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Family Affairs Newsletter 2010-06-15

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THE (F)AMILY (A)FFAIRS (N)EWSLETTER

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER
AND INTERSEX COMMUNITY

FOLLOW YOUR HEART - DO YOUR PART - CHERISH OUR FAMILY

JUNE 15 2010

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

News #1: No news this issue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

This category is for non-social notices about GLBTQI community members that you think other GLBTQI community members might like to know about...things like: births, deaths, adoptions, commitments, graduations, promotions, new jobs, awards, shows, ongoing classes, trying-to-start-a-group, etc.

Announcement #1: (NEW) Radio Show: Out! On the Air. From 5 - 6 pm on Wednesday nights, Midcoast residents can tune their dials to WRFR - 93.3 (Rockland) or 93.9 (Camden) - for a unique portrait of area youth. "Out! On the Air" is created and organized by host Starcia Willey and Rockland's very own youth group - Out! As I Want to Be - supporting gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, queer, questioning, allied, and intersexed (GLBTQQAI) young people aged 14-22 in the Midcoast area. The first shows highlighted Out! member Steven playing his own compositions, and Out! members Keifer, Liz, Tasha, Eric, and Shawn talking about the impact of sexual and gender orientation on their lives with Kevin Marquis, Out! Advisor.

Starcia Willey, Board Member and Advisor with Out! As I Want to Be, describes the mission of the show. "At Out! As I Want to Be meetings, Out! members talk, laugh, share, cook and dine together in a safe space with adult advisors. It is a place for everyone to be themselves in a drug free and welcoming atmosphere. During our show we will let people know more about what we do, and special events that we will be attending. We will try to provide a perspective from the youth of our community and we'll be playing music by GLBTQQAI artists and supporters of GLBTQQAI rights. We will also be hosting interviews with adult members of our community and youth members of Out!"

Upcoming shows include an interview with Scott Bloom, independent film maker and director of the documentary "Out in the Long Run" which features Out! Board Member Liz Davenport.

The show is sponsored by Dale McCormick, long an activist for human rights in Maine, currently Director of MaineHousing and previously the first woman Treasurer of the State of Maine. She also served as a State Senator in the Maine Legislature and founded an organization called Women Unlimited that trains women on welfare for high paying jobs in the trades and technical fields. Dale has been a journey level carpenter for 30 years, and started and ran her own construction and design firm, later writing two books about her experiences.

Out! As I Want To Be meets every Wednesday evening from 5 p.m. until 8 pm, and every Friday night from 6pm to 9pm. at 501 Main Street in Rockland. Founded in 1995, the program incorporated in Rockland as Out! As I Want To Be in 2005. Lis Clark is the Program Coordinator and can be reached at

outmaine@yahoo.com . The group's website is <http://www.outmaine.org>, and Out! also can be found on <http://www.myspace.com/outasiwanttobe> and [facebook.com/outasiwanttobe](https://www.facebook.com/outasiwanttobe)

Announcement #2: (NEW) A new PFLAG chapter has been authorized in Machias that welcomes any LGBT persons, family members and friends in Washington and Hancock counties. We will be holding our first official meeting on Wednesday July 14th at 6:30pm at the downstairs vestry at the Centre Street Congregational Church on 9 Center Street, Machias. Except for August, we'll be meeting every second Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm in the same location (Sept 8; Oct 13; Nov 10; etc.). For more information please contact: Shallee Page at 207-255-1288; or email downtownpflag@gmail.com and request to join our facebook page: Machias PFLAG Group.

The PFLAG mission is to "promote the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, their families and friends through: support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights. Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity."

Announcement #3: Are you a youth 15-22 years old with an idea for a workshop (or do you know someone who is)? CampOUT is looking for workshops that inspire, support, and strengthen Queer/LGBTQA youth. CampOUT is a place for young people to share their ideas, knowledge, and experiences. We believe supporting youth-led workshops in this environment provides a safe and empowering space for youth to develop leadership skills. Session 1: July 23 – 25 (ASL interpretation available by request). Session 2: August 13 – 15. Go here for more info: http://www.campoutmaine.com/campout_workshops

Possible workshop ideas include (but are not limited to): Activity-Based (art, music, theatre, etc), Media Impact, Activism, Safer Sex and Abstinence Negotiation, Addressing Homophobia/Heterosexism, Starting and Maintaining Gay/Straight Alliances, Body Image, Transgender/Gender Identity, Healthy Relationships, Queer Spirituality, Bisexuality/Pansexuality, Homelessness.

For more info, contact Katie and Lyndon: campoutmaine@gmail.com

Announcement #4: New resource/website. Maine GLBT Community is your "Maine" source for information on LGBT issues, events and news. A virtual community center for bisexuals, lesbians, gay men, and transgender persons in the State of Maine.: <http://grou.ps/MAINEGLBTCOMMUNITY>

Announcement #5: Bike For Equality Fundraiser to Benefit Preble Street

Bangor, Maine (June 16 - 19, 2010) — Bike for Equality, a group formed to raise money for worthy causes and to raise awareness around the issue of marriage equality, is pleased to announce a 135+ mile bicycle ride in three (3) days to raise funds to benefit the Preble Street Resource Center in Portland. The funds raised will help replace those pulled by the Catholic Diocese due to Preble Street's support of the 2009 marriage equality campaign. "We hope that, by choosing to help Preble Street, we are sending a positive message of hope to those most in need and at the same time able to show our support of full equality for Maine's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) citizens" said Kris Colford, organizer of Bike for Equality. The ride will kick-off at 8:00am on Wednesday, June 16 at the Charlie Howard Memorial in Bangor, with a spiritual service to remember the man whose murder in 1984 is widely considered the catalyst of the LGBT rights movement in Maine.

The 8 bicyclists, three (3) day ride will take Routes 202 – 139 from Bangor to Winslow on the first day. The second day will see them from Route 201 into Brunswick. The final leg of the ride will take the bicyclists from Route 24 in Brunswick to Route 1 into Portland. Links to the maps can be found on the Bike for Equality [Facebook page](#). Bike for Equality continues to accept volunteers as well as contributions to Preble Street. Those interested in contributing can do so by phone by calling 207-775-0026 ext. 110 or online at <http://www.preblestreet.org/donate.php> and "dedicate" the contribution to B4E. Those interested in volunteering may contact Kris Colford at 207-735-4009.

