

**ART EXHIBIT REMOVED**

**San Antonio - (The Washington Blade)** The latest exhibit at an art gallery run by Roman Catholic nuns has sparked complaints because of its erotic exhibits.

The nuns and the Archdiocese of San Antonio have been besieged by irate callers. The exhibit was shut down on Sept. 13 by the nuns' order, the "Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate World."

The exhibit of works by Houston artist Donell Hill, titled "Spiritual, Sensual, Sexual," included sculptures of female genitalia in flowerlike formations and a painting of an angel having intercourse on an altar.

The nuns received about 100 angry phone calls on Sept. 12 and 13. The archdiocese said it received 100 complaints.

Sister Alice Holden, the gallery's director, said she prayed before the exhibit went up and decided the work should be shown because "sexuality is a tremendous gift from God."

**SIGN FOR 'GAY' CHANGED**

**New York - (The Washington Blade)** American Sign Language is being updated with more sensitive signs for several minorities, including Gays, according to *USA Today*.

Some of the current signs in the hand language, used by 500,000 people who are hearing impaired to communicate, are considered culturally insensitive. The sign for "Gay," which used to be a limp wrist, has been changed to spelling out the word "gay," or placing the sign for the letter "g" on the chin.

"You wonder why there are so few documented cases of lesbians with HIV? The CDC defines a lesbian as a woman who hasn't had sex with a man since 1978." Ms.

**ETHICS vs. A SNOWE JOB**

**From the Human Rights Campaign Fund**

The nation's largest national lesbian and gay equal rights organization has released a list of eight U.S. Senate races of critical importance to voters who oppose anti-gay discrimination and the agenda of the radical right. The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) provides funding to candidates for national office and works with campaigns in key Congressional races across the country.

"Oliver North and a whole slew of radical right-wing candidates are trying to win control of

Congress this November. If they win, every American who opposes discrimination loses," said HRCF Executive Director Tim McFeeley. "Radical right candidates promise to wipe out important progress made this year in Congress. They pose a serious threat to our community, and we must work with our moderate and progressive allies to beat them on Election Day."

In an "Action Alert" sent to its members, the Campaign Fund called on its supporters to become actively involved with its Federal Advocacy Network to help elect the following candidates to the U.S. Senate:

**Rep. Tom Andrews (D-Maine)**, a House cosponsor of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), which would prohibit job discrimination, quotas and special treatment on the basis of sexual orientation. He faces Republican Rep. Olympia Snowe,

*More HRCF page 2*

**APEX Endorsement**

APEX is making its first electoral endorsement by supporting Tom Andrews for the Maine Senate seat being vacated by George Mitchell.

Olympia Snowe (his opponent) was well



photo by Annette Dragon

known to part of the APEX collective (who were living in San Francisco at the time) as a swing vote for the most reactionary/reagan policies, like funding the contras. We were often asked to call and encourage her to vote against Reagan.

She is running on the elect-a-woman platform, which is misleading because other than being occasionally pro-choice, she is more consistently anti-woman.

She has voted against the poor, who are mostly women; has supported the fundamentals of reagan's trickle down theory which took money away from the poor and enriched the wealthiest 1% of the population.

She opposes employer mandates and the single payer system for health insurance - business and the insurance companies have more sway with Olympia than the general population, even though poor women are more likely to be uninsured.

She has consistently voted against environmental legislation, seeing it as costly and an impediment to business. The degradation of the environment particularly affects women, who suffer higher cancer rates resulting from pollution.

*More ENDORSEMENT page 4*



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*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. If your submission has appeared or will appear in any other publication, we must be notified. Submissions *must* be received by the 20th of each month. Thank you for your contributions.

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### *More HRCF from page 1*

who constantly votes against fairness and equal rights for gay and lesbian citizens.

**Rep. Bob Carr** (D-Mich.), an ENDA cosponsor who is running against Republican Spencer Abraham, a radical right-supported candidate who headed the Michigan Republican Party and the National Republican Congressional Committee.

**Rep. Sam Coppersmith** (D-Ariz.), who opposed an anti-gay initiative in Arizona and cosponsored the Employment Non-Discrimination Act. He faces Rep. Jon Kyl, an ally of right-wing House Minority Whip Newt Gingrich and a virulent opponent of equal rights for lesbian and gay Americans.

**Joel Hyatt** (D-Ohio), who has pledged to cosponsor important non-discrimination legislation if he is elected. He faces Lt. Gov. Mike DeWine, who voted consistently against lesbian and gay issues when he was a member of the U.S. House.

**Sen. Edward Kennedy** (D-Mass.), a leading proponent of equal rights and the strongest voice in the Senate against U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.). He is challenged by Mitt Romney, a Republican who called gays "perverse and reprehensible" in a speech reported by *The Boston Globe*.

**Sen. Chuck Robb** (D-Va.), one of the strongest Senate supporters of non-discrimination. He faces a well-financed challenge by Iran-contra figure Oliver North, a favorite of radical right groups like Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition.

**Rep. Alan Wheat** (D-Mo.), who has a perfect voting record on lesbian and gay issues and has cosponsored equal rights legislation throughout his time in Congress. He is running against former Missouri Gov. John Ashcroft, a national figure in the radical right movement with ties to the Christian Coalition.

**Ann Wynia** (D-Minn.), a former Minnesota House Majority Leader and Commissioner of Human Services who is a strong supporter of lesbian and gay equality. She is running against Rep. Rod Grams, an ally of radical-right organizations who has one of the House's worst voting records on lesbian and gay issues.

"The races we have targeted offer crystal clear choices for voters. They are also closely contested races, where every vote will count," said Kevin Layton, director of the Campaign Fund's political action committee. "We must do everything we can to help our candidates win on Election Day. They will make the difference between continued progress or a major step backwards."

The Campaign Fund's Action Alert calls on supporters to organize volunteer efforts for HRCF-endorsed candidates to assist their campaigns, spread the word to friends and family, and assist people in turning out to vote on Nov. 8. ▼

## **EXTRA! EXTRA!**

Phoenix Press will present a special Winter edition of *APEX*, available mid-December through January. Look for four more action-packed pages!

***Deadline for this issue is 12/1/94.***

**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.



## BLACKSTONES - A Class Act

In late October, APEX interviewed Ralph Cusack and Butch Fenton, owners of Blackstones, a Portland, ME gay bar.

**APEX:** What are Blackstones' roots?

**Blackstones:** Blackstones got its roots out of Boston because that's where the major partner was and one of the second partners was in and out of Boston a lot. Tommy was a bartender from Napoleon's of Boston. When Blackstones first opened, it was supposed to be a nice classy place like Napoleon's - hence the tablecloths, the piano, the fancy paintings on the wall. That was popular for about nine months. That ambiance was short-lived, and it's just evolved to what we have now. The original intent was to get the business crowd, the business suits after happy hour.

It opened in 1987, under a partnership of 3 people - one from New York, one from Boston, and one from Portland. Tommy Robinson, the local partner, was a minor partner and the managing partner. He ran the business - that's who I went to work for in 1988. After he lost control of it in 1992, I was called back to manage it for the other two partners. The New York partner was bought out, leaving a sole owner out of Boston and I was running it for him and then we bought it from him September 1 of last year.

