

MLGPA News

Advocacy for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered Communities since 1984

P.O. Box 232, Hallowell, ME 04347-0232

December 1999

The Maine Diversity Alliance Sponsors Campaign Leadership Training

After almost a year of planning and working through more than a few scheduling conflicts, the Campaign Leadership Training is happening in just a few weeks. From the evening of Thursday, January 6 through Sunday, January 9, on the UMA campus in Augusta, more than 35 committed people from the LGBT community and allies will undergo an intense learning experience.

Co-trainers Dave Fleischer and Liz Kaufman will cover topics like team building, recruiting volunteers, different ways to raise funds, "door knocking" (going door-to-door to talk with voters), how to counter homophobic attack and how to draft a strategic plan with measurable goals—all to prepare us for the expected referendum campaign next November. This nonpartisan training is being cosponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute, along with MLGPA's educational arm, the Maine Diversity Alliance, UMA's Diversity Committee and Maine Coalition for Equal Rights (MCER).

In the process of recruiting and selecting candidates for this institute, Dave Fleischer and David Garrity as well as others from the Maine Diversity Alliance and MCER have called three hundred or more LGBT activists and allies and conducted approximately 85 interviews around the State. Our first goal was to find trainees to represent every county in Maine. We finally narrowed down our list down to less than forty, with representatives of at least twelve counties from York to Aroostook; state leaders like Dale McCormick, Naomi Falcone and Laura Fortman; state legislators Judy

Powers and Scott Cowger; and members of the MLGPA Board and the interim executive committee of MCER. We think it is very exciting and clearly will increase the number of people who are familiar with all aspects of a political campaign and know how to work effectively on LGBT issues.

There is no charge for this training but trainees are asked for a pledge to make an "in kind" contribution to next year's referendum campaign or other worthy cause. Institute participants will have to make a substantial commitment of time just to take the training.

After nearly two years of working to bring together everyone in our community, this Campaign Leadership Institute is probably the most significant and lasting contribution MLGPA could make to MCER and the next referendum. Interest in the training has proved to be so strong, MLGPA has already begun talking with Dave Fleischer about having a second round of training in the more northern part of the state later this spring. We would like to thank you, our members and contributors, for providing the financial support necessary to make this happen.

Good News at the Polls

WE WIN!

Maine Christian Civic League and the Christian Coalition suffered a major defeat on Question 1, the so-called Partial Birth Abortion Ban. Not only is it a pleasure to see our perennial opponents lose, but this win seems to support the theory that a higher voter turnout is good for progressive causes.

WE WIN!

Medical Use of Marijuana overwhelmingly approved. Maine voters chose compassion for cancer survivors and people with AIDS over the exaggerated fears of some law and order advocates.

WE WIN!

A constitutional amendment to require that votes on any future "people's veto" be held in regular

general elections, was overwhelmingly approved. Introduced by long-time supporter, Sen. Susan Longley, this measure is a reaction to the special election of February 1998, when our anti-discrimination law was narrowly defeated in the dead of winter by just a few thousand votes. The strong support this amendment received may also be a sign of public sentiment in favor of a "recount" on our civil rights next November.

WE WIN!

Falmouth voters squash anti-gay forces led by Mark Finks and Paul Volle! Another local anti-discrimination is upheld, 59-41%, the strongest victory yet. A coalition of mostly straight allies, including City Council members, political activists, and LGBTs — all local residents mounted a very professional, grassroots campaign.

MLGPA

Advocacy for the Lesbian, Gay,
Bisexual, and Transgendered
Communities since 1984

Executive Committee:

David Garrity
President

Maggie Allen
Vice President

Paul Alpert
Treasurer

Susan Sparaco
Secretary

Celeste Gosselin

Larry Bliss

Judy Edgerly

Board Members:

Ken Bartuka

Harold Booth

Marti Hagglund

Scott Hawkins

Ron Hersom

Paul Holbrook

Robin Lambert

Jeff L'Heureux

Virginia Slawson

Mark Sullivan

Board Associates:

Dal Maxwell

Richard Steinman

MLGPA Lobbyists:

Susan Farnsworth

Mary McPherson

Mailing Address:

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Hallowell, ME 04347-0232

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mlgpa@javanet.com

Office Telephone:

1-800-556-5472

761-3732 (in Portland)

We're Baaaack

It's been a very busy couple of months between newsletters, so here are some brief reports to bring you up to date:

At the annual meeting we said good-bye to Betsy Smith, who is now happily settled in a new home and a new job in Boston. We also elected new Board members and Officers. (Sept. 18)

MLGPA sponsored 12 house parties around the state for the Campaign to Protect Women's Health, the coalition that defeated the abortion ban. (Sept.-Oct.)

