

# COMMUNIQUE

Volume XV: no. 3  
mars/March 1994

MLGPA Banquet & Awards Dinner

## Aroostook County well-represented in Brunswick

by Dick Harrison, New Sweden

The seventh annual Maine Lesbian-Gay Political Alliance Awards Banquet and Dance drew over 350 people from throughout Maine to the Atrium in Brunswick, Saturday, March 5. At the table marked "Aroostook County & friends" were a dozen women and men sporting colorful boutonnieres noting their membership in a distinct group, those who travelled from the "far

podium and introduce themselves, there were about two dozen politicians, including at least five of the six Democratic candidates for Maine governor (Tom Allen, Dick Barringer, Joe Brennan, James Howaniec, and Bob Woodbury), independent candidate Angus King, and Green Party candidate Jonathan Carter. One Republican candidate, Sumner Lipman, sent a representative. At least one Congressional candidate was present. There were also candidates for many of the state

Senate and House seats, including Senator Dale McCormick who received a standing ovation. Representative Susan Farnsworth, who was similarly honored, announced that she would not be seeking re-election this year. This led to a "Susan Farnsworth Night" at the banquet with several speakers complimenting Susan for her work and effectiveness, and noting the loss for the state by her absence from the legislature in Augusta.

The presence of so many people running for office dramatically

demonstrates the maturity of the candidates and the stature which our community has developed over the years. People are now coming to our gatherings to seek support.

Next to Symposium, this is the best statewide lesbian-gay event in Maine, a must-attend which you should include on your calendar for 1995. Perhaps next year Aroostook County can fill *two* tables! ▼

NLN Building Fund

## No Money This Time

Northern Lambda Nord was one of 11 Maine groups vying for a single \$20,000 grant from the Haymarket People's Fund of New England, which is marking its 20th anniversary this year. The money was requested in support of our community center building fund.

Of the eleven groups, four were lesbian-gay organizations. There was a gay & lesbian teachers' group; the Maine Lesbian-Political Alliance who, with the Maine Civil Liberties Union was requesting funding; AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power - ACT-UP/Portland was asking for

money; and Northern Lambda Nord.

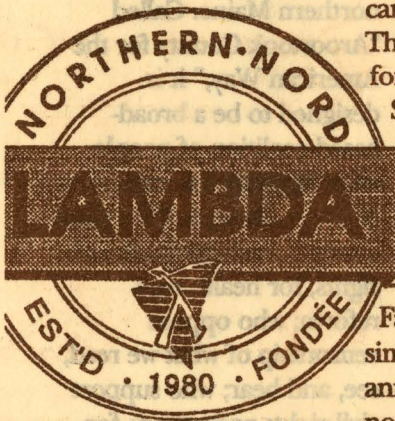
Unfortunately, NLN did not receive the money. ACT-UP/Portland was awarded the grant for an AIDS education program designed for schools.

Another \$20,000 grant request from the OUTFund of The Funding Exchange is also in the works, designed to help us establish Maine's first lesbian-gay-bisexual community services center. We will be notified sometime in May. ▼

Community Spirit Phone Company

## How's Your Long Distance?

In early 1993, Northern Lambda Nord signed on with the Chicago-based Overlooked Opinions' telephone marketing group, Community Spirit. The idea was that anyone who used Community Spirit as their long distance carrier could designate a gay or lesbian organization which would receive a donation equal to 2% of their long distance phone charges. NLN became a recipient organization of Community Spirit



north" and from New Brunswick to join with many other gays, lesbians, and our friends at this distinguished gathering.

Noteworthy among the awards, presentations, and speeches during the evening was the presence of people currently holding political office and those aspiring to office. When requested to step up to the

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CP/POB 990 Caribou, Maine 04736-0990 USA Gay-Lesbian Phoneline/Télégal 207.498-2088 (TDD/Voice-Voix)



donations. Anyone who signed up for their service would find NLN on the list of groups which could receive the 2%. Lambda promoted this program at the 1993 Maine Lesbian-Gay Political Alliance Banquet. We would allocate all money received from Community Spirit to help with our Gay-Lesbian Phoneline: 75% would go towards the establishment of an 800 number, and 25% would help pay our current phone costs.