Bike for Equality is proud to be endorsed by the following elected officials, organizations, and businesses:

Governor John Baldacci; Senators: Larry Bliss, Justin Alford, Philip Bartlett II; Representatives: Seth Berry, Diane Russell, Peter C. Stuckey, Melissa Walsh Innes, Sean Flaherty, Adam Goode, Linda F. Sanborn, Joan F. Cohen, Anne M. Haskell, Patsy Crockett, Anna Blodgett, Sharon Anglin Treat, Meredith Strang Burgess, Mary Pennell Nelson, Organizations: Lambda North, Preble Street Resource Center, EqualityMaine, Southern Maine Pride, The Bridge Alliance, Capital Pride, Businesses: Blue Moose Restaurant, Swett's Tire & Auto/Hogan Road Deli, White Tie Affairs.

OP/EDs:

This is your chance to spout off (or offer your insightful thoughts and opinions) about ANYTHING related to the GLBTQI community. Any subscriber is welcomed to submit. Please keep your thoughts as succinct (and civilized) as possible. Subscribers should be willing to allow at least their first name and an email address to be listed with the posting.

No one had any opinions this issue that they wanted to have published.

EVENTS (CHANGING):

JUNE 2010

JUNE 16-19. Bangor to Portland. Bike for Equality. Starting in Bangor & ending in Portland. Bike for Equality is doing a fund raiser to benefit Preble Street Youth Shelter in Portland. It is a 4 day 130+ mile bicycle ride ending with its involvement in the Southern Maine Pride Parade. Overnight stops in Winslow, Brunswick & Portland. Looking for a few volunteers for donation collection, emergency vehicle followers and a return ride home for those from Bangor with bicycles. For information on donating and volunteering please contact Kris Colford at (207)735-4009 or kriscolfordsr@yahoo.com.

JUNE 16. (Wednesday). **Ogunquit. Equality Maine Summer Kickoff Party.** 6:30pm - 8:00pm Please join us as we gather as a community to learn more about how we can all work to secure full equality for all Maine people. Meet your new Board members from Ogunquit. Wine, appetizers, and some pretty good desserts. Black Boar Inn, 277 Main St. \$250 host committee, \$25 suggested donation. To join the host committee for this event, or to RSVP, please contact Mary Breen, 207-752-2099 or mebemp@gmail.com, or Ed Connolly at 207-361-3003 or connolly@mac.com.

JUNE 18 (Friday) **Portland. 5th Annual Portland Dyke March.** 6:30 P.M., Monument Square to One Longfellow Square, Congress Street, Portland. See <http://www.mainedykemarch.com/> for more details.

JUNE 18 and 19 (Friday and Saturday) **Portland. Maine Gay Men's Chorus Concert with Guests, Women in Harmony.** "Bards and Boy Bands," 7:00 P.M. both nights at the Maine Irish Heritage Center. For more information and to purchase tickets, please see <http://bardsandboybandsfriday.eventbrite.com/?ref=elink>

JUNE 19 (Saturday) **Portland. Southern Maine Pride Parade and Festival.** noon, Monument Square to Deering Oaks Park, Congress Street and High Street, Portland. See <http://www.southernmainepride.org> for more information.

JUNE 19 (Saturday) **Portland. LIFE Portland** (In collaboration with Southern Maine Pride). 8:00 P.M. – 1:00 A.M., 504 Congress Street at the Port City Music Hall. International DJ sensation Scotty Thomson arrives in Portland for LIFE. Brand new this year, LIFE Portland will pick up where the Pier left off, christening Port City Music Hall as the new Pride mecca. Join us for dancing, performances, drink specials, drag queens and much more fun as we celebrate our diversity and WORK towards equality and an end to AIDS. Local house DJ, Popgirl, opens the party starting at 8:00pm with special guest performers Miss E'on, Aboyda Stagg, Kitti Chanel, Shanna Rai, and their back up construction "WORK"er dancers. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door — all proceeds benefit the Maine AIDS Alliance. Buy tickets at <http://mainelifeevents.eventbrite.com/?ref=elink> This is a 21+ event.

JUNE 21 (Monday). **Orono. Peer Support Meeting, MaineTransNet.** MaineTransNet's peer support meetings are limited to people who identify as transgender/genderqueer/gender-variant or are questioning their gender identity. E-mail Alex at alex@mainetransnet.org for location and for more information.

JUNE 24 (Thursday) **Ellsworth. Discussion Night (Men's event). Downeast Diversity Center.** 6pm, Ron King's discussion group on living as a gay or bisexual man in 2010 will be meeting regularly on the 4th Thursday of each month. The group is reading and discussing the book Gay Soul. The book is a collection of interviews with sixteen gay and bisexual writers, healers, teachers and visionaries by Mark Thompson. If you are interested in getting a free copy of the book and joining the discussion group, contact Ron at either 326-8287 or ronking@gwi.net.

JUNE 25 (Friday) **Bangor. PRIDE Weekend HIV Testing.** 6-10pm, Come celebrate PRIDE by learning your status! Down East AIDS Network will be sponsoring an HIV testing event at Bangor's newest LGBTQ-friendly entertainment destination, Therapy Lounge (336 Odlin Rd, connected to Howard Johnson's). Private, free, anonymous, rapid oral HIV testing will be available from 6-10pm. Incentives will be given to those who test. For more information, contact Steve or Stacy at DEAN at 667-3506.

JUNE 26 (Saturday) **Bangor. Bangor PRIDE Festival.** The Bridge Alliance is hosting our second Bangor Pride Festival which will be held on Saturday, June 26th, 2010. Bangor PRIDE Festival will be held at Westmarket Square in downtown Bangor. Music, booths, speakers 1 – 10:00 PM, PRIDE Dance on the square 7 - 10 PM, Open to all, admission free, Supported by local businesses where food and drink are available for purchase. Details in News, above.

JUNE 26 (Saturday) **Wells. Seacoast Sapphos Annual BBQ** MEMBERS AND FRIENDS ONLY. Saturday, June 26th noon to 6 PM. For location and directions email seacoastsapphos@yahoo.com or see <http://www.seacoastsapphos.org/Events.htm>. What to bring: dish to share; lawn chairs; beverages; and something to grill. SS will provide tables, grills and games! There will be drumming; volleyball; washers and more.

JUNE 29 (Tuesday). **Portland. Networking: DownEast Pride Alliance (DEPA).** "BUSINESS AFTER HOURS" EVENT — the June Business After Hours GLBT & gay-friendly networking event will be held on Tuesday, June 29, between 5:30pm-7:30pm at CINQUE TERRE on 36 Wharf Street in Portland. Lite fare & cash bar. Bring friends & colleagues and business cards for our Media Table.

