from speaking up. I do have friends that read them and tell me I should red this, it's really great. If it helps me learn something, ok, but if it just makes me, I don't need that. Anything that would keep me down or somehow meant to really hurt me, you know, I can always find that on my own, I don't need help. It's like what Maya Angelou said, "People who kiss, kiss. Puck, kiss. We don't need them in our lives."
Amy, Anne, K.D. and Michelle

by Aimel L. Ponti

I have so much to tell you 'all that I don't quite know where to begin... OK, here's a start Did you see "Chasing Amy"? As I am without any cool press materials I have to sort of wing this review, so here it goes..."

Jennifer Tilly, but other than that this flic is a super end to the bizarre trilogy of films. Some people may have issues with the fact that our lesbian heroine falls in love with a guy, but so what, stuff just happens sometimes. And hey, they don't exactly ride off into the sunset with each other. So here's the scoop: There are two best friends who write a comic book. One of these guys falls madly in love with another comic book writer, a.k.a. our lesbian heroine. The finer points of this film are the graphic descriptions of the sexual escapades and accidents that are discussed at a bar one night. This conversation is between the lesbian and her suitor's best friend. They show off each other's sex injuries and openly go down every perverted road imaginable over a couple of beers. And this worked so well because they were so comfortable and open talking about it. It was inspiring and hysterical, I'll spare you the rest, but will mention that there's a scene that's not too tough to look at. "Chasing Amy," may not get the "lesbian movie" stamp of approval but when it comes out on video, rent it anyway. Yes, I'm pathetic for not telling you the name of the director or any of the stars, but I can tell you this: See it.

Speaking of video Here's an interesting anecdote. As we all know by now, Ellen's girlfriend, actress Anne Heche, will probably never live down her "I wasn't gay till I met Ellen commerce." Kind of a dumb thing to say, but I still like her. Besides "Volcano," Heche was in the kind of cool, hot she played on Exchange St. movie, "Walking and Talking," and was also in "The juror." But, my friends, none of these are the films I am thinking of. Stop whatever you're doing and seek out the video of "Wild Side." Unfortunately, a friend of mine saw the rest of it and "the movie" scene seems to have edited out. Don't ask me what that's all about. Anyway, this film also stars Christopher Walken and the stunning actress Joan Chen. I'm fairly certain it was a straight-to-video release, or at least it certainly never hit Portland's screens. And so one will get an Oscar nod either, but it's a reasonably good film. The condensed plot is so far: Alex (Heche) is a banked by day and call girl by night. Ester Bruno (Walken), a money laundering gangster type who is married to Virginia (Chen). Add a good bulb up the picture and the end result is, Bruno gets busted and the two chicks live happily ever after. Furthermore, there is quite the steamy scene between Heche and Chen. It's not quite as hot as Desert Heat, but much better than Claire of the Moon (not hard to do...). My point is, there is no way a normal human being could be in bed, even if only for a movie, with Joan Chen and not at least think about their own sexuality. No way. So, I don't buy her "I wasn't gay." Buff for a minute. I suspect she's probably just experiencing "post coming out and dating a babe like Ellen" syndrome and after a while, when the media stops caring, she'll deal with the fact that she's been a lesbian a lot longer than four years. Either way, she's got a great neck.

And now I'm changing the subject entirely, although I'm still on the subject of cool women. Perhaps you haven't heard of Michelle Malone. Well, I'm here to tell you, I have, and she's very, very cool, a musician. And, she, along with my longtime faves, disappear fear, will be playing at The Pride Festival in a couple of weeks. Malone is a definite member of the "cool chicks from Atlanta "club. In fact, here's a tiny bit o' trivia. She co-wrote the classic Indigo Girls tune "Tried to be True" with her friend Amy Ray. And she's written stuff with another Atlanta gal, Kristie Hall. Her album "New Experience" is on Daemon Records, which is the independent label owned by, yep, Amy Ray. It's a small world after all.

Sonia Rutstein is also an added bonus. She has a way of putting things that is both unique and universal. Whether it's of political struggle or the traumas of love, Sonia seems to always find just the right words. The new songs she chose to share with us on this night reinforced this belief. This is extremely cool. If you, like myself, can't wait 'till then, zip down to Boston on June 8th as Sonia will also be performing there.

The 11th Theatrical Startup! H.P.
Wokfire

The Celluloid Closet

Videopar T.M.

The Home Video Store

Open 7 days

773-1999

Community Pride Reporter June 1997 Page 7

Cool Chicks at Raoul's...

by Aimel L. Ponti

Cool music does happen in Portland. This fact was once again proven on May 24th at what is a favorite club of mine, good old Raoul's. Opening the show was Southern Maine's pride and joy, Lynn Deveus. One of my favorite things about seeing Lynn play is her sense of humor and complete comfort level with the audience. As always she asked a trivia question and gave away a silly prize. (OK so I won, it wasn't my fault). Her playing was solid and her bass player Vic was truly great. The most remarkable song was the one she did with a southern drawl, "Some of my best friends are straight." Lynn will be one of the featured performers at the Pride celebration in a few weeks.

Next up was an added bonus to the evening that was never originally on the bill. Cindy Frakle who is a Mainie but has been in a few weeks. Cool.

Most of the folks who know her by her nickname, "Red." Yeah so Red could belt out a song even when she wasn't even close to the microphone. Indeed she was a nice surprise to the evening.

And then Sonia Rutstein and her amazing guitar player, Rick Rivera took the stage. Better known as disappear fear, they played about 18 songs and Sonia showed us the full spectrum of her talent as a musician and songwriter. Performing many songs from the most recent release, "Seed in the Sahara" and 1994's critically acclaimed self-titled album, she also delved into the past. One of the world's most perfect songs is "Deep Soul Diver," the title track to an earlier album. This songs and also "Sexual Telepathy" were superb examples of why people fall madly in love with Sonia's music. She has a way of putting things that is both unique and universal. Whether it's of political struggle or the traumas of love, Sonia seems to always find just the right words. The new songs she chose to share with us on this night reinforced this belief. disappear fear will also be at Portland Pride. This is extremely cool. If you, like myself, can't wait 'till then, zip down to Boston on June 8th as Sonia will also be performing there.
Bob Smith

On Friday night, he'll touch your funny bone. Today he'll touch your heart (and lift your spirits) when he previews his new book of comic essays, Openly Bob (Coming out in October!)

Ask him about the book. Ask him if Funny Guy Males will ever work together again (Beatles reunion?)
Ask him about the TV show. Ask him about LA versus New York life.

He never steps On a laugh, and San Francisco, this handsome, openly gay comic from Buffalo, N.Y., walks onstage and immediately begins talking about coming out to his conservative family: "Thanksgiving: "Mom, would you please pass the gravy to a homosexual?"

"She passed it to my father," When his parents bought him a chemistry set, "He had a breakfast nook."
"My tree house didn't have a guest five times on The Howard Stern Show."

Bob is also going to be a performer and the Head Writer for a new sketch comedy show for Showtime, which will be published by Walt Disney's Hyperion and was nominated for a Lambda Literary Award - attacked by the Tupelo, Mississippi based American Family Association for promoting homosexuality.

Other TV and Radio appearances include A&E's Clinton: The Improv, Tom Snyder and Bob has been a guest five times on The Howard Stern Show. (Bob was Howard's official correspondent for The Gay Games.)

In 1996, Bob was hired by Roseanne to write for her sketch comedy show Saturday Night Special on Fox. He also wrote for Dennis Miller for the 1996 MTV Video Awards.

Bob has completed a new book of comic essays, Openly Bob which will be published by Bob Weinstein Books/ William Morrow in October.

This year, Bob is also going to be a performer and the Head Writer for a new sketch comedy show for Showtime that will for the first time be featuring a Gay & Lesbian comic sensibility on a network series.

As AIDS' descends upon El Salvador, the government shields its eyes. The Salvadoran health system, which has little control over cholera, dengue and intestinal parasites cannot face the horror of AIDS. This story is from a journal entry.

