

The NETWORKER
Publication of the Gay/Lesbian Community Network

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April, 1990

GLCN TO SHOW DESERT HEARTS, TORCH SONG TRILOGY

Due to the very positive response to the recent showing of "Before Stonewall," GLCN has decided to add film evenings to its list of activities. We will begin on Friday, April 27 with two popular releases -- "Desert Hearts" and "Torch Song Trilogy." Show time is 7:00 p.m. for "Hearts" and 9:00 p.m. for "Trilogy." Both films will be shown at the Peace & Justice Center, 9 Central Street, Bangor (above Mr. Paperback).

Soda, juice and popcorn will be on sale throughout the evening. There is no admission charge, but 'the hat' will be passed during the evening.

Is there a lesbian who has not thrilled to the passion of "Desert Hearts?" To be sure, you may have seen this adaptation of Jane Rule's classic novel on your own VCR, but here's a chance to share the pleasure with a group of sisters and brothers! And men, the younger brother is a treat for the eyes -- not to mention it can be great fun just sharing in the pleasure of our sisters. [Editor's Note: I saw this film the week it opened in New York some years ago -- a lesbian friend just coming out asked me to go with her because she was scared to go alone or ask anyone to go with her. I enjoyed being one of only three men in the large East Side theater -- the other two were wearing trench coats and looked 'different' -- and just listening for the collective intake of breath by the hundreds of women packed into the theater.]

Not to mention Harvey Fierstein's blockbuster play turned movie, "Torch Song Trilogy," which takes both a funny and a probing look at male relationships (gay and 'bi'). Nobody can do it like Harvey (including camp it up)!

AND ANOTHER FILM

The GLCN Political/Education Task Force has decided to enliven its meetings with, appropriately, some educational/political offerings. The first is the showing of the documentary film about violence against lesbians, "Still Not Free Just Because of Who We Are," on Wednesday, April 18.

The task force meeting begins, as usual, at 7:30 p.m. at the Peace & Justice Center, 9 Central Street, Bangor. The film will be shown (it lasts about 30 minutes) after a brief business meeting. After the film, there will be time for discussion.

At the group's meeting on May 16, plans are to have Paula Petrik from the University of Maine history department make her presentation on lesbian Rose Elizabeth Cleveland and her longtime partner, Evangeline Whipple. Grover Cleveland's real claim to fame is that he was the brother of Rose Elizabeth. Someday the history books will tell it like it was.

And, on June 20, we will show the HBO television drama, "What If I Am Gay?" about the coming out (and of age) of a popular high school male 'jock.'

See you on the second Wednesday of the month!

!!!!!!AND MORE FILMS!!!!!!

The first Maine Lesbian & Gay Film Festival is set for Portland on May 11, 12 & 13. This begins to sound like a really exciting event with a big opening night celebration at the Portland Museum of Art on Friday, with 12 hours of films (plus concurrent video screenings) on Saturday and 6 more hours on Sunday at the Portland Performing Arts Center. (You can tell this is the 'big time' -- no films to be shown in dark, dingey warehouses or back alleys).

Among the films planned for screening thus far are "Le Jupon Rouge" (France), "Salut Victor" (Canada), "Taxi Zum Kloo" (West Germany), "Parting Glances" (United States), "A Death in the Family" (New Zealand), and "Novembermoon" (West Germany).

Admission to individual films can be purchasd during the festival, but until May 1 a weekend pass (which admits the bearer to all festival events) can be purchased for \$25. After May 1, the pass will cost \$30.

You can order the pass or obtain more information by writing to OUT & OUT PRODUCTIONS, PO BOX 7982, PORTLAND, MAINE 04112. And tell them who sent you. You can also call 799-1703 and leave a message.

CHARLIE HOWARD PLANS MOVE FORWARD

This July 7 will mark the sixth anniversary of the murder of Charlie Howard, a young Bangor man who was thrown off the State Street bridge to drown because he was gay. Each year since that awful crime, gays and lesbians and some of their friends (especially from the Bangor Unitarian Church) have marked the anniversary with a march and rally and church service.

This year, GLCN will begin the observance on Friday, July 6 with a potluck supper and the showing of the Academy Award-winning film, "The Times of Harvey Milk." Harvey Milk was the first openly gay elected official in the United States (member of the city council in San Francisco) and the first gay official to be assassinated. We think the film about Harvey Milk is an appropriate way to begin the memorial observance of Charlie Howard's assassination.

Then, GLCN will change the tempo on Saturday night, July 7, by sponsoring a dance at the Orono Community Center on Bennoch Road from 9:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. Those who knew Charlie say he did enjoy having a good time. We hope you'll want to join the party in that spirit.