JULY 2010

JULY 4 (Sunday) **Portland. Casco Bay Cruise to benefit All About Prevention.** 7 P.M. to 10:30 P.M. Rain or Shine. Featuring music by D.J. Kate. Food, cash bar, and viewing of the Portland Fireworks (weather permitting). At the Casco Bay Terminal at the foot of the Franklin Arterial on Commercial Street. Tickets are \$25.00. Must be 21 years old or older. See <http://www.allaboutprevention.org/july4cruise.htm> for more information.

JULY 14 (Wednesday) **Machias. PFLAG.** A new PFLAG chapter has been authorized in Machias that welcomes any LGBT persons, family members and friends in Washington and Hancock counties. We will be holding our first official meeting on Wednesday July 14th at 6:30pm at the downstairs vestry at the Centre Street Congregational Church on 9 Center Street, Machias. For more information please contact: Shallee Page at 207-255-1288; or email downeastpflag@gmail.com and request to join our facebook page: Machias PFLAG Group.

EVENTS (ONGOING):

Androscoggin County

GUY2GUY. Lewiston/Auburn meeting on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month. Saturday night movie on the fourth Saturday of every month. We invite you to come and join us in a friendly, open and non-judgmental environment. Check the web site for more information at <http://www.guy2guy.org/> See full listing below for more details.

OUTRIGHT L/A. UU Church, corner of Spring and Pleasant Street, Auburn. Weekly drop-in for youth age 22 and under every Friday from 6:00 - 8:30pm. FMI call 207-795-8956 or email info@outrightla.org or check the web site at www.outrightla.org See full listing below for more details.

YANKEE BOYZ. UU Church, Auburn. Monthly social/support group meeting Sept - June (1st or 2nd Sunday of the month...call ahead to verify) for those born female, or intersex, and which female and/or "woman" as an identity does not fit. FMI contact PJ at pjmears@roadrunner.com or call 783-4630. See full listing below for more details.

Aroostook County

NORTHERN LAMBDA. Monthly meeting or gathering on the 4th Saturday of each month. Location varies within Aroostook County. FMI and/or directions contact Tess at 694-2639 or Kent at 538-7630 or email northernlambda@gmail.com. See full listing below for more details.

Cumberland County

AA MEETING - GLBT, Portland, 32 Thomas Street. Sunday evenings, 6:30pm, at Williston West Church. More info: <http://www.aamaine.org/groups/1/glbtc.htm>

DEMAND EQUALITY NOW PROTESTS. Sundays from 9:00 am to 11:15 a.m. Portland, Immaculate Conception Church, 302 Congress St. Group statement: "We protest at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception because it is the home church of Bishop Malone, who helped direct over \$500,000.00 in church funds and donations to help REPEAL equal marriage rights in Maine. We protest to send the message that the vote may be over, but we won't "get over it". We're not going anywhere. Everyone is welcome, any orientation, any height, any weight, lol. For more information, please see the group's facebook site at: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&gid=176167710924>

HIV SUPPORT GROUP FOR MEN Portland, 58 Gilman Street. We meet every third Tuesday, from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. Open meetings. We meet at the Virology Treatment Center, 58 Gilman Street, Portland. Call Diane for more information: 662-2991.

MAINETRANSNET Portland, 640 Brighton Ave. Peer support meeting on the 1st Thursday of the month from 7-8:30 pm. MaineTransNet's peer support meetings are limited to people who identify as transgender/genderqueer/gender-variant or are questioning their gender identity. E-mail Alex at alex@mainetransnet.org for more information.

(PFLAG) PARENTS, FAMILY, & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS, Portland. Meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St, in Portland. ALL are welcomed, not just parents. FMI call 207-831-3015 or email mdpalmer@gwi.net

PORTLAND FRONT RUNNERS. Portland, Back Cove Parking Lot. Meets every Saturday at 9:05 AM in the middle of the Back Cove parking lot for a run/walk around the cove. Brunch afterwards at Whole Foods around 10 AM. FMI contact Bruce Fithian at (207) 831-7113. Please see full listing below.

Hancock County

AA MEETING - GLBT, Ellsworth, Friday evenings at 6:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 121 Bucksport Rd. More information can be found on the Central Maine AA meeting site: www.aamaine.org

DOWNEAST DIVERSITY CENTER. Ellsworth, 47 Foster St. Regular meetings on 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. Movie night is held on the 2nd Thursday while a discussion group on living as a gay or bisexual man in 2010 is held on the 4th Thursday of each month. Other various social activities throughout the month. For more information, contact Steve at 669-4988, e-mail downeastdiversity@me.com or visit <http://downeastdiversity.org>. See full listing below for more details.

GAY GUYS GROUP (GGG) POTLUCK DINNER. Ellsworth Area. Every 2nd Wednesday of the month. 6-9 pm-ish at various locations in the greater Ellsworth Area. FMI and to get directions and time contact Wayne at wayne@maineguyz.org You can also check the web site and get on their mailing list at www.maineguyz.org See full listing below for more details.

(GLSEN) Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network. Meets third Wednesday of each month at 4:00 PM at the UU Church in Ellsworth. FMI contact the Downeast Maine Chapter at PO Box 373, Ellsworth, ME 04605. OR phone 667-2358 or 244-3837. OR email downeastglsen@roadrunner.com . You can check the resource-rich national web site at www.glsen.org and find our chapter page at www.glsen.org/downeastme.

Kennebec County

JUST GUYS. Augusta, 9 Green St. Regular weekly meeting meets every Wednesday 7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. See full listing below for more details.

Knox County

OUT!...AS I WANT TO BE. 501 Main Street, Suite #3, Rockland. GLBTQ youth, ages 14 to 22, meetings every Wed.5-8pm, and Fri. evenings/6-9pm, FMI, contact Lis at 632-4797 or email outmaine@yahoo.com . Check the web site at www.outmaine.org or the myspace posting at www.myspace.com/outasiwanttobe See full listing below for more details.

RADIO SHOW: OUT! ON THE AIR. From 5 - 6 pm on Wednesday nights, Midcoast residents can tune their dials to WRFR - 93.3 (Rockland) or 93.9 (Camden) - for a unique portrait of area youth. "Out! On the Air" is created and organized by host Starcia Willey and Rockland's very own youth group - Out! As I Want to Be - supporting gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, queer, questioning, allied, and intersexed (GLBTQQAI) young people aged 14-22 in the Midcoast area.

Penobscot County

10% SOLUTIONS. Bangor, Rm. 215 of The Commons, Husson University. A GLBTIQ support group which is held on Monday nights. The meetings are open to all students, staff or faculty at either Husson University or The New England School of Communications. FMI contact Alex Patel at patela@husson.edu or by phone at 941-7990.

