



COMMUNIQUE

CAISSE POSTALE/POST OFFICE BOX 990 CARIBOU MAINE 04736 USA
GAY-LESBIAN PHONELINE/TÉLÉGAI - 207 498-2088

Volume X: numéro 92
Volume X: number 92

février 1989
February 1989

LAMBDA HONORED BY MAINE POLITICAL ACTION GROUP

The following letter was received January 18, 1989:

Dear Wonderful People of Northern Lambda Nord,

Each year the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance awards people we feel have made an outstanding contribution to improving the quality of life of lesbians and gaymen in Maine. It is my happy task to inform you that your organization has been chosen for daring to be a visible, outspoken, and active presence in Northern Maine. Bravo!

We should like to invite your representative and a guest to our Annual Awards Dinner Dance which will be held in the Augusta Civic Center on Saturday, February 4. Congratulations!

Sincerely, /s/ Sadhbh Neilan, on behalf of the Steering Committee

Most Lambda members are on the MLGPA mailing list and should have received notification of the Awards Dinner Dance. This letter from Sadhbh (pronounced "Sive") was the first notification that NLN was receiving an award. At least six Lambs are planning to attend the event. Motel reservations are being made for an overnight stay in Augusta; if you're planning to attend but haven't told anyone, and you'd like to arrange for billeting with the rest of the Lambs, call Phil (his number's in the enclosed Members' Calendar).

DID YOU SEE...?

The Caribou Aroostook-Republican newspaper, January 18, 1989 issue, included the weekly "Chamber notes" column, written by Kristine Blancq, the Executive Director of the Caribou Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is noted for its consistently homophobic stance, when it comes to Northern Lambda Nord. The Chamber has refused to list NLN in the published listing of "Caribou Clubs and Organizations", would not accept advertising from Lambda in the annual Caribou Winter Carnival booklet, and - most recently - returned a donation from Lambda which had been made to help pay for the costs of "Welcome to Caribou" signs. (The NLN logo would have had to be displayed below the signs, along with the Kiwanis and Lions, if the Chamber had accepted NLN's money). Well, lo and behold, this latest Chamber article in the paper was entitled, "Support groups". It read, in part:

The Caribou Chamber of Commerce gets a lot of calls for information and we always make every effort to help, especially if it concerns Caribou!

We have recently updated our list of support groups operating in Caribou and are printing it here for your information. Perhaps you'll see a group you would like to join; if so, jot the number down and give them a call. You could also cut the list out and save it or post it on a bulletin board.

② If you know of a group that isn't on our list please call us with the name and number and we will add it to this list.

The two following paragraphs included a listing of 19 organizations' names and their telephone numbers. And wouldn't you know it; the sixteenth on the list, between the Multiple Sclerosis Society and Over Eaters Anonymous, was . . . "Northern Lambda Nord, 498-2088". For the first time in its nine year history, NLN was publicly acknowledged by the Caribou Chamber of Commerce as being a part of the community, one of the "support groups operating in Caribou". Does this show a change of attitude by the Chamber, a non-homophobic Executive Director, or perhaps a supportive secretary who was asked to type the listing for the newspaper?!

AIDS & BLUE CROSS IN NEW BRUNSWICK

A Saskatchewan gay-lesbian magazine, *Perceptions*, reports that the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission has withheld making a decision on an application by Blue Cross to be exempt from the provincial Human Rights Act provision which prohibits discrimination on the basis of physical disability. The health insurance organization would like to require applicants who are members of "high-risk" groups, in terms of incidents of AIDS, to indicate whether or not they had tested positive for HIV, the human immuno-virus, believed to be a cause of AIDS. Testifying at a meeting of the Human Rights Commission, a member of AIDS/New Brunswick noted that it would be discriminatory for insurance companies to require such information.

