

4-15-2009

Family Affairs Newsletter 2009-04-15

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

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

FOLLOW YOUR HEART - DO YOUR PART - CHERISH OUR FAMILY

15 APRIL 2009

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

(NEWS #1:) THE HEARING DATE FOR LD 1020 (the marriage bill) HAS BEEN CHANGED TO WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22 AT THE AUGUSTA CIVIC CENTER.

The campaign for marriage equality in Maine is moving to the next level: **a public hearing** on Sen. Dennis Damon's bill "An Act to End Discrimination in Civil Marriage and Affirm Religious Freedom".

April 22nd will be the single most important day of this campaign outside of the final vote. The media, legislators, governor, and people of Maine will be watching. We know that busloads of the opponents from in and out of state are planning to attend. Fair-minded Mainers need to be present and visible in even larger numbers.

If you have not already RSVP'd for the hearing of the marriage bill on Wednesday, April 22 at the Augusta Civic Center (even if you had earlier RSVP'd for the original April 24th date), please email: april22@equalitymaine.org so we can gauge how many folks are planning on showing up.

Below is very important information from Equality Maine. It explains why we must arrive so early and how to get yourselves on the list to testify:

1. The hearing will begin at 9 am. Doors open at 8 am. Lines are expected to begin forming at 7am.
2. Several thousand people are expected to attend.
3. Plan to arrive by 7am.
4. It's critical that we out-number the opposition. Please bring your friends, family and children with you.
5. It's also important that we out-message the opposition. Signs will be allowed outside the building, but not inside. It's important that we use positive, respectful messages on our signs – ones that undecided legislators and voters can identify with. Leave the negative messages to the opposition.
6. Be visible: Wear something red. Marriage equality supporters will be wearing a splash of red that day – shirt, tie, scarf, hat – as a visible sign of support.
7. Testimony for the hearing is being organized ahead of time. If you are interested in testifying in support of the bill, please send an email as soon as possible to acashin@glad.org. Be sure to include the following information: a) your name, b) town, c) phone number, d) partner or kids (if any), e) occupation, and f) ideas about your story or why you want to testify. Each person testifying will be given 3 minutes. Written statements may also be submitted.

8. In addition to the public hearing inside, there will be an organized program outside that is intended to engage supporters and the media.

FMI check the Equality Maine web site at www.equalitymaine.org . To see LD 1020, visit http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/bills_124th/billtexts/

(NEWS #2:) THE LD 1020 BUS !! On April 22 for Hancock County Folks who want to attend the Marriage Equality Hearing in Augusta. See the listing below at APR 22. **Reserve right away!**

(NEWS#3:) RIDE AVAILABLE TO THE HEARING FROM BANGOR. Jean Vermette will be traveling from Bangor down to the hearing on April 22 and has room in her car for 2 more people. The only catch is that she can only stay for the morning and will have to return to Bangor at the lunch break. If anyone is interested in a half day at the hearing, email me at megress@gwi.net . (First come, first served).

(NEWS #4:) UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT ORONO'S PRIDE WEEK! April 13 - 18 (Monday - Saturday). FMI check the listings below with the red headings: UMO PRIDE Week!

(NEWS #5:) THE ANNUAL MAKE BEAUTIFUL TRIBE GATHERING at Lincolnville Beach. See the listing below at **APR 23-26** .

(NEWS #6:) MAINE LGBT POWER SUMMIT, The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, working closely with Equality Maine, will be sponsoring the **Maine LGBT Power Summit**, a three day grassroots organizing training for new and experienced activists. It will be taking place at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, in Portland. For more details see the listing below at April 24 - 26.

(NEWS #7:) THE BRIDGE ALLIANCE YOUTH DANCE. See the listing below at APR 25.

