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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 JANUARY 2008

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

(NEWS #1:) Help raise money for womens' (and of course lesbian) health. January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month and the Penquis Breast and Cervical Health Coalition is participating in a fundraising event at UNO Chicago Grill in Bangor on the Bangor Mall Boulevard. On **January 24**, 2008, if you dine in or order take-out and present a UNO Dough Raiser ticket, up to 20% of your check will be donated to the Penquis Breast and Cervical Health Coalition.

The Coalition provides education concerning breast and cervical health and information on no-cost mammograms and pap smears available to eligible women (of any sexual orientation) through the Maine Breast and Cervical Health Program. The coalition also provides assistance in recruiting patients into the program for the medical providers of the program. The Maine Breast and Cervical
Health Program (MBCHP) pays for mammograms, clinical breast exams, pap tests, pelvic exams, limited diagnostic services and a network of referral services if further support is needed. If you are a woman age 40-64 with no insurance or your insurance does not cover Pap tests or mammograms please call 1-800-350-5180. FMI about the program, or about the fundraising event at UNO Chicago Grill, or to get your free Dough Raiser Tickets emailed to you, contact Maria Staples at 973-3586 or email her at
mstaples@penquis.org

(NEWS #2:) Donations for Silent Auction Items and Door Prizes sought. Eastern Maine AIDS Network (EMAN) will be holding its 2nd Annual Red Ribbon Ball on **February 9, 2008**, at the Buchanan Alumni House at the University of Maine. This is our biggest fundraising event of the year. To that end, we are contacting local area businesses and are seeking their help with donations for silent auction items and door prizes. All items would be prominently recognized at the Ball as having been donated from your establishment. We are looking for a variety of items including such things as gift certificates, gift baskets, local crafts and art, etc. Anything that you can provide would be appreciated, and as EMAN is a not for profit agency, all donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent provided by law. To contribute, please contact EMAN at 207-990-3626. Thank you!

(NEWS #3:) It Takes a Community to Place a Memorial. The Bangor City Council unanimously approved the placement of a memorial for Charlie Howard near the Kenduskeag Stream. The memorial will be contemplative in nature with flowers and a bench facing down stream. All the plans have been approved by the city engineer and the Arts and Cultural Council. A professional architect did work pro bono. In a month you will be able to access pictures and plans of the Charlie Howard Memorial. The inscription on the memorial will read as follows:

> " May we, the citizens of Bangor, continue to change the world around us until hatred becomes peacemaking and ignorance becomes understanding. Charlie Howard, an openly gay man, died here at the hands of hatred and ignorance on July 7, 1984."

In the near future, the Charlie Howard Foundation, not to be confused with groups with similar names, will be asking the community to help make this memorial a reality. You will be asked to help with money, plantings, weeding and other odd jobs. We have told the city we will maintain this site. This project truly will take a community to erect, make beautiful and

maintain. If you have any questions or would like to start donating money and or time, please contact Sue at sdavies@bts.edu or Deb at dcarney3@roadrunner.com

(NEWS #4:) Vanity Plates Contest. OK folks, it's time for another contest !! After the rousing success of last year's "pun" contest (I know, you were hoping I'd forgotten about it), I figure you should get to try something equally creative ... and shorter. So let's see what fun ideas you can come up with for Vanity license plates, those automobile license plates that people pay extra money for that usually try to express something personal about the car's owner. (an example might be: **L8L8L8** for someone who always feels in a hurry; or perhaps **I DR** for an opthamologist). Plates can be cute, funny, serious, political, social, job related, hobby related, angst-ridden, spiritual, mathematical, musical, scientific, pet related, horticultural, agricultural, biological, historic, gustatory, artistic, automotive, gay, or whatever. The rules are that you can use up to 8 letters and/or numbers (or up to 7 letters and/or numbers and one blank space). You may submit your own plate if you have one, but you can't submit someone else's. You may submit more than one. Make up your best plate(s) and send them to me at megress@gwi.net before the end of January. Be sure to include an explanation of WHAT they are saying for those of us who might be a little slow on the uptake. I will list everyone's efforts in The FAN and my lovely assistant and I will choose a winner (who will be announced in the FEB 1 issue). The winner will receive a gift certificate for a free dinner-for-two at the Bahar Pakistani Restaurant here in Bangor ($45 value). The choice of winner will be final.

