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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.

1 DECEMBER 2006

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

(NEWS #1:) Well, I got a big fat NO RESPONSE to my query for a list of everyone's favorite Maine chat rooms, so I guess none exist.....(yea, right). To assuage my sorrow I decided to start up yet another category in The FAN. It's small right now, but I hope it will grow. Check out the new **WEB BASED MAINE GLBT LISTSERVES & EMAIL LISTS:** category (it's way down near the bottom).

(NOTES #1:) Light to Unite (together with Bristol-Myers Squibb) is sponsoring one of those "click-and-get-money-donated-to-a-cause" websites for the 3rd Annual light-to-unite World AIDS Day. For everyone who goes to the site and lights a candle, Bristol-Myers Squibb says they will donate a dollar towards AIDS research. To check it out go to www.lighttounite.org

(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.

no listings this issue

OP/EDS:

*This is your chance to spout off (or offer your insightful thoughts and opinions) about **ANYTHING** related to the GLBTI community. Any subscriber is welcomed to submit. Please keep your thoughts as succinct (and civilized) as possible. Subscribers should be willing to allow at least their first name and an email address to be listed with the posting.*

"SOCIALIZING" vs "BEING SOCIAL"

When I was younger (way back in the early 1960s), I remember my parents hosting dinner parties at our house. These were always exciting events for us kids because from our bedrooms upstairs we would hear the talking/arguing/laughing/singing voices of sometimes as many as 40 or 50 adults on the first floor. The next morning we would find the remnants of cigarettes in filled ashtrays, the empty wine glasses with the sticky red residue of whatever it was the grownups had been drinking, and the sink

overflowing with unwashed dishes.

Even at an early age it became clear to me that my parents did not always look forward to these gatherings with great pleasure. Sure, they invited lots of their friends and had a good time with them, but they also invited lots of people who they did not seem to have much in common with and who they sometimes even criticized in the privacy of our home. I sometimes wondered WHY they bothered to host those events and, even more, WHAT possessed them to invite people who they didn't particularly care for. I also wondered why those folks, who may have felt the same about my parents, deigned to accept the invitations, and why my parents often accepted similar invitations from those individuals.

It wasn't until years later, after attending many town meetings, that I came to understand that what my folks were doing was "being social", and that "being social" is very different from "socializing" (which they also did plenty of).

"Socializing" is what you do with close friends and family members when you want to have a fun or relaxing time. Together you go to a movie, take a long walk, go fishing or golfing, have lunch or dinner, or sit and chat for hours over tea, coffee, and sweets. You socialize with people who think and feel about things much the same as you do, and it fulfils, pleases and rejeuvenates you.

"Being Social", on the other hand, is what you do with the extended circles of people who you interact with on a day-to-day basis (whether you like them or not). You greet strangers, you share not-too-personal stories, you take part in communal activities like attending the high-school basketball games, you offer to jump-start their car on cold winter mornings, you become a member of one or more social service groups, you make and accept invitations to gatherings where not everyone is going to think or feel the same as you do; and you do it with as much gracefulness and with as much of a smile as you can manage.

For all the bad rap that the American social scene got during the 1960s and 1970s for its perceived "phoney-ness" and insincerity (much of which was deserved), I am beginning to understand that there was also an important component to it which has waned in the intervening years as the cult of "me-my-mine" has come into vogue.

That component was a sense of "community", and since no community is ever composed of completely homogenous people, it was a sense that had to be worked at and built. "Being social" was the glue that held together the disparate groups of people and created "community". Either consciously or unconsciously my parents and all the other grownups sensed that. In a very real sense, "being social" was not considered to be an option as it usually is today....it was considered a civic duty, much like voting.

When the annual town meeting was held, and you stood up to speak for or against some article which you knew many of your fellow townsfolk thought differently about, you had always in the back of your mind that these fellow townsfolk were people who you had shared bread with, whose homes you had entered, whose lives you at least partly understood, and who were to some extent as reliant on you as you were on them. I think that that understanding tempered many a motion and many a vote at those town meetings. It allowed a sense of compromise and tolerance to flourish in the midst of disagreement and reinforced the sense that, like it or not, you really were a community and you really needed to pull together.