Feb 15, 1997 San Salvador, El Salvador

Hola, bella. My real name is Wilfredo Valencia but I go by Willy. My parents escaped the crazy war and we made our way to California. I was born on some kind of political refugee visa in 1980 when I was 12 years old. So why am I working sweating away in this marketplace, offering the best price for wormy man goes? Sweetheart, nothing is easy when your people are dying. I had to come back while I still had my voice. Now I too am dying of AIDS. There is always something to kill us here, if it's not grenades it's poverty or AID£. Of course the U.S. Government doesn't want me, a gay man, with THE sickness. I had to give up my U.S. refugee status after I lived here for three years but back then I didn't know I had worms. Hey honey, who needs those cells when you can eat papayas all day long? Don't get me wrong now, just look what we have here. Fundasida (AIDS Center) is real, we have community prevention programs, school talks, counseling, support and basic clinical services and a confidential telephone line. At night I take to the streets, shoulder bag full of those friendly rubbers. No, you can't tag along. You are a girl (white girl) but come with me to the transgendered aerobic class. Ooh, they would love your camera there. Girlfriend, it all takes time. We've been fighting for 300 years: longer if you think about it. Sure I suffer here but that northern life isn't for me. Here the music, sweat, cheap beer- and even the stinking mosquitoes- are what I know. I'll die but never will I die old and scabby in some sterile white room. I'll die in an avocado shell wearing a crown of lilacs. Don't cry for me El Salvador; the truth is I will never leave you. Don't you just want to kiss Antonio Banderas?

According to the World Health Organization only 1,789 cases of AIDS were diagnosed by December, 1996 in El Salvador. Of this figure, 70% of the cases were men and 75% were within the heterosexual population. (Fundasida) This figure represents the officially registered diagnoses-the tip of the iceberg-and is a reflection of those patients who have access to hospital care. The horrors of AIDS. This story is from a journal entry.

ML/GPA receives $20,000 Matching Grant

ML/GPA, Recipient of $20,000 Matching Grant Portland — An anonymous Maine donor has challenged the Maine Lesbian Gay Political Alliance with a $20,000 matching gift, the largest in the organization's history. Every dollar raised by the organization's fund raising efforts will be matched by the donor. Membership is extended to double by 1998.

"We're at a critical point in ML/GPA's mission," said Betsy Smith, President of the organization's Board of Directors. "Since ML/GPA was founded in 1984 we've worked hard to pass legislation that protects people from discrimination based on sexual orientation. If we're successful this year, there will be no time to rest our achievement. We have lots more to do."

Smith acknowledged opposition to the current bill, L.D. 1116: "An Act to Prevent Discrimination" saying, "we know some people think there's nothing wrong with discrimination. Fortunately, the overwhelming majority of Mainers don't agree. Should the bill pass, we'll need to be prepared to fight any referendum that seeks to overturn our hard-won rights."

"This very generous gift will help us build programs that will serve Maine for years to come," said Smith. The ML/GPA Board recently created a new, nonprofit corporation expressly for the purpose of raising tax deductible contributions and grants to fund educational programs that will enrich the community at large and promote awareness and activism among Maine's gay and lesbian population.

"The ML/GPA is a state wide nonparti­san organization formed to educate the general public, politicians, and the media concerning lesbian and gay issues."
PRIDE '97 Festival

June 18-22, 1997

SOUTHERN MAINE PRIDE

Portland, Maine

Equality Through Visibility

CONTESTANTS

ASE, Solstice Concert, USM

Chris Newcomb

Miss Maine '96

Michelle Malone

Disappear Fear

Comedienne Julie Dano
Comedienne Erica McCarthy
Cathy Poole & Erica Gilbert

... many more inside!!!!!

Plus the photo exhibit:
"Love Makes A Family: Living and Loving in Gay and Lesbian Families"

... PIER DANCE WITH THE GRAND EMPRESS OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA, THE LADY CHABLIS!!
Subscription Form

Yes, I want to subscribe to the Community Pride Reporter. Subscription rate is $25.00 for 12 issues. CPR is mailed in a plain Envelope. the return address reads: CPR PO Box 178, Saco, ME 04072.

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Please make checks payable to: Community Pride Reporter & mail to P.O. Box 178, Saco, ME 04072. *We acknowledge the varying degrees to which members of our community are out, and we respect their choice, if printing a return address is ever a problem, please let us know.

Bustin' Out
With Pride '97
Edward Reichert—Artistic Director

Saturday, June 21st, 1997, 8:00 p.m.
Merrill Auditorium at City Hall, Portland, Maine
Tickets available at the Box Office
20 Myrtle Street, Portland, Maine 04101
Phone: (207) 842-0800 Fax: (207) 842-0810

Norma Kraus Eule
MSW, LCSW
Licensed Clinical Social Worker

AMARYLLIS
Individual, Group and
Relationship Therapy
10 Minot Avenue
Auburn, Maine 04210
(207) 784-8747

di·verse
Temporary staffing, recruiting, outplacement

CAREER PROSPECTS INC
Dennis Hetch—Tom Broussard
640 Congress St, Portland, Maine 04101 (207) 772-1473/772-1662 fax

“Nothing is too wonderful to be true.”
Michael Faraday

Freedom to Support this Festival

Those advertisers that you see in this guide have graciously channeled their resources to the only source which has the undivided attention of the g/l/b/t audience at our Pride events and works exclusively for the benefit of our community: ... US. Please, express your appreciation by your patronage of our advertisers year round.

The CENTER for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Pride of Southern Maine

A Community Center’s success lies not in a collection of desks, phones and office equipment. It lies in the ability to provide information, present an attractive calendar of events, build opportunities, connect people, sustain an inviting space and provide useful services, all at costs the average person can easily afford, delivered fairly and equitably focused only on serving the broadest needs and hopes of its select community.

We hope to provide an office, an office for others and to provide the wide variety of services that keeps a Center in use. We hope to fund it through the annual Pride celebration, membership contributions, and year round Pride events. Over the course of 1997-1998’s Pride year, the Center will begin to take shape with input from community, at an expected cost of about $25,000 per year for a visible, street level downtown space.

A donation in any amount will help the dream become real.
All donations to the Center are tax deductible and should be made payable to “The Center” a separate fund of SoMePride or place in the donation containers labeled “for the Center”.

SoMePride is 501(3)c

Your contributions to Pride, our photo exhibit, or our Center are tax deductible. Tickets or merchandise if purchased for g/l/b/t youth groups, PWA’s or any other charitable intent are also tax deductible. Call Michael at 207-879-7323 if you have questions.

Give Pride a hand, Volunteer

Pride needs volunteers: to pick up performers, to set up tables, to set up stages, to distribute information flyers at events, to act as ushers, to sell merchandise, to clean up, to direct crowds, to call the Pride Information number and leave your name and number (or address) Eben Chadwick our Pride Volunteer Coordinator will get back to you.

PRIDE INFORMATION IS: 207-878-9277 24 HOURS

Casco Bay Weekly
THINK FOR YOURSELF

561 Congress Street, Portland, Maine
775-6601 1-800-286-6601
Monday, June 16  Gay Night Monday Roller Skating
Happy Wheels on Warren Avenue in Portland, 7pm to 9pm. $5

Tuesday, June 17 (& 10th), 7:30 pm
ExTENSIONS A Documentary Film
Screening & Discussion at Agape, 657 Congress St. $5 admission is donation to Agape

Extensions is the first documentary film to examine the lives of Maine gay men and women, locally produced with Portland locations and faces. It is essentially the story of people finding their way in the face of adversity. Produced by: Bob Poirer: 207-828-4030, bpoirer@biddeford.com

Featured Sponsors

The Holiday Inn by the Bay has supported the gay community with countless events, providing inexpensive yet premium function space year after year. We are grateful for their many years of very generous support and encourage everyone to recommend the Hotel.

