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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 2007

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

(NEWS #1:) Results of roving reporter poll. Well, by a ratio of 41:1, folks said that they would welcome community "news" reports in The FAN ... so we'll give it a try. The new category will be called **COMMUNITY REPORTERS:** All subscribers are welcomed to submit news reports about how their events, activities, gatherings, shows, weddings, projects, etc went. (You can also file a report about special GLBTI community events that you have participated in elsewhere). Please keep your reports as concise as possible, and let's keep everyone "in the loop" ! The Maine areas we're presently covering in this category are: Aroostook County, Washington County, Ellsworth/MDI, Bangor, Belfast/Camden, Waterville/Skowhegan, and Dover-Foxcroft. Remember, you folks have to send stuff to me because I don't have time to go look for it!

(NEWS #2:) Gay Men Together (GMT), Sept 27 - 30. A twice-a-year gathering of gay men at a wonderful turn-of-the-century lodge, located in W Gardiner. GMT was formed by a group of gay men, feeling a need to do "community" work, moving into the 21st century having dealt with such a devastating disease as AIDS for fifteen years which took all, and even more of our energy. GMT has been very successful. We hold approximately twenty different workshops at each retreat, some with laughter, some with tears and all are led by participants. The GMT week-end is an open format, which means you pick and choose what you would like to do for the week-end. All work is done by participant-volunteers. We ask each participant to volunteer for at least one work assignment for the weekend. Numbers are limited. FMI check the web site at www.gaymentogether.net

(NEWS #3:) The Howard Foundation will hold a benefit Harvest Dinner on Sunday, OCT 21 at the Clewley Farm & Restaurant on Rt. 9 in Eddington. There will be two seatings for this semi-formal event: 5:00 PM and 7:30 PM (Please allow 2 hours per seating). The event will include live music and a 5 course dinner served with a matched wine. (Non alcoholic options are also available, and their new bar will be open for cocktails.) Meal Choices will be: 1. Roast Prime Rib of Beef with Popover 2. Baked Half Chicken with Herb Dressing 3. Roast Pork with Apple Rings 4. Vegetarian Lasagna. Dessert will be a choice of seasonal pies with cinnamon ice cream. **This event is by reservation only** (sorry, no tickets available at the door), and seating is limited, so reserve early. You can reserve your seating by a credit card or check paid in full by October 15th. All "no shows" will forfeit their ticket. Price is $35.00 per person (A 7% tax and 18% service charge not included) FMI or to reserve, call Dan at 942-9319 or 461-2213.

(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.) LGBTQ Symposium 2007. The Maine Community Foundation - Equity Fund is pleased to announce plans for the

LGBTQ Symposium 2007: Strengthening Community, Building Alliances. The Symposium will be held at the Samoset Resort in Rockport, Maine on November 17, 2007 (8:45 am - 4:30 pm).

The 2007 Symposium design is based on feedback received during outreach sessions conducted across Maine in the spring of 2007. The outreach sessions indicated that there is a strong desire to strengthen connections within the statewide LGBTQ community, to strengthen connections between LGBTQ citizens and those outside the LGBTQ community and finally to strengthen connections and create greater safety for LGBTQ youth. Specific themes being addressed in workshop discussions will be Youth, Aging, Health Care, Safety, Family Issues and Transgender Issues. FMI or to add your name to our distribution list to receive further information and registration, please contact Helen McCain (207) 761-2440 or hmccain@mainecf.org

2.) Maine CDC Launches "Deserve to Know" Campaign To Increase HIV/AIDs Testing The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC), an Office of the Department of Health and Human Services, announced the re-launch of DeservetoKnowME.org, which features community resources for men who have sex with men (MSM) and all who are working to prevent the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases (STD) in Maine.

"Approximately 1,500 people are estimated to be living with HIV in Maine. DeservetoKnowME.org, also known as D2K, will encourage MSMs to get an HIV test and other STD screenings and will help distribute important preventive messages," explained Maine CDC Director Dr. Dora Anne Mills. "Through this new interactive Web site featuring a community calendar, HIV testing sites, and other helpful information, D2K will empower MSMs to take care of themselves and their partners."