The GLBT population in Maine is certainly not the only collection of people who have fallen for the siren's song of "me-my-mine". They are not the only group which has increasingly isolated themselves into smaller and smaller cliques, choosing to "socialize" only with folks who think and feel as the clique does and forgoing almost all forms of "being social" with other GLBT individuals. But as far as I can see, it IS the only group that continues to refer to itself as a "community" in the face of obvious internal self-isolation and separatism. Apparently, we at least want to be a community. I think we actually could be if more GLBT folks recognized their duty to "be social" with each other.

Jean
megress@gwi.net

FAMILY?

Well it seems we are a *family* in more ways than one, as half of us aren't talking to the other half! I see all kinds of social activities which are targeted solely at men, or solely at women, very few welcome all of us! Isn't this taking 'family' too far?

I am extremely happy in my relationship with my girl, but I've had a lot of men friends all of my life and now I don't! The circle in which we currently socialize seems to be made up of all women with the occassional straight man now and again, and quite frankly, I really miss having men friends – who are just that – friends, coming at some of the same issues from a slightly different standpoint. Of course it would just be fun to hang out, chat . . . and drink!!!

So here's my very small step towards a very small solution. Last winter and spring, we had a lesbian happy hour which took place every month in Hallowell. I would like to reinstate that, but throw it open to anyone in the GLBTI community. I'm changing the venue to the pub in Gardiner called the Firkin Sturgeon Pub – its also the Kennebec Brewery Co and is right next door to the

Lincoln/Mercury used car dealership (the pub is just after it coming from the interstate, and just before it coming from the Key Bank lights in Gardiner). The pub is at 625 Water Street (coming from 295, take the Gardiner exit onto Rt. 126 and head towards Gardiner for a few miles. The pub is on the left a few hundred yards after the metal bridge. If you get as far as the lights in Gardiner with Key Bank on the right, you've gone too far – but not by much.)

I will attach a helium balloon to some part of the furniture or to my anatomy!! for ease of identification. Take a chance; come to meet new people.

We will meet on the first and third Friday of every month, from 6 – 8 p.m., starting this Friday 1st December. If anyone wanted to contact me with any questions, such as directions from other points of the compass, or other parts of the state – or even other states - feel free! It would be great to meet you, or to get re-acquainted with previous happy hour participants.

Kathy
tessellate@gmail.com
(ed. note: The FAN will list this gathering on an ongong basis, so check each issue to see when the next gathering is.)

EVENTS:

* **DEC 1 (Friday),** Gardiner, 6 - 8 pm, **GLBTI Happy Hour!** The Lesbian Happy Hour is changing! We are going to become the GLBTI Happy Hour! All are welcome. It will be held at the Kennebec Brewery Co., The Firkin Sturgeon Pub, at 625 Water Street Gardiner. The Pub is also a brewery - as you can probably tell - plus they serve food and soft drinks if that's your preference. There is also a pool table. For anyone who's new I will have a helium balloon - hopefully with a smiley face if I can - somewhere in my vicinity for ease of identification. FMI or any questions contact Kathy at tessallate@gmail.com . I look forward to meeting lots of new faces and becoming re-acquainted with familiar ones.

* **DEC 2 (Saturday),** Bangor, **fund raiser for The HOWARD FOUNDATION**, HOLIDAYS with the FIRST TIMERS. Yes, Lady Daniella, Miss Caddy DeVille and Madame Sheena will perform at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, Bangor International Airport, Bangor Maine. Doors open at 7:00 pm, show from 7:30 pm to 9 pm., Dancing to music of the 50's, 60's and 70's after the show until 11pm. Cash bar, FREE parking. Seating is limited. Tickets are available only through our ticket agent: Epic Sports, 6 Central Street, Bangor, Maine. Couples $25, singles $15.

* **DEC 2 (Saturday),** Ogunquit (for those who don't mind traveling), **Women's T-Dance**, 6 - 9 pm at MAINE STREET, 195 Maine Street. Last month they had a crowd of almost 400 women! Buying tickets in advance is HIGHLY recommended. Price is $7. FMI check the web site at www.mainestreetogunquit.com/women.php or call DJ Jodi at 1-603-674-5187

* **DEC 3 (Sunday),** Belfast, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m., group **planning meeting for the lesbian retirement home**. Group will meet at Virginia's place, 129 Main St. #3, in Belfast. FMI contact Gabrielle at gabrielle@prexar.com or phone Virginia at 338-1729.

