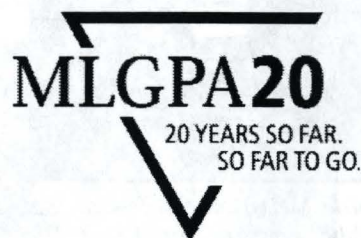


# MLGPA News

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

PO Box 1951, Portland, ME 04104 • 207-761-3732 • fax 207-761-8484 • [mlgpa@mlgpa.org](mailto:mlgpa@mlgpa.org) • [www.mlgpa.org](http://www.mlgpa.org)



FALL 2003

## MLGPA Foundation's 7th Annual Great Pumpkin Ball

Saturday, October 25, 2003

8:00 pm - 12:00 midnight

Holiday Inn By the Bay, Portland

Tickets: \$15 in Advance, \$20 at the Door

Available in October at Drop Me A Line in Portland (773-5547), Bread & Roses in Ogunquit (646-4227), and Bull Moose Music, 8 locations in Maine.

Theme: **Hooray for Hollywood**

(Come As You Are or Come As a Star!)

Gift Prizes for: **Funniest  
Scariest  
Sexiest  
Most Original  
Best Ensemble**

Grand Prize: **\$500 value Shopping Spree  
for Best of the Ball**

Produced in association with Humongous Promotions. For directions to the Holiday Inn By the Bay, call 775-2311. For more information or to volunteer for the Great Pumpkin Ball, contact MLGPA at 761-3732 or [mlgpa@mlgpa.org](mailto:mlgpa@mlgpa.org).

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## MLGPA Annual Meeting

Thursday, September 25, 2003

6:00 - 8:00 pm

First Parish Church UCC, Pilgrim House

9 Cleaveland St, Brunswick

Everyone is welcome. Agenda includes: strategic planning, financial reports, legislation, election of Board members and officers. All MLGPA members may vote.



## MLGPA

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

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PO Box 1951  
Portland, ME 04104  
207-761-3732  
800-556-5472  
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mlgpa@mlgpa.org  
www.mlgpa.org

## Changing of the Legislative Guard

**B**oard member Dottie Melanson stepped down from her role as MLGPA Legislative Committee Chair when she was elected in June as chair of the Maine Democratic Party.

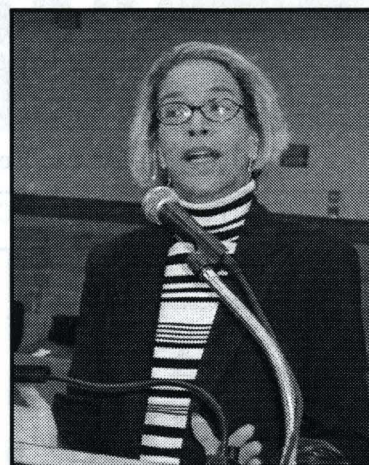
Under Dottie's leadership, MLGPA helped pass two bills in 2001 that provide domestic partner health insurance and hospital visitation rights for LGBT families. She also guided the organization through the 2002 candidate endorsement process that resulted in the election of 73 percent of MLGPA-endorsed candidates. As chair of the Cumberland County Democratic Committee, she was instrumental in helping Westbrook uphold its human rights ordinance in November 2002.

We will miss Dottie's leadership and laughter at MLGPA Board and

committee meetings, but her election to head the Maine Democratic Party promises to be an outstanding endeavor for the entire state. Thank you, Dottie!

The position of chair of the Legislative Committee will be filled by incoming Board member John Hennessy, a seasoned lobbyist with the progressive firm Moose Ridge Associates in Hallowell. Because John spends every day during the legislative session at the State House, he is the ideal person to have as chair of the Legislative Committee. Together with the lobbying efforts of executive director Betsy Smith, MLGPA will have a top-notch legislative presence.

