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Family Affairs Newsletter 2009-12-15

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

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

FOLLOW YOUR HEART - DO YOUR PART - CHERISH OUR FAMILY

15 DECEMBER 2009

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

(NEWS #1:) PASSING ALONG THE TORCH. Well folks, this is the last issue of The FAN that I, Jean, will be producing. Beginning with the JAN 1 issue, your new FAN editor and "Holder-Of-All-The-Maniacal-Power" will be Zack. Being maniacally powerful over the past seven and a half years has not always been easy, but I'm sure Zack will do a wonderful job. It just goes to show you what a great country we live in when the transfer of this kind of power happens in such a restrained and peaceful manner ;-). I've actually felt privileged to put this newsletter together over the past years, but am now looking forward to a little rest before beginning my next adventure(s). You may even hear from me again (via "announcements" or "OP/ED" pieces in The FAN). I certainly intend to keep on reading it myself.

Please make note that future notices and postings for The FAN should be sent to thefan@maine.rr.com

Everyone who subscribes to The FAN (yes ... that means YOU!!), should also take a few minutes before JAN 1 and make sure that **if your computer or your ISP has any spam-blocking software installed, thefan@maine.rr.com should be in your "OK-to-receive" or "white" list so the newsletter isn't dumped as spam or quarantined without being delivered.** If you do that NOW, then you won't miss a single issue !

(NEWS #2:) 4th Annual Red Ribbon Ball tickets are now on sale!! Yes, it is that time again - Red Ribbon Ball time. This year the Ball will be on Saturday, February 6th. The committee has been busily making arrangements and preparations so this will be the best Ball ever! We'll feature: Brian Catell and the Jump City Jazz Band, the Silent Auction, Hors D'oeuvres, and Cash Bar. Black tie optional. Tickets are \$40/person if bought before Jan 25, \$50/person after that date. FMI, and/or to buy tickets go to the web site at www.maineaidsnetwork.com

(NEWS #3:) If you are an attorney or know any attorney who is interested in advancing LGBTQIA issues within the State of Maine, whether self-identified as LGBTI or an ally, please let them know that a new group is forming for this purpose. We have a mailing list and are in the process of reaching out to like-minded individuals. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact Alice (aneal@westendlegal.com) or Zack (zpaakkonen@westendlegal.com) for more information.

(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 thefan@maine.rr.com

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. Lesbian Connection Magazine. Hello from Margy at Lesbian Connection magazine! I'm trying to get the word out to lesbians everywhere about our FREE magazine. In case you haven't heard of LC before, or if you just lost touch with us, here's some info:

Lesbian Connection is the free worldwide forum of news, ideas, and information for, by, and about lesbians. We've been publishing since 1974, and we mail issues out every other month in plain brown envelopes (the word "lesbian" doesn't appear anywhere on the outside).

This magazine is a grassroots forum, which means it's truly written by our readers. On its pages you'll find info for lesbians on places to live and where to travel, lesbian B&Bs and guesthouses, websites, cruises, festivals, conferences, lesbian land and retirement communities, products (books, CDs, DVDs, etc.), campgrounds and retreats, lesbian lawyers and realtors, as well as the comic strip "Dykes to Watch Out For," and much more. There are also reviews, articles, and letters dealing with whatever issues LC's readers are talking about, from "The L Word" to health issues, relationships, and politics.

So, if you're a lesbian and you'd like to start receiving LC, all you need to do is email us (elsiepub@aol.com) your full name and complete (snail mail) mailing address and we'll be happy to add you to our list. (By the way, our mailing list is totally confidential; we never sell, loan or share it with anyone else.) We'd also like to know where you heard about us. In case you're wondering LC survives on the donations we receive from our readers. However, contributions are voluntary and subscriptions really are free to all lesbians. Our goal is, quite simply, to connect the lesbian community worldwide. (F.Y.I. our official name and address is Elsie Publishing Institute (EPI), PO Box 811, East Lansing, MI 48826, ph 517-371-5257, fax 517-371-5200. EPI is a tax-deductible 501(c)3 nonprofit charity.)