'NATIONAL NEWSPAPER FOR GAY CHRISTIANS' BEGINS PUBLICATION

THE SECOND STONE, *The National Newspaper for Gay Christians*, has begun publishing bi-monthly. Noting that it is "an ecumenical newspaper committed to expanding Christian ministry in the gay community and to the spiritual growth and development of gay persons, their families, and friends," Publisher/Editor Jim Bailey has included news articles, book reviews, and church-and-organization information. A copy of the November/December issue is available in *Bibliothèque Lambda*, NLN's members' library. A one-year subscription (six issues) is \$12.60 from *The Second Stone*, POB 8340, New Orleans, Louisiana 70182.

SID AIDS

NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK • NEW BRUNSWICK

AIDS Safer Sex Guide

Unsafe

- * Anal or vaginal intercourse without a condom
- * Inserting hands (fisting) or tongue (rimming) into the anus
- * Avoid the exchange of body fluids
- * Sharing sex toys or needles
- * Semen or urine in the mouth
- * Blood contact
- * Risk increases with multiple partners.

Safe

- * Massage, Hugging
- * Masturbation - Solitary and mutual
- * Body to body rubbing
- * Unshared sex toys
- * Reading, viewing and talking erotica
- * Abstinence
- * Dry kissing

Possibly Safe

- * Deep wet kissing
- * Anal, oral or vaginal sex using a latex condom properly
- * Oral vaginal contact - except during menstruation

QUESTIONS and CONCERNS? call 1-800/561-4009 (N-B)
1-800/851-2437 (Maine)

NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD

9TH Anniversary Anniversaire party

Saturday, February 11, 1989
samedi, 11 février 1989

New Sweden, Maine

8pm (Maine) 21h00 (N-B)

• BYOB •

Admission

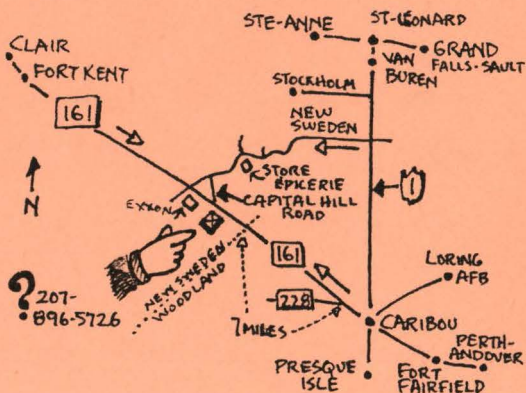
\$2 - NLN
members
\$3 - Others

Prix d'entrée

2\$ - Membres
de NLN
3\$ - Autres

\$US = CDN\$

FREE admission if you become a member (\$15)
Entrée GRATUITE si vous devenez membre (15\$)



QUE FAIT LA COALITION?

La Coalition pour la réforme des droits de la personne du Nouveau-Brunswick est un réseau de lesbiennes et d'hommes gais francophones et anglophones. Elle a été formée l'année dernière afin d'éduquer le public au sujet de l'orientation sexuelle et de revendiquer le droit à l'égalité dans l'emploi, le logement et les services publics sans égard à l'orientation sexuelle.

L'année dernière a été très occupée pour la Coalition et nous sommes très satisfaits de ce que nous avons accompli. D'abord, nous avons rédigé un mémoire impressionnant en français et en anglais que nous avons présenté à la Commission des droits de la personne et au gouvernement. La Commission a recommandé formellement au gouvernement que la Loi sur les droits de la personne soit modifiée et nous croyons que certains ministres clés appuient cette proposition. Aussi, à la suite des démarches que nous avons entreprises auprès de certaines organisations influentes, quinze d'entre elles ont jusqu'à date envoyé une lettre au gouvernement pour appuyer la modification que nous proposons.