GBLT ON RYE (Gays, Bisexuals, Lesbians and Trangenders on Real Youth Education). Bangor, Rm. 127 of Peabody Hall, Husson University. Weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 7:30. The meetings are open to all students, staff or faculty at either Husson University or The New England School of Communications. FMI contact Alex Patel at patela@husson.edu or by phone at 941-7990.

RAINBOW FELLOWSHIP. Bangor, Hammond St. Congregational Church. Third Saturday of each month. This gathering is open to the GLBTQI community and straight allies. It is under the auspices of the very GLBT-welcoming Hammond Street Congregational Church. While it usually consists of a potluck dinner at someone's home, there have also been gaming nights and other activities. Persons who are interested should call the church at 942-4381 for details of time and place.

Sagadahoc County

GUY2GUY. Brunswick meeting on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. Saturday night movie on the second Saturday of every month. We invite you to come and join us in a friendly, open and non-judgmental environment. Check the web site for more information at <http://www.guy2guy.org/> See full listing below for more details.

BUSINESSES:

NEW LISTINGS OF GLBTQI-OWNED BUSINESSES AND GLBTQI BUSINESS INDIVIDUALS:

The complete directory-to-date of folks who have asked to be listed is available on request. Also, it will be emailed to everyone next on June 15, 2010. If you are a GLBTQI business owner, an "out" GLBTQI business person associating with a non-GLBTQI-owned business, or a straight-owned supportive ally who wants a free listing, then contact me. I'm Zack at zack@familyaffairsnewsletter.org or at 518-8663. I do not promise to answer the phone, but I do promise to listen to the voicemail and call you back, if requested.

No new businesses this issue.

PERSONALS:

No new listings this issue.

SELL/BUY/TRADE/GIVE:

If you're a FAN subscriber trying to sell/buy something, want to trade for something else, or have something to give away, this is the category to post to. The FAN makes no guarantees about anything listed here, we simply provide the free listing as a service.

No new listings this issue.

LIVING SPACE RENTALS:

If you are FAN subscriber with a living space (room, apartment, house/apartment sharing) to rent to someone, or if you are looking for a living space to rent from someone, then this is the category to post to. Postings run for four (4) consecutive issues and may be renewed for additional 4-issue runs if you wish. Send your listings to me, Zack, at zack@familyaffairsnewsletter.org.

BELFAST: Offering downtown apartments for rent. One and two bedroom units occasionally available. We offer great light, heat and hot water, parking downtown, laundry facility and trash removal. For more information on availability contact: abelfastrental@gmail.com

ORONO: Room for rent in Orono, ME in the home of a lesbian mother her twin 9 year olds. The Mom works as an environmental scientist. The boys hobbies are acting and Junior Engineering . We grow some of our own food, recycle almost everything, and commute by foot, by bicycle and by public transportation as much as we can. The room is sunny and spacious. The laundry (washer and dryer) are in one of the 2nd floor bathrooms, down the hall from the renter's room. Our house-mate shares the kitchen, living room, dining room, deck, garden and yard with us. The garage and basement have plenty of storage space for a bicycle and/or other belongings. \$500/month includes all utilities. Call or email Laurie 866-7008, laurie.osher@gmail.com

GLBTQI COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:

The Bridge Alliance is a registered non profit organization whose primary goal is to connect the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allied (GLBTA) community in Aroostook, Hancock, Washington, Piscataquis, and Penobscot counties accomplishing the following: To facilitate the development of a GLBTA community which promotes and embraces diversity; To promote and encourage the understanding that the GLBTA community plays an important role in Maine's cultural, social and economic landscape; To give back to the GLBTA community through charitable donations or in-kind services; To produce annual events that will assemble the GLBTA community in Northern Maine.

Bridging The Gap provides no-cost clinical breast exams, mammograms, breast ultrasounds, and other breast health services to women (including lesbian, bi, and trans women) age 20 to 29 who have a symptom of concern and age 30 to 39 who have a symptom of concern or a family history of breast cancer. FMI and to see if you qualify contact Robin at Bridging The Gap at 941-2808.

Caring Connections provides no-cost mammograms and Pap tests to women (including lesbian, bi, and trans women) age 40 to 64 who meet income guidelines and don't have insurance to cover breast and cervical health services. FMI contact Robin at Caring Connections at 941-2808.

Connections! Gay or Bisexual male in Maine? On your own and not getting any younger? Want to be connected by phone with other mature gay men in Maine? Network for conversation, companionship, connections for support, help in recovery from medical treatment, ice storms or accidents. Call or be called or both. If you know of anyone who may not see this message, for the sake of community pass this information on. Even slight connections among people raise our spirits. To find out more call Peter (in confidence) at 207-348-2212 between 9AM and 8PM.

(GLSEN) Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network. Meets third Wednesday of each month at 4:00 PM at the UU Church in Ellsworth. We eat together (usually pizza) and ask participants to pitch in for the cost (usually about \$5). New members always welcome. Our work is focused on making schools safer and more respectful for all students and staff regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. We do staff trainings, workshops at other events, and advocate for student needs. Recently we have begun to work with and encourage several gay-straight alliances (GSA's) in local high schools. We are teachers, parents, school administrators, counselors, and other interested citizens; men and women, gay and straight, working together. FMI contact the Downeast Maine Chapter at PO Box 373, Ellsworth, ME 04605. OR phone 667-2358 or 244-3837. OR email downeastglsen@roadrunner.com. You can check the resource-rich national web site at www.glsen.org and find our chapter page at www.glsen.org/downeastme.

Equality Maine, has been providing education and legislative advocacy for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1984. It sponsors a variety of social and legislative educational events each year and is always looking for volunteers and new members. If you're not a member, you should be. FMI contact Equality Maine at 207-761-3732 or toll free at 1-800-556-5472. Their email address is info@equalitymaine.org and the web site is www.equalitymaine.org

(GLAD) Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders. To learn about and protect your rights under Maine's anti-discrimination law, visit GLAD's website at www.glad.org or call the free legal hotline at 1-800-455-GLAD (1-800-455-4523). GLAD is New England's legal rights organization dedicated to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation, HIV status and gender identity and expression. GLAD's legal victories in Maine have addressed HIV discrimination, harassment of gay students, co-guardianship rights for same-sex parents, domestic partner benefits and more

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Collection at the University of Southern Maine is working to capture the history of Maine's LGBT community. We collect papers of individuals and the records of organizations active in the community. Although we mostly collect print material (books, serials, written documents) we collect almost any object that documents the life and experience of the LGBT community (photographs, books, newsletters, objects, posters, T-shirts, buttons, etc). Following professional standards, we are careful to guard the privacy of individuals involved with the collections and will work with donors who choose anonymity. For information on the collection and donating material please contact Susie Bock, 207-780-4269 or books@usm.maine.edu.