And on Sunday, July 8, the Unitarian Church will again conduct a moving service of commemoration for Charlie (who was a member of the church) and re-dedication to justice for all oppressed people, including lesbians and gay men.

Following the service, there will be a march to the bridge to toss flowers into the water and a rally with a speaker at a nearby park. GLCN is working on lining up the speaker and organizing the rally. More details later. If you'd like to help, please contact Robin Gorsline at 866-7958.

FOR DIGNITY AND JUSTICE

Dignity/Bangor is a group of gay and lesbian Catholics and their friends who meet twice monthly for worship, followed by a business/social time, at the Ruth Hutchins Center, Bangor Theological Seminary, 300 Union Street. Write PO Box 2157, Bangor, ME 04401 for more information.

Sive Neilan

for
State Senate

March 19, 1990

Dear Friend:

Do you remember the days prior to 1980 when you could not buy books about gay people or gay life in Maine? Before then no bookstore would carry books and the organizers of the annual Symposium had to arrange with a store in Mass. to get books up from Boston to sell at the event! That changed when I opened New Leaf Books. This feminist/ alternative bookstore that I started and managed for seven years did much to bring gay culture and gay people out from the shadows and into the mainstream of Maine life.

Those of you I did not meet in the bookstore probably know me as one of MLGPA's team of lobbyists for the Civil Rights Bill in the Legislature. For the first time in history our bill passed in the House of Representatives and was only four votes short of victory in the Senate.

In past years I have worked on many MLGPA legislative issues: passage of the anti-harassment bill; on preserving our right to be considered as foster parents; on thwarting punitive AIDS legislation; on securing beneficiary privileges for domestic associates. I have also worked in my community on other social issues such as domestic violence and on the expansion of access to affordable health care.

My activism has escalated: I am now running for the State Senate, District 21!

Although my commitment to human rights issues is absolute I am not a one issue candidate. My campaign is receiving enthusiastic support from those who share my deep concern for the protection of women's right to reproductive choice, for increasing access to affordable health care, for preservation of the quality of Maine's environment, and for ensuring affordable housing for all Maine's citizens.

I can be immediately effective in Augusta. I know how the system works. I am familiar with the issues. **I know how to go about translating political ideals into legislative realities.**

Now I need your help. It is a simple truth that winning elections takes both commitment and money. **I pledge you my dedication to our shared values. I ask for your contribution to my campaign.** Please write a check today for \$25, \$50, or \$100, whatever you feel you can afford. Together we will win!

Thank you for your support.

COFFEE/TEA FUNDRAISER FOR SIVE!!!!

Sunday, April 8
2:00 p.m.

in Bucksport
Call 469-3946 for directions

Sive will be present, too!!

Sincerely,



Sive Neilan

The Gay Lesbian Community Network Presents.
Friday Night at the Movies

A Double Feature



Friday, April 27 7pm
Peace and Justice Center
9 Central St., Bangor
(3rd Floor, above Mr. Paperback)



~ Desert Hearts ~ ♡

Reno, Nevada 1959. Repressed English professor (Helen Shaver) Meets beautiful, young casino worker (Patrice Charbonneau). Slowly, their attraction deepens into bold sensuality as they develop a bond that renews their hearts -and breaks all the rules!!

Soda & Juice
on sale

Bring your own popcorn!
☺☺☺



TORCH SONG
TRILOGY

Anne Bancroft Matthew Broderick Harvey Fierstein Brian Kerwin

~ Torch Song Trilogy ~

A very personal story that is both funny and poignant. This movie chronicles a New Yorker's search for love, respect, and tradition in a world that is not especially made for him, and confirms that happiness is well worth carrying a torch for.

LETTERS

To the Editor:

I recently received a call from a Kiss listener who subscribes to your publication. She proceeded to read a letter to the Editor that attacked Kiss 94.5 for refusing to air a public service weather cancellation for the Gay/Lesbian Mardi Gras. The letter went on to essentially ask your readers to boycott this radio station!

As the program director of Kiss 94.5, I feel like the man whose murder trial makes headlines, but whose acquittal gets buried in the classified section. Whatever damage that letter did to our reputation probably can't be undone, for I'm sure there are people who believe it to be true. I can't change that. What I can do is set the record straight.

When the call for the Mardi Gras dance came in, it was one of literally hundreds of snow-related cancellations that day. In addition to fielding the calls, the announcer on duty is bound by station policy to substantiate the information. As you may imagine, a radio station receives ALOT of prank calls, bogus information, fake news stories, etc., from the public.

When the person who called in the cancellation refused to give us the location of the dance, we were naturally wary of what was going on. It is against the law for any radio station to broadcast false information. Nevertheless we DID AIR THE CANCELLATION! In fact, the announcement was repeated at least 7 times according to our logs. Where is the complaint?

