

LESBIAN AT SOUTH POLE

Minneapolis (Outlines) -The American Women's Trans-Antarctic Expedition, led by Minneapolis lesbian Ann Bancroft, made history 1/14 when they became the first all-women's team to reach the South Pole without motorized vehicles or dogsleds. The women skied the 660 miles to the pole. Bancroft, 37, is the first woman to reach both the North and South poles.

PAPAL BULL

Uganda (Washington Blade) - During a visit last month to this eastern African country, which has been devastated by AIDS, Pope John Paul II discouraged the use of condoms.

"The sexual restraint of chastity is the only safe and virtuous way to put an end to the tragic plague of AIDS, which has claimed so many young victims," he told a rally of 30,000 young people in Kampala.

In Uganda, one of the world's hardest-hit countries, 9% of the population of 16.7 million is believed to be infected with HIV. The epidemic has left as many as two million children in Uganda without parents.

INDIGO'S OUT!

Atlanta (Outlines) - The Indigo Girls' Emily Saliers has come out of the closet. In an interview with the gay/lesbian *Southern Voice*, Saliers talks about the Indigo Girls marching in Washington April 25. "I'm going because we need to have gay rights protected. I think it's time to ride the wave - as a lesbian and as a human being....I'm disturbed about what happened in Colorado, but heartened by what's happening in other parts of the country."

Apex

A POINT OF DEPARTURE

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SEIZE THE POWER!

by Winnie Weir

One million people are expected to attend the historic March on Washington later this month. Organizers are planning a massive lobbying effort to coincide with this, the largest March for freedom in our nation's history! One only need read the official MOW publication to get a sense of the importance of this event. Eric E. Rofes, Executive Director of the Shanti Project in San Francisco says, "Now, more than ever, the agenda of the lesbian, gay, and bisexual community has the chance to be seen in the mind of America for what it is: a critical part of a powerful movement for civil rights that emerged in the latter part of the 20th century." Victor Raymond and Laura M. Perez, MOW organizers for New England write, "As bisexuals we do not get half-bashed or only partly discriminated against; we don't lose half our children or half our jobs." To bisexuals who ask why they should march, they answer, "You will be a part of the largest contingent of bisexuals gathered together in one place, probably ever! ...there is no way you will be alone. You will feel powerful because you will be making a difference..."

While transgendered people are again omitted from the name, they are mentioned in the literature and the list of formal March Demands. Phyllis Randolph Frye, an out of the closet transgenderal, also asks why

the transgender community should march alongside lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and supportive heterosexuals. Phyllis says, "The answer for us is the same as the answer for supportive heterosexuals: demanding equal rights for anyone is the right thing to do! It is worthwhile to help to open any window to help any oppressed people!"

Diversity is the operative word of this March: ethnic diversity, cultural diversity, racial diversity. We are differently abled, from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds - laborers, clerks, professionals, activists. Our common bond is our oppression, both from outside and inside the queer community. Loree Cook-Daniels, conflict management specialist, observes, "When we judge and condemn each other for the ways in which we choose to express our gayness and carry out both our personal and social agendas, when we argue

that certain tactics and approaches are legitimate and useful and others are harmful, what we are doing is limiting... Instead of encouraging people to practice and perfect the very skills that we are best suited for, we're encouraging people to confine themselves to just a couple of roles and tactics."

We want Maine to be well represented at this historic event. Buses will leave Portland Friday evening, the 23rd, arriving in D.C. Saturday morning. Saturday evening

More MARCH ➤ page 9



photo by Diane Matthews

The Collective

Annette Dragon
Naomi Falcone
Diane Matthews
Madeleine Winter

Contributors

Bee Bell Stan Clough
Winnie Weir Thighmaster

*Desktop Publishing by
Winterfalcon Technical
Computer Services*

Logo Design by Grapheteria

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Phoenix Press is a collectively run organization whose purpose is to build and empower our community by providing positive lesbian/gay images. We will be a forum for the exchange of ideas through debate and discussion. The collective will work to reflect the political and social diversity of our community.

SUBMISSIONS

All submissions should be typed and double-spaced if at all possible. Please include your name and phone number in case we have any questions. Your name will be withheld at your request, but any material received without a contact name or number will not be published. Submissions *must* be received by the 20th of each month. Thank you for your contributions.

P.O. Box 4743
Portland, ME 04112
(207) 282-8091

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Dear Editor:

By the time you read this, the *Gay and Lesbian Times of Maine (GLT)* formerly *Our Paper*, will have ceased publication. Since I've written for both *GLT* and *APEX* and have enjoyed a positive working relationship with both papers, I'm in the ideal position to explain what happened. Why did a publication that's been around for so many years, dependably, "suddenly" go under. Three reasons.

Basically, financial. Just because the papers are "free" doesn't mean they don't cost; just because we're all volunteers doesn't mean the piper doesn't have to be paid. Office rent, the telephone bill, lights, office supplies, computer rental and printing must be paid. When the paper goes to the printer: surprise! He gets paid, up front, no credit, no freebies, no "trade-outs"! It stops being "free" at the printer's door. But you would be amazed how many gay/lesbian advertisers welch on their ad bills, simply don't pay them and get offended when pressed. Like we owe them ad space. It's not just Portland: every gay paper I've worked for has had the problem of gay/lesbian profit-making companies ducking their ad bills. Profit-making businesses, like counselors/therapists, who get it back from Medicare and health plans, guaranteed, were the worst; restaurants second. Some of these deadbeats ran up thousand dollar ad bills and welched. They wouldn't get in the door at *Casco Bay Weekly* on credit but for some reason, they dump on their own kind. And squealed like stuck pigs when *GLT* announced that ads had to be paid, in advance. Jeez! I'd love to name them! Gay businesses paying their bills could have kept *GLT/Our Paper* afloat.

Lack of volunteers to help. This is a funny one. People have weird ideas about the media: that it's some magic that just happens or that it's a huge, complex operation. At *GLT* (and *APEX*, too) 6-10 people, tops, splitting all the chores and very few Clark Kents and Brenda Starrs. Your high school yearbook had a bigger staff.

