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THE
(F)AMILY (A)FFAIRS (N)EWSLETTER

FORWARD THIS OR PASS IT AROUND
TO AS MANY GLBTI-FAMILY MEMBERS AS POSSIBLE.
THE MORE FOLKS WHO TAKE PART, THE BETTER.

15 AUGUST 2006

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

(NEWS #1:) The FAN is interested in compiling "gay wedding" info for the readership. See the ANNOUNCEMENTS category for details.

(NEWS #2:) Transcending Boundaries Conference. Join us in Worcester, MA this October for the Transcending Boundaries and Northeast Regional PFLAG Conference! On October 27-29, 2006, Transcending Boundaries will hold its fifth conference for bisexual/pansexual, trans/genderqueer, and intersex people and our allies at the DCU Center in Worcester, MA (formerly known as the Worcester Centrum). We are pleased to announce that this year's conference will be held in conjunction with the PFLAG Northeast Regional Conference for family, friends, and allies from across the region. We'll take over their conference center to foster community, educate ourselves, and overcome societal sex, gender, and sexuality boundaries! We are very excited to announce the keynote speaker line-up:

Jenny Finney Boylan, M-to-F author of She's Not There http://www.colby.edu/personal/j/jfboylan/
Lani Ka'ahumanu, bi-activist/ editor of Bi Any Other Name www.lanikaahumanu.com
Sam Thoron, national president of PFLAG
Matt Kailey, F-to-M, author of Just Add Hormones http://www.mattkailey.com/

REGISTRATION ONLINE NOW AVAILABLE: www.transcendingboundaries.org

(NOTES #1:) The Equity Fund, a project of The Maine Community Foundation, has $16,000 available for grants to GLBT organizations in Maine. See the ANNOUNCEMENTS category for more details.

(NOTES #2:) Karaoke Nite with Marissa (at Club Detour) has moved to Thursday nights.

(REMINDERS #1:) You can help the newsletter by sending me notices of upcoming GLBTI-related activities that you hear about in your area. Trust me, I would rather receive the same notice from 8 people than have everyone assume that I know about it and miss the chance to tell other GLBTI family members. Email megress@gwi.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

This category is for non-social notices about GLBTI community members that you think other GLBTI community members might like to know about...things like: births, deaths, adoptions, commitments, graduations, promotions, new jobs, awards, shows, ongoing classes, trying-to-start-a-group, etc.

1. The Equity Fund, a project of The Maine Community Foundation, presently has $16,000 available for grantmaking to Maine GLBT organizations. The Equity Fund's mission is to strengthen gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender organizations in Maine

and promote community-based initiatives that address GLBT issues and needs. We envision inclusive, diverse, prejudice-free communities for the GLBT population and for all people in Maine. The Equity Fund was established in 1996 and since that time has distributed more than $140,000 to 26 organizations. The Equity Fund currently encourages two types of grant proposals: project grants and capacity-building grants. Grant size: up to $5000. Application Deadline: September 15th. FMI and/or applications go to the web site at http://www.mainecf.org/html/grants/available/equity.html or contact Jennifer Southard, Director of Philanthropic Services at the Maine Community Foundation at 207-761-2440 or by email at jsouthard@mainecf.org

2. Looking for gay/lesbian wedding info. The FAN has had some queries about sources/resources etc for gay and lesbian weddings and committment ceremonies here in Maine. As Sargent Schultz used to say on the TV show HOGAN'S HEROS : " I know nothing !! " But I can find out, with your help. If you've had or arranged a gay/lesbian "wedding" ceremony, if you have services that could be used in such ceremonies, if you know of churches and other venues for them, or if you have any other useful info, then send whatever you have about it to me here at The FAN (megress@gwi.net) and I'll compile it into a little mini-wedding-directory that will be available to anyone asking about it. We would be looking for at least the following info:

a) Names & contact info for ministers, justices of the peace, lawyers, etc. who are willing to officiate such ceremonies.
b) Names and contact info for Churches and any other venues that are open to hosting such ceremonies.
c) Names and contact infor for places open to hosting after-ceremony receptions.
d) Names and contact info for any Family florists, caterers, photographers, and other services that could be used.
e) Info (or where to find the info) about the Maine Domestic Partner Registry.
f) Names and contact info for lawyers who are knowledgeable about GLBTI family law, estate planning, power-of-attorney arrangements, etc.
g) Helpful hints (gleaned from experience) about some do's and don'ts in planning a gay/lesbian wedding.