(NEWS #8:) NEW MARRIAGE EQUALITY WEB SITE:

www.MaineMarriageEquality.com and www.MEmarriage.com - a new site just launched to educate the public about marriage equality and provide resources for those in support of it. We offer a full community forum that anyone can join to discuss topics related to equality and there is an artwork page for you to submit your equality artwork! The site is regularly updated with news and ideas are welcome. We encourage community input to make the site more user-driven and interactive. FMI contact Adam "Sunny" Flanders by email at sunny@memarriage.com

(NEWS #9:) ALL MAINE LESBIAN PICNIC, JUN 27 (Saturday). EARLY NOTICE: The Coastal Women's Connection will sponsor a day-long picnic event and overnight camp out at Thomas Point Beach in Brunswick. The picnic plans are going well, we will have a group area at TPB, live entertainment by maine musicians, kayaking is available, we'll probably have some gay games, and genteel lawn games, and for those who are coming from afar or who want to camp, there's that too. If you dont want to camp, there are hotels in the area. See the website www.thomaspoinbeach.com for camping and park info (and if you **do** want to camp, you should probably make a campsite reservation soon). Please pass this info along and if you know anyone else who wants to be on the e-mail list have them contact me. We want to fill up that group area and meet the women of maine, NH VT MA, and new england too. Kick off the summer with new friends and a good ole grass roots Maine picnic. FMI and/or to be on the mailing list for this event, contact Diana at diana5cents@yahoo.com or at her cell phone at 207-522-4546.

(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. LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!! Family member Bobbie Lynn writes:

Last year the United World Citizens, based in Bar Harbor, grossed almost \$19,000.00 dollars, mostly from the sales of Global Mamas products, at just a handful of events. By purchasing these beautiful hand batiked clothing and household goods, wholesale, from Global Mamas, the UWC contributes toward bringing women in Africa out of poverty (check out this wonderful non profit at www.globalmamas.org). We then sell the items at retail prices to raise money for our various causes. 100% of profit goes to the chosen causes. We do craft fairs in many locations, maybe one near you! For more info on specifics, email BL at below address.

In 2008 we raised money for half-a-dozen non-profits (both international AND local), helping orphanages, medical charities, low-income homeowners, and the disabled. This year we hope to expand the list to provide more help to children.

Times are tough all over, and that old phrase has never been more accurate than today. As we all struggle through these uncertain times, I believe (and I'm sure most or all who read this will agree) it can lift our spirits to reach out to those less fortunate than ourselves. Please consider committing to one event this year. With just a handful of extra volunteers, we should be able to increase that 19,000.00 to 25,000.00!

UNITED WORLD CITIZENS, promoting the concept and practice of humanitarianism to an ever widening audience through education and example. FMI contact Bobbie Lynn Hutchins by phone at 207-669-4275, by email at blhutchins@myfairpoint.net , or check the web site at www.unitedworldcitizens.org

2. LOOKING FOR INTERVIEWEES. Judy Harrison, the Legal Affairs Reporter for the Bangor Daily News, is interested in finding gay and lesbian couples in the papers' service area who want to get married and who would be willing to be profiled for a story about the same-sex marriage bill. It would mean being photographed and interviewed. She writes: "I'm seeking couples in two different age groups -- over 60, under 40 with kids. I realize that I am asking a lot of people. Our stories on gay adoption were very well received and, in the end, I think the couples were very glad they decided to be so public. If you'd like to talk about possibly doing this interview, please contact Judy at the Bangor Daily News: 990-8207 or by email at jharrison@bangordailynews.net

3. STORIES SOUGHT FOR "DIVERSITY AND END-OF-LIFE CARE" PRESENTATION. Al Boyce writes: I have been asked to part of a professional, televised panel presentation addressing the topic of "Diversity and End-of-life Care" to be held on April 25th in Ellsworth, sponsored by a variety of physical and mental health service providers. I have been asked to address end of life issues as they pertain to our LGBT community. Though I will be sharing current research on the topic, as available, I would really like to present the realities that we face in life experiences. So, I am asking FAN members to share their stories with me. It is a way for our community to help people understand some of the social, legal, medical challenges we face like no other minority community in the nation. Hopefully, in the sharing you will find some level of comfort as well, knowing your story will be told.

