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Winter 2005

Equality News (Winter 2005-2006)

Matthew R. Dubois

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EQUALITYNEWS

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EQUALITYMAINE

Winter 05-06

**EqualityMaine
22nd Annual
Banquet
Saturday,
March 18**

see pages 4 & 5

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Maine Finally Won't Discriminate

Like never before, Maine voters spoke loud and clear about whether their state should provide non-discrimination protections to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. Fifty-five percent of the vote made this the largest margin of any of the previous statewide LGBT referendum campaigns.

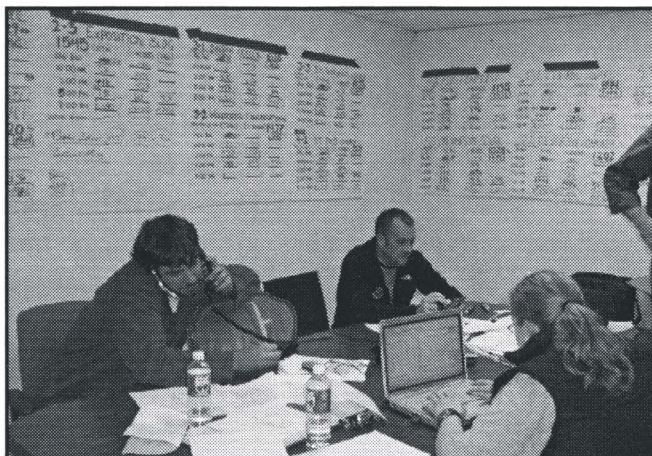
And no matter how hard they tried, Michael Heath and Paul Madore could not convince a majority of voters that the law was about, or would lead to, marriage. Credit goes to the Maine Won't Discriminate coalition—its spokespeople, steering committee, staff, volunteers, and coalition partners—for keeping the focus on discrimination and not marriage.

Keeping the focus on discrimination was challenging at times. People in our own ranks felt that if we could simply convince voters that the law was not about marriage, then we would win. As difficult as it was to not respond to arguments about marriage, the campaign's message was right—talk about what the law *does* and not what the law *does not do*. If we had talked mostly about what the law does not do (i.e. marriage), voters would not have known what the law does. When voters don't know what a law does, they don't support it.

By election day, 55 percent of voters knew what the non-discrimination law does and voted to provide these protections to LGBT people. It is, in our estimation, one of the reasons we won this campaign.

Another contributing factor was the massive amount of voter contact. The Maine Won't Discriminate coalition mounted an aggressive voter identification and Get-Out-The-Vote effort in nearly every county across the state. In a cam-

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This was the scene in the Cumberland County "war room" on election night. Joe Sudbay (back right) orchestrated this Get-Out-The-Vote effort for the NO on 1 campaign, with help from Adam O'Brien (left) and others. Voters across the state overwhelmingly voted to uphold the new non-discrimination law passed earlier in the year.

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What's Next on the Agenda?

Our 28-year journey to secure non-discrimination protections for LGBT people in Maine has finally ended. With that comes the inevitable question—what's next?

The answer is simple. It is an election year and we have legislative friends who need to be re-elected to the Maine House and Senate. Many legislators voted to pass the non-discrimination bill, defeat the constitutional amendment on marriage, make more equitable how domestic partners are taxed when transferring property, and defeat all of Rep. Brian Duprey's conservative anti-LGBT bills.

We need to support these legislators in whatever way we can—not only because they voted for LGBT equality last year, but because we'll ask them to vote for LGBT equality again in the future. For our community's sake, we need elected officials who have a record of supporting equality for all.

Look no further than our nemesis Michael Heath to know that in 2007, we'll be facing another constitutional amendment on marriage. We were successful in defeating the constitutional amendment last year, but with elections in November, the balance of power could shift—leaving support for LGBT issues in question.



Volunteer NO on 1 leaders from the greater Bangor area met in January to debrief the campaign and to talk about next steps in our effort to achieve full equality.

EqualityMaine is committed to helping elect and/or re-elect legislators who will vote for LGBT equality. One of the resources we bring to the table is our capacity to identify supportive voters and get them out to vote. The quality of that resource depends on how well we build a team of volunteers for each district. To that end, we began meeting one-on-one with volunteer leaders from the Maine Won't Discriminate campaign, to gauge people's interest in getting involved in this work. We've met with 60 volunteers from across the state and will continue these one-on-one meetings for the next several months.