So many MLGPA Board members and friends attended the Dirigo Alliance annual dinner that we filled two tables this year. It was a special evening honoring former MWD staffer Jessica Stewart and one of our most important longtime allies, Charlie O'Leary, who recently stepped down as head of the Maine AFL-CIO. (Oct. 15)

We had a special briefing by staff of the Dirigo Alliance at our October board meeting on how the new clean elections law will work and what they mean to us. (Oct. 21)

The Great Pumpkin Ball was a smashing success and a good time for everyone. Many months of hard work by V.P. Maggie Allen and some terrific committee members produced the best and most profitable event that MLGPA has ever had! Over 400 advance tickets were sold, nearly 600 attended and we raised over \$6,000. (Oct. 30)

New Prez Dave Garrity, Treasurer Paul Alpert and Board member Ron Hersom attended this year's Creating Change Conference in Oakland. Dave and Paul also represented MLGPA at the meetings

of the Federation of Statewide Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Organizations. Workshops, major speakers and lots of networking (Ron's truly a master) left us very little free time. (Nov. 10-14)

Dave Fleischer, Dave Garrity and Ron Hersom started by making nearly 300 phone calls to potential activists all over the state to find people who would be interested in the Campaign Leadership Training to be held Jan. 6-9. Then in just ten days they interviewed in person or by phone 85 people who are ready to make a leadership commitment to next year's referendum campaign. (Nov. 28-Dec. 10)

HAVE YOU EVER been the victim of discrimination?

If so, we need you to call us and tell us your story.

The public hearing on the new civil rights bill is coming up on February 16. We need to show the Judiciary Committee that discrimination against Bisexuals, Lesbians and Gay Men is REAL!

Please contact the MLGPA Legislative Committee:

Chair Celeste Gosselin at 657-6092 or cgosselin@maine.rr.com;

Susan Farnsworth, MLGPA Lobbyist, at 626-3312 or farns@gwi.net; or

Mary McPherson, MLGPA Legislative Aide, at 677-6414 or snowball@tidewater.net.

REGULAR MEETINGS

MLGPA BOARD MEETING is held on the third Thursday of every month at Robinson Hall, UMA, Civic Center Drive, Augusta. We are actively seeking new members and volunteers from all parts of Maine to help pass our civil rights bill both in the Legislature and in the referendum expected in November 2000. For more information: write (PO Box 232, Hallowell, ME 04347), e-mail

(mlgpa@javanet.com) or voicemail (761-3732 or 800/55-MLGPA).

MLGPA Legislative Committee meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month in Gray. For directions and for further information, please contact Co-chair Celeste Gosselin at 657-6092 (cgosselin@maine.rr.com) or Susan Farnsworth, MLGPA Lobbyist, at 626-3312 (farns@gwi.net). You may also use our toll-free voicemail at 1-800-55-MLGPA or send us e-mail at mlgpa@javanet.

News on Maine Coalition for Equal Rights

From its first meeting in September 1998, MLGPA has played a strong and active role in the development of the new Maine Coalition for Equal Rights (MCER). Past President Betsy Smith brought together a number of different people and groups, who were already starting to organize, to plan that first meeting. MLGPA officers, Board members and Lobbyist Susan Farnsworth have stayed with it through hundreds of hours of meetings, discussions with people from all around the state, and lots of hard work—all of it dedicated to bringing our community back together and creating a model for a more locally based, democratic and inclusive campaign organization for the referendum to come in November 2000.

At the December 4 meeting of MCER's Coordinating Committee in Augusta, MLGPA Board member Ron Hersom, Lobbyist Susan Farnsworth and President Dave Garrity, were all appointed to the first Interim Executive Committee for Maine Coalition for Equal Rights. The interim committee is charged to: work on a process and procedures for establishing a permanent Executive Committee; report on possible candidates for a campaign fundraising director and recommend a selection process; research new PAC rules and make recommendations; plus, discuss ways to expand regional representation and develop new local groups.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. The MCER Coordinating Committee is primarily composed of one representative from each county or local group or statewide committee (Education, Grassroots, Religious Education, Fundraising, Media, etc.). However, anyone is welcome and by attending at least two meetings you can become a voting committee member, too. The next two meetings of the MCER Coordinating Committee are scheduled for January 22, from 1 to 4 pm and Saturday, February 5, also

from 1 to 4 pm. Both meetings will be held in Robinson Hall in the Civic Center Complex in Augusta. At one or both of those meetings the establishment of a more permanent Executive Committee will be on the agenda.

