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**Family Affairs Newsletter 2009-03-15**

Jean Vermette

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

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER  
AND INTERSEX COMMUNITY

FOLLOW YOUR HEART - DO YOUR PART - CHERISH OUR FAMILY

15 MARCH 2009

## **NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:**

(NEWS #1:) I always loved that scene in the movie *Casablanca* where Rick Blaine (the Humphrey Bogart character) is chatting with the new-to-the-area Nazi gestapo officer and the Nazi asks him: "What are you doing in Casablanca, Mr. Blaine?" Rick responds: "I came for the waters." The Nazi says: "There are no waters in Casablanca", and Rick retorts: "I was misinformed." Well, apparently, I've been misinformed about the COASTAL WOMEN'S CONNECTION which I reported in the last issue had been disbanded. (Hey, I only know what people tell me!) I now get this info from the CWC group moderator: "It actually still exists as a Yahoo group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/coastalwomensconnection/> where women can connect with other women. There are no more 'official' CWC gatherings that I'm aware of, although women still meet in small groups around the area. Women are welcome to still join the yahoo group for networking." *So Coastal Women's Connection is still around.* You can find them listed below in the **WEB BASED MAINE GLBT LISTSERVES & EMAIL LISTS** category.

(NEWS #2:) Some new group listings below in the **GLBTI COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS** and **SOCIAL GROUPS (MORE THAN 50 MILES FROM BANGOR)** categories:

**THE NAUGHTY NORTH COLLECTIVE  
OUTRIGHT L/A  
THE MAINE EQUITY FUND**

(NOTES #1:) In case you haven't heard yet:

**GLAD Files Lawsuit Challenging Denial of Critical Federal Benefits to Married Same-Sex Couples**

**Married Same-Sex Couples Denied Critical Protections in the 1,138 Federal Laws in Which Marital Status Is a Factor**

(March 3, 2009) The first concerted, multi-plaintiff legal challenge to Section 3 of the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) was filed today by Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD).

*Gill et al. v. Office of Personnel Management et al.* targets the denial of certain federal rights and protections to married same-sex couples in Massachusetts. GLAD lawsuits brought marriage equality to Massachusetts (2004) and Connecticut (2008), the only states where same-sex couples can currently



legally marry. This suit, filed today in federal District Court in Boston, addresses the use of DOMA Section 3 to deny spousal protections in Social Security, federal income tax, federal employees' and retirees' benefits, and in the issuance of passports.

"It's time for the federal government to end its blatant double standard of providing rights and protections to all married couples except gay and lesbian married couples," said Mary L. Bonauto, Civil Rights Project Director for GLAD. "Same-sex married couples have taken on the commitment of marriage, play by the rules, and pay into the system. But they are denied critical federal legal protections that form a safety net to support other married couples and their children."

Passed in 1996, DOMA Section 3, now codified at 1 U.S.C. section 7, limits the marriages the federal government will respect to those between a man and a woman. Section 2 of DOMA, not at issue in this lawsuit, allows states to establish public policies about what marriages they will and will not respect.

GLAD argues that DOMA Section 3 violates the federal constitutional guarantee of equal protection as applied to federal income tax, Social Security, federal employees and retirees, and in the issuance of passports. GLAD also contends that DOMA Section 3 is an unprecedented intrusion by the federal government into marriage law, always considered the province of the states.

The plaintiffs are eight married couples and three widowers, each of whom is currently eligible for a federal program. Each has applied for a benefit under that program and was denied because of DOMA Section 3.

More than 10,000 couples residing in Massachusetts have married since 2004, and not one has received a single federal benefit or protection available to all other married couples. As soon as couples started marrying, GLAD started hearing from couples who have been harmed and whose children have been harmed because of DOMA.

While GLAD's case focuses on certain federal programs, DOMA Section 3 cuts across virtually every area of federal law. Married same-sex couples cannot, for example, take family and medical leave to care for a seriously ill spouse; access the many family benefits associated with military service; or sponsor a foreign spouse to reside in this country.

GLAD's legal team is led by Mary Bonauto and GLAD Legal Director Gary Buseck, and Staff Attorneys Nima Eshghi and Janson Wu. Co-operating counsel on the case include Foley Hoag LLP (Boston), Sullivan & Worcester LLP (Boston), Jenner & Block LLP (Washington, DC), and Kator, Parks & Weiser, PLLC (Washington, DC).

Full information about *Gill et al. v. OPM et al.* -- including plaintiff bios and photos, video of an interview with Mary Bonauto, slideshows, and the text of the complaint - is available at [www.glad.org/DOMA](http://www.glad.org/DOMA).