To carry out our plan to target 10 legislative districts in which to conduct extensive voter contact, and an additional 10 for which we'll devote somewhat fewer resources, we'll need a very large team of volunteers. Specifically, we'll need 10 volunteer leaders (who volunteer 10-20 hours a week), 100 super-volunteers (8-20 hours a month), and 1,000 volunteers (1-3 times a year).

Given that 2006 is the second year of the legislative session, where only carry-over and emergency bills can be considered, we do not anticipate much LGBT action in the legislature. Therefore, this year provides an excellent opportunity to harness the energy of the volunteers of the recent campaign into the important work of electing pro-LGBT legislators in preparation of our upcoming challenges.

If you are interested in getting involved on any level, please contact us at: 761-3732 or info@equalitymaine.org. •

Massachusetts to Rule on Out-of-State Marriages

Soon after the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled in November 2003 that denying marriage to same-sex couples was unconstitutional, the state dug up an old unused discriminatory law barring some out-of-state couples from marrying in Massachusetts.

The law, according to the state of Massachusetts, bars out-of-state couples from marrying if they cannot marry in their home states. Since no other state currently allows same-sex couples to marry, the state has applied the law to every same-sex couple living outside the state of Massachusetts.

Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD), the organization that won the right for same-sex couples to marry in Massachusetts, believes the law is being unfairly applied to out-of-state same-sex couples. They challenged the law last fall, under a case called *Cote-Whitacre*, and a ruling is expected near the beginning of February. Pending the outcome of the ruling, couples in Maine could travel to Massachusetts and come back legally married—to a state that says it will not recognize the marriages of same-sex couples. Believing that our best defense is a good offense, EqualityMaine is working side-by-side with GLAD to be prepared for the ramifications of this ruling.

History of the Law

The so-called “reverse evasion law,” passed in 1913, provides that an out-of-state couple may not marry in Massachusetts if their marriage would be “void if contracted” in their home state. “Void if contracted” refers to language in a state’s marriage laws that describes who can and cannot be married in that state. This law was created to honor other states’ prohibitions on marriage, including those barring interracial marriage. Only a handful of states ever adopted a law like this—Maine was not one of them.

With or without this law, every state is free to regulate marriage within its own borders, both in setting marriage eligibility and in determining whether to recognize marriages performed elsewhere.

The reverse evasion law remained on Massachusetts’ books, unused and forgotten, until 2004. Before same-sex couples became eligible to marry in Massachusetts in May 2004 under *Goodridge v. Department of Public Health*, the law had not been enforced for several decades.

In May 2004, the state instructed municipal clerks to deny marriage licenses to every out-of-state same-sex couple based on this law. Some municipal clerks refused to enforce the state’s new directives. Some same-sex couples from other states were able to obtain Massachusetts marriage licenses before the state threatened clerks with criminal sanctions. Now, no municipality issues licenses to out-of-state same-sex couples, and the state has denied the validity of marriage licenses that were issued to those couples.



EqualityMaine volunteer Cele Burnett (L) and her partner Ann Swanson, shown here at last year’s annual banquet, await the Massachusetts ruling on out-of-state marriages.

How Maine is Affected

Although Maine does not have a reverse evasion law, its Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) statute does, unfortunately, say that a marriage of a same-sex couple entered into in Maine would be “void.” Because a marriage of a same-sex couple in Maine would be “void if contracted,” the ruling from the Massachusetts court could have a unique affect on couples from Maine.

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LINDA J. SPARKS, Esq.

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Save the Date: Saturday, March 18

On Saturday, March 18, 2006, EqualityMaine Foundation will host our 22nd Annual Awards Banquet at the Holiday Inn By the Bay in Portland. Please join us in celebrating the successes of the past year and sustaining Maine's momentum towards full equality. As we celebrate the culmination of Maine's 28-year fight for non-discrimination protections, we will honor the following awardees who helped make this year's accomplishments possible:

Governor John Baldacci, *Great Pioneer Award* for achievement that embodies courageous break-through in our struggle for equality.

Senator Karl Turner, *Larry Connolly Award* for outstanding legislative service and leadership.

Rachel Talbot Ross, *Bayard Rustin Award* for collaborative movement building and bringing diverse voices together in the fight for civil rights.