Sentinel Security is the most trusted Security service in Portland (and those are Portland Police Chief Michael Chitwood’s recommendation). Bill York and his crew are providing us the most skilled and professional safety and security that we could hope for. The added benefit is to have a security service for a Pride event which is “gay positive” and with which we find very easy to work. Don’t forget to thank them for their service and (oh yes) please obey all Pride staff directives.

official media sponsor

In Newsweekly is the official Pride media sponsor. They’ve been very generous in assisting in the advertising of our primary fundraiser, the annual Pride Pier Dance. In Newsweekly is the absolute best New England wide source to reach the gay and lesbian community of events and resources. Thank you.

The Status of Civil Rights
Same Gender Marriage in Maine with Evan Wolfson

Co counsel for the Hawaiian Marriage Case & Senior Staff Attorney for Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund Followed by Panel Discussion with Audience. Admission is Free

Monday, June 16, 6:30 pm
Luther Bonney Auditorium, USM

Wednesday, June 18
Community Recognition Dinner
hosted by Comic: Julie Dano
tix: $25

Italian Heritage Center, Westland Rd, Portland
(off Congress St. just behind Westgate Shopping Ctr.)
Cocktail hour: 6-7 pm (with entertainment)
Dinner: 7 pm till it’s over (limited seating)
Reservations or Prior ticket purchase required
Call 207-879-7323 for reservations by June 15
Recognition Dinner Coordinated by Michael Rossetti

It’s time to formally thank some of the best known heroes and heroines of our community. Pride has chosen several recipients of our first Annual Community Recognition Awards, a casual after dinner fest with a very entertaining Mistress of Ceremonies:

The Maine Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance and Alumni
The Maine Gay Men’s Chorus
The Biased Crimes Task Force.
The Holiday Inn by the Bay
Drop Me A Line.
Brain Kendall of the Names Project
Larry Bliss of the Spring for Life Aids Auction
Cathy Kiddman of Outright GLBT & Questioning Youth

JULIE DANO, Comic & Dinner MC

Julie Dano: Since winning “Portland’s Funniest Professional” Contest in 1995 Julie has been a regular at the Comedy Connection in Portland, Boston, and Providence. She hosts her own comedy showcase at the Portland Marriott. Julie can currently be seen working with the improv group “The Id.”

Where to Buy Pride Tickets and Stuff

All events have rain locations, call for information

207-878-9277 or 207-879-7323 or 207-878-0546
Drop Me A Line 657 Congress, Portland
Condom Sense, 424 Fore Street, Portland’s Old Port
Drop Anchor, 24 Main Street, Ogunquit
Or any Portland Gay/Lesbian Bar
Dance tickets limited availability through Boston Pride
ASE, Solstice Tickets also at Agape, 657 Congress

T-shirts” with multicolor rainbow and Pride ’97 logo (white) specify size: M, L, XL, XXL all $12 (mailed)
Buttons, Hats, Refrigerator magnets, Lights can be purchased at all Pride events, at any time.

Mail all checks to Merchandise, C/O Pride
POBox 11502, Portland, Maine 04104
Thursday, June 19

PRIDELIGHTS Concert, Tree Lighting
hosted by Diva: Ashley Nasson

Congress Square, 8 pm to 9:20 pm
Broadcast LIVE on WMPG, Tree lighting at 9 pm
Produced by Dennis Ferrante and Michael Rossetti

Rain location: Immanuel Baptist, 156 High Street
PRIDELIGHTS lights available at: 879-7323, $6/set (50 per set)

PRIDELIGHT Performers, In order of appearance:
MC: Ashley Nasson, Portland’s Grandest Voice
CHRIS NEWCOMB, gentle song & humor
SARAH NADEAU, Miss Maine 1996

Freefall
In their second Pride appearance
Freefall, an eclectic a cappella group of 5 voices, hypnotizes Old Port Festival crowds annually with their wide choice of material. Always upbeat, always lively. Lots of swing, earnest gospel, and wacky sixties/seventies songs. Too much fun. Gotta see it!

CASCO BAY TUMMLERS, Klezmer

Chris Newcomb has performed with Portland Players, Mad Horse Theater, Oak Street Theater, and other companies. As a teacher of the Gifted and Talented in Falmouth Schools his gentle and personal tunes speak to the heart in everyone.

Miss Maine’s last official appearances will be to grace our stage with Bizet. Sarah studied at New England Conservatory of Music and has been active during her reign in promoting AIDS education.

PRIDE WISHES TO THANK MAINE ARTS FOR THEIR HELP AND ASSISTANCE WITH PRIDELIGHTS

PARKSIDE
WOMEN’S COUNSELING
Is
PROUD
to be part of
Southern Maine Pride’s ’97
“Equality Through Visibility”
CELEBRATIONS

Vivian Wadas, L.C.P.C.
Lesbian Feminist Practioner
236 Park Ave., Portland, ME.
(207)774-2403

PAMELA KNOWLES LAWRAKSON
Attorney at Law
Serving the Legal Needs of the Gay and Lesbian Community
6 Oak Ridge Road
Cumberland Center, Maine 04021-9323
Tel (207)829-3379
Fax (207)829-4424
E-mail: pklaw@ime.net

P. O. Box 118
Bethlehem, NH 03574
(603) 869-3978

100 Acres • Pool
Hot Tub • Trails
Peace & Privacy

A LESBIAN PARADISE
PORTLAND PRIDE'S
PIER DANCE
FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 8 pm to 1 am

Maine's grandest Civil Rights Victory Party with our hostest the Grand Empress of Savannah, Georgia, herself, the LADY CHABLIS

DJ's: Gary Conzo (Liquid at Manray/Campus) Lisa Vacaro, and Joey Bermudez

Admission: $10, All Ages, cash bar (21+ ID)
$7 in Advance (see Where to find tickets)

On the Waterfront, Commercial and Franklin St.s
Take Me. Pike to exit 6A, then 295 to exit 7
Drop off/Pick up and Parking are not permitted at the Pier entrance

Rain location to be announced
24 hour Info Line: 207-773-6979

Friday, June 20

Pride '97 Pier Dance
Tickets in advance $7
Tickets at the gate $10
At Maine State Pier, Franklin St Arterial & Commercial St.
With video and light show, Cash Bar, Soda Bar
Bar entry is by 21+ ID only, Dance is all ages
Pride's Pier Dance is a Kris Clark Production

DJ's: Lisa Vicarro, Joey Bermudez, Garry Conzo (Campus)

With MC the Lady Chablis, Grand Empress of Savannah, Georgia. Lady Chablis is the feature character in a movie going into production, directed by Clint Eastwood and based on the book "Midnite in the Garden of Good and Evil". Come see the legend!

This year we are providing greater lighting, more "dancer" friendly space and a great blend of music styles.
Rain location and dance info: 207-773-6979 or 207-879-9277

Saturday, June 21

City Hall Pride Rally & Line up
City Hall Plaza, 389 Congress, 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Rally Produced By Eric Richard with assistance

Keynoters:

Candice Gingrinch:
When America discovered that the sister of House Speaker Newt Gingrinch was a lesbian, Candice instantly found herself as voice for gay and lesbian people everywhere. We were fortunate for her to accept the notoriety with humor, grace and a commitment to use that opportunity for change. Candice has come into her own as a voice for equal and fair treatment of gays and lesbians, and provides an effective counter-view to right wing generalities about Family Values.

This is Candice's 2nd visit to Maine. She has become one of the most asked for speakers at Pride events. We're honored to have her with us, courtesy of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, for a very special Pride Day Rally.

(For interview availability information please call Michael at 207-879-7323 or smepride@qwi.net by Thurs, June 19)

Maine's L/G/B/T Parents
In appreciation and respect for those who have become parents and are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender, we have granted them Grand Marshal status for 1997. In their address to the rally, we hope to have dozens of parents and children fill the steps of City Hall. As Grand Marshall's they shall officially open Pride Day and lead our 11th annual Parade.
Saturday, June 21

1997 Pride Parade

Parade line up: 11:30 am (soda bar open)
All groups must check-in at the Security Desk
(right wing of Plaza) by 11 a.m.
All vehicles must have prior approval & Motor Reg.
Registration after June 10, add $5 (878-0546)
(motorcycles are not required to register)

1997 Grand Marshals:
Lesbian and Gay Parents of Maine
Candice Gingrich, HRCF
and featuring the Freedom Trail Band of Boston
The Band is looking for more people to assist in many Pride events.
Now's the time to get your music out of the closet, too. Call the
Band at 617-926-9730 or Email at muffy@meol.mass.edu.