While I understand the caller's apprehension about giving out the dance location for fear of "reprisal" (as he stated to us), he did not seem to understand our reluctance to attribute the information to a specific group when by choice, the caller would not release the information we needed to substantiate the cancellation.

There are several radio stations that attack or poke fun about gays or lesbians, all in the "humor" content of their programs. Why not make these stations the focus of your attacks?

Kiss 94.5 strives to provide music, entertainment, information and heavy community service. The printing of this false information saddens us.

Sincerely,

Timothy G. Moore

Program Director, Kiss 94.5

[Editor's Note: We are impressed that KISS 94.5 thinks enough of us to write. Unfortunately, Mr. Moore indulges in a strategy typical of those whose homophobia is transparent: blame the victim. The fact is that in the March NETWORKER we reported that the KISS D.J. refused to use the terms "Lesbian and Gay" when referring to the cancellation of the Mardi Gras dance. The reason he gave was (and this is an exact quote -- which we cited in the March story) "our listeners will think we support you people." He then hung up on the caller from GLCN who was attempting to notify various radio stations about the cancellation of the dance. No other radio station responded that way. If the KISS D.J. had explained that he needed more information to verify the authenticity of the call, which he did not do, the GLCN caller would have supplied it -- with the understanding that the location of the dance would not be given out over the air. The NETWORKER did acknowledge that KISS aired the cancellation, calling our event the "Bangor Mardi Gras Dance." We said then, as we say now, that we hope this didn't inconvenience any other groups holding Mardi Gras events in Bangor that night. As the 'editor' of The NETWORKER and the person who placed the calls to the radio stations, I can attest to the accuracy of the March story (which was not a letter to the editor) and this one -- Robin Gorsline]

NETWORKER CLASSIFIEDS

Camp for Rent on the Holden side of Brewer Lake; Very private furnished camp with running cold water and electricity. Outside privy. Access to a beach area; paddle boat and canoe for your enjoyment. Call Denise or Sarah for more details, 945-5932.

Cafe Night, on Saturday, April 28, an evening of entertainment featuring Diana Hansen, Ellie Sparks, The Northstar Sisters and a reading by Judith Monroe from her new novel, Widdershins. \$5-\$10, to benefit WOMLAND (Women's Land Trust); Abbott Room of the Belfast Free Library. More info: 525-7755 or 338-1344.

NETWORKER CLASSIFIEDS are available for \$4 per issue; please mail check and ad copy to GLCN, PO Box 212, Bangor, ME 04401 by the 28th of the month for publication in the following month's issue. Please include name and phone number even if not used in ad. Questions? Call Robin at 866-7958.

THE COMMUNITY'S CALENDAR

Sat., Apr. 7, 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m., Wendy B's Dance, \$4, Keith Anderson Community House, Bennoch Road, Orono.

Sun., Apr. 8, 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Lesbian Brunch, Peace & Justice Center, 9 Central St., Bangor (3rd floor above Mr. Paperback).

2:00 p.m.. Coffee/Tea fundraiser for State Senate candidate Sive Neilan, in Bucksport; call 469-3946 for directions. Sive will be there!

6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Dignity/Bangor (Gay/Lesbian Catholics and their friends) worship followed by business/social time, Ruth Hutchins Center, Bangor Theological Seminary, 300 Union Street, Bangor.

Wed., Apr 11, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m., GLCN Support Group, Discussion on "Relationships" (and other items, too, as needed), Peace & Justice Ctr.

Wed., Apr. 18, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m., GLCN Political/Education Task Force Meeting and showing of the film, "Still Not Free Just Because of Who We Are" (film about violence against lesbians); Peace & Justice Center, 9 Central St.

Sun., Apr. 22, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Dignity/Bangor (see April 8)

Wed., Apr. 25, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m., GLCN General Meeting, P & J Ctr.

Thu, Apr 26, 12:20 p.m., Talk by lesbian/feminist/political activist Margaret Randall on "Cuban and Nicaraguan Women: A Comparison," Sutton Lounge, UMO, Orono.

Fri., Apr. 27, 7:00 & 9:00 p.m., GLCN Film Series; 7:00 p.m., "Desert Hearts" and 9:00 p.m., "Torch Song Trilogy." No admission fee, but the hat will be passed for donations. Soda, juice and popcorn for sale.

8:00 p.m., Readings by Margaret Randall, 101 Neville Hall, UMO.

Sat., Apr. 28, 7:00 p.m., Cafe Night to Benefit WOMLAND, \$5 - \$10, Abbott Room, Belfast Free Library, 525-7755 or 338-1344 for more info.

Wed., May 2, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., Potluck and **NETWORKER** Mailing Party, P & J Ctr., 9 Central St.

Sun., May 13, 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Lesbian Brunch, P & J Ctr.