
Northern Lambda Nord

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Members set goals to be reached during 1994

by Dick Harrison, New Sweden

At the monthly business meeting Sunday, January 16th in Caribou, Northern Lambda Nord members adopted a list of five goals to accomplish during 1994. These include: increase the number of members in the organization, complete the computer entries and organization of the members’ lending library and prepare a written list of the entire book collection discussed with regards to increasing membership. In order to make more people in the area aware of the existence of Lambda, the group needs to become more visible. A first step would be to announce our monthly meetings in the “community calendar” sections of the weekly newspapers in the region. A second step would be to have each member urge someone new to join the group, thereby doubling our membership.

With respect to organizing the library collection, an effort which has been dragging on for years, the monthly “library day” for February has been moved from a Saturday afternoon to a Sunday afternoon, with the goal of attracting more volunteers. People are also reminded that they need not wait for a “library day”: they are encouraged to volunteer some time any weekday evening or free weekend to enter books into the computer. (At the conclusion of the January 16th meeting, one NLN member went to the library and completed the input of one and a half shelves of books into the computer, 66 titles, in less than two hours.)

In years past Northern Lambda Nord was more active in community events, such as creating a snow sculpture for the Caribou Winter Carnival. It was suggested that we participate in one of the area’s community activities this year, such as the Caribou Winter Carnival Parade in February, the Acadia Festival Parade in Madawaska in June, the Roostook River Raft Race in July, or the Potato Blossom Festival Parade in July. It would require participation of members to help behind-the-scenes, whether it’s building a raft or a float; they needn’t participate publicly.

Every October there are regional fundraising benefits for AIDS. This October NLN will organize an AIDS Walk in Aroostook County to benefit an AIDS organization.

The bottle and can drives, the raffle ticket sales, the NLN mug sales, and cash donations to our fund to create a gay-lesbian-bisexual community center in this region is three years old this month. Though we have collected bottles, and sold tickets and mugs, it has grown by less than $1000 per year. We currently stand at $2881.66. Our goal for 1994 is to reach the $4000 mark by the end of December. This will require people to make a conscious effort to save their bottle and can deposits, and donate them to the fund. Promote the sale of Lambda mugs – they’re $5 each, do you have yours, yet? Help with the sale of our tickets for the next raffle – it’s for a $100 shopping spree at the store of your choice. Raffle tickets will be available in late January; the winning ticket will be drawn at the October 1st membership drive party - that gives us nine months to sell tickets and raise money for the building fund.

These truly modest goals will be achieved with the support of the membership. You need not

in memorium

Gérard Lavoie

Edmundston, New Brunswick

Gérard was a librarian at the Collège St-Louis Mallet. He was a member of Northern Lambda Nord from 1984-1987 and 1991-1992. He died Monday, January 17, 1994 from the effects of AIDS.
be public to work for your organization. Look at the calendar of events and plan to attend a monthly meeting, a library day, or a Wednesday at the Phoneline. “Do more than belong. Participate.” □

For The Building Fund

Another Grant Application

Within a period of two weeks, Northern Lambda Nord has submitted grant applications totalling $40,000 to help us purchase property for the establishment of the first gay-lesbian-bisexual community center in either Maine or New Brunswick. The first request was to apply for an application from the OUTfund for $20,000. They are a national funding group, part of the Funding Exchange. The OUTfund gives money only to lesbian and gay groups. If they approve our preliminary submission, we will then request the money in a more complete application. That “request-to-apply” was submitted at the end of December 1993.

The Haymarket People’s Fund of New England is marking its 20th anniversary by awarding 20-$20,000 grants. NLN has applied for one of these grants, again in support of our community center. Haymarket is organized into regional funding boards; Maine constitutes one region. This means that people in Maine review applications from within the state and decide who receives funding. We should hear from them by mid-April.

A total of $40,000, plus the $2880 in our building fund, would be close to the amount needed to purchase property. With the closure of Loring Air Force Base and the sale of many properties by people leaving the area, the Army Corps of Engineers now owns a lot of vacant houses. This is a good time, while the real estate market is depressed, to purchase property. In the Haymarket grant application, several factors were noted when looking for a suitable building: the property would have to be properly zoned, it would need the right number and size of rooms for our library, office, and meeting spaces, it would need to be wheelchair accessible, have safe and sufficient parking, and include some type of income property, such as a second-floor or rear apartment. The rental income would be necessary to cover the ongoing expenses of taxes and maintenance of the building. ▼

“The close and intimate conditions of life aboard ship, the necessity for the highest espirit-de-corps; the requirement of morale – all these demand that nothing be done which may adversely affect the situation.

“Past experience has shown irrefutably that their enlistment leads to disruptive and undermining conditions.”

from a December 24, 1941 Navy memorandum opposing the integration of “negroes” into all-white units.

