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 FEBRUARY 2007

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

(NEWS #1:) GLAD is looking for information. Can you help? See the ANNOUNCEMENTS category.

(NEWS #2:) A gay men's retirement community? See the listing below at FEB 6.

(NEWS #3:) Winter Game Nights at the Cafe Bluefish. See the listings at FEB 2, FEB 8, & FEB 10.

(NEWS #4:) Equality Maine's 2007 Bangor Legislative Fundraising Party! See the listing at FEB 24.

(NOTES #1:) Valentine Dance for LGBTQ High School students and their friends. See the Listing at FEB 17.

(NOTES #2:) Make Beautiful Tribe Gathering for gay and bi men is slated for April 26 - 29. Now is the time to think about registering. See the posting in the ANNOUNCEMENTS category.

(NOTES #3:) Gay Men Together, the twice-a-year retreat for gay men at the Pilgrim Lodge on Lake Cobbosseeconte, is scheduled for May 3 - 6 ... their 22nd gathering! For more info about the gathering, registration, etc. go to www.gaymentogether.net. Numbers are limited, so register early. FMI about Pilgrim Lodge, check the web site at www.pilgrimlodge.org

(REMINDERS #1:) Connections! A new support system for older gay and bisexual men in Maine is working to get established. Check it out in the the GLBTI COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS category.

(REMINDERS #2:) 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. Gathering of The Guys. Calenders are ready with pictures from January's "Gathering of The Guys" and a list of everyone's birthday. These calenders when open are 12" X 18" with full color photos on each page. You may order by email to bgrguy@Yahoo.com . The next gathering of "Gathering of The Guys" notice will be sent out in its newsletter to each of those who's address that I have. If you wish to receive this notice then please email me: Bob at bgrguy@Yahoo.com.

2. GLAD wants to know: Have you had difficulty taking time off from work to care for your partner or your partner's children

when they have been sick? Are you raising a child with your partner, but are unable to adopt as a second parent or coparent? GLAD is working with local organizations, including EqualityMaine and Maine Civil Liberties Union, to find same-sex couples affected by their exclusion from Maine's Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) or by their inability to adopt.

Your story can play a crucial role in building support for LGBT rights in Maine. We may ask you to write a letter to the editor of your local paper, advocate with your employer, visit your legislator, or tell your story to the media. **But even if you do not want to participate publicly, your response will help us get an idea of how prevalent these problems are in Maine.** Nothing is more powerful than our own stories in persuading others to support our rights! If you have experienced problems using family leave, or are unable to adopt a child you are raising, we need to hear from you! Please answer the following few questions by emailing acashin@glad.org by February 15. **All responses are confidential.**

What's your name?
What's your partner's name?
How long have you been together as a couple?
Describe your request for family leave. What happened? Were you ultimately able to take time off?
Have you been unable to co-adopt a child, or to adopt as a second parent? Please explain.
May we get in touch with you to get more information?

And if you know other couples who have had similar problems – we ask you to forward this email to them. Together, we will win full rights for our families!

3. Make Beautiful Tribe Gathering: April 26-29, 2007

This is a weekend retreat offering the opportunity to live in an intentional gay male community produced by, and for, participants to celebrate our unique wisdom and diversity. It's an event for men to get to know each other, have fun, build community, hang out, network, and explore being gay or bi in an attitude-free safe space.

Situated in a wooded, rustic setting, the Tanglewood 4-H Camp provides wonderful place for us to hold our gathering! The lodge we utilize is a wonderful single great room with a huge fieldstone fireplace and a brand new restaurant kitchen off to one side. There are various large and small cabins throughout the camp numbering more than a dozen. There is even a wood-fired sauna available for relaxation along with acres of wooded trails for hiking.

Our gathering weekend format is open, which means you pick and choose what you would like to do - attend a workshop, go for a hike, play cards or just sit by a roaring fire the main lodge. We have a talent show on Saturday evening. So come sing, perform, dance, lip-sync, read poetry, tell stories — just come perform and show off! Have fun celebrating our diversity. Bring your own costumes, accessories and music.

For more information and to be added to the mailing list, please contact Jim at bangoremail@yahoo.com

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.*

No one has any opinions this month.

EVENTS:

* **FEB 1 (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 Terry.

