
Northern Lambda Nord
Sheila Everett
Dick Harrison

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/nln_communique
Part of the American Studies Commons, and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Commons

Recommended Citation
http://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/nln_communique/65

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Periodicals at USM Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Northern Lambda Nord Communique by an authorized administrator of USM Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jessica.c.hovey@maine.edu.
Growth and Progress in 1996
by Sheila Everett, Director, Northern Lambda Nord

In 1995 we made a difference - individually, as a Family, and as a proud Community. Some of us struggled through pain and change, but we survived. Some of us enjoyed moments of joy and happiness on the roller coaster ride of life. Some of us loved and lost, but we lived through it. Some of us saw our relationships grow together in faith, love, and trust. And some of us actually experienced the wonderful feeling of serenity. My point is we persevered – one day at a time/one step at a time – and hopefully we are stronger men and women from our lessons of learning during 1995, and we will maintain hope and courage for 1996.

As the new Director of Northern Lambda Nord, my priorities lie with active membership growth and progress within our organization, as well as improving the overall comfort level and feelings of safety within our Community, both in The County and across the border in New Brunswick. I am asking for input from our entire Community: how can your Steering Committee help and serve you individually, and serve our Community as a Family.

Let us continue to focus on our personal growth: spiritually, physically, and emotionally. Let us take pride in who we are. Yours in reclaiming Pride and Life, Is/She Sheila

Memo from the Director:
January 18, 1996

At the conclusion of the NLN Steering Committee meeting Sunday, January 14 we rearranged the furniture in the Community Center Office, moving the tall bookcases to the outside walls and turning the desk flush against the wall under the window. During the meeting, we had decided that due to the closeness of the space in the Office we would hold the monthly meetings in private homes, on a temporary basis.

Here’s my first BIG decision as your new director of Northern Lambda Nord: now that the Office has been rearranged, I find the floor/table space to be much more conducive and comfortable to hold our business meetings. I don’t feel comfortable having the meetings in private homes; I’m concerned with the effectiveness of the meeting in a social-type atmosphere. So, my friends, the monthly meeting for February 11, 1996 will be at 1pm (Maine time) at our Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center! We will have the chance to discuss this decision at the meeting. Please call me if you think I have overstapped my position - 764-7838.

P.S. We have six metal folding chairs and two wooden ones at the Center; there are 10 Steering Committee members. If anyone has functional folding chairs that you don’t use or need, could we use them at the Office? Or if anyone would want to buy one or two and donate them to the Center, that would be sincerely appreciated. We could use at least four more.

Also, does anyone want the wooden captain’s chair that is here at the Center? It needs repair but you’re welcome to it!
In about a month and a half, I will observe the 3rd anniversary of the day that I came out to my wife. For those of us who have dealt with coming out issues at any level, I suspect you understand my marking of personally significant coming out events. I don't know if this is true for the rest of you, but I found myself telling a number of friends and colleagues as I anxiously awaited their response. While the responses from my parents were fairly dramatic, as I suspected they would be, many others — including my children — took the announcement in a much more “matter-of-fact” manner. After about the 25TH response of, “So what, you’re still my _____” (fill in the blank: dad, friend, grandson, etc.), I no longer felt the need to make the announcement. However, I have to admit that I didn’t want to have to deal with the issue with new coworkers, neighbors, or anyone else who I worried might nose into my personal life. So, like many of my gay friends, I wanted to get lost, to go somewhere where explanations weren’t necessary: some great urban gay ghetto.

As I pondered new places to move, with Jim, I romanticized the notion of moving to DC, Denver, Boston, Atlanta, San Francisco, and other places where I (we) could become anonymous — a place where people just didn’t bother to ask questions about me or my personal life. Besides, DC was one of the first places where I got a glimpse of men holding hands in public, not to mention my participation in the 1993 March on Washington. It wasn’t in either of our plans to move to Caribou; as I’ve joked with friends, I guess we made a wrong turn somewhere along the way.

Jim and I were stunned to find a gay-lesbian phoneline in existence. In addition, we learned that a gay-lesbian organization had been in place for over a decade. And the same week that we moved to town, Northern Lambda Nord was moving into a modest, but visible office space. I never expected to be the Director four months later, but some of the members encouraged me to take a shot at it . . . and for the last year I have been honored to serve in that role.

Recently, Sheila took over as director. For the last few weeks, I’ve had the opportunity to ponder what it has meant to be involved with NLN and to live as an openly gay man in Aroostook County. I found it difficult to live with the closed minds of some community members who supported the recent anti-gay referendum. But I have learned to appreciate the efforts of all, particularly the NLN Steering Committee, for their efforts over the last year. So to Dick, Sheila, Ray, Doug, Wayne, Bill, Phil, Dennis, Terry, and Jim, I want to thank you for your efforts.

On the surface, some people will view NLN as a small club of people who have too much spare time on their hands. For me, NLN serves as a symbol of a growing rural movement. We make a statement that you don’t have to run away, you don’t have to become anonymous to thrive as a GLBT (gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgendered) person. My participation in NLN has shown me that while I don’t have the need to make dramatic announcements anymore, at the same time I can live my life in full view of people who do know your business. And perhaps this is the best way that we can educate those around us about who we are.

NLN is looking to expand efforts to help our community. We need you to help us with that effort. Have you thought about helping to form a P-FLAG group (Parents, Family & Friends of Lesbians & Gays)? Why not help us start an OutRight group to serve as a support system for Aroostook County’s gay youth? Or perhaps you would be willing to get training to help expand our phone-line services? Feel free to contact one of our Steering Committee members. Your efforts will make a difference in a similar manner as those who have made a difference for me. Jim and I wish you the Best in 1996!

Be well, /s/ Jim Fotter

Three chances to win! - and help keep our Center alive!

Northern Lambda Nord continues our fundraising to pay the rent for our Community Center Office (‘125/month U.S.). So . . . we’re having a RAFFLE! The prizes are 1 - a knitted and crocheted afghan, made by Steering Committee member Susie Bowman; 2 - a second smaller afghan donated by a local supporter; 3 - an original 16x20" oil painting, “Magnolias” by Susie Bowman.

Tickets are $2 each or 3 for $5, available at the Community Center Office and at NLN activities.
Co-Ed Naked What?
by L.M. Craig, Presque Isle

The following letter was written in response to an item in the Bangor Daily News about co-ed naked t-shirts.

Alas! Alas! Co-Ed Naked T-shirt complaints: Humorous or Offensive?

OK, I know that some people see these t-shirts as sexist, but really, they're just mostly the heterosexual equivalent to the gay pride t-shirt, and we all have a right to prove our sexuality, nakedly. And, incidentally, all sports-minded people are straight, after all (Yuck! Yