



THE SCOOP

PUBLISHED BY THE PEOPLE WITH AIDS COALITION OF MAINE

MAINE WALK '90

MAINE WALK '90 Plans Underway

Maine continues to "make a difference"—one step at a time with **MAINE WALK '90**, a walk-a-thon slated for Sunday, October 7, 1990. In an effort to generate community support, increase AIDS awareness and benefit the thirteen community-based AIDS service and support agencies in Maine, the **WALK** will take place at seven locations across the state.

This is the first year for the fundraising walk-a-thon. It is anticipated that more than 1,000 walkers will raise \$30,000. Participants in the **WALK** ask friends, relatives, co-workers and local businesses to make a financial commitment for each kilometer of the **WALK**. Dennis Hatch, **MAINE WALK '90** Coordinator recently announced that Portland, Belfast, Rumford, Bridgton, Bangor, Ellsworth and Fort Kent are the confirmed locations for the **WALK**.

Eighty-five percent of the net proceeds from the **WALK** will be returned to the community-based organizations sponsoring a **WALK** in their area. The remaining money will be used for the funding of specialized grants from existing member organizations of the MAA network, and to encourage and assist in the development of community-based AIDS service organizations in areas of the state that are currently not represented. There will be significant volunteer requirements at each location. The Alliance Board of Directors encourages any person or group interested in sponsorship, pledges, volunteer and/or walker information to contact the agency organizing a **WALK** in their area.

Intent on creating a festive atmosphere surrounding the **WALK** event, local organizers have plans for speakers, decorations, food, and, in some locations, entertainment as part of the day's activities. We hope you will join us on October 7th to celebrate Maine's commitment to the fight against AIDS, as well as each participant's commitment to make a difference—one step at a time!

MAINE WALK '90 Locations

Portland	People With AIDS Coalition	773-8500
	The AIDS Project	774-6877
	The Names Project	774-2198
Belfast	Waldo County AIDS Coalition	338-1427
Ellsworth	Down East AIDS Network	667-3506
Rumford	Community AIDS Awareness Program	369-0259
Bangor	Eastern Maine AIDS Network	990-3626
Bridgton	Community Task Force on AIDS Education	787-3266
Fort Kent	St. John Valley AIDS Task Force	834-3155

Did You Miss the Boat ?

Hopefully you all at least heard about the "Keep The Love Alive" boat cruise, but were you on the boat? If you were not you missed one of the most successful events of the year. The cruise was held on July 29 at 7:00 pm and was very entertaining. On board were two live bands performing simultaneously, the first band was Diana Hansen and Pixie Lauer and friends performing jazz and blues. The second band playing were the DixieLand Dads from the South Berwick area and included ten members of their brass band performing in the dixieland style.

Another interesting part of this cruise were quilt panels from The Names Project/Maine. Quilt panels collected throughout Maine remembering those live lost in the battle against AIDS were displayed on the boat throughout the cruise. This event helped raise money for The Names Project of Maine to help bring back the quilt to Maine.

Raffle prizes were drawn on the cruise and included things such as a lobstering trip for two in Perkins Cove, Ogunquit, a deep sea fishing trip for two in Ogunquit, Gift certificates to many fine restaurants and a gift certificate for a cruise aboard the Longfellow II. Thank you to all the businesses and establishments who donated these prizes for our raffle.

A special birthday celebration was held on board for our friend Vincent. Word was spread well in advance of his birthday and we were happy to have Vincent aboard to share his birthday. Vincent was also the winner in the raffle for a great dinner at the Samuel Hill Tavern in Arundel.

For many PWA's this kind of an event was not in the old scheduled budget and due to limited income for many people with AIDS we searched for sponsors for these people so that they could join us on the cruise. We found many sponsors for PWA's and their generosity was very well appreciated. A total of 14 people with AIDS received sponsored tickets and again, thank you to all of those sponsors. Sponsors included the following: Congresswoman Olympia Snowe, Fran Peabody, Mrs James Austin, Chief Michael Chitwood, Celeste Gosselin, Beth Calhoun, Mrs. Gertrude Lachance, Michael and Deanna and friends.

Our apologies to those of you who arrived at the dock and were told there was a waiting list to purchase additional tickets. As of the morning of the cruise we had sold all but 5 of the 250 available tickets. There was a waiting list of 13 people at the dock and thanks to their patience they were all ticketed and boarded for the cruise. We were not

geared up for a waiting line and therefore this line was very slow. Thank You again for your patience for those of you who waited in line.

We also had two business donations which covered most of the costs of the cruise. Stephen's Hair Design of Saco and Valeries of Ogunquit helped us keep our costs down to 33.53.

We also had food donated from restaurants, caterers and bakeries throughout southern Maine. Thank-You to all the establishments who donated the food and thank you to all the volunteers who helped pick up the food and serve it.

Well as you have read the cruise was a great success. The proceeds from this cruise will be distributed between The Aids Project, The Names Project of Maine and The People With AIDS Coalition of Maine. These much needed funds will help support services provided to People Living With AIDS in Maine.