Even as MLGPA is busy working on the bill's passage in the legislature, it's comforting to know that others are working on turning the bill into law by

passing it at the polls. We're going to need everyone's help—not only now during the legislative process, but later in the expected referendum campaign. There are endless ways to participate and help. Remember the example Paul Fuller set for us in the last campaign—one person can make a big difference in winning our equal civil rights. How about you?

MLGPA Gears Up For Civil Rights in Y2K

PRE-SESSION REPORT ON THE LEGISLATURE FROM MLGPA LOBBYIST, SUSAN FARNSWORTH

MLGPA's Legislative Committee is ready to launch, at the dawn of a new millennium, what we hope will be our final campaign in the legislature to secure our civil rights!

For the past few months Celeste Gosselin has been leading the effort in meetings every other Tuesday at 6pm at her house in Gray. Besides Celeste, our chair, this year's Legislative Committee includes Harold Booth, Scott Hawkins, Richard Steinman, Mary McPherson (my lobbying associate), MLGPA President Dave Garrity and me. I've been contracted to lobby for MLGPA in the coming legislative session and Mary McPherson, a former MLGPA Board member, will be working with me, helping to organize the hearing on LD 2239.

Celeste has been recruiting MLGPA members and supporters all over the State to contact individual legislators about LD 2239, An Act to Ensure Civil Rights and Prevent Discrimination. The support we've received thus far is very encouraging.

As you will no doubt recall (would that we could forget!), the civil rights

bill passed in 1997 was repealed at the polls by a people's veto' on February 10, 1998. Following that defeat, the Governor and other legislators have said they would not support the same bill this session, unless it had a referendum attached. This position is no surprise, since traditionally, considerable weight is given to such a vote. "The people have spoken," is the usual cry. In February 1998, however, very few people actually spoke. It is also clear that the issue was shrouded in a veil of misinformation, generating confusion over such questions as whether or not the bill created any "special rights."

We've had a few successes recently that may suggest that the public is with us, especially on how people view our loss in the February 1998 Special Election.

- ▼ The same Christian Civic League and Christian Coalition we faced in 1998 were soundly defeated in their attempt to ban abortions. We are proud to have been a member of the Coalition to Protect Women's Health that campaigned against it.
- ▼ In Falmouth, Paul Volle and Mark Finks were again defeated—59% to 41%—in another attempt to repeal a local human rights ordinance.

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MLGPA Gears Up For Civil Rights in Y2K

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▼ And in a ballot question introduced last session by State Senator Susan Longley, Maine voters amended the State Constitution to hold the votes on all future "people's veto" measures during a general election.

LD 2239 IS DIFFERENT FROM PRIOR BILLS

The civil rights bill pending in the legislature was introduced last year by Senator Joel Abromson and it has been carried over for hearing this year. It is not the same as the bill that was repealed in 1998. LD 2239 includes some important changes intended to correct misconceptions about prior civil rights bills.

First, this bill clearly states that it grants no special rights nor conveys any legislative approval to any person or group of persons covered under the

anti-discrimination provisions of the Maine Human Rights Act.

Second, the bill itself includes a referendum provision which would go on the ballot in November of 2000. There are a number of important reasons why a referendum provision is included. One is to accommodate those who believe that only the voters can overturn a ballot measure, as, for instance, the turnpike widening was approved. Another is that whether we ask to send it to the voters or our opponents gather signatures again for a people's veto, we know it will be on the ballot. By including a referendum in the bill, we get a say in how it is worded. Finally, many of us consider this a recount of the February 10, 1998 vote we were forced to have, rather than us choosing to send our civil rights out for referendum.

SUPPORT FOR LD 2239 IS STRONG AND BUILDING

In addition to identifying the support from current legislators for this bill, MLGPA's legislative committee is also working on collecting endorsements from our allies. A letter seeking these organizational endorsements is already on its way.

You can help with the process of collecting endorsements by asking suitable groups you may belong to vote to endorse or otherwise support LD 2239. Contact me (farns@gwi.net; 626-3312) or leave a message at 1-800-55-MLGPA (761-3732), MLGPA's office phone, if you have any questions about doing that.