Perhaps you have experienced discrimination medically regarding a sick or dying partner; perhaps you have experienced medical or mental health discrimination because of religious bias etc. I want to do more than share statistics. I want to help the state and nation, in the 15-20 minutes I have, to have a better understanding of the challenges in society, family, the legal system and medical community, we face regarding end of life issues. Also, though I would not use last names, if you are willing to allow me to use your first name and/or community name, Please let me know.

You may reach me by email at revalb@yahoo.com Thanks, Rev. Al Boyce, MA Psy, PhD Psychology Candidate

4. NEW WEB SITE. Douglas in Hancock has been thinking for a long time about working to set up a Website that can give us a "virtual community center" for the State of Maine. He invites all FAN readers to visit his attempt to do this at <http://grou.ps/maineglbtcmmunity/home> . He writes:

"It's easy to join and I invite you to do so. Photo is optional, of course, but helpful. Note also your photo, if you upload a profile photo, will be cropped to a square, so pay some attention to this set up. The site has a number of useful resources (links) and uploaded files, such as Jean Vermette's monthly calendar. Any member can upload appropriate files and links. Please be sure these are appropriate for a general GLBT audience, of course. It has an interactive calendar where any member can add an event and, if selected, announcements will be sent by e-mail to all members. Please use this feature appropriately so folks don't get turned off by too much e-mail. Photos can also be uploaded: events, gatherings, etc. Of course, anything that is uploaded should be with the consent of everyone in the photo. There is (sometimes) a chat facility, although this seems not often available. **Please let me know what you think of this venture and ways to improve it.** There is the possibility of forming "groups" such as "aging interest" or "hiking" or "skiing" or "knitting" whatever. Explore it and see what you think. Seems to be a good platform, but we'll have to see. Cheers, Doug"

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):

* **APR 15 (Wednesday), Machias, Lobbying Training & Planning For Augusta Trips To Support LD 1020.** This will be at 5:00 pm, in the Portside Room in Kimball Hall on the UMM campus. There will be a representative from Equality Maine at the University Of Maine at Machias to conduct a "citizen lobbying training" in support of LD 1020 (the Marriage Equality Bill). The meeting will also be used to plan trips from Machias to Augusta in support of LD 1020. Anyone wanting to participate is welcome. FMI contact Lois-Ann at lkuntz@maine.edu.

* **APR 15 (Wednesday) UMO PRIDE Week! 8:00 p.m., Concert with Driftwood Fire.** In the North Pod.

* **APR 16 (Thursday) UMO PRIDE Week! 7:30 p.m., Showing of "The Laramie Project"** (co-sponsored with the Counseling Center). In the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union.

* **APR 17 (Friday)** UMO PRIDE Week! 7:00 p.m., **GLBTA Alumni Reception**. In the Career Center.

* **APR 17 (Friday)** UMO PRIDE Week! 9:00 p.m., **The Annual Drag Show**. In the main dining hall of the Memorial Union.

* **APR 18 (Saturday)** UMO PRIDE Week! 9:00 p.m., **CAB Karaoke** (co-hosted with the International Student Association). In the Bear's Den.

* **APR 18 (Saturday)**, Stockholm (Aroostook County), **Tenth Anniversary Present Party**, 2:00 - 4:00 pm. We've been wedded for ten years this June according to our church, and legally married in Massachusetts since 2004. We think there's no time like the present to help Maine catch up to the times – and the best tenth anniversary present you can give us is helping to make marriage equality a reality in our home state. Please join us this Saturday to talk about LD 1020, An Act to End Discrimination in Marriage and Affirm Religious Freedom. Organizers from the Maine Civil Liberties Union will be present to give an update on the bill's progress through the legislature and to talk about how we all can get involved. Politics is no fun without food, and we'll have light munchies on hand for all to enjoy. Please feel free to bring your family members and friends – kids of all ages are welcome, and we have lots of crafts, card games, toys, books, and pets to occupy young folks who aren't so absorbed in the Maine legislative process. Please RSVP to quineast@hotmail.com or call us at 896-3330 to let us know whether you'll attend and how many are coming. Hope you can join us! Erica & Kate Quin-Easter.