If each person who reads this sent in even ONE piece of information, we'd have a nice little booklet of info available.

EVENTS:

* **AUG 16 (Wednesday),** Bangor, **Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond St Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all GLBTI native Americans AND their friends (whether Native American or not). Our mission is to provide a vibrant and healthful community for GLBTI's by offering them social opportunities, health education, and alternatives to the bar-scene. By directly meeing their needs, Native GLBTI will give glbti individuals a community where they will be more connected, less isolated, supported, and accepted. Meets every Wednesday. FMI contact Rob at 327-1009 OR email nativeglbti@wmconnect.com

* **AUG 16 (Wednesday),** Augusta, **JUST GUYS**, a men's social group for men who have sex with men, meets every Wednesday at the Dayspring Offices, 9 Green St, in Augusta, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. We provide a space free of attitude, ego, gossip, labels, or judgement. The night's activities can include discussions, games, guest speakers, or movies, and always fun snacks. Join us, bring a friend, come share! FMI contact Lew at 621-3794. More information, weekly updates at www.justguys.info

* **AUG 18 (Friday),** Brewer, **The Starlight Performers** will be doing a performance at Club Detour on Wilson St in Brewer, starting at 8:30 pm. The theme for this show is: OPEN MUSIC. The Starlight Performers are a wonderful group of men and women who love to perform so that you can enjoy a Friday evening. They donate the money from every show to a worthy cause. FMI call 989-3386 or email clubdetourbrewer@aol.com or check the web site at www.clubdetour.us . See you there!

* **AUG 20 (Sunday),** Mt Desert Island, **Pot Luck Dinner & Gathering** for all interested GLBTQ family members. Pleasant company, food, croquet, etc. It's Lin's annual summer gala at her home in Pretty Marsh (on Indian Point Rd, just before the junction with Rt 102). Look for the rainbow decoations at the end of the driveway. Pot luck dinner starts at 4 pm. FMI contact Lin at 244-3837.

* **AUG 21 (Monday)** Bangor, **Bangor Outright** meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 6-8 pm. (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22) FMI Jamie at 990-3626.

* **AUG 23 (Wednesday),** Belfast, **the film The Torchlight Trilogy** will be shown at 7 pm at the Belfast UU Church on Miller Street. This showing is part of the ongoing Welcoming Congregation events at the UU Church and is being shown by the Welcoming Congregation Committee. There will be a discussion period following the movie. FMI call Kathy or Chris at 589-4742.

* **AUG 23 (Wednesday),** Bangor, **Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond St Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all GLBTI native Americans AND their friends (whether Native American or not). Our mission is to provide a vibrant and healthful community for GLBTI's by offering them social opportunities, health education, and alternatives to the bar-scene. By directly meeing their needs, Native GLBTI will give glbti individuals a community where they will be more connected, less isolated, supported, and accepted. Meets every Wednesday. FMI contact Rob at 327-

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* **AUG 30 (Wednesday),** Bangor, **Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond St Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all GLBTI native Americans AND their friends (whether Native American or not). Our mission is to provide a vibrant and healthful community for GLBTI's by offering them social opportunities, health education, and alternatives to the bar-scene. By directly meeing their needs, Native GLBTI will give glbti individuals a community where they will be more connected, less isolated, supported, and accepted. Meets every Wednesday. FMI contact Rob at 327-1009 OR email nativeglbti@wmconnect.com

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* **SEP 1 (Friday),** Brewer, **The Starlight Performers** will be doing a performance at Club Detour on Wilson St in Brewer, starting at 8:30 pm. The theme for this show is: LABOR PAINS (all performers must look pregnant). The Starlight Performers are a wonderful group of men and women who love to perform so that you can enjoy a Friday evening. They donate the money from every show to a worthy cause. FMI call 989-3386 or email clubdetourbrewer@aol.com or check the web site at www.clubdetour.us . See you there!