**(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](mailto: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. THE BRIDGE ALLIANCE IS LOOKING FOR A LARGER VENUE. Can you offer suggestions?** My name is Gene Beck. I am the event coordinator for the registered non-profit



organization *The Bridge Alliance*. We are a GLBTA organization trying to promote community, tolerance and acceptance for *all* people in our area. We hold various fundraising events in our area to help us fund our endeavors. Most recently we have been sponsoring monthly dances held on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Sadly (gladly) we are outgrowing our present venue at Paddy Murphy's Pub and are now faced with looking for a new place. We are looking for inexpensive available space for our dances. Must have the ability to have 60-80 people, cash bar and DJ. We typically run from 8:00 - midnight. If anyone has any ideas or can help us directly, please contact Gene at [info@thebridgealliance.org](mailto:info@thebridgealliance.org). For more information about our group and what we do, please visit [www.thebridgealliance.org](http://www.thebridgealliance.org)

**2. JOB ANNOUNCEMENT.** Add Verb Productions, a GLBT-friendly and inclusive, Portland-based theatre for social change organization, is seeking a part time (20 hrs/week) marketing professional to direct and implement Add Verb's overall marketing and communications efforts. The emphasis of the Marketing Manager position is to increase exposure and revenues related to our nationally touring productions, which include:

- The Thin Line, a one-woman play on eating disorders and You the Man, a one-man play about domestic violence and sexual assault;
- Add Verb's newest touring play, A Major Medical Breakthrough, which examines the critical role of the health care sector in preventing interpersonal violence.

**Job Description:**

The Marketing Manager will work with the Operations Director and Executive Director to support the development and implementation of a strategic marketing plan. Specific responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Directing organizational public relations and corporate communications efforts including press releases, event announcements/listings, electronic and web based marketing.
- Regional and national coalition building and development of strategic partnerships with organizations connected to Add Verb's mission.
- Identifying and supervising the development of marketing promotional materials.
- Cultivating leads and building relationships in order to maximize touring productions.
- Researching and identifying new clients and opportunities for further prospect development and business growth.
- Identifying and applying for regional and national conference opportunities for touring productions.

**Qualifications**

Bachelors Degree Required. Concentration in marketing, marketing, business or communications preferred. At least one year experience in marketing role within corporate or nonprofit environment. Evidence of aptitude in developing and administering a marketing program. Polished presentation and interpersonal skills.

**How to Apply**

Please send a cover letter, resume and writing sample to Add Verb's Operations Director, Amanda Bailey [Amanda@addverbproductions.com](mailto:Amanda@addverbproductions.com). FMI about Add Verb Productions check the web site at [www.addverbproductions.com](http://www.addverbproductions.com)

**3. ORAL HISTORY PARTICIPANTS SOUGHT**

Greetings, I'm a graduate student in the American and New England Studies program at the University of Southern Maine. I would like to invite you to participate in my research study exploring the ways lesbian identity has changed through the opening and closing of a Portland bar, Sisters, open from 1995 to 2005. You may participate if you have ever visited Sisters or if you were aware of - but chose not to visit - Sisters.

If you choose to participate, you'll be asked questions about your memories of Sisters, your gender identity, your sexual orientation, and your thoughts on lesbian bars, in general. Your interview will last approximately 45 minutes to one hour, and portions of recorded interviews will be included in my Masters thesis. A secondary goal of my research is documenting lesbian community institutions in Maine; to this



end, portions of recorded interviews will also be included in an audio documentary on Sisters, to be broadcast via USM's radio station, WMPG.

If you participate in this project, you may find that people disagree with some of your opinions or your interpretations of historical events and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, or queer community in Portland. Your name or voice may be recognized by WMPG radio listeners. This could include family, friends, or co-workers. However, you may choose to opt out of the radio portion of the project and/or use a pseudonym to protect your identity. Furthermore, you may have the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to preserve the history of lesbian institutions and lesbian community in Maine. You may also gain some public recognition for your participation in this project.

If you would like to know more information about this study, you can contact me, Clare Forstie, at [cforstie@usm.maine.edu](mailto:cforstie@usm.maine.edu). If you decide to participate in this project, we will set up a time and location to meet to conduct the interview. If you have any questions, please contact me at [cforstie@usm.maine.edu](mailto:cforstie@usm.maine.edu) or my advisor, Dr. Ardis Cameron, at (207) 780-4921.

#### 4. SECOND ANNUAL RAINBOW BALL IN MACHIAS.

We are students from the University of Maine at Machias' 100% Society!! We are a GLBTQA organization committed to providing not only education and support for our community, but fun and fabulous times as well!!

We would like to cordially invite you to the **Second Annual Rainbow Ball** on Saturday evening, April 11, 2009. The Rainbow Ball is an open and affirming Prom evening that includes dancing, pictures, food and friends. This year we are working hard to make this event even bigger and better than last year. This year's Rainbow Ball will have a **Life is a Cabaret** theme! We will have mask decorating, contests, belly dancers, and live musical performances throughout the evening along with a DJ!! All associated High School, College, and Youth groups and community members are invited to attend this event. You can wear anything you want to this event, but please be appropriate (i.e. no nudity). Although people do have a tendency to lean more towards the semi formal-to-formal dress, we encourage you to have fun, be yourself, and be fabulous!

We will also have west-coast comic, **Sabrina Matthews**, performing on Friday, April 10th at 8:00 pm!! If you would like, feel free to come a night early and enjoy the free show on campus!! We have events planned all day for Saturday, everything from movies and games, to karaoke, poi twirling, crafts, and a leadership luncheon for both high school and college students. For those wishing to attend Easter Services on Sunday, the Centre Street Congregational Church is close to campus and is open and affirming and has its service at 10:30 am. Also on Sunday, there will be planning sessions for High School/Youth GSA-College Alliances as well as for an all-inclusive GLBTQA college fraternity. If you have any ideas for additional weekend events, please let us know!!

