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**Family Affairs Newsletter 2009-10-01**

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

1 OCTOBER 2009

## NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

**(NEWS #1:) UPDATE ON CHANGES TO THE FAN: MY EFFORTS ON THE FAN WILL BE COMING TO AN END.** In the last issue I wrote: "I am tired of working on it in its present format, and I am weighing whether there is enough support in the GLBTI community to expand it statewide and essentially turn it into the equivalent of a Maine-Wide Associated Press of GLBTI goings-on. I have written to nearly 80 GLBTI groups and organizations that I am aware of in the state to see if they are willing to buy into the idea and support it with some of their time and effort. I have decided that I will need at least a 70% positive response in order to go forward with the idea." This is what happened with that query (there were actually 76 organizations that I mailed to):

Ten organizations said "NO" because (and I am completely paraphrasing here):

1. We already reach everyone we need/want to reach, thank you, and don't need more exposure OR
2. We just can't get it together to send you regular updates OR
3. We can't send you regular updates within your deadline needs, but please keep telling people about us OR
4. We really don't know if we can send you regular update ... but someone will try

Twenty-Two organizations said "YES" and gave me contact info for the go-to people.

Forty-Four organizations never responded either to the initial question or to my reminder that I needed to hear from them by OCT 1. (They were all given two months to chat among themselves and decide if they wanted to participate.)

I needed to get positive feedback from at least 53 organizations; I got it from only 22 ... that's less than half of what I set as a goal.

What that means is that I am going to stop working on The FAN, and I am *not* going to turn it into anything else.

**The last issue of The FAN that I put out will be the DEC 15, 2009 issue.**

If anyone out there reading this thinks that they'd like to take it over and continue it, I'd be happy to chat with them about that. You can contact me at [megress@zwi.net](mailto:megress@zwi.net)

**(NEWS #2:) GUYS LIKE US retreat.** A free Weekend Retreat For Young Gay & Bisexual Guys. Check out the listing below at OCT 23.

**(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@ghi.net](mailto:megress@ghi.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. Family member Mark Nutt** continues expanding his horizons. In addition to working as the scenic painter for the Penobscot Theatre Company, he has now also taken on the position of resident scenic designer for the new **Old Port Playhouse** in Portland, Maine. Friends Michael Tobin and Jeffery Caron open their new 70-seat theatre offering in the Old Port on October 9th with a lively production of SYLVIA, a comedy about a husband and wife and the dog that comes between them. Mark's innovative, glowing New York City backdrop frames the hysterical action, creating just the right vision to set the show. It runs from Oct 9 - 25. FMI check the web site at [www.oldportplayhouse.com](http://www.oldportplayhouse.com) or phone them at 207-773-0333.

### **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):**

\* **OCT 11(Sunday)**, Portland, **The Maine Gay Men's Chorus holds a joint concert** with Ensemble Vocal Ganymede. FMI check the web site at [www.maine-gay-mens-chorus.org](http://www.maine-gay-mens-chorus.org)

\* **OCT 15 (Thursday)**, University of Maine at Machias, 7:00 - 8:30 pm. **Update and discussion of the Marriage Equality efforts.** New England's only All-inclusive LGBTQA Fraternity is sponsoring Equality Maine Executive Director, Betsy Smith for an informational/entertaining speech on the topic of Maine's fight for equal marriage. The event will take place in Science 102 (the lecture hall) at the University of Maine Machias Campus. FMI contact [cameron.creighton@maine.edu](mailto:cameron.creighton@maine.edu) or [lkuntz@maine.edu](mailto:lkuntz@maine.edu)

\* **OCT 17 (Saturday)**, Saco, **Saco Coffeehouse Features Pianist and Vocalist Michelle Currie**, 7 pm at the Parish Hall of the UU Church of Saco & Biddeford (60 School Street ... off Main St.). Michelle Currie makes music that's been stopping people in their tracks for 20 years. With a gutsy, soulful voice and fingers that fly across the ivories, nobody sings the blues like the lady with the flaming red hair. Her

repertoire of pop, rock, gospel, jazz and the best of Broadway that will make you want to sing along. Michelle is best known for her work at some of New England's premier piano bars, including the Front Porch in Ogunquit and the Kennebunkport Inn. FMI contact Donna at [dbeveridge@maine.rr.com](mailto:dbeveridge@maine.rr.com)

\* **OCT 23-25 (Friday-Sunday)**, Nobleboro, **GUYS LIKE US retreat**. Where can guys ages 16-22 Meet Other Guys Just Like Them? Learn to Build Community? Talk About Issues That Concern Them Such as Identity, HIV, STD's, and Playing Safe? Be Themselves in a Safe Space? Just Have Fun? AT GUYS LIKE US!! A Weekend Retreat For Young Gay & Bisexual Guys at Camp Kieve in Nobleboro, Maine. FMI and To Register Online, Please Visit [www.MaineGLU.com](http://www.MaineGLU.com) There is no cost to attend this retreat, and each participant will receive a travel stipend of \$25.