Welcome John Hennessy! •



*Dottie Melanson testifies at the public hearing for LD 1579, MLGPA's inheritance rights and disposition of remains bill in May 2003.*



*Newly elected Legislative Committee chair John Hennessy gives advice to lobbyists-in-training during MLGPA's lobby day on LD 1579.*

## Join MLGPA at the Common Ground Country Fair!

**E**ach year MLGPA joins sixty or more organizations under the Social and Political Action tent at the Common Ground Country Fair in Unity, Maine. The Common Ground Fair is MLGPA's biggest opportunity each year to increase its membership across the state and build a stronger LGBT political movement in Maine. With more members, MLGPA has greater success targeting and influencing legislators on legislation important to the LGBT community and MLGPA Foundation can enhance its education program on LGBT issues.

If you are interested in volunteering for MLGPA at the Common Ground Fair over the weekend of September 19, 20, and 21, please contact MLGPA at 207-761-3732 or [mlgpa@mlgpa.org](mailto:mlgpa@mlgpa.org). We need volunteers on each of the three days.

For more information or for directions to the Common Ground Country Fair, visit the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardners Association website at [www.mofga.org](http://www.mofga.org). •



# A Letter from Congressman Michael Michaud

## Greetings from Washington!

First let me say how pleased I am to have received the support of MLGPA in my election last fall. I look forward to working with all of you to advance the principles of tolerance, diversity and equal rights in Maine and in America.

Since being sworn in as a Member of Congress eight months ago, I have had several opportunities to stand up



for the important goals we all share—expanding human rights and bringing us closer to ensuring equality for all.

As I pledged in my campaign, I am co-sponsoring the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) and the Hate Crimes Prevention Act (HCPA). I don't think I have to tell you how critical both of these pieces of legislation are—ENDA, to prohibit employment discrimination; and HCPA, to provide hate crimes protections for lesbians, gay men and bisexuals. As you may know, there are now efforts to expand ENDA's protections to gender expression and identity, while the HCPA would help law enforcement in the investigation and prosecutions of hate crimes while extending current federal hate crimes protection to gender and disability as well as sexual orientation. I support both of these expansions.

I am also acutely aware that many tax policies and regulations do not treat gay and lesbian couples the same as other Americans. To address these inequities, I am co-sponsoring the Tax Equity for Health Plan Beneficiaries Act. This would give employers the same federal tax advantages for offering health insurance benefits to domestic partners as they receive for offering them to married couples. In addition, this bill would end the unfairness of taxing these domestic partner benefits as if they were additional income—taxes from which married couples and their dependents are exempt.

In addition, I am co-sponsoring the Family and Medical Leave Inclusion Act. Currently, legally married spouses are granted up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave from work to care for a seriously ill spouse, parent or child. Gay and lesbian employees are not covered in the current law and I believe such exclusion is fundamentally unfair. This bill will extend family and medical leave to same-sex partners.

Finally, I have signed on to the Permanent Partners Immigration Act, which would allow this country's citizens and lawful permanent residents to sponsor their

“permanent partners” for residency in the United States. Seventy-five percent of the one million green cards and immigration visas granted each year go to family members of United States citizens and permanent residents. However, since our current immigration laws do not include gay and lesbian couples in their definition of “family,” these couples who are committed to spending their lives together are often separated at our borders or forced to live outside the U.S. This bill would promote more equality in our immigration system.

I am grateful for the chance to support these important pieces of legislation. I welcome your personal thoughts, information and advice on these and any other issues of concern to you. And I encourage you to participate in the legislative process, both here in Maine and in Washington. Please be assured that I will continue to support initiatives that promote equality in our federal policies, and that I will closely monitor and oppose future legislation that works against these goals.

***Michael Michaud***

Member of Congress

Washington, DC    Tel: (202) 225-6306  
Fax: (202) 225-2943

Lewiston    Tel: (207) 782-3704  
Fax: (207) 782-5330

Bangor    Tel: (207) 942-6935  
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Join our  
**Action Alert Network!!**  
Contact us at  
**MLGPA@mlgpa.org**



# MLGPA Registers Domestic Partners in Portland

**M**LGPA joined forces with Maine Speakout Project and Southern Maine Pride to bring Portland's domestic partner registry "out of City Hall and into the streets." We provided local attorneys at Speakout's "Walk with the Ones You Love" and the Pride festival to register domestic partners under Maine's only public domestic partner ordinance.