"Of all new HIV diagnoses in 2006, approximately 57 percent of them were attributed to male-to-male sexual conduct," said Dr. Mills. "It is our hope that this website serves as a powerful resource that educates men throughout Maine on safer sex practices and how to stay healthy in many areas of their lives."

D2K is designed to provoke MSMs to ask themselves the questions: "Do I deserve to know my HIV status?; "Do I deserve to know my partner's status?" and "What important health issues am I facing as an MSM?" D2K will provide an anonymous and friendly place to browse information about HIV, HIV testing and men's health issues. The site will feature local and national news and information geared toward the MSM community.

The Maine CDC and the Deserve to Know ME campaign's goal is to improve the health and overall well-being of MSMs. D2K is funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control and Prevention. For more information about the campaign and materials, visit www.deservetoknowme.org or contact Jayson R. Hunt, Maine HIV Prevention Public Health Educator (207) 287-4611

3.) United World Citizens looking for some volunteers. Family member, Bobbie Lynn, Ex. Dir. of United World Citizens (a non-profit group promoting humanitarianism through education and example ... www.unitedworldcitizens.org), is looking for some volunteers for any or all of the following:
A) Help sell fair trade clothing and jewelry at some upcoming events,
B) Help sell raffle tickets for Doctors Without Borders fundraiser,
C) Help inventory shipments of fair trade products when they arrive,
D) Help design better ways to display and transport items we are selling,
E) Help research more festivals and fairs to sell at in the future
We could really use people who are organized and good at book keeping and record keeping to help us set up some efficient systems to keep track of everything as we are getting more and more involved in these Fairs and Festivals.

These are the fairs and festivals we're going to be at:
Aug 30 thru Sept 3 .... Blue Hill Fair
Sept 8 ... MDI Music Festival, Southwest Harbor
Sept 15 ... MDI Garlic Festival, Southwest Harbor (tentative)
Sept 21 - 23 ... Common Ground Fair, Unity Maine (clothing and jewelry only- no raffle tickets)
Oct 6 ... Oktoberfest, Southwest Harbor (tentative)

To check out some of the products we are selling, go to www.globalmamas.org. For more info or to sign up for some specific dates, please email or contact me at numbers below. We have a really great time and it's for some very good causes, so we hope you'll get in touch and join the fun! FMI contact Bobbie Lynn at blhutchins@verizon.net or by phone at 669-4275 or at 266-0674.

4.) Equality Maine Seeking Some Volunteers for the American Folk Festival. EqualityMaine will be at the American Folk Festival in Bangor this year on Saturday, August 25th. We'll be spending a few hours talking to our supporters and asking them to fill out legislative postcards, and then we'll be heading over to Carolina's Sports & Spirits for an EqualityMaine sponsored community social. Carolina is located on the festival grounds, under the bridge. There is only one bridge so you can't miss it!!!
We'd love a Bangor area corps of volunteers to help us collect the legislative postcards, so if you're interested in walking the

festival with us from 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm on Saturday, August 25th, we'd appreciate the help! And it would be great to see you! For more information, or to sign up, Please email me or call 207-761-3732 ext 4. Thanks in advance, and can't wait to see you on the 25th! Darlene Huntress dhuntress@equalitymaine.org

5.) Partners in Prevention. Partners in Prevention is a class for gay men that discusses health issues related to HIV and STD's. A simple curriculum for all ages that focuses on the many definitions of what a relationship is, how to maintain a healthy relationship and ways to protect yourself from unhealthy relationships. The class discusses personal triggers that we all have which "trigger us" to make unhealthy decisions.

The Partners in Prevention class will be offered in July and in August. This class offers an incentive of $150 to each member who attends all three sessions. Also a $10 gas card is given at the beginning of each meeting to help with travel costs. HIV testing is made available to each participant. All information is completely confidential. For more information please call: 1-800-669-0893 and ask for Zack or you can email me directly at zack@downeastaidsnetwork.org

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 issue.

COMMUNITY REPORTERS:

We'd all love to hear how your event, activity, gathering, show, wedding, project, etc went. Any subscriber is welcomed to submit news reports about the going's on in their geographical area (or about special GLBTI community events that they have participated in elsewhere). Please keep your reports as concise as possible. Let's keep everyone "in the loop" ! The Maine areas we're presently covering in this category are: Aroostook County, Washington County, Ellsworth/MDI, Bangor, Belfast/Camden, Waterville/Skowhegan, and Dover-Foxcroft. Both GLBTI individuals and groups are welcomed to send in reports.