The Parade:
Route is as follows: Congress Street from City Hall to
Congress Sq. High Street from Congress Square to Park Avenue.
Left on to Park Avenue and continue to State Street. Right onto
State Street and into Deering Oaks Park by the Barking Squirrel
Restaurant at the end of the duck pond.

All organizations which wish to march with banner or vehicle
absolutely must register (the fee is $30 without float, $35 after June
special considerations. [Pride does not censor it's parade, but we
do ask that all be considerate of other marchers and obey the law]

Saturday, June 21

PRIDE '97 FESTIVAL STAGE

1 to 4 pm, Deering Oaks Park Bandstand
and on exhibit in the Park "Love Makes A Family"
(the lesbian/gay parent photo exhibit)
and the Maine Names Project Quilt
over 40 vendors, organizations and affordable food/drink
with Patches, the clown and the AIDS Ride Kissing Booth
Deering Oaks: Exit 6a, just off 295 and Forest Avenue.
For late vendor registration call 207-879-7323

Produced by Michael Rossetti

Hosted by
Comedienne Erica McCarthy
Erica has most recently worked the Woo Woo Fest in Portsmouth,
NH for AIDS Response. She's stage managed as well as having
supplied the laughs. (We'll see how well that mixes). Erica works
in weight loss assistance in her real life, (where she gets material?)
Pride Cochair: Michael Rossetti
Silly Michael, we said we needed a "straight man" for Erica on stage
and he thinks we said "Straight Acting."
Terry Irons, Cultural Ambassador, International
Association of Lesbian and Gay Pride Coordinators.
Terry is on loan from Atlanta. She has been instrumental in getting
much of today's talents; Thanks, Terry!

PERFORMANCES BY:

Maine Gay Men's Chorus
MGMC shall open the festival stage, then it's off to selling tickets for
their concert at the Merrill Auditorium at City Hall. (Check their Ad)

Erica Gilbert and Kathy Poole
Local ladies who have graced many a stage in the Portland area
and women's music festivals. With guitar, congas and voice they
range from blues to jazzy rock.

Miss Maine 1996 Sarah Nadeau
Sarah performers also at the PRIDELights concert on
Thursday, June 19 in Congress Square. We want to thank her for
her year as Miss Maine and work in educating about "AIDS in the
90's" Miss Maine 1996 will be treating us to something most Pride
concerts lack: Opera!

Lynn Deeves (appearing with Band)

Lynn Deeves latest CD "Connecting the Dots" is powerful testimony
to her artistry. She gives a versatile blend of original music in
unpretentious and personal style with a bit of rock and lots of soul.
She perfected her craft by performing throughout New England's
club circuit, with "Skyhigh" and "Person 2 Person". (*Intense Emotion." Maine Public Radio)

The Crowned Queens of Maine:
A pageant of the creme de la creme of Maine's Drag Community. From Miss Gay Maine to Miss Vacationland, for years
these fabulous divas and their predecessors have produced more
fund-raisers for more great causes than any organization in the
State. Let's give them a hand.

Michelle Malone

Michelle Malone has been on opening act for the Indigo Girls and is on her fifth CD: Beneath the Devil Moon. Volatile, edgy,
riveting are the words people use to describe her blues rock with a
bit of alt-rock kick. Her songs range from out and out shocking to
"singing like a swan." "One of the most distinctive new artists to
erange in the '90's" Guitar Shop Magazine.

THE HERITAGE OF OGUNQUIT
"Beautiful Place-by-the-Sea"

The Cemetery Gates Hotel
5 Min Walk to Beach
Hot Tub, Huge Cedar Deck
Non-smoking, Hypoallergenic
Private & Shared Bathrooms
Lesbian Owned & Operated
(207) 646-7787
e-mail: heritage@cybertours.com
www.on-o-nepc.com/heritage

IN YOUR FACE
PRISONS

For Copy Cats, Inc. products, Log on to http://www.logoninc.com or send a request
to The Copy Cats, Inc. 8 Clarks Hill Road, South Berwick, ME 03908. No refund of
charges for merchandise is available. If merchandise is damaged or completely
lost, charges for replacement are refundable, with proof of loss or damage.

“Seed in the Sahara” is the new, and fifth, CD release of Sonia Rutstein, Disappear Fear. Sonia’s resume of performances overflows pages. So, we’re especially fortunate to have snapped Sonia and her guitarist as the featured performer for Portland’s Festival stage. Sonia’s lyrics gives uncompromising critiques reminiscent of the sixties writers such as Phil Ochs and Joni Mitchell, but with the brass of the 90’s. We are absolutely sure you’ll remember this Pride stage. Hot!!!

Sunday, June 22

PRIDE’S FAMILY FORUM
4:00 PM YWCA, 87 Spring St (across from Holiday Inn)

A discussion of parenting with gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and non-gay parents and their children, with “Love Makes a Family” photo exhibit and Ice Cream social (bring your own toppings)

Info: Barry 207-286-3718 or PRIDE: 878-9277

Sunday, June 22

PRIDE’S SUNSET CRUISE
6:30 PM Departs at 7 pm sharp (board 6:30 to 6:50 pm)
from Casco Bay Ferry Terminal, Parking may not be avail.

This is a two hour just right cruise along Portland’s waterfront and islands with music from a variety of local aspiring performers, open mic, and games. There’s a light buffet and a cash bar, along with a chem free area on deck. Raffle of Pride shirts, caps, and area events tickets just before docking. THIS IS A 21 & OVER EVENT ONLY, Bay Lines rules do not permit under age drinking during charter cruises with a bar.

ASE, Summer Solstice Concert
SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 8 PM
USM Campus Ctr, Bedford St.
Tx: $10 in adv. $12 door ($8 with Student ID)
also available at all Pride Tables & Agape, 657 Congress St.

Rhythmic Flair from the African Diaspora. A colorful, dynamic synthesis of African & Western traditions celebrating life, love & liberation.

Saturday, July 12 & Sunday, July 13

BANGOR PRIDE

JULY 12, SATURDAY
10:30: Parade Line up: Fleet Bank on Exchange Street, 11:00: Bangor Pride Parade (11 am sharp)
12:00: Festival at Paul Bunyan Park
Featuring: Singer Lynn Deeves
(Vendors welcome, see contact info)
5:00: Potluck Dinner at the UU Church in Bangor
8:00: Chem-Free Dance at the UU Church in Bangor

JULY 13, SUNDAY
9:00: Gay Rights Service at the UU Church
10:00: Charlie Howard Memorial March: Begins at UU Church

Bangor Contact Information:
Jim Martin, PO Box 1568, Bangor, Maine 04402
Phone: 207-942-7681

DROP ANCHOR

SHIRTS & SHADES
24 Main Street Ogunquit, Me. 03907-1991
(207) 646-1615

SUNGLASSES:
Serengetti, Vuvenet, Bate, RayBan
Oakley, Costa del Mar
Carrera, Porsche

WATCHES:
Free Style, Timex Limited, etc...
Liberty Graphic Tx,
Hoist, etc...

INN at St. John
939 Congress Street, Portland, Maine 04102
(800) 636-9127
all major credit cards accepted

THE INN AT ST. JOHN IS THE OFFICIAL LODGING FOR SOME OF PRIDE FESTIVAL PERFORMERS
Living in Lesbian and Gay Families

"Love Makes A Family: Living in Lesbian and Gay Families," a national photo exhibit of Lesbian and gay families, will be touring Maine under the coordination and funding efforts of Southern Maine Pride. The exhibit consists of 20 framed photos along with some 40 panels of text from the children and parents. The widest possible audience and venues are being sought. Through fundraising and booking the exhibit to travel the entire State, Pride will be working to make the exhibit affordable for anyone choosing to exhibit it. Donations to support the exhibit can be made at each exhibit or can be sent directly to Pride: Southern Maine Pride, POBox 11502, Portland, Maine 04103.