Patricia A. Peard, *Lifetime Achievement Award* for success and perseverance in leadership.

Jenson Steel, *Cameron Duncan Award* for extraordinary accomplishment, commitment, and service in combating HIV in Maine.

Out Front Awards for outstanding volunteer leadership from the State House to the ballot box. Jim Bishop, Jenn Curran, Sarah Demarest, Kevin Gilgan, Pam McCann, Gerald Michaud, Niki Norman, and Steve Ryan.

In addition to the awardees listed above, we will recognize the contributions of all who gave generously of their time and talent to help pass, and then uphold, the non-discrimination law. Our 22nd Annual Awards Banquet will celebrate the efforts of elected officials, lobbyists, and testifiers; coalition partners; campaign staff and steering committee members; campus organizers; national partners; grassroots volunteer leaders and everyone across Maine who made the difference in ensuring that Maine would not discriminate.

The party began on November 8, and our celebration continues as we chart the course towards full equality. Please join us in celebrating this historic moment in Maine and reserve your seat at the table!

We anticipate that this year's event may sell out, so we suggest that you get your tickets early. Tickets may be purchased by visiting www.equalitymaine.org or calling (207) 761-3732. Tickets are \$50, and we offer a slid-



Attendees at EqualityMaine's 21st annual banquet in 2005 included this group of longtime activists and supporters. We hope this year's celebration of the non-discrimination law brings even more people out. It's a long overdue celebration.

ing scale of \$25 ("at cost" to cover meal expenses) to \$49. We also have a limited number of complimentary seats available—money should not be a factor in anyone's decision to attend.

Thinking about getting together a group of 8-10 friends to join you at the table? Become a Table Captain (\$500 per table of 10 or \$400 per table of 8), and we'll provide reserved seating and a sign for your table featuring your name or your organization's name (or any creative name you'd like to assign to your table!).

We also welcome donations for the silent auction and offer opportunities for sponsorship and program advertising. For more information about supporting EqualityMaine's 22nd Annual Awards Banquet, please contact Erica Quin-Easter at (207) 761-3732 or email us at info@equalitymaine.org . •

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Silent Auction Sneak Preview

In our very first silent auction at last year's banquet, EqualityMaine Foundation raised more than \$1,500 to benefit our outreach and education programs. Bring your shopping spirit (and your checkbook) to the 22nd Annual Awards Banquet on March 18 and help support the grassroots movement for equality in Maine!

2006 Silent Auction Items Include:

Arts & Entertainment: Space Gallery, Ogunquit Playhouse, Portland Players

Bed and Breakfast Stays: Quaker Tavern Bed & Breakfast (Falmouth), Captain Briggs House (Freeport), Gazebo Inn (Ogunquit), Holiday Inn By the Bay (Portland)

Health & Relaxation: Massage by Cele Burnett, Lomi Lomi Bodywork Session by Suzanne Blackburn, Human Energy System by Ted Carter, T'ai Chi Classes at Full Circle Synergy School of T'ai Chi Ch'uan

Restaurants: Anthony's Italian Kitchen, Café Bluefish, Crooked Lane Café & More! Gift Certificate to Skillin's Greenhouses, Handmade Fiber Arts, Strand of Pearls from G.M. Pollock, and much more...



Last year's first silent auction brought many people to the table. If you have an item or service to donate, please contact us at 761-3732.

There is still time to donate an item or service to the silent auction. We are especially looking for outdoor adventure items (kayaks, camping gear, etc.), fine art and crafts (pottery, paintings, etc.), travel (vacation packages, frequent flyer miles), and any other items or services you'd like to share to support our community. For more info or to make a donation, contact Erica Quin-Easter, Development Director, at 761-3732 or info@equalitymaine.org. •

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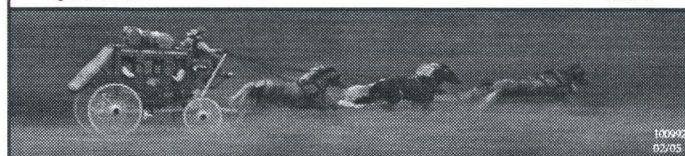
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Urge Snowe and Collins to Fight Discrimination in Military

Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN), the nation's only organization dedicated solely to repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and providing legal aid to those impacted by the ban, announced in November that it had launched a grassroots campaign to mobilize support for toppling the law.