* **DEC 4 (Monday)** Bangor, **Bangor Outright** meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 6-8 pm. (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22) FMI Terry at 990-3626.

* **DEC 5 (Tuesday),** Portland (for those who don't mind traveling), **lecture on "Clinical issues with Transgender Patients".** The lecture will be given by Andrea Neumann-Mascis, PhD and will be given at the Dana Center at the Maine Medical Center in Portland from 8 - 9 am. It is free and open to the public. Ms Neumann-Mascis works with Fenway Community Health Center in Boston on their Trans Health team. She was featured a few months ago in Innewsweekely for her work with the trans population in Boston on issues of health and mental health. FMI contact dorn42@yahoo.com

* **DEC 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

* **DEC 6 (Wednesday),** Bangor, **Native American Two Spirited support/friendship group**, 6-8 PM, at the Hammond St. Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all of the Two Spirited community. Our mission is to provide a vibrant and healthful community for Two Spirited by offering them social opportunities, health education, and alternatives to the bar-scene. We **Also do confidential free HIV testing.** Native American Two Spirited will give Two Spirited individuals a community where they will be more connected, less isolated, supported, and accepted. Meets every Wednesday. so why not stop by and say hi. we have potluck dinners, movie nights, discussion, etc. the list goes on. FMI contact Rob at 990-0605 Ext. 5510 OR 1-877-775-8322 ext. 5510. Or you can e-mail nativeglbti@wmconnect.com

* **DEC 7 (Thursday),** Blue Hill, 7 pm, Blue Hill Library. **Book reading: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Aging.** Doug Kimmel, Ph.D. will be reading from and signing copies of his new co-edited book, *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender*

Aging. Doug is an openly gay psychologist in Hancock. The book is a collaboration of many authors, including Matt Dubois, Esq. of Portland who wrote a chapter on legal issues. The book was published by Columbia University Press, New York, in 2006. Contributors address topics such as sexuality, relationships, legal issues, retirement planning, physical and mental health, substance abuse, community needs, gay and lesbian grandparents, and a model agency dedicated to delivering services to the senior LGBT population. Their writing takes a gay-affirmative approach that focuses on resilience, coping, and successful adaptation to aging and is sensitive to the importance of historical oppression in the lives of older members of sexual minorities. FMI contact the library at 374-5515.

* **DEC 7 (Thursday),** Bangor, **Students for AIDS Facts and Education Resources: SAFER**, meets every Thursday from 3 - 5 p.m. at the Eastern Maine AIDS Network (EMAN) on Harlow St. The group is for any high school student from the ages of 14 to 18 yrs. old with questions about HIV/AIDS. We have group check ins, group discussion, watch movies, snacks. GLBT friendly. FMI and any questions call 990-3626 and ask for Jamie or Terry.

* **DEC 8 (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: Cabaret Drag Variety Show, hosted by the Dutchess of Northern Maine Pride, Samantha. All are welcome to perform, as this is open to anyone with talent. You can do a dance #, sing, play an instrument, etc. And you won't want to miss the amazing performance of Samantha, and some of the other Starlight Performers as well. 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!

* **DEC 8 & 9 (Friday & Saturday),** Portland (for those who don't mind traveling), **Maine Gay Men's Chorus 15th Annual Holiday Concert.** At 8 pm on Friday evening and at both 3 pm and 8 pm on Saturday. Concert will be at the Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St, in Portland. Tickets are $15 in advance or $20 at the door and can be purchased online at www.mainegaymenschorus.org

* **DEC 9 (Saturday),** Belfast, **Women's Dance**, 7 - 11 p.m. The Old Dykes Home is stepping out and having a (first of many) Women's Dance. The dance will be held at the Belfast Boat House on the waterfront. Cost: $5 (less if you can't, more if you can) Refreshments available for a modest fee. Rides: Catherine Springer has volunteered to arrange carpooling, 326-8689. This dance is open to all women. We guarantee the music as DANCEABLE! However, you don't have to dance to come; we will have adequate space for sitting and shmoozing around the refreshment area! FMI phone 374-2140 or email Gabrielle at gabrielle@prexar.com .

