University of Southern Maine
USM Digital Commons

FAN: Family Affairs Newsletter

Newspapers

2-1-2008

Family Affairs Newsletter 2008-02-01

Jean Vermette

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/fan

Part of the American Studies Commons, and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Commons

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Newspapers at USM Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in FAN: Family Affairs Newsletter by an authorized administrator of USM Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jessica.c.hovey@maine.edu.

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

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

1 FEBRUARY 2008

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

GUIDELINES FOR FAN POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Well, unless you've been in a coma for the past 6 months, you're aware that 2008 is an election year. Every election year there are lots and lots of political "things" going on. Some people try not to pay too much attention to the political hullaballoo *(your editor being one of them),* but for other folks political activities are real social events and important parts of their lives. Since this is a "social" newsletter, I figure I need to put at least some attention on the brouhaha. So here, once again, are the guidelines for folks who want to post "political announcements" in The FAN.

1. All political announcements posted in The FAN must have a social component to them ... something that is happening where people will actually get together and interact. (e.g. envelope stuffing parties = OK, rallies = OK, debates about candidates or meetings with candidates = OK, simple requests to vote for a candidate = not OK, requests to write to a candidtate or to someone else about a candidate = not OK, requests for donations for a candidate = not OK).
2. Political announcements can be for any candidate (Federal, State, Local) of any party or affiliation.
3. Political announcements can only be for candidates, not for issues. If someone wants to say something about an issue (and can tie it in to the GLBTI community in some way), they are welcomes to submit an opinion piece to the OP/ED category.
4. Political announcements will normally be placed in the next issue of The FAN following its submission. HOWEVER, because political "events" sometimes happen on very short notice (especially as voting day gets closer), I will send out such last-minute event postings in special emails.
5. ALL special emails about last-minute political events will contain the words: **THIS IS A FAN POLITICAL NOTICE** in the Subject line. Folks who are uninterested can simply delete them without bothering to read ... the other folks can open them up and see what's happening.
6. November 3, 2008 will be the last day that political postings can be sent.
7. I reserve the right not to post a political notice, or to request changes in the wording, if I don't feel it meets the guidelines or is of questionable content. So far, that's never happened ... but I still reserve the right.

(NEWS #1:) Equality Maine seeks volunteers to chat with Democratic Caucus goers. See the ANNOUNCEMENTS category.

(NEWS #2:) FAN Poll results. The question was: **Where are the gay-friendly places in Bangor (or beyond) that you and your partner (or date) go to dance and relax?** See the ANNOUNCEMENTS category for the details.

(NEWS #3:) Vanity Plates Contest. Listings and winner ... see the ANNOUNCEMENTS category.

(NEWS #4:) First Annual Rainbow Ball ... a formal prom event Down East for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered, and Allied students of Maine ... see the ANNOUNCEMENTS category.

(NOTES #1:) RBPA Scholarship Fund Seeks Applicants. The Rainbow Business and Professional Association (RBPA) Scholarship Fund will grant scholarships for the eleventh year in May 2008. The mission of the Scholarship Fund is to

promote positive role models for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered individuals in an academic environment and community at large, to recognize and foster diversity and to reward and support sensitivity to human rights. The scholarship is granted to deserving Maine individuals who are planning to further their education in a four-year college, two-year college or trade school.

The RBPA Scholarship Fund was established in 1997. From the first award of $500 in 1998, the Scholarship Fund has grown steadily, and in 2007 granted two students scholarships of $3000 each. In 2005, the Scholarship Fund achieved a long sought after goal by establishing an endowment fund with an initial deposit of $10,000 and an additional deposit of $10,000 added in 2007. This endowment fund will enable Scholarships to be awarded to worthy students for years to come. It is a tribute to the support received from the RBPA membership and the LGBT Community.

The Scholarship Committee of RBPA will be accepting applications through March 15, 2008. Recipients are selected by the committee who review the essay applications. The awards banquet will be held on May 14, 2008 at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland. Application forms may be downloaded or completed online at www.rbpa.org . Any questions regarding the application process, contact Chairperson Sue Davis at shdavis1953@aol.com or 883-0227.