\* **OCT 24 (Saturday)**, Portland, **The Maine Gay Men's Chorus holds its annual Bean Suppah Fundraiser**. FMI check the web site at [www.mainegaymenschorus.org](http://www.mainegaymenschorus.org)

\* **OCT 26 (Monday)**, Biddeford, 12:00 pm. **A Theatrical Journey Through Maine's Lesbian History**, sponsored by the Center for Multicultural Affairs and Diversity, University of New England. Presentation by playwright and activist Carolyn Gage in the St. Francis Room of the Library, Biddeford Campus. Carolyn Gage, lesbian-feminist playwright, director, and activist will talk about her latest show, a collaboration with USM Professor Meghan Brodie, *Greetings from Lesbos*, Maine featuring stories and history of famous lesbians from Maine (or who spent time in Maine) including Sarah Orne Jewett, Cornelia Crosby, Natalie Barney, May Sarton, Renee Vivien, Louise Imogen Guiney, Marguerite Yourcenar, and Rachel Carson. The author of five books on lesbian theatre and fifty-five plays, musicals, and one-woman shows, she specializes in non-traditional roles for women, especially those reclaiming famous lesbians whose stories have been distorted or erased from history.

\* **OCT 29 - NOV 1 (Thursday - Sunday)**, Lincolnville Beach, **The Semi-Annual Make Beautiful Tribe Retreat** at the Tanglewood Center. 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. Men that attend range in age from 18-95 years old and come from all walks of life. **Pre-registration is required**. Some scholarships are also available. FMI and/or to get a registration form emailed to you, contact Ron King at [ronking@gwi.net](mailto:ronking@gwi.net) or you can call Ron at 207-326-8287, Rick at 433-7828, or David at 615-4555

\* **OCT 31 (Saturday)**, Brewer, **The Bridge Alliance Third Annual Coming Out Party**. This party will have a "CARNIVAL" theme. The party will be from 8:00 pm - 12:00 midnight at Jeff's Catering, 15 Littlefield Way in Brewer. This is the Bridge Alliance's signature event, and we are pleased to be celebrating 3 years of community building come and wish us a happy anniversary. Price for the party is \$25/person (must be 21 or older to attend) which includes dancing, hot dogs, popcorn, cotton candy, and unlimited chances to win many great prizes. Beer, wine, mixed drinks will be available. Credit and debit cards are accepted. FMI email [info@thebridgealliance.org](mailto:info@thebridgealliance.org) or check the web site at [www.thebridgealliance.org](http://www.thebridgealliance.org)

\* **OCT 31 (Saturday)**, Portland, Sid Tripp (and Proactive Resource Design) presents the **14th Annual Halloween Thriller!!** This annual halloween bash will be from 8:00 pm to 1:00 am at the Mariner's Church Banquet Hall (in the heart of the old port ... 368 Fore Street). This is for 21+ and over folks - Costume Required! For event updates & more info and to see pictures of this event, visit [www.proactiveresources.com/halloween](http://www.proactiveresources.com/halloween) . There is a \$20 cover charge per person. Prepaid, non-refundable tickets are available by calling 207-772-3599. CASH ONLY at the door on the night of the event. A portion of the event proceeds will be donated to local Southern Maine charities. FMI, call Sid or Lauren at 207-772-3599, or send an email to [info@proactiveresources.com](mailto:info@proactiveresources.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.maineguyz.org](http://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](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 December 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:**

**Mature lesbian** looking for other single lesbians to shoot photography with. Contact Cathy at [tundrafriends@earthlink.net](mailto:tundrafriends@earthlink.net)

#### **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)*

**Bangor, Furnished (or not) studio apt for rent.** Near downtown in a very quiet neighborhood. Small but nice, small kitchen efficiency, patio, near park, own washer/dryer. 700 month. References needed, no smoking, lease, deposit. Contact [susan@susanmaaschfineart.com](mailto:susan@susanmaaschfineart.com)

**Bangor, Short term studio for rent.** Fully furnished, very large, seperate efficiency kitchen and sitting room, wood floors, private, very nice, 1200 month, no smoking, deposit, near all hospitals, university 15 minutes away. Great neighborhood. Contact [susan@susanmaaschfineart.com](mailto:susan@susanmaaschfineart.com)

**Bucksport Area: Looking for a roommate** to share large mobile home. Available Oct 1st. Quiet friendly country setting. MUST love animals. Be responsible and clean. Prefer non smokers. Twenty minutes to Bangor, 6 miles from downtown Bucksport. \$500 monthly includes heat. You pay half of utilities. Use of washer & dryer, heated garage for storage, plenty of parking space. Your own bath off bedroom. If interested, or for more info, contact Sandy at [Bebop65849@aol.com](mailto:Bebop65849@aol.com) or call 469-2642. If no answer please leave a message. You may also leave a message on my cell 356-3272.