The Military Readiness Enhancement Act (H.R. 1059), a bill to allow gay, lesbian and bisexual Americans to serve openly, was introduced in March 2005. The proposal is supported by more than 100 Members of Congress, including broad support from lawmakers in New England. SLDN is working to coordinate groups at the national, state and local level to support the legislation.

SLDN staffers recently visited Maine and Rhode Island—two key states in their grassroots plan—to mobilize veterans, activists and others interested in working for an end to the ban. SLDN is asking New Englanders to contact their lawmakers, write op-eds and letters to the editor and speak out in opposition to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

Despite our recent victory securing non-discrimination protections, Mainers in the military still work under a law that allows them to be fired for being gay, lesbian, or bisexual. "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" applies to all Americans serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, including active duty, Reserve, and National Guard personnel. Maine is home to over 8,500 members of the United States Armed Forces, all of whom are subject to this discriminatory law. Maine is also home to at least 6,000 gay, lesbian and bisexual veterans.



Karen Armagost (standing) from Servicemembers Legal Defense Fund, met with representatives from PFLAG, Maine Women's Lobby, Maine Civil Liberties Union, Maine People's Alliance, and EqualityMaine about their national campaign to repeal Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

Under the law, gay service members are at constant risk of career-ending discharge if their sexual orientation is discovered by anyone in the military. If a gay, lesbian, or bisexual service member admits his or her sexual orientation to anyone at any time, he or she is subject to discharge. Over 10,000 Americans have been discharged under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" in the last twelve years—an average of two people per day. Women are discharged at twice the rate of their presence in the military. This is discrimination, and Mainers know it is wrong.

The Military Readiness Enhancement Act would repeal the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" statute, and replace it with a non-discrimination law. Both of Maine's representatives—Congressman Tom Allen (1st District) and Congressman Michael Michaud (2nd District)—are co-sponsors of this Act.


There is currently no similar legislation before the United States Senate.

Please Take Action!

Write to Senator Snowe and Senator Collins and urge them to introduce similar legislation in the U.S. Senate.

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Massachusetts to Rule on Out-of-State Marriages

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As opposed to what Massachusetts claims, the reverse evasion law applies only to out-of-state couples whose marriages are considered “void” in their home states. Although 35 states have DOMA laws and therefore don’t recognize same-sex marriages, only 14 have the “void if contracted” language in their marriage licensing laws.¹

Here are the possible rulings and how they will affect Maine:

1) **The reverse evasion law could be ruled unconstitutional.** This would be the ultimate ruling. If the law were ruled unconstitutional, then Maine couples could go to Massachusetts to marry, even though Maine has a DOMA law. However, being legally married in Massachusetts does not change the situation in Maine, where Maine’s DOMA statute says that these marriages will not be recognized.

2) **The reverse evasion law could be ruled constitutional, but that it is being applied too broadly.** This would mean that Massachusetts could not bar all out-of-state couples from marrying, as it does now, but only those whose states have “void” language. This would still be a good ruling because same-sex couples from 35 states could go to Massachusetts to marry.

Unfortunately, couples from the 14 states that have “void” language would be barred from marrying in Massachusetts—and Maine is one of them.

3) **The reverse evasion law could be ruled constitutional and that it is being applied fairly.** This would be a loss. If this were to happen, GLAD says that the lawsuit is not over and that there are other avenues to pursue.

GLAD will post the ruling on their website (www.glad.org) as soon as they get it from the court. EqualityMaine (www.equalitymaine.org) will also post information as we get updates from GLAD.

GLAD has prepared a publication to help guide couples who may want to marry in Massachusetts, entitled “Questions & Answers for Out-of-State Same-Sex Couples Considering Marriage in Massachusetts,” which will be posted on GLAD’s website in the event of a favorable ruling from the Massachusetts court. •

¹ States with “void if contracted” language include: Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas, and Utah.