Clerical, paste-up, delivery, ad reps, all sorts of fun, nitty-gritty things to do, the pressure of deadline, the satisfaction of getting it out, the feeling of providing the community with a needed service, gay women and gay men working in harmony, a space where groups could publicize their fundraisers and ask for help: great pizza-and-dish parties! No amount of pleading brought volunteers in: one or two people wound up doing almost everything. After their regular jobs, night after night, month after month. I think irrational hatred of "the media" kept some people away; or fear of being "tainted by notoriety," some such nonsense. Four or five more vols could have kept *GLT/Our Paper* afloat.

And finally, burn-out. A major contributor to this was the constant carping from those who thought the paper was too controversial, too divisive, not controversial enough, boring, radical, bland, hyper, vanilla, too feminist, not "male" enough: etcetera, etcetera, etcetera, but not one constructive idea or offer of help. After a while, the whining got to be an endless pain in the (r)ear. You never hear from the people who do appreciate what you're trying to do with the rag and - the lights go out. Americans - even gays - really do take freedom of the press - a free press - for granted. A few words of encouragement - not compliments even - could have kept *GLT/Our Paper* afloat. But let me tell you all this, even in

apex \ˈā-peks\ *n.* 1 **a:** the uppermost point: VERTEX (the ~ of a mountain) **b:** the narrowed or pointed end: TIP (the ~ of the tongue) 2: the highest or culminating point (the ~ of her career) **syn** see SUMMIT.

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of the collective.

the post-Reagan-Bush-Clinton euphoria, we've still got enemies out there and a lesbian/gay paper had better be hot, challenging, annoying, offensive, very liberal and real trashy or it might as well be the *Readers' Digest*! It's got to point fingers, dish the dirt and demand honesty within the community. And it's got to be in-your-face on the issues that confront us. It's got to make your blood boil or it's not worth your picking it up.

No paper's going to be perfect. I've written for gay/lesbian papers from New York to Boston to Atlanta, from the *New York Native* to the *Advocate*: *The Gay and Lesbian Times of Maine*, nee: *Our Paper*, was pretty damn good.

The gay/lesbian community in Maine (and New Hampshire and Vermont) can afford two or more publications; that is, advertising revenues can pay the bills and even turn a profit. But if the gay and lesbian community doesn't support a paper by reading it, giving it to friends, running ads in it and buying from advertisers who place those costly ads, and if advertisers continue to welch on their debts, a paper won't get off the boards. *APEX* won't last. We don't have radio and TV yet: our gay/lesbian papers and mags are our only way of communicating with each other. We need our gay/lesbian publications.

The gay and lesbian community sank *The GLT/Our Paper*. The community will miss it!

Tough noogies, *GLT/Our Paper*! It was a ball!

Alexander Wallace

Greetings from the Left Coast...

The first three days here were sheer panic. "Why didn't I visit here first?", I asked myself over and over again. And the people I would meet would continually remind me of this thought by asking me quizzically, "So did you visit here first?"

"Damn. Why didn't I visit here first?", I thought. After all, it's really different here.

I suppose I could have taken extra precautions. I could have written a letter to the mayor:

Dear Mayor Jordan,

I'm contemplating a move to San Francisco. Currently I live in a small East Coast city with 52,000-square-foot supermarkets. Any chance I'll adjust to life in your city?

*Sincerely,
Maine Native*

I opted to go without writing that letter. It's good I did because I've since learned that Big-City mayors are busy with other issues and I'd probably still be waiting for the go-ahead.

It was in late January that I set out in my Honda Accord to make the trip across the continent. The highlight of my 24-day trip had to be marching with a dozen other queers in the New Orleans Martin Luther King Day Parade behind a banner that read, "Lesbian and Gay Community Center of New Orleans: We Too Share the Dream."

I loved New Orleans and part of me

wanted to stay. But San Francisco was waiting. Now that I'm here and my eyes are starting to readjust to the Light, I think I like it here. The palm trees in Mission Dolores Park and wild calla lilies in city gardens are nice sights to see in "Winter."

People are very friendly here and I think it's because so many of them are from the Midwest and from towns like Presque Isle and Jackman.

I like being able to take buses, streetcars and subways practically anywhere at anytime. Knowing that Gay Bingo and Gay Bowling are available weekly makes life richer, too. Of course, I'm missing familiar Maine faces and venues like Woodfords Cafe, The Matlovich Society and Monument Square. But I have years of memories and photos that are close at hand.

One quick story: I was touring Temple Emanu-El, a magnificently domed synagogue with Byzantine features. Turns out that the 76-year old San Franciscan woman giving the tour left Auburn, Maine in 1935 and knew my great-grandmother decades before I was born.

So Friends In Maine, I have a few special requests:

1. Save me a place behind the Maine banner at the March On Washington.
2. Praise George Mitchell and chide Bill Cohen for their recent military ban and HIV exclusion votes.
3. When in San Francisco, promise you'll say hello:

*Bob Gordon, 790 Church St., #203,
San Francisco, CA 94114
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WHERE WE'VE BEEN - an exploration of lesbian and gay history

by Stan Clough

Pink and Black Triangles: Conclusion

On September 1, 1939, Nazi tanks rolled into Poland, igniting another World War. By September of the next year, Hitler's armies had swallowed up much of Western Europe. German bombers were now attempting to pound London into submission. While the Nazis rolled over Europe, Heinrich Himmler's war on sexual deviants was stepped up.

The war on lesbians and gays was part of a larger operation to "cleanse" Nazi-occupied Europe of undesirables. Jews in Poland were ordered to wear yellow stars to identify them. Before the Second World War began, Hitler indicated he wanted the extinction of European Jews. As the Nazi armies conquered Poland, Scandinavia, the Lowlands and France, the Gestapo rounded up Jews and sent them to large concentration camps in the East, such as Treblinka and Auschwitz. In June 1941, the Nazi hoards were hurled against the Soviet Union, and Himmler's S.S. sent millions of Russian POW's to the labor camps in Poland and Germany. Countless numbers of these POW's were worked to death in the concentration camps. But in the infamous Wannsee Conference of January 1942, the Nazis decided upon a "final solution" to the "Jewish problem." The solution was the gas chambers of Auschwitz and Treblinka.