**APEX:** I've heard people describe your bar as a "Cheers."

**Blackstones:** That's what we try to foster. We're friendly. We know our customers. We greet them by name. "Hi Charlie." "Hi David." We've been called "Cheers of the North."

**APEX:** Now that this bar is yours, and you can do with it as you will, do you have any plans for it?

**Blackstones:** Just continue it like it's going. Tommy, when he was running it, was never happy with letting things run to see how they developed. Every month he'd be changing something. Hence, all the color changes. The bar went from the green it is now to gray,

to black, to brown, to that raspberry color in the ladies' room. And now everything's back to green.

I want to keep it alive, an active part of the community. I don't want much out of it - I want my living out of it. I'd like to expand a little bit; a lot of people would like a dance floor, but, where? Down the road, the building that we're attached to is laid out perfectly, with a little more work, for a guest house. It's a future dream to buy the whole complex and develop a guest house and maybe move down and open a cafe on the corner and tie the whole thing together. But that's way down the road.

**APEX:** Do you ever get tired of dealing with sloppy drunks?

**Blackstones:** You develop a tolerance - a tolerance in a compassionate way. I'll be the first one to tell people - if you're here drinking because you just broke up with someone, or you lost your job, or you're trying to get over something - you don't want to be here - it's just going to get worse.

**APEX:** Do you tell your bartenders that when a person is such and such a percentage "drunk," to shut them off?

**Blackstones:** It's knowing your customers. Knowing if they are walking or if they are driving, knowing what their ability is to drink - knowing what their consumption level is. All the

bartenders have been state certified through "The Basics Program." This was a program put on by the state and the Portland Century Council. State certification is not mandatory yet; it is mandatory that you have to be bondable for liability. We're covered with million dollar liability through Lloyd's of London.

Nobody's ever taken any real legal action against us.

**APEX:** Do you have to bar many people?

**Blackstones:** We bar anyone caught doing drugs. I don't care what people do in the bathroom - as long as they let other people in to go to the bathroom. And we don't allow prostitutes or hustlers. I don't even like pool hustlers - you know, betting for a drink on the table. Blackstones is the legal-est place in town.

I want to keep that standing with the police department, with city hall, with detective agencies and all that. This place is right up front. Since we've owned it we've cleaned it right up.

**APEX:** Why do you think so few women come into Blackstones?

*More BLACKSTONES ■ page 8*

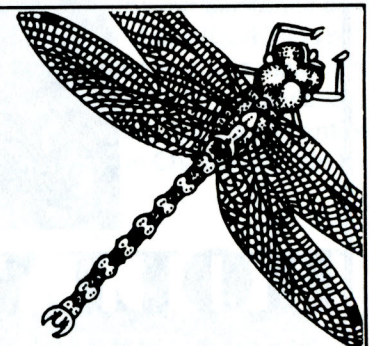
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### More ENDORSEMENT from page 1

Until she ran against Tom Andrews, who has an excellent record on gay rights, Olympia couldn't bring herself to endorse gay rights legislation. In her new, liberalized guise, she supports gay rights legislation and wears a red ribbon. Her support is token, to say the least, and this supposedly pro-woman candidate fails to recognize that Lesbianism is one of the most basic rights women have - the choice of who to relate to sexually and emotionally.

Tom Andrews voted to increase the taxes on the wealthiest 1% of the population that Reagan and Olympia cut in the '80s. Andrews has taken risky positions based on his ethics like voting to close Loring Air Force Base. He says you can't ask for base closings in other districts if you are unwilling to close them in your own district.

He supported gay rights long before it was politically expedient and has never hesitated to speak at gay rallies.

He is consistent in the political stands he takes and there is a lot of feeling in his campaigns - like he really believes what he's saying and is running because he cares about what happens to people. With big money behind her, and a poor record on social issues, one certainly can't say that about Olympia Snowe.

Tom Andrews knows what it means to struggle and he takes courageous, ethical positions which can jeopardize his career. Just on the issue of honesty alone, Andrews is worth the vote. He is a true anomaly - an honest politician.

It is as true now as when he ran against Linda Bean - the best woman for the job is Tom Andrews. ▼

## LESBO ANTHROPOLOGY

by Eve Elzenga, Robin Romaine, and Kim Silver

Once upon a time, a long, long time ago Before Michigan, there lived the Lesbian Nation. They were divided into two tribes: the Butches and the Femmes. The Butches dwelled deep in mountain caves. These caves had wide screen TVs, a huge pit in front of the screens for empty beer cans, trash, and a constantly burning fire. Even in early days, butches had established take-out service - primitive forms of pizza and Chinese food delivered to their caves.

Meanwhile in the valley, lived the Femmes. They owned beautiful Victorian homes with electricity, running water, and were close to lots of stores. Several times a year the Mating Ritual would occur. Butches would walk to the valley dragging dead things for the femmes to cook. Some butches wouldn't survive the long journey. The butch with the biggest and best dead thing would get the pick of the Highest Femme, and the celebration would begin!

All the butches would mate with all the femmes and Parthenogenesis would occur. The femmes would carry the baby to term and keep them for five years. At that time the butches would return to retrieve the butch babies where they would grow up in the caves and learn the Butch Tradition. The femme babies would remain in the beautiful Victorian homes with drycleaning, hairdressers, art museums and Ralph Lauren bedsheets.

Over the centuries the butches finally developed carpentry; contrary to the fact that males did. They moved their homes up into trees, thus designing the first treehouse. From there, settlements of cabins sprang up and today they live in smaller numbers on Butch Ranches scattered nationwide. Now, when the butches go to the valley, the drive their Harleys or 4WD trucks. Instead of dragging dead things, the butches can simply take the femmes out to restaurants.

The femmes haven't changed much because they were already highly developed. However, a few of them learned how to drive standard shift. Today it is not uncommon to find butches and femmes living together and raising their babies. And the two tribes lived happily ever after. ▼

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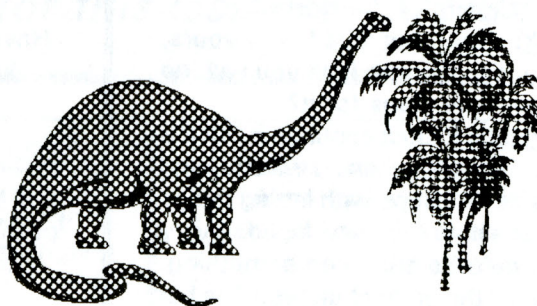
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# ONE IN FIFTY? - Sex Survey Yields Questionable Results

by Sherrie Bast

Imagine for a moment that you were one of 4,369 people selected to take part in the recent national survey designed to discover what Americans are doing in their bedrooms, and with whom it's being done. Initially you decline the invitation to participate, but after up to 14 more visits you've been "won over" and agree to answer every question honestly in an interview with the persistent pollster at your door. Sound farfetched? It's exactly what we're being asked to believe from the boys who did this study out of the University of Chicago. According to *Time* magazine (10/17/94) "Many subjects [of the poll] were reluctant to participate, but the pollsters kept trying - making up to 15 visits in some cases to win them over."