Rockland BBQ (courtesy of Frank) On the 11 of august a small group of gay men met in rockland for an afternoon BBQ. To open a new deck building. There were ribs and chicken cooked along with potato salad macaroni salad and a garden salad too. There were six whom attended had a great time for four hours. We talked and checked out the new deck and spoke of many things of interest. Other were invited but were unable to join us.

Review of Family Pride Week in P-Town. (courtesy of Laurie) We (my twins and I) recently returned from Family Pride week in Provincetown, MA. We saw two other families from the Bangor area (both of those families have a pair of Moms and one daughter), and another family who live west of Newport (two moms and two daughters). We also met families from around the US and as far away as Italy. Provincetown was more packed than I've ever seen it…… probably because the majority of the families cut costs by putting entire families into a single room.

The weather was wonderful for a beach vacation. As, a result of the 90+ degree days Herring Cove Beach and the hotel pools in town were filled with GLBT families all week. Rosie and Kelly O'Donnell's "R Family Vacations" partnered with Family Pride and provided the social programming. They (R family vacations) did a woeful job and should be ashamed of themselves. (There were too few people helping to run each event, there wasn't enough room for those interested in participating, the food was expensive and terrible, and there was no childcare provided.) The bright light in the week's programming was the programming by Colage (Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere). They provided "camp" for children age 8 to 18. The counselors working at the camp were all volunteers, and were also all 'graduates' of previous Colage camps. One of them was a 21 year old, recent graduate from California that I'd met when she was 2 at a GLBT potluck. The Colage campers did a fabulous show at the end of the week which included skits with their own revised versions of classic fairy tales (when they met Snow White, each of the & dwarfs introduced themselves as was a child of G,L,B,or T parents). There were cheers they wrote that encouraged the audience to respect diversity, and the high school kids did a drag show- girls all dressed as Butches and Both Girls and Boys in (little-black-dress) Drag. We'll be going back again next year.

EVENTS (CHANGING):

* **AUG 16 (Thursday),** Belfast, 7:30 pm, 96 Church St. Family member Avery Olmstead will perform as part of the **National Theatre Workshop of the Handicapped Performance Company.** This is a free show, open to the public. This is the annual NTWH "CANTEEN SHOW" in which Disabled vets from their Writers' Program for Wounded Warriors, brave men and women back from the Iraqi conflict (and other past conflicts spanning over four decades!), present dramatic monologues

based on their war-time experiences, and join the NTWH Cabaret, consisting of both disabled and able-bodied cast members, in a one-night-only performance of rousing songs and inspirational words you must experience to believe!

* **AUG 25 (Saturday): EqualityFolk: A Community Social.** This year Equality Maine will be at the American Folk Festival in Bangor for an Old Fashioned Community Social. Come to Bangor to enjoy the festival, and join us for appetizers, drinks (cash bar), friends, and music at Carolina Sports and Spirits on Saturday, August 25th from 4-7pm. Carolina is located on the festival grounds, under the bridge. There is only one bridge so you can't miss it!!! No admission, no tickets, no worries – just new friends and fun. To learn more about the festival, check the web site at www.americanfolkfestival.com. It looks like a great lineup! Come see some shows then join us for food and fun! (NOTE: The American Folk Festival website suggests you park your car at Bass Park - which is at the Bangor Civic Center on upper Main Street - and take the free shuttle bus to the Festival. Parking costs only $5/day or $10/weekend.)