Herded into the death camps along with Europe's Jews were other enemies. Red triangles identified communists in the camps. "Asocials," such as lesbians, were forced to wear black triangles. Himmler could not believe the womanhood of the Third Reich "would practice lesbian acts." He nevertheless found such women, and shipped them off to the camps, where they wore the black triangle. They were enemies of the Reich because they would not bear children for the state. Gays were forced to wear the shameful pink triangle, the symbol of effeminacy.

As with all the inmates of the concentration camps, the gays were horribly abused. Perhaps as many as 60,000 to 100,000 gays were incarcerated in the concentration

camps under Paragraph 175. Many were forced to labor in the cement factories, where they worked in intense heat until they died. They were constantly humiliated for their sexuality, and were the victims of multiple rapes by the guards. If they were lucky, they escaped with only a stomping by hobnailed boots. Lesbians were also raped, with the belief that all they needed was to experience a man.

As with the Holy Inquisition of the Middle Ages, homosexuality was a convenient charge to level against non-conformists in Nazi Germany. Groups of anti-Nazi youths wore their hair long, listened to American jazz, and practiced free love. They frequently terrorized the Hitler Youth by stealing their Nazi insignia. Himmler hated them. He accused youth groups such as the Edelweiß Pirates of homosexuality. Those that were caught were sent to concentration camps, where many were tortured or executed.

But Hitler's number was up. The Soviets counterattacked, and American and British forces landed in France in June 1944. Within a year, Nazi Germany was crushed between the twin onslaught from the east and west. The Allies were shocked when they liberated the concentration camps. Human skeletons greeted them. Six million Jews perished in the death camps, while an equal number of non-Jews met the same fate.

But the gays were not liberated. The Allies thought imprisonment was a just fate for homosexuals: they had to serve the rest of their sentences in jail. Paragraph 175 was not repealed by West Germany until 1969. Only the Dutch memorialized the gays and lesbians who suffered under Nazi cruelty.

When we wear our pink and black triangles *with pride*, we defeat the hateful spirit of the Nazi swastika.

Books to read:

John Lauritsen and David Thorstad. *The Early Homosexual Rights Movement (1864-1935)*.

Otto Friedrich. *Before the Deluge*.

Richard Grunberger. *The 12 Year Reich*.

Richard Plant. *The Pink Triangle*. ▼





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NO BUSINESS AS USUAL - this month in local activism

by Bee Bell

MLGPA (the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance) has historically had some great people and some great moments. When ACT UP/Portland went down to the unemployment lines last winter to hand out fliers for a health care march, tough straight-looking guys readily took our info. "Sure," they said. "You people helped us out when we were on strike." Who people? Queer people, apparently MLGPA queers, had done strike relief and brought food to picketing workers in the '80's. So, while focusing on passing a state gay rights bill for the last 8 years, MLGPA has also made some swell grassroots bottom-up efforts.

And that just made the annual Alliance awards banquet on 2/27 all the more painful. First of all, the keynote speaker was a goddamn Republican--a gay male one from Massachusetts whose big claim to fame is that he tried and failed to win state office in '90. Hmm...where to begin? Perhaps a reminder that REPUBLICANS ARE NOT OUR FRIENDS, PEOPLE! They are not "diversity." They are about letting people starve and die and go uneducated so rich people and big business can stay on top. For queers to be Republicans, they must divide us against ourselves: you don't see a lot of black Republicans or dyke Republicans around. Plus, having a political failure from Massachusetts come make us a lousy speech does not bespeak a lot of regional queer pride. How about a pro-people queer from Maine? We've got a truckload or two.

Anyhow, the awards: I'll limit my kvetching to two of them. The MLGPA Media Award went to Guy Gannett Publishing Co. "Huh?" you say. That's right. Ghastly Gannett. Screamingly conservative makers of USA Today (the paper that's just like TV!), lots more shallow trash press across the country, and owners of the *Portland Press Herald* and Channel 13. Lest you forget, these (PPH) are the people who run M.D. Harmon's ravings against "sodomites" (fags) every Monday and also let him arrange and edit the shit out of all letters to the editor. While

Channel 13 has the best of the TV news on our issues, the *Press Herald* just about never covers protests and demonstrations for queer causes. (For example, even the ACT UP/Portland actions covered in the *New York Times* have met with total media whiteouts in the PPH!) Editor George Neavoll wrote some tepid but nice editorials in support of Portland's gay rights ordinance. That's his job, no more. If the point is not to give the award to queer media, it should at least go to more thoroughly pro-queer press--the *Maine Progressive*, *Casco Bay Weekly*. Man oh man.

And what about that Great Pioneer Award to Portland's United Way for dissing and defunding the anti-queer Boy Scouts? Lesbomom Terry, the fierce wannabe-den-mother who generated all the attention and action on this issue, suddenly got to share the award with the U. Way at the last minute. Fine. But she should have been honored in the first place. The presenter introduced the award saying that "not many organizations stuck by Terry" when she was first refused as a Boy Scout volunteer. Oh--is it Queer Nation or APEX he's gonna mention?, I wondered, since these were the only groups who supported Terry, wrote about her, and organized protests for her when the shit first hit the fan. But "the United Way" turned out to be the subject of this praise. Criminy. Acknowledge the street activism and independent reporting that got the issue on the news and in your face.

Meanwhile, in Augusta, the Maine state gay rights bill has gained major ground in the State House since its close-call defeat two years ago. It's got 40 sponsors and co-sponsors this time: if your reps ain't all on the list, call their asses on the carpet. The vote will be close, the governor will be tough to crack (he wants to veto), but this is the bill's best

Q. What kind of guitar is played by a reed??



More BUSINESS ➡ page 9

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CALENDAR . . .