Making the domestic partner registry as accessible as possible to the LGBT community was the idea of long-time community advocate Frank Brooks. Frank approached MLGPA last winter about his idea and we immediately invited Maine Speakout Project and Southern Maine Pride to join us on this project.

With the help of City Councilors Peter O'Donnell and Karen Geraghty, we made the necessary arrangements to have people register their domestic partnerships at the

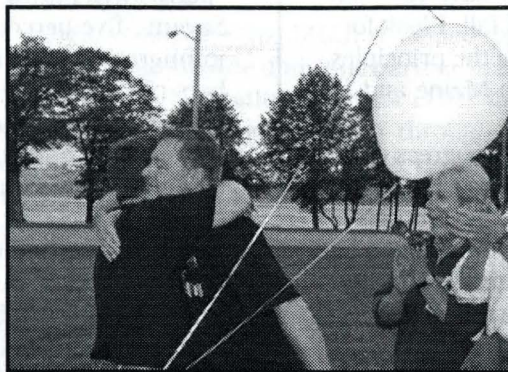
two events, instead of having to go to City Hall during the middle of a weekday.

We are grateful to attorneys David Keith and Jennifer Hoopes, who volunteered their time and legal services for this project. They registered twelve couples—not a bad start for a first year project.

We intend to provide this service every year at the Pride festival until it is no longer needed—that is, until we secure marriage equality or the domestic partner registry ordinance is repealed (a law suit was recently filed charging that the DP registry contradicts the state's Defense of Marriage Act).

If MLGPA and our legislative friends are successful at passing LD

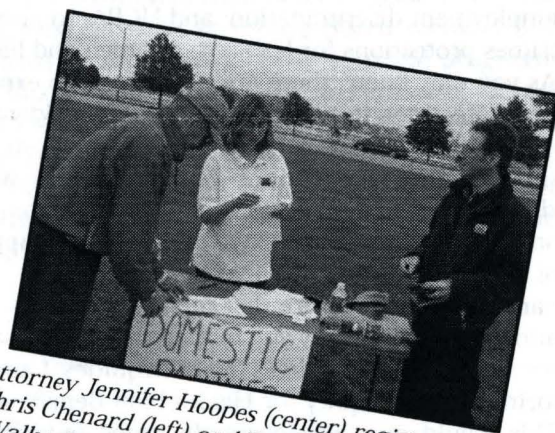
1579—a bill that recognizes domestic partnerships for rights related to dying without a will—we will be able to register couples who live anywhere in Maine, not just in Portland. •



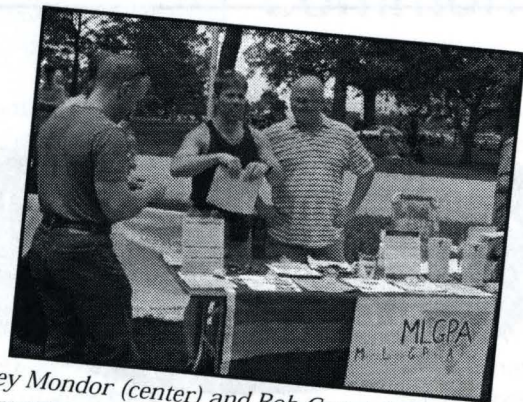
*David Keith and Stephen Simpson are the first couple to register as domestic partners at the MLGPA/Speakout/Pride registry project.*



*Mary Going (left) and Martha Rynberg speak with coordinator Frank Brooks (far right) after registering as domestic partners at the Southern Maine Pride festival. Mary's and Martha's daughter Olivia is between them just out of sight.*



*Attorney Jennifer Hoopes (center) registers partners Chris Chenard (left) and Elliott Cherry at Speakout's "Walk with the Ones You Love."*



*Rodney Mondor (center) and Bob Grant (right) are volunteers extraordinaire for MLGPA at the Pride festival. They coordinated postcard writing to state legislators in support of LD 1579, the LGBT inheritance rights bill.*



*Many people marched behind the MLGPA banner in the Southern Maine Pride celebration on June 21, including a contingent from the Westbrook Citizens for Equal Rights.*



# Put Your Money to Work for MLGPA

**Did you know?** You can give directly to MLGPA Foundation (our 501(c)3 educational arm) straight from your paycheck at work—paperless, painless giving!