(NOTES #2:) Family member Medea Steinman is on the "Cool Bangor Coalition" and is hoping that GLBT businesses that provide smart energy solutions will take part in and display their products and/or services at the 14th annual HOPE Festival sponsored by the Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine. This year the Festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 19, in the Field House at the University of Maine in Orono, and will feature a Green Expo. Since hundreds of people attend to enjoy the children's programs, live music and dance performances, the Festival is a good opportunity to showcase your enterprise. For information and application forms, contact info@peacectr.org or cpdiebold@yahoo.com. Early registration is recommended.

(NOTES #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

(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 Equality Maine seeks volunteers to chat with Democratic Caucus goers.

With the Democratic presidential nomination still very much undecided, voters will be flocking to Maine's Democratic Presidential Caucus on Sunday, February 10th. This could be the highest turnout ever for the presidential caucus in Maine. A high turnout means that EqualityMaine volunteers will have an opportunity to talk with thousands of voters about the freedom to marry in Maine.
We need you to be one of those volunteers! At the caucuses, we'll ask voters to sign a postcard in support of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples in Maine. Over the last year of collecting postcards, 70-90 percent of the voters we talked with have signed them. In this one day alone, we're expecting to collect hundreds of postcards that will be hand-delivered to state legislators. **Best of all, you can volunteer in your own town, at your local caucus!** Attending the caucus in your area is the first step in helping to change how this country treats LGBT families. Volunteering with EqualityMaine at the caucus is direct action in helping to change how Maine treats LGBT families. **Please take an hour or two out of your schedule to volunteer at the Maine Democratic Presidential Caucus on Sunday, February 10th.** To volunteer and for more

information, call or email our field organizer Matt Moonen at 207-761-3732 x5 or mmoonen@equalitymaine.org.

#2 FAN Poll results. The question was: **Where are the gay-friendly places in Bangor (or beyond) that you and your partner (or date) go to dance and relax?** Unfortunately, I guess I was not clear enough in stating the info I was looking for because some folks sent me info about restaurants as well. Thanks to those folks for their time, and my apologies for not printing their submissions, but I was actually more interested in finding out about GLBT-friendly dance places. I'm sorry to say I got very few responses to this poll, but here they are:

A) The only one I can think of is Fuzion in Bangor on Franklin Street. Gay friendly. It's about 50/50. Fun times.

B) ... there is a gay friendly club, Club Fusion. I called there once and talked a someone that works there and he did say that they do not discriminate against anyone that goes there. Its true, I saw for myself. ALTHOUGH alot of youngens (straight and gay) go there, not my type of club ... (but) there were lots of gays/couples there.

C) To answer your poll question- I hear that Fusion on Franklin St is friendly ... Maybe we could see about starting up dances again.

D) Unfortunately this is nothing but Fusions where Karma use to be, but Carolinas is friendly for the women, not so with the men.
My partner and i tend to go out of town, Augusta has PJ's, not the best, but it's a change of scenery from time to time....

E) Carolina's is friendly.

F) If we want to meet friends out we go to Carolina's in Bangor.

G) PJs (Papa Joe's) on Water Street, Augusta.

H) To answer your poll, my partner and I generally go to the 103 Ultra Lounge in Orono. However, like every bar/club in Maine, you do encounter one or two people who voice their opinion of the gay lifestyle in a rather rude manner. This is easily taken care of by the staff at 103 however. Out of all the places to go, we find 103 to be the most enjoyable.

I) Contra Dance on the 4th Sat of every month at the UU Church, 120 Park St, Bangor, 7:00pm. It's a blast, and very GBLT? friendly.