**Cumberland/York area: Wanted - House For Rent:** cottage or house wanted in the cumberland / york county area. Needs to be within a few miles of amtrak. For one person. Can pay \$750 per month without utilities (maybe more depending on how the bills run). Please contact denise at [hummingbird42@myfairpoint.net](mailto:hummingbird42@myfairpoint.net)

**Hampden: Housemate wanted starting September 1.** Nursing student looking for responsible non-smoker to rent two large, sunny, upstairs rooms and private bath in her home. Shared kitchen, laundry, deck, and large yard. Parking and some storage space available. Close to BAT stop, less than 10 minutes from downtown Bangor and 5 minutes to interstate. \$550/month includes heat, water, electricity, and internet. Contact Lea at [leapaddock@msn.com](mailto:leapaddock@msn.com)

**Orono, Sunny room for rent** with Mom and 8 year old twins in quiet neighborhood just off of Main Street (the Route of Bangor-Orono Bus), short walk from Mill Street. \$500 includes: all utilities, wireless internet, laundry, basement, garage for indoor bicycle/equipment storage, shared use of kitchen, dining room, living room, deck, yard, and shared use of one of two bathrooms in the home. Non-smokers only ... Sorry, No Pets. Contact Laurie at [laurie.osher@gmail.com](mailto:laurie.osher@gmail.com)

#### **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>

**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 dont have insurance to cover breast and cervical health services. FMI contact Robin at Caring Connections at 941-2808.

**Connections!** Gay or Bisexual male in Maine? On your own and not getting any younger? Want to be connected by phone with other mature gay men in Maine? Network for conversation, companionship, connections for support, help in recovery from medical treatment, ice storms or accidents. Call or be called or both. If you know of anyone who may not see this message, for the sake of community pass this information on. Even slight connections among people raise our spirits. To find out more call Peter (in confidence) at 207-348-2212 between 9AM and 8PM.

**Equality Maine**, has been providing education and legislative advocacy for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1984. It sponsors a variety of social and legislative educational events each year and is always looking for volunteers and new members. If you're not a member, you should be. FMI contact Equality Maine at 207-761-3732 or toll free at 1-800-556-5472. Their email address is [info@equalitymaine.org](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).

**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](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, 973-3646 or 1-800-350-5180. (TTY 1-800-438-5514) The best protection is early detection! (Jessica Thompson - contact)

**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.mainecef.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. MTN also sponsors a transgender peer support group and a separate group for partners of trans/genderqueer/questioning individuals. FMI email Alex at [alex@mainetransnet.org](mailto:alex@mainetransnet.org) or check the web site at [www.mainetransnet.org](http://www.mainetransnet.org) You could also leave a message at 207-408-1685.

**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 [mdpalmer@gwi.net](mailto:mdpalmer@gwi.net)

**Trans Care Collaborative.** Mission: To improve the medical and mental health care available to the transgender and gender-diverse population in Maine. To foster a network of medical care, mental health and other support services treating the transgender and gender-diverse community in Maine. To advocate for the needs of transgender and gender-diverse individuals. This is a Portland-based group **for**

**medical and mental health professionals only.** We meet monthly to discuss trans-related healthcare and occasionally offer events that raise awareness about trans issues. FMI contact: Rick Bouchard, LCSW at 207-650-6450 ... email [CONSTL8@maine.rr.com](mailto:CONSTL8@maine.rr.com) OR Wayne Bachner, LCSW at 207-662-4872 ... email [BACHNW@mmc.org](mailto:BACHNW@mmc.org)

**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):**

**Buddy Bikers, Gay Motorcycle Group (PORTLAND)** Guys who are gay/gay friendly who enjoy group rides. Based in the Portland area, but rides are not limited to Southern Maine. Harleys to Hondas, Choppers to Rice Rockets. SORRY, NO SCOOTERS ALLOWED. Annual event; Biker Boy Brunch, third Sunday of August to Amore's in Ogunquit. EMAIL [buddybikers@yahooogroups.com](mailto:buddybikers@yahooogroups.com) Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/buddybikers>

**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 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](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)

**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 Mary at [laughingmary@hotmail.com](mailto:laughingmary@hotmail.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](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:**

**Bisexual Group Online.** Bisexuals in Maine and other points north (BINNE). This is a discussion group, NOT a dating group. Located in Yahoo! groups at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/binne>.

**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=srg> 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.