There are three easy ways to give to MLGPA Foundation at your work place:

- Give through your workplace's annual MaineShare or MSECCA campaign.
- Write in MLGPA Foundation as the designation for your United Way workplace giving (option not available in all regions).
- Utilize your employer's matching gifts policy to double your donation to MLGPA Foundation.

## **MaineShare: Charitable Choices for Maine's Future**

MLGPA Foundation is a member of MaineShare, a funding cooperative for 34 Maine-based nonprofits that are all working for positive social change in Maine. Since its inception in 1989, MaineShare has raised and distributed more than \$1 million for positive change in Maine through annual workplace giving campaigns. MaineShare is an important source of visibility and ongoing revenue for MLGPA Foundation's programs, including our Scholarships, Workplace Equity Partners, Anti-Violence and other outreach and education efforts.

If you have a MaineShare or MSECCA campaign in your workplace, you and your co-workers can support MLGPA Foundation through payroll deduction. Simply designate MLGPA Foundation as the recipient of your payroll deduction donation, and MaineShare will distribute your gift accordingly.

## **Donor Designation**

If your workplace does not yet offer MaineShare as a charitable choice, please voice your support for freedom of choice in workplace giving and ask your employers to establish a MaineShare campaign. Establishing a campaign in your workplace is easy—just contact MaineShare at (207) 622-0105 to request an employer manual and schedule an introductory meeting with your colleagues.

In the meantime: Though MLGPA Foundation is not a member of United Way (which focuses exclusively on social services, not social change), some local chapters of United Way permit you to write in a designation for your gift. MLGPA Foundation is an approved 501(c)3 nonprofit, and our federal tax ID (necessary for donor designation) is 01-0515357. Simply designate MLGPA Foundation as the recipient of your payroll deduction donation, and your local United Way will distribute your gift accordingly.

## **Matching Gifts**

Many employers offer matching gifts to nonprofits where their employees donate money or volunteer their time. Check your workplace policy and we can help you fill out any necessary paperwork to ensure your gift to MLGPA Foundation is matched by your workplace.

Any questions? Contact Erica Quin-Easter, MLGPA's Development Director, at [quineast@mlgpa.org](mailto:quineast@mlgpa.org) or 761-3732. Thanks for your support! •

# Help Us Defeat the Marriage Amendment

**M**LGPA is working with LGBT national organizations to help defeat the proposed constitutional amendment on marriage. Specifically, we are working with the ACLU Gay and Lesbian Rights Project to build a network of LGBT families in Maine whose domestic partner benefits would be affected by the amendment.

The amendment is far reaching—not only will marriage be defined as a man and a woman but state and federal governments would be prohibited from recognizing domestic partners and other legal equivalents.

Maine has state laws providing domestic partner health insurance and hospital visitation rights, Portland has a domestic partner registry, and many private companies offer various domestic partner benefits. Many, if not all, individuals in these programs would lose their benefits if the marriage amendment passes. It would

have a devastating effect on the LGBT community in Maine.

We are looking for LGBT couples and families who are willing to be advocates in several ways:

- Write to, speak with, or meet with Senators Collins and Snowe to influence them to vote against the marriage amendment this fall.
- Talk to and/or be interviewed by the media.
- Lobby state legislators, and testify at public hearings, on state bills related to LGBT families.

