Highlights

OF NLN'S AUGUST BUSINESS MEETING
Six members present; four of them Steering Committee members.

- The computer program designed to set up the library collection is loaded and ready to accept input. Target date for completion of work to get the over 1000 volume collection entered is November 1. Print-outs will be available for each member.

- Outreach: Waiting to hear from the Caribou Unitarian Church re: formation of parents & friends of gays & lesbians group.

- The building fund is up $96 since last month.

- The United Way received a large amount of donated office furniture after their recent fire. On tv they offered some of the furniture to non-profit groups. NLN will call about a desk.

- A representative from NLN will participate in an orientation for resident hall staff at the University of Maine/Presque Isle.

- NLN participation in the Maine Coalition Against Hate was discussed. Further discussion and a vote will be taken at the September meeting (see story at right)

- Activities calendar was set. The suggestions for get-togethers was no problem. The difficulty is lack of enough locations for gatherings. There aren't enough people willing to host events at their homes.

- Labor Day weekend party - left open pending location.

- Monthly meeting - Sun, Sept 20, 3pm, Caribou; "Fold & stuff" the October newsletter - Wed, Sept 23, 7pm at the Phoneline in Caribou; Horseback riding - Sat, Sept 26, Portage Lake; Annual Membership Drive Party - Sat, Oct 3, 8pm, New Sweden; Discussion group & pot-luck meal - Sat, Oct 17, location and suggestion for a guest speaker is needed; Monthly meeting - Sun, Oct 25, 3pm, Van Buren;

- Halloween costume party - Sat, Oct 31, 8pm, Presque Isle

The meeting adjourned after about 1 hour.

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Maine Coalition Against Hate
GROUP WORKS TO COUNTER ANTI-GAY PETITION DRIVE

A group of people, formerly referred to as "The Intervenors", has formally organized into a publicly-identifiable entity. They had "intervened" in litigation in opposition to the Jasper Wyman-Maine Christian Civic League drive to require any gay/lesbian-related legislation to be put to public referendum. Now, as the Maine Coalition Against Hate, they have launched a statewide effort to attract the maximum number of organizations and individuals – both straight and gay – as Coalition members. Member organizations are asked to agree to have their name listed in advertising opposing the referendum drive.

Northern Lambda Nord's participation in this coalition will be discussed and approved/disapproved at the September 20th meeting in Caribou. All interested persons are urged to attend, write a note to the PO Box in Caribou, or call the Phoneline on a Wednesday from 7-9pm (Maine)/8-10pm (N-B).

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The NLN Building Fund is designed to raise money for a community center for this region. The center would house the phoneline, library, office, meeting space, and party space. Since NLN is a 501(c)(3) group, all donations are tax-deductible on federal U.S. income tax; merely ask for a receipt. Donations of any amount - U.S. or Canadian funds - are appreciated.

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Do more than belong. Participate.
Did YOU know

Fallfest '92, the first New England Festival for Women, is Thursday-Sunday, September 17-20 in Norway, Maine, billed as "a time to come together, relax, share, enjoy the great outdoors, experience personal growth, and make new friends." There are cabins, campsites with and without hookups, and modern facilities. Cost is $25/person which includes all activities/workshops; accommodations are extra. Contact: mainly for You, RF9#1, Box 1085, Norway 04268; Carol 207-743-2787.

The boy scouts of America maintains a homophobic policy which specifically excludes gay youth from becoming scouts, and gay men from being adult volunteers. They even have excluded a lesbian in Portland, Maine from participating in her son's troop's activities! Some United Ways in the U.S. have either withheld or threatened to withhold funding of the local Boy Scouts, and some major corporations have withdrawn their funding as well. Another addition to the public outrage at the Scout policy was expressed in a letter to the president of the BSA from the president of Reform Judaism's Union of American Hebrew Congregations, who noted "a conflict in policy between our two organizations" and urged the BSA to reverse its policy.

In the wake of the Republican National Convention in Houston, one tv commentator equated the repeated queer-bashing and divisive, intolerant views expressed by Pat Buchanan and his cronies with the Nazi propaganda of the 1930s. How ironic that the Republicans, who denounce the non-traditional (i.e. homosexual) family as immoral and not within their definition of "family values," paraded out their presidential candidate to a song from the film, "La Cage aux Folles," the story of the long-term, loving relationship of an aging drag queen and his companion!

Gay men & their mothers are needed by a researcher at Northwestern University in Illinois. The organization Midcoast Maine PFLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays) is helping in the search for willing gaymen and/or their mothers as participants. As a gayman, you need not guarantee your mother's participation but should be willing to let researchers contact her, and visa versa. For more information about specifics of the study, refer to "Son and Mother Study" and call the Family Studies Laboratory collect at 708/866-0924, or write to Dr. Michael Bailey, Department of Psychology, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60208. Participants as well as PFLAG will receive the results of this study.

Communiqué


Communiqué is published ten times yearly by NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD, an organization serving the lesbian-gay-bisexual community of northern Maine and northwestern New Brunswick (Anroostook-Madawaska-Victoria-Carleton counties).

Subscriptions - $10 per year. NUN Membership - $15 per year, which includes a subscription. U.S. and Canadian funds are accepted at par. Low-income people may make arrangements to pay in installments. NUN is a non-profit organization; all donations are U.S. tax-deductible. Advertising rates in COMMUNIQUÉ are available upon request. Your comments and contributions are welcome.

In the Library

Northern Lambda Nord's lending library, Bibliothèque Lambda, contains about 1000 volumes in the collection.

Here are two

Halfway Home a novel by Paul Monette (1991)

Story of "peniless, AIDS-striken performance artist Tom Shaheen [who retreats] to a rundown oceanfront estate on Malibu Beach to brood over lost opportunities, lost loves...and the disease that is ravaging both his body and his inner self. But one day his past comes calling. Brian, Tom's estranged 'golden boy' brother, the despised tormentor of his youth, arrives on the actor's doorstep seeking sanctuary from disasters of his own making. Abruptly he crowds Tom's life with incident and danger, dragging him reluctantly back into the sloppy tangle of human relationships...and awakening within him a dormant, life-affirming capacity for understanding, forgiveness and love."

Hello Darling, Are You Working?
a novel by Rupert Everett (1992)

By the time he was eight he knew he would never be a great actress. "So begins this sexy, fast-paced satire by Rupert Everett, the internationally-acclaimed star of the films 'Another Country' and 'The Comfort of Strangers', and follows the travails of Rys Wavefall (a.k.a. Dorys, Dorita, Wavy, Rhysie, Lancelot...), as he gets himself into trouble in Paris and Tangier while trying to get himself out of debt."