Perhaps the respondents used the time between the first and fifteenth visits from pollsters to clean out their closets and prepare to move back in. What else explains the fact that only 1.3% of wimmin and 2.7% of men reported having sex with a person of the same gender in the last year?

This newest study of human sexuality was originally proposed in 1987, in response to the AIDS crisis. In order to provide adequate education and work towards prevention, there was a need to know what Americans were doing in bed that might be putting people at risk of contracting and/or spreading the virus. 1987 was, however, the midst of the Reagan/Bush era, and monies for sexuality studies were not forthcoming. In September of 1991, the Senate voted 66 to 34 to cut off funding. As a result, private support was sought out, including grants from Robert Wood Johnson, and the Rockefeller and Ford foundations.

For a study that was initially designed to respond to the AIDS crisis it is interesting to note that Stuart Michaels, one of the researchers who designed the questions, states "The biggest hot button is homosexuality. This is a stigmatized group. There is probably a lot more homosexual activity going on than we could get people to talk about." How better to help stigmatize a population than to tell us we don't

exist, Mr. Michaels? And what might there have been about the questions and the way they were asked that contributed to this sense of stigmatization? The committee designing the study was made up entirely of white men. It seems safe to assume they all identify as heterosexual as well.

It is even more interesting to note the Chicago researchers are suggesting that because Americans tend to be sexual with people from their own social circles, AIDS is not apt to spread widely into the heterosexual community. How does one come to this conclusion? Do the researchers really

believe that there is no more anonymous sex going on, the kind where people don't check out each other's socioeconomic and relationship status before taking off their clothes? The kind where last names don't matter? The kind where one person may be married and putting their partner at risk? This is a conclusion which Dr. June Osborn, former head of the National Commission on AIDS refers to as "Shocking and flies against the whole history of this epidemic... They're saying we don't have to worry if we're white, heterosexual adults."

Furthermore, the study reports that "AIDS has put a crimp in some people's sex lives: 76% of those who've had five or more partners in the past year say they have changed their behavior by either slowing down, getting tested, or using condoms faithfully." Since only ONE of those behaviors will help prevent the spread of AIDS, this hardly seems like an indication of the population at large becoming sexually safe.

This whole study might be laughable if it weren't being taken seriously by the mainstream heterosexist press. We, as members of the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual community know we're here, yet studies like this silence us, deny our existence and have the numbers to "prove it." To say that AIDS/HIV is not a risk for the population at large is to once again make it a "gay disease" (one that might affect 2.7% of the population, max). This not only stigmatizes gay men, it puts the entire population at risk, something the boys in Chicago should be ashamed of themselves for doing. ▼

**How better to help stigmatize a population than to tell us we don't exist...**

## LOOKING FOR MAGAZINES?

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## CIVIL UNREST - Thoughts on Class and Ethnicity

by Naomi Falcone

*This article is an attempt to talk about the subtle and not so subtle differences in class and ethnicity. I do not mean the Marxist definition of class which deals solely with economics, but rather the reality of class, what it means to be a part of a culture, a world view...*

Speech is political - how you express yourself is an important factor in placing you in the social strata. We are taught politeness, civility, niceness as acceptable ways of operating in the world. Those who can best express themselves within these strictures are often given the most credence/power. What is really being deciphered in speech is not so much attitude or intent as how close one is to privilege.

Living with more resources, more confidence, more belief in one's own right to exist makes it possible to see the world in Utopian terms and to be nice and sound pleasant. The closer one lives to the periphery, the less reason one has to believe and participate in the facade of niceness. Niceness and civility are political tools that are also used to silence people and identify those without privilege. If you can't say it nicely, i.e., without emotion, then you are often not allowed to speak. They are also used to maintain the facade that everything is fine... to maintain the status quo and keep the people who benefit from these assumptions in power.

Ethnic people are often much more emotive than WASPs. Working class people are often more direct than middle class people. Obviously, these are generalizations. There are always exceptions. Upwardly mobile working class people; less emotionally challenged WASPs; pissed off, forceful middle class people...

My father is working class, first generation, Italian-American. He grew up in the Bronx in the midst of a lot of violence, including being present at age 4 at his own father's murder. By the time he was 13 (with a sixth grade education) he was on his own.

By contrast, my mother came from a middle class anglo family with enough privilege (stability) to trace their history back for generations. My mother went as far as graduate school. She was a pacifist and living in a Quaker community when she met my father. He was in prison for armed robbery. It was World War II and the Quakers were also in prison for conscientious objection. So my father became a part of this progressive middle class community that was thrilled that he was a "real" prisoner; a community that had no concept of the violence in his life. They perceived violence to be something that is overt; power differences were covert - hidden in their words. They had the luxury of believing that they were the good, uncorrupted people above violence and abuse. They could talk circles around you with their niceness and civility. My father used to refer to this indirectness as "non-violencing the hell out of someone."

Language for the pacifists reflected the ease and comfort of their lives. Everything was nice and expressed from the vantage point of those who had never had to live with fear of poverty, violence; those who knew nothing of being outsiders. They belonged in their world and even if they were disliked for their politics, they were never treated as untrustworthy. They wouldn't be followed around stores, picked up by suspicious police, and they were treated differently as prisoners. They were seen as basically law-abiding people who were only temporarily in jail. Their language, their white, non-ethnic faces, their clothing all put them on the privileged non-threatening side of the line. What they failed to understand was that the circumstances of their lives would have been totally altered if they had been ethnic and/or lived in poverty and that power imbalances, no matter how well masked, existed between them. You can (appear to) be nice if you can afford to (appear to) be nice.

Good and bad, dark and light, coarse

and refined. These are physical and cultural paradigms planted in our brains. Dark and coarse is bad and most often criminal. The hero is often blond, "better dressed," "better looking." Look at the way the people you are supposed to hate on TV look and speak. It is all political. So if you choose to be civil and fair and unemotional in your presentation of yourself, you choose the values of those who dominate the culture - the fair (white), civil (middle class), unemotional (male). You also choose to exclude, once again, all of us on the periphery.

Still vivid for me is a scene from a Chuck Norris movie that I saw about 10 minutes of. There is a man holding a woman hostage on a train. Norris gets him to release the woman and flee over the roof of the train. I see Norris, the tall, blond, totally aryan male and the face receding across the train roofs is smaller, darker and looks very much like my father. ▼

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### WOMEN'S STUDIES CONFERENCE

The Maine Women's Studies Conference, *Women and Class: Can We Talk?*, will be held Sat., 11/12/94, 8am to 8pm at the University of Maine/Orono. Dr. Angela Y. Davis, prof. at University of California, Santa Cruz, political activist, and author, will give the keynote address at 10am. At 4:30pm Maine author Carolyn Chute, author of *The Beans of Egypt, Maine*, will read from her newest book, *Merry Men*.

Workshops and discussions on topics such as Franco American women, working class students in college settings, the history of a local battered women's project, women's work in a diner, the history of factory workers, nontraditional employment for women, ecofeminism, Native American women, welfare issues, etc. will be offered.

There will be exhibits of books, women's art, women's crafts, videos on women's issues, and literature tables. The conference will end with an informal coffee house in the early evening.

Free childcare, all buildings accessible, and both major addresses will be signed.