* **AUG 24 - 26 (Thursday - Sunday)** The very GLBT welcoming Hammond Street Congregational Church will also be at The American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront. Join us for an old fashioned traditional baked bean suppah & gourmet brownies for dessert! Hammond Street Church supports many local charities and has been the host to many GLBT events. Our booth will be in the food court area of the festival. Please come by to show your support, visit some old friends, make some new friends and enjoy a great meal! For more information email kmfoley@midmaine.com

* **SEP 15 (Saturday),** Belfast, at 7:00 pm. **A Fabulous Evening with Three Singer/Songwriters.** Join us for a great time with Lynn Deeves, Trina Hamlin, and Martine Lock. This event will be held at the Unitarian Church in Belfast, 37 Miller Street. The doors open at 6:30 pm. Price is $15.00 at the door, no advance sales. Lynn Deeves: Maine-based, Deeves started in rock bands in the 80's and has released 3 solo cds. Lynn has shared stages with Janis Ian, Ferron, Cheryl Wheeler .... "five start stage presence .... this gal's got a set of pipes. Trina Hamlin: soulful harmonica wailings and warm, sultry vocal combined with her native Minnesotan humor and charm. Hamlin tours nationally and has opened for Rickie Lee Jones and John Hiatt. Martine is an Australian performer who plays solo with enough energy, enthusiasm and talent for a whole band. She has toured with Ani Difranco, Cowboy Junkies and Arlo Gunthrie. FMI and/or directions call Virginia at 338-1729.

EVENTS (ONGOING):

BANGOR OUTRIGHT. Every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month. Bangor, meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 6-8 pm. (For GLBTQI youths ages 22 and under and allies.) FMI call Mark at 990-3626 or check the web site at http://outright-bangor.org/default.aspx

FIRST FRIDAY LESBIAN POTLUCK. First Friday of every month. Belfast, 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

GAY GUYS GROUP (GGG) POTLUCK DINNER. Every 2nd Wednesday of the month. Ellsworth Area, 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

LESBIAN RETIREMENT HOME PLANNING MEETING. First Sunday of each month. Belfast, 9 - 11 a.m., Group will meet at Virginia's place in downtown Belfast. FMI and/or directions call 338-1729 or email Gabrielle at gabrielle@prexar.com .

NATIVE AMERICAN TWO SPIRITED SUPPORT/FRIENDSHIP GROUP. Every Wednesday. Bangor, 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 1-877-776-8322 ext. 5510. Or you can e-mail nativeglbti@wmconnect.com

OUTRAGEOUSLY SUPPORTIVE. Every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. Bangor, for GLBTQ youth (age 18 - 25) and their friends. Meets from 6:00 - 8:00 pm, at Eastern Maine AIDS Network at 370 Harlow St. FMI contact Mark at 990-3626 or check the web site at http://outright-bangor.org/default.aspx

RAINBOW FELLOWSHIP. Third Saturday of each month. Bangor, 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.

STUDENTS FOR AIDS FACTS AND EDUCATION RESOURCES (SAFER). Every Thursday. Bangor, meets 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 Mark.

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.

SPIRITUALITY, CREATIVITY, PERSONAL GROWTH

Rachel Lee Manning, Medium/Intuitive
198 Main Street
Ellsworth, ME 04605
ph: 207-322-9870
email: loveliveson@adelphia.net
Offering private, healing sessions in Ellsworth focused on the journey of the soul. Messages of love & guidance from departed loved ones, Intuitive Life Guidance Readings, Workshops & Intuitive Development Training, Please email me to receive monthly newsletter & schedule of events.

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, 1999 35th anniversary edition mustang. 103,000 miles but in excellent condition. New tires. new brakes. Yellow in color. 4.6 lt V8 automatic. Need the money, dont need the car. Car books at 6400.00 to 7100.00 asking 6,000.00 OBRO. FMI contact Nancy at 343 -1713 or email jersey730@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

House-share or house-sitting situation wanted. Somewhere between Belfast and Machias. Nature-loving lesbian with two older dogs would like to be closer to the ocean. We are all very sweet, clean, and well-behaved! Seeking an affordable place to be my sacred space. Excellent references. Contact Eileen at (207) 441-2785 or hearme@natisp.com

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

Dexter, house share. Lesbian homeowner mid 40's looking for the right person for a house share. Two story, 2-bedroom, full basement, large front porch, backyard, in-town. Rent negotiable for help with minor cosmetic home improvements. Smoker ok, pets ?, no cats as a parrot rules the roost, therefore must like birds. e-mail Lauri xgdd@earthlink.net, be sure to put "rental" in the subject line as I have High security spam block.