If you are interested in participating in this project, please contact MLGPA at 761-3732 or Scott Tebbetts at [families\\_mlgpa@hotmail.com](mailto:families_mlgpa@hotmail.com). We will soon have updated information on the project on our website: [www.mlgpa.org](http://www.mlgpa.org). •



# MLGPA celebrates 20th Anniversary in 2004!

It's hard to believe that 20 years have passed since Charlie Howard was murdered in Bangor. It was this sad event that motivated a dedicated group of LGBT activists to form a statewide political group, calling it the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance.

Many things have happened since 1984 and on March 20, 2004, we will take you on a journey through the years. Howard Solomon, Scholar in Residence with the LGBT Collection at USM, and Steve Wessler, Director of the Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence, will kick-off their traveling exhibition called "Charlie Howard 20 Years Later: How Far Has Maine Come."

There is a lot to remember since 1984 and to help us in this ambitious project, we invite you to dig into those closets and pull out your memorabilia, newspaper clippings, photographs, T-shirts, and whatever else you've stored away for memory's sake. We would love to use whatever stuff you can find in order to depict our sometimes remarkable, sometimes dreadful history over the last 20 years. We will return everything after the dinner.

We will not only look back but we will also look forward by recognizing youth who will be the leaders of tomorrow. If you know of a youth in the LGBT or allied community who has proven or potential leadership skills, please contact us so we can include him or her in our "20 under 20" recognition project.

Mark your calendars now for a very special celebration of Maine's LGBT community!

**Saturday, March 20, 2004**  
**Holiday Inn By the Bay**  
**Portland**

We are proud to present our 20th anniversary logo, designed by Chris Kast and Gary LeBrun. Chris and Gary are volunteering their time to make MLGPA's 20th anniversary as special as possible.



## Law Firm to Offer Estate Planning at Discount Rate

The Portland law firm of Jensen Baird Gardner & Henry contacted MLGPA to offer legal services to members of the LGBT community at a discounted rate of 20 percent. The firm recognizes that many LGBT people, couples, and families may need a will, power of attorney and/or advance health care directive. These legal services can typically range from \$400 - \$1000.

For those not familiar with these documents, a **will** designates who is to receive your assets following your death, and who will be in charge of administering your estate. A **power of attorney** authorizes someone else to deal with your assets, property and finances in the event you are unable to do so yourself. An **advance health care directive** states your wishes regarding the continuation of artificial life support under severe circumstances, and authorizes someone else to make medical decisions and consents on your behalf if you cannot do so. You need these documents in order to ensure the person you want making medical and financial decisions has the authority to do so and that your assets go to whom you choose. Not having one or more of these documents may lead to the following:

- If you are incapacitated and cannot manage your own affairs, someone will have to go to court to get a con-

servatorship. This would give that person complete control over all your assets. Under Maine law, priority is given to family members to serve as conservator.

- If you are incapacitated and cannot make responsible decisions regarding your own care and living situation, someone will have to go to court to get a guardianship. This would allow that person to decide where you live, what medical treatment you receive, and other personal matters. Again, priority is given to family members to serve in that capacity.
- If you are on artificial life support and are unable to express your wishes regarding whether it should be continued or terminated, your family members will be asked to make that decision.
- If you die, all of your assets, except those owned jointly with someone else or for which you have named a beneficiary (such as a retirement fund or life insurance policy), will pass to your family members.

Under current law, the term "family" includes a spouse, adult children, parents, adult brothers and sis-

*Continued on next page*



# MLGPA Begins Strategic Planning

Board members and staff recently committed to developing a long-range strategic plan for MLGPA to help us determine how best to approach the next five years—politically, educationally, and operationally.

Several factors, such as the creation of MLGPA Foundation (our educational arm), moving from an all-volunteer to a staffed organization, the LGBT political landscape, and limited resources make it necessary for MLGPA to do a thorough assessment of its accomplishments and capabilities.