The basic fee is \$15, including lunch. FMI or to request a registration brochure, call (207) 581-1228 or 581-1508. ▼



# CLEANING OUT MY CLOSET - Meeting of the Minds

by Shelly Roberts

"Whatta ya think?" Brandon asked as we stood in the reception area looking through a glass doorway at the woman we were scheduled to meet with. "Think she's a member of the bowling team?"

There was no question that Brandon sang in our particular choir, though you would only know that if you already knew that.

"Hmmm. On quick appraisal, I'd have to say...." Perusing our target through the glass starkly, she had accomplished most of her forties, was a shape two or three sizes bigger than she'd ever let herself feel good about, and could have been a clone of the couple who ran a committee at my Women In Network (read lesbian) group. "...Probably. Looks like she could be on the social committee," I mused to Brandon thinking W.I.N. and not ten pin.

"Yeah," he replied, "probably picks out the shirts." He chortled as we were introduced to her by Daniel, the third member of our makeshift team, another tribe member whose hundred dollar haircuts and mohair jackets should have given him away if anyone cared to be curious.

We were in the corporate offices to do an ad pitch, a loose association of consultants who'd met only weeks before, decided to share what business could be generated, and were acting as if we had been in permanent incorporation since before the ark. It's one of the new ways of doing business that lets you stay home and work on your own MAC or PC with whom you choose, and when. I have my name on a number of associates' company business cards. And they on mine. When I can, I prefer to work with "family."

We were all in our grown-up clothes talking to a two hundred million company about their communications requirements. (That's Corpspeak for

brochures, sales letters, catalogs, annual reports, occasional advertisements, and the redesign of their toilet paper.) It pays well, doesn't occupy too many brain cells for me any more, and gives me the financial freedom to sit at my PC communing occasionally with you.

"Excuse the mess. We're expanding again," she said, leading us the round about way toward the mahogany conference room. She talked over my shoulder to my cohort who had set up this meeting, chatting him through the office tour, but keeping a semi-peeled

down. "What was she *really* asking? What was she trying to tell *me*? I am pretty visible here in my real life. But it rarely crosses business boundaries. When it does, however, it almost always works in my favor. Competing non-gay businesses never quite figure out why I got a particular contract and *they* didn't, especially when our skills are on a par.

I studied her casually across the table. I was, after all, The Dyke Detector. I should be able to ferret her out. Started with the jewelry. Ring finger band of thin onyx. The kind that dykes absolutely believe that no one will figure out. OK, looking promising. Second ring. Pinkie finger, right hand. Classic. Shoes? Flats. Adding up so far.

Then I decided to try eye contact. Straight ladies hate this. They won't do it. Maybe they can't. Maybe it's genetic. We do it all the time. It's a holdover from our secret society days, not all that far back for most. Present-time for many. I held my gaze steady, neutral, business-like. If she wasn't, I knew that even that much wouldn't connect.

She *held* my gaze. Maybe for a full two seconds. We both looked away expressionless. And let the meeting drone on. And I knew where she knew me from. A place where I stand up publicly and say my name and what I do and who I am without disguise. Women In Network.

"Women In Network?" I queried casually after we had adjourned the sit-down portion of our parley. It was a neutral name. No connotations for outside ears. If she colored outside the lines, she'd know what it was. If she didn't, she'd just hear the innocuous name of a generic woman's business group. (Oh the webs we weave. Chortle.)

**... it's hard to keep a straight face when you're saying words like "Dyke Detector" out loud. . .**

eye on me. She turned, and queried, "Gee, you look familiar. Do you belong to NAWBO?"

In the world's longest quarter-second pause, I allowed as how I might have been to a National Association of Women's Business Owners meeting (I hadn't) but I was not a member.

What I was thinking was that she probably saw me on TV talking about **The Dyke Detector**. This was a new business meeting - a get acquainted and if we like each other and the chemistry is good, and we have the right credentials, and don't charge too much, maybe we could do some business together meeting. Even if she was a friend of Dorothy's, I couldn't very well say, "Oh you probably saw me on TV." Because she'd want to know why I was there. And it's hard to keep a straight face when you're saying words like "Dyke Detector" out loud. And if she did drive the bus with us, saying the word "dyke" in any context out loud could be a revelation I didn't want to inflict on her in her own office hallway.

"NAWBO?" I thought as we sat



*More BLACKSTONES from page 3*

**Blackstones:** Because that's the way it's always been. And once a place gets a reputation - I don't care whether it's fact or fiction - it will always be known as a men's bar. Back when I worked at Cycles, we were instructed to ask all women for an ID - no matter who she was or how old she was. And then we asked for a second ID, and a third. They just did not want women or drag queens. Ravens didn't want women either. They put up all the male nude posters purposefully to intimidate women.

**APEX:** What would your reaction be if a lot of women started coming in?

**Blackstones:** My reaction would be, where are they coming from? And, I'm sorry to say, but, there go the bartenders' tips! And this isn't a sexist statement about women not tipping - it's just a fact. When I worked in St. Louis I worked in a lesbian bar, and, thank God I had good bosses, and they paid well.

I've been asked why I advertise in *APEX*, because it is viewed as a women's paper, most of the people who put it together are women, most of the issues covered are women's issues. I think that's *why* I advertise in it - to show that women are welcome. If I didn't want women to know we were there, I wouldn't put it in your paper.

I don't do the crossover papers - I don't do CBW. I'm not going to advertise for the straight community - we're a gay bar. Years ago that was the downfall of the Phoenix - they started advertising in the Portland Press Herald as Portland's "premiere disco." They got hustlers in there, they got drug dealers in there; they got pimps and whores. It was a nightclub, and it became a very mixed uncomfortable place to go.

**APEX:** You and the Chartroom are fairly close neighbors. How does this affect you?

**Blackstones:** From a mental well-being standpoint, to have that friendship and business rapport with each other - helps us immensely. We tell each other what we're doing. I have his ads on the bulletin board; he has my ads on his.

**APEX:** Do you try to work with all the bars?

**Blackstones:** We're trying. The Chartroom and I, Kāos, and I. I tried to get everyone together in the Pride Guide. I talked them into doing a full-page map of Portland showing where the five bars were, but, if Kāos did it, the Underground wasn't going to do it. If the Underground was going to do it, Kāos wouldn't. Sisters couldn't afford it - the four of us could have covered Sisters. I just dropped the whole idea and ran last year's ad. I

tried to get a statewide pool tournament going last year. People fell apart on that one.

**APEX:** Sometimes we all can't "just get along."

**Blackstones:** We just try to make Blackstones a good place to go. I appreciate the gay community. They put a lot into the bar. We thank them for being supportive of us, of Blackstones, of the things that we choose as causes, the political candidates that we back, the events that we sponsor. They're helping us do things right.

**APEX:** What sort of entertainment does Blackstones offer?

**Blackstones:** Mostly the crowd themselves. If you keep a light enough atmosphere, that's entertainment. If the bartenders are up, and they're active and high-energy, then the customers are going to be up and high-energy, and that itself is entertainment. That's what creates a good time. We don't have a cover charge - never have, never will. The only time we do a cover is if it's a fundraiser for a specific event. *No* New Year's cover. So literally the Friday buffet is free. The decorations are there to enjoy - you're not paying for them when you walk through the door.