THURSDAY 4/1

Out and About Special Events
Committee meeting at Ruth & Beekie's in Cape Neddick, ME. FMI & directions ☛ (207) 361-2207

FRI.-SUN. 4/2-4

Singles Weekend at Highland's
Inn, Bethlehem, NH. We'll do wine, cheese & dinner & some organized events. FMI ☛ (603) 869-3978.

FRIDAY 4/2

Amelia's Singles Group, 7pm.
Location to be determined. Bring games and snacks to share. FMI ☛ (603) 523-4593 or (603) 763-4112.

SATURDAY 4/3

NH Pride Auction and Dance
Pat's Peak in Henniker, NH. Viewing: 7pm, Auction: 8pm. Followed by dancing until 1am. Free adm. to auction, \$6/dance. FMI ☛ (603) 595-1589.

Line Dancing with Women of the Woods, 7pm, Plainfield, VT
Fire Station. FMI ☛ (802) 229-0109.

MONDAY 4/5

Seacoast Gay Men Easter Potluck Basket Party. Unitarian Church, Portsmouth, NH, 7pm. FMI ☛ AI (603) 898-1115.

WEDNESDAY 4/7

Lesbian Discussion Group at Concord Feminist Health Ctr., 38 S. Main St., Concord, NH, 7pm. Topic: The Corporate Lesbian. FMI ☛ (603) 225-2739.

THURSDAY 4/8

Dr. Joan Laird, Professor at Smith College School of Social Work, discusses "Lesbian and Gay Families: What We're Doing Right." Matlovich Soc., Rines Aud., Portland Library,

Portland, ME, 7:30-9pm, wheel chair accessible.

MONDAY 4/12

Greg Westgate, Vice Chairman of Libertarian party of NH speaks on the first amendment. Seacoast Gay Men, Unitarian Church, Portsmouth, NH, 7pm. FMI ☛ AI (603) 898-1115.

SATURDAY 4/17

Out for Laughs '93 - Women's comedy at NE U., Boston, 8pm, \$14.50/adv., \$16.50/door. FMI ☛ (617) 524-0415.

Maine Gay Men's Chorus presents *The Rhythm of Life*, music including Copeland, Ellington, Beethoven & more. 8pm, 1st Parish Church, 425 Congress St., Portland, ME. FMI & tickets ☛ (207) 772-0114.

Amelia's Meeting at Mert's followed by potluck and bonfire 5pm. FMI ☛ (603) 763-4112.

SUNDAY 4/18

Cris Williamson at the Folkway in Peterborough, NH. Two shows \$16. FMI ☛ the Folkway.

MONDAY 4/19

Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Kelley Conway, writing consultant, talks about the writing process and poetry together with a workshop. Seacoast Gay Men, Unitarian Church, Portsmouth, NH. FMI ☛ AI (603) 898-1115.

THURSDAY 4/22

Time Out: ME/NH Outdoors, & other New England recreation clubs for the lesbian, gay and bisexual community, discuss their upcoming Spring & Summer programs, as well as presenting slides of past trips. *"How I Spent My Summer Vacation: Outdoor Sports and Recreation Alternatives."*

Matlovich Soc., Rines Aud., Portland Library, Portland, ME, 7:30-9pm, accessible.

SATURDAY 4/24

Dyke March and Action on the eve of the March on Washington. 7pm, DuPont Circle.

SUNDAY 4/25

March on Washington!!

MONDAY 4/26

Jeffrey DeMoura of Colours of Pride talks about NH's first gay pride gifts & novelties mail order catalog. Seacoast Gay Men, Unitarian Church, Portsmouth, NH. FMI ☛ AI (603) 898-1115.

WEDNESDAY 4/28

Are you suffering from Dyke deprivation? Lesbian discussion group for womyn born womyn who are sexual exclusively with womyn (lesbians), 7pm. FMI/location ☛ (207) 775-1487.

The Flirtations perform to benefit AIDS Response of the Seacoast at 8pm, Strafford Room, Memorial Union Bldg., UNH, Durham, NH. Also playing: Yagottawanna. Tix: \$12/adv, \$15/door, \$10/UNH students. FMI ☛ (603) 862-3823 or (603) 433-5377.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Seeking submissions of poetry, letters, prose, etc. written to or for those who have died from AIDS (or are HIV +) for a book called *I Never Said Goodby to Nat*. Profits will go to AIDS organizations. Please send submissions to: Mary R. Sanders, The Nat Foundation, POB 308, Briarcliff, NY 10510.

MEDIA

WMPG'S Women's Music Fest on 90.9 FM 3-5pm Sundays.

KGAY is on the air! This gay-owned radio station is broadcasting via satellite on Galaxy 5, transponder 6, at 6.3 & 6.46 mhz, or on Spacenet 3, transponder 22, at 6.2 & 7.4 mhz. FMI ☛ KGAY studio - 1-800-733-5429; office - 1-800-758-6642.

NOTICES

"Visual AIDS," an International traveling exhibit of over 200 AIDS/Safer sex posters, is currently on display at Chase Hall, Bates College, Lewiston, ME. Free. Ends 4/10. FMI ☛ (207) 786-6255.

Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance announces our second year of scholastic awards for deserving Maine high school students. The \$500 (minimum) award(s) are open to **ANY** Maine high school student who has been accepted by a university, college, or vocational technical school. Donations and requests for qualification guidelines can be sent to: ML/GPA Scholarship Committee, 18 Summer St., Augusta, ME 04330. Deadline for submissions is 5/15/93.

20th Annual Maine Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Symposium! Spend Memorial Day Weekend (5/28-31) at Unity College, Unity, Maine. A weekend full of workshops, speakers, dancing, games and more. Keynote speakers are Joan Nestle and John Calvi. Joan Nestle is the founder of the Lesbian Herstory Archives. John Calvi will lead a workshop for men on "Finding Intimacy in the Age of AIDS." A coffee house will be held Friday night. Artwork and crafts will be displayed all weekend. FMI ☛ (207) 469-7916, or write to Kathy Stadig, RR 2, Box 128, Verona, ME 04416.