* **SEP 3 (Sunday)** Auburn, 4 - 6 p.m., Transcare2000 **Social Support Group, for transgendered individuals**, their families, friends, partners and interested professionals age 18 or older. This is a moderated group to provide non-sexual social time to explore gender in a safe environment. FMI contact Marty at 582-8779 or at martymc@adelphia.net

* **SEP 3 (Sunday),** Bucksport, 5:30 - 7:00 pm, group **planning meeting for the lesbian retirement home**. Group will meet at Ming's Restaurant in downtown Bucksport. FMI contact Gabrielle at gabrielle@prexar.com .

* **SEP 6 (Wednesday),** Augusta, **JUST GUYS**, a men's social group for men who have sex with men, meets every Wednesday at the Dayspring Offices, 9 Green St, in Augusta, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. We provide a space free of attitude, ego, gossip, labels, or judgement. The night's activities can include discussions, games, guest speakers, or movies, and always fun snacks. Join us, bring a friend, come share! FMI contact Lew at 621-3794. More information, weekly updates at www.justguys.info

* **SEP 6 (Wednesday),** Bangor, **Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond St Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all GLBTI native Americans AND their friends (whether Native American or not). Our mission is to provide a vibrant and healthful community for GLBTI's by offering them social opportunities, health education, and alternatives to the bar-scene. By directly meeing their needs, Native GLBTI will give glbti individuals a community where they will be more connected, less isolated, supported, and accepted. Meets every Wednesday. FMI contact Rob at 327-1009 OR email nativeglbti@wmconnect.com

* **SEP 11 (Monday)** Bangor, **Bangor Outright** meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 6-8 pm. (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22) FMI Jamie at 990-3626.

* **SEP 13 (Wednesday)** Ellsworth Area, **Gay Guyz Group (GGG) Potluck Dinner**, 6-9 pm-ish at various locations in the greater Ellsworth Area. FMI and to get directions and time contact Wayne at wayne@mrlanguage.com

* **SEP 13 (Wednesday),** Augusta, **JUST GUYS**, a men's social group for men who have sex with men, meets every Wednesday at the Dayspring Offices, 9 Green St, in Augusta, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. We provide a space free of attitude, ego, gossip, labels, or judgement. The night's activities can include discussions, games, guest speakers, or movies, and always fun snacks. Join us, bring a friend, come share! FMI contact Lew at 621-3794. More information, weekly updates at www.justguys.info

* **SEP 13 (Wednesday)** Bangor, **Maine Eat-Out Project**, 6:30 pm. Join our group for dinner at different area restaurants. The September MEOP will be held at **A TASTE OF INDIA**, 68 Main St. in Bangor. RESERVATIONS ARE NEEDED. FMI and/or to reserve contact Jean at 862-2063 or email megress@gwi.net no later than Tuesday, September 12th.

* **SEP 13 (Wednesday),** Bangor, **Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond St

Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all GLBTI native Americans AND their friends (whether Native American or not). Our mission is to provide a vibrant and healthful community for GLBTI's by offering them social opportunities, health education, and alternatives to the bar-scene. By directly meeing their needs, Native GLBTI will give glbti individuals a community where they will be more connected, less isolated, supported, and accepted. Meets every Wednesday. FMI contact Rob at 327-1009 OR email nativeglbti@wmconnect.com

* **SEP 14 (Thursday),** Westbrook, **Screening of the film: *Ugly Ducklings*** at University of New England, Ludcke Auditorium, Stevens Avenue. Post-screening discussion and dessert reception sponsored by the Maine Women Writers Collection. This is the documentary film directed by Fawn Yacker about the Maine production of the play *Ugly Ducklings*, by Carolyn Gage. The subject is harassment of GLBT youth and its connection with youth suicide. See Carolyn's website for details (www.carolyngage.com), or contact the Maine Women Writers Collection. Their website is: http://www.une.edu/mwwc/ . FMI contact Carolyn at carolyn@carolyngage.com .

* **SEP 15 (Friday),** Brewer, **The Starlight Performers** will be doing a performance at Club Detour on Wilson St in Brewer, starting at 8:30 pm. The theme for this show is: OPEN MIKE. The Starlight Performers are a wonderful group of men and women who love to perform so that you can enjoy a Friday evening. They donate the money from every show to a worthy cause. FMI call 989-3386 or email clubdetourbrewer@aol.com or check the web site at www.clubdetour.us . See you there!