For interest in displaying the exhibit in your area or presenting an accompanying panel discussion ("Family Forum") contact our Exhibit Coordinator Barry Horn: 207-286-3718 or Email him at mkoerber@biddeford.com.

Tentative Schedule of Appearances (get yourself on the list)
June: Offices of Union Mutual
July 12 & 13: Bangor Pride
July: Munjoy Portland Health
September: Uf New Eng.
October: Belfast area

June 20 & 21: Portland Pride
July: CPR Anniversary Party
August: Bar Harbor
September: Augusta
October: UMF Museum

We're More Than a Gay Catholic Mass
every Sunday @ 6pm
St. Luke's Cathedral
State Street, Portland
New Hampshire Civil Rights Bill Passes Legislature

State Will Become Tenth to Ban Discrimination Based Gay Rights
Washington, DC May 6, 1997 The New Hampshire Senate approved a civil rights measure to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. The bill passed the House on May 1, and Governor Jeanne Shaheen (D) pledged to sign the bill. When it becomes law, New Hampshire will become the tenth state to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. The bill also bans discrimination against people with HIV/AIDS. The bill, which Governor Shaheen signed to support her commitment to fairness and pledge to sign the bill.

Vermont

On May 3, Vermont Democratic Party Chair Steve Howard came out as a gay man. In covering the event, the May 4 and subsequent AP story incorrectly stated that "in publicly discussing his homo- sexuality, Howard becomes the third openly gay politician in Vermont." The other two politicians mentioned are State Auditor Ed Flanagan and former State Representative Joe Flanagan. In fact, other openly gay elected officials have proudly served their Vermont communities, including former State Representative Tom Finney of Burlington (first elected in 1992) and current State Representative Bill Lippert of Hinesburg (elected in 1994). Steve Howard's number is 802-660-4900 (you can also track him down through the Sgt.-At-Arms at the State House 802-828-2228.

Ed Flanagan's (Vermont State Auditor and the nation's highest ranking openly gay elected official) numbers are: W: 802-438-2281 H: 802-862-3303.

Peter and the Wolf

PORTSMOUTH - The Seacoast Repertory Youth Theatre is proud to present Portsmouth School of Ballet's production of Peter and the Wolf, playing every Saturday and Sunday at 1:00 PM from June 7th through June 29th.

This classic ballet by Sergei Prokofiev has long been a favorite among theatre-goers of all ages. Now, your family can enjoy the adventures of Peter as he wanders through the woods, greets forest animals and dodges the infamous wolf. The performance of Peter and the Wolf will be preceded by an educational presentation about the ballet and the instruments in the orchestra. Needed for this presentation are children who play percussion, clarinet, oboe, french horn, violin, flute and bassoon. Children interested in participating should call Dana at (603) 433-4793.

All performers in Peter and the Wolf are members of the company of the Portsmouth School of Ballet. The production is directed by Kristen Sampson.

For more information, please call the Seacoast Repertory Youth Theatre box office at (603) 433-4742 or (800) 639-7650.

The Who's Tommy Rocks Seacoast Repertory Theatre:

Portsmouth - Experience the greatest musical of all time when Tommy heats up the stage from May 31st through July 20th at Seacoast Repertory Theatre (SeacoastME) A spectacular and unique story of the music of Tommy. The Who's Tommy is one of the exciting new Broadway revivals of the '90's! Originally a landmark, multi-million copy selling concept album by The Who, Tommy was adapted for the stage by singer songwriter Pete Townsend and Tony Award-winning director Ken Howard. It chronicles the adventures of Tommy Walker, who withdraws from the world and becomes a prodigy. It is a traumaic experience in early childhood. While in his catatonic state, Tommy is visited by a man who is no stranger to the work. Eventually Tommy wakes up with the space (of Seacoast Repertory Theatre) to be special." says Dan Stewart.

For more information, please call the Seacoast Repertory Theatre box office at (603) 433-4742 or (800) 639-7650.

FEEL ME! Don't miss the "new" feeling of Peter and the Wolf at Seacoast Repertory Theatre every Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8:00pm and Sunday at 3:00pm. 4:00pm Saturday matinees are also available on select dates. For more information, please call the Seacoast Repertory Youth Theatre box office at (603) 433-4742 or (800) 639-7650.
RANT "A Line Item Veto on Gay Rights"

by David Cook

Nearly thirty years ago the Stonewall Riots marked the start of what many consider a golden age of gay liberation. Since then, tens of thousands of gay and lesbian men and women have come out nationally and locally, and gay people have become a force to be reckoned with. Each summer marks a Gay Pride Parade in one or more cities, a reminder of gay presence and solidarity. As I write this, the Governor has just signed a historic gay rights bill, a measure aimed at providing civil rights protection to Mainers on the basis of sexual orientation. After twenty years of debate, this is a great reason to celebrate.

But the Governor himself has warned that there are fights still ahead. There are plenty of bogots out there just waiting to test the bill in court. And the usual collection of know-nothings has vowed to fight the bill in their usual way — via the referendum process.

The referendum process is really intended as a check on government excess — is now the government of choice for people who simply don’t believe in the folks who run it? Rather than using the election process to affect government policies, these people want to have direct control over policy making. Over-use of the referendum for the last two decades has weakened havoc across the US in the form of looney initiatives and the current referendum mechanism in Maine requires the organizers of a referendum to collect a paltry 51,131 verifiable signatures of Maine voters. This number represents 10% of the votes cast for governor in the last election and is updated by election. As a percentage of the state’s population however, it is a minuscule 5%. Worse yet, the signatures don’t have to be collected statewide — they could all come from the same county and the petition would still be acceptable!

Surely it shouldn’t be this easy to nullify decisions made by the people you have elected to make them? With the goal in mind of wresting the referendum process away from those who use it as a form of personal recreation, I have a couple of reforms to suggest. First, increase the number of signatures needed to put an issue on the ballot; it’s currently just too easy. I don’t think 5% of registered voters is unrepresentable. Second, require collection of signatures statewide: the pettition, like the ballot that will ultimately be held, needs to represent the entire state. The number collected in each area could be determined by population percentages. Last, if the sponsors of the referendum lose, require them to pay the public expenses of administering the referendum; this is the least they can do, especially in the case of repeat offenders like Ms. Cosby for whom the referendum process has become a kind of line-item veto on gay rights.

Surviving with Sanity in Rural Areas

I live and work on Mount Desert Island, an area abuzz with activity in July and August but definitely rural 10 months a year. I love the seasons and the quiet, part of the time, knowing everyone at the Post Office and the corner grocery store is comforting rather than claustrophobic. My friends in cities can’t imagine a life far from the heart, that’s right, Saturday through Monday. (Contact Michael at 879-7323 or Laurie at 878-0546 for more info). Northern Maine’s Pride March will be July 13 in Bangor. Last but not least, Gay Times Bar Harbor will be held at College of the Atlantic, on the ocean, August 16-18 (that’s right, Saturday through Monday). Featured guests include Romanovsky & Phillips, Del Martin & Phyllis Lyon, Sons and Lovers, and Diane Elze, with, of course, sea kayaking, a dance, incredible food and workshops. (Contact us at 207-244-4062, Gay Times Bar Harbor, PO. Box 516, Mt. Desert, ME 04660 or info@acadia.net)

P.O.Box 170
SacO, Maine
04072
207-282-4311
207-282-455

CPR Thanks the many individuals involved in the distribution of this paper

Distributors

Photographers

Contributors

Tarah Bourassa "Out of Town"
Tami Jo Hathaway "To your Health"
Peter J Callahan "Money Matters"
David O. Cook "Rant"
Carolyn Jabbert Insurance Tips
Darlyn Maxwell "Trans Forum"
Almetal A. Ponti Arts & Entertainment
Dixie Townsend Arts & Entertainment
Martin Swinger "Singling Out"

The Community Pride Reporter is printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks. This practice reflects our commitment to responsible use of our earth’s resources. Using recycled paper sometimes results in the paper having a toned down or grayish tinge. However, we feel this is a small price to pay as Community Pride Reporter does not "color ME Green."
Southern Maine Pride

Recognition Awards Recipients:

Recognition Dinner, Italian Heritage

Drop Me A Line, Holiday Inn by the

Southern Maine Pride, Portland,

Larry Bliss, Cathy Kiddman, Brian

Party!