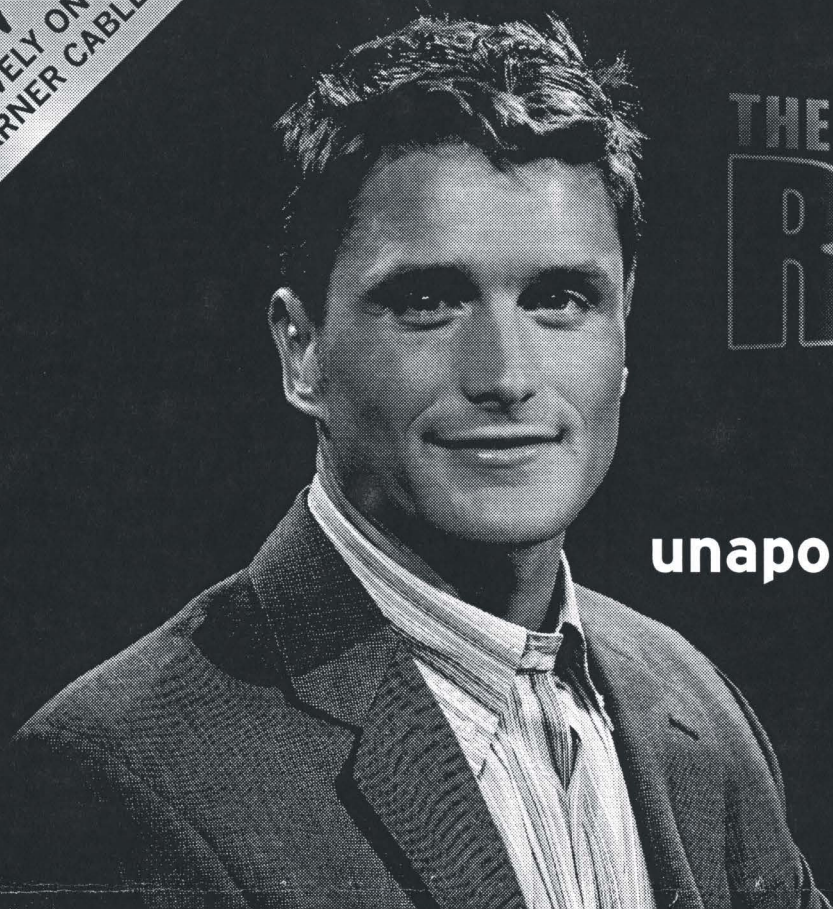


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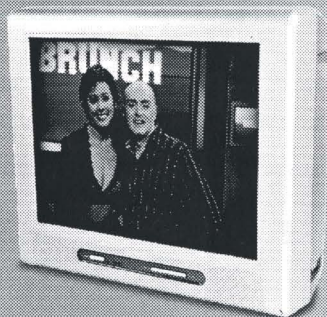


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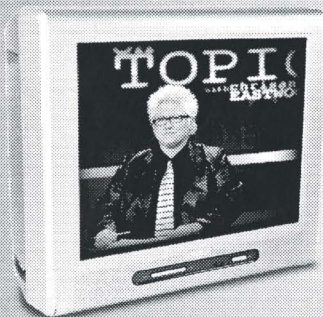
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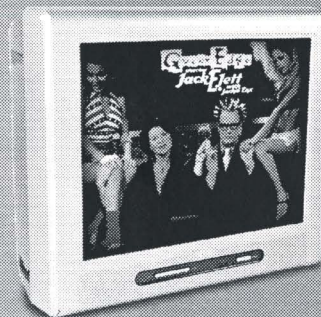
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7:30-8 PM ON TOPIC



9-10 PM ON Q LIVE



10-11 PM QUEER EDGE

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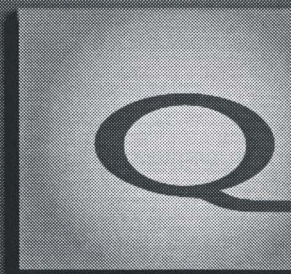


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Maine Finally Won't Discriminate

continued from page 1

paing where very few voters were undecided on this question, it was Maine Won't Discriminate's job to find its supporters and get them out to vote. This was done through neighborhood events, phonebanking, and walking door-to-door. By election day, 2,000 volunteers had identified over 100,000 voters who supported non-discrimination protections for LGBT people.

Special thanks to our national, regional and local partners, whose many contributions made a real difference in this campaign—National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Human Rights Campaign, Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, and Gill Foundation, to name just a few. Without their support, this campaign may not have been so successful.

The journey to secure non-discrimination protections for LGBT people in Maine took 28 years (first non-discrimination bill was introduced in the legislature in 1977). For the last 10 years, we have been talking with voters about these protections (first statewide referendum campaign was in 1995).