Rien de ceci n'aurait été possible sans la générosité de tous ceux et celles qui ont contribué leur temps et leur argent à cette campagne. Notre exécutif s'est réuni quinze fois l'année dernière et nous avons convoqué quatre réunions générales. Pour obtenir de la documentation et l'appui d'autres organisations, nous avons écrit plus de 160 lettres en 1988. Nous avons ainsi accumulé une quantité importante de documentation pertinente. Aussi, nous avons collaboré avec des groupes qui mènent des campagnes semblables en Nouvelle-Ecosse et à l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard et nous avons établi des rapports avec des organisations homologues au Canada et aux États-Unis.

Bien sûr, il reste encore beaucoup à faire. Nous devons préparer la soumission que nous allons présenter au comité qui va bientôt étudier la Loi sur les droits de la personne. Nous devons convaincre plusieurs autres organisations d'appuyer notre campagne tout en nous préparant à contrecarrer celles qui vont l'opposer. Nous devons aussi continuer de rencontrer des politiciens et politiciennes, préparer de la documentation et organiser une campagne d'envoi de lettres.

Tout ceci exige bien des efforts, mais nous sommes convaincus que les droits des personnes gaies en valent la peine et nous avons confiance que le gouvernement va donner à notre revendication la priorité qu'elle mérite. Bien entendu, il nous est impossible de réaliser notre objectif sans votre participation et votre appui financier durant cette phase critique. Si vous voulez contribuer à notre campagne, communiquez avec Hal Hinds ou Noella Richard ou écrivez à: La Coalition pour la réforme des droits de la personne, C.P. 1556, Succ. A, Fredericton, N.-B. E3B 5G2. Vous n'avez pas besoin d'être sorti(e) pour faire une contribution importante.

*Communiqué
février 89*

④

WHAT HAS THE COALITION BEEN UP TO?

The New Brunswick Coalition for Human Rights Reform is a network of anglophone and francophone lesbians and gay men. It was formed early last year in order to educate the public concerning sexual orientation and to lobby for an amendment that would protect against discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, housing and public services.

The last year was a busy one for the Coalition and we are very proud of what we accomplished. To begin with, we drafted an impressive brief in both official languages and presented it to the Human Rights Commission as well as the government. The Commission officially recommended that the Human Rights Act be amended to protect against discrimination based on sexual orientation. We believe that some key Cabinet Ministers support this recommendation. So far, fifteen of the influential organizations that we approached have sent letters to the government calling for such an amendment.

None of this would have been possible without the generosity of all those who contributed their time and money to our campaign. Fifteen Executive meetings and four General Meetings were held last year. We sent over 160 letters in order to obtain documentation and the support of other organizations. We were thus able to collect a substantial quantity of relevant documentation. We also collaborated with groups conducting similar campaigns in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and contacted other organizations in Canada and the United States

Of course, a lot remains to be done. We must prepare the submission that we will present to the committee that will be studying the Human Rights Act this winter. We must convince several other organizations to back the amendment, while also readying ourselves to counter those that will oppose it. In addition, we must prepare other documentation, organize a letter writing campaign and continue to meet with politicians.

All of this requires a lot of work, but we are convinced that the human rights of gay persons are worth it and we are confident that the government will give this matter the priority it deserves.

Of course, it is impossible to achieve our objective without the participation and financial support of the gay and lesbian community in this critical phase. If you wish to contribute to this campaign, contact Hal Hinds or Noella Richard or write to: The Coalition for Human Rights Reform, P.O. Box 1556, Station A, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5G2. You do not need to be out to make a valuable contribution.

Communiqué

février '89

CHICAGO PASSES RIGHTS BILL

After a 15-year battle, the City of Chicago's City Council voted 28-17 in favor of a measure to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. The ordinance will protect gaymen and lesbians, as well as other minority groups listed in the legislation, from discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations. Of the ten largest cities in the United States, half of them officially prohibit discrimination that is based on one's sexual orientation. These five include New York City, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Detroit, and Chicago. The remaining five cities without anti-discrimination ordinances are San Diego, Phoenix, Houston, Dallas, and San Antonio.