Equal Protection Lewiston (EPL) desperately needs your support

OPEN DOOR UPDATE

in time and money. Please send donations to POB 7804, Lewiston, ME 04243-7804. FMI ☛ (207) 784-5818 (fax (207) 777-3299). And please come to a meeting to find out what you can do. EPL meets every other Monday in the Lewiston Multipurpose Center (see 3/8 and 3/22).

Club EX Network, an international home exchange & hospitality club with 120 members worldwide, has established a toll free number for info in the US. This service helps vacationers by providing free housing and encourages cultural exchange between gays/lesbians of different countries. Yearly membership fee. Confidential. FMI ☛ 1 (800) 787-0010 or write Doug Rattray, Club EX Network, POB 101, London SW12 0PR, UK (Tel/Fax +44/81 675 6195).

The HIV Summit to discuss critical HIV/AIDS issues in Maine and develop an action plan. Saturday, May 8, 10am to 4pm, Universalist Church, 69 Winthrop St., Augusta, ME. FMI ☛ ACT UP (207) 828-0566 or Maine AIDS Alliance (207) 621-2924.

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By Stan Clough

*Those who deny freedom to others,
deserve it not for themselves.*
A. Lincoln

Tom Kaufold, Public Relations Committee of the Open Door City Coalition (Portsmouth, NH), spoke at Seacoast Gay Men (SGM) on March 8. Portsmouth Assistant Mayor Jim Splaine, a proponent of a gay rights ordinance for the city, was scheduled to speak, but never showed up. Nevertheless, Kaufold informed the audience as to the progress of the gay rights initiative.

Open Door City Coalition has the support of Mayor Eileen Foley and at least six of Portsmouth's nine city councilors, according to Kaufold. The Coalition is currently seeking a broad base of support from the City's businesses, professionals and community groups. The United Christian Coalition for Lesbian/Gay Concerns and PFLAG are two groups who have already endorsed the civil rights ordinance. The Unitarian/Universalist Church on State Street, where SGM meets, is also expected to sign on to the ordinance.

Attorney Susan Colt is in the process of writing the ordinance. The ordinance, which will be modeled on Portland, Maine's, would make illegal "discrimination in employment, housing, access to public accommodations and in the extension of financial credit." Appropriate penalties will be prescribed for breaking the law. Kaufold was emphatic in

noting the ordinance will include a "special-rights" disclaimer: it will neither endorse nor approve of *any* lifestyle. Kaufold also hoped gays and lesbians would come forth to present the city council with their own experiences in discrimination and violence. *[As we go to press]* a public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 24, at the U/U Church on State Street. The Coalition hopes to educate the people of Portsmouth concerning lesbian and gay concerns. Two videos are planned to be shown: *The Gay Agenda* and *Hate, Lies and Videotape*. Some question the wisdom of showing *The Gay Agenda* at such a meeting. Pat Robertson just recently aired segments of the video on his *700 Club* to shock his constituency. Al Santerre, moderator of SGM, wanted to know what the video has to do with Portsmouth. "It's about half-naked guys kissing in the streets during San Francisco's Gay Pride," he said. "It was shown in Washington by the right-wing religious assholes, and it got all the little old ladies

calling in against gay rights there." Santerre argues that showing *The Gay Agenda* can only harm the Coalition's efforts.

Kaufold believes the crowd from the Portsmouth's Screven Baptist Church and others will set their sights against a state-wide gay rights law. Last December, Screven Baptist Church sponsored a protest against the Portsmouth School Board's new policy of making condoms available through the school nurse. They told the media they expected two to three thousand protesters. They ended up with less than 200. "At least we're not illegal," commented Kaufold. Sodomy was dropped from New Hampshire's criminal code in 1975, under the nose of arch-homophobe Gov. Meldrim Thomson. ▼

Q. What has twelve strings, two chords and can fill a hole in the day ??



ASK THIGHMASTER - advice with holes

Dear Thighmaster:

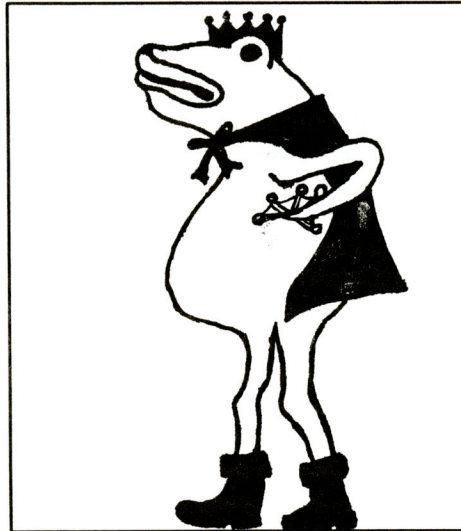
I am shunned by many of my fellow gayboys because of my sexuality, or lack thereof. I don't like most forms of unsafe sex, like fucking and sucking (passive or active), even when they are made safe. Mutual masturbation is about all I can handle, so to speak. Many call me weird and perverted. They think because I look butch, I should act aggressively in bed. With all these negative judgments on me, sex has just become one big hassle.