Well, Community Spirit has never paid any organization any money. It seems that Trans-National, the company which sells time on their long distance lines to Community Spirit, has severed its ties with Community Spirit; the two companies are in litigation, and the customer is in the middle. Here's where it stands now: If you signed up for Community Spirit, Trans-National remains your long distance carrier. The marketing company, Community Spirit, is no longer providing you service because of the break between them and Trans-National. Therefore Community Spirit is attempting to rebuild their network of customers by sending forms requesting verification of address and phone, and your signature. The small print is that by signing the form and returning it to Community Spirit, you are re-enlisting with that marketing firm. At the same time, Trans-National has set up a

marketing unit called Pride to do what Community Spirit had promised to do: donate 2% of your phone charges to different gay &

throughout the state, it is the Portland-area's turn to host the event. At the Atlantic Gay-Lesbian-Bisexual Conference last

If "you are truly right within your heart and with Christianity, you know in advance that you do not know enough about other people's lives to judge them. You do not love enough to make decisions about how other people should live their lives. How can I be judgmental of you when in the sight of God you may think you are better than me? You have to wonder how much love that people who hate gay people have in their hearts." *U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders*

lesbian groups. Trans-National already has similar special-interest marketing groups set up for others, and they want to serve our community the way Community Spirit had promised to do. Trans-National will pay the donations to groups every quarter.

If you have Community Spirit and do not sign and return their form, you will remain with Trans-National and become part of their Pride network. Confused?



#### Annual Conference

## Is There a Symposium in 1994?

It's already the end of March and there has been no word in any of the gay-lesbian newspapers in Maine as to plans for our annual statewide conference, the Maine Lesbian & Gaymen's Symposium. In what has become an annual rotation

October in Halifax, word was that a group of people were planning to host Symposium at the University of New England in Biddeford. But that's the last we've heard.

Nineteen-ninety four would be Symposium XXI. It seems that this may be the first time in 20 years that Maine will miss our statewide gathering. Has southern Maine dropped the ball? Well, have no fear, all is not lost because at NLN's March 13th meeting, Northern Lambda Nord members agreed to host Symposium '95 from May 26-29, 1995 at the University of Maine campus

in Presque Isle. The first planning meeting will be a brainstorming session. We're looking for suggestions for keynote speakers (one man, one woman), entertainment, ideas for workshop topics and workshop facilitators, and any other suggestions to make Symposium '95 the best one yet.

This first planning meeting is set for Saturday, April 2 at 3pm in Presque Isle. ▼

#### Progress Report

## Aroostook County for the American Way

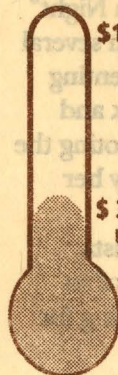
A new organization with a new name has formed in northern Maine. Called "Aroostook County for the American Way," it is designed to be a broad-based coalition of people who "support a woman's choice; who work for a clean environment, for workers' rights, for health care reform; who oppose censorship of what we read, see, and hear; who support civil rights protections for

\$10,000  
GOAL

## BUILDING FUND

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 - in either U.S. or Canadian funds - are greatly appreciated. ▼

\$ 3087.88  
U.S. funds  
as of  
3/13/94





gays, lesbians, and bisexuals; who feel that separation of church and state must be maintained." In addition to five general goals of the organization, five specific goals for 1994 were adopted: (1) To defeat the Concerned Maine Families' anti-gay referendum (2) To build coalitions with other area individuals and groups (3) To work to have "sexual orientation" added to the Maine Human Rights Act (4) To establish a speakers bureau (5) To do fundraising.

As with any group, initial organizing efforts are slow and time-consuming. After adoption of a mission statement and goals, efforts and now underway to build a strong membership base consisting of a wide cross-section of people from throughout the County: people from the business, religious, civic, political, and activist communities, as well as those who are concerned with the growing strength of

the extreme right wing and their attempts to advance their agenda in Maine.

Aroostook County for the American Way may be reached at POB 853, Caribou 04736-0853. The next meeting is Saturday, March 26 at 4pm at the Caribou Lions Center, on High Street across from Shop & Save. A pot luck meal will follow. ▼

In NLN's Lending Library

## New Books

Northern Lambda Nord's lending library, *Bibliothèque Lambda*, continues to receive books from publishing companies who send us their new books at no charge. Here are three of the recent additions to our collection. *Thin Fire* by Nanci Little Nominated for the American Library Association's Gay & Lesbian Book Award. Nanci Little, Presque Isle native and past-Northern Lambda Nord member, introduces

us to "Elen McNally, a proud, intelligent, and beautiful woman who signed up for three years in the Army as her one-way ticket out of Aroostook County, Maine . . . Within the confines of the military, Elen comes to terms with her own sexuality."

*Coffee Will Make You Black* by April Sinclair, "a fresh new novel about coming of age in the '60s on Chicago's Southside." The author "writes frankly about a young black woman's sexuality, and about the confusion [she] faces when she realizes she's more attracted to the school nurse than [to] her teenage boyfriend."