* **SEP 16 (Saturday)** Bangor, **Le Salon Du Somerset**, 7 - 9 pm, Chris & Jean's monthly, ever-changing event. The September Salon will be Marli Weiner, professor of history at the University of Maine, who has written on women in the mid-19th century South and on Maine women. She will be speaking about her book: Defining the Body: Race, Sex, and Place in the Antebellum South, which looks at both medical and lay views of bodies, how they functioned, and how to understand their diseases. In particular, she will focus on one chapter, called "Ambiguous Bodies," on mixed race and intersexed bodies. Reservations are required and will be limited to 15 people. Snacks will be served. FMI and/or to reserve, contact Jean at 862-2063 or at megress@gwi.net

BUSINESSES
(NEW LISTINGS OF GLBTI-OWNED BUSINESS and GLBTI BUSINESS INDIVIDUALS):

The complete directory-to-date of folks who have asked to be listed is available on request. Also, it will be emailed to everyone next on September 15. If you are a GLBTI business owner or an "out" GLBTI business person associating with a non-GLBTI-owned business (within a 50 mile radius of Bangor) who wants a free listing, then contact me. I'm Jean at megress@gwi.net or at 862-2063.

HOME SERVICES:

The Cleaning Lady
1542 US HWY 1
Hancock, ME 04640
ph: 207-422-3268
ph: 207-735-7423
email: jwussta@msn.com
proprietor: Jennifer Worster
Let ME do your "dirty" work

MERCHANDISE:

A Touch of Maine - Unique Gifts and More
ph: 207-422-3268
ph: 207-735-7423
email: ATouchofMaine@msn.com
proprietor: Jennifer Worster
Furniture, Décor, Birdhouses and Feeders, Maine Theme Items, Garden Accessories and Décor, Fundraising Items, etc. Call for a Catalog.

PERSONALS:

no listings this issue

SELL/BUY/TRADE/GIVE:

If you're a FAN subscriber trying to sell/buy something, want to trade for something else, or have something to give away, this is the category to post to. The FAN makes no guarantees about anything listed here, we simply provide the free listing as a service.

FOR SALE. A collection of Mardi Gras ceramic face masks, a variety of sizes totaling about 24. Priced at $20 for all. Also a large collection of Beanie Babies for sale, some in cases. Call Steve at 453-7401 in Fairfield for more info or to see.

LIVING SPACE RENTALS:

If you are FAN subscriber with a living space (room, apartment, house/apartment sharing) to rent to someone, or if you are looking for a living space to rent from someone, then this is the category to post to. Send your listings to me, Jean, at megress@gwi.net

Augusta, apartment for rent. 2 BR, second floor, private patio, gay building, $550/month, pets welcome. FMI call Natty at 207-623-8148 or cell at 441-7701.

Belfast, a variety of downtown offerings to rent. Contact Virginia at vathrockmorton@midmaine.com OR at 338-1729.

Eddington, housemates wanted. Looking for professional and/or graduate students to share large, furnished home in Eddington. Wide pine floors, living room, dining room, large kitchen, fireplaces, storage, and enough other rooms for each of 3 tenants to have two private rooms each. Very comfortable. No pets, drugs, or heavy drinking. Smokers OK if you smoke outside. Free use of hot tub, ping pong table, washer and dryer, 36 inch cable TV, Only 20-25 minutes to the UMaine campus. The rent for each person would be $400/month plus utilities. Security deposit, lease, and references from the last place you lived. FMI contact Scott at chefguy@adelphia.net

Gardiner, roommate desired. Lesbian with two dogs seeking clean, responsible, non-smoker to share large 2nd floor apartment. Please call Eileen at 441-2785 or email hearme@natisp.com

Levant, house for rent. Charming 1900's farmhouse.Three bedrooms, one bathroom with large jacuzzi tub, nice large porch and gardening options. It has been partially remodeled, hardwoodfloors throughout and will/can come with a couch, table and a few chairs. Washer and dryer available. 30 minutes from Bangor, approx. 45mins from Orono. Pet friendly. $960.00 a month, no utilities, plowing free. If interested please email Beth at beth_stepone@hotmail.com

Lincolnville, house for rent. Weekly or monthly summer rental of a beautiful, three bedroom, restored cape located in Lincolnville near public ocean beaches. Check out the house at www.lincolnvillerealestate.net (click on the "vacation rental" icon). FMI contact Dwight at campmee@yahoo.com or by phone at 207-763-4849.