We hope to hear from you soon, and feel free to forward this email on to your lesbian friends and list-serves!

For Lesbian Connection,
Margy

P.S. If you email us by the end of the month we should be able to get you into our next mailing.

2. New GLBT Organizations at Husson University. Husson University has recently launched a Gay/Straight Student Alliance. So far, the organization has held a successful Open Mic night and informational campaign for No on 1 and also won second prize for their table at Husson's Open House. The group is making themselves known and eager to expand to include other members of the Husson/NESCOM community. Meetings are open to all students, staff or faculty at either Husson University or The New England School of Communications. The organization, entitled **GBLT on RYE** (Gays, Bisexuals, Lesbians and Transgenders on Real Youth Education) meets weekly on Wednesdays at 7:30 in room 127 of Peabody Hall. There is also a **GBLTIQ support group, entitled 10% Solutions**, which is held on Monday nights at 7pm in room 215 of The Commons. FMI about either organization, contact Alex Patel at patela@husson.edu or by phone at 941-7990.

3. University Of Southern Maine is seeking nominations for its civil rights social justice award: the **Jean Byers Sampson Catalyst for Change Award**. The award honors individuals who have been catalysts for change regarding diversity, equality, human and civil rights in Maine, particularly (but not exclusively) as it relates to the Sampson Collection populations (African American; Jewish; and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender). The award also commemorates the life, work, and values of our namesake, Jean Byers Sampson. In the past the award has been given to Rabbi Harry Sky (who was active in the Civil Rights movement), Dale McCormick (who founded what is now EqualityMaine), and Sallie Chandler (who serves on the Maine Human Rights Commission). You can nominate someone by going to the following website and submitting an application online. <http://library.usm.maine.edu/specialcollections/catalystforchangeaward.html> **The deadline for applications is January 31, 2010.** FMI contact Susie Bock at bocks@usm.maine.edu

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):

*** DEC 15 (Tuesday)**, Ellsworth, **Holiday Potluck & Yankee Swap** at the Downeast Diversity Center (47 Foster St in Ellsworth). Event starts at 7:00 pm ... the snow date is Wednesday, Dec. 16. This event is open to all gay, bi, and trans men (and straight-identified men who have sex with men). The holidays are all about good food, good company and good fellowship. So come, relax, visit and eat. Bring a small dish to share, bring a big dish to share or just bring a dish for someone else to share something on. The point is to come and have a good time. Another feature of the evening will be a Yankee Swap: everyone should bring a wrapped gift (new, used or refurbished) with a suggested value of no more than \$10. If you're unfamiliar with the rules behind this game, no worries. It'll all be explained. Just know that it can be mean (in a good way). Doors will be open at **6:00 p.m.** and the **Potluck will begin at 7:00.** FMI contact David Dauphinee at downeastdiversity@me.com or at 207-951-2727.

*** DEC 19 (Saturday)**, Ellsworth, **open auditions for La Cage aux Folles** (The Birdcage), starting at 10:00 am. at the Ellsworth Falls Congregational Church. There will be open auditions for anyone interested in trying out for a part in the upcoming New Surry Theatre performance of La Cage aux Folles (The Birdcage) at the Grand in May, 2010, directed by Bill Raiten. Quoting from the audition announcement: "All actors and actresses are invited to come in full regalia if they wish as many, but not all, members of the cast perform in a drag chorus. There are many principal and smaller roles to be cast. We are anxiously looking for dancers, musical and tap, as this is a Big Broadway Musical. Everyone will be taught a song at 10:00 AM and given scripts to read from for the roles. There will be group and individual auditions that will end at 2:30 PM. If anyone cannot make it that day, please call Bill Raiten at 374-5057 or e-mail him at bill@newsurrytheatre.org to request a different time. We are hoping that

carpenters, painters, prop and costume people, etc. will come as well and talk with the Production Manager or they can call Bill or e-mail him. La Cage aux Folles will be performed in May 2010 on the 13th, 14th, 16th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 28th, 29th, and 30th at the Grand Theatre in Ellsworth, Maine. To find more information about the New Surry Theatre, please check our web page: www.newsurrytheatre.org. An information sheet on the auditions is on the welcoming table at the Downeast Diversity Center (47 Foster St in Ellsworth ... against the wall as you come into the Center, so check it out if you are interested in becoming a star or working on the stage crew.