Butch in the Streets

Dear Street Butch,

Your letter is just one more piece of evidence that queer sex would be better if dykes and fags would trade more info, which is also totally obvious from reading the personals and eavesdropping in bars. Fags are totally smart about something that dykes still haven't figured out after decades of chyk lib and bedshocks: asking someone how she feels about cats, long walks on the beach, or kd lang is simply not an effective way to determine if her turn-ons complement yours. But dykes also know something fags don't - as a result, Thighmaster suspects, of doing apparently mandatory time in processing/relationship purgatory: you just can't judge what you're getting from 25 words or less, no matter how specific. "If you hate the Indigo Girls, love Prince, and can deal with a woman who occasionally wears skirts" may be a totally stupid way to convey "fem bottom 60/40 switch into light S/M," but the wildly specific fag approach ("83% top into brown-eyed blonds, 23-24.5 years old, with fantasy of acting out Mick Jagger doing David Bowie in Renaissance Florence by performing 2 anal, 3 oral, and 6 manual acts") is no guarantee either. And you certainly can't judge by looks. If fags listened

to dykes, who get over this streets = sheets expectation after a few disappointing evenings, there wouldn't be so many gayboys still laboring under the delusion that what you see is what you get - and then blaming you, Mr.



drawing by Naomi Falcone

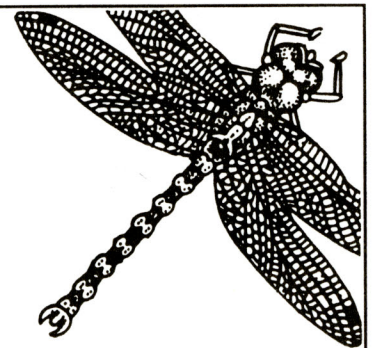
Street Stud, for their own arrested development in the scope and score department. If anyone's to blame for your stress, it's these guys. O.K., it's not, as we learned in school, a "free country," but even in the US you're allowed to have forearms, no matter what you want to do with them. So unless you've been doing that pseudo-casual "flex and thrust while chatting" routine with these guys, they shouldn't be handing you this hassle.

And they really shouldn't be trashing the choices you've made about what risks to take, or what acts to do. Thighmaster bets these gayboys of whom you speak probably humiliated kids stuck with K-Mart Pseudo-Nikes in junior high (or else they were those kids, and have been waiting for years to ascend to cool-kid cruelty). These playground bullies need a Thighmaster verbal wedgie: how dare they taunt you into describing mutual masturbation, or even nonmutual masturbation, as a "lack thereof," sexualitywise. Well, get a clue, guys. If you want to find the sex police, don't bother

going to antiporn rallies or chasing down those Volvos with "Vanilla and Proud" bumper stickers. Just look in the mirror.

So you've got truth, justice, and Thighmaster's stamp of approval on your side. And if the truth actually set you free, or if knowledge really equalled power, or if fags listened to dykes on any regular basis, Thighmaster would have already given you everything you need. This column could end right here, and Thighmaster wouldn't be forced to perform the ultimate sacrifice that Thighmaster is about to perform. Yes, Thighmaster is going to crossdress as Susie Sunshine, because you obviously need to hear some Disneyesque platitudes (modified, of course, for the occasion) like "someday your prince will make you come" or "you have to kiss a lot of frogs in the process of finding the 100,000 sex-princes you deserve to have." Trite, but true. Sex is well worth the hassle. So stand firm, as it were, on your right to control your body, and keep looking.

Thighmaster eagerly awaits your submissions. No problem is too complicated or twisted! Thighmaster, c/o Phoenix Press, PO Box 4743, Portland, ME 04112. ▼



ANNETTE
DRAGON

PHOTOGRAPHER

207-773-7999

▼
WEDDINGS • UNIONS • PARTIES

More MARCH from page 1

an express bus will get you to D.C. in time for the March. All buses leave D.C. Sunday night, arriving in Maine Monday morning. Roundtrip cost is \$55. Send a \$55 check payable to MMOWD, P.O. Box 11502, Portland, ME 04104.

We have word of a bus leaving Orono, making stops in Waterville and Lewiston. The cost is \$42. Send check to Jill Harmon c/o Wilde-Stein, 5748 Memorial Union, Orono, ME 04469, or call (207) 581-1596 for more information. If you are interested in car pooling, call (207) 871-0432 (Gay/Lesbian Bulletin Board) and leave a message. If you are in need of overnight accommodations, call 1-800-554-2220.

The Maine contingent will have an opportunity to gather at the State Room of the Holiday Inn, 1615 Rhode Island Ave. (off DuPont Circle), where breakfast will be available from 8:00-10:30 a.m. for \$5. This room will serve as a gathering place for the Maine Delegation before the March. Call (207) 871-0432 before April 22 to let us know you are coming for breakfast.

There is a bus (or buses) leaving from Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The roundtrip is \$50. Call Doug at (603) 627-0485 for more information. ▼



More BUSINESS from page 5

chance ever. It's your basic duty as a queer or pro-queer human being to get out at least one letter to your Senator, Rep, Governor, or your newspaper. MLGPA is urging people to have friends over and do a whole letter-writing party: write reps at State House Station #2, senators at Station #3, both Augusta, ME 04333. For more info call MLGPA prez Paula

Aboud at (207) 445-2863. The public hearing took place on 3/24; the lawmakers will think it over in April and likely will vote before the month is out. So do it now--even if it's just a couple of sentences, write.

STAND AND BE COUNTED SUNDAY, APRIL 25. A million people will march on Washington, D.C. for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender liberation.

I recommend it.

The March is especially great for people who've never done anything like it. It's like a huge fucking wonderful reunion.

While you're in D.C., check out the ACT UP actions Friday (co-ed a.m., dykes p.m.) and the get-arrested-for-