* **FEB 2 (Friday),** Bar Harbor, **Winter Game Nights at the Cafe Bluefish**, sponsored by United World Citizens, 5:30 - 8:30 pm-ish. "FUN, FOOD AND FUNDRAISING!!" Poker, password and any other card games people want to play. Eat hardy, eat light or just play games! **This is how the food part works:** 50% of ALL money spent on food (not alcohol) during these game nights will go to United World Citizens, promoting the concept and practice of humanitarianism through education and example www.unitedworldcitizens.org. *(for menu info go to www.cafebluefishbarharbor.com)* **This is how the game part works:** Poker will cost $10.00 to play. For this you get "$50.00" in chips (This is PLAY money). More chips can be purchased and ALL money spent on buying "play" money goes to our charity of the night (Doctors Without Borders, Helen Keller International, or our own local Gail Gutradt's project to raise money for an AIDS orphanage in Cambodia.) Password will cost $5.00 per person per evening and all proceeds go to the same above charities. *(NOTE: We hope this will do well, but we're not sure, so if the games*

are your thing, we advise that you call to make sure we have enough people to PLAY!! Also, more decks of cards and poker chips would be welcomed.) FMI contact Bobbie Lynn at 288 3696 or 669 4275 or email blhutchins@verizon.net (please include your phone number) WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!

* **FEB 2 (Friday),** Belfast, **First Friday Lesbian Potluck**, starts around 6 pm at Virginia's place in downtown Belfast. FMI and/or directions contact Virginia at 322-5308 or email her at vathrockmorton@mac.com

* **FEB 2 (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 .

* **FEB 4 (Sunday),** East Blue Hill, 9 - 11:30 a.m., group **planning meeting for the lesbian retirement home**. Group will meet at Gabrielle & Caren's house with lunch to follow. Please RSVP if you'd like lunch. FMI and/or directions contact Gabrielle at 374-2140 or gabrielle@prexar.com

* **FEB 5 (Monday),** Bangor, **Bangor Outright** meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 6-8 pm. (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22) FMI Terry at 990-3626.

* **FEB 6 (Tuesday),** Surry, 7 pm, **Gay Men Retirement Living Plans**. This is the first meeting to explore developing a gay men's retirement and aging housing. We will be discussing the possiblity of developing some type of housing alternative for retirement living for gay men as we age. Small energy efficient retirement cottages, to assisted living facility, and eventual extended living all on one campus, hopefully staffed by gay men and/or gay men friendly. As one person recently said, I do not want to go back into the closet when I go to a nursing home. The goal is to live in dignity as we age. FMI and directions contact Wayne wayne@mrlanguage.com or Gary wg35@verizon.net

* **FEB 7 (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

* **FEB 7 (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

* **FEB 8 (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 Terry.

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* **FEB 10 (Saturday),** Bangor, **First Annual Red Ribbon Ball**, a fund-raiser for Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 7 pm - midnight. This event will take place at Society Hall Events Center, 193 Exchange St, in Bangor, and will feature: The Brian Catell Band, valet parking, a silent auction, lavish hors d'oeuvres, deserts, and a cash bar. Tickets are $75/person and reservations are needed. FMI and/or to reserve contact Roxsand Farrar at 990-3626 or by email at businesseman@me.acadia.net

* **FEB 10 (Saturday),** Bar Harbor, **Winter Game Nights at the Cafe Bluefish**, sponsored by United World Citizens, 5:30 - 9:00 pm-ish. "FUN, FOOD AND FUNDRAISING!!" Poker, password and any other card games people want to play. Eat hardy, eat light or just play games! **This is how the food part works:** 50% of ALL money spent on food (not alcohol) during these game

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* **FEB 11 (Sunday),** Franklin, **People Like Us Social (PLUS),** 2 pm, this is a monthly potluck dinner/social afternoon for any interested GLBTI folks and allies. The theme for this PLUS is chocolate, so be ready to eat a five pound hershey bar....Come on out for a blast. The February PLUS will be held at Barbara & Rae's house. FMI and/or directions call 479-5728 or email DragonNess@hotmail.com

* **FEB 14 (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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* **FEB 14 (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

* **FEB 15 (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 Terry.

* **FEB 16 (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 .