* **APR 18 (Saturday)**, Bangor, **Bridge Alliance Dance Party**, 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 a.m. At the **Wellman Commons** (old Bangor Theological Seminary Building) 300 Union Street. Spring Is Here !! Come join us for the monthly dance party. 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. Cash/credit/debit cards are accepted. FMI email info@thebridgealliance.org or check the Bridge Alliance web site at www.thebridgealliance.org

* **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 or on-line at www.maineYAG.wordpress.com.

* **APR 22 (Wednesday)**, Bar Harbor / Ellsworth / Augusta. **THE LD 1020 BUS !!** For Hancock County Folks who want to attend the Marriage Equality Hearing in Augusta: There is a bus leaving from Bar Harbor and Ellsworth, and **it is filling up fast!** Tickets are \$15 and include a box lunch. Prepare for a long day and bring snacks and water. Also, **WEAR RED** to show your support!! When the television cameras pan the civic center crowd, we want the place to look like opening day at Fenway Park!!! To reserve yourself a seat on THE LD 1020 BUS contact Kay Wilkins ASAP !! Kay would like the names and contact information of *everyone* planning to attend from Hancock County, but **MUST** have the names and info of bus riders ASAP. kaywilkins39@gmail.com

* **APR 23 (Thursday)**, Portland, **Genderbend ME**. This will be a CLOSED group discussion for youth 22 and under who are Transgender, Genderqueer or are Questioning their gender identity to meet other folks with similar experiences, talk about their personal stories, and share resources. Co-facilitated by the Maine Transgender Network, Inc. The discussion will be from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the Community Counseling Center, 343 Forest Ave. (rear entrance). FMI contact Joanna, PRYSM Coordinator at 207-874-1030 ext 235.

*** APR 23-26 (Thursday - Sunday),** Lincolnville Beach, **The Annual Make Beautiful Tribe Gathering.** Spring is here...time to prepare for the spring gathering of the Make Beautiful Tribe at Tanglewood Center in Lincolnville Beach

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

Our gathering weekend format is open, which means you pick and choose what you would like to do - attend a workshop, go for a hike, play cards or just sit by a roaring fire the main lodge. We just ask that all the participants attend opening and closing circles, and to try to be at meals on time, but the rest is up to you. We also have a dance and talent show on Saturday evening. So come sing, perform, dance, lip-sync, read poetry, tell stories — just come perform and show off! Have fun celebrating our diversity.

The lodge/camp we utilize is a wonderful single great room with a huge fieldstone fireplace and a brand new restaurant kitchen off to one side. There are various large and small cabins throughout the camp numbering more than a dozen. There is even a wood-fired sauna available for relaxation.

Participants create the retreat. We ask everyone to chip and help with chores so that we can all enjoy the weekend. We operate as a completely volunteer, not-for-profit, so the weekend is affordable for all. We create our meals fresh (they are just fabulous!), and many of the guys find kitchen duty the most fun ... a great way to meet each other.

Men that attend range in age from 18-95 years old and come from all walks of life. We hold a number of different workshops at each retreat that are led by participants, providing the chance to share, laugh, cry, dialogue and/or relax.

We do fill very quickly, and you must pre-register to attend. Some scholarships are also available.

FMI and/or to get a registration form emailed to you, contact Ron King 207-326-8287 or David Vaughan 615-4555

*** APR 23 - MAY 10 (Thursdays - Sundays),** Portland, **Mad Horse Theatre Company** presents ***The Normal Heart*** by Larry Kramer. Mad Horse closes its season with *The Normal Heart*, a powerful drama dealing with the rise of the HIV-AIDS crisis in New York City from 1981-1984, through the eyes of Ned Weeks, the founder of a prominent HIV advocacy group. Considered one of the most important plays of all time, we follow one man as he tries desperately to break through a conspiracy of silence, indifference and hostility as his friends are dying around him of AIDS-related illnesses. Filled with power, anger and intelligence, this play dramatizes what actually happened at the time of the disease's discovery. Kramer's forthright indictment of his government, the media and the public's refusal to deal with the rise of the epidemic is horrifying realism. "Kramer's astounding drama about AIDS is too urgent to ignore!" - LIZ SMITH **For More Info:** call: 207-730-2389 or visit: www.madhorse.com

*** APR 24-26 (Friday - Sunday),** Portland. **Maine LGBT Power Summit**, The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, working closely with Equality Maine, will be sponsoring the **Maine LGBT Power Summit**, a three day grassroots organizing training for new and experienced activists. It will be taking place at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, April 24 - 26.