We have Karaoke on Wednesday. It was a surprise to me that it became popular. I don't see Blackstones as a show bar.

There's no place to set up a show.

**APEX:** As long as there are fags, there will be shows.

**Blackstones:** That's what I'm discovering.

**APEX:** You've got that stairway up in the back.

**Blackstones:** It lends itself real well. That's where people sing from. We have a spotlight on them. It makes a stage.

We play with all the little holidays. Every once in a while we do

theme parties. We do buffets every Friday 4 to 8. A couple of weeks ago we did an "Olde English Carvery," which turned out better than I had hoped. I stood there and I carved a steamship roast-of-beef for



photo by Annette Dragon  
Blackstones hosts a 1994 fundraiser for Anne Rand's State Senate campaign. From l to r: Jaeson Alston, The Chartroom's co-owner; Ralph Cusack, Blackstones' co-owner; Marc Quirion, Blackstones' bartender; Tim Pinkham, Kāos' co-owner.



everybody. It was so popular we're talking about doing it once a month.

We did the My Fair Lady thing. The afternoon at Ascot and picnic food. We have an Easter bonnet contest. To see all these guys come up with these wild outrageous Easter bonnets... They're just fun ideas.

We're going to do a snow pool - guess the time and date of the first inch of snow to fall, and the proceeds go to the PWA Coalition. It's a 50/50 split. Whoever gets the time and date for the first inch gets half the money out of the pool.

APEX: Did I hear something about a gay ski day?

Blackstones: I always want to try to put things together. I don't think Portland's ready for a gay bowling league. On the slopes there's some anonymity. If we can get a bus full of people, maybe even a traincar full of people to

go skiing for a day, it would be a lot of fun.

Another idea is, there are two women who moved here and bought a farm in Cumberland. They have a big barn.

They have offered their barn for a fundraiser. I'd like to do a big barn dance, a big country hoe-down. That's something else that's bubbling on the back burner.

I try to stay community-oriented. I look at the long-range. I don't look at short-term. I don't say, "This is going to bring X amount of dollars into my bar on that date." Speaking from a business sense, whatever gives me good PR is going to bring me dollars. ▽



photo by Annette Dragon

Anne Rand with Butch Fenton, Blackstones' co-owner.



6 Pine St.  
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(207) 775-2885

## THE FORGOTTEN WOMAN - Remembering Nicole Brown Simpson

by Lois Galgay Reckitt

*The statement below was written by Lois Galgay Reckitt and appeared in the Summer 1994 issue of Reaching Out, the Family Crisis Shelter Newsletter published in Portland, ME.*

In all the media uproar as reporters "discover" the realities of domestic abuse, Nicole Simpson seems to have been lost. She is isolated from us as effectively as OJ Simpson, the admitted abuser, endeavored to isolate her from the world. It is our responsibility to ensure that he does not succeed in making her invisible one last time.

Of all the popular press accounts I have read of this tragedy, the one that affected me the most was a sidebar article by Margaret Carlson in *Time* (7/4/94). She says we should all unite in outrage that the chaplain of the U.S. Senate on June 24 offered this prayer -- "Our hearts go out to him... Our nation has been traumatized by the fall of a great hero." Not my hero, thank you, not the hero of 3 to 4 million women battered each year in this country.

Athletes are often viewed as role models for our children. Yet, it is not uncommon for them to receive sanctions for their misuse of illegal drugs but not for their confirmed or admitted violence against women. What is wrong with a society in which such people are routinely allowed to continue making millions of dollars endorsing sneakers or rental cars? Corporate America must stop glorifying public figures who commit violence against women.

As a gesture of good faith it would be appropriate, in my opinion, for Hertz to donate a dollar to support battered women's services for every dollar they paid OJ Simpson after he was sentenced for wife abuse in 1989 because they should have terminated his employment as a spokesperson at that time.

Much of the media coverage of this case has centered on what can be done to ensure that perpetrators of abuse are "helped." While that is a laudable goal, the world must understand that abusers most often change when they are held accountable for their violent and deliberate behavior. Intervention programs exist in Maine and across the country, though more are certainly needed.

Guilty of murder or not, OJ Simpson was a classic batterer. He "owned" his wife Nicole and felt entitled to dominate and control her. When she was finally able to leave him, he stalked her until the end. That such an "esteemed" celebrity has been arrested for the crime may mean the public will finally begin to understand the pervasive nature of family violence. The price that Nicole Brown Simpson and her children paid for our societal apathy was unconscionably high. ▽



# CALENDAR . . .

CALENDAR LISTINGS ARE FREE TO GROUPS SPONSORING COMMUNITY EVENTS. THOSE WHO CHARGE FOR PRODUCTS/SERVICES ARE INVITED TO CONTACT PHOENIX PRESS REGARDING DISPLAY ADVERTISING.

## TUESDAY 11/1

**Substance Abuse in the Gay Community;** An Interactive Discussion. Betsy Hood & Frank Brooks. The Gathering, Student Ctr., USM Portland Campus, Portland, ME, 7-9pm. FMI ☎ (207) 774-4919.

**Women in Curriculum Program,** Getting to the Heart of the Matter: Assisting Battered Women in Health Care Visits, 12:15-1:30pm, Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union at UMO, Orono, ME.

## FRIDAY 11/4

**Alternative Folk Artist Tom Pirozzoli,** Raffles Friday Night Music Series with host Steve Gerlach, 7:30pm.

## SATURDAY 11/5

**Holly Near in concert,** 1st Parish Church, Congress St., Portland, ME. Tickets: adv/\$15, day of show \$17. 8pm. Tickets available at JKS Copyprinters in Belfast and other locations.

## SUNDAY 11/6

**Women of the Woods - "Sew N' Patch Night"** in Montpelier, VT. Needles and thread provided. Just bring what you need to mend, make for holiday gift giving, or want amateur seamstress advice. Bring snacks/beverages, supper will be ordered in. FMI ☎ Roberta at (802) 223-7620.

## MONDAY 11/7

**Symposium XXI Planning Meeting,** 6:30pm at Gay-Lesbian Community Center of Northern Maine, 398 S. Main St., Caribou, ME. FMI ☎ (207) 498-2088.

bou, ME. FMI ☎ (207) 498-2088.

**Seacoast Gay Men membership survey meeting.** Unitarian Church, Portsmouth, NH, 7pm. FMI ☎ Al (603) 898-1115.

## TUESDAY 11/8

**Follow the Elections in the ABC room.** The Gathering, Student Ctr., USM Portland Campus, Portland, ME, 7-9pm. FMI ☎ (207) 774-4919.

## WEDNESDAY 11/9

**Ellen Frye will read from *Amazon Story Bones*** in the Wren Room, Sanborn Hall, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH. 5pm. FMI ☎ (603) 643-6496 or (603) 650-1822.

## THURSDAY 11/10

***Sex, Lies, and Videotape: the Radical Right's Media Machine.*** Come see and discuss the video and print propaganda produced by groups which promote hatred and homophobia under the guise of "family values." 7:30-9pm, Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland, ME. Accessible and free parking. FMI ☎ (207) 773-1209.