* **DEC 25 (Friday)**, Ellsworth, **A Downeast Christmas Day Decompression** at the Downeast Diversity Center (47 Foster St in Ellsworth). Event goes from 3:00 - 6:00 pm. This event is open to all gay, bi, and trans men (and straight-identified men who have sex with men). As much of a joyous occasion as Christmas can be for us, our families and loved ones, many of us may find the holidays to be an emotionally taxing time. In the spirit of Yuletide brotherhood and goodwill The Downeast Diversity Center will be opening it's door on Christmas day from **3-6 p.m.** for a time of decompression. It's our wish to create a place of refuge and relaxation for individuals that could use a repose from any stresses the holiday may have caused. So come visit, relax with us, play a hand of cards or just stop by and say hello. There will be a few light refreshments that have been donated for the event so please don't feel the need to bring anything but yourself. Of course, per usual, nothing will be turned away should you feel moved to bring it but that is not the point of this event. **You** are. Come and be uplifted. FMI contact David Dauphinee at downeastdiversity@me.com or at 207-951-2727.

* **DEC 31 (Thursday)**, Ellsworth, **Chem-Free New Year's Eve** at the Downeast Diversity Center (47 Foster St in Ellsworth). Event goes from 8:00 pm until 12:30 am. I can almost hear the groans coming through my computer now, but seriously, "chem-free" does not have to equal "fun-free." As a community of gay men, we've created just about every new form of creativity that's come along. In that spirit I'm open to ANY ideas and suggestions for activities for this evening. Send 'um my way and I'll help hash out the details. More emails will follow as the events of the evening evolve. FMI contact David Dauphinee at downeastdiversity@me.com or at 207-951-2727.

* **JAN 9 (Saturday)**, Hancock, 6:00 pm - ????, **The Out On MDI Mostly Annual New Year's Potluck Party**. It's been a long time since we had an OMDI event. So long, in fact, we're quite parched for another one of these festive get together pot luck events. Fortunately for us, our wonderful Parisian friends, Anne and Marie have once again extended an invitation to celebrate the new year together at their beautiful home in Hancock. This most welcome event will take place on Saturday, January 9, with Sunday the 10th as a snow date. Every pot luck OMDI we've ever had at Anne's house has always been a smash hit, lots of interesting people, lots of new faces, lots of fabulous food. We've even been know to dance for hours on end. And I dare say this time will not disappoint. So mark your calendars and be there or be square. Looking forward to seeing all of you! FMI and/or directions contact Ann at alfhildanda@mac.com

* **JAN 16 (Saturday)**, Bangor, **Bridge Alliance Dance Party**. 8:30 pm - 12:30 am. Come join us for the monthly dance party sponsored by The Bridge Alliance. These dances are designed to benefit future Bridge Alliance projects such as: Pride Dance in Portland, Red Ribbon Ball, Coming Out Halloween Party, Santa At The Museum, GLBTA Family Picnic, and many more. Come hang with friends, dance, and enjoy the music provided by DJ Terrie. There is a modest cover charge of \$5 at the door. Beer, wine, and mixed drinks will be available from the bar. Credit cards are accepted. Location TBA or check the web site at www.thebridgealliance.org

EVENTS (ONGOING):

10% SOLUTIONS. A GLBTIQ support group which is held on Monday nights at 7pm in room 215 of The Commons at Husson University. The meetings are open to all students, staff or faculty at either Husson University or The New England School of Communications. FMI contact Alex Patel at patela@husson.edu or by phone at 941-7990.

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

GBLT ON RYE (Gays, Bisexuals, Lesbians and Transgenders on Real Youth Education) meets weekly on Wednesdays at 7:30 in room 127 of Peabody Hall at Husson University. The meetings are open to all students, staff or faculty at either Husson University or The New England School of Communications. FMI contact Alex Patel at patela@husson.edu or by phone at 941-7990.