(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. **Professional couple looking for house/apartment rental** in Ellsworth area. See LIVING SPACE RENTALS category.

2. **Job Opening in Portland - Community Health Promotion Specialist - part-time**
Health and Human Services - Public Health Infectious Disease Program – **part-time, 22.5 hours/week.** Seeking a qualified individual to provide outreach, referrals, risk/harm reduction education and social marketing services to members of Portland's Gay male community. Experience with HIV prevention and education including counseling and testing, harm reduction, behavior change and knowledge of issues related to males who have sex with males (MSM) is highly desirable. Web site design and maintenance experience desired. Position will entail working as part of a multi-disciplinary team to provide community outreach to Portland's MSM/Gay community, and health education. Must have good communication skills, ability to implement and evaluate program objectives, and work independently in the field. BA degree in public health, health education or related field. Must have valid Maine Class C driver's license and personal vehicle available for work use. **Accepting applications/resumes 12/28/2007 through 1/9/2008.** FMI and to download applications in PDF form go to http://www.portlandmaine.gov/jobs.asp#Job%20Opportunities

3. **Graduate student seeks to interview lesbian moms.** I am a graduate student in Human Development at the University of Maine. I am interested in interviewing lesbian biological moms with children of any age living in Maine communities about their experiences: 1) to explore how living in a rural state helps or complicates the experiences of lesbian mothers in how they negotiate institutions such as health care and school, and 2) given social and political constraints that lesbian mothers need to overcome or adapt to, explore how mothers make use of support systems and form family. Almost all of the previous research has been conducted with moms living in urban or metropolitan areas. To maintain confidentiality, I'm trying to get the word out through intermediaries and having participants contact me directly if they are willing to be interviewed. If you would be willing to be interviewed or have questions about this study, please contact Sharon LaBrie at the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Ctr, University of Maine at Orono: phone 207-581-1652 or cell 207-570-2400

4. **Catalyst for Change Award seeks nominations.** The Jean Byers Sampson Center for Diversity in Maine presented its first Catalyst for Change award this October. We are seeking nominations for 2008. The award honors someone who has furthered civil rights or social justice in Maine.

For information on the award and instructions on nominating, please go to:
http://library.usm.maine.edu/specialcollections/catalystforchangeaward.html

The deadline for nominations is January 31, 2008. If you have any question please contact Susie Bock at bocks@usm.maine.edu or at 207-780-4269

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 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.

1. Lesbian All-Star Revue (thanks to Virginia for this report)

It was the House of Lesbians December 1st as the Lesbian All-Star Revue took the stage at the St. Lawrence Arts and Community Center in Portland. For three and a half hours the stage presented act after act of lesbian talent. The evening was a fundraiser for WMPG's Lesbian Radio and over 135 audience members enjoyed lesbian magic. Jessi Mallory of Bangor opened the show with her special brand of rock, Carolyn Gage performed her one act play, Calamity Jane Sends A Message To Her Daughter, brilliantly, the Dyke March Committee showed up in full ensemble and gave us the history of the Dyke March in the United States and Portland, Mary Ellen Hitt of Belfast showed four short montages of her photographic work and they were magnificent seen onstage, Hurricane Bertha from Machias played and had the whole theatre laughing with their "good girls go to heaven, bad girls go down" song, Vanessa Torres and Touching Ground were amazing, their melodies woven in political thought, Carole Wise gave us all peace with her guitar and voice, The Mel Factor was politcal rap with clinching humor, and G'gan and the Smokes brought the house to their feet with "You Give me Fever" ... Lesbian Radio had not planned for crowd control, and the entire theatre was screaming for more. The evening was emceed by Darlene Huntress, Lesbian Radio's own Amazonian Politico and Public Policy Director for EqualityMaine and Jill Barkley recently voted young activist of Portland (Lesbian Radio thinks she is the activist of the solar system) .... they were a charming and funny pair and the evening moved at a hilarious pace with their guidance. Community felt so strong after the evening. We were lesbianated!

