

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

Minutes from Feb. 16th meeting in Strong

Scribe: Deb

A. Maine Lesbian-Gay Symposium:

1. Several people volunteered 1-2 hrs time to the MIF table
2. Buttons & stickers were selected to buy for sale at the Symposium. Jean is ordering them.
3. Joanne volunteered to run a Relating with Children workshop.

B. Kathy & Joanne presented info about a proposed canoe trip on the St. John River in June. (ore info. under ANNOUNCEMENTS.)

C. INVERT, a new statewide newsletter containing info on social change groups, has been established. MIF decided to write up a short descriptive note to be included in the newsletter. Some LF events may also be listed--provided those sponsoring the events approve. Nancy volunteered to be a liaison between the two groups.

D. Loie volunteered to coordinate the LF business meetings. Others interested in helping, let us know!

E. Announcements:

1. If you are interested in helping develop spiritual ceremonies for G, contact Mary at the next meeting.
 2. There is a new gay organization at Bates College--Gays at Bates. Contact Jeffery Law for info.
 3. The American Catholic Eastern Orthodox religion now accepts lesbian & gay men as members in good standing (imagine that!!)
- F. Next meeting will be April 12th, at Mary's in China.

Agenda-TO BE ANNOUNCED:

Directions to Mary's:

FROM AUGUSTA: Go past Flo's (Lastside) towards Belfast. Take left onto 202 at China sign. Follow for 5-10 mi. to China. Take right at intersection by the landing, 2.5 miles on main road. White house on left on hilltop.

FROM BANGOR: Either go to Waterville and take 137 S. to China, and follow above directions or take 9-202 Hampden exit, take 202 to 137 to China. Go to landing, take left.

FROM WATERTOWN: Follow signs to Winslow...137...take 137 S. to China. If lost call 968-2117.

An account by Loie of the MIF retreat weekend in Strong

By Sat. afternoon, about 15 G had fought their way through the snow & storm and after greetings and general milling around in the kitchen, we moved to the living room for the general meeting. We began with a new style of introductions - going around the room, each G would give her name & then the group would ask her questions about herself-everything from "Where do you live" to "How long have you been with your latest lover". Of course we were careful not to put each other on the spot & it created a wonderful feeling of community between veterans & rookies alike. We probably spent 45 min. - 1 hr at it but it was worth every min.

After the meeting, Cindy & Kathy played gold favorites on their guitars, there was more food & general hanging out & Jan & another Cindy fired up the new sauna. Two groups of 6 G enjoyed the sauna & a few even took the bare-ass plunge into the fresh powder snow drifts. Exhilarating!! I'd say so!! More eating & dancing & walking under the night sky followed; last but not nearly least, Bette's massage workshop started late and ended even later (3 am I'm told.)

Sun. a.m. began with an impromptu session in fantasy & even before we got out of our sleeping bags, Joanne had taken us to Accapulco & back Jan & Debbie cooked up a marvelous breakfast & a small group set off for ice skating and skiing. About half of us drove over to Nancy's in Temple & enjoyed playing with clay and trying our hand at the potter's wheel in her ceramics studio. By early afternoon we all got back together in Strong for a last meal & goodbye hugs before heading homeward again. A more relaxing weekend would be hard to imagine. "Ah-woman" (Loie)

The retreat weekend in Strong was very exciting for me. It included pottery, X-country skiing, ice skating (one ambitious G shovelled off the pond), singing, getting-to-know-each-other, dancing, massage/sauna, and LF business. Thanks to those who braved the storm, drove from far reaches, brought good food, and good energy. Deb

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

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QQ March 1 - Sat. "Fantasy Summer Dance" a drug-free event for Alcoholic Lesbian Women & all other ♀ who would enjoy a drug-free event. 8-9 Speakers, 9-1 Dance at Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. Cambridge Childcare provided.

QQ The Maine Association for Children with Learning Disabilities invites you to join their membership. Dues is \$10/yr Membership entitles you to get state & national newsletters, voting rights at meeting, conference pre-registration discounts, certification credit for conferences and workshops and use of mailing list for appropriate reasons. Write to: Maine ACLD, Attn. Suzanne Colburn, c/l Woodin, Route 96, Boothbay Harbor, Maine 04538 or call 633-5264. Also, there will be a conference May 10 9-6 at the Civic Center in Augusta-preregistration encouraged \$15.

QQ Maine NOW announces its Annual Conference to be held in Bar Harbor on May 10. If you would like to add to the conference or want to pre-register (\$3), contact NOW Conference, Chris Rusnor, Wescott Ave. Bar Harbor 04609 or call 288-4348.

QQ Women & Work will be the theme of NOW actions around the state on (or near) March 8, International Women's Day. Originally created in 1909 by Socialist ♀ in support for suffrage in the U.S. it quickly became an annual celebration in many countries on behalf of peace and feminism. For the 20's and 30's it was celebrated less often, especially in the U.S. and eventually disappeared until the rebirth of the Women's Rights Movement in the 1960's. Maine Now Times

If interested in the actions happening in celebration of this day, contact State Coordinator JoAnne Dauphinee, 23 March, Bangor, Maine.