## FRIDAY 11/11

**Gay Veteran's Day Dance.** Contra, Square, Folk dances. 8:30pm - midnight, UU Church, corner of Pleasant and Elm in Auburn, ME. Sliding admission, \$3-6. Sponsored by Building Inclusive Community, POB 3184, Auburn, ME 04212.

## SATURDAY 11/12

**Vermont Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights (VCLGR) - 2nd Annual Statewide Conference:** "A Queer Town Meeting." 9am to 6pm, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT. FMI ☎ (802) 223-8962 or (802) 877-3165.

**Northern Lambda Nord Potluck** in New Sweden, ME, 6:30pm. Theme: Truck Stop Diner. Bring something appropriate according to your last name: A-G dessert; H-M salad, appetizer, bread; N-Z main dish, hot/cold. BYOB. FMI ☎ (207) 498-2088.

**Maine Women's Studies Conference: *Women and Class: Can We Talk?*** Workshops at the Memorial Union at UMO, Orono, ME., 8am-8pm. Speakers include Angela Y. Davis and Carolyn Chute. FMI ☎ (207) 581-1228.

## SUNDAY 11/13

**Northern Lambda Nord Monthly Meeting.** 1-3pm, Gay-Lesbian Community Center, 398 Main St., Caribou, ME. FMI ☎ (207) 498-2088.

## MONDAY 11/14

**Bob Vaccaro introduces Phoenix Rising Yoga Therapy** at Seacoast Gay Men, Unitarian Church, Portsmouth, NH, 7pm. FMI ☎ Al (603) 898-1115.

## TUESDAY 11/15

**Computers: The Gay Network.** Paula Stockholm. The Gathering, Student Ctr., USM Portland Campus, Portland, ME, 7-9pm. FMI ☎ (207) 774-4919.

ing, Student Ctr., USM Portland Campus, Portland, ME, 7-9pm. FMI ☎ (207) 774-4919

## WEDNESDAY 11/16

**Northern Lambda Nord Fold & Stuff the newsletter,** 7pm, Gay-Lesbian Community Center of Northern Maine, 398 S. Main St., Caribou, ME. FMI ☎ (207) 498-2088.

## FRIDAY 11/18

**Women's Night at the Gay-Lesbian Community Center** of Northern Maine, 398 S. Main St., Caribou. FMI ☎ (207) 498-2088.

**Love in 3-D: Understanding the complexities of sexual orientation.** Speaker is Bobbi Keppel, Coordinator of the Maine People's Bisexual Network. Lewiston Multi-purpose center, 145 Birch St., Lewiston, ME.

## SATURDAY 11/19

**Thanksgiving Potluck at Mert's.** FMI ☎ (603) 763-4112, 6pm. An Amelia's Event.

**Lambda Dance, Pat's Peak,** Women Only, Henniker, NH. FMI ☎ (603) 746-3339.

**NH NOW State Conference,** UNH Manchester campus. FMI ☎ (603) 749-8900.

## SUNDAY 11/20

**Open House at the Gay-Lesbian Community Center** of Northern Maine, the only Center in Maine or New Brunswick, 398 S. Main St., Caribou, ME; 1-2pm for the gay/lesbian/bi community and our friends; 3-5pm is open to the general public. FMI ☎ (207) 498-2088.

## MONDAY 11/21

**Stroudwater Books & Cafe** monthly Seacoast Gay Men gay literature series. Gay literature

## PLEASE NOTE

*For our special Winter Issue only, calendar items for December and January must be received by 12/1/94.*



swap at every meeting. 7pm, 775 Lafayette Rd., Portsmouth, NH. FMI ☎ AI (603) 898-1115.

## TUESDAY 11/22

**The Military - An Inside Perspective.** The Gathering, Student Ctr., USM Portland Campus, Portland, ME, 7-9pm. FMI ☎ (207) 774-4919.

## MONDAY 11/27

**Seacoast Gay Men tour USS Albacore** Submarine Park, Portsmouth, NH, 1pm. At Exit 7, I-95. FMI ☎ AI (603) 898-1115. Special group rate at gate \$2. **TUESDAY 11/29**

**Bisexuality by Bobbi and Bob.** The Gathering, Student Ctr., USM Portland Campus, Portland, ME, 7-9pm. FMI ☎ (207) 774-4919.

## MEDIA

**WMPG'S Women's Music Fest,** 90.9 FM 3-5pm Sun.

## NOTICES

**Lesbians Wanted - Participants** needed to fill out short survey for lesbian graduate student's dissertation. Anonymity guaranteed. Contact: Lesbian Wellness Survey, UVM-Dewey Hall, Burlington, VT 05405 (802) 657-2999.

**Affirming Every Person:** The New England Conference about Lesbians and Gay Men will be held 2/10-12, Keene, NH. FMI write or ☎ Ken Merrifield, RR1, Box 8, Fitzwilliam, NH 03447 (603) 585-9238 or Lenore Wadsworth, POB 377, W. Swanzey, NH 03469 (603) 357-5183.

**Equal Protection Maine/Bangor** meets 1st Sun. each month. FMI contact EPM, POB 963, Bangor, ME 04402.

## More CLOSET from page 7

"Yes." Her head nodded with inconspicuous conviction. "Women In Network.. I was *sure* I knew you from somewhere." She certainly did.

We'll get the account. Because we're good at what we do. Because we have a lot to offer. And, thanks to about five years of conditioning at Women In Network, women working together don't threaten each other any more, especially when we're working with "family."

And the speculation made a formula meeting a little more intriguing. It was a nice hark-back to one of the good parts of some good-old-days. It was *entre nous* entertainment which I have

to admit I sometimes miss. But not today.

Today I got to play dyke detector. Damn! Sometimes I just love being a lesbian! ▼

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## ASK THIGHMASTER - advice with holes

Dear Thighmaster,

What's the deal with lesbians/dykes and faggots/gay men being so angry all of the time? Don't some of them know that anger is a source of pain and that before healing in your heart can begin, you need to get rid of the anger? And why can't ACT UP go away? Not much does get accomplished when anger is at the core of trying to get more money for HIV/AIDS awareness. Love is!

Sincerely,  
A.B.L.

Dear A.B.L.,

Well, you win a prize for one thing. You, o great exhibitionist, are the first reader to send Thighmaster a letter signed with an actual name - unless the guy from last month was actually named "Sheep in Wolf's Clothing" by some psychic hot-line parent. Thighmaster couldn't figure out, though, how out there you wanted to be. So Thighmaster, consent freak of all time, put in your initials only. If you wanted to have your whole name printed, please write back and Thighmaster will print it in the next column. **Notice to Other Exhibitionists:** please indicate clearly on your correspondence if you want your whole name printed. **Notice to people who think that Thighmaster is some lonely desperate wallflower who has been reduced, like Jan Brady, to fabricating pen pals:** Thighmaster, it is true, spends a lot of time fabricating sex pals to get through those hungry hours when there's no one at hand to rent, coax, command, or beg from - or when there's something that only a figment can provide (like a no-processing guarantee). But Thighmaster DOES NOT write the letters that Thighmaster answers. O.K., so maybe Thighmaster didn't really get that letter from Ann Landers. O.K., so there might have been one or two other times... But every other letter is REAL - and, Thighmaster will modestly add, a testimony to Thighmaster's incredible magnetism, which pulls readers from near and far into Thighmaster's textual web of give and take, force and frolic, bend and stretch, bow and curtsy. Write on, o readers, and keep writing in:

Thighmaster, greedy greedy greedy, is always hungering for more.

