

The NETWORKER
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COME OUT for "COMING OUT"

GLCN's first 'coming out' support group will be inaugurated on Wednesday, November 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine.

The GLCN Support Group Task Force realizes that this is an important and continuing topic within the lesbian/gay community -- no matter 'where' we are about coming out, it seems there's always more to learn (and feel). Most of us discover that coming is not a one-time event, but a process.

So, with the help of two facilitators, Jeanne Curtis and Robin Long, those who gather on the 8th will share their coming out processes, journeys and struggles. The idea being, of course, that sharing the burden with others reduces fear, anxiety and isolation, and sharing the joys (yes, they can happen, too) increases the sense of satisfaction and well-being.

And won't it be good to be in a setting where the rules will include not judging each other about just 'how out' we are? From the first, GLCN has made it clear that we respect where people are and need to be.

By the way, for those who don't know, the Peace & Justice Center is located at 9 Central Street (third floor above downtown Mr. Paperback).

POLITICAL/EDUCATION PROGRAMS MOVING FORWARD

Want to see some educational films about lesbian and gay life? Maybe mixed in with some Friday night movies of a lighter sort? Or how about a coffee house, with maybe a talent night and/or community dinner?

Well, your Political/Education Task Force is at work designing some fun but educational evenings to help us all through the soon-to-arrive winter 'blahs.' Want to help? Contact Sarah Lowden at 945-5932 or Penny White at 941-2815 (work) or Peter Michaud or Wendy B. at 989-1680.

The Task Force is also still working on designing the campaign to press the City of Bangor to dedicate the State Street bridge in memory of Charlie Howard. Contact Penny White or Janet May (862-5907).

Robin (formerly Rob) Gorsline is starting to pull together resources for a community history 'roundtable' study group for January - April. If you're interested, call him at 866-7958 (or at work 941-2815).

Also, who is working on the 1990 Statewide Symposium, allegedly to be held in Orono/Bangor next Memorial Day Weekend? Is anyone? Now is the time! The Symposium is a time of education, fun, entertainment, just gathering for three days of community frolic and community building. Contact Robin Gorsline or Victor Hathaway, if you want to help.

Thought for the Month (and next month, too):

THE GAY NINETIES ARE COMING!!!!!!!

GLCN CHOOSES OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS

Group Vows to Stay Consensus-based and Grow More Active

According to state law, a legally incorporated non-profit organization must have some officers and a Board of Directors. Consequently, at its first Annual Meeting (and potluck), GLCN members present elected the following persons: Marguerite Roosen of Orono, President; Robin Gorsline of Orono, Vice President; Jim Martin of Bangor, Secretary; and Patti Woolley of Orrington, Treasurer. Other board members chosen were Jeanne Curtis of Monroe, Larry Dameron of Lincoln, Wendy B. of Brewer, Robin Long of Hampden and Ben Liles of Old Town.

It was agreed that various persons -- on and off the Board -- would share responsibilities for convening and facilitating meetings. Robin Gorsline, who has carried out that function for several months, cheerfully and gratefully accepted the offer of Marguerite Roosen to assume responsibility for leading the next GLCN "Umbrella" meeting on November 29 (at the Peace & Justice Center at 7:30 p.m.).

And the potluck, which preceded the annual meeting, was simply divine -- delicious entrees, salads, vegetables, desserts, sodas, even coffee brewed by the skilled team of Patti Woolley (who provided the Swiss Army Knife to open the can of coffee), Jeanne Curtis (who washed the pot and measured the water and coffee and turned on the pot), and Ben Liles (whose idea it was to brew the stuff in the first place!). Just how many gay men does it take to brew a pot of coffee

NEXT DANCE IS NOVEMBER 18 IN ORONO

Not Sponsored by GLCN

After the smashing success of the Halloween Dance on October 21 in Orono, scores of happy lesbians and gay men are looking forward to the next dance -- set for Saturday, November 18 at the Keith Anderson Community House on Bennoch Road in Orono (behind the Orono Post Office).

Wendy B. of Brewer, who has put on the last several monthly dances, has decided to continue to sponsor and manage the monthly dances as part of her business. In exchange for the volunteer help of some GLCN members, Wendy makes a contribution to GLCN.

This arrangement has been checked out with legal counsel and others to be sure it is legal and meets requirements for non-profit status. GLCN had been prepared to assume responsibility for the monthly affairs, but Wendy has decided she is able and willing to continue her operations. She told the GLCN annual meeting that it would be "business suicide" for her to do otherwise. The meeting agreed to review the arrangement in six months to see how the arrangement is working.

A Final Thought

Have you been to a GLCN meeting yet? Or volunteered to help on a project? The point of all the work is for our numbers to grow and our network to become stronger. So, remember Support Group Task Force on November 8, Political/Education Task Force on November 15, "Umbrella" Meeting on November 29, all at 7:30 at the Peace & Justice Center. See you then!