* **DEC 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

* **DEC 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

* **DEC 13 (Wednesday),** Bangor, **Native American Two Spirited support/friendship group**, 6-8 PM, at the Hammond St. Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all of the Two Spirited community. Our mission is to provide a vibrant and healthful community for Two Spirited by offering them social opportunities, health education, and alternatives to the bar-scene. We **Also do confidential free HIV testing.** Native American Two Spirited will give Two Spirited individuals a community where they will be more connected, less isolated, supported, and accepted. Meets every Wednesday. so why not stop by and say hi. we have potluck dinners, movie nights, discussion, etc. the list goes on. FMI contact Rob at 990-0605 Ext. 5510 OR 1-877-775-8322 ext. 5510. Or you can e-mail nativeglbti@wmconnect.com

* **DEC 14 (Thursday),** Bangor, **Students for AIDS Facts and Education Resources: SAFER**, meets every Thursday from 3 - 5 p.m. at the Eastern Maine AIDS Network (EMAN) on Harlow St. The group is for any high school student from the ages of 14 to 18 yrs. old with questions about HIV/AIDS. We have group check ins, group discussion, watch movies, snacks. GLBT friendly. FMI and any questions call 990-3626 and ask for Jamie or Terry.

* **DEC 15 (Friday),** Gardiner, 6 - 8 pm, **GLBTI Happy Hour!** All are welcome. It is held at the Kennebec Brewery Co., The Firkin Sturgeon Pub, at 625 Water Street Gardiner. The Pub is also a brewery - as you can probably tell - plus they serve food and soft drinks if that's your preference. There is also a pool table. I look forward to meeting lots of new faces and becoming re-acquainted with familiar ones. FMI or any questions contact Kathy at tessallate@gmail.com .

* **DEC 16 (Saturday),** Ogunquit (for those who don't mind traveling), **Singles Only Women's Dance**, 6 - 9 pm at MAINE STREET, 195 Maine Street. FMI check the web site at www.mainestreetogunquit.com/women.php

* **DEC 18 (Monday)** Bangor, **Bangor Outright** meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 6-8 pm. (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22) FMI Terrry at 990-3626.

* **DEC 19 (Tuesday),** Blaine (Aroostook County Area...for folks who don't mind traveling), **! LGBT Disco !** , 5 - 7:00 p.m. Northern Lambda Nord is pleased to be able to host a pre-solstice disco for the December gathering. Dance will be at Magic Pond, 222 Pierce Rd, in Blaine. Linda has offered her studio of photography for a disco, Featuring dance music of the 70's, replete with mirror ball and lights. Finger food, sparkling water and iced tea will be provided. Appetizers and desserts by guests appreciated. Magic Pond Wildlife Sanctuary and Guest House is a LGBTQ owned, smoke and chemical free getaway near Big Rock Ski Area in Mars Hill and welcomes guests year-round. FMI email Linda at lg@magicpondmaine.com and/or check the web site at http://www.magicpondmaine.com

* **DEC 20 (Wednesday),** Bangor, **Native American Two Spirited support/friendship group**, 6-8 PM, at the Hammond St. Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all of the Two Spirited community. Our mission is to provide a vibrant and healthful community for Two Spirited by offering them social opportunities, health education, and alternatives to the bar-scene. We **Also do confidential free HIV testing.** Native American Two Spirited will give Two Spirited individuals a community where they will be more connected, less isolated, supported, and accepted. Meets every Wednesday. so why not stop by and say hi. we have potluck dinners, movie nights, discussion, etc. the list goes on. FMI contact Rob at 990-0605 Ext. 5510 OR 1-877-775-8322 ext. 5510. Or you can e-mail nativeglbti@wmconnect.com

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* **DEC 21 (Thursday),** Bangor, **Students for AIDS Facts and Education Resources: SAFER**, meets every Thursday from 3 - 5 p.m. at the Eastern Maine AIDS Network (EMAN) on Harlow St. The group is for any high school student from the ages of 14 to 18 yrs. old with questions about HIV/AIDS. We have group check ins, group discussion, watch movies, snacks. GLBT friendly. FMI and any questions call 990-3626 and ask for Jamie or Terry.