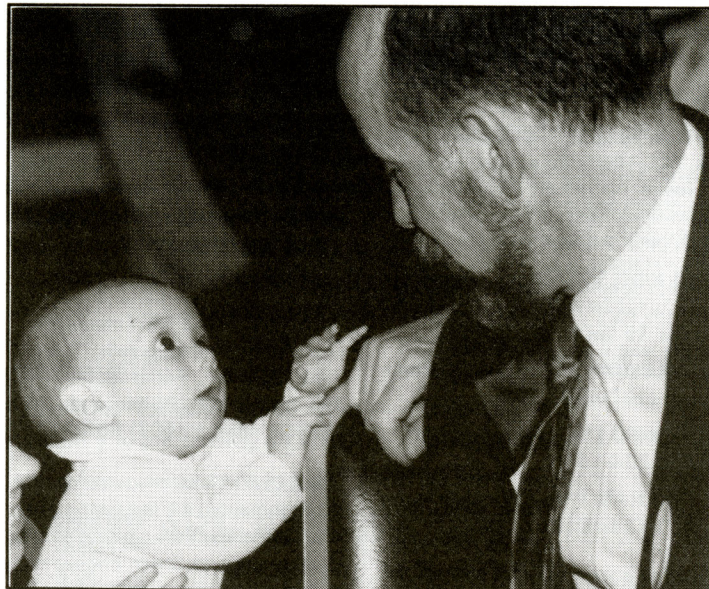


photo by Annette Dragon
Howard Solomon (right) and Friend Converse at MLGPA Banquet

health-care civil disobedience Mon. at the capitol. Also all women must come dig the Dyke March from DuPont Circle Sat. night 5/24 at 7pm - "A celebration of struggle, survival, and resistance" - at which boy monuments will be feminized and "Size Doesn't Matter" will be projected on the Washington Monument.

Also bring your flaming torch, yow! See you queers there. ▼

A. Ann Reed and her 12 string guitar, 2 vocal chords and her new release Hole in the Day.

Sat. May 15, 1993 8:00 pm
First Parish Church
425 Congress St. Portland, ME
FMI: Wild Iris Prod. 207/247-3461 or
207/929-3866

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RESOURCE GUIDE

LIST YOUR GROUP! PLEASE SEND INFORMATION AND/OR UPDATES TO PHOENIX PRESS, P.O. BOX 4743, PORTLAND, ME 04112

HOT-LINES

THE AIDS LINE: 1-800-851-AIDS or 775-1267. Questions or concerns re: HIV/AIDS? Call Mon.-Sat. 9am-5pm, Mon. & Wed. eve. until 7:30pm. Always anonymous.

DIAL KIDS, 774-TALK - for lesbian, gay, bisexual & questioning youth under 19 yrs of age.

GAY-LESBIAN PHONELINE, Caribou area: (207)498-2088.

GAY INFO LINE, Concord, NH (603) 224-1686.

INGRAHAM VOLUNTEERS (207) 774-HELP.

PUBLICATIONS

OUT IN THE MOUNTAINS
P.O. Box 177
Burlington, VT 05402

R.A.G.
Box 3293
N. Conway, NH 03860
Quarterly newsletter for women living or vacationing in western ME and Mt. Washington Valley of NH.

SOCIAL GROUPS

AM CHOFSHI - Maine Lesbian/Gay Jewish group, meets monthly. FMI ☎ (207) 874-2970 (Rheatha).

MOUNTAIN VALLEY MEN - Box 36, Center Conway, NH 03813. Social group for gay men from west. ME & east. NH. Potlucks & activities. FMI ☎ (207) 925-1034 (Paul).

OUT AND ABOUT - lesbian social & support group. Meets Mon, 7pm, Portsmouth, NH. For sample newsletter and FMI write OAA, POB 332, Portsmouth, NH 03802-0332 or ☎ (603) 659-2139.

SEACOAST GAY MEN meets Mon. 7pm, Unitarian-Universalist Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH PO Box 1394, Portsmouth, NH 03802. FMI ☎ (603) 898-1115.

TIME OUT - Outdoor recreation and environmental club for lesbians, gay men & friends. Free newsletter lists outdoor sports, instructional and environmentally related events for the NH and ME area. FMI ☎ (207) 871-9940 or SASE to Time Out, POB 11502, Portland, ME 04104.

SUPPORT GROUPS

THE AIDS PROJECT - 22 Monument Square, 5th Fl., Portland, ME 04101 FMI ☎ (207)774-6877 about various support groups in Portland, Auburn/Lewiston & Brunswick, ME areas.

ANDROSCOGGIN VALLEY AIDS COALITION (AVAC) - 70 Court St., 2nd Fl., Auburn, ME. Support grp for people with HIV & their loved ones. Thurs. 7pm. FMI ☎ (207) 786-4697.

CHRONOLOGICALLY ADVANTAGED LESBIANS - Meetings for lesbians over 60 in Vermont. FMI ☎ (802) 658-5510.

CRONES - for women over 40. POB 242, Winooski, VT 05404.

GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL PARENTS GROUP OF MAINE - FMI ☎ (207) 772-4741 (Frank).

L-ACOA/AL-ANON - Lesbian mtg. Tues. 7-8:30 pm, 7 Middle St., Brunswick, ME (behind U.U. Church on Pleasant St. in dntwn Brunswick, opp. public library) FMI ☎ Gail (207) 833-6004.

MAINEBISexualPEOPLE'S NETWORK, POB 10818, Portland, ME 04104. Our purpose is to affirm in ourselves and others the positive nature of bisexuality and to work toward greater acceptance in the bisexual, gay, lesbian, and straight communities. Support and referral services available.

MIDCOAST MAINE PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (PFLAG) - 18 Douglas St., Brunswick, ME 04011. Info. & HELPLINE (207) 729-0519 (Sally & Gene). Lit. for & about parents, coming out materials, speakers, contacts with over 300 PFLAG chapters.

MONADNOCK AREA WOMYN (MAW)
P.O. Box 6345
Keene, NH 03431
(603) 357-5757

NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD
POB 990, Caribou, ME 04736; (207) 498-2088. NLN (founded 1980) serves Aroostook Co. & New Brunswick towns; sponsors social activities, discussion grps and speakers bureau; publishes monthly newsletter & activities calendar.

OUTRIGHT/PORTLAND - Wkly mtg for support, info., fun & special events for gay/lesbian/bisexual/questioning youth under 22 yrs of age, Williston West Church, upstairs chapel, 32 Thomas St., Portland, ME, Fri. 7:30-9:30pm.

FMI: Outright, Portland Alliance of Gay & Lesbian Youth, POB 5028, Station A, Portland, ME 04101.

OUTRIGHT/CENTRAL MAINE - Group for lesbian and gay youth 22 & under, meets Fri. 7:30 pm, 1st Unitarian Church, Pleasant St., Auburn, ME. PO Box 802, Auburn, ME 04212 ☎ 1-800-339-4042.