We teach you how to build a large base of volunteers, create a grassroots lobbying campaign, develop a volunteer team that represents the full diversity of our communities, and raise money to support your organization.

Maine may be the next state to secure marriage for LGBT couples! That's why the focus of this year's Power Summit will be on the Marriage Equality Bill working its way through the legislature. We're just a few weeks away from the first vote on the Marriage Bill, and even if it passes through the legislature, we'll still have to fend off attacks at the ballot box. We need to be prepared to win and defend the freedom to

marry in Maine this year, and the Power Summit will get us there! All of the skills we're teaching at the Power Summit can also be transferred to any campaign, whether securing trans rights, students' rights, HIV/AIDS awareness and outreach, or just plain getting people engaged in a strategic and smart way.

Already we have registered activists from all over the country—organizers from the No on Prop 8 campaign in California, Southerners mobilizing communities for a United ENDA, LGBT families from the rural areas of Maine, and students from Kalamazoo, MI to Anchorage, AL.

If you want to be a part of this ground-breaking training, please take a moment to send me an email with your name and best telephone number. I will get in contact with you and we can go over all the information on the current political situation and figure out how to get you (and your organization) to the Power Summit!

FMI and/or to register, contact Trystan at ph: 646-358-1451, cell: 202-329-2871 or by email at treese@thetaskforce.org

* **APR 25 (Saturday)**, Bangor, **The Bridge Alliance Youth Dance**. The Board of The Bridge Alliance (www.thebridgealliance.org) is happy to announce its sponsorship of The Bridge Alliance Youth Dances **for GLBT young people and their straight allies**. Our first dance will be held on Saturday, April 25th, from **8:00 to 11:00 p.m.** at The Hammond Street Congregational Church (28 High Street in Bangor - entrance around the back). This dance is for ages 14 - 20 and will be **free** to all. Parents welcome if accompanied by their teens! For questions, directions, to volunteer to work on the committee, or to chaperone, call George at 327-1328. The Bridge Alliance is committed to making these dances a going concern for young GLBTA people in our area. If you are interested in helping out, please make contact.

* **APR 25 (Saturday)**, Auburn, the play **The Parmachene Belle** by family member Caroline Gage. As part of the 12th Annual One-Act Play Festival (sponsored by the Maine Association of Community Theatres Conference), this show will be presented at the Great Falls Performing Arts Center, 30 Academy St. Don't miss Gage's performance of this poignant play about Maine's first licensed hunting guide, Cornelia "Fly Rod" Crosby, with her crush on Annie Oakley and her association with Sitting Bull... **"a meditation on outsiders and survivors, people who have become separated from their tribe..."** The show has been performed in Off-Broadway as well as Off-Off Broadway festivals. [Click here](#) for Community Little Theatre's online box office where you can get tickets for the plays!

* **APR 30 - MAY 3 (Thursday - Sunday)**, West Gardiner, **Gay Men Together Retreat**. 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

* **MAY 2-3 (Saturday - Sunday), Statewide, Maine AIDS Walk Weekend.** Everyone is welcome to come join in walking to help raise awareness and support for AIDS. Eastern Maine AIDS Network, the Frannie Peabody Center, Portland Public Health, and other AIDS support networks in Maine (together with the National AIDS Fund) are helping to sponsor AIDS walks all around the state. Money raised is matched by the NAF and helps support these agencies and their work. The National AIDS Fund matching grants are supported by many national organizations, such as the Elton John AIDS Foundation. Walks will be held in Bangor, Brunswick, Lewiston/Auburn, Ogunquit, and Portland on Saturday, May 2nd and in Augusta, Ellsworth and Machias on Sunday, May 3rd. Visit Online: <http://www.aidswalkweekend.com/portland.htm> for more info and to join in.