And now, back to you, A.B.L. You get a gold star for exhibitionism, but you're not doing so well in U.S. History. Or, just as likely, you got an "A" in U.S. His-



drawing by Naomi Falcone

tory by memorizing some textbook drivel and disinformation about some mythical little child who filled the hearts of grumpy pharmaceutical-company owners with love when she handed them each a flower and sang them one of those "weave me a rainbow" songs. Get some facts, babe. Direct action groups such as ACT UP are largely responsible for forcing any action on AIDS at all. Fact: illegal, angry tactics forced Burroughs Wellcome to drop the annual price of AZT and to cough up the discovery that they were prescribing twice the dose that could possibly do any good. Where was love when Wellcome sat on this information and downplayed the side effects - which, obviously, could be minimized by taking less of it - in order to get people to pay for twice as much? Fact: at a time when the Center for Disease Control was still classifying AIDS-related illnesses in such a way that many women with AIDS were not being diagnosed until after they died - thus, obviously, making them unable during their lives to get access to treatment or eligibility for experimental drug trials - ACT UP published its "Treatment and Research Agenda for Women with HIV Infection,"

an invaluable resource guide assembling the information that no one in the big medical upstairs had bothered to assemble, or even give much attention to. Fact: ACT UP/Portland, ME, besides helping to keep information/services for gay men in the paltry state AIDS budget, was instrumental in bringing down the state "Dracula Bill," which would have permitted testing without consent among other horrors.

And where do you get this idea that anger and love don't go together? Anyone with a heart warmed by even one drop of love should be fucking angry on behalf of each person with AIDS, or HIV, or any other illness, or any possibility of getting an illness - this means you - that requires medication, hospitalization, or any other treatment that costs money. Why? Because medical care simply should not cost money. Health care is a right. It shouldn't be a privilege for rich people or for people who have jobs that come with health insurance. What stupid criteria is that? There should be exactly one criterion for human beings to get health care: human being. And health care should not be for-profit industry. Why? Because, as the history of AIDS research and treatment shows, the people who profit base their own research and treatment agendas on what will pay them the most and cost them the least.

So that's that. Thighmaster thought about throwing in something more humorous up there in some more characteristic Thighmaster style - where TV is god, and sex is queen, and the pleasures of pun soften the blows of chastisement - some joke, perhaps, about how if you think there's no love going around ACT UP, you haven't been attending the right parties. But this is nothing to joke about. You're right, of course, that anger isn't good for your health if you do nothing but sit around wallowing in it. But, as it turns out, stifling it is deadly - and, these days, no act of love.

---

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



## ANOTHER BOY SCOUTS CHAPTER TO LOSE UNITED WAY FUNDING



Pine Tree Council of Maine "Recruits"

photo by Annette Dragon

Santa Fe - (Bay Windows) - United Way of Santa Fe County has adopted an anti-discrimination policy which is expected to end the funding of local Boy Scouts after this year.

Under the new policy, only those agencies who don't discriminate "on the basis of age, gender, race, religion or national origin, sexual orientation or disability" will be funded.

The policy covers only funds over which the United Way has discretion, United Way executive director Ron Stevens said. Donors still may designate which agencies their contributions will go to, and those wishes will be honored. United Way of Santa Fe received about \$753,000 in pledges last year. Letters were sent last week to all 21 affiliated agencies, explaining that agencies have until

April 1995 to come into compliance with the policy.

Phil Bevins, executive director of the Great Southwest Council of the Boy Scouts of America, said the council has no intention of trying to change the organization's national policy on homosexuals.

"What the United Way of Santa Fe is asking us to do is abandon our First Amendment right, and we are not going to abdicate our First Amendment right or abandon our services to children to this area," Bevins said.

Between 600 and 800 boys in the Santa Fe area belong to the Great Southwest Council, which serves Boy Scouts in New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and Arizona council. ▼

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## RESOURCE GUIDE

LIST YOUR GROUP! PLEASE SEND INFORMATION AND/OR UPDATES TO PHOENIX PRESS, POB 4743, PORTLAND, ME 04112

### HOT-LINES

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

**DIAL KIDS, 774-TALK** - for lesbian/gay/bisexual/questioning/youth under 19.

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

**GAY INFO LINE**, Concord, NH (603)224-1686. Social, legal, therapeutic & educational referrals.

**INGRAHAM VOLUNTEERS** (207) 774-HELP.

### PUBLICATIONS

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

**THE FRUITS OF OUR LABORS**  
POB 125, Belfast, ME 04915  
(207) 338-2913. Calendar of events for central coastal Maine.

### EDUCATIONAL/CULTURAL

**THE MATLOVICH SOCIETY** - Lesbians/bisexuals/gaymen/friends committed to sharing our history & providing affirming presentations/discussions. 2nd/4th Thurs. each month, 7:30-9pm, Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland, ME. FMI ☐ (207) 773-1209.

**THE MAINE GAY VISUAL ARTISTS' LEAGUE** - 3rd Wed. each month. Non-profit, creative, supportive networking for Maine's Gay & Lesbian artists. FMI and meeting place ☐ (207) 775-3420.

### 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** - Lesbians over 18 in Seacoast NH area. Nonprofit lesbian support and educational group. Meets Mon., 7pm. Newsletter & calendar of local, current monthly events. FMI POB 332, Portsmouth, NH 03802 or ☐ (603) 659-2139.

**SEACOAST GAY MEN** - meets Mon. 7pm, Unitarian Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH; POB 1394, Portsmouth, NH 03802. FMI ☐ (603) 898-1115.

**TIME OUT** - Outdoor recreation/environmental club for lesbians, gay men & friends. Free newsletter lists events for NH/ME area. FMI ☐ (207) 871-9940 or SASE: POB 11502, Portland, ME 04104.

**"LET'S DO BRUNCH" POTLUCK** social gathering 11-2pm, 3rd Sun. of the month; York County locations. Meet new people, see old friends, exchange news & info. FMI ☐ (207) 985-2784.

### SUPPORT GROUPS

**LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP** - Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Ctr, 334 Harlow St., Bangor, ME, 1st/3rd Wed. monthly, 6:30-8pm. FMI ☐ (207) 947-5337. For any woman self-identified as a lesbian. Woman-only, lesbian-positive space to explore issues & affirm our lesbianism. Confidentiality, openmindedness, respect required.

**PETS ARE WONDERFUL SUPPORT (PAWS/MAINE)** - 22 Monument Square, 5th Fl., Portland, ME 04101, (207) 871-9109; FAX (207) 879-0761.

**SAFE SPACE WOMEN'S CENTER OF MAINE** - 67 Main St., Topsham, ME. Self-help recovery group Mon. 7-9:30pm; open house Fri. 7-9:30pm. FMI ☐ (207) 725-7632.

**LAVENDER WOMYN** - Lesbian/Bisexual Women's discussion group. Tues. 6:30-8:30pm. First Universalist Church, Pleasant St., So. Auburn, ME 04210. FMI ☐ (207) 783-0461.