Durham, house mate wanted (close to Freeport). M/F House mate wanted...basement apartment...have your OWN private (semi-furnished) bedroom, large living space (cable TV), & bathroom...share kitchen....No dogs...cats OK. $600/month...includes every thing. Call Lou at 353-6536 or irishgreen4222@yahoo.com

Ellsworth, house-Sharing. I am looking for four amiable men to share a beautiful Federal-style house in Ellsworth. There are four bedrooms, two and a half baths, four fireplaces, a four man hot tub, and lots of driveway and gardening space. From the front door one can easily walk to restaurants, galleries, theater etc. The back door leads to the woods. In addition to the living room, dining room and kitchen, there is a first floor fireplaced bed /sitting room that can be used as common area when I am not in residence (most of the time these days). Rooms, available from August 15th, are $500 including utilities. Leases are month to month , renewable if everyone gets along. If you'd like to see photos of the place, email me and I'll send them

along. Please call Woody at (401) 533-4772 or email jw.woodworth@gmail.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. Family home with one adult and two elementary school age children. The house is a short walk to Main Street bus stop. Quarter mile from Mills Street and a half mile from UM campus. Renter shares bathroom with children. $400/month, utilities included. FMI call Laurie at 866-7008 or email laurie@maine.edu

Otis, Roomate Wanted. Female seeking same for roomate. Room is very small but very affordable. The room is furnished, with only a twin bed, and storage for clothing. There is only room for perhaps your TV and computer. The place is cozy in a campy kind of way, near Beech Hill Pond. Located in a quiet rural area 20 minutes to Ellsworth, 25 minutes to Bangor. There's a small circle of gay women in the neighborhood. $300/month includes everything. Perfect for someone in transition. So, If you're looking for affordable, give me a call. Lynn at 537-3366 or at 460-1376 or by email at lucky62365@aol.com

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:

Bridging The Gap provides no-cost clinical breast exams, mammograms, breast ultrasounds, and other breast health services to women (including lesbian, bi, and trans women) age 20 to 29 who have a symptom of concern and age 30 to 39 who have a symptom of concern or a family history of breast cancer. FMI and to see if you qualify contact Robin at Bridging The Gap at 941-2808.

Caring Connections provides no-cost mammograms and Pap tests to women (including lesbian, bi, and trans women) age 40 to 64 who meet income guidelines and dont have insurance to cover breast and cervical health services. FMI contact Robin at Caring Connections at 941-2808.

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 hour and a half-hour radio magazine show with music, news, creative explorations, humor and interviews for women and lesbians. With a focus on local and regional lesbian and women's issues, lesbian radio also brings you national and international people and issues of interest. Hosts Virginia Throckmorton, Jen Hodsdon and Katie Diamond talk with intriguing Maine lesbians, take on political topics, and provide a forum for area activists, writers and artists while offering the best in women's music. Thursday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:00 PM on Portland radio station WMPG 90.9 FM and at 104.1 FM or listen online at www.wmpg.org.
JenHodsdonKateClintonStephBarrettDoryCoteHardyGirlsandHealthyWomenEqualityMaineMaryDailyUglyDucklings FeministMajorityNewsWomen'sSpaceFeministingHumorAnnouncementsandConnectionsGLBTMichiganWomen'sFestival LesbianChefCookingClassChoiceAgainstViolenceAgainstWomenandmore.

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 & Cindy Montgomery. The show airs on the 4th Thursday of each month 10-11 am. 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 Wednesday 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 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. 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

SOCIAL GROUPS (MORE THAN 50 MILES FROM BANGOR):

Central Maine Outright. (AUGUSTA) An organization 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. (BRUNSWICK TO PORTLAND COASTAL AREA) A women's social group that holds dances, BBQs, softball, camping, potlucks, etc. FMI about their activities you can join their yahoo group site (they have an events calendar) at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/coastalwomensconnection . Click on request to join and mention that you are a lesbian and would like to join. Request will be approved as soon as a moderator gets it. You can also see their web site at www.coastalwomensconnection.com

Just Guys. (AUGUSTA) 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

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

Northern Lambda Nord. (AROOSTOOK COUNTY) A GLBTQ social group that hosts a monthly BBQ or potluck gathering. 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 Northen Lambda Nord at 425-4088 or email northernlambdanord@verizon.net . You can also ask to get on their e-newsletter mailing list.