*A Class Apart: The Private Pictures of Montague Glover*, by James Gardiner. Glover was a WWI architect, decorated army officer, amateur photographer, and homosexual. This is a collection "of photographs and letters documenting the

intimate, normally unrecorded lives of gaymen in Britain from the First World War to the 1950s. In particular, Glover's photographs portray his three obsessions: the Armed Forces, working-class men, and his life-long lover Ralph Hall." ▼

Building Fund

## Win a \$100 Shopping Spree!

Northern Lambda Nord has undertaken another fundraising effort to add to our Building Fund for Maine's first lesbian-gay-bisexual community services center. This time it's a RAFFLE! The prize is a \$100 shopping spree at the store of your choice. If you're the winner, you tell us which store you want to patronize and we'll purchase a \$100 gift certificate for you. Tickets are available at all NLN events and cost \$2 each or 3 for \$5; US and

## • S • I • D • A •

### LES NIVEAUX DE RISQUE

LE BAISER avec échange de salive (french-kiss) ne comportent aucun risque. LES CARESSES ET LA MASTURBATION ne constituent aucun risque de transmission du VIH. LE SEXE ORAL Il 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.: vibreur, godemiché) 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



Canadian money are accepted at par (if you win, and you purchased your ticket with US funds, you win \$100 US; purchase with Canadian money and you win \$100 Canadian). The winning ticket will be drawn at the October 1, 1994 NLN Membership Drive party; you need not be present to win. ▼

### What's Going On?

## Calendar!

For more information on these and other NLN events, call the Gay-Lesbian Phoneline, 207/498-2088, Wednesdays 7-9pm (Maine time).

• **Sat, Mar 26, 7pm - Night Out - Pool** at Wizard's, Main Street, Presque Isle

• **Sat, Apr 2, 3pm - Symposium '95 Meeting** brainstorming session #1, Presque Isle

• **Wed, Apr 6, 6pm - Policy Meeting** job descriptions, policy for NLN secretary, treasurer, & members-at-large, at the Phoneline, Caribou

## Gay/Lesbian G·U·I·D·E Lesbienne/Gai

**NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD (NLN)**, CP/POB 990, Caribou, Maine 04736  
USA

**GAY-LESBIAN PHONELINE** 207.498-2088 TDD/Voice - staffed Wed, 7-9pm (Maine), 8-10pm (NB)

**AROOSTOOK AREA GAY/LESBIAN AA GROUP** meets Sundays, 7pm (Maine time) in Madawaska. Groupe bilingue/bilingual group. Call 207.498-2088 to make contact

▼  
**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 CHOFSI** Maine Jewish group, meets monthly; POB 5017, Portland 04101, 207.874-2970 (Rheatha)

**APEX**: 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

**DIAL KIDS, 774-TALK** for lesbian, gay, bisexual & unsure youth under 19  
**DIGNITY/MAINE** Catholic group, POB 8113, Portland 04104

**EASTERN MAINE AIDS NETWORK** POB 2038, Bangor 04401-2038, 207.990-EMAN

**FREDERICKTON LESBIANS & GAYS (FLAG)** POB 1556, Station A E38 5G2, 506.457-2156 (Mon & Thurs 6-9pm)

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

**GAZEETTE** For Lesbians & Gay Men in Atlantic Canada, published 10 times yearly, POB 34090, Scotia Square, Halifax, NS B3J 3S1

**GAIS & LESSIENNES DE MONCTON/ GAYS & LESBIANS OF MONCTON (GLM)** CP/POB 1072, Riverview E1B 1V0, 506.855-8064

**GAISES NOR GAYS (GNG)** CP/POB 983, Bathurst E2A 4H8

**GAY/LESBIAN ALLIANCE** University of Southern Maine, 88 Winslow Street, Portland 04103, 207.874-6596

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

**GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP** Portland, 207.772-4741 (Frank)

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

**INTEGRITY** Episcopalian group, St. Matthew's Church, 18 Union Street, Hallowell 04347, 207.622-6631

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



**THE RAGE 123 Franklin Street, downtown Bangor 947-1213**

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**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). **SUBSCRIPTIONS** - \$10 per year. **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 U.S. tax-deductible. Advertising rates in **COMMUNIQUÉ** are available upon request. Your comments and contributions are welcome.

## New Brunswick • Maine • Nouveau-Brunswick

**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 Nouveau-Brunswick** 800.561-4009

**102%**: Maine's monthly newspaper for lesbians & gay men, POB 10536, Portland 04104

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

**WOMYN'S GROUP** POB 20082, Fredericton E3B 6Y8, 506.457-2156

**MAINE BISEXUAL PEOPLE'S NETWORK** POB 10818, Portland 04104

**MAINE LESBIAN & GAY LAW ASSOCIATION (LeGal)** POB 443, Portland 04112, 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 5028, Station A, Portland 04102, 800.339-4042