Lesbian Health Project. Initiated in 1992, the Lesbian Health Project of the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center seeks to promote non-homophobic health services which will provide lesbians with the ability to make the best health decisions possible based on accurate knowledge. The focus of the project is on developing educational materials for lesbians and trainings for health and social service professionals. In addition, the project sponsors a Lesbian Health Clinic at the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center which provides low-cost, woman positive, lesbian-centered health care including: pelvic exams, breast exams, health education, instruction in breast self-exam, pap smears, mammography referrals, health advocacy, screening and treatment of STD's. For more information or to become involved in the work of the project contact the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center at 947-5337

Lesbian Radio is on the air Wednesday afternoons from 1 until 1:30 pm. Listen in at 90.9 and 104.1FM and online at www.wmpg.org to politics, news, arts, business, music, poetry--all things Lesbian-y. Deb Gallagher hosts the show live each week. ourlesbianradioshow@yahoo.com

Living Queer Here! A locally-produced radio show aired on station WERU. An exploration into the full range of life created and experienced by the queer community in Maine. Hosted by Gail Mackinson & Cindy Montgomery. The show airs on the 4th Thursday of each month 10-11 am. WERU broadcasts in the greater Blue Hill area on frequency 89.9 FM, in the Bangor area on frequency 102.9 FM, and streams on the web at www.weru.org. WERU also broadcasts the nationally syndicated GLBTI show: **This Way Out** every Wednesday afternoon from 4 - 4:30 pm.

Maine Breast and Cervical Health Program, offers no-cost mammograms, pap tests, and gynecological exams to qualifying Maine women (regardless of sexual orientation). If you are a woman in Maine and you are due for a Pap test or mammogram, help is just a phone call away. The Maine Breast and Cervical Health Program can help you get the health care you deserve. If you are a Maine woman over 40, have little or no insurance and meet certain income guidelines then you may be eligible for no-cost mammograms, Pap tests, and gynecological exams at your choice of participating area providers. Call today to see if you qualify, 973-3646 or 1-800-350-5180. (TTY 1-800-438-5514) The best protection is early detection! (Jessica Thompson - contact)

Maine Equity Fund. Part of the Maine Community Foundation, The Maine Equity Fund's mission is to strengthen GLBT organizations in Maine and support community-based initiatives that address GLBT issues and needs through grant making. The vision driving the fund is one of inclusive, diverse, prejudice-free communities for the GLBT population and for all people in Maine. Detailed grant information is available on the web and the annual proposal deadline is in September. <http://www.maineecf.org/grants/availablegrants/equityfund.aspx>

MaineTransNet (Maine Transgender Network, Inc.) is an organization dedicated to educating the public about gender identity and raising awareness of the varied forms of gender expression. We provide support and consultation to health and social service professionals, transgender individuals, their families, and interested others. MTN also sponsors transgender peer support groups in various parts of the state and a separate group for partners of trans/genderqueer/questioning individuals. FMI email Alex at alex@mainetransnet.org or check the web site at www.mainetransnet.org. You could also leave a message at 207-408-1685.

National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues meets monthly in Portland. Membership on the NASW LGBT Committee is open to social workers in Maine who are interested in LGBT issues in general and improving social work services to LGBT populations in particular. Please join us. Contact Frank Brooks at fbrooks1@maine.rr.com for meeting place, dates, and times.

The Naughty North Collective is a state wide radical queer direct action (dis)organization. We are committed to celebrating our queerest selves while resisting the devastating violence inherent in the consumer driven assimilationist gaystream. We will defend ourselves against the brutal silence of isolation thru a diverse and dedicated network of action oriented friends and lovers. We will not deny our anger or fail to recognize the links between queer struggle and challenging power. Naughty North is a defiant orgasm in the face of oppression: all are welcome to get off with us! <http://www.thenaughtynorth.blogspot.com>

Trans Care Collaborative. Mission: To improve the medical and mental health care available to the transgender and gender-diverse population in Maine. To foster a network of medical care, mental health and other support services treating the transgender and gender-diverse community in Maine. To advocate for the needs of transgender and gender-diverse individuals. This is a Portland-based group **for medical and mental health professionals only**. We meet monthly to discuss trans-related healthcare and occasionally offer events that raise awareness about trans issues. FMI contact: Rick Bouchard, LCSW at 207-650-6450 ... email CONSTL8@maine.rr.com OR Wayne Bachner, LCSW at 207-662-4872 ... email BACHNW@mmc.org

The Transgender Fund. With offices in Freeport, Maine, The Transgender Fund is a national, completely independent, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt public charitable foundation. It has been created by and for transgendered individuals. Our funding is derived from contributions by caring individuals of all levels of means. Our strength and independence come from the fact that there is no single benefactor who has seeded the Fund with a large amount of capital. Contributions you make are added to those of your sisters and

brothers. Individually, they may seem modest, but collectively they add up to a powerful force that is reinvested in the support of projects fostering the well-being of all our gender variant minorities. FMI email info@tgfund.org OR check the web site at www.tgfund.org

Trans Youth Equality Foundation. Trans Youth Equality Foundation provides education, advocacy and support for transgender and gender-non-conforming children and youth and their families. Our mission is to share information about the unique needs of this community, partnering with families, educators, and service providers to help foster a healthy, caring and safe environment for all transgender children. We are located in Portland Maine but are available to all. We have a social/support group for children that meets once a month. We have a summer zine workshop for youth and any trans youth 18 and under can join. To learn more look at <http://www.transyouthequality.org> and friend us on facebook. 207-478-4087. Susan Maasch/Director

SOCIAL GROUPS:

Buddy Bikers, Gay Motorcycle Group (PORTLAND) Guys who are gay/gay friendly who enjoy group rides. Based in the Portland area, but rides are not limited to Southern Maine. Harleys to Hondas, Choppers to Rice Rockets. SORRY, NO SCOOTERS ALLOWED. Annual event; Biker Boy Brunch, third Sunday of August to Amore's in Ogunquit. EMAIL buddybikers@yahoo.com Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/buddybikers>

Clay Hill Farm Restaurant (OGUNQUIT) hosts a variety of women-only events during the year. Among them are a Christmas Season dinner-dance, a women's Valentine's Day dinner-dance (for both couples AND singles), and a Spring Soiree in June. You can check out the web site at www.clayhillfarm.com. To get on the e-mail list for their Events For Women, send your request to Jackie at Lmsmarketing@yahoo.com