Maine Community AIDS Partnership

HIV Services & Prevention

The Maine Community AIDS Partnership is a public-private project of the Maine Community Foundation and the United Way of Greater Portland to increase financial support for HIV services and prevention activities in Maine. This year they are conducting a statewide needs assessment. The information gathered will guide their funding decisions over the next four years as they work to bring new money to Maine, specifically to fund HIV-related activities.

All interested persons are invited to participate in the MCAP focus group in Presque Isle Friday, January 28 from noon-2pm. It will be held at the ACAP Office at 444 Main Street, between Copper’s Lounge and Wizard’s. A light lunch will be provided.

There are currently several HIV-related projects underway in Maine. Leaders from these groups are working together to make sure that everyone benefits from the labors of each group. Thus, this MCAP project will benefit from the information gathered at this needs assessment. If you are interested in participating, please contact Joanne Crepeau at 1-874-1000. ▼

Weekend Retreat

Surviving & Thriving in the Age of AIDS

If you are gay or bisexual, you probably
already know how challenging it can be to survive - much less thrive - in our society. We are surrounded by shaming messages and homophobia, and we have been hit hard by the AIDS epidemic. Fortunately, we may respond to these conditions in positive ways - with pride, joy, courage, and hope. We can make healthy decisions for ourselves.

This weekend retreat for gay and bisexual men will offer a safe, harassment-free time of enrichment, discovery, nurturing, and empowerment, sharing struggles, hopes, and joys. The weekend will include large and small groups, private time, one-to-one work, and special times of nurturing each other. There will be time for fun, for hanging out, and to get to know each other. The dates are Friday, February 11 around 5pm through Sunday, February 13 after lunch at Rockcraft Lodge in East Sebago, Maine. Participants are responsible for travel and are asked to bring one white t-shirt. Meals, lodging, and registration are free. Partial funding has been provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

If you are interested, call by January 24th: Rob DeWolfe, 207-778-6031, or Steve Fleming 207-287-3747. Only 25 men will be accepted.

April in Bangor

Conference on Lesbian Health

The Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center is sponsoring a day-long conference on lesbian health Saturday, April 9 at the Airport Marriott Hotel in Bangor. This is the first of its kind in Maine and will provide information about lesbians’ health and healthcare from a variety of perspectives.

Peaches Bass, coordinator of the Lesbian Health Project at the Wadsworth Center, notes that “lesbians in Maine have been clamoring” for a health forum. “We're eager to give and receive information on everything, including cancer, sexuality, economics, mental health, ageing, coming out, family health, substance abuse, staying healthy, being smart healthcare consumers, being better healthcare providers, having kids, community health, and more.” The conference promises to have a diverse array of workshops.

All women, including healthcare providers and those interested in better serving lesbians, are encouraged to attend. Scholarships and free childcare are available. Registration materials will be mailed in February. For information, call the Mabel Wadsworth Women’s Health Center, 207-947-5337.

Bibliothèque Lambda

New Books Added to Library

Most people don’t realize it, but in addition to books having been both purchased for and donated over the years to Northern Lambda Nord’s lending library, Bibliothèque Lambda, several publishing companies send us their new books at no charge. Here are a few of the recent additions to the non-fiction section in our collection.

Mad Monks on the Road by Michael Lane & Jim Crotty

“Charles Kuralt meets Jack Kerouac with Laurel and Hardy thrown in.” - Newsweek

Is it a choice? Answers to 350 of the most frequently asked questions about gays

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S.I.D.A.

LES NIVEAUX DE RISQUE

LE BAISER avec échange de salive (français-kiss) ne comportent aucun risque. LES CARESSSES ET LA MASTURBATION ne constituent aucun risque de transmission du VIH. LE SEXE ORAL est peu probable que cette pratique sexuelle puisse transmettre le VIH. LA Pénétration ANALE ET VAGINALE non protégée par un condom constitue un haut risque de transmission du VIH, qu’il y ait éjaculation ou non. LES JOUETS SEXUELS (ex.: vibrateur, gode-miché) non partagés ne constituent aucun risque de transmission du virus. LÉCHER L'ANUS ne constitue pas un mode de transmission du VIH. Cependant, elle ne vous protège aucunement de l’hépatite B ou des autres MTS. ACTIVITÉS SADO-MASOCHISTES qui ne causent pas de saignements et qui n’incluent aucune autre activité à risque ne favorisent pas la transmission du VIH.

A.I.D.S.