* **DEC 22 (Friday),** Brewer, **The Starlight Performers** will be doing their Christmas show (highlighting Lady Emma), at Club Detour on Wilson St in Brewer, starting at 8:30 pm. This is the holiday where they go all out and have a great time. You won't want to miss this one. Come see who is playing Santa this year, and who is gonna be playing with him.... This performance will benefit Northern Maine Pride. 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!

* **DEC 27 (Wednesday),** Bangor, **Native American Two Spirited support/friendship group**, 6-8 PM, at the Hammond St. Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all of the Two Spirited community. Our mission is to provide a vibrant and healthful community for Two Spirited by offering them social opportunities, health education, and alternatives to the bar-scene. We **Also do confidential free HIV testing.** Native American Two Spirited will give Two Spirited individuals a community where they will be more connected, less isolated, supported, and accepted. Meets every Wednesday. so why not stop by and say hi. we have potluck dinners, movie nights, discussion, etc. the list goes on. FMI contact Rob at 990-0605 Ext. 5510 OR 1-877-775-8322 ext. 5510. Or you can e-mail nativeglbti@wmconnect.com

* **DEC 27 (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

* **DEC 28 (Thursday),** Bangor, **Students for AIDS Facts and Education Resources: SAFER**, meets every Thursday from 3 - 5 p.m. at the Eastern Maine AIDS Network (EMAN) on Harlow St. The group is for any high school student from the ages of 14 to 18 yrs. old with questions about HIV/AIDS. We have group check ins, group discussion, watch movies, snacks. GLBT friendly. FMI and any questions call 990-3626 and ask for Jamie or Terry.

* **DEC 31 (Sunday),** Brewer, **Club Detour's 2nd NEW YEARS EVE BASH.** Tickets go on Sale November 3rd for this event. You will want to get them early, as last year they went fast. Free buffet, party favors, midnight champagne toast, and so much more included. It's the party of the year, and no one else does it like us... Detour is the place to be!!! FMI call 989-3386 or email clubdetourbrewer@aol.com or check the web site at www.clubdetour.us . See you there!

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 December 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.

PET SERVICES:

Barbara Mauthe
Spotted Acres Gourmet Treats
3811 West River Road
Sidney, ME 04330
207-547-3310
email: bsmconrad@pivot.net
"Spotted Acres Gourmet Treats" for dogs is a women owned and operated business. We prepare and package delectable treats for dogs, all made of natural ingredients and no added preservatives. Offered in various shapes, textures, and flavors to match the personality of your special pet.

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.

no listings this issue

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

Bangor, roommate wanted. Male or female to share a two bedroom appartment near EMMC. Building is a duplex with quiet tenants downstairs. Our apartment is upstairs on the second floor. Plenty of attic space for storage with a stairway access. FMI contact Rick at rickonbirch@adelphia.net

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

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.

Mars Hill, room for rent. Room in lovely home, located near Big Rock and just a few miles from the University of Maine Presque Isle. Local shopping nearby. To view or for more information please contact Al at 207-425-7848 or 207-990-3626.

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

Portland, house for rent. Clean, bright cape wth 2 bedrooms and 1 bath upstairs; living room, kitchen, and dining room (complete with upright piano) downstairs; and full basement with washer/dryer. One-car garage and huge yard just ready for your green thumb complete the picture. House is on a dirt road off of outer Brighton Avenue in Portland, so you're close to everything and right on the bus line, but feels like you're in rural Maine. Pets welcome, and there's even a dog run in the backyard. $1350/month, price negotiable to the right responsible tenant. Photos available. Email Erica at quineast@hotmail.com or call 773-3023 for more information.