Orono, room for rent beginning mid-August. Looking for a graduate student or non-traditional age undergraduate student to share our 4 bedroom, 2 bath home. Lesbian Mom/University professor and twin 5 year old boys. The room for rent is furnished, but can also be rented empty. The rent is $400/month. No smoking and no dogs. Contact Laurie at laurie@maine.edu

GLBTI COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:

Equality Maine, has been providing education and legislative advocacy for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1984. It sponsors a variety of social and legislative educational events each year and is always looking for volunteers and new members. If you're not a member, you should be. FMI contact Equality Maine at 207-761-3732 or toll free at 1-800-556-5472. Their email address is info@equalitymaine.org and the web site is www.equalitymaine.org

Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN). To promote the safety and well-being of all students and teachers in our schools, without regard to sexual orientation. We undertake to educate and train school personnel, and to reach out to students who may be questioning their sexual orientation or who know that they are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. We are teachers, parents, school administrators, counselors, and other interested citizens; men and women, gay and straight, working together. FMI contact the Downeast Maine Chapter at PO Box 373, Ellsworth, ME 04605. OR phone 244-3837 or 667-2358. OR check the national web site at www.glsen.org

Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD). On November 8th, Maine's voters embraced fairness for all its citizens by voting overwhelmingly to retain its anti-discrimination law. To learn about and protect your rights under this law, visit GLAD's website at www.glad.org or call the free legal hotline at at 1-800-455-GLAD (1-800-455-4523). GLAD is New England's legal rights organization dedicated to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation, HIV status and gender identity and expression. GLAD's legal victories in Maine have addressed HIV discrimination, harassment of gay students, co-guardianship rights for same-sex parents, domestic partner benefits and more.

Howard Foundation. This is a foundation dedicated to building a permanent scholarship endowment for high school seniors and post secondary students. The foundation focuses on students who are entering any profession that promotes diversity and a better understanding of differences in people within our communities. Guidelines for allotting the scholarships are presently being formulated. A second goal for the foundation is to establish a 3-day festival called "Multi-Cultural Days - Bangor" which will be open to every ethnic/cultural group in Maine with a focus on education, food, music/entertainment, dancing, and inspriational speakers. People interested in being on the Planning Committee, or being involved in any way, can contact Dan Williams at 942-9319 or at knead24u@yahoo.com

Lesbian Health Project. Initiated in 1992, the Lesbian Health Project of the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center seeks to promote non-homophobic health services which will provide lesbians with the ability to make the best health decisions possible based on accurate knowledge. The focus of the project is on developing educational materials for lesbians and trainings for health and social service professionals. In addition, the project sponsors a Lesbian Health Clinic at the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center which provides low-cost, woman positive, lesbian-centered health care including: pelvic exams, breast exams, health education, instruction in breast self-exam, pap smears, mammography referrals, health advocacy, screening and treatment of STD's. For more information or to become involved in the work of the project contact the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center at 947-5337

Living Queer Here! A locally-produced radio show aired on station WERU. An exploration into the full range of life created and experienced by the queer community in Maine. Hosted by Gail Mackinson & Carolyn Horn. The show airs on the 4th Sunday of each month from 10-11 pm. WERU broadcasts in the greater Blue Hill area on frequency 89.9 FM, in the Bangor area on frequency 102.9 FM, and streams on the web at www.weru.org . WERU also broadcasts the nationally syndicated GLBTI show: THIS WAY OUT every Tuesday afternoon from 4 - 4:30 pm.

Mainely Bears is a social group in the State of Maine. We are a gay mens group open to gay, bisexual, and men who are not sure. We have events all over the state of Maine. FMI regarding Mainely Bears, contact Wayne at mainelybears@hotmail.com OR write to us at Mainely Bears, PO Box 8318, Bangor, ME 04402-8318 OR check the web site at www.mainelybears.com for upcoming activities.