* **MAY 5 (Tuesday), Gorham, Readings from lesbian author Caroline Gage's work.** This will be at The Russell Hall Main Stage, 37 College Avenue, from 7:30 - 9:30 pm. Admission is FREE. Gage will join Meghan Brodie's students from the University of Southern Maine's Theatre 451 class ("Butches, Bitches, & Buggers: An Exploration of 20th Century Queer Drama") for an evening of readings from Gage's book Monologues and Scenes for Lesbian Actors: Revised and Expanded. [Click here](#) for more information.

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 You can also check the web site and get on their mailing list at www.maineguyz.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 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 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 June 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 or at 862-2063.

HAIRSTYLING:

Chase Blanchard, Cosmetologist
Total Look Day Spa & Color Studio
98 North Main Street
Brewer, ME 04412

ph: 207-989-7513

email: atotallookdayspa@aol.com

I love what I do and have spent a great deal of time becoming the best I can be in this field. An opportunity presented itself to me when a local salon became available, and I was able to purchase it. I will be leaving AK Haircolor & Design on April 18, and opening at the new location on April 21. It is a current salon, and I look forward to going in there, and taking the best of my experiences over the last several years and creating a space that you all will enjoy. We offer additional services there, and I look forward to seeing you all at A Total Look Day Spa & Color Studio after April 21. Angie (from AK Haircolor & Design) and I will remain working together educating as we do now, and I look forward to having someone with her level of experience to call on for advice. Thank you all for your continued patronage!!!

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

Lesbian new to Rockland wishes to meet other lesbians/gay men for friendship. Some preference for those who are not heavy users or heavily involved in AA. Looking for mature, basically healthy friends who are engaged in various aspects of life. Email Veronica at nicamorgan@rcn.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.

Free for the taking. Upright Lincoln piano in need of tuning and possibly repair. Free for the removal from ground floor. Bar Harbor area. Call Ann at 207 288-8980

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

For Rent: Rockland. Furnished upstairs of house with two rooms and full bath at a low rent for anyone reasonable who is in between homes or needs a place to stay for the short term. Email Veronica at nicamorgan@rcn.com

For Rent: Blaine. Long and short term stays available at Magic Pond Wildlife Sanctuary and Artists' Retreat in Blaine (near Mars Hill in The County). Special offer: Permanent rental of the Studio Cottage Apartment at only \$495/month plus utilities (super insulated with wood stove back up and highly efficient oil stove) with pond and 75 acres of gorgeous back yard. Visit the site: <http://www.magicpondmaine.com> then email me if interested: lg@magicpondmaine.com -- Linda Griffith

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

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

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. The email address is info@thebridgealliance.org. The events calendar is at 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 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 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. You can check the resource-rich national web site at www.glsen.org and find our chapter page at www.glsen.org/downeastme.

HIV Support Group for men in Portland. We meet every other Tuesday, from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. Open meetings. We meet at the Virology Treatment Center, 58 Gilman Street, Portland. Call Diane for more information: 662-2991.

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. You can also check the web site at 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.

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 to politics, news, arts, business, music, poetry--all things Lesbian-y. Deb Gallagher hosts the show live each week. 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. 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 or check the web site at 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 mdpalmmer@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 email info@tgfund.org OR check the web site at 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 and check the web site at 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. To get on the e-mail list for their Events For Women, send your request to Jackie at 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 Smith Barney 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 771-0854 or check the web site at 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

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

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. 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 . Check the web site at www.outmaine.org or the myspace posting at 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 or check the web site at 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

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 343 Forest Avenue, rear entrance. Also provide outreach, phone & email support; community education, leadership development, safer-sex/HIV prevention education, and connections to community resources. Volunteer opportunities available! FMI call 874-1022 or email 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

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

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

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). 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 or check the website at 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 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 or email them at 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, 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:

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

Gay Maine. 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

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 casco gays@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 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 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 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.