Also, and perhaps most importantly, we are looking for people who will be willing and able to testify in support of the need for this bill. If you have experienced discrimination relatively recently, or know someone who has, please contact Mary McPherson as soon as possible to find out how your bad experience can best be put to good use. She can be reached by e-mail at snowball@tidewater.net or by leaving a short message at 677-6414.

Legislative Alert!

The Legislature is beginning to consider the new Anti-discrimination Bill RIGHT NOW

Public Hearing before the Judiciary Committee on
LD 2239, An Act to Ensure Civil Rights
and Prevent Discrimination

Scheduled for 1:30pm, February 16, 2000
at the Augusta Civic Center.

The Committee will send the bill to the whole
Legislature soon after that.

***Please call your legislator now!
Ask him or her to vote YES,
and plan to attend the Hearing.***

Your Chance to Tell It Like It Is

HAVE YOU EVER been the victim of discrimination? If so, we need you to call us and tell us your story.

The public hearing on the new civil rights bill is tentatively scheduled for February 16, and we need to show the Judiciary Committee that discrimination against Bisexuals, Lesbians and Gay Men is REAL! Please contact the MLGPA Legislative Committee:

Chair Celeste Gosselin (657-6092 or cgosselin@maine.rr.com), or MLGPA Lobbyists, Susan Farnsworth (626-3312 or farns@gwi.net) and Mary McPherson (677-6414 or snowball@tidewater.net)

Minutes of the Meeting of the MLGPA Board
November 18, 1999

Attendance: Maggie Allen, Paul Alpert, Marti Hagglund, Harold Booth, Scott Hawkins,
Susan Farnsworth, David Garrity, Celeste Gosselin, Mary McPherson, Susan Sparaco

Approval of Minutes: By motion of Harold Booth, as seconded by Celeste Gosselin, the minutes of the October meeting were approved by vote of the Board.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Paul Alpert reported on the cash balances in our accounts.

Fundraising: David Garrity reported that the first batch of fundraising letters have been mailed and that we will be intensifying our donor visits.

Legislative : Celeste Gosselin reported on the committee's work in assessing legislative support for the bill through its survey. Susan Farnsworth reported on the discussions with representatives of the Catholic Church, emphasizing that no decisions have been made affecting the bill and that we are listening to and are interested in the response from our community regarding these discussions. Mary McPherson discussed our need to identify people who would be willing to testify at the legislative hearing about their experiences with discrimination.

Campaign Training:

David Garrity reported that Dave Fleischer will be conducting interviews in Portland, Augusta and Bangor beginning November 29th.

Final report on the Great Pumpkin Ball:

Maggie Allen reported on the Great Pumpkin Ball, identifying the sponsorship program developed as the key to our increased profits. Maggie also suggested that we have this year's banquet in Portland in April. We also discussed the alternative of eliminating a full dinner as part of the event.

Lobbyist Contract:

We reviewed and approved the draft language for the lobbyist contract as amended for additional provisions governing client disclosures and termination.

Executive Committee:

Celeste Gosselin was voted to serve as member of the Executive Committee.

Adjourned.

Minutes
(October 21, 1999 meeting)

Attendance: Robin Lambert, Ken Bartuka, Marti Hagglund, Richard Steinman, Ron Hersom, Howard Booth, Virginia, Slawson, Susan Farnsworth, David Garrity, Celeste Gosselin, Judy Edgerly, Maggie Allen, Mary McPherson, Susan Sparaco

Approval of the Minutes: By motion of Harold Booth, as seconded by Judy Edgerly, the minutes of the September 17, 1999 meeting were approved.

Presentation by Dirigo: Monica Cassellanos of Dirigo Alliance provided a presentation of the requirements of the Clean Elections Law.

Committee Reports:

Special Events: Judy Edgerly requested volunteers to assist with table coverage and decorations for the Great Pumpkin Ball.

President's Report: David Garrity announced that the Leadership training is scheduled for Jan.6-9, 2000. Volunteers are needed to make phone calls to potential trainees. Everyone is encouraged to suggest names of possible candidates for training. David also discussed the purchasing of enamel MLGPA pins for distribution/sale; the Board agreed that we should proceed with this idea. In addition the Board voted on motion by Judy, as seconded by Celeste, to make a \$50 contribution to the Sappho Sisters Conference.