Maine Breast and Cervical Health Program, offers no-cost mammograms, pap tests, and gynecological exams to qualifying Maine women (regardless of sexual orientation). If you are a woman in Maine and you are due for a Pap test or mammogram, help is just a phone call away. The Maine Breast and Cervical Health Program can help you get the health care you deserve. If you are a Maine woman over 40, have little or no insurance and meet certain income guidelines then you may be eligible for no-cost mammograms, Pap tests, and gynecological exams at your choice of participating area providers. Call today to see if you qualify, 1-800-350-5180. (TTY 1-800-438-5514) The best protection is early detection!

Maine SpeakOut Project. SpeakOut's mission and philosophy is to actively work towards the creation of a society that is inclusive, respectful, and safe for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and transgender people. Volunteers educate their community by sharing the truth of their lives. SpeakOut provides schools, business, and churches with opportunities to engage in open dialogue that is non-confrontational and non-divisive. SpeakOut's community programming efforts include: SpeakOuts, Everybody Counts in the Workplace, Walk with the One You Love, and the Charlie Howard Memorial Library. To arrange a speaker training or schedule a speaker contact Pam McCann at speakout@commcc.org or phone 874-1030.

Northern Maine Pride works to promote pride within our community and diversity and acceptance outside our community. They sponsor a variety of social and pride events during the year and are always looking for new members and volunteers to help with planning and organizing. Meetings are held on various Monday evenings from 7 - 8:30 pm. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 120 Park St in Bangor. (See listings above for actual dates.) FMI write Northern Maine Pride, PO Box 2815, Bangor, ME 04402-2815 or visit the web site at www.northernmainepride.org or email them at info@northernmainepride.org

Parent's, Family, & Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St, in Portland. ALL are welcomed, not just parents. FMI call 207-831-3015 or email mdpalmer@gwi.net

Transcare 2000 provides transsexual education, professional educational seminars, group moderation, counseling, and referrals for the trans community. Private duty nursing care and consultations by a registered nurse for post-operative transsexuals. Presentations on "Post Operative Transsexuals, a Study of Integration." FMI contact Marty at martyrnc@adelphia.net OR at 582-8779 OR check the web site at http://www.transcare2000.com

The Transgender Fund. With offices in Freeport, Maine, The Transgender Fund is a national, completely independent, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt public charitable foundation. It has been created by and for transgendered individuals. Our funding is derived from contributions by caring individuals of all levels of means. Our strength and independence come from the fact that there is no single benefactor who has seeded the Fund with a large amount of capital. Contributions you make are added to those of your sisters and brothers. Individually, they may seem modest, but collectively they add up to a powerful force that is reinvested in the support of projects fostering the well-being of all our gender variant minorities. FMI write The Transgender Fund, PO Box 50, Freeport,

Maine 04032 OR phone 207-846-7997 OR email info@tgfund.org OR check the web site at www.tgfund.org

SOCIAL GROUPS (MORE THAN 50 MILES FROM BANGOR):

CENTRAL MAINE OUTRIGHT. An organization, in Augusta, that supports youth 22 and under who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and their heterosexual allies (GLBTQA). This group is sponsored by Dayspring. Our drop-in groups are every Thursday evening from 7 - 9 pm. We are located at 9 Green St, in Augusta. FMI contact Faith at 621-3785 or email dayspring@mainegeneral.org

COASTAL WOMEN'S CONNECTION. A women's social group that covers the coastal area from about Brunswick to Portland. Dances, BBQs, softball, camping, potlucks, etc. FMI and to get on mailing list contact Morgan at coastalwomensconnection@yahoo.com OR Betsy at giftedhanz@hotmail.com OR you can check the web site at http://www.geocities.com/coastalwomensconnection

LAVENDER LETTERS. A snail mail newsletter for lesbian-identified women in the Washington County (Machias) area. FMI and to get on the mailing list contact Gillyin at Lavender Letters, 9 Bobcat Path, Machias, ME 04654

NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD. A GLBTQ social group in Aroostook County hosts a monthly BBQ or potluck gathering on the second Sunday of each month. Location varies within the central Aroostook County area. Open to all gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning folks (and their friends/supporters). FMI and/or directions contact Kent at 538-7630 or Paul at 425-7119 or email northenlambdanord@verizon.net . You can also ask to get on their e-newsletter mailing list.

