

MID-WINTER BASH — N'ORLEANS STYLE!

Folks living in warmer climes enjoy mid-winter bacchanalias known as Mardi Gras (New Orleans) or Carnival (Rio de Janeiro). Originally designed to mark the days immediately preceding the fasting and solemnity of the Christian season of penance known as Lent, these festivals have come to have a more secular meaning of marking the turn from winter to spring.

GLCN has decided there is no reason we in the frosty, snowy northwoods on either side of I-95 can't celebrate, too. In fact, we really need to celebrate -- especially this year -- in order to remind ourselves that the snow and ice will end.

Soooooooooooooooooooooooooooo, come on out on Saturday, February 24 to dance and prance and glance and bounce and flounce and just generally have an **OUTRAGEOUS** time. Time: 8:00 p.m. - 12 midnight. Place: 1st Universalist Church, 120 Park Street, Bangor (up the hill, behind City Hall). Price: \$5 at the door, \$4 in advance (866-7958 -- or send your check or money order made out to GLCN to Post Office Box 212, Bangor, Maine 04401).

We hope most will want to dress 'up' or 'down' -- meaning wear some sort of costume or least a mask (a la Mardi Gras) -- but if you can't do this, please come and enjoy the show some of the rest of us are planning to put on. We know of several glitterati who have been planning and sewing and pasting sequins, etc. for weeks now. So don't miss the show! (And costumes don't have to be elaborate: simple and/or skimpy are fine, too -- we'll try to crank up the heat a bit just in case, but be sure with all those bodies boogeyin' there will be a 'tropical heatwave' that will melt some snow and warm your heart . . . and probably other parts, too).

And there's more . . . like live music, provided by the REPO MEN of Southwest Harbor clubs fame . . . refreshments provided by various good folks . . . and decorations fit for queens.

Speaking of these matters, if you're willing help with the refreshments (maybe you can bake some sinnnnnnnfully delectable delicacy) please contact Robin/Janet at 862-5907 or Sarah at 945-5932. If you're willing to help with decorations and set--up call Robin Gorsline at 866-7958. If you'd like to help with clean-up, call Patti Woolley at 825-3910.

No matter what you can or cannot do, we hope to see you on the 24th!



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: Happy Gay Nineties! :
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THIS SPACE COULD BE YOURS

You want to sell your old woodstove -- but want to be sure it goes to a gay/lesbian-positive environment. . . you need a roommate, but not just anyone produced by the Bangor Deadly News will do . . . you're looking for a first edition of The Well of Loneliness . . . what to do?????

Buy a **NETWORKER** classified, of course. The price is right, the audience 'politically correct' (sort of), so what are you waiting for? \$4 for 20 lines. Deadline is the 28th of the month for an ad appearing in the newsletter for the following month. Call 866-7958 or send to GLCN Ad, Post Office Box 212, Bangor, Maine 04401.

We reserve the right to edit for taste (believe it or not we try to do this now), but we'll talk it over with you before we change your ad.

ANOTHER WEDNESDAY FOR GLCN — SEE YOU THBN

You already know that on the 2nd Wednesday of each month the GLCN Support Group meets, and that on the 3rd Wednesday of each month the GLCN Political/Education Task Force meets, and that on the 4th Wednesday of each month there is a general meeting of GLCN (formerly called the "Umbrella Meeting" which some choose to call the "Parasol Meeting").

Well, now, add the 1st Wednesday to your calendars, dears, because on that day you can join your friends at the Peace & Justice Center, 9 Central Street (above Mr. Paperback until 'he' moves) at 7:30 p.m. for a party. Yes, a midweek party!

Sort of. We'll have fun, oh yes. Its just that we'll do some work, too.

We're going to have a collating (ooooooh, collating is always fun), stapling (take out our frustrations), folding (aaaaaah, folding), stuffing (what you ask?), and licking (oooooooooooooooooooooooooooouuuh) party ---- to send out The NETWORKER on the first Wednesday of each month.

See you on March 7. Get your own copy early -- be the first on your block to get the scoop! Modest refreshments provided.

If we can think up an activity for the occasional 5th Wednesday of the month, we can rival the Baptists et al. for Wednesday night prayer meetings. Blessed be.

ITS TIME FOR UNITY

We have received word from the organizers of Symposium XVII that the event will be held at Unity College this year -- a little less than an hour from Bangor.

The University of Maine at Orono (or Bangor) had been the presumed site for the Memorial Day weekend gala, but 'U' officialdom had not seemed eager to accomodate our needs and Unity College folks were delighted to accomodate us (and for a cheaper rate which will be passed on to participants), so on to Unity in '90 it is.

Remember the dates: May 25 - 28. More details forthcoming. We will make sure folks on our mailing list receive the registration information.

Want to help? call Victor at 581-3014 (evenings after 7 p.m.) or write Symposium XVII, PO Box 536, Orono, Maine 04473.

FEBRUARY 17 — A DAY OF SONG AND DANCE

Yes, as reported last month, Holly Near is coming to Orono and the Maine Center for the Arts. As usual, Holly will rock the boat with her music, as well as give us some ballads to soothe the soul.