In the strategic planning process, we will address many questions:

- How have LGBT issues and the LGBT landscape in Maine changed over the past 5 years and how should MLGPA address these changes?
- Should MLGPA focus its resources mainly on a few issues, thus having a greater impact but smaller reach, or on many issues, thus having a broader reach but lesser impact?
- Should MLGPA prioritize its issues into levels—where, for example, level A is a major campaign and gets significant resources and level C gets few resources—depending on political and educational factors?
- If so, how would MLGPA prioritize these issues?
- Should MLGPA develop a research component through MLGPA Foundation?
- If so, what types of issues/policies should we research? What kinds of publications would we produce and for what reasons/goals?
- What educational/non-political programs should MLGPA Foundation address and work on?
- How will working on these issues affect our work on

traditional political issues, especially in light of limited resources?

- Should MLGPA increase its organizing capacity (hire more staff), allowing it to address more issues and/or put more resources into current issues?
- How should we allocate resources between Maine-only issues vs. national issues where we can influence our congressional delegation (ex: the federal marriage amendment)?
- Are we allocating our resources appropriately to fulfill our mission of being a statewide organization? If not, what should we do differently?
- Should MLGPA prioritize working in coalition with other organizations (Speakout, Southern Maine Pride, Outright, GLSEN, etc) or work with them only when an opportunity arises?
- Should MLGPA become a clearinghouse for LGBT issues? If so, for what area(s):

General LGBT community issues?

LGBT political/legislative/electoral organizing?

LGBT educational/non-political issues?

LGBT public policy and research?

We would love to have MLGPA members participate in this process. We invite you to join the strategic planning committee (we meet once a month) or attend the monthly Board meetings over the next several months. If attending meetings is not possible, we encourage you to participate by submitting your feedback and opinions electronically to: [mlgpa@mlgpa.org](mailto:mlgpa@mlgpa.org).

Our goal is to have a five-year strategic plan ready to be presented at MLGPA's 20th Anniversary Celebration dinner on March 20, 2004. •

## Legal Services Offered at Discount Rate

*Continued from previous page*

ters, and so forth. It does not include partner or any persons other than traditional family members. If you wish to have someone else participate in decisions regarding your care and your assets, and if you wish to leave your assets to someone else upon your death, then you must have a valid advance health care directive, power of attorney and will.

If you are not already represented by an attorney and would like to arrange to have a will, power of attorney or advance health care directive drafted at a reduced rate, you may contact Brendan Rielly or Lee Ivy at Jensen Baird's Portland office, telephone 775-7271 (toll-free 800 756-1166), to make an appointment. •



*Kate Goldfield (left), Cumberland resident and student at Goucher College in Maryland, did a summer internship with MLGPA. She began her internship at this MLGPA lobby day in May. Kate, Brendon Chandler (right), a student at Waynflete School in Portland, and several others attended this lobbyist training and then lobbied their legislators on LD 1579, MLGPA's inheritance rights bill.*



# Discrimination at the Grey Rock Inn

**D**iscrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people here in Maine is legal. And although we hope it doesn't actually happen, when it does, it's hurtful, degrading, and unacceptable.

That's how Hall Willkie and Thomas Caveiro felt when they vacationed recently in Northeast Harbor and were evicted from their Bed & Breakfast for being gay.

It started innocently enough. Hall and Thomas were scheduled to fly out of New York City just as the blackout hit on August 14. Their flight was delayed and they finally made it to the Grey Rock Inn in Northeast Harbor a couple of days later at 2:30 am. The innkeepers were kind enough to leave the keys on the counter and have them check in the following morning.

Hall and Thomas travel everywhere with their dog—their petite dog—for which they had made special arrangements with Adam Millett, son of the owner of the Grey Rock Inn. Adam had reserved the “blue room” for Hall and Thomas because it had an entrance directly to the outside.

The following morning when Hall went to find coffee, he came upon the owner, a woman in her late 60s. They conversed for a while and then according to Hall, the woman asked Hall what his wife took in her coffee. Caught by surprise, he responded, “Oh, my partner, he doesn't take anything in his coffee.” She allegedly responded, “But you're in the blue room, and that only

has one bed.” Wanting to relieve her of feeling guilty, Hall said, “Oh, that's fine, we don't mind.” According to Hall, she turned her back to him and said, “Well, I mind!”