THE SAFER THE SEX, THE BETTER

CONSIDERED SAFE: Mutual masturbation, Hugging/body rubbing, Massage, Social (dry) kissing, Fantasy, Light S/M (without bleeding or bruising), Sex toys (when used only on yourself)

CONSIDERED POSSIBLY SAFE: Anal or vaginal intercourse with a condom, French (wet) kissing, Sucking (but stopping before climax), Watersports (external only), Cunnilingus

CONSIDERED UNSAFE: Swallowed semen, Anal or vaginal intercourse without a condom, Watersports in mouth or on skin with sores or cuts, Sharing IV needles, Fisting or rimming, Sharing enema equipment, douching equipment, or sex toys
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A Promise to Remember: The Names Project Book of Letters, Remembrances of love from the contributors to the Quilt, edited by Joe Brown

Before Their Time: People from around the world living with AIDS and HIV tell their stories, edited by Ann Richardson and Dietmar Bolle

Ferrari's Places of Interest: worldwide gay & lesbian guide, April 1993-April 1994

Saturday, January 29
NLN 14th Anniversary
Dinner Party at the Carriage House
Restaurant, Presque Isle, 7pm (Maine time)
Seating is limited! Make a reservation! 498-2088

COMMUNIQUÉ publié six fois par année par NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD, une organisation pour la communauté gaie-lesbiennes-bisexuelles au nord-ouest du Nouveau Brunswick et au nord du Maine (les comtés Madawaska-Victoria-Carleton-Aroostook). SUBSCRIPTIONS, - $10 par an. NLN 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. NLN is a non-profit organization; all donations are tax deductible. Advertising rates in COMMUNIQUÉ are available upon request. Your comments and contributions are welcome.

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

NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD (NLN),
C/O POB 990, Caribou, Maine 04736 USA

GAY/LESBIAN PHONELINE 207-498-2088 (TDD Voice - staffed Wed, 7-9pm (Maine), 8-10pm (N-H)

AROOSTOOK AREA GAY/LESBIAN AA GROUP meets Sundays, 7pm (Maine time) in Madawaska. Group bilingual/bilingual group. Call 207-498-2088 to make contact

58 ACT UP/BANGOR POB 1554, 04402-1554, 207-947-3947

AIDS New Brunswick 800.561-4009

AIDSLine/Maine 800.851-AIDS - Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Mon & Wed till 7:30pm

AM CHOFI Maine Jewish group, meets monthly: POB 5017, Portland 04101, 207-874-2970 (Bar Harbor)

A PERS A Point of Departure, published monthly by Phoenix Press, POB 4743, Portland 04112

COMMUNITY PRIDE REPORTER: The newspaper for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community of Maine, published monthly, 142 High St, Suite 634, Portland 04101, 207-879-1342

GAY/LESBIANS & GAYS (FLAG) POB 1556, Station A E38 5G2, 506-457-2156 (Mon & Thurs 6:30pm)

FRUITS OF OUR LABORS Lesbian Gay Bi events calendar published monthly, POB 125, Bristol ME 04915

GAY/LESBIAN COMMUNITY NETWORK POB 207, Bangor 04401, 207.862-5907/941-2189

GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP Portland, 207.772-4741

HARBOR MASTERS, INC. leather-lexi group, POB 4044, Portland 04104

INTEGRITY Episcopal group, St. Matthew's Church, 18 Union Street, Hallowell 04347, 207-622-6631

LESBIAN/GAY COMMITTE, MAINE CHAPTER, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS POB 5112, Station A, Portland 04102

GAS & LESBIENNES DE MONCTON/GAYS & LESBIANS OF MONCOTON (GLM) C/O POB 1072, Riverview E18 1VO, 506-655-8064

GAY/LAMBDA COMMUNITY NETWORK POB 212, Bangor 04401, 207.862-5907/941-2189

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MAINE BISEXUAL PEOPLE'S NETWORK POB 10818, Portland 04104

MAINE LESBIAN & GAY LAW ASSOCIATION (LeGal) POB 443, Portland 04102, 207.829-3379

MAINE LESBIAN/GAY POLITICAL ALLIANCE POB 232, Hallowell 04347

NEW BRUNSWICK COALITION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS REFORM/ LA COALITION POUR LA RÉFORME DES DROITS DE LA PERSONNE DU NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK POB/CP 1556, Station/Succursale A, Fredericton E3B 5G2, 506-457-2156

NO BORDERS/SANS FRONTIÈRES POB/CP 461, Campbellton, NB E3N 3G4

OUTRIGHT: Portland Alliance of Gay & Lesbian Youth, age 22 and under, POB 5208, Station A, Portland 04102, 800.339-4042

OUTRIGHT CENTRAL MAINE for age 22 & younger, every Fri, 7:30pm 1st Unitarian Church, Pleasant St, Auburn; POB 802, Auburn 04212, 800.339-4042

OUTRIGHT TOO Bangor area Gay-Lesbian-Bisexual youth group, c/o POB 212, Bangor 04401

PWA (People With AIDS) COALITION OF MAINE 377 Cumberland Avenue, Portland 04101, 207.773-8500

SIDA New Brunswick 800.561-4009

10%: Maine's monthly newspaper for lesbians & gay men, POB 10536, Portland 04104

TIME OUT outdoor activities, monthly calendar, POB 11502, Portland, ME 04104

WOAYYY's GROU PCB 20092, Fredericton E3B 6Y8, 506-457-2156

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