NOVA SCOTIA REJECTS TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS (The Advocate)

The government of Nova Scotia has rejected a recommendation by a provincial AIDS task force that legislation be passed to prohibit discrimination against gay people, and against people who test positive for HIV antibodies. Joel Matheson, Nova Scotia's Health Minister, said that "I don't have to give a reason" for rejecting the proposal. The government, however, accepted 40 other task force proposals relating to AIDS.

WILL D.C. BE ALLOWED TO PROTECT ITS GAY CITIZENS FROM DISCRIMINATION?

In recent years, the City of Washington, D.C. passed a non-discrimination law protecting lesbians and gaymen. When two gay-lesbian organizations at Georgetown University were denied recognition by the Catholic university, the campus groups charged violation of the D.C. civil rights law. The courts mandated an agreement between the university and the gay and lesbian organizations, which essentially forced Georgetown to treat the organization as equal to all others on campus.

In July, 1988, Senator William Armstrong, Republican from Colorado, introduced an amendment to the D.C. Appropriations Bill (Congress has funding control over the U.S. Capitol). The bill would have frozen all District funding January 1, 1989 unless D.C. would agree to exclude religious institutions from compliance with the anti-discrimination statute which protected gay people.

In December, 1988, however, a U.S. District Court judged that the amendment, which in essence blackmailed the D.C. Council to vote a certain way, violated the Council's freedom of speech by forcing them to do something they were not inclined to do. The U.S. Department of Justice has decided to appeal this ruling to a higher court.

What the December District Court's ruling did uphold was the right of Congress to interfere in District politics. Although they could not order the D.C. Council to change the law, Congress could change it themselves, though that would be difficult to pass since it would be direct meddling in local affairs.

The American Civil Liberties Union, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and the Human Rights Campaign Fund are meeting to map out strategies. They plan to launch a major campaign to educate members of Congress about civil rights, and to look for supporters to work to table the possible legislation rather than having it come up for a vote.

Communique

February 89



**"I gave my lover everything,
including AIDS."**

If the gay community is to survive this epidemic, we must give up Unsafe Sex. Most of us already have. And you?

SIDAIDS

QUESTIONS?

1-800/851-2437 (Maine)
1-800/561-4009 (N-B)

The French Connection
**MAKE NEW FRIENDS IN
QUÉBEC AND MONTRÉAL**

VIA MAGAZINE **RG** THE LEADING
FRENCH GAY MONTHLY MAGAZINE

FREE SAMPLE

RG BOX 5245, STATION C
MONTRÉAL H2X 3M4
[514] 523-9463

The WESTMAN HOUSE

A BED AND BREAKFAST

in the heart of Aroostook County



POB 1231 . Caribou . Maine . 04736
207 . 896-5726

Your Hosts: Phil & Dick

Gay/Lesbian GUIDE Lesbienne/Gai



NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD (NLN) CP/POB 990,
Caribou, Maine 04736 USA, Gay-Lesbian

Phoneline/Telegai - 207/498-2088

AROOSTOOK AREA GAY/LESBIAN AA GROUP meets
weekly in Madawaska; contact Northern Lambda Nord
for information

BANGOR AREA GAY-LESBIAN-STRAIGHT COALITION
(BAGLSC - "Bagels") c/o 87 Sunset Strip, Brewer
04412

CLUB EQUALITY private membership club/membre
privé, located downstairs from the Capricorn Club/au-
dessous du Club Capricorn, rear entrance/entrée arrière,
Main Street/rue Principale, Sainte-Anne-de-Madawaska,
New/Nouveau-Brunswick; open Friday-Saturday-
Sunday, 9pm-2am (N-B time)/ouvert vendredi-samedi-
dimanche, 21h00-2h00 (heure N-B)

DOWNEAST LESBIAN GAY ORGANIZATION (DELGO)
c/o Unitarian Church, 126 Union Street, Bangor 04401,
207/942-6503