DEPA (DownEast Pride Alliance). (PORTLAND) DEPA's mission is to grow, promote and increase the visibility of GLBT businesses, their owners, and their allies in the communities that support them. Sid Tripp with Proactive Resources Design and Leah Bartley of Smith Barney have teamed-up to co-sponsor a monthly after-hours gay business network called The DownEast Pride Alliance (DEPA). We hope to fill the need for a comprehensive business network geared specifically for gay & gay friendly businesses throughout Southern & Coastal Maine. FMI contact Sid Tripp at 772-3599 or Leah Bartley at 771-0854 or check the web site at www.depabusiness.com

Downeast Diversity Center (ELLSWORTH) hosts a men's social group to help build community for men who have sex with men in Downeast Maine. The health and wellness focused events work to create a space where men are safe to be themselves and share with others. Events include regular movie and discussion nights, as well as occasional game nights, lectures, group hikes and more. We hope you'll join us! For more information, check out our website at <http://downeastdiversity.org>, e-mail downeastdiversity@me.com or call Steve at 669-4988.

GetOut (PORTLAND and OGUNQUIT) is committed to serving as a bridge connecting and supporting men who have sex with men (MSM), gay men, bisexual men, and questioning men through educational and community activities. This diverse mix of activities will provide these men with alternatives to the gay bars and on-line hook up sites by drawing attention to the rise in STD infections, the steady number of HIV infections among the gay male population, and the importance of establishing and maintaining a visible community. It is the hope of all participants and supporters that a safe and non-judgmental environment be created to allow for the comfortable exploration of sexual identities. Group Happenings Include: Volleyball, Men's Discussion Group, Book Club, Coffeehouse, Men's Health, Movie Night, and Lending Library. There is a GetOut group in Portland/GoPortland <http://www.goportland.net/> There is also a GetOut group in Ogunquit/GoOgunquit <http://www.googunquit.net/>

Guy2Guy (BRUNSWICK and LEWISTON/AUBURN) is a group of guys (gay, straight, bi, questioning, trans) building community together. We have regular discussions, workshops, movie nights, and social activities. We acknowledge the need for guys to get together in a healthy and safe environment to talk about issues important to them and to build community. Guy2Guy meets in Lewiston/Auburn on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month and meets in Brunswick on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month.

Please visit our calendar for more information. We invite you to come and join us in a friendly, open and non-judgmental environment. Check the web site at <http://www.guy2guy.org/>

just guys. (AUGUSTA) A social group for men who have sex with men meets every Wednesday at the just guys 1950's library café, second floor, 9 Green St, in Augusta. We work to create a safe, welcoming space free of attitude, ego, gossip, labels, or judgment. Drop in for casual chat, cookies, and coffee Wednesday any time from 5:30 to 7:00. The regular weekly meetings are 7-8:30. The night's activities can include discussions, games, guest speakers, or movies, and always fun snacks. Join us, bring a friend, come share! Free, anonymous, 20-minute rapid oral test is available with appointment anytime. FMI contact Lew at 621-3794. More information, weekly updates at www.justguys.info

just friends (AUGUSTA BASED BUT STATEWIDE) A just-started group of folk, male and female, who have offered an ear, a shoulder, a hand, and friendship on a one-to-one, peer basis. Lonely? Lost? Just down? Just need to share some stuff? When you need a friend and friends just pass you by, give Lew a shout, and you can be connected to someone who cares. For those of you who cannot make meetings, but have access to the net, this could be your touch with someone who would be glad to connect with you. You can decide if you want to share your name, your problems, your bad jokes, emails, or just a cup of coffee. The people are not counselors, docs or therapists, they're just friends. 621-3794 or the cell (with poor reception, sorry): 215-4594 or check out www.justguys.info

Maine Street Bar (OGUNQUIT) hosts monthly women-only T-dances. For more info about them check the web site at <http://www.mainestreetogunquit.com/women.php>

Northern Lambda. (AROOSTOOK COUNTY) A GLBTQ social group that hosts monthly meetings/gatherings on the 4th Saturday of each month. Location varies within Aroostook County. Open to all gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning folks (and their friends & supporters). FMI and/or directions contact Tess at 694-2639 or Kent at 538-7630 or email northernlambda@gmail.com . You can also ask to join their YahooGroup and keep informed on all the doing's via email. <http://www.northernlambda.org>

Out!...As I Want To Be. (ROCKLAND) An organization for all GLBTQQ youth, ages 14 to 22, as well as straight allies. We are an all-volunteer, youth-driven organization. We seek to provide outreach, affirmation, support, and education in a safe space for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth in Lincoln, Knox, and Waldo counties and their offshore islands. We meet in Rockland at 501 Main Street (the building just before the Ferry Terminal), Suite #3 (2nd floor) every Wed.5-8pm, and Fri. evenings/6-9pm, FMI, contact Lis at 632-4797 or email outmaine@yahoo.com . Check the web site at www.outmaine.org or the myspace posting at www.myspace.com/outasiwanttobe

Outright L/A. (ANDROSCOGGIN / OXFORD / FRANKLIN COUNTIES) Outright Lewiston/Auburn creates safe and affirming environments for youth age 22 and under who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, and/or questioning. Outright L/A hosts a weekly drop-in, a place for youth age 22 and under to meet other youth, talk, plan events, play games, watch movies, get information on HIV prevention, and much more! Outright L/A meets every Friday from 6:00 - 8:30pm at the UU Church on the corner of Spring and Pleasant streets in Auburn. FMI call 207-795-8956 or email info@outrightla.org or check the web site at www.outrightla.org

Portland Front Runners (PORTLAND), The Portland Front Runners, a GLBT running/walking group, meets every Saturday at 9:05 AM in the middle of the Back Cove parking lot for a run/walk around the cove. Brunch afterwards at Whole Foods around 10 AM. A great way to keep healthy and make new friends. FMI contact Bruce Fithian at (207) 831-7113

Portland Lesbian Coffee House. (PORTLAND) Join our community of women to talk about books, politics, music, raising children or the wacky thing that happened on the latest episode of The L Word. All stripes of the tribe welcome. This is a social group that includes women of all ages and statuses. You can check it out on the web at <http://lgbtfriends.meetup.com/78/> . FMI about dates, times, location, contact Mary at laughingmary@hotmail.com

PRYSM (Proud Rainbow Youth Of Southern Maine) (PORTLAND) An organization that provides safe and supportive community for youth 22 and under who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and their allies (LGBTQA). Drop-in groups are every Tuesday from 5-7:30 pm. Located at 343 Forest