We won that first referendum campaign in 1995, defeating a law that would have banned us from ever seeking non-discrimination protections. But in 1998 and again in 2000, we failed to convince voters to uphold non-discrimination protections that had been passed by the legislature.



This was one of many groups of volunteers who were trained on and conducted door-to-door canvassing in the final few weeks of the campaign. For many, this was their first LGBT campaign and first time ever going door-to-door.



During the last six weeks of the campaign, scenes like this were all too familiar. Volunteers contacted nearly 100,000 voters in an effort to get them out to vote on November 8.

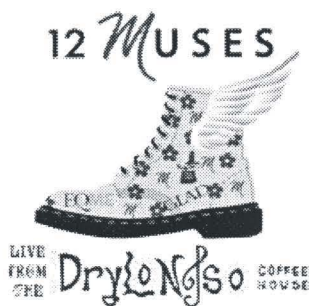
Given our history at the polls, we thought we'd highlight some interesting campaign numbers.

These first numbers are the results from November 8, 2005, including the **statewide total**, **each county**, and **our percentage of the vote**.

2005 Statewide Total:	NO on 1 = 223,274	55%	
	YES on 1 = 181,926	45%	
	NO	YES	%
Androscoggin County	14,226	15,254	48.3%
Aroostook County	7,136	10,600	40.2%
Cumberland County	59,373	32,644	64.5%
Franklin County	5,055	5,052	50.01%
Hancock County	12,284	7,574	62.0%
Kennebec County	20,554	18,220	53.0%
Knox County	8,685	5,564	61.0%
Lincoln County	7,476	5,989	55.5%
Oxford County	7,842	8,742	47.3%
Penobscot County	21,397	22,884	48.3%
Piscataquis County	2,397	3,086	43.7%
Sagadahoc County	7,071	5,498	56.3%
Somerset County	6,451	7,961	44.8%
Waldo County	6,832	6,145	52.6%
Washington County	3,715	4,477	45.3%
York County	32,780	22,236	60.0%

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Hot Off the Presses...



Live From Drylongso CD to Benefit EqualityMaine

EqualityMaine is proud to partner with GLAD and ENH Freedom to Marry as the beneficiaries of a new benefit CD from 12 Muses.

12 Muses Live from Drylongso is a CD of 12 nationally known recording artists, recorded at the Drylongso Coffee House, a popular New England venue for singer-songwriters. The disc features Catie Curtis' "Magnolia Street, Patty Larkin's forthright "Who Holds Your Hand?" Tom Dean's tender "Love is Always Going to Look Just Like You" and Richard Shindell's haunting "Ballad of Mary Magdalene."

Proceeds from the CD will be split among three New England equality organizations: EqualityMaine, New Hampshire Freedom to Marry and Boston-based Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders.

Located in the White Mountains of Northern New Hampshire, the Drylongso Coffee House was a popular stop for many years along the New England folk circuit. Organizers Annie Provenzano and Raetha Stoddard created an audience of passionate music enthusiasts and reintroduced an old word into the modern folk music vernacular. Drylongso was a term used in the American South for the thirst for companionship that came at the end of a long work day under the parching sun. Musicians used it to refer to the replenishing of the spirit that came from an evening of singing and music playing.

For more information or to get your copy of the Live from Drylongso benefit CD (\$15.00 donation), visit EqualityMaine's website at www.equalitymaine.org or call 1-866-926 MUSE to order the CD directly from 12 Muses. CDs will also be available at EqualityMaine's banquet on March 18 at the Holiday Inn by the Bay and at other EqualityMaine events throughout the year. •

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Urge Senators to Fight Discrimination in Military

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Senator Olympia Snowe

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Fax: 202-224-1946

email: <http://snowe.senate.gov/Webform.htm>

Senator Susan Collins

461 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Fax: 202-224-2693

email: <http://tinyurl.com/aoznw>

Sample letter to your Senator:

Dear Senator (Snowe)(Collins)

As your constituent, I am writing to urge you to introduce legislation in the United States Senate to repeal the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" statute governing military service by gay, lesbian and bisexual Americans.

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" is the only federal law that mandates firing a person if they are discovered to be gay. The statute forces patriotic gay, lesbian and bisexual Americans who want to serve our country to trade their integrity for their right to serve. No one willing to volunteer to serve in a time of war should have to sacrifice their right to be honest about who they are as a condition of their military service. "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" is a discriminatory law and it is wrong.