**FOR LOVE AND FOR LIFE** - No cost, educ./rap group for gay/bisexual

men in this time of HIV/AIDS. 7pm, at AIDS Response of the Seacoast, 147 Congress St., Portsmouth, NH. FMI ☐ (603) 433-5377.

**THE AIDS PROJECT** - 22 Monument Sq., 5th Fl., Portland, ME 04101. FMI ☐ (207)774-6877 re: support groups in Portland, Auburn/Lewiston & Brunswick, ME areas.

**AIDS RESPONSE** - 147 Congress St., Portsmouth, NH 03801. (603) 433-5377; fax (603) 431-8520.

**ANDROSCOGGIN VALLEY AIDS COALITION (AVAC)** - 4 Lafayette St., Lewiston, ME. Support for HIV+ people/loved ones. Tues. 7:30-9pm. FMI ☐ (207) 786-4697.

**THE BRIDGE AT COLBY** - Student support/discussion group. FMI ☐ Steven (207) 872-3635 (leave msg).

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

**GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL PARENTS GROUP OF MAINE** - FMI: POB 13, Augusta, ME 04330.

**GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL PARENTS' GROUP**, monthly support/info. POB 13, Augusta, ME 04332.

**MONADNOCK AREA WOMYN** - POB 6345, Keene, NH 03431 (603) 357-5757

**NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD** - POB 990, Caribou, ME 04736; (207) 498-2088. Serves Aroostook Co. & New Brunswick towns; social activities, discussion grps/speakers bureau; monthly newsletter/activities calendar.

**LEWISTON-AUBURN GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP**. Weekly open group. Mon. 7pm, UU Church, Spring St., Auburn, ME.

**OUTRIGHT/PORTLAND** - Wkly support mtg, info., fun/special events for gay/lesbian/bi/questioning youth under 22 yrs of age, Williston West Church, upstairs chapel, 32 Thomas St., Portland, ME, Fri. 7:30pm. FMI: Outright, Portland Alliance of Gay & Lesbian Youth, POB 5077, Portland, ME 04101. (207) 774-HELP.

**SEACOAST OUTRIGHT** - group for lesbian/gay/bi/questioning youth

### APEX DISTRIBUTION POINTS:

#### Maine

Gulf of Maine Books, Brunswick  
The Square Cafe, Waterville  
Papa Joe's, Augusta  
Downeast AIDS Network, Ellsworth  
Brewster Inn, Dexter  
Androscoggin Valley AIDS Coalition, Lewiston  
GLBA, Bates College, Lewiston  
Sportsman Athletic Club, Lewiston  
Homestead Bed & Breakfast, Bar Harbor  
Bookland, Mall Plaza, So. Portland  
Mike's Place, Lewiston  
Fin Back Restaurant, Bar Harbor

#### 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  
Lady Iris, Portsmouth

#### Vermont

Everyone's Books, Brattleboro  
LUNA, St. Johnsbury  
Rainbow Coalition, Montpelier

#### Portland

Tabitha Jean's Restaurant  
Portland Public Library  
The AIDS Project  
Woodford's Cafe  
Raffles Cafe  
Books, Etc.  
YWCA  
Kaos  
Sisters  
Videoport  
Chartroom  
Underground  
Blackstones  
Condom Sense  
Bayou Kitchen  
Treasure Chest  
Big Star Video  
Good Day Market  
Sister Creations  
Women's Forum, USM  
Maine College of Art  
Green Mountain Coffee  
Counseling Center, USM

The Onion River Co-op, Burlington  
GLB Alliance, UVM, Burlington

*Or delivered to your door by subscription (see form on page 13)!*



21 & under. Mtgs Fri., 7-9pm, Unitarian Church annex adjacent to fire station, 206 Court St., Portsmouth, NH. FMI ☐ teenline 1-800-639-6095 or write: Seacoast Outright, POB 842, Portsmouth, NH 03801.

**OUTRIGHT/CENTRAL MAINE** - For lesbian and gay youth 22 & under, meets Fri. 7:30 pm, 1st Unitarian Church, Pleasant St., Auburn, ME. POB 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 Congr. Church (the "Green Church") 7-8:30pm. Main St., Mexico, ME. FMI☐ (207)369-0259.

**LIFESTYLES ALLIANCE** - meets Fri. noon at U. New England campus, 11 Hills Beach Rd., Biddeford, ME 04005 FMI☐ (207)283-0171 x372.

**MERRYMEETING AIDS SUPPORT SERVICES** - POB 57, Brunswick, ME 04011. Support services for AIDS/HIV. FMI☐ (207)725-4955.

**OUT AMONG FRIENDS** - Discussion/support grp. Thurs. 7-8:30pm, YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland, ME. FMI ☐ (207) 799-0297.

**WOMEN'S INCEST AND SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS' GROUP**  
Open support/discussion for women only. Weds. 1-3:30pm. FMI☐(207) 874-6593 or (207) 774-3613.

**MAINE LESBIAN/GAY POLITICAL ALLIANCE** - Statewide, non-partisan org. promotes civil rights in ME. Involves lesbian/gay community in political process. Mtgs in Augusta 3rd Sat. of month. FMI ☐ 1-800-55-MLGPA for time/place.

**FREDERICTON LESBIANS/GAYS**  
PO Box 1556, Station A  
Fredericton, NB E3B 5G2 Canada  
(506) 457-2156

**AIDS COALITION TO UNLEASH POWER (ACT UP/Portland)**  
(207) 828-0566 (phone/fax); Sun. 7pm YWCA (87 Spring St., Portland, ME).

**APOLLO SOCIETY** - Gay/lesbian atheists, free-thinkers, ethical humanists & Hellenists. FMI ☐ (207) 773-5726 or SASE to POB 5301, Portland, ME 04101.

**GREATER PORTLAND NOW** c/o YWCA, 87 Spring St., Ptd, ME 04101, (207)879-0877/(207)871-0618, POB 4012, Portland, ME 04101. Speakers/events for the public 4th Tues. of every month.

#### SPIRITUAL

**DELTA PHYRE** - Worship the Goddess at monthly Full Moon Circles. Open to wimmin (no transsexuals, please). Bring musical instruments. FMI☐ Lady Alaina (207) 676-7914.

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

**INTEGRITY/DIGNITY** - 3rd Sun. St. Luke's Cathedral (Emmanuel Chapel), 5:15pm. All welcome. Fellowship and potluck follows each service. Ministering to the lesbian/gay community. FMI write POB 8113, Portland, ME 04104.

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

**FRIDAY NIGHT CHURCH SERVICES**  
State Street Church, 159 State St., Portland, ME. Interdenominational service. Inclusion, love and transformation in contemporary language. 7pm, accessible and child care. FMI ☐ (207) 774-6396.

**Circle of Hope** - an inclusive Christian community based on the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. FMI MCC, POB 1671, Portland, ME 04104. Meetings 4pm, 156 High St., Portland, ME every Saturday.

#### MUSIC

**MAINE GAY MEN'S CHORUS** - Community chorus. FMI write M.G.M.C., POB 10391, Portland, ME 04104.



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