Thinking they would just try to avoid the woman during their 5 day stay at the Grey Rock Inn, bad turned to worse and by late morning, they were asked to leave. Adam Millett attempted to find them lodging in Northeast Harbor but was only successful at finding one night's stay at two different B&B's, leaving them to find a motel room for their remaining two nights.

MLGPA is working with Community Counseling Center and Maine Speakout Project to make this unpleasant incident a teachable moment. Efforts include a letter writing campaign to the Grey Rock Inn, local newspapers, the Maine Innkeepers Association and Select Registry, a national organization for innkeepers.

We have contacted the Grey Rock Inn to request that they send Hall and Thomas a written apology and refund their money. If they refuse, we will begin a letter writing campaign to the newspapers (Ellsworth American, Bar Harbor Times, and Bangor Daily News) and the Maine Innkeepers Association.

If you are interested in writing a letter or being involved in another way with this project, please contact MLGPA at 761-3732 or [mlgpa@mlgpa.org](mailto:mlgpa@mlgpa.org). Darlene Huntress from MLGPA and Steve Ferrand from Speakout are the lead contacts for this project. •



*Each year, MLGPA attends the annual summer meeting of the Federation of Statewide LGBT Advocacy Groups. The Federation was formed in 1997 as a resource for state groups working on statewide legislation and education. This year's meeting was held in Salt Lake City and was attended by MLGPA executive director Betsy Smith (2nd row, 3rd from left).*





*MLGPA was invited to table at the Suzanne Westenhoefer comedy show in Belfast on June 20. We conducted a post-card-writing campaign on LD 1579, the LGBT inheritance rights bill and collected over 25 personal hand-written postcard for a number of legislators in the area.*



*A couple of MLGPA members met at Southern Maine Technical College on June 12 to protest Attorney General John Ashcroft's banning of Gay Pride celebration at the Department of Justice. After pressure mounted, he withdrew his opposition, but maintained that the LGBT employee group would have to pay for the festivities themselves, unlike other minorities whose celebrations are paid for by the DOJ.*



*State Representative Glenn Cummings (white shirt on left) was one of several legislators to march with MLGPA at Southern Maine Pride festivities. Here, Glenn is with his wife, Leslie Appelbaum, and their two children Kiernan and Skylar. Other elected officials marching with MLGPA included Sen. Mike Brennan, Rep. Ben Dudley, Rep. Boyd Marley, and Portland Mayor Jim Cloutier.*





**Now you can support MLGPA Foundation through payroll deduction!**



# MaineShare

*Charitable Choices for Maine's Future*

*MaineShare funds 34 statewide organizations including MLGPA Foundation addressing environmental, economic opportunity, peace and justice, cultural diversity, the arts, and health service issues.*

***Enroll your workplace for the 2003 campaign online at  
www.maineshare.org or contact us directly.***

**www.maineshare.org**

**giving@maineshare.org**

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(207) 622-0105**

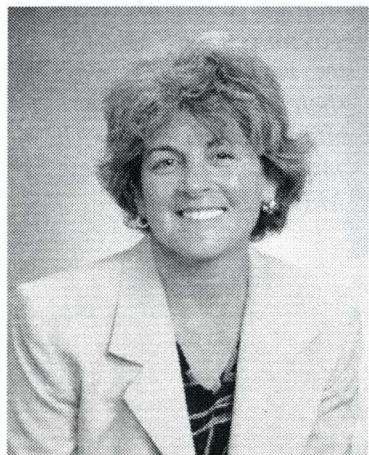
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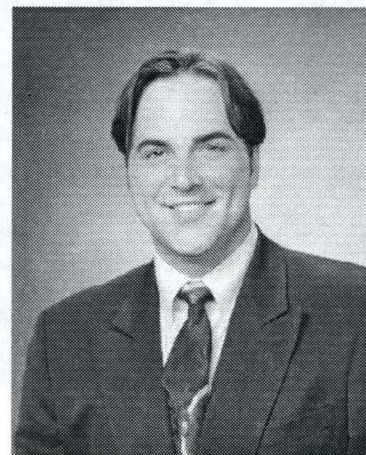
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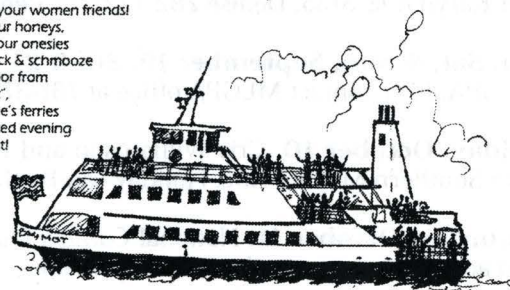
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to a view of the harbor from  
aboard the "Bay Mist",  
one of Casco Bay Line's ferries  
that for one enchanted evening  
will be our party boat!