Over 10,000 people have been discharged since "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" became the law in 1993. This includes dozens of Arabic and Farsi linguists, doctors, nurses, pilots, infantrymen, mechanics—thousands of people whose skills we could use defending our nation today. Women are discharged at twice the rate of their presence in the military, and the majority of people discharged under the policy are young—between the ages of 18 and 25 years old. "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" has ruined thousands of talented young people's military careers, and cost our nation over \$250 million.

Despite the sacrifices required of gay Americans who choose to serve in the military, over one million, including at least 6,000 Mainers, have served in the Armed Forces. Their service deserves our respect and gratitude—repealing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" would be an appropriate way to begin to show it.

The Military Readiness Enhancement Act (H.R. 1059) was introduced in the House of Representatives in March 2005. It would repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and replace it with a non-discrimination law. I urge you to introduce similar legislation in the U.S. Senate.

Sincerely,

Name, Address, Phone Number

Also, please write your Representative and thank him for leading the effort to repeal this law.

Congressman Thomas Allen (1st District)

1127 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-1901

Phone: 202-225-6116

email: <http://tomallen.house.gov/article.asp?id=75>

Congressman Michael Michaud (2nd District)

437 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-1902

Phone: 202-225-6306

email: <http://michaud.house.gov/article.asp?id=75>

Sample letter to your Representative:

Dear Congressman (Allen)(Michaud),

Thank you for taking a stand against discrimination in the Armed Forces by cosponsoring The Military Readiness Enhancement Act, H.R. 1059. As a Mainer, I vehemently oppose discrimination of any kind. The "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" statute is the only federal law that mandates firing a person because of his or her sexual orientation. The law is unjust and unwise, and the time for repeal is now.

Sincerely,

Name, Address, Phone number

If you would like to become more involved in the fight to end "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" by meeting with your Senators, writing letters to the editor, or becoming involved in other grassroots efforts, please contact Karen Armagost at Servicemembers Legal Defense Network at 202-328-3244 ext. 101 or kaa@sldn.org. For more information on SLDN, visit www.sldn.org. •



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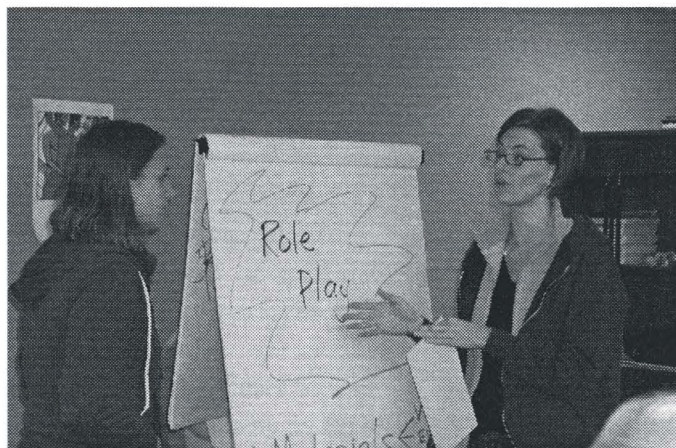
mdubois@maine-elderlaw.com

Maine Finally Won't Discriminate

continued from page 9

The following set of numbers is a sampling of towns and the percentage of pro-LGBT votes in the 1998, 2000, and 2005 referendum campaigns. The number on the far right is the percentage of increase from Maine Won't Discriminate's first people's veto campaign in 1998 to its second (and final!) people's veto campaign in 2005. Of the 29 towns listed, all of which won in 2005, only 7 won in 1998. •