Avenue, rear entrance. Also provide outreach, phone & email support; community education, leadership development, safer-sex/HIV prevention education, and connections to community resources. Volunteer opportunities available! FMI call 874-1022 or email prysm@commcc.org

Rainbow Business & Professional Association (RBPA) (PORTLAND) is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the vitality, productivity and growth of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender business and professional community throughout the State of Maine. Since 1992, our aim has been to promote and support the LGBT business and professional community in Maine. RBPA is a rapidly growing organization with a membership that boasts business leaders, entrepreneurs, the self-employed, individuals from the corporate community and non-profit organizations. Check the web site at www.rbpa.org

Saco Bay Gay Men (BIDDEFORD/SACO), A gay men's support group has been started in Saco. We meet at the UU Church of Saco & Biddeford, every Thursday evening. We started out meeting on November 6th and are growing. FMI contact Tom Muise at sbgm@verizon.net

Seacoast Outright. (PORTSMOUTH, NH) but available to GLBTI youth from York county and southern Maine. A peer support group/organization for GLBTI youths. FMI contact Tawnee Walling, Executive Director at 603-431-1013 or check the web site at www.seacoastoutright.org

Seacoast Sapphos (PORTLAND TO PORTSMOUTH) A women's social group that sponsors dances, BBQs, potlucks, concerts, etc. FMI and to get on the mailing list contact Cherie at seacoastsapphos@yahoo.com or check the web site at www.seacoastsapphos.org

Thrive (PORTLAND AREA). Thrive offers gay, bi and questioning guys social and community building opportunities. Thrive coordinates social events like coffee houses, movie nights, and dinners. Thrive also provides wellness programming, information and advocacy for health issues and responsibilities unique to our community. FMI call 207-756-8071, email thrive@portlandmaine.gov or check the website at www.thrivemaine.com.

Trans_Port_Me (PORTLAND) This is a trans support group located in Portland, Maine for people who identify as transgender. Both M2F and F2M are welcome. We are located in downtown Portland and meet on a monthly basis in a safe location. A screening and interview process is in place to insure security and discretion. Admission to this group is by invitation only. My name is Gail and I am your host and moderator, but this is YOUR support group so the more input involvement and participation you provide the better. Internet support is fine, but person to person support, validation and interaction with people who are like us can have a profound effect on our overall well-being and sense of self. Send an e-mail to mailto:g_g_moreau@yahoo.com to join the online support group.

Twin Ponds Lodge (WATERVILLE-AUGUSTA AREA) is a private social club in Maine for adult male naturists and men who are comfortable with naturists. This private social club fills a niche for men seeking a comfortable and welcoming setting surrounded by nature on 75 acres of fields and woods. As a members-only club, we welcome you into a clothing-optional country setting to enjoy relaxation, recreation, and socializing. Passing through the gated entrance, you are greeted by two ponds surrounded by the lodge, lawns, cabins, and tenting areas. There are also areas for RVs with full hookups, including sewer. The lodge also welcomes member day visitors to enjoy the surroundings and recreational opportunities, and to explore the trails that wind through the woods. The Lodge is open year-round and features a large indoor heated pool, hot tub, sauna, and (coming soon) a steam room. The large great room provides seating for socializing, eating, or enjoying the large screen satellite television. The recreation room has a ping-pong and billiard table. (The gym/exercise room in coming soon!) We welcome all men, whether gay, straight, or bisexual. FMI, check the web site at www.twinpondslodge.com or email them at stay@twinpondslodge.com or call John at 207-437-2200.

WAYVES (CANADIAN MARITIMES) For those FAN readers who are near the Canadian maritime provinces there is a monthly newspaper, called WAYVES, which is put out by the maritime GLBT community. It's put out in print copy only, covers all the maritime provinces, and contains feature articles, regular columns, listings of groups and services, listings of GLBT events coming up, and business ads. A subscription sent to the U.S. is \$30/year CDN. FMI about subscribing contact Jim McMillan at 902-826-7356, email submissions@wayves.ca, or write to Wayves, PO Box 34090, Scotia Square, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, B3J 3S1. You can also check their web site at www.wayves.ca

Yankee Boyz. (AUBURN) A social/support group for those born female, or intersex, and which female and/or "woman" as an identity does not fit. Female-to-male Transsexuals, Transgenderists, Crossdressers, TG Butches, Stonebutches and otherwise very masculine identified female "guys" and their SOFFA'S (significant other, friend, family, allies) are welcome. All sexual orientations are welcome. A place to share ideas and experiences in an atmosphere where we do not have to fight for validation. Meets monthly Sept - June (1st or 2nd Sunday of the month...call ahead to verify). Meetings are held at the U.U. Church in Auburn. FMI contact PJ at pjmears@roadrunner.com or call 783-4630.

WEB-BASED MAINE GLBTQI LISTSERVES AND E-MAIL LISTS:

Bisexual Group Online. Bisexuals in Maine and other points north (BINNE). This is a discussion group, NOT a dating group. Located in Yahoo! groups at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/binne> .

Coastal Women's Connection. A women's social group providing connections for LBT women in the Brunswick to Portland area. oftball, camping, potlucks, etc. FMI about their activities you can join their yahoo group site (they have an events calendar) at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/coastalwomensconnection> .

Deserve to Know. A web site sponsored by The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention which features community resources for men who have sex with men (MSM) and all who are working to prevent the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases (STD) in Maine. This interactive Web site features a community calendar, HIV testing sites, and other helpful information. D2K will provides an anonymous and friendly place to browse information about HIV, HIV testing and men's health issues. It also features local and national news and information geared toward the MSM community. Check it out at www.deservetoknowme.org

Gay Maine. www.gaymaine.com . The lesbian and gay directory for gay-owned and gay-friendly places in Maine: Bars, clubs, hotels, guesthouses, restaurants, and more!

Laura's Playground. Transgender Suicide Prevention and Support Site. Jessica writes: I'm a moderator at a transgender suicide prevention and support site. It's a wonderful place with a live chat and lots of information. The chat runs 24 hours a day and I don't remember the last time there wasn't a moderator present. We screen the chatters to make sure we keep out 'admirers' and anyone who might harass. All moderators go thru suicide prevention training thru <http://training.sprc.org> as well as training from the administrators and supervisors. And it isn't only for suicidal individuals, a lot of TGs just go there to chat with people who understand their situation. I personally have found lots of support there and made some great friends. The people there are always willing to help answer any questions someone might have. Maine doesn't have much support to offer to TGs north of Bangor, or even much in Bangor. I just want to make sure that people know that Laura's Playground is around to offer support, answer questions, and help people find the resources they need. You can find it at: www.lauras-playground.com

Maine Gay Men's Weekly News Letter is an email newsletter focusing on organizations and activities in southern Maine. It is primarily for gay men, but they do include some general GLBT activities info and links to various GLBT organizations around the state. FMI, to see a sample copy, or to be added to their mailing list, send Joe an email at cascogays@gmail.com with your request.