Rainbow Ball tickets\* for college students and community members cost \$15 for one and \$20 for two! Please RSVP any interest in this event by March 24, 2009 in order for us to plan accordingly, with the number of interested students. Admission for high school students, youth groups and their chaperones is **FREE**. This includes room fees if you choose to stay one or both nights (Friday/Saturday), prom tickets and all meals. We can also provide some assistance with transportation to the Rainbow Ball itself, for more information, please contact us!

If you are interested in attending, PLEASE LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE! We need to know how many students and chaperones are planning on attending (all high school and/or Youth groups MUST be accompanied by at least one adult). We have housing available for 60, including chaperones, high school students get first dibs on housing, but there may be rooms available for college students as well for \$10/night.

To RSVP or to find out more information, please contact Betty Kelley, UMM Assistant to our President, with "Rainbow Ball" in the subject line to: [bkelly@maine.edu](mailto:bkelly@maine.edu) or call between 1:00 and 5:00 pm, Monday - Friday at 255-1211.



We hope to hear from you soon!!! Please help spread the word!!! Yours in PRIDE, 100% Society, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Allied Student Support Organization, University of Maine at Machias

(\*All ticket proceeds and donations will be used to support next year's Rainbow Ball. The Rainbow Ball is sponsored by: The 100% Society, The Bridge Alliance, UMM Diversity Committee, Omicron Delta Pi ... New England's only all-inclusive GLBTQ fraternity, UMM President Dr. Cynthia Huggins, UMM Residence Life, Joe Higdon & Ellen Sudow, and The Maine Community Foundation)

**5. JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS** City of Portland - Health & Human Services - Public Health Division has two job openings available:

**Community Health Promotion Specialist - Disease Intervention**

Seeking qualified individual to conduct disease investigations by reviewing individual reports of sexually transmitted diseases, interviewing patients, and ensuring persons diagnosed with or exposed to sexually transmitted diseases obtain medical evaluation and treatment. Position will entail working within the context of a multi-disciplinary team to provide community outreach, individual case management, and health education. Experience with STDs, HIV and viral hepatitis as well as a good working knowledge of issues related to mental illness and chemical dependency desired. Must have excellent communication skills, ability to implement and evaluate program objectives, and work independently in the field. BA degree in public health, nursing, health education or related field. Must possess Maine Class C driver's license and have personal vehicle available for work use. This is a 37.5 hours per week position.

**Community Health Promotion Specialist - HIV and TB Prevention**

Seeking a qualified individual to conduct outreach, education, and case management services to members of Portland's racial and ethnic minority communities. Knowledge of HIV, STD and TB prevention, risk factors and Portland area care systems is desirable. Experience with HIV counseling and testing, harm reduction, social marketing and knowledge of issues related to health care needs of secondary migrants is also highly desirable. Must have a command of the Spanish and English languages; strong communication, documentation and information management skills; the ability to implement and evaluate program objectives, and work independently in the field. Bachelor's degree in public health, health education or related field or equivalent combination of experience and education is required. Must possess Maine Class C driver's license and have personal vehicle available for work use. This is a 37.5 hour per week position.

**For both positions, submit cover letter and resume to:**

Human Resources Department  
City of Portland  
389 Congress St.  
Portland, ME 04101

**For more information, contact:**

Katie Thurman  
HIV/STD Prevention Program Coordinator  
207-756-8024  
[kthurman@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:kthurman@portlandmaine.gov)

**6. GAY MEN TOGETHER RETREAT.** This year's Gay Men Together retreat will be APR 30 - MAY 3 (Thursday - Sunday). Gay Men Together (GMT) is a group of men who meet twice a year, in spring and fall. GMT was formed by a group of gay men who desired to build "community" looking into the 21st century. Looking back at the last 20 years and dealing with such a devastating disease as AIDS which took all of our energy and many friends, our retreats and community building have been very successful. We gather as gay and/or questioning men in a non-threatening environment where we each are free to be and celebrate ourselves.



GMT is held at a wonderful turn of the century lodge on a forested hillside overlooking a crystal clear lake in West Gardiner, Maine. Twenty cabins at lakes edge are connected by a boardwalk to the main lodge. With a fieldstone fireplace in the Main Lodge, and rocking chairs on the front porch, our gathering spot for the weekend is warm and welcoming.

During each weekend we have space to hold about twenty workshops, some with laughter, some with tears, always with fun and each is lead by a retreat participant. GMT retreats are an open format, which means that you can pick and choose what you would like to do: attending workshops, hiking the trails, canoeing on the lake, quiet conversations in front of the fire, games in the lodge, or a nap in the cabin, it's up to you. FMI and/or to register for the Gay Men Together gathering, check the web site at [www.gaymentogether.net](http://www.gaymentogether.net)

### **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.*

(Thanks to Andrew for posting this report.)