Wednesday, June 17 6:30 to whenever Greater Portland Community

Recognition Dinner, Italian Heritage

Center, Westland Road, Portland

Recognition Awards Recipients:

Larry Bliss, Cathy Kiddman, Brian

Kendall Gay Men’s Chorus,

MLGPA, Biased Crimes Task Force

Drop Me A Line, Holiday Inn by the

Bay Dinner Tickets: $25

Thursday, June 19 PRIDELIGHTS

Concert Congress Square, 8 pm to

9:30 pm Broadcast LIVE on

WMPH Hosted by Ashley Nasson

Miss Maine 1996 Sarah Nadeau

sings Bizet Chris Newcomb,

the Acapella group Freefall Casco Bay
 TuMMlers (not Tumblers), its a

Klezmer Band Tree lighting 9:15 pm

Friday, June 20 Pride’s Pier Dance

(8 pm) Commercial Arts Bank,

Sunday Maine State Pier 3 DJ’s and a live performance by Lady Chablis,

star of “Midnite in the Garden of

Good & Evil” $7 in Advance, $10 at the door

PRIDE DAY JUNE, June 21 Inter­

faith Service, 9:30 a.m. First Parish,

425 congress Local exhibit of “Love

Makes A Family” Sponsored by

Acapella group Freefall Casco Bay

with Candice Gingrinch Rally City

Hall Plaza 11 pm Keynoters: Candis

Gingrinch L/G/B/T Parents of So.

Maine Parade starts Noon from City

Hall

ENVIRONMENTAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Abound Throughout The State

SERVE/Maine, the State Environmental Resource Volunteer Effort for Maine, is looking for volunteers and interns - statewide! SERVE/Maine matches volunteers and interns with projects provided by public natural resource agencies.

Volunteer and internship Opportunities available through SERVE/Maine include water quality monitoring, back-country trail maintenance, back-country ranger work, environmental education, ecology internships, biological studies, and many many more.

SERVE/Maine volunteers are retirees who want to contribute to worthwhile environmental efforts-

teachers volunteering during their summer vacation; employees of businesses which promote employee volunteers in their communities; college students looking for valuable experience as interns with Maine’s natural resource agencies, sports clubs, environmental organizations, and others who care about Maine’s environment.

My experience as a SERVE/Maine volunteer provided me opportunities to spend two summers accomplishing needed work with the Maine Conservation Corps. It allowed me to explore new career options, and develop professionally and personally.

The work I did while serving with the Corps led to a rewarding career opportunity, one that I am still involved in seven years later.” David Gerken, former SERVE/Maine volunteer.

Heather Walsh, SERVE/Maine volunteer in Bradley, Maine states, “I am very excited at being able to volunteer with the Forest Service, I would like to work for them professionally at some point in my career and I think that this opportunity will work in my favor towards reaching that goal.”

SERVE/Maine offers over 100 positions working in over 56 different projects. To receive a list of opportunities or more information about SERVE/Maine, contact Lori Dillingham.

SERVE/Maine Coordinator 124 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0124, telephone 207-287-3082, fax 207-2873611.

Environmental Volunteer Opportunities

SERVE/Maine, the State Environmental Resource Volunteer Effort for Maine, is looking for volunteers and interns - statewide! SERVE/Maine matches volunteers and interns with projects provided by public natural resource agencies.

Volunteer and internship Opportunities available through SERVE/Maine include water quality monitoring, back-country trail maintenance, back-country ranger work, environmental education, ecology internships, biological studies, and many many more.

SERVE/Maine volunteers are retirees who want to contribute to worthwhile environmental efforts-teachers volunteering during their summer vacation; employees of businesses which promote employee volunteers in their communities; college students looking for valuable experience as interns with Maine’s natural resource agencies, sports clubs, environmental organizations, and others who care about Maine’s environment.

My experience as a SERVE/Maine volunteer provided me opportunities to spend two summers accomplishing needed work with the Maine Conservation Corps. It allowed me to explore new career options, and develop professionally and personally.

The work I did while serving with the Corps led to a rewarding career opportunity, one that I am still involved in seven years later.” David Gerken, former SERVE/Maine volunteer.

Heather Walsh, SERVE/Maine volunteer in Bradley, Maine states, “I am very excited at being able to volunteer with the Forest Service, I would like to work for them professionally at some point in my career and I think that this opportunity will work in my favor towards reaching that goal.”

SERVE/Maine offers over 100 positions working in over 56 different projects. To receive a list of opportunities or more information about SERVE/Maine, contact Lori Dillingham.

SERVE/Maine Coordinator 124 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0124, telephone 207-287-3082, fax 207-2873611.

Environmental Volunteer Opportunities

SERVE/Maine, the State Environmental Resource Volunteer Effort for Maine, is looking for volunteers and interns - statewide! SERVE/Maine matches volunteers and interns with projects provided by public natural resource agencies.

Volunteer and internship Opportunities available through SERVE/Maine include water quality monitoring, back-country trail maintenance, back-country ranger work, environmental education, ecology internships, biological studies, and many many more.

SERVE/Maine volunteers are retirees who want to contribute to worthwhile environmental efforts-teachers volunteering during their summer vacation; employees of businesses which promote employee volunteers in their communities; college students looking for valuable experience as interns with Maine’s natural resource agencies, sports clubs, environmental organizations, and others who care about Maine’s environment.

My experience as a SERVE/Maine volunteer provided me opportunities to spend two summers accomplishing needed work with the Maine Conservation Corps. It allowed me to explore new career options, and develop professionally and personally.

The work I did while serving with the Corps led to a rewarding career opportunity, one that I am still involved in seven years later.” David Gerken, former SERVE/Maine volunteer.

Heather Walsh, SERVE/Maine volunteer in Bradley, Maine states, “I am very excited at being able to volunteer with the Forest Service, I would like to work for them professionally at some point in my career and I think that this opportunity will work in my favor towards reaching that goal.”

SERVE/Maine offers over 100 positions working in over 56 different projects. To receive a list of opportunities or more information about SERVE/Maine, contact Lori Dillingham.

SERVE/Maine Coordinator 124 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0124, telephone 207-287-3082, fax 207-2873611.

The Community Pride Reporter is published during the first two business days of the month. All submissions must be in by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the next month's issue.
Community Pride Resources

MILGPAC
A statewide, non-profit organization formed to educate the general public, politicians, and media on LGQ issues. Primary goals are to inveigle the LAOC's agenda, highlight the local closet and Sunday of every month at 1 p.m. (M), 3 p.m. (T), and 7 p.m. (F), at the Lesbian Community Center, Portland (28). S. Main St., Portland. MILGPAC mail line 207-775-2191.

Support Groups

New Hampshire PFLAG Meetings: Meeting 1st day of each month at 10 a.m. at Congregational Church, Winchester & North Main St. (use Washington St. entrance. MILGPAC 603-472-4694.

SUPPORT Group New Hampshire: Meeting 3rd Sunday from 7 p.m. at PFLAG of New Hampshire, 674 Main St., Newmarket, NH 03857.

Support Groups

New Hampshire PFLAG Meetings: Meeting 1st day of each month at 10 a.m. at Congregational Church, Winchester & North Main St. (use Washington St. entrance. MILGPAC 603-472-4694.

SUPPORT Group New Hampshire: Meeting 3rd Sunday from 7 p.m. at PFLAG of New Hampshire, 674 Main St., Newmarket, NH 03857.