After the show The North Star Music Cafe held an after-party with H and L donating their deejay abilities for the crowd! The place was packed and the evening just wouldn't quit. Absolutely fabulous folks! Lesbian Radio thanks everyone for their support and for sharing the evening! We can't wait to do it again!

2. Bridge Alliance Christmas Party Report (Thanks to Toby for this report.)

The Family Christmas Party thrown by The Bridge Alliance was definitely worth braving the weather! The kids were allowed access to the exhibits, given juice and snacks and each got some time with Santa Clause and his elves. The free-flowing atmosphere let the kids come to Santa at their own time and really talk to him, not just snap a picture and ask for a football. Everyone was very friendly, and I think watching the kids play with their teddy bears (gifts from Santa) was a gift in itself. We know our son will remember that party for a long time and we'll definitely be keeping an eye out for more things held by the Bridge Alliance, and the Maine Discovery Museum too!

EVENTS (CHANGING):

*** JAN 5 (Saturday),** Hancock, **Out On MDI Potluck Dinner**. This is a social potluck drop-in open to anyone lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning. This month's gathering will be held at Anne's house in Hancock. Snow date is Sunday, January 6th. FMI and/or directions email Ann at alfhildanda@mac.com

*** JAN 16 (Wednesday)** Bangor, **Maine Eat-Out Project**, 6:30 pm. Join our group for dinner at different area restaurants. The January MEOP will be at China Wall, 930 Stillwater Ave (corner of Stillwater Ave and Hogan Rd) Reservations are needed. FMI and/or to reserve contact Jean at 862-2063 or email megress@gwi.net no later than Tuesday January 15.

*** JAN 26 (Saturday),** Ellsworth, family member **Chris Rutecki, singer/songwriter**, Guitar/Vocals, will be performing at Calypso's Restaurant (156 Main St) from 7pm - 11pm. Come and listen to the acoustic sound with a touch of soul. FMI call 667-6554

EVENTS (ONGOING):

FIRST FRIDAY LESBIAN POTLUCK. First Friday of every month. Belfast, Starts around 6 pm. FMI and/or directions, contact Annie at a.doherty1@verizon.net or call 338-6347.

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

OUTRAGEOUSLY SUPPORTIVE. Every other Thursday. 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. For more information contact Sharon at 207-990-3626 or emanpeer@gwi.net or go to http://www.outright-bangor.org.

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 Tuesday, meetings held in Bangor, for any high school student from the ages of 14 to 18 yrs. old with questions about HIV/AIDS and/or an interest in peer-education. We have group check-ins, group discussion, watch movies, snacks. GLBTQ friendly. Meets from 3:30 – 5:30pm at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 370 Harlow St. For more information, contact Joe at 207-990-3626 or jsargent@gwi.net or go to http://www.outright-bangor.org

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.

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

Corinna/ Dexter, home for rent. Enjoy this quiet country retreat that is close to the Dexter – Route 7 Moose head Trail, close to region lakes and hunting areas. The rental is an updated 2-bedroom/1bath mobile home on a very nice private lot. Home has been updated: DW, WD, side-by-side fridge, outside storage building for extra space. Plenty of space for vegetable gardens, lawn games, out door life the way it was meant to be. Owner provides trash & snow removal and lawn care. Small Pets ok with pet deposit if you are a responsible pet owner. Rent is $650.00 per month heated. You pay lights. Deposit, References and Lease required. GLBT-supportive. Email Jeff at petemaggie@aol.com or call 207-924-3606 after 4pm or leave Voice Mail.