### **Portland, Gay Hate Crime Survivor Shares His Story.**

I want to thank Byron for sharing his experience with us last Tuesday about being attacked and beaten in Portland. It was a sobering evening of discussion to hear that stuff like this unfortunately still does happen. It was also great to hear about the support and advocacy on behalf of Byron's friends that helped bring this crime to light and get it the attention it deserved. And it was inspiring to hear how Byron has moved on from this experience, is using his story to help others think, and is focusing his energy into artistic creativity and expression as part of his healing process. An important part of the conversation, I thought, was when we talked not only about how to be mindful of our own personal safety, but how we, as a community, can take better care of each other. Byron, we give you a heartfelt thank you.

### **CYBER-QUIPS:**

*The cyber-quip is a simple letter-for-letter substitution puzzle which, when properly "decoded", gives you a funny little quip (OK, so at least I think it's funny). A clue is included to get you started.*

### **Solution to cyber-quip # 19**

THE PURVEYOR OF WINTER UNDERGARMENTS INSISTED ON BEING PAID WITH COINS. HIS FELLOW MERCHANTS NICK-NAMED HIM "LONG JOHN SILVER".



## Cyber-Quip # 20

BEL LCZQTLL HIKP BEL ASCQSL QCDMWP BIALU BK EAUL  
AS BEL ZQCASK'C TKOLI IKKP VWB FQC RWAZOMD  
UACZKXLILU VLZQWCL EL FQCS'B TMQDASN FABE Q HMMM  
ULZO.

CLUE: T = E

## EVENTS (CHANGING):

\* **MAR 21 (Saturday)**, Portland, **25th Annual Equality Maine Awards Banquet**. This will be at the Holiday Inn By The Bay, 88 Spring St, from 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm. Tickets are now available online at the EQME web site [www.equalitymaine.org](http://www.equalitymaine.org). In the first weeks of 2009 EqualityMaine, in partnership with the Maine Freedom to Marry Coalition, launched our campaign for civil marriage equality -- but there's one more reason we're celebrating this year.

It's our 25th anniversary, and we're getting ready for a fabulous celebration dinner on **Saturday, March 21** in Portland. [Click here to reserve your tickets now -- don't wait, they're going fast.](#)

In addition to our awards program, this year's dinner will include a special retrospective on our first quarter-century of progress.

We'll also be talking about the campaign for marriage, and all the work that's led up to this historic moment. You won't want to miss this inspiring celebration of our community! See how far we've come since 1984, and join us as we build excitement for the work that lies ahead!

\* **MAR 21 (Saturday)**, Bangor, **Bridge Alliance Dance Party**. 8:30 pm - 12:00 am. Come join us for the monthly dance party sponsored by The Bridge Alliance and hosted by Paddy Murphy's Irish Pub (26 Main Street, in Bangor ... across from the pretzel sculpture in West Market Square). These dances are designed to benefit future Bridge Alliance projects such as: Pride Dance in Portland, Red Ribbon Ball, Coming Out Halloween Party, Santa At The Museum, GLBTA Family Picnic, and many more. Come hang with friends, dance, and enjoy the music provided by DJ Terrie. There is a modest cover charge of \$5 at the door. Beer, wine, and mixed drinks will be available from the bar. Credit cards are accepted. Please come and join us !!! FMI email [info@thebridgealliance.org](mailto:info@thebridgealliance.org) or check the Bridge Alliance web site at [www.thebridgealliance.org](http://www.thebridgealliance.org)

\* **MAR 27 - APR 5 (Friday - Sunday)**, Portland, Maine Playwrights Festival (sponsored by Acorn Productions) will feature the play **THE GODDESS TOUR** by family playwright Carolyn Gage. This is a good, old-fashioned murder mystery that packs a feminist punch. FMI see <http://www.stlawrencearts.org/> and/or <http://www.acorn-productions.org/>

\* **MAR 28 (Saturday)**, Biddeford, **Carolyn Gage in her award-winning play, The Parmachene Belle**, 7:30 pm. In celebration of National Women's History month the Unitarian Universalist Church of Saco and Biddeford (60 School Street in Saco) will host Carolyn's show. The Parmachene Belle is an original play about Maine's first licensed hunting guide, Cornelia "Fly Rod" Crosby. A discussion will follow the play. Tickets are \$12 at the door, \$10 in advance, and \$8 for seniors and teens. FMI and/or reservations call 207 282-0062.

\* **APR 3 (Friday)**, York, **screening of the film: For The Bible Tells Me So**, a film which discusses the impact of church teachings on parents and families of gay children. St. George's Episcopal Church, York Harbor and South Church Unitarian Universalist in Portsmouth are teaming up to present two screenings



of *For The Bible Tells Me So*. The first will be Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 PM at South Church, 292 State Street, Portsmouth. The second screening will be on Friday, April 3, 7:00 p.m., at First Parish Congregational Church's Moody Hall, 180 York Street, York, Maine. Mary Lou and Bob Wallner, who are featured in the film, will be at both screenings to share their daughter Anna's story, and to answer questions. FMI contact Kate at [skateb@maine.rr.com](mailto:skateb@maine.rr.com) or the Rev. Sudie Blanchard at [sblanchard@stgeorges-yorkharbor.org](mailto:sblanchard@stgeorges-yorkharbor.org) or phone 207-363-7376

**\* APR 11 (Saturday), Machias, Second Annual Rainbow Ball.** This event is sponsored by the University of Maine at Machias' 100% Society, a GLBTQA organization committed to providing not only education and support for our community, but fun and fabulous times as well!! The Rainbow Ball is an open and affirming Prom evening that includes dancing, pictures, food and friends.