Maine GayNet Listserve. A long-running listserve for the Maine GLBTQ community which allows members to post notices, opinions, etc. (in a broadcast manner) to everyone else on the listserve. To join the Maine GayNet listserve, send the following command in the body of a message to majordomo@groups.queernet.org: subscribe me-gaynet youremailaddress.

Maine Gay Outdoor Network Events (MEGONE) is a yahoo group site/email list for Maine's GLBT? folks (& friends) for posting announcements of outdoor related events. It's not a formal club or organization--just an informal way to let folks know about outdoor activities that they might like to participate in--whether it's a hike, a paddle, camping trip, nature walk, or even a downtown shopping walk--it's up to you. This is not meant to compete with other groups such as the Chiltern Club--it's just an idea that some of us came up with on a recent trip to Baxter State Park :-). So, if you'd like some company the

next time you take a hike, go on a bike ride, paddle, etc., just send an email to megone@yahogroups.com to let members know the details. To join the group, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/megone/> Please pass the word along to other gay-related lists/groups—the more people who join, the more opportunities there will be for connecting with like-minded folks for some great outdoor fun. Right now, the membership is "open" to anyone who would like to join....however, if we have any problems with folks who are not gay-friendly, I may change it to a process requiring membership approval. Also, people posting should use discretion regarding publicly posting time/place to meet—you may want to simply say "anyone interested in details, please email me at _____, or call me at _____ " Any questions? let me know! (mikeondavispond@yahoo.com)

Maine GLBT Community is your "Maine" source for information on LGBT issues, events and news. A virtual community center for bisexuals, lesbians, gay men, and transgender persons in the State of Maine.: <http://grou.ps/MAINEGLBTCOMMUNITY>

Maine Lesbians Listserv Anyone who identifies as a lesbian is welcome to join. The website address is: <http://groups.google.com/group/maine-lesbians> Women can request to join from the website or email me: patput@midcoast.com

Maine-Motorcycle-Women. Family member Vicky has set up a group on Google for women motorcyclists. Check it out at: <http://groups.google.com/group/maine-motorcycle-women?lnk=srg> FMI contact Vicky at vroommaine@gmail.com

Proud Lesbians of Poverty We seek people to join the group as we explore ways to improve the civil rights of GLBTQ's of poverty who cannot afford a lawyer to enforce their Gay Civil Rights, or their original Human Rights as a person. We are open to all people of any background. FMI contact Jan at janshouse@yahoo.com or phone 207-453-2353 or join the yahoo group at <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/ProudLesbians/>

Rubyfruit Cafe. A Maine-based, on-line, lesbian virtual community. Rubyfruit Cafe is a lesbian community magazine designed to showcase our lives, creativity, spirituality, politics, and much more. It is a website that will be driven by your submissions, your music, poetry, videos, photos, and stories. Show us where and how you live (show us your "crib") ... Tell us about your spirituality ... what you think politically and poetically ... sing your song or show us your garden ... share your lives, ideas and hopes with each other. If you find an interesting article, website, product, or new talent, let us hear about it. I want to create a fun, creative, supportive, environment for everyone to relax and just enjoy each other ... to take pleasure in our diversity and talents ... a place of tolerance and celebration. www.rubyfruitcafe.com

THE WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, AND HOW OF THE FAMILY AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER:

All communications to FAMILY AFFAIRS should be sent to zack@familyaffairsnewsletter.org (Be sure to include the words "family affairs" or "The FAN" in the subject line). Note that FAN issues often show up in your inbox from thefan@maine.rr.com due to technicalities of the internet.

WHAT IS "FAMILY AFFAIRS" ?

FAMILY AFFAIRS is a free, twice-a-month, social activities newsletter for the GLBTQI (gay/lesbian/bisexual/trans/queer/intersexed) community, sent out on the 1st and 15th of each month. It covers the State of Maine. The list was graciously begun and maintained for many years by Jean Vermette in Bangor. It is now operated by Zack Paakkonen of Portland.

WHO CAN SUBMIT NOTICES TO "FAMILY AFFAIRS" ?

Anyone! This is your chance to organize your own activities and get some GLBTQI-family company for those fun and interesting things you'd like to do. Do you want to host a potluck, attend a concert, or have someone to join you on that bus tour to Boston? Are you looking for someone to join you at the hockey or baseball games, for hiking, or to go to that special art exhibit? Are you looking for canoeing, golfing, camping, or fishing partners? This is the best place to look. Think up something fun to do, organize it, and let us know about it....it's easy!

CAN I ORGANIZE AN ACTIVITY THAT DOESN'T INCLUDE "EVERYONE" ?

Yes. People who want to organize an activity for the GLBTQ and/or I community are free to set whatever requirements or restrictions they want to on the activity they're organizing. If you want to organize a "women only" camping trip, a "men only" drumming night, a "youth from age 18-24 only" dance, or a day trip to a water park for GLBTQI "couples with children", that would be fine.

CAN I POST A SOCIAL ITEM THAT'S NOT GLBTQI FOCUSED?

But of course! Not everyone who watches women's basketball is a lesbian! If you want to organize an activity around something that is "mostly-straight-but-GLBTQI-friendly," then do it!

ARE THERE ANY DEADLINES FOR POSTING?

If you want to be sure that your posting will make it into the next issue, please send it to zack@familyaffairsnewsletter.org no later than four days prior to when the next issue comes out (in other words – three days before either the 1st or the 15th of the month). Although I can try to get a last-minute post into the next issue if you mail it later than my deadline, I can't guarantee it will make it.

HOW DO I GET ONTO OR OFF THE MAILING LIST ?

Just email me and ask to be put on (or taken off) the list: zack@familyaffairsnewsletter.org

CAVEATS:

All newsletters are emailed BCC, and the email list is not given out to anyone. Still, keep in mind that while this newsletter is for the GLBTQI community, not everyone on the mailing list may be a "family" member. People ask to be put on the list and I put them on. There is no interview process or attempt to verify "queer" status. It's up to you to behave appropriately for whatever level of anonymity/security you feel you need. Please note also that FAN issues may show up in your inbox as coming from thefan@maine.rr.com instead of from zack@familyaffairsnewsletter.org due to technicalities of the internet and the vagaries of your ISP and e-mail program. It's still the same FAN from the same sender.