Support Groups

SUPPORT Group New Hampshire: Meeting 1st day of each month at 10 a.m. at Congregational Church, Winchester & North Main St. (use Washington St. entrance. MILGPAC 603-472-4694.

SUPPORT Group New Hampshire: Meeting 3rd Sunday from 7 p.m. at PFLAG of New Hampshire, 674 Main St., Newmarket, NH 03857.

Support Groups

SUPPORT Group New Hampshire: Meeting 1st day of each month at 10 a.m. at Congregational Church, Winchester & North Main St. (use Washington St. entrance. MILGPAC 603-472-4694.

SUPPORT Group New Hampshire: Meeting 3rd Sunday from 7 p.m. at PFLAG of New Hampshire, 674 Main St., Newmarket, NH 03857.

Support Groups

SUPPORT Group New Hampshire: Meeting 1st day of each month at 10 a.m. at Congregational Church, Winchester & North Main St. (use Washington St. entrance. MILGPAC 603-472-4694.

SUPPORT Group New Hampshire: Meeting 3rd Sunday from 7 p.m. at PFLAG of New Hampshire, 674 Main St., Newmarket, NH 03857.

Support Groups

SUPPORT Group New Hampshire: Meeting 1st day of each month at 10 a.m. at Congregational Church, Winchester & North Main St. (use Washington St. entrance. MILGPAC 603-472-4694.

SUPPORT Group New Hampshire: Meeting 3rd Sunday from 7 p.m. at PFLAG of New Hampshire, 674 Main St., Newmarket, NH 03857.
OUTRIGHT
Bangor: Fridays 5:00-7:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, Park St., Portland, 603/547-2545.


COMMUNITY SERVICES
Portland: Monday: People Living with HIV disease and all friends, partners & caregivers. 6:30-8:00 PM FMI.
Tuesday: People living with HIV disease and all friends, lovers, and caregivers. 10:00 am-noon. Kaplan AIDS Coalition, 142 High St, Portland, 603/363-4961.
Wednesday: Drop-in group for men and women infected with HIV/AIDS by appointment only atakis@abacus.oxy.edu.


Omnipresent: Meets every Thursday 7-9 pm at the Portland Public Library, 500 Congress St., Portland, 603/363-4961.

Community Health Center, 142 High St., Portland, 603/947-2755.

MUSIC & ART
Women In Harmony: an a cappella women's chorus open to all women regardless of age, race, religion, or sexual orientation. If you are interested in becoming a member of this group, please contact the group for information about auditions, organizational skills, and SACE (including your phone number) to P.O. Box 5136 Sta. A, Portland, ME 04101, or call 207/774-4940.

The Maine Gay Visual Artist's League meets on the third Thursday of every month. The League is a non-profit, creative support network for Maine's gay & lesbian visual artists. FMI call 775-3420.

Phone Support By Region
National Center for Lesbian Rights Young People: 1-800-538-NCLR
Gay & Lesbian Palinosis of Maine: Staffed Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9am-9pm. Call 207-489-2088 or in Maine 800-468-2088.
Boston Alliance of Lesbian and Gay Youth (BAGY): 800-806-7900.
National Hotline for gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgender youth: Teen Line: 1-800-246-7777. Youth: 1-800-246-7777. Support staff trained, peer-mentors. Lines are open every Sunday Tuesday 7-10 pm, Monday through Friday 11 am to 10 pm, and Saturday 5:30 pm to 10 pm. Call one-800-347-5190.

HIV Related Support Meetings
Portland: Mondays: People Living with HIV disease and all friends, partners & caregivers. 6:30-8:00 PM FMI.
Tuesdays: People living with HIV disease and all friends, lovers, and caregivers. 10:00 am-noon. Kaplan AIDS Coalition, 142 High St, Portland, 603/363-4961.

Wednesday: Drop-in group for men and women infected with HIV/AIDS by appointment only atakis@abacus.oxy.edu.


Community Health Center, 142 High St., Portland, 603/947-2755.

MUSIC & ART
Women In Harmony: an a cappella women's chorus open to all women regardless of age, race, religion, or sexual orientation. If you are interested in becoming a member of this group, please contact the group for information about auditions, organizational skills, and SACE (including your phone number) to P.O. Box 5136 Sta. A, Portland, ME 04101, or call 207/774-4940.

The Maine Gay Visual Artist's League meets on the third Thursday of every month. The League is a non-profit, creative support network for Maine's gay & lesbian visual artists. FMI call 775-3420.

Online/Internet
The Maine GayNet Mail List
Share your ideas and opinions with other list members. To subscribe to this list, send an e-mail to majordomo@acsu.bc.edu. In the message part, write "subscribe me-gaynet"

The Maine GayNet Home Page
As an online marketplace offering display of events and information. Meets, contact people, resources, & referrals. Point your Web Browser to: http://www.gay.com/id59.html.

San Francisco Gay/Lesbian Tourism Guide
An online travel-sponsored Internet web site for gay and lesbian travelers to the San Francisco area. It is compatible with most mainstream Web browsers. Address: www.gaysf.com

Social Groups
Maine معظم: A gay and lesbian, HIV-positive weekly run in Portland. We meet at the beginning of Back Cove Walkway (corner Bancroft Blvd. and Forest Ave., Sitka, 603/368-5200 or 1-800-368-5200). Call FMI at 207/774-2545 for more information.

Virtual Support Group: A group of gay men of all ages in northeastern New Hampshire and southern Maine who get together for support meetings weekly at 6:30 every Thursday at each of the Center's Hope in Rindge. Outdoor activities and meetings are listed in the monthly newsletter. FMI: VMW, Box 36, Cr Conway, NH 03831; Paul or Dave at 207-925-1025.

Seacrest Gay Men: Social group meets Mondays from 6:30-8:00 PM. Location: the Unitarian Universalist Church, 292 State St., Portland, 603/403-4200, or write F.O. Box 13794, Portland, ME 04204.

Women Meeting Women: Lesbian social group meeting on the first and third Friday of each month. FMI call 603-363-4961.

Phone Support By Region
National Center for Lesbian Rights Young People: 1-800-538-NCLR
Gay & Lesbian Palinosis of Maine: Staffed Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9am-9pm. Call 207-489-2088 or in Maine 800-468-2088.
Boston Alliance of Lesbian and Gay Youth (BAGY): 800-806-7900.
National Hotline for gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgender youth: Teen Line: 1-800-246-7777. Youth: 1-800-246-7777. Support staff trained, peer-mentors. Lines are open every Sunday Tuesday 7-10 pm, Monday through Friday 11 am to 10 pm, and Saturday 5:30 pm to 10 pm. Call one-800-347-5190.

HIV Related Support Meetings
Portland: Mondays: People Living with HIV disease and all friends, partners & caregivers. 6:30-8:00 PM FMI.
Tuesdays: People living with HIV disease and all friends, lovers, and caregivers. 10:00 am-noon. Kaplan AIDS Coalition, 142 High St, Portland, 603/363-4961.

Wednesday: Drop-in group for men and women infected with HIV/AIDS by appointment only atakis@abacus.oxy.edu.


Community Health Center, 142 High St., Portland, 603/947-2755.

MUSIC & ART
Women In Harmony: an a cappella women's chorus open to all women regardless of age, race, religion, or sexual orientation. If you are interested in becoming a member of this group, please contact the group for information about auditions, organizational skills, and SACE (including your phone number) to P.O. Box 5136 Sta. A, Portland, ME 04101, or call 207/774-4940.

The Maine Gay Visual Artist's League meets on the third Thursday of every month. The League is a non-profit, creative support network for Maine's gay & lesbian visual artists. FMI call 775-3420.

Online/Internet
The Maine GayNet Mail List
Share your ideas and opinions with other list members. To subscribe to this list, send an e-mail to majordomo@acsu.bc.edu. In the message part, write "subscribe me-gaynet"

The Maine GayNet Home Page
As an online marketplace offering display of events and information. Meets, contact people, resources, & referrals. Point your Web Browser to: http://www.gay.com/id59.html.