As always we welcome your comments and suggestions, as well as your interests in becoming a volunteer, because without all of the volunteers who made this cruise possible this cruise would have never left the dock. Just think of all the tasks big and small that were accomplished to make the cruise a great success, and think to yourself what you may have been able to help with.

Keep your eyes and ears open for other events coming up in the future and think about becoming a volunteer. Each one of you may have that little something inside of you that will bring a great feeling to yourself and to others by becoming a volunteer.

As one of the organizers of this cruise I want to thank each and everyone who helped make the cruise such a great success. You all helped in your own special way and I am sure the return rewards of a great accomplishment are still with you and will follow you in the future.

I also want to thank each and every one of you who joined us on the cruise. Because without those of you who support us, services provided to people living with AIDS in Maine would not be available. So in remembering the fun and good times you and your friends had on the cruise, I hope you also think of all the services and support you help to provide to those of us living with AIDS in Maine.

Thank-You ALL.

Rick Brooks, PWA Cruise Organizer

Comedy Can Can Strikes

For those of you who are not familiar with Comedy Can Can, it is a volunteer group of concerned and fun-loving individuals who perform a comedy show once a month at Portland's LIMELIGHT nightclub. Comedy Can Can is dedicated to raising money for the PWA Coalition of Maine, and since its debut in May has raised over \$1300 in cash plus food donations.

The LIMELIGHT donates net profits of their door over and all performers donate their tips. Each month a plaque is given to the performer who brings in the most money for their performance. The Comedy Can Can TOP PERFORMER for May, June and July has been... the LIMELIGHT'S shining star, MAXINE !!! Congratulations Maxine, and a special thanks to all who have participated in and supported the cause.

A reminder to all that the Comedy Can Can for September will be Sunday, September 30 at 11:00 P.M. in the LIMELIGHT disco. If you are interested in joining Comedy Can Can as a performer, or as a backstage helper, please contact Alex Guerette at 773 - 3315.

A little laughter and alot of caring go a long way !!!

BEWARE

She was a blushing doll only 5 foot tall
with the beauty of a dove
her lips were red, she was Brahmin bred
and the object of my love

She chose a vocation, went on a vacation
and trained to become a nurse
it was then that i had a desire to die
and make my home a hearse

She was a good girl when she gave it a whirl
but good things don't last forever
she started to drink, was on the brink
when an angel stopped her endeavor

So mother dear, keep your daughter clear
keep her away from nursing
she'll be lily white, free from fright,
and never take up cursing.


There is no right or wrong way to have this disease.
Nor is there a right or wrong way for those without
AIDS to respond to their friends who have been
diagnosed. - Keith Gann, P.W.A.



P W A
EOPLE WITH AIDS
COALITION
OF MAINE

377 CUMBERLAND AVENUE
PORTLAND MAINE 04101

207-773-8500



PWA COALITION TASK FORCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

8/14/90

Mission Statement

The Task Force on Human Rights is comprised of People With AIDS (PWAs), their supporters and others working within the AIDS community. Our primary mission is to monitor community medical and social services and to advocate for the rights of PWAs to receive fair and equal treatment when seeking out such services. In our capacity as advocates we will work on behalf of PWAs who are unable to advocate for themselves due to their illness. We will also advocate on behalf of PWAs who feel their efforts to advocate for themselves have been unsuccessful. The Task Force will take appropriate action against community providers who routinely engage in discriminatory or unfair treatment of PWAs.

Immediate Goals

The immediate goals of the Task Force on Human Rights are the following:

- 1) To address the problem of patient dumping by physicians who refuse to treat PWAs with Medicaid.
- 2) To address the problem of physicians who refuse to take any responsibility for providing treatment to PWAs living in their own communities. Physicians should not have to refer HIV infected patients to "AIDS specialists" who practice far from the patient's own community.
- 3) To establish a system to monitor complaints received from PWAs regarding sub-standard treatment within the medical community.
- 4) To establish a liaison with the medical community through which the Task Force will advocate for the right to quality medical care for any PWA requesting our assistance.

Where We Stand

MAINE MED CLINIC: The Task Force is pleased to note that since the meeting of June 20th, some PWAs have reported significant improvements in the quality of care they are receiving at the clinic. However, we are also aware of ongoing problems that still exist for other PWAs being treated there. The Task Force acknowledges that clinic staff are working very hard to do the best possible job. Unfortunately they are working hard within a system that is hardly conducive to a PWA's need for continuity of care. It is our goal to work cooperatively with the clinic personnel and hopefully find ways to help the system work more effectively for both patient and provider.

PATIENT DUMPING: The Task Force on Human Rights strongly opposes the practice of patient dumping by physicians who refuse to treat PWAs with Medicaid. We feel this practice is immoral, unethical and discriminates against a group of people who have limited financial resources and are routinely denied access to private health insurance because of their illness.