Legislative Committee: Celeste Gosselin reported that the committee has been reconfirming legislators' support for a civil rights bill. Mary McPherson was introduced to the Board; she will be assisting Susan Farnsworth with coordinating the hearing. Susan Farnsworth reported on discussions with representatives of the Catholic Church. The Board voted on motion by Robin Lambert, as seconded by Judy Edgerly, to refer the development of a new lobbyist and /or consultant contract to the Executive Board.

Other Business:

MLGPA list request for GOTV by the Choice Coalition: The Board voted on motion by David Garrity, as seconded by Harold Booth, to provide a list of all but our active and confidential members whom we will call ourselves. Harold, Robin, David and Judy volunteered to make these phone calls.

Election of At-Large Members to the Executive Committee: The Board voted to elect Judy Edgerly and Larry Bliss as at-large members to the Executive Committee with the election of the third at-large member deferred until the next meeting.

Adjourned.

Calendar of Events

For more current information check-out the Maine Gaynet Calendar at <http://www.huntcal.com/cgi/calview.cgi/GayNet/Events>.

January 1, Saturday, 5:00pm

SOLO potluck at the Durham Quaker Meeting House. Doors open at 5pm and eat about 6pm. For further information contact: footloos@gwi.net.

January 11, Tuesday, 6:00-8:00pm

MLGPA Legislative Committee meeting in Gray. For directions and for further information, please contact Chair Celeste Gosselin at 657-6092 (cgosselin@maine.rr.com) or Susan Farnsworth, MLGPA Lobbyist, at 626-3312 (farns@gwi.net). You may also use our toll-free voice-mail at 1-800-55-MLGPA or send us e-mail at mlgpa@javanet.com.

January 11, Tuesday, 6:30-8:30pm

Western Maine Rural Network will meet to continue work on the Safe School Project at Oxford Hills H.S., in collaboration with ACLA. The meeting will be held at the Deering Memorial United Methodist Church (across from the Irving station) in South Paris. Snow date: Thursday, January 13th, same time and location. For more info please contact Naomi at nomad@watchic.net or 642-2015.

January 17, Monday, 6:30pm

Out on MDI Potluck—Our monthly potluck is held on the third Monday of each month at a different member's home. All are welcome! See the OOMDI web site for details.

January 20, Thursday, 5:30-8:30pm

MLGPA MONTHLY BOARD MEETING at Robinson Hall, UMA, Civic Center Drive, Augusta. We are actively seeking new members and volunteers from all parts of Maine to help pass our civil rights bill both in the Legislature and in the referendum expected in November 2000.

New members are always welcome. For more information: by mail (PO Box 232, Hallowell, ME 04347), e-mail (mlgpa@javanet.com) or voice-mail (761-3732 or 800/55-MLGPA).

January 22, Saturday, 1:00-4:00pm

MCER Coordinating Committee at Robinson Hall in the Civic Center Complex in Augusta. Continuing its work of planning the next referendum campaign and supporting the development of local campaign teams in every county. Agenda items may include establishing a permanent executive committee and future fundraising plans. Everyone is welcome.

January 25, Tuesday, 6:00-8:00pm

MLGPA Legislative Committee meeting in Gray. For directions and for further information, please contact Committee Chair Celeste Gosselin at 657-6092 (cgosselin@maine.rr.com) or Susan Farnsworth, MLGPA Lobbyist, at 626-3312 (farns@gwi.net). You may also use our toll-free voice-mail at 1-800-55-MLGPA or send us e-mail at mlgpa@javanet.com.

January 29, Saturday, 8:45am-4:45pm

WORKSHOP: Building Effective G/L/B/T Organizations, a day-long workshop in Waterville sponsored by the Equity Fund of the Maine Community Foundation. Highlights will include panelists talking candidly about what they learned developing current organizations; workshops providing useful content and time to explore questions and concerns; good food and comfortable surroundings. Presenters and panelists include: David Becker, Laura Fortman, Dick Harrison, Cathy Kidman and Peter Rees. For more information or registration materials, contact Jean Warren (667-9735), or the workshop's organizer, Marjorie Love (mgmtsvcs@gwi.net).

February 5, Saturday, 1:00-4:00pm

MCER Coordinating Committee at Robinson Hall in the Civic Center Complex in Augusta. Continuing its work of planning the next referendum campaign and supporting the development of local campaign teams in every county. Everyone is welcome.