This year's Rainbow Ball will have a **Life is a Cabaret** theme! We will have mask decorating, contests, belly dancers, and live musical performances throughout the evening along with a DJ!! All associated High School, College, and Youth groups and community members are invited to attend this event. You can wear anything you want to this event, but please be appropriate (i.e. no nudity). Although people do have a tendency to lean more towards the semi formal-to-formal dress, we encourage you to have fun, be yourself, and be fabulous!

We also have events planned all day for Saturday, everything from movies and games, to karaoke, poi twirling, crafts, and a leadership luncheon for both high school and college students. For those wishing to attend Easter Services on Sunday, the Centre Street Congregational Church is close to campus and is open and affirming and has its service at 10:30 am. Also on Sunday, there will be planning sessions for High School/Youth GSA-College Alliances as well as for an all-inclusive GLBTQA college fraternity. If you have any ideas for additional weekend events, please let us know!!

Rainbow Ball tickets for college students and community members cost \$15 for one and \$20 for two! Admission for high school students, youth groups and their chaperones is **FREE**. This includes room fees if you choose to stay one or both nights (Friday/Saturday), prom tickets and all meals. We can also provide some assistance with transportation to the Rainbow Ball itself, for more information, please contact us!

To RSVP or FMI, please contact Betty Kelley, UMM Assistant to our President, with "Rainbow Ball" in the subject line to: [bkelly@maine.edu](mailto:bkelly@maine.edu) or call between 1:00 and 5:00 pm, Monday - Friday at 255-1211.

**\* APR 18-20 (Sunday - Monday), Turner Center, Tenth Annual Youth Activism Gathering.** This event has always been GLBT youth friendly/welcoming. There will be workshops on: \*Youth Empowerment \*Patriarchy/Gender Roles \*Direct Action \*Reproductive Health/Consent \*Political Prisoners \*Environmentalism \*Many More Workshops

As well as Great Food, Cabaret Show/Music, Bake Off, Open Mic, and Lots More. The cost is \$5-10/day includes food and overnights, or whatever you can pay. For a Flyer or to Register, contact: Ariel at 774-9979 or [MaineYAG@gmail.com](mailto:MaineYAG@gmail.com) or on-line at [www.maine-yag.wordpress.com](http://www.maine-yag.wordpress.com).

#### **EVENTS (ONGOING):**

**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@maineguyz.org](mailto:wayne@maineguyz.org) You can also check the web site and get on their mailing list at [www.maine-guyz.org](http://www.maine-guyz.org)

**OUTRAGEOUSLY SUPPORTIVE.** Every other Wednesday. Bangor, for GLBTQ youth (age 18 - 25) and their friends. Meets from 5:30 - 7:30 pm, at Eastern Maine AIDS Network at 370 Harlow St. For more information contact Joy at 207-990-3626 or [joy@maineaidnetwork.com](mailto:joy@maineaidnetwork.com) or go to <http://www.maineaidnetwork.com/groups.html>



**RAINBOW FELLOWSHIP. Third Saturday of each month.** Bangor, This gathering is open to the GLBTI community and straight allies. It is under the auspices 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 Other Wednesday.** 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 Joy at 207-990-3626 or [joy@maineaidnetwork.com](mailto:joy@maineaidnetwork.com) or go to <http://www.maineaidnetwork.com/groups.html>

#### **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, an "out" GLBTI business person associating with a non-GLBTI-owned business, or a straight-owned supportive ally who wants a free listing, then contact me. I'm Jean at [megress@gwi.net](mailto:megress@gwi.net) or at 862-2063.*

**no listings this issue**

#### **PERSONALS:**

**54 year-young lesbian** wishes to meet other lesbians for friendship and possibly more. I'm interested in: Dogs, nature, crafts, movies, music and more. I live in Rockland. If interested please email: Diane at [bswearehappy@aol.com](mailto:bswearehappy@aol.com)

#### **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. Postings run for four (4) consecutive issues and may be renewed for additional 4-issue runs if you wish. Send your listings to me, Jean, at [megress@gwi.net](mailto:megress@gwi.net)*

**no listings this issue**

#### **GLBTI COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:**

**AA Meeting - GLBT**, Ellsworth, Friday evenings at 6:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 121 Bucksport Rd. More information can be found on the Central Maine AA meeting site: [www.aamaine.org](http://www.aamaine.org)

**AA Meeting - GLBT**, Portland, Sunday evenings, 6:30pm, at Williston West Church, 32 Thomas Street. More info: <http://www.aamaine.org/groups/1/glbtc.htm>