* **FEB 17 (Saturday)** Ellsworth, **Valentine Dance for LGBTQ high school students and their friends**. The dance is sponsored by Ellsworth OUTRIGHT, PFLAG Moms, and Downeast GLSEN and will be held at the Maine Grind Coffee House on Main Street in Ellsworth. CHEM-FREE. FREE ADMISSION. Dance will be from 8 - 12 pm (admission closes at 9 pm). There will be a fabulous DJ and refreshments! Meet new LGBTQ friends and allies. Come and bring your friends! Dress up - semi-formal. For more information call Shaun at 479-6993 or email GLSEN at glsen@midmaine.com IF YOU WANT AN EMAIL COLOR COPY OF THE POSTER THAT YOU CAN PRINT OUT AND POST IN YOUR LOCATION, EMAIL glsen@midmaine.com AND ASK.

* **FEB 17 (Saturday),** Bangor, **Rainbow Fellowship**. This gathering is open to the GLBTI community and straight allies. It is under the aupices of the very GLBT-welcoming Hammond St Congregational Church. While it usually consists of a potluck dinner at someone's home, there have also been gaming nights and other activities. Persons who are interested should call the church at 942-4381 for details of time and place.

* **FEB 21 (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

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* **FEB 22 (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 Terry.

* **FEB 24 (Saturday),** Bangor, **Equality Maine's 2007 Bangor Legislative Fundraising Party!** This will be from 7 - 10 pm at the Seadog Brewing Company, 26 Front St. Cost is $10, tickets in advance or at the door. A cash bar will be available. Join us for a chance to connect with friends and allies, nosh on hors d'ouvres, support the LGBT community, and keep us well represented in the Maine legislature. (Come on now... when was the last time you hobnobbed?) Honored guests will include Representatives Emily Cain and Sean Faircloth; and folks from the Equality Maine offices will be there too.....it will be a great chance to bend everyone's ears! FMI and/or to arrange for tickets contact Darlene at dhuntress@equalitymaine.org or phone her at 761-3732.

* **FEB 25 (Sunday), Gathering of the Guys**, a social and fun gathering for gay men, meets in the "greater Bangor area". For more information, for time and directions, or to get on their email list contact Bob at 843-7446 or email him at bgrguy@yahoo.com

* **FEB 25 (Sunday),** Portland (for those who don't mind traveling), the **Maine Gay Men's Chorus** presents A NIGHT AT THE OSCARS, at The Pavillion, 180 Middle St. Doors open at 7:30, show starts at 8:00 pm. Price is $20/person. FMI and/or to buy tickets call 772-1384 or go to the web site www.mainegaymenschorus.org

* **FEB 28 (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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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 March 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.

no listings this issue

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.

PIANO WANTED. Family owned and operated Clewly Farm Restaurant is looking for a decent piano for the restaurant. If you have one you're interested in getting rid of or selling, contact Bob at bgrguy69@yahoo.com

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@mac.com OR at 338-1729.

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.

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/Professional space for rent. Main Street/downtown. 2nd floor/rear, quiet, one bedroom apartment. Would also make an excellent design studio/professional space--great North light. 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:

Connections! Gay or Bisexual male in Maine? On your own and not getting any younger? Want to be connected by phone with other mature gay men in Maine? Network for conversation, companionship, connections for support, help in recovery from medical treatment, ice storms or accidents. Call or be called or both. If you know of anyone who may not see this message, for the sake of community pass this information on. Even slight connections among people raise our spirits. To find out more call Peter (in confidence) at 207-348-2212 between 9AM and 8PM.

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

(GLAD) Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders. To learn about and protect your rights under Maine's anti-discrimination 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.

(GLSEN) Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network. 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

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 schedule a speaker or to arrange a volunteer training, contact Jen Hodsdon 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

(PFLAG) Parent's, Family, & Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 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, transgender, queer, and questioning youth in Lincoln, Knox, and Waldo counties and their offshore islands. We meet in Rockland at 501 Main Street (the building just before the Ferry Terminal), suite #3 (2nd floor) every Tues.3-6pm, and Wed.5-8pm, and Fri. evenings/6-9pm, 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

SOLO (Single Older Lesbian Organization). 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 (between 12 noon and 5 pm) 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:

Gay in Maine. An interesting little web site with separate chat rooms for men and women. Some parts seem to be updated daily, other parts (some of the links) not for years. www.gayinmaine.com

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 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

(MEGONE) Maine Gay Outdoor Network Events 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)

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.