

**Maine Bisexual People's Network Newsletter, August 1992**  
P.O. Box 10772, Portland, ME 04104

**\*\*\*\*No meeting in August\*\*\*\***

Hi Folks,

That's right: **no meeting in August**. I'm still trying to find a Portland meeting place by September. We're going to move down here because there seems to be more interest here; and we aren't drawing people from the midcoast area as we had hoped.

Zeus, to steal boy Ganymede,  
An eagle's form put on;  
And when he wanted the lady Leda  
He turned into a swan.

Now some like girls, and some like boys;  
But the moral's plain to see:  
If both are good enough for Zeus,  
They're both good enough for me.

-Anonymous Greek Poet (thanks, Bob)

The **East Coast Bisexual Network** has new office space at 95 Berkeley St., Suite 613, Boston, to be open by Sept. 1. They will continue to have phone: 617-BIS-MOVE. Mail is being forwarded.

**Matlovitch Society** continues meeting on 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7-9 pm, Portland Public Library. Aug. 13: **Gays and Lesbians in the Military**. There will be a chem free **Casco Bay Cruise on Aug. 27, 7-9 pm**. Not often that the Matlovitch Society encourages cruising, so this is your chance! Just kidding.

The **Gay, Lesbian, & Bisexual Parents' Group** meets monthly. As sexual minority parents, we find we need sharing and support as we deal with the non-B/G/L parent, schools, and our kids and their friends. On **Aug. 23**, there is an outing at members' home on Kezar Lake. For information, contact Jim Bratton at 799-1823. He is also a contact person for the **Unitarian Universalist Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Fellowship of Maine**. The fellowship also meets monthly for potlucks, fellowship, substantive presentations, and discussions. Definitely bi-friendly. I'll be the speaker for the Sept. program.

If you want to attend the **2nd International Bisexual Conference**, in London, UK, Oct. 23 & 24, I have registration forms and information. Very cheap. Free for the unemployed! Some free housing too. At least one person from Boston plans to attend.

**Biversity Monthly Bi Brunch**, Aug. 18, 11 am, at the S & S Deli, Cambridge, MA.

**PFLAG** (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) **Annual Convention** in Seattle, Sept. 4-7, will consider whether or not to include bisexuals in the name! I guess our cards and letters are making an impression.

Organizing for the **1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation** is in full swing. **April 25, 1993** is the date. This is the first march on Washington to be explicitly inclusive of bis. Plan to participate.



There are all sorts of opportunities for bis to contribute **writing and visual work** to a variety of books and periodicals. Contact me for a list. There are too many for this newsletter. You don't have to be an experienced author. It's the thought that counts. That's why they have editors.

And speaking of writing, Alan Hamilton (president of ECBN) and I have co-authored some **new materials on sexual orientation and bisexuality**. Our article on using the Klein Index to understand sexual orientation is a resource material for the Unitarian Universalist Welcoming Congregations (sexual minority) Program and has been mailed to trainers all over the U.S. and Canada. We are now editing it into a short form which will be distributed by ECBN. Hopefully, it will be ready for inclusion with our next newsetter. We also wrote an ECBN brochure on Oppression which will be available soon. Now, we're submitting an article on Sexual Orientation to Anything That Moves, a national bi journal.

In June, Alec Craig, the Sangerville/Dexter UU minister, and I completed our training for the **Unitarian Universalist Welcoming Congregations Program** (sexual minorities.) We will be trainers for the Northeast District for the next two years. Our beat is Maine and all of the Maritime provinces of Canada. We'll be encouraging congregations to participate in this program and training leaders for those congregations who decide to try it. I'm really excited about creating more bi/gay/lesbian/trans friendly people and places in my home state.

Excerpts from **"Pride: The Challenge of Working For Change,"** a speech by Raven Gildea at the 1992 Seattle Pride Rally.

..."The bisexual movement is a serious challenge to the lesbian/gay community, because accepting our place in this community means change. Change is threatening. It means surrendering the familiar. But when the familiar is oppressive change is necessary....There are many who claim that bisexuals are not discriminated against when they are perceived as straight. Well, lesbians and gays aren't discriminated against when they are perceived as straight either. We in the bi community are here today because we refuse to assimilate. We will not hide in the straight world, and we will not hide in a closet labelled 'gay' either....We will not be silent. We will not be invisible. We will not be discriminated against, outside or within the queer community....In a society where we are defined as people by the gender of our lovers, in a world which insists we must fit into one of two mutually exclusive categories, bisexuals are defined out of existence. When we refuse to let that happen, we challenge the either/or thinking on which Western civilization is based....So why should this fight be the fight of lesbians and gays also? Because until all people are free, none of us is....To build community-based power, we need to welcome and celebrate diversity. We need to recognize that the more we stand together, the stronger the stand we can take."

That's it for this month. Bye bis for now,

Bobbi

8/6/92