**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](mailto:ScottTopsum@hotmail.com)

**Bridge Alliance** is a registered non profit organization connecting the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allied (GLBTA) community in Aroostook, Hancock, Washington, Piscataquis, and Penobscot counties. Our primary goal is to accomplish the following: facilitate the development of a GLBTA community which promotes and embraces diversity; to promote and encourage the understanding that the GLBTA community plays an important role in Maine's cultural, social and economic landscape; to give back to the GLBTA community through charitable donations or in-kind services; to produce annual events that will assemble the GLBTA community in Northern Maine. We look forward to having you as a partner in our many endeavors. The web site for the Bridge Alliance is [www.thebridgealliance.org](http://www.thebridgealliance.org). The email address is [info@thebridgealliance.org](mailto:info@thebridgealliance.org). The events calendar is at [www.thebridgealliance.org/events.html](http://www.thebridgealliance.org/events.html)

**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 don't 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](mailto:info@equalitymaine.org) and the web site is [www.equalitymaine.org](http://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](http://www.glad.org) or call the free legal hotline 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.** Meets fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM at the UU Church in Ellsworth. We eat together (usually pizza) and ask participants to pitch in for the cost (usually about \$5). New members always welcome. Our work is focused on making schools safer and more respectful for all students and staff regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. We do staff trainings, workshops at other events, and advocate for student needs. Recently we have begun to work with and encourage several gay-straight alliances (GSA's) in local high schools. 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 667-2358 or 244-3837. OR email [downeastglsen@roadrunner.com](mailto:downeastglsen@roadrunner.com). You can check the resource-rich national web site at [www.glsen.org](http://www.glsen.org) and find our chapter page at [www.glsen.org/downeastme](http://www.glsen.org/downeastme).

**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 inspirational 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](mailto:knead24u@yahoo.com). You can also check the web site at [www.howardfoundation07.org](http://www.howardfoundation07.org)

**The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Collection** at the University of Southern Maine is working to capture the history of Maine's LGBT community. We collect papers of individuals and the records of organizations active in the community. Although we mostly collect print material (books, serials, written documents) we collect almost any object that documents the life and experience of the LGBT community (photographs, books, newsletters, objects, posters, T-shirts, buttons, etc). Following professional standards, we are careful to guard the privacy of individuals involved with the collections and will work with donors who choose anonymity. For information on the collection and donating material please contact Susie Bock, 207-780-4269 or [bocks@usm.maine.edu](mailto:bocks@usm.maine.edu).

**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** is on the air Wednesday afternoons from 1 until 1:30 pm. Listen in at 90.9 and 104.1FM and online at [www.wmpg.org](http://www.wmpg.org) to politics, news, arts, business, music, poetry--all things Lesbian-y. Deb Gallagher hosts the show live each week. [ourlesbianradioshow@yahoo.com](mailto:ourlesbianradioshow@yahoo.com)

**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](http://www.weru.org). WERU also broadcasts the nationally syndicated GLBTI show: **This Way Out** every Wednesday afternoon from 4 - 4:30 pm.

**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 Equity Fund.** Part of the Maine Community Foundation, The Maine Equity Fund's mission is to strengthen GLBT organizations in Maine and support community-based initiatives that address GLBT issues and needs through grant making. The vision driving the fund is one of inclusive, diverse, prejudice-free communities for the GLBT population and for all people in Maine. Detailed grant information is available on the web and the annual proposal deadline is in September. <http://www.maineecf.org/grants/availablegrants/equityfund.aspx>

**MaineTransNet (Maine Transgender Network, Inc.)** is an organization dedicated to educating the public about gender identity and raising awareness of the varied forms of gender expression. We provide support and consultation to health and social service professionals, transgender individuals, their families,



and interested others. FMI email Alex at [alex@mainetransnet.org](mailto:alex@mainetransnet.org) or check the web site at [www.mainetransnet.org](http://www.mainetransnet.org)

**The Naughty North Collective** is a state wide radical queer direct action (dis)organization. We are committed to celebrating our queerest selves while resisting the devastating violence inherent in the consumer driven assimilationist gaystream. We will defend ourselves against the brutal silence of isolation thru a diverse and dedicated network of action oriented friends and lovers. We will not deny our anger or fail to recognize the links between queer struggle and challenging power. Naughty North is a defiant orgasm in the face of oppression: all are welcome to get off with us! <http://www.thenaughtynorth.blogspot.com>

**(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 [mdpalmers@gwi.net](mailto:mdpalmers@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](mailto: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 email [info@tgfund.org](mailto:info@tgfund.org) OR check the web site at [www.tgfund.org](http://www.tgfund.org)

**Trans Youth Equality Project.** A new foundation established to support transgender and transexual youth (ages 2-22). We are a resource for information and support to parents of trans youths, advocates, allies, and the youths themselves. We are here to listen, advocate, etc. We have a lending library and a zine and a poetry contest for trans folks, youth and their allies. Located in Portland but available to all. Please reach out. FMI contact Susan Maasch, director at [contact@transyouthequality.org](mailto:contact@transyouthequality.org) and check the web site at [www.transyouthequality.org](http://www.transyouthequality.org)