Rockland, one-bedroom apt for rent. Main Street/downtown. 2nd floor/rear, quiet, one bedroom apartment. Located on the harbor side of Main Street, next to the ferry terminal. This is a GLBTIA-friendly arts-focused building (our gallery and studio are in the building). Apartment just completely repainted, new windows, hardwood floors, two large closets, claw-foot soaking tub (w/shower), new kitchen range. High-speed internet is available at a reduced rate for our tenants. Apartment has direct access to a new, spacious, 12'x35' deck overlooking Lermond Cove (five historic schooners are scheduled to be berthed there in the Spring) and the marinas. Rear entrance w/hallway off deck (in addition to Main St. entrance). No-smoking. No dogs. Well behaved cat welcomed. Off-street parking, rubbish service, heat/water/sewer included. Lease/security/references. $675 month. FMI contact Virginia at vslawson@midcoast.com

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

Lesbian Radio. A feminist weekly half-hour show with interviews, discussion, music and news for women and lesbians. Host Virginia Throckmorton talks with intriguing Maine lesbians, takes on political topics, interviews the women of our communities and provides a local forum for area activists, writers and artists Wednesday afternoons from 1 until 1:30 PM on Portland radio station WMPG 99.1 FM and 104.9 FM or online at www.wmpg.org.

JenHodsdonKateClintonStephBarrettDoryCoteHardyGirlsandHealthyWomenEqualityMaineMaryDailyUglyDucklings FeministMajorityNewsWomen'sSpaceFeministingHumorAnnouncementsandConnectionsGLBTMichiganWomen'sFestival LesbianChefCookingClassChoiceAgainstViolenceAgainstWomenandmore.

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

This Way Out, the nationally syndicated GLBTI show, is aired every Tuesday afternoon from 4 - 4:30 pm. on station WERU in the Bangor/Blue Hill area. 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 .

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.

OUT!...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) An organization, in Portland, that provides safe and supportive community for youth 22 and under who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and their allies (LGBTQA). Drop-in groups are every Tuesday from 6-9 pm, and the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month from 6-9pm. Located at 43 Baxter Blvd., 2nd floor. Also provide outreach, phone & email support; community education, leadership development, safer-sex/HIV prevention education, and connections to community resources and LGBTQ youth case management. Volunteer opportunities available! FMI contact Andrew Jones at 874-1022 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/

TRANS_PORT_ME This is a Trans-support group located in Portland for people who identify transgender. Both M2F and F2M are welcome. We are located in downtown Portland and meet on a monthly basis in a safe location. A screening and interview process is in place to insure security and descretion. Admission to this group is by invitation only. The group host and moderator is Gail, but this is YOUR support group so the more input, involvement, and participation you provide the better. Internet support is fine but person to person support, validation and interaction with people who are like us can have a profound affect on our overall wellbeing and sense of self. Meetings are held the 4th Saturday of the Month, at 1 Pleasant St in Portland, ME. Call 207-233-8157 on meeting days for details. FMI and/or to join the online information group contact Gail at g_g_moreau@yahoo.com

WEB BASED MAINE GLBT LISTSERVES & EMAIL LISTS:

Maine Gaynet. One of Maine's longest running listserves for the GLBT community. Get all the info and/or join by going to www.mainegaynet.com

Maine Gay Outdoor Network Events (MEGONE) is a yahoo group site/email list for Maine's GLBT? folks (& friends) for posting announcements of outdoor related events. It's not a formal club or organization--just an informal way to let folks know about outdoor activities that they might like to participate in--whether it's a hike, a paddle, camping trip, nature walk, or even a downtown shopping walk---it's up to you. This is not meant to compete with other groups such as the Chiltern Club--it's just an idea that some of us came up with on a recent trip to Baxter State Park :-) So, if you'd like some company the next time you take a hike, go on a bike ride, paddle, etc., just send an email to megone@yahoogroups.com to let members know the details. To join the group, go to http://groups.yahoo.com/group/megone/ Please pass the word along to other gay-related lists/groups--the more people who join, the more opportunities there will be for connecting with like-minded folks for some great outdoor fun. Right now, the membership is "open" to anyone who would like to join....however, if we have any problems with folks who are not gay-friendly, I may change it to a process requiring membership approval. Also, people posting should use discretion regarding publicly posting time/place to meet--you may want to simply say "anyone intersted in details, please email me at _____, or call me at _____ " Any questions? let me know! (mikeondavispond@yahoo.com)

Maine Lesbians listserve Anyone who identifies as a lesbian is welcome to join. The website address is:

http://groups.google.com/group/maine-lesbians Women can request to join from the website or email me: patput@midcoast.com

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.