February 5, Saturday, 5:00pm

SOLO potluck at Durham Quaker Meeting House. Doors open at 5pm and we eat around 6pm. Single Older Lesbians Organization. For further information, contact footloos@gwi.net.

February 8, Tuesday, 6:00-8:00pm

MLGPA Legislative Committee meeting in Gray. For directions and for further information, please contact Co-chair Celeste Gosselin at 657-6092 (cgosselin@maine.rr.com) or Susan Farnsworth, MLGPA Lobbyist, at 626-3312 (farns@gwi.net). You may also use our toll-free voice-mail at 1-800-55-MLGPA or send us e-mail at mlgpa@javanet.com.

February 16, Wednesday, 1:30pm-??

PUBLIC HEARING ON LGBT CIVIL RIGHTS !!! L.D.2239, An Act to Ensure Civil Rights and Prevent Discrimination, the new anti-discrimination bill, is coming before the Judiciary Committee on February 16, 2000, at the Augusta Civic Center. We hope that this will be the very last time we have to do this. Please come and be part of this historic event. It starts at 1:30pm but it could run well into the evening.

February 17, Thursday, 6:00-8:00pm

MLGPA MONTHLY BOARD MEETING. MLGPA meets every third Thursday of the month at Robinson Hall, UMA, Civic Center Drive, Augusta. We are actively seeking new members and volun-

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Calendar of Events

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teers from all parts of Maine to help pass our civil rights bill both in the Legislature and in the referendum expected in November 2000. For more information: snail mail (PO Box 232, Hallowell, ME 04347), e-mail (mlgpa@javanet.com) or voicemail (761-3732 or 800/55-MLGPA).

February 21, Monday, 6:30pm

Out on MDI Potluck — Our monthly potluck is held on the third Monday of each month at a different member's home. All are welcome! See the OOMDI web site for details.

February 22, Tuesday, 6:00–8:00pm

MLGPA Legislative Committee meeting in Gray. For directions and for further information, please contact Co-chair Celeste Gosselin at 657-6092 (cgosselin@

maine.rr.com) or Susan Farnsworth, MLGPA Lobbyist, at 626-3312 (farns@gwi.net). You may also use our toll-free voice-mail at 1-800-55-MLGPA or send us e-mail at mlgpa@javanet.com.

Regularly Scheduled Events

Every Monday, 8:00–9:00pm

The Rainbow Educational Alliance of Diverse Individuals meets in the basement of the UMF Computer Center room 006 to raise awareness on campus, do educational projects, and socialize (despite common belief). <http://violet.umf.maine.edu/~readi>.

First & Third Monday, 6:00pm

GAY MEN'S POTLUCK meets at the First Universalist Church, 169 Pleasant Street, in Auburn. For more info: 783-0461.

Every Thursday, 7:30–9:00pm

Gay-OK! of Greater Farmington/Franklin County meets in the rear of the psychology building (62 High St.) at the University of Maine at Farmington campus. This social/support group is open to campus and community members and meets weekly when classes are in session. Contact Brian Kaufman @ 778-7379 FMI.

OUTRIGHT offers support and safe space for GLBT young people 22 and under. There are groups in Belfast, Portland, Brunswick, Ellsworth . . . all over Maine. Most meet weekly or biweekly. For meeting times and contact info, see GayNet's OUTRIGHT calendar <<http://www.huntcal.com/cgi-local/calview.cgi/GayNet/Outright/>>.

HELP WANTED: LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATES!!

We seek people interested in
helping to pass an anti-discrimination bill;
taking part in the legislative process;
and identifying lgbt-positive candidates for public office.

DUTIES INCLUDE: Asking organizations and individuals to endorse the anti-discrimination bill and join our coalition; finding members and supporters in specific legislative districts to seek the support of their State Senators and Representatives; stuffing envelopes, finding people who can testify about discrimination at the public hearing on the bill and recruiting hundreds of people to attend; stuffing envelopes, sending e-mails, making phone calls and other duties as required. Applicants will have a choice of tasks.

HOURS: Meetings are held from 6:00 to 8:00 PM on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month in Gray, Maine. Attendance not required in order to volunteer.

QUALIFICATIONS: Commitment to civil rights and interest in the legislative process. No prior experience necessary.

CONTACT: Celeste Gosselin, Chair, MLGPA Legislative Committee, by phone, 657-6092 or by e-mail, cgosselin@maine.rr.com.

Best
Wishes
for the
New Year
from
MLGPA