#### **SOCIAL GROUPS (MORE THAN 50 MILES FROM BANGOR):**

**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](http://www.clayhillfarm.com). To get on the e-mail list for their Events For Women, send your request to Jackie at [Lmsmarketing@yahoo.com](mailto:Lmsmarketing@yahoo.com)

**DEPA (DownEast Pride Alliance).** (PORTLAND) DEPA's mission is to grow, promote and increase the visibility of GLBT businesses, their owners, and their allies in the communities that support them. Sid Tripp with Proactive Resources Design and Leah Bartley of Merrill Lynch have teamed-up to co-sponsor a monthly after-hours gay business network called The DownEast Pride Alliance (DEPA). We hope to fill the need for a comprehensive business network geared specifically for gay & gay friendly businesses throughout Southern & Coastal Maine. FMI contact Sid Tripp at 772-3599 or Leah Bartley at 871-1942 or check the web site at [www.depabusiness.com](http://www.depabusiness.com)

**GetOut** (PORTLAND and OGUNQUIT) is committed to serving as a bridge connecting and supporting men who have sex with men (MSM), gay men, bisexual men, and questioning men through educational and community activities. This diverse mix of activities will provide these men with alternatives to the gay bars and on-line hook up sites by drawing attention to the rise in STD infections, the steady number of



HIV infections among the gay male population, and the importance of establishing and maintaining a visible community. It is the hope of all participants and supporters that a safe and non-judgmental environment be created to allow for the comfortable exploration of sexual identities. Group Happenings Include: Volleyball, Men's Discussion Group, Book Club, Coffeehouse, Men's Health, Movie Night, and Lending Library. There is a GetOut group in Portland/GoPortland <http://www.goportland.net/> There is also a GetOut group in Ogunquit/GoOgunquit <http://www.googunquit.net/>

**Guy2Guy** (BRUNSWICK and LEWISTON/AUBURN) is a group of guys (gay, straight, bi, questioning, trans) building community together. We have regular discussions, workshops, movie nights, and social activities. We acknowledge the need for guys to get together in a healthy and safe environment to talk about issues important to them and to build community. Guy2Guy meets in Lewiston/Auburn on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month and meets in Brunswick on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. Please visit our calendar for more information. We invite you to come and join us in a friendly, open and non-judgemental environment. Check the web site at <http://www.guy2guy.org/>

**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](http://www.justguys.info)

**just friends** (AUGUSTA BASED BUT STATEWIDE) A just-started group of folk, male and female, who have offered an ear, a shoulder, a hand, and friendship on a one-to-one, peer basis. Lonely? Lost? Just down? Just need to share some stuff? When you need a friend and friends just pass you by, give Lew a shout, and you can be connected to someone who cares. For those of you who cannot make meetings, but have access to the net, this could be your touch with someone who would be glad to connect with you. You can decide if you want to share your name, your problems, your bad jokes, emails, or just a cup of coffee. The people are not counselors, docs or therapists, they're *just friends*. 621-3794 or the cell (with poor reception, sorry): 215-4594 or check out [www.justguys.info](http://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.** (AROOSTOOK COUNTY) A GLBTQ social group that hosts monthly meetings/gatherings on the 4th Saturday of each month. Location varies within Aroostook County. Open to all gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning folks (and their friends & supporters). FMI and/or directions contact Tess at 694-2639 or Kent at 538-7630 or email [northernlambda@gmail.com](mailto:northernlambda@gmail.com). You can also ask to join their YahooGroup and keep informed on all the doing's via email. <http://www.northernlambda.org>

**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](mailto:outmaine@yahoo.com). Check the web site at [www.outmaine.org](http://www.outmaine.org) or the myspace posting at [www.myspace.com/outasiwanttobe](http://www.myspace.com/outasiwanttobe)

**Outright L/A.** (ANDROSCOGGIN / OXFORD / FRANKLIN COUNTIES) Outright Lewiston/Auburn creates safe and affirming environments for youth age 22 and under who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, and/or questioning. Outright L/A hosts a weekly drop-in, a place for youth age 22 and under to meet other youth, talk, plan events, play games, watch movies, get information on HIV



prevention, and much more! Outright L/A meets every Friday from 6:00 - 8:30pm at the UU Church on the corner of Spring and Pleasant streets in Auburn. FMI call 207-795-8956 or email [info@outrightla.org](mailto:info@outrightla.org) or check the web site at [www.outrightla.org](http://www.outrightla.org)

**Portland Front Runners** (PORTLAND), The Portland Front Runners, a GLBT running/walking group, meets every Saturday at 9:05 AM in the middle of the Back Cove parking lot for a run/walk around the cove. Brunch afterwards at Whole Foods around 10 AM. A great way to keep healthy and make new friends. FMI contact Bruce Fithian at (207) 831-7113

**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](mailto: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](mailto:prysm@commcc.org)

**Rainbow Business & Professional Association (RBPA)** (PORTLAND) is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the vitality, productivity and growth of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender business and professional community throughout the State of Maine. Since 1992, our aim has been to promote and support the LGBT business and professional community in Maine. RBPA is a rapidly growing organization with a membership that boasts business leaders, entrepreneurs, the self-employed, individuals from the corporate community and non-profit organizations. Check the web site at [www.rbpa.org](http://www.rbpa.org)