PHYSICIAN REFUSAL TO TREAT PWAs: It is the belief of this Task Force that there are no valid reasons for physicians to abstain from treating people with HIV infection in their own communities. It is no longer viable to refer all people with HIV infection to a handful of "AIDS specialists" who practice in southern Maine. We feel this practice unfairly overburdens a small group of physicians and only contributes to further problems of physician burn-out and patient dumping. HIV infection can be routinely treated as a chronic, manageable infection in most cases. Physicians practicing in communities outside of Portland need to begin sharing the responsibility of treating people with HIV infection.

Endorsing Organizations and Individuals

Maine AIDS Alliance
The AIDS Project
ACT-UP Maine
Robin Lambert, Chairperson Maine AIDS Advisory Committee
Maine Lesbian Gay Political Alliance
Waldo County AIDS Coalition
Roberta Poulin, Coordinator Downeast AIDS Network

THREE WAYS YOU CAN HELP

I.

GET INVOLVED. Attend a general meeting the first Wednesday of each month, at 7 P.M., Piemonte Room in Boston City Hall. (ASL interpreted/Wheelchair accessible)

You will find out more about the Quilt, the NAMES Project, and about volunteer opportunities on committees.

Each committee is responsible for specific projects essential to bringing the Quilt to Boston.

Education/ Outreach/ Panel-Making: this committee assists people in making Quilt panels, and raises AIDS awareness by lecturing to schools, churches, and other organizations.

Fund Raising: as you might imagine, fund-raisers generate money to support the display. This includes coordinating special events, like concerts.

Logistics: members of this committee design, construct, and install local displays of the Quilt.

Media: these volunteers do a variety of tasks involved with publicity, especially writing and distributing information to the press.

Volunteer/Administration: this committee recruits and trains volunteers. Members also provide administrative support to the NAMES Project.

II.

VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT A SPECIAL EVENT OR AT THE DISPLAY. Bringing the Quilt to Boston requires the help of many volunteers at pre-display events such as fund-raisers and outreach programs. Showing the Quilt requires more than 700 volunteers to monitor the Quilt, sell merchandise, and work on logistics.

III.

FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THE NAMES PROJECT/BOSTON. Money raised by the Quilt display supports local agencies and programs with their work for people with AIDS. Your contributions are urgently needed and greatly appreciated.

GOALS OF THE NAMES PROJECT

- Confront individuals and governments with the urgency and enormity of the AIDS pandemic and the need for an immediate and compassionate response, by revealing the names and the lives behind the global statistics.
- Build a powerful, positive, creative symbol of remembrance and hope, linking diverse people world-wide in the shared expression of our common grief, pain, and rage in response to AIDS.
- Encourage donations in every community where the Quilt is displayed, thereby raising the desperately needed funds for people living with AIDS and their care-givers. To date, \$800,000 has been raised at Quilt displays and distributed to AIDS care service agencies throughout North America.

THE
NAMES
PROJECT

... Keeping the Love Alive in 1990

The NAMES Project/Boston is planning a major display of the International AIDS Memorial Quilt to be held from

Friday, September 21st
through

Sunday, September 23rd
on the campus of

Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

To produce a successful display, we need the help of hundreds of volunteers, and we need financial supporters.

In short, we need you.

See how you can help bring the Quilt to Boston . . .

THE
NAMES
PROJECT

Post Office Box 4319
Portland, Maine 04101
(207) 774-2198

September 1990

PWA COALITION CALENDAR

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

					1 PWAC OPEN 11-4	2QUILT WORKSHOP PORTLAND NAMES PROJECT
3	4 2:00 PM Art from the heart	5 6:00 PM DINNER	6 MOVIE NIGHT 7:00 PM ** Sunset Boulevard **	7	8 PWAC OPEN 11-4	9 6:30 PM "BRIDGES" Choir Rehearsal and Pot Luck Supper
New England Conference on AIDS in Boston						
10	11 2:00 PM Art from the heart 7:30 PM Grey Flannel League	12 6:00 PM POT LUCK DINNER	13 MOVIE NIGHT 7:00 PM *The Cotton Club*	14	15	16QUILT WORKSHOP PORTLAND NAMES PROJECT
NAPWA Computer Training, Washington, D.C.						
17 NAPWA Computer Training, Washington D.C.	18 2:00 PM Art from the heart	19 6:00 PM DINNER 7:00 PM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING News Paper Article Deadline	20 MOVIE NIGHT 7:00 PM ** Casablanca **	21	22 PWAC OPEN 11-4	23
AIDS Memorial Quilt Display in Boston						
24	25 2:00 PM Art from the heart 7:30 PM Grey Flannel League	26 6:00 PM DINNER	27 MOVIE NIGHT 7:00 PM * Suprize Movie ? *	28	29 PWAC OPEN 11-4	30

377 CUMBERLAND AVENUE
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Wheel Chair 1920s

8.4 USA

Nonprofit



Sept 1990

Coalition
Newsletter