J) I can tell you that I've met same-sex couples (and a single or two) at the area contradances. Contradancers are, by and large, a very positive, open and supportive group. I even hear some callers making an effort to use gender-neutral terms when calling out the dance moves (although, realistically, this is a long way off from being the norm). It's a smoke-free, chemical-free environment chock full of happy people eager to help each other out. My own dance group, now called the Penobscot Contradancers, has collaborated with the folks at the UU Society in Bangor. We hold a dance every fourth Saturday at the UU Church (last night was our first dance there, and the turnout was awesome). Since it was the first dance in this venue, under a new name and with new promotions, I can't attest to the number (if any) same-sex couples who were there last night (but give me time to work on it - I'm the new promoter - ha). However, I know I see regular same-sex couples at the monthly contradance in Belfast (every first Friday), and every so often in Orono (second Saturdays). There is a contradance every weekend somewhere in this general area of Maine (Bangor, Orono, Blue Hill, Trenton, Belfast, Skowhegan, and beyond). I'd be happy to supply more info if anyone's interested.
(ed note: if anyone is interested in more info, email me at megress@gwi.net and I'll forward your request on to Nancy)

K) I ... always have to go to Portland. Carman Miranda's in Bar Harbor is fun in the fall. The town becomes more gay populated.. PJ's in Augusta is another option. Other than that you have to wait for pride week at UMO or special events like the lesbian dances in Belfast.

Some people bemoaned the fact that there were no GLBT-specific places to go where they would feel comfortable (here is a sampling)

A) Sadly, (we) don't go out dancing like we used to when there were gay bars in town as we wouldn't feel comfortable in Bangor in any other venue. The only times we consider a comfortable opportunity is when attending the rare intentional event, such as the Red Ribbon ball among others.

B) I don't know of any places in the Bangor area to dance but wouldn't it be great if some of us got together and started a monthly dance. The dance in Belfast was certainly popular with us women folk and I have been to lesbian dances in southern Maine that attract a good crowd.

And one place (a local restaurant) offered a solution:

"To your question ! We have offered this place several times but it must be too far out of Bangor (about 10 miles). We have a bar, we have a dance floor and we are closed to the general public on Sunday afternoons. We have a projector and a large screen and have offered to show DVD's but there was not enough interest. The snowmobile club was more interested than family."

(ed note: So if folks really want to gather and dance on a regular .. or irregluar .. basis in a GLBT-friendly environment, we've got the opportunity! Someone just has to get off their butt and make the arrangements! If anyone or any group is interested in trying to organize something, contact me megress@gwi.net and I'll forward your interest along to the above proprietors.)

#3 Vanity Plates Contest. Well folks, here are all the listings that came in. And the winner is ..... QUEAH. We thought it had just the right combination of "outness" and dry Maine humor. Congratulations to Rob, who I will be contacting for the transfer of his $45 gift certificate to the Bahar Pakistani Restaurant here in Bangor.

1HNGLO = One hung LO
1WTHGOD = one with god
2GY2BS8 = too gay to be straight
BWAY = a bisexual theatre fan
CMONOUT = come on out
CUTNSEW = a surgeon
GR82SH = Great Tush
GUMS = a periodontist
H82BSR8 = hate to be straight
H82DATE = hate to date
H82SHOP = hate to shop
HOBANGR = Great for a pimps car
HOOKER = a latch rug hobbyist
ICNWAIT = an undertaker
IHTMYX = I hate my ex
IH8U = a misanthrope
ILVDOGS = a kennel owner
IW84NO1 = I wait for know one
KRAY ZEE = maybe seen on Patsy Clines car
LOVEALL = love all, because we all need to be loved
NONBRDR = non-breeder
NONUTZ = peanut/treenut allergic person
NOTSTR8 = not straight
PNSNVE= Penis Envy
PP MD = a urologist
Pu55Y = Cat lover perhaps
QUEAH = queer .. with a Maine accent
RAM THIS = For Ram Truck
RNBWPRD = rainbow pride (or proud)
RU12 = Are you one too
RUFENUF = rough enough
STIF ONE = stiff one, great for a funeral car
STOPNGO = a bus driver
TYPE A = self explanatory
U8MOT8WI = reads: "I wait to mate you" in the rear view mirror of the car in front of you
UBETIAM = You bet I am
VAMPY = a grandfather vampire
YES IAM = Well- its says it too

#4 First Annual Rainbow Ball ... a formal prom event for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered, and Allied students of Maine.