**Saco Bay Gay Men** (PORTLAND), A gay men's support group has been started in Saco. We meet at the UU Church of Saco & Biddeford, every Thursday evening. We started out meeting on November 6th and are growing. FMI contact Tom Muise at [sbgm@verizon.net](mailto:sbgm@verizon.net)

**Seacoast Outright.** (PORTSMOUTH, NH) but available to GLBTI youth from York county and southern Maine. A peer support group/organization for GLBTI youths. FMI contact Tawnee Walling, Executive Director at 603-431-1013 or check the web site at [www.seacoastoutright.org](http://www.seacoastoutright.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](mailto:seacoastsapphos@yahoo.com) or check the web site at [www.seacoastsapphos.org](http://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](mailto:chickp3@gmail.com) or check the web site at <http://www.geocities.com/lesbians04/>

**Thrive** (PORTLAND AREA). Thrive offers gay, bi and questioning guys social and community building opportunities. Thrive coordinates social events like coffee houses, movie nights, and dinners. Thrive also provides wellness programming, information and advocacy for health issues and responsibilities unique to our community. FMI call 207-756-8071, email [thrive@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:thrive@portlandmaine.gov) or check the website at [www.thrivemaine.com](http://www.thrivemaine.com)

**Trans\_Port\_Me** (PORTLAND) This is a trans support group located in Portland, Maine 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 discretion. Admission to this group is by invitation only. My name is Gail and I am your host and moderator, 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 effect on our overall well-being and sense of self. Meetings are held the fourth Saturday of the month from 6:00 to 9:00pm, in downtown Portland, ME. Send an e-mail to [g\\_g\\_moreau@yahoo.com](mailto:g_g_moreau@yahoo.com) to join the online support group to set up a screening interview for the monthly group.

**Twin Ponds Lodge** (WATERVILLE-AUGUSTA AREA) is a private social club in Maine for adult male naturists and men who are comfortable with naturists. This private social club fills a niche for men seeking a comfortable and welcoming setting surrounded by nature on 75 acres of fields and woods. As a members-only club, we welcome you into a clothing-optional country setting to enjoy relaxation, recreation, and socializing. Passing through the gated entrance, you are greeted by two ponds surrounded by the lodge, lawns, cabins, and tenting areas. There are also areas for RVs with full hookups, including sewer. The lodge also welcomes member day visitors to enjoy the surroundings and recreational opportunities, and to explore the trails that wind through the woods. The Lodge is open year-round and features a large indoor heated pool, hot tub, sauna, and (coming soon) a steam room. The large great room provides seating for socializing, eating, or enjoying the large screen satellite television. The recreation room has a ping-pong and billiard table. (The gym/exercise room is coming soon!) *We welcome all men, whether gay, straight, or bisexual.* FMI, check the web site at [www.twinpondslodge.com](http://www.twinpondslodge.com) or email them at [stay@twinpondslodge.com](mailto:stay@twinpondslodge.com) or call John at 207-437-2200.

**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 maritime 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:pjmears@roadrunner.com) or call 783-4630.

#### **WEB BASED MAINE GLBT LISTSERVES & EMAIL LISTS:**

**Coastal Women's Connection.** A women's social group providing connections for LBT women in the Brunswick to Portland area. 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>.

**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](http://www.deservetoknowme.org)

**Gay Maine.** [www.gaymaine.com](http://www.gaymaine.com). The lesbian and gay directory for gay-owned and gay-friendly places in Maine: Bars, clubs, hotels, guesthouses, restaurants, and more!



**Laura's Playground. Transgender Suicide Prevention and Support Site.** Jessica writes: I'm a moderator at a transgender suicide prevention and support site. It's a wonderful place with a live chat and lots of information. The chat runs 24 hours a day and I don't remember the last time there wasn't a moderator present. We screen the chatters to make sure we keep out 'admirers' and anyone who might harass. All moderators go thru suicide prevention training thru <http://training.sprc.org> as well as training from the administrators and supervisors. And it isn't only for suicidal individuals, a lot of TGs just go there to chat with people who understand their situation. I personally have found lots of support there and made some great friends. The people there are always willing to help answer any questions someone might have. Maine doesn't have much support to offer to TGs north of Bangor, or even much in Bangor. I just want to make sure that people know that Laura's Playground is around to offer support, answer questions, and help people find the resources they need. You can find it at: [www.lauras-playground.com](http://www.lauras-playground.com)

**Maine Gay Men's Weekly News Letter** is an email newsletter focusing on organizations and activities in southern Maine. It is primarily for gay men, but they do include some general GLBT activities info and links to various GLBT organizations around the state. FMI, to see a sample copy, or to be added to their mailing list, send Joe an email at [cascogays@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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=src> FMI contact Vicky at [vroommaine@gmail.com](mailto:vroommaine@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 original Human Rights as a person. We are open to all people of any background. FMI contact Jan at [janshouse@yahoo.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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 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](mailto: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.