San Francisco Gay/Lesbian Tourism Guide
An online travel-sponsored Internet web site for gay and lesbian travelers to the San Francisco area. It is compatible with most mainstream Web browsers. Address: www.gaysf.com

Social Groups
Maine معظم: A gay and lesbian, HIV-positive weekly run in Portland. We meet at the beginning of Back Cove Walkway (corner Bancroft Blvd. and Forest Ave., Sitka, 603/368-5200 or 1-800-368-5200). Call FMI at 207/774-2545 for more information.

Virtual Support Group: A group of gay men of all ages in northeastern New Hampshire and southern Maine who get together for support meetings weekly at 6:30 every Thursday at each of the Center's Hope in Rindge. Outdoor activities and meetings are listed in the monthly newsletter. FMI: VMW, Box 36, Cr Conway, NH 03831; Paul or Dave at 207-925-1025.

Seacrest Gay Men: Social group meets Mondays from 6:30-8:00 PM. Location: the Unitarian Universalist Church, 292 State St., Portland, 603/403-4200, or write F.O. Box 13794, Portland, ME 04204.

Women Meeting Women: Lesbian social group meeting on the first and third Friday of each month. FMI call 603-363-4961.
The Community Pride Reporter will not be publishing an August issue of the paper, but will be publishing a combined July/August issue. Please have July and August submissions in by June 25.

Mad Horse Theatre company presents

The Scarlet Letter

by Nathaniel Hawthorne, adapted by Phyllis Nagy
A beautiful re-telling of this American classic: the story of Hester Prynne, her strange child Pearl, and the man who could never reveal his love.

June 5 - 29, 1997
16 Performances Only!
Thurs. June 5 PREVIEW
Fri. June 6 GALA OPENING
Thurs. 7:30
Fri., Sat. 8:00
Sun. 4:00
Tickets $18 ($16 for students and seniors)
Saturday Night tickets $20 ($18 for students and seniors)
Gala Opening Night $25.00
Pay What You Can Night Sunday 6/8
Buy 1, Get 1 Free Night! Thurs. 6/12
For more information and reservations call 797-3338

Maine Freedom to Marry Roundtable

In the last few weeks, we have experienced incredible highs and lows over the right of same-gender couples to marry. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 13, 1997 at 6 p.m. at Bernstein, Shur, Sawyer & Nelson, 100 Middle Street (5th floor), Portland. We will discuss where we should go on the issues of marriage and gay families from this point forward.

1. Update: Yes, it’s true. The Hawaii electorate will be voting in November, 1998 on a constitutional amendment to empower the legislature to restrict marriage to a man and a woman. It is also passing a law according about 60 rights and protections of marriage to reciprocal beneficiaries. At the same time, the Hawaii marriage case remains on track. What do these developments mean for Maine and other states?

2. Now that we have a state law forbidding same-sex marriage and purporting not to recognize same-gender marriages from other states, what should we do? What lessons can be learned from the hearing on L.D. 1017? From similar hearings in other states? How do we keep the state anti-marriage law from turning into a stick with which the courts and others will beat us (as is already happening in other states)?

3. What kind of affirmative public education can/should we do from here? How can we create the momentum to repeal L.D.1017?


Maine Rose Society

The Maine Rose Society announces their 35th Annual Rose Show will be held at the Barron Center, 1145 Brighton Ave., Portland, ME, 04102 on June 29, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. Admission is free and there is no fee to exhibit roses. For additional information please call Clarence Rhodes at 772-8788 or Martin Brower at 833-0036.

Greater Portland YMCA

Greater Portland YMCA 1997
Summer Basketball League

Girls: June 18th - August 6th, 1997 (Wednesday @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm)
Boys: June 19th - August 7th, 1997 (Thursday @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm)
Cost: $50.00 for non-members & $20.00 for Greater Portland YMCA members
SIGN UP NOW - LIMITED SPACE!!
LEVITT AT 874-1111 FOR MORE INFORMATION
Gay Times Festival Schedule

subject to change:

Saturday, August 16
10:00 am - Registration Begins, Room Assignments, Maps, Tickets, Coffee, etc.
11:30-1:00 pm Lunch Buffet with Six Basin Street, Women's Dixieland Band
1:30-2:30 pm Welcome
2:30-6:00 pm You Choose: Workshops: "Sharing Music of Our Common Struggles" w/ Sons & Lovers, "Being Single and Sane" and more.
3:00-4:30 pm Sea Kayaking
4:00-5:30 pm Key Distribution
5 pm Icebreaker with Jen and Don
6:30-7:30 pm Dinner
7:00-8:00 pm 12 Step Meeting / Nontraditionally Gendered Drop-In
8:30-10:00 pm Music and Comedy with Romanovsky & Phillips
10:30 pm - 1:00 am Stargazing and Storytelling from the top of Cadillac Mtn, Films, Games, Coffee, Snacks, Beatrice with marshmallows (weather permitting), Socializing and General R & R, etc.

Sunday, August 17
6:30-8:00 am Sea Kayaking, Bird Watches, Walks, Coffee
8:00-9:30 am Breakfast
10:00-11:30 am Keynotes - Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin - book signing to follow.
11:30-1:00 pm Lunch - Outdoor concert w/ Diva Brasilia, Brazilian and world music
1:00-6:00 pm You Choose:
1:20 pm Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center - Women's Cancer Screening Clinic
1:30 pm Workshops (spontaneous format)
1:45 pm "Exploring Gay and Lesbian Music" w/ Romanovsky and Phillips
1-2:30 pm Sea Kayaking
2:30-6 pm Lakewood excursions w/ Don, Volleyball, walk to town, Asticou Gardens, hiking, bicycling, Rand R, Sea kayaking
3:4-3:30 pm Sea kayaking
4:30-6 pm Political Panel Discussion - "Our Civil Rights"
5:00-7:30 pm Dinner Extravaganza
7:00-8:00 pm 12-step meeting / Bi-sexual Concerns Drop-In
8:45 pm - Concert with Sons & Lovers, followed by Dance with DJ, Adjoining coffeehouse will be available for coffee, discussions, and games.

Monday, August 18
7:45-8:30 am Sea Kayaking, Bird watches, Walks, Coffee
8:30-10:00 am Workshop: w/ Del Martin and Phyllis
10:00-12 pm Lunch - Outdoor concert w/ Diva Brasilia, Brazilian and world music
10 pm - Light Bike - Gorham Mtn. with queer naturalists and see the sea cave.
12:00-1:30 pm Closing Circle
1:30-Sunset You are Welcome to remain and enjoy the town and surroundings. Grounds and facilities remain available for use.

Community Pride Reporter June 1997 Page 15

Classified Ads

Shared Living

Seeking QUIET, responsible, non-drugging/non-drinking housemate to share Bethel farmhouse 15 miles from Sunday River. Garden space, Woods/fields for walking/mountain biking/x-country skiing. Must LOVE CATS, dogs, extended family. $350 per month includes heat, utilities except telephone. 207-774-3629/207-824-2736.

Travel/Vacation

LESBIAN PARADISE! 20 Charming rooms, 100 mountain acres, pool, hot tub, hiking/trails, yummy breakfasts, peace and privacy. We're your perfect vacation choice year round! Week-long and midweek discounts. HIGHLANDS INN, Box 1180P, Bethlehem, NH 03574, (603) 869-3978.


FARNSWORTH & ASSOCIATES
Attorneys at Law

Legal services statewide including: Domestic Relations, Civil Rights, Contracts, Employment, Wills, Probate, Bankruptcy, Real Estate, and Personal Injury.

Susan Farnsworth, Esq., Offices In Hallowell and Portland.
Call 1-800-8066-LAW.

FRESH-N-UP

Professional Residential Cleaning • Offices • Carpets • Floor Care
We even do Windows Quality Service Guaranteed
FREE ESTIMATES • 207/926-4365

MARK STIMSON

REALTY NETWORK

MILLETT POTVIN

Office: (207) 782-8311
Fax: (207) 782-2232
Pagers: 851-3899
155 Center Street • Auburn, Maine 04210