Town	1998	2000	2005
Acton	47.0%	51.5%	56.1%
Auburn	45.2%	48.9%	54.1%
Augusta	53.0%	49.9%	57.0%
Bangor	54.3%	52.3%	60.6%
Berwick	48.1%	52.9%	56.3%
Biddeford	50.4%	52.9%	59.8%
Bucksport	43.6%	44.7%	54.0%
Eastport	42.6%	50.7%	57.3%
Farmington	54.0%	53.3%	63.0%
Fort Kent	37.5%	42.3%	51.0%
Gardiner	48.7%	45.7%	53.4%
Gray	47.5%	47.4%	51.8%
Hampden	47.6%	43.2%	53.5%
Hollis	45.1%	44.3%	51.7%
Lewiston	37.3%	47.0%	53.5%
Lubec	44.6%	51.6%	53.9%
Machias	40.0%	46.0%	56.4%
Northport	49.6%	53.5%	55.5%
Norway	44.0%	49.7%	51.0%
Old Town	46.0%	48.9%	58.2%
Portland	69.0%	67.3%	76.5%
South Portland	60.0%	57.0%	67.2%
Rockland	49.3%	51.5%	59.5%
Sanford	49.0%	51.1%	53.5%
Scarborough	55.0%	54.0%	61.0%
Skowhegan	46.0%	49.6%	54.5%
Waterboro	42.2%	48.0%	50.6%
Westbrook	48.0%	51.7%	55.3%
Winslow	46.2%	49.1%	51.2%



Monique Hoeflinger (R) from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force organized and led multiple trainings for volunteers on phonebanking, door-to-door canvassing, data entry, and voter ID.



EqualityMaine board member Kimm Collins put her job on hold for the last five weeks of the campaign to volunteer as Cumberland County's volunteer data coordinator. By election day, hundreds of volunteers were coming through the door every day.



The Human Rights Campaign sent over 25 staff and interns to work on the NO on 1 campaign. From left, Kelly Browning, Jean Cronin, Alex Bowie, and Kalina Duncan were just four of a fabulous group of HRC folks who gave their time and expertise to this campaign.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP OR JOIN EQUALITYMAINE TODAY!

All EqualityMaine members receive a subscription to our quarterly newsletter, voting rights at the annual meeting, advance notice of community events, membership in the email Action Alert Network, opportunities to volunteer and the satisfaction of supporting equality for all. Contributions of any amount are counted towards membership—whether you can give \$1.00 or \$1,000.00, your membership makes a difference in promoting diversity and protecting the rights of LGBT people in Maine.

YES! I want to be a member of EqualityMaine! Enclosed is my contribution of:

☐ \$35 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$_____

Name _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

☐ Please charge this to my credit card. ☐ My check payable to EqualityMaine is enclosed.

☐ Sign me up as a Sustaining Partner! Please start charging my monthly gift of \$10 / \$25 / \$50 / \$_____

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ Name on card: _____

☐ I'd like to volunteer

☐ I have included EqualityMaine in my will

EQUALITYMAINE

Acting in support of people of diverse orientation and gender identity through education, legislation and collaboration in Maine.
PO Box 1951, Portland, ME 04104 • (207) 761-3732 • info@equalitymaine.org • www.equalitymaine.org

You can support EqualityMaine Foundation through payroll deduction!



MaineShare

Charitable Choices for Maine's Future

MaineShare funds 36 statewide organizations including EqualityMaine Foundation addressing environmental, economic opportunity, peace and justice, cultural diversity, the arts, and health service issues.

***Enroll your workplace for the 2005-2006 campaign online at
www.maineshare.org or contact us directly.***

www.maineshare.org giving@maineshare.org

P.O. Box 2095, Augusta, ME 04338, (207) 622-0105

Join our
Action Alert Network!!
Sign up on-line at
www.equalitymaine.org

Tel: 207-761-3732
Fax: 207-828-8620
info@equalitymaine.org
www.equalitymaine.org

EqualityMaine Foundation
1 Pleasant Street, 4th floor
PO Box 1951
Portland, ME 04104

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



04102+3428-99 0033



Celebrate!

EqualityMaine Foundation 22nd Annual Awards Banquet Saturday, March 18, 2006

Mark your calendar for March 18 to celebrate the successes of the recent year, and join EqualityMaine in looking forward to a future of full equality. Be there, and be inspired!

5:30 - 6:30pm - Social Hour & Silent Auction
6:30 - 9:00pm - Dinner & Awards Presentation

Holiday Inn By the Bay, Portland
ASL interpretation services available
Festivities continue after the banquet at Styxx, 3 Spring St.

Tickets \$50.00; sliding scale of \$25.00 (at cost) to \$49.00
Purchase your tickets today at www.equalitymaine.org or (207) 761-3732.
We anticipate that this year's event may sell out, so get your tickets early!

Money should not be a barrier. Please contact EqualityMaine if you need discounted tickets or are interested in volunteering to help with the banquet. See more banquet information on pages 4 and 5.