OUTI...AS I WANT TO BE. An organization, located in Rockland, for all GLBTQQ youth, ages 14 to 22, as well as straight allies. We are an all-volunteer, youth-driven organization. We seek to provide outreach, affirmation, support, and education in a safe space for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, queer, and questioning youth in Lincoln, Knox, and Waldo counties and their offshore islands. We meet in Rockland every Friday evening from 7 - 9 pm at the Lincoln Street Center For The Arts And Education. FMI, contact Lis at 632-4797 or email outmaine@yahoo.com . Check the web site at www.outasiwanttobe.org

PRYSM (PROUD RAINBOW YOUTH OF SOUTHERN MAINE) ....formerly OUTRIGHT-PORTLAND. An organization, in Portland, that supports youth 22 and under who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and their heterosexual allies (GLBTQA). This group is sponsored by Community Counseling Center. Our drop-in groups are every Tuesday evening from 6 - 9 pm. We are located at 43 Baxter Blvd on the 2nd floor. FMI contact Andrew or Pam at 874-1030 or email prysm@commcc.org

SEACOAST SAPPHOS. A women's social group that covers the area from about Portland to Portsmouth. Dances, BBQs, potlucks, concerts, etc. FMI and to get on the mailing list contact Cherie at seacoastsapphos@yahoo.com or check the web site at www.seacoastsapphos.org

SINGLE OLDER LESBIAN ORGANIZATION (SOLO). A group for single, older (45 years and up), lesbian-identified women, in the general midcoast Maine area (Bath to Damariscotta). FMI and to get on the mailing list contact Kathy at naturalpet@suscom-maine.net or check the web site at http://www.geocities.com/sololesbians/

SOLO-N-FRIENDS. A loosely organized women's group which often meets for restaurant meals and social conversation. We also do a variety of different activities that are of interest to those who attend. Solo-N-Friends is made up of the members of SOLO and women-loving-women (lesbian, bi, trans) of any age, whether single or partnered. We serve the general midcoast Maine area (Bath to Damariscotta). FMI and to get on the mailing list contact Janet at janet@4footloose.com or check the web site at http://www.geocities.com/lesbians04/

THE WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, AND HOW OF THE FAMILY AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER.

All communications to FAMILY AFFAIRS should be sent to megress@gwi.net (Be sure to include the words "family affairs" in the subject line).

WHAT IS "FAMILY AFFAIRS" ?

FAMILY AFFAIRS is a free, twice-a-month, social activities newsletter for the GLBTI (gay/les/bi/trans/intersexed) community. It is sent out on the 1st and 15th of each month. It is centered in Bangor and covers a 50 mile radius around the city.

WHO CAN SUBMIT NOTICES TO "FAMILY AFFAIRS" ?

Anyone! This is your chance to organize your own activities and get some GLBTI-family company for those fun and interesting things you'd like to do. Do you want to host a potluck, attend a concert, or have someone to join you on that bus tour to Boston?

Are you looking for someone to join you at the hockey or baseball games, for hiking, or to go to that special art exhibit? Are you looking for canoeing, golfing, camping, or fishing partners? This is the best place to look. Think up something fun to do, organize it, and let us know about it....it's easy!

CAN I ORGANIZE AN ACTIVITY THAT DOESN'T INCLUDE "EVERYONE" ?

Yes. People who want to organize an activity for the GLBT and/or I community are free to set whatever requirements or restrictions they want to on the activity they're organizing. If you want to organize a "women only" camping trip, a "men only" drumming night, a "youth from age 18-24 only" dance, or a day trip to a water park for GLBTI "couples with children", that would be fine.

CAN I POST A SOCIAL ITEM THAT'S NOT GLBTI FOCUSED?

But of course! Not everyone who watches women's basketball is a lesbian! If you want to organize an activity around something that is "mostly-straight-but-GLBTI-friendly", then do it!

HOW DO I GET ONTO OR OFF THE MAILING LIST ?

Just email me and ask to be put on (or taken off) the list: megress@gwi.net

CAVEATS:

All newsletters are emailed BCC, and the email list is not given out to anyone. Still, keep in mind that while this newsletter is for the GLBTI community, not everyone on the mailing list may be a "family" member. People ask to be put on the list and I put them on. There is no interview process or attempt to verify "queer" status. It's up to you to behave appropriately for whatever level of anonymity/security you feel you need.