QQ Gay People's Alliance announces:

xx Feb. 22, 7:00 Meeting and Social Feb. 29, 7:00 Films & Discussion (Unitarian Church films on Homosexuality)

Mar 7 - 7:00 Pot Luck Supper, bring something to share or \$2.00 donation;

Mar. 14- 8:00 Coffeehouse with Dancing BYE \$1.00 donation requested

for further info of GPA's activities contact Gay People's Alliance, 92 Bedford St., Student Union, University of S. Maine or call 780-4085 hrs. Mon - Fri 9-3 Wed 7-9p.m.

QQQQ Maine ♀ interested in organizing a ♀-exclusive wilderness canoe/kayak expedition. This is a weel-long water run down Northern Maine's St. John River in the St. John Watershed. This particular river is in danger of becoming prostituted to hydroelectric damms, so the time for running it is NOW. Our tentative date is June 20-27, 1980. We would like to gather a group of up to 10 ♀ (5 or more boats, any combination of canoes or kayaks). We anticipate to paddle, fish & forage by day, and make camp by night. Because of the lack of snow this winter, we anticipate very little (and not difficult) whitewater. Although what whitewater we do encounter would be runnable and exiting. We encourage ♀ to contact us in an effort to plan with us, and share your expectations of this trip, which has the potential to be a truly unforgettable experience. Photographers encouraged, INTEREST#D??? Write or contact: Kathy Zwick/JoAnn Cook, RFD #2 Box 135 Warren, Maine 04864/273-3385

QQQ The Greater Portland Chapter of the National Organization for ♀ invites you to WOMEN AND WORK, Sat., March 8 U.S.M.-Portland, Payson-Smith Hall 10:00 a.m. - 3 p.m. Child Care Available Free Admission Keynote Speaker: Sharon Parker from the National Commission on Working ♀. SPEAK-OUT Come, Listen and/or be Heard!!

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The SUSAN B. ANTHONY CLUB

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March Sat 15th - Concert 7:30 - 11:00 - Acoustic guitar and singing \$2.50 (Q's music) "An early spring happening-Come celebrate with us - a picnic! Bring a blanket, some wine, relax with some good music that we'd like to provide for you". Micky, Sparky, Lisa
No Dance this month -- See you at the State Symposium.

April Sun. 6th Poetry reading 3 p.m. Bring writing, poems, stories to share.
Sun. 13th Film/Discussion Series 3:00 pm
Sat. 19th DANCE 8:30 Donation \$2.00 0000000000
Steering Committee meeting for the Susan B. Anthony Club before the dance. Please dome. We really need some new energy and input!!!

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The Maine Lesbian and Gay Symposium

To be held March 21-23 at Bangor Community College. Please send in your preregistration form as it helps the committee figure out how much food, childcare, housing, etc is needed. Childcare will be provided Fri night 7:30 - 11 p.m.; Sat. 8:30 a.m.-midnight; Sun 10a.m.- noon. The following is what's happening. Symposium Booklets will be available Sat. morning at registration table.

March 21

Friday 8-10 pm. - "Parents of Gays" Panel Discussion
8-11 pm - Movies (to be shown throughout the weekend)
"In The Best Interests of Our Children"
"Comedy in Six Unnatural Acts"
"Portrait of Jason"
8-? - Coffeehouse entertainment

March 22

Saturday 8:30 - Coffee, Hugs, and Hellos
9:00 - Keynote Speakers and announcements
10:30 - Workshop Period I
Room #'s to be announced a. "Survival Without Pain-Touch for Health"
*Diane Whitaker
b. "Coming Out" Lesbians only
*Micky
c. "Mid-life Gays" (Women & men over 35)
*Jerry Banner
12:00 - LUNCH
1:00-2:30 - Workshop Period II
a. "How Do We Meet the Goddess?"
*Center for Being
b. "Catholic & Gay/Lesbian"
*Dignity group in MAINE
c. "Coming out at College"
*Gays at Bates
d. "Feminism is for Everyone"
*Several people
e. "Forming a Gay Group in Maine"
*Douglas & Glen
2:30-4:30 - WORKSHOP PERIOD III
a. "Spirituality & Sexuality"
*Interfaith Presentation
b. "Q identified politics for Fags & Dykes"
*Fags & DYkes Coalition - Dan & Loie
c. "Alcohol & Drug Abuse"
*Bill Christian
d. "Q to Q: Friends, Lovers, Sisters"
*Diane Lamay & Bette Katsekas
4:00-4:30 - BREAK
4:30-6 - WORKSHOP PERIOD IV
a. "Taking Back Your Power"
*Marjorie, Marion, Carolyn
b. "Nuclear Power"
*Sparky
c. "V.D.-Sexually Transmitted Diseases"
*Marjorie Love

d. "Gay Teachers"

*Kathy Z.

6:00

- DINNER

7:00

- MOVIES (same as on Fri night)

9:00

- DANCE

March 23

Sunday 10:00-12

- Movies (same as on Fri. night)

10:30-12

- WORKSHOP PERIOD V

a. "Gay History of the 70's"

*Leigh

b. "Relating with Children"

*Joanne C. & Kathy Z.

1:00

- RAP-UP -- Lesbians Only with Lucia Valeska

Please come and support your Symposium. Lots of energy has been put into the planning to make this the best Symposium yet.

***IS THERE A LAVENDAR DOT ON YOUR ENVELOPE???YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE

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