PWA COALITION OF MAINE
377 Cumberland Avenue
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 773-8500

RUMFORD/MEXICO AREA AIDS SUPPORT GROUP - Mon. at Mexico Congregational Church (the "Green Church") 7-8:30pm. Main St., Mexico, ME. FMI☎(207)369-0259.

LIFESTYLES ALLIANCE - meets Fri. Noon at the UNE campus. U. of New England, 11 Hills Beach Rd., Biddeford, ME 04005 FMI☎(207) 283-0171 x372.

MERRYMEETING AIDS SUPPORT SERVICES - P.O. Box 57, Brunswick, ME 04011-0057. Provides support group services regarding AIDS & HIV. FMI ☎ (207)725-4955.

OUT FOR GOOD - Lesbian discussion/support grp. Thurs. 7-9pm, 445 Main St., Biddeford, ME. Issues relevant to lesbian lifestyle. Free/\$1 donation requested for room rental. Conf., non-smoking. FMI☎ Bobbi (207)247-3461.

WOMEN'S INCEST AND SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS' GROUP
Open support/discussion for women only. Weds. 12:30-2:00pm. FMI ☎ (207) 874-6593 or (207) 774-3613.

POLITICAL

PORTLAND MLGPA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE at law offices, 5th floor, 100 Middle St., Portland, ME FMI ☎ (207) 871-0432.

APOLLO SOCIETY - For New England's gay/lesbian atheists, free-thinkers, ethical humanists & Hellenists. Free speech & civil rights advocacy, freedom-from-religion support and guilt free fun! FMI ☎ (207) 773-5626 or SASE to POB 5301, Portland, ME 04101.

FREDERICTON LESBIANS & GAYS
P.O. Box 1556, Station A
Fredericton, NB E3B 5G2 Canada

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Brewster Inn, Dexter
Androscoggin Valley AIDS Coalition, Lewiston
GLBA, Bates College, Lewiston
Sportsman Athletic Club, Lewiston
The Metro, Lewiston

Massachusetts

Glad Day Bookshop, Boston
New Words Books, Cambridge
Radzukina's, Haverhill

New Hampshire

Women's Information Service, Lebanon
NH Feminist Health Center, Concord
The Highland's Inn, Bethlehem
Campus G/L/B Alliance, UNH, Durham
ALSO, Plymouth State College, Plymouth
Blue Strawberry, Portsmouth
Members, Portsmouth

Vermont

Everyone's Books, Brattleboro
LUNA, St. Johnsbury
Rainbow Coalition, Montpelier
The Onion River Co-op, Burlington
GLB Alliance, UVM, Burlington

Portland

Portland Public Library
Living Room North
The AIDS Project
Woodford's Cafe
Raffles Cafe
Bagel Works
Books, Etc.
Zootz
YWCA
Limelight
Chartroom
Videoport
Blackstones
Bayou Kitchen
Good Day Market
Women's Forum, USM
Maine College of Art

CLASSIFIED

AIDS COALITION TO UNLEASH POWER (ACT UP/Portland)

142 High St., #222, Portland, ME 04101; (207) 828-0566; FAX: (207) 828-0566 3*. Meets Sun. 7pm at YWCA (87 Spring St., Portland, ME).

FAR (FEMINISTS AGAINST RAPE)

Activist group seeking to stop sexism in the media, courts and streets. One in three women is sexually assaulted in America. These are hate crime times. Meets weekly. FMI ☐ (207) 772-5941 or (207) 772-0935.

GREATER PORTLAND NOW c/o

YWCA, 87 Spring St., Ptld, ME 04101, (207) 879-0877 (Catherine) or (207) 871-0618 (Jennifer). POB 4012, Portland, ME 04101. Action-oriented group. Goals are: (1) foster Equal Rights for women; (2) insure unrestricted choice around reproductive rights; (3) support Lesbian/Gay rights. Speakers/events for the public 4th Tues. of every month.

SPIRITUAL

SPIRIT OF THE MOUNTAINS - gay/straight, justice-seeking community meets for worship 2nd & 4th Sundays 5pm, 1st Congregational Church, N. Main St. & Washington St., Concord, NH. Potluck after service. FMI ☐ Jim Bretz (603) 536-4011.

DIGNITY/MAINE - Masses at 1st Parish Church, 425 Congress St., Portland. Entrance in rear of church. Sundays 5:30pm.

INTEGRITY - St. Matthew's Church, 18 Union St., Hallowell, ME. 1st Fri. of the month, 7pm. FMI ☐ (207) 622-6631.

TRAVEL/VACATIONS

A Lesbian Paradise! - 20 charming rooms, 100 mountain acres, pool, hot tub, hiking/skiing trails, yummy breakfasts, peace and privacy. HIGHLANDS INN, Box 118 PP, Bethlehem, NH 03574. (603) 869-3978. 6/93

Wilderness Journeys for Women: Sea-kayaking the Maine Coast; Canoeing the Allagash; Hiking to Katahdin; Writers' Retreat; Wilderness Dreamquest; Herbal Study Retreat. HER WILD SONG, POB 515P, Brunswick, ME 04011. (207) 721-9005. 9/93

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WORKSHOPS

Vipassana Meditation Retreat for Lesbians and Gay Men. April 16-18, Deerfield, MA. Led by Arinna Weisman and Eric Kolvig. Silent sitting, walking, eating meditation and group

discussions. For more information call (413) 586-2079. 5/93

VOLUNTEERS

Give the gift of literacy by calling Literacy Volunteers of America (Greater Saco, Biddeford affiliate). Tutoring, basic reading and English as a second language. FMI ☐ Cynthia Read at (207) 283-2954. 10/93

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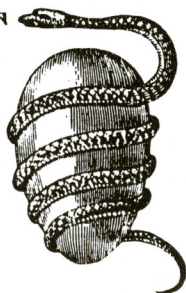
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