Tickets are still available. Call 581-1755 and order by phone with your plastic or visit the box office at UMO 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. weekdays or order by mail from Maine Center for the Arts, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469. Tickets are \$13.50/ \$12.00 for students, reserved seating.

But that's not all, oh no, not at all.

In the afternoon, Holly Near will lead a FREE workshop (everyone welcome), "Something About the Women," to explore Women's Music in the '70s and '80s --- the victories and failures: how racism, homophobia and class affected the development of feminist/political music. Time: 1:30 p.m. in the Bodwell Lounge in the MCA.

But that's not all, oh no, not at all.

Many progressive and social change organizations (including GLCN) will be strutting their stuff at an organizational fair from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. adjacent to the workshop and concert site in the Maine Center for the Arts.

If you can help set up or take down or 'person' the GLCN table, please call Patti Woolley at 825-3910 or Robin Gorsline at 866-7958.

But that's not all, oh no, not at all.

After you're energized by Holly Near, the other workshop participants, as well as by all the groups parading their wares at the organizational fair, you can 'boogie' on over to the Community Center in Orono for one of Wendy B's Dances. And she'll take \$1 off the cover if you come in with a ticket stub from the concert.

We'd suggest a quiet day on Sunday.

KEEP THOSE DANCING SHOES READY

Just when you thought the doldrums of winter and approach of spring fever would get the best of you, Wendy B. comes along with some remedies.

In addition to the GLCN Mardi Gras Dance on February 24 and the Wendy B. dance on February 17 (highlighted in stories above), the intrepid D.J. from Brewer and her trusty sidekick Gloria have announced two events in March and one in April. All of them at the Orono Community Center on Bennoch Road ('behind' the post office), and all of them 9 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

On March 17, she asks you to take your suits, ties and dresses out of hiding in the back of your closet for a semi-formal affair (and not for Irish only), including a light buffet. Cover charge is \$6.00 for that festive evening. Proper dress required.

Two weeks later, on March 31, put on your bobby sox, grease back your hair and get out your penny loafers for a combo of golden oldies from the '60s and '70s and top 40 tunes of today. Usual price.

And then, one week later, on April 7, a 'regular' dance. Well, we don't mean 'regular' exactly, since we don't do regular, but, you know, the usual format of Top 40 tunes, etc.

Questions? Call Wendy or Gloria at 989-1680.

Wendy also extends her thanks to all who patronize her dances and to the GLCN members who help make the dances possible. Thanks to all!

A LETTER

Dear GLCN:

In your December issue of The NETWORKER, two statements about gay men, men, and their sexuality were made which I felt portrayed a message inconsistent with your group's goals. The pun in the article on a lesbian brunch and the Thought for the Month were derogatory and unnecessary.

Some may feel that I am carrying this point too far; yet, it would not be tolerated by your membership if these statements reflected women, lesbians or their sexuality. In a group of this nature, it is important to respect the unique qualities of each one of us. Your intention may not have been to increase the distance between gay men and lesbians; your words are full of the anger that oppresses us all.

Respectfully,

Bob Sullivan

[We are grateful for the fact that Bob cares enough to write; if others share his view, or don't, we would like to know. Please send letters to NETWORKER, PO Box 212, Bangor, ME 04401. We are aware that humor -- which is what was being attempted in the examples Bob cites -- can cut two ways, if not more. It is not our intent to malign or oppress, and if our modest attempts at humor do either, we wish to stop. Robin Gorsline]

THE COMMUNITY'S CALENDAR

Tuesday, February 6

GLCN His/Herstory study group, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m., begins tonight and runs through February and March; Robin Gorsline's home in Orono, 866-7958.

Sunday, February 10

GLCN Lesbian Brunch, 11:30 a.m. -- 2:30 p.m., Peace & Justice Center, 9 Central St., Bangor. 827-3107

Wednesday, February 14

GLCN Support Group, 7:30 p.m., Peace & Justice Center, 9 Central St., Bangor, 862-5907.

Saturday, February 17

Holly Near Concert (8:00 p.m.) and Workshop (1:30 p.m.) and Organizational Fair, Maine Center for the Arts, Orono. 848-5359.

Wendy B. Dance, 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m., Orono Community Center, Bennoch Road, Orono. 989-1680.

Wednesday, February 21

GLCN Political/Education Task Force, 7:30 p.m., Peace & Justice Center, 9 Central Street, Bangor. 866-7958.

Thursday, February 22

Lesbian Literature course, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., begins tonight and runs for eight succeeding Thursdays, Bangor campus of UMaine. 581-3142.

Saturday, February 24

GLCN Mardi Gras Dance, 8:00 p.m. - 12 midnight, First Universalist Church, 120 Park Street, Bangor. 866-7958, 862-5907, 945-5932, 825-3910.

Wednesday, February 28

GLCN General Meeting, Peace & Justice Center, 9 Central St., Bangor. 827-3107.

Wednesday, March 7

GLCN NETWORKER 'Mailing Party,' 7:30 p.m., Peace & Justice Center, 9 Central St., Bangor. 866--7958.