DIGNITY/MAINE Catholic group, POB 8113, Portland
04104

FREDERICTON LESBIANS AND GAYS (FLAG) POB
1556, Station A, Fredericton E3B 5G2, 506/457-2156
**GAIS ET LESBIENNES DE MONCTON/GAYS AND
LESBIANS OF MONCTON (GLM)** CP/POB 7102,
Riverview E1B 1V0, 506/858-1013

GAY/LESBIAN ALLIANCE University of Southern
Maine, 92 Bedford Street, Portland 04102, 207/780-4085
GROUPE GAIE DE L'UNIVERSITE LAVAL (GGUL) CP
2500, Pavillon Lemieux, Cite Universitaire, Sainte-Foy,
Quebec G1K 7P4, 418/648-2751

HARBOR MASTERS, INC. leather-ey group, POB
4044, Portland 04104

**LESBIAN/GAY COMMITTEE, MAINE CHAPTER,
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS**
POB 5112, Station A, Portland 04104

MAINE BISEXUAL PEOPLE'S NETWORK POB 1792,
Portland 04104, 207/780-4085 (leave message)

MAINE LESBIAN FEMINISTS POB 125, Belfast 04915

MAINE LESBIAN/GAY POLITICAL ALLIANCE POB
232, Hallowell 04347

**NEW BRUNSWICK COALITION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
REFORM/LA COALITION POUR LA REFORME DES
DROITS DE LA PERSONNE DU NOUVEAU-**

BRUNSWICK POB/CP 1556, Station Succursale A,
Fredericton E3B 5G2

**OUR PAPER: A Voice for Lesbians and Gaymen in
Maine** published monthly, \$12 for one-year subscription,
POB 10744, Portland 04104

OUTRIGHT: Portland Alliance of Gay & Lesbian Youth
POB 5028, Station A, Portland 04104

WILDE-STEIN CLUB Memorial Union, University of
Maine, Orono 04469

WOMLAND TRUST Women Owning Maine Land Trust,
POB 55, Troy 04987

AIDS information SIDA

MAINE AIDS-line 1-800/851-AIDS (2437) (Portland -
775-1267), Monday-Friday 9am-5pm, Monday &
Wednesday 6-9pm, Saturday 10am-1pm

NEW BRUNSWICK AIDS-line/La ligne SIDA
NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK 1-800/561-4009 (Fredericton -
459-7518)

COMMUNIQUE is published ten times yearly by
Northern Lambda Nord, an organization serving the
Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual community of northern Maine and
northwestern New Brunswick (Aroostook-Madawaska-
Victoria-Carleton Counties). **SUBSCRIPTIONS** - \$10 per
year. **NLN MEMBERSHIP** - \$15 per year, which includes
a subscription. U.S. and Canadian funds are accepted at
par. Low-income people may make arrangements to pay
in installments. NLN is a non-profit organization; all
donations are U.S. tax-deductible. Advertising rates in
COMMUNIQUE are available upon request. Your
comments and contributions are welcome.

COMMUNIQUE publié dix fois par année par Northern
Lambda Nord, une organisation pour la communauté
lesbienne-gaie-bisexuelle au nord-ouest du Nouveau-
Brunswick et au nord du Maine (les comtés Madawaska-
Victoria-Carleton-Aroostook). **ABONNEMENTS** - \$10 par
année. **COTISATION NLN** - \$15 par année, dans lequel
inclus la subscription. Les fonds E-U et canadiennes
sont acceptés au par. Ceux qui ont de la difficulté
financièrement, des paiements à terme peut être
organisée. NLN est une organisation à but non-lucratif;
toutes donations sont taxe deductible aux E-U
seulement. Les tarifs de publicité dans le **COMMUNIQUE**
sont disponible. Vos commentaires et contributions sont
les bienvenue.



Communiqué is funded by
a grant from the Maine
Board of the Haymarket
Fund of New England.