NEW BRUNSWICK REPORT

GROUPS CHOOSE LEADERS

Fredericton Lesbians and Gays, FLAG, is alive and well. At a March 11 general membership meeting they elected a slate of executives to act as the group’s governing body. These officers include president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and a chair and co-chair of the following committees: phoneline, social, education, newsletter, and dance. The “FLAG MAG” is the name of their publication. They are also soliciting suggestions for a new name for the group. Anyone who has any suggestions or comments is encouraged to contact them. The only criterion is that the name reflect both lesbians and gays. FLAG, POB 1556, Station A, Fredericton E3B 5G2, 506/457-2156 (Monday & Thursday, 6-9pm).

The New Brunswick Coalition for Human Rights Reform/La Coalition pour la réforme des droits de la personne au Nouveau-Brunswick chose its officers for the coming year at their annual general meeting March 27th at the Fredericton Unitarian Fellowship meeting hall. The NB Coalition is the organization working to amend the provincial Human Rights Code to include “sexual orientation” in the list of prohibited grounds of discrimination. They have formed a new Education Committee whose purpose is to meet the needs of those who want to learn more about human rights. They are also seeking suggestions for the new name the Coalition should adopt. Anyone who has any suggestions or comments should contact them. The only criterion is that the name reflect the Coalition’s work to promote human rights. NB Coalition, POB 1556, Station A, Fredericton E3B 5G2, 506/457-2156.

BOOK REPORT

Northern Lambda Nord’s lending library, Bibliothèque Lambda, approaches 1000 volumes in size. Slow, steady progress is being made on cataloguing the collection. When complete, a master library list will be sent to each Lambda member. Here are some selected titles from the library.

LANDSCAPE: MEMORY a novel by Matthew Stadler (1990). This author’s first novel is the story of young Max Kosegarten, a sensitive sixteen-year-old whose entries written daily in his memory book provide a record of his own and of the culture in which he lives. It is San Francisco, the summer of 1914, in preparation for the World’s Fair celebrating the city’s recovery from the devastation of the 1906 earthquake. Max and his young friend, Duncan, explore the fair, the woods, the ruins left behind by the earthquake, and their developing love.

A WORLD OF LIGHT: Portraits and Celebrations by May Sarton (1976). York, Maine resident Sarton celebrates those women and men who live, full of vitality and influence, in her waking memory. She brings them to life, and in doing so tells a great deal about herself.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD AND HE KNOWS I’M GAY by Rev. Troy Perry (1972). This autobiography of the founder of the predominantly-gay Metropolitan Community Church details his attempts to lead a “straight” life by marrying and having children, which only ended in his attempted suicide. Not until he was able to accept what he was did he begin to find inner peace and contentment.

SONGS TO A HANDSOME WOMAN by Rita Mae Brown (1973). This is a book of love poems, poems inspired by a single individual. The library also contains numerous travel guides:


SPARTACUS GUIDE for Gay Men 1991/1992. The most complete guide to travel in every nation on the planet. Published in Germany, entries are in English, German, French, Spanish, and Italian and explain gay life and where to go (and not go) in each country.

BOB DAMRON’S ADDRESS BOOK 1990 covers US, Canada, Puerto Rico, Virgin Island, and Mexico. What originated as a handy pocket-size guide is now over 1” thick. BOB DAMRON’S ROAD ATLAS 1990 has detailed maps of 50 US cities plus Vancouver, Toronto, Montréal and Québec.

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DID YOU KNOW

- FLAG DANCE Friday, May 1 at Ecole St. Anne, Priestman St., Fredericton, 9pm, Theme: White Night.
- W.O.M.Y.N.'S COFFEE HOUSE Friday, May 8, 7:30pm, Unitarian Fellowship, 749 Charlotte St, Fredericton.
- G.N.G. DANCE Saturday, May 9, Chalet Sportif, rue Golf, Bathurst.
- As of February 29, 1992, 266 cases of AIDS have been reported in Maine, 158 of those persons have died; there are 35 cases in northern Maine, 101 in central Maine, 150 in southern Maine.
- "Much To Do About Something" an evening of song to benefit The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, Saturday, May 9, 8pm, McAuley Performing Arts Center, 631 Stevens Ave, Portland.
- 9th INTERNATIONAL AIDS CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL AND MOBILIZATION in Portland on Sunday, May 17, 6pm - candlelight gathering at Monument Square, memorial gathering at St. Luke's Cathedral, State Street; in Saint John on Sunday, May 17, 7pm at the Centenary Queen Square United Church; in Fredericton Tuesday, May 19, 7:30pm at the Alumni Memorial Building Lounge, UNB; in Moncton on Sunday, May 24, 7pm at the Rotary Lodge, Centennial Park.
- NEW JERSEY is the fifth state in the US to extend human rights protections to lesbians and gaymen. The state legislature passed the bill making it illegal to deny employment, housing, financing or credit on the basis of "affectional or sexual orientation." The law exempts religious organizations and homes that rent fewer than three rooms. The bill contains a broad definition of sexual orientation: "male or female, heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality by inclination, practice, identity, or expression, having a history thereof or being perceived, presumed or identified by others as having such an orientation."

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about the Coalition and/or sexual orientation in general. They plan to set up a speaker's bureau, and have already been approached by two different groups for presentations. They also intend to compile an information packet for speakers and to produce the Coalition's newsletter. Anyone interested in more information about the Coalition may write to POB 1556, Station A, Fredericton E3B 5G2.

COMMUNIQUE

COMMUNIQUE published five times a year by NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD, an organization serving the lesbian-gay-bisexual community of northern Maine and New Brunswick (Aroostook-Madawaska-Victoria-Carleton-Aroostook). SUBSCRIPTIONS: 10$ per year. ALL MEMBERSHIP: $15 per year, which includes a subscription. U.S. and Canadian funds are accepted at par. Lowincome people may make arrangements to pay in installments. NLN is a non-profit organization; all donations are U.S. tax-deductible. Advertising rates in COMMUNIQUE are available upon request. Your comments and contributions are welcome.

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