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 Area, rental wanted. My partner and I are looking for a two bedroom apartment/house to rent. We are part-time Daddies to a 4 year old well-mannered boy who stays with us 6 months of the year, alternating months. Our lease is up March 31st and we'd prefer to be closer to our son's mother for travel purposes. We are looking for a place in the Ellsworth area, definitely willing to look into surrounding areas. Non-smokers, non-partyers. Pet-friendly a must, I have an 8 year old well-behaved springer mix who can't be separated from his family, ready to pay a pet deposit. Reliable work with the Jackson Laboratory for my partner and I recently got my teacher certification. References available. Our cell number is (207) 610-2340, our Skype number is (631) 619-5169. Toby or Scott. Hope to hear from someone soon!

Hampden, townhouses for rent. Beautiful, brand new, affordable two bedroom 1.5 bath townhouses with full basements conveniently located 1.5 miles outside of Bangor in Hampden. Heat, HW, lawn care, plowing, trash removal included. No smoking/No dogs. $880.00 per month, lease, deposit. Call Erlene at 949-4577.

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.

Newport, house mate wanted. Gay non-smoking male building a house in Newport and would like to find a house mate. Pay rent or in exchange for painting and helping me do some light carpentry. Contact Marc at adventurechallenge@msn.com or 890-7133.

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

GLBTI COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:

AA Meeting for people living with HIV/AIDS. Meets on Thursday Evenings from 6:30 - 7:30 at 49 Oak Street in Portland. FMI contact Scott at ScottTopsum@hotmail.com

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 . You can also check the web site at www.howardfoundation07.org

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, 973-3586 or 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.

(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@roadrunner.com 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

Clay Hill Farm Restaurant (OGUNQUIT) hosts a variety of women-only events during the year. Among them are a Christmas Season dinner-dance, a women's Valentine's Day dinner-dance (for both couples AND singles), and a Spring Soiree in June. You can check out the web site at www.clayhillfarm.com . To get on the e-mail list for their Events For Women, send your request to Jackie at Lmsmarketing@yahoo.com

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 social group for men who have sex with men meets every Wednesday at the **just guys** 1950's library café, second floor, 9 Green St, in Augusta. We work to create a safe, welcoming space free of attitude, ego, gossip, labels, or judgment. Drop in for casual chat, cookies, and coffee Wednesday any time from 5:30 to 7:00. The regular weekly meetings are 7-8:30. The night's activities can include discussions, games, guest speakers, or movies, and always fun snacks. Join us, bring a friend, come share! Free, anonymous, 20-minute rapid oral test is available with appointment anytime. 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

Maine Street Bar (OGUNQUIT) hosts monthly women-only T-dances. For more info about them check the web site at http://www.mainestreetogunquit.com/women.php

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 by going to www.northernlambdanord.com

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 Peg at chickp3@gmail.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, in Portland ME. Call 207-233-8157 on Saturdays (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

WAYVES (Canadian Maritimes) For those FAN readers who are near the Canadian maritime provinces there is a monthly newspaper, called **WAYVES**, which is put out by the maritme GLBT community. It's put out in print copy only, covers all the maritime provinces, and contains feature articles, regular columns, listings of groups and services, listings of GLBT events coming up, and business ads. A subscription sent to the U.S. is $30/year CDN. FMI about subscribing contact Jim McMillan at 902-826-7356, email submissions@wayves.ca , or write to Wayves, PO Box 34090, Scotia Square, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, B3J 3S1. You can also check their web site at www.wayves.ca

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@roadrunner.com 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

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 Listserve. A long-running listserve for the Maine GLBTQ community which allows members to post notices, opinions, etc. (in a broadcast manner) to everyone else on the listserve. To join the Maine GayNet listserve, send the following command in the body of a message to majordomo@groups.queernet.org: subscribe me-gaynet youremailaddress

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@gmail.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.