Out!...As I Want To Be. (ROCKLAND) An organization 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 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

Portland Lesbian Coffee House. (PORTLAND) Join our community of women to talk about books, politics, music, raising children or the wacky thing that happened on the latest episode of The L Word. All stripes of the tribe welcome. This is a social group that includes women of all ages and statuses. You can check it out on the web at http://lgbtfriends.meetup.com/78/ . FMI about dates, times, location contact Maura at mmckenney2@maine.rr.com

PRYSM (Proud Rainbow Youth Of Southern Maine) (PORTLAND) An organization 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 call 874-1022 or email prysm@commcc.org

Seacoast Sapphos (PORTLAND TO PORTSMOUTH) A women's social group that sponsors 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-n-Friends. (BATH TO DAMARISCOTTA AREA) 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. 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/

Thrive (PORTLAND AREA). Our mission is to provide a vibrant and healthful community for gay-identified men and MSM by offering them social opportunities, health education and alternatives to the bar-scene and on-line hook-ups. Thrive sponsors a variety of low-key social events like coffee houses and movie nights. By directly meeting their needs, Thrive gives gay men a community where they will be more connected, less isolated, supported and accepted. Our goal is to make Portland, ME a great place to thrive. FMI call 233-9364 or email thrive@portlandmaine.gov or check the web site at www.thrivemaine.com .

Trans_Port_Me (PORTLAND) This is a Trans-support group 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

Yankee Boyz. (AUBURN) A social/support group for those born female, or intersex, and which female and/or "woman" as an identity does not fit. Female-to-male Transsexuals, Transgenderists, Crossdressers, TG Butches, Stonebutches and otherwise very masculine identified female "guys" and their SOFFA'S (significant other, friend, family, allies) are welcome. All sexual orientations are welcome. A place to share ideas and experiences in an atmosphere where we do not have to fight for validation. Meets monthly Sept - June (1st or 2nd Sunday of the month...call ahead to verify). Meetings are held at the U.U. Church in Auburn. FMI contact PJ at pjmears@megalink.net or call 783-4630.

WEB BASED MAINE GLBT LISTSERVES & EMAIL LISTS:

Deserve to Know. A web site sponsored by The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention which features community resources for men who have sex with men (MSM) and all who are working to prevent the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases (STD) in Maine. This interactive Web site features a community calendar, HIV testing sites, and other helpful information. D2K will provides an anonymous and friendly place to browse information about HIV, HIV testing and men's health issues. It also features local and national news and information geared toward the MSM community. Check it out at www.deservetoknowme.org

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 Gay Men's Weekly News Letter is an email newsletter focusing on organizations and activities in southern Maine. It is primarily for gay men, but they do include some general GLBT activities info and links to various GLBT organizations around the state. FMI, to see a sample copy, or to be added to their mailing list, send Joe an email at cascogays@gmail.com with your request.

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

Maine-Motorcycle-Women. Family member Vicky has set up a group on Google for women motorcyclists. Check it out at: http://groups.google.com/group/maine-motorcycle-women?lnk=srg FMI contact Vicky at vrooommaine@yahoo.com

Proud Lesbians of Poverty We seek people to join the group as we explore ways to improve the civil rights of GLBTQ's of poverty who cannot afford a lawyer to enforce their Gay Civil Rights, or their orginial Human Rights as a person. We are open to all people of any background. FMI contact Jan at janshouse@yahoo.com or phone 207-453-2353 or join the yahoo group at http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/ProudLesbians/

Rubyfruit Cafe. A Maine-based, on-line, lesbian virtual community. Rubyfruit Cafe is a lesbian community magazine designed to showcase our lives, creativity, spirituality, politics, and much more. It is a website that will be driven by your submissions, your music, poetry, videos, photos, and stories. Show us where and how you live (show us your "crib") ... Tell us about your spirituality ... what you think politically and poetically ... sing your song or show us your garden ... share your lives, ideas and hopes with each other. If you find an interesting article, website, product, or new talent, let us hear about it. I want to create a fun, creative, supportive, environment for everyone to relax and just enjoy each other ... to take pleasure in our diversity and talents ... a place of tolerance and celebration. www.rubyfruitcafe.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, sent out on the 1st and 15th of each month. It is covers a 50 mile radius around Bangor and also Aroostook and Washington counties.

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.