DOWNEAST DIVERSITY CENTER (47 Foster Avenue in Ellsworth). The Center, which has plans to expand its range of services in coming months, is initially being established to bring the community of men who have sex with men (the MSM community) together **every other Tuesday night** for a series of varied activities including presentations, games nights, movie nights, and music nights, and possibly even potlucks, dances, etc. It is hoped that eventually the Center will be able to open its doors for a wide range of activities for not only the MSM community, but also for the greater GLBT community. We welcome all Maine men, especially those in the greater Hancock, Penobscot, Waldo, and Washington county areas, to come and join us. The Center will be what you make of it, and your participation is vital to its success. FMI contact David Dauphinee, **Director**, Downeast Diversity Center at 207-951-2727 or by email at downeastdiversity@me.com

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 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 Zack at thefan@maine.rr.com

B & B's:

Le Vatout Bed & Breakfast
218 Kaler's Corner
Waldoboro, ME 04572
ph: 207-832-5150
email: dominika@levatout.com
web: www.levatout.com
proprietor: Dominika Spetsmann, Innkeeper

PERSONALS:

no listings this issue

SELL/BUY/TRADE/GIVE:

If you're a FAN subscriber trying to sell/buy something, want to trade for something else, or have something to give away, this is the category to post to. The FAN makes no guarantees about anything listed here, we simply provide the free listing as a service.

no listings this issue

LIVING SPACE RENTALS:

If you are FAN subscriber with a living space (room, apartment, house/apartment sharing) to rent to someone, or if you are looking for a living space to rent from someone, then this is the category to post to. Postings run for four (4) consecutive issues and may be renewed for additional 4-issue runs if you wish. Send your listings to me, Zack, at thefan@maine.rr.com

House for rent in St. Albans, ME. 2 bedroom, 1bath. Large garage, private lot, but located on a main road. Close to school and lake. 10 minutes to Newport, 30 min. to Bangor. 600.00/mo. You pay all utilities. Call Adonna at 595-0750.

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/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. 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, 973-3646 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 or check the web site at 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 mdpalmers@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 OR Wayne Bachner, LCSW at 207-662-4872 ... email 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 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):

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@yahoo.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. 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

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 Mary at 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

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:

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 provide 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 cascogays@gmail.com with your request.

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

Maine Gay Outdoor Network Events (MEGONE) is a yahoo group site/email list for Maine's GLBT? folks (& friends) for posting announcements of outdoor related events. It's not a formal club or organization—just an informal way to let folks know about outdoor activities that they might like to participate in—whether it's a hike, a paddle, camping trip, nature walk, or even a downtown shopping walk—it's up to you. This is not meant to compete with other groups such as the Chiltern Club—it's just an idea that some of us came up with on a recent trip to Baxter State Park :-). So, if you'd like some company the next time you take a hike, go on a bike ride, paddle, etc., just send an email to megone@yahogroups.com to let members know the details. To join the group, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/megone/>. Please pass the word along to other gay-related lists/groups--the more people who join, the more opportunities there will be for connecting with like-minded folks for some great outdoor fun. Right now, the membership is "open" to anyone who would like to join....however, if we have any problems with folks who are not gay-friendly, I may change it to a process requiring membership approval. Also, people posting should use discretion regarding publicly posting time/place to meet--you may want to simply say "anyone intersted in details, please email me at _____, or call me at _____". Any questions? let me know! (mikeondavispond@yahoo.com)

Maine Lesbians listserve Anyone who identifies as a lesbian is welcome to join. The website address is: <http://groups.google.com/group/maine-lesbians> Women can request to join from the website or email me: patput@midcoast.com

Maine-Motorcycle-Women. Family member Vicky has set up a group on Google for women motorcyclists. Check it out at: <http://groups.google.com/group/maine-motorcycle-women?lnk=srg> FMI contact Vicky at vrooommaine@gmail.com

Proud Lesbians of Poverty We seek people to join the group as we explore ways to improve the civil rights of GLBTQ's of poverty who cannot afford a lawyer to enforce their Gay Civil Rights, or their 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 thefan@maine.rr.com (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: thefan@maine.rr.com

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.