The 100% Society of the University of Maine at Machias will be hosting its First Annual Rainbow Ball on Saturday evening, April 12, 2008. The Rainbow Ball is a formal prom event for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered, and Allied students of Maine. All associated High School and College students are invited to attend this event, which we hope will become a yearly tradition of fun and inclusion. We are also extending the invitation to any community members who wish to attend a prom. Ticket prices are as follows:

High School students will pay $10.00 per person, which includes dorm housing for students and their chaperone on the night of the prom. All others will pay $15.00 per person or $20.00 per couple for advanced tickets, or $20.00 per person, $25.00 per couple at the door. Dorm housing is also available for college students for an additional fee of $10.00.

Ticket prices include the Dance, Prom Photos, "Mocktails" (non alcoholic beverages) and Hors D'oeuvres.

Please RSVP any interest in this event **by February 24**, 2008 in order for us to plan accordingly, with the number of interested students if possible. Send RSVP, Interest and/or Questions to Lois-Ann Kuntz, faculty advisor: lkuntz@maine.edu - please include **"Rainbow Ball"** in the subject line.

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.

No one submitted any reports this issue.

EVENTS (CHANGING):

* **FEB 9 (Saturday),** Orono, **The 2nd Annual Red Ribbon Ball**. You're invited! Dig out your fancy duds and join us for Eastern Maine AIDS Network's largest fundraiser of the year! The Ball goes from 7:00 pm to Midnight and will be at the Buchanan Alumni House (Two Alumni Road) at the University of Maine. Tickets are $50/person if purchased before January 25th, $65/person after that date. This year we will be featuring an evening of live music by the Brian Catell Band, dancing, and a silent auction. Hors D'oeuvres and a Cash Bar will be available. Black tie is optional. FMI and/or to purchase tickets call 990-3626 or email Jean at JELavigne@aol.com

* **FEB 16 (Saturday)** Bangor, **Le Salon Du Somerset**, 5:00 - 9:00 pm, Chris & Jean's, ever-changing event. It ranges from the silly to the serious, the arts to the sciences, politics to philosophy, history to histrionics, and all areas in between. The February Salon will be a potluck dinner and a showing of the BBC TV mini-series: FINGERSMITH. Plot: Raised in a den of petty thieves, plucky orphan Sue agrees to help a con man defraud and betray an heiress. Plans change when the two women fall in love with each other. Adapted from the novel by Sarah Waters (Tipping the Velvet), this is "a tightly plotted tale of lust, deception, and intrigue" - The Guardian (U.K.) approx. 180 minutes. Dinner will be from 5 - 6 pm and the movie (with a few breaks) will be from 6 - 9 pm. **Reservations are needed and will be limited to 10 people.** FMI and/or to reserve, contact Jean at 862-2063 or at megress@gwi.net

* **FEB 21 (Thursday),** Brunswick, 7:00 pm, **Lynn Deeves and Kate Schrock together/one night**. A rare double bill concert opportunity with two veteran Maine songwriters: Kate Schrock and Lynn Deeves. They will be at the Frontier Cafe, Theatre and Gallery, 14 Maine Street (Fort Andross Mill #3). Tickets are $10 (Limited seating-advance purchase recommended). FMI and/or to reserve call 725-5222. www.lynndeeves.com , www.kateschrock.com

* **FEB 23 (Saturday),** Ellsworth, family member **Chris Rutecki, singer/songwriter**, Guitar/Vocals, will be performing at Calypso's Restaurant (156 Main St) starting at 6:00 pm. Come listen to the acoustic sound with a touch of soul. FMI about the gig call Calypso's at 667-6554. FMI about Chris check out www.myspace.com/chrisrutecki

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

Bangor, apartment sharing available. I have an extra room in my Bangor apt. that I'm looking to rent out. Rent is $ 350.00 a month plus half of electric. FMI call Tom at 207-570-3554.

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 244-3837or 667-2358. OR email downeastglsen@roadrunner.com You can also 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.