Saturday ★ September 20, 2003

- Music by DJ Jodi
- Finger Food by Black Tie Caterers
- Cash bar
- Smoking upstairs

**7pm - 10pm**

Be at the boat by 6:45 pm, Casco Bay Lines terminal, Commercial Street, Portland  
Must be 21 or over to board.

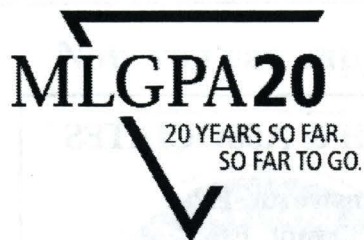
\$20. Advance purchase  
\$25. at the boat

### Tickets available at:

Sisterspace events: the last Saturday of each month from 5-9 pm,  
Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland.  
Drop Me A Line, 611 Congress St., Portland  
Sisters Bar, 45 Danforth St., Portland

FMI - Call Karyn 892-3135, Denise 282-1221, or Penny 773-7393





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## Upcoming Dates For Your Calendar:

**Saturday, September 20.** Sisterspace presents Cruise Casco Bay! 7-10 pm. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the boat. FMI contact Karyn 892-3135, Denise 282-1221, or Penny 773-7393.

**Fri, Sat, & Sun, September 19, 20, & 21.** Come volunteer at the Common Ground Country Fair in Unity, Maine with MLGPA. FMI contact MLGPA office at 761-3732 or [mlgpa@mlgpa.org](mailto:mlgpa@mlgpa.org)

**Friday, October 10.** Cris Williamson and Holly Near in concert, presented by Humongous Promotions in association with Southern Maine Pride. Holiday Inn By the Bay, Portland. For tickets: [www.humongous-maine.com](http://www.humongous-maine.com).

**Saturday, October 11.** National Coming Out Day event presented by Southern Maine Pride. For information on weekend activities: [www.southernmainepride.org](http://www.southernmainepride.org).

**Saturday, October 25.** MLGPA Foundation's 7th Annual Great Pumpkin Ball, 8pm-12 midnight, Holiday Inn By the Bay, Portland. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Tickets available in October at Drop Me A Line, Bread & Roses, and Bull Moose Music. FMI contact MLGPA at 761-3732, [mlgpa@mlgpa.org](mailto:mlgpa@mlgpa.org), or [www.mlgpa.org](http://www.mlgpa.org).

**Saturday, March 20, 2004.** MLGPA's 20th Anniversary Celebration Dinner. Holiday Inn By the Bay, Portland. FMI contact MLGPA at 761-3732, [mlgpa@mlgpa.org](mailto:mlgpa@mlgpa.org), or [www.mlgpa.org](http://www.mlgpa.org).

**April 2-3, 2004.** Traveling Exhibit: "Charlie Howard 20 Years Later: How Far Has Maine Come." Anti-Discrimination and Violence in Maine, 1984-2004. FMI contact Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence, 780-4756 or [www.cphv.usm.maine.edu](http://www.cphv.usm.maine.edu).

**June 5, 2004.** Northern Maine Pride, Bangor.

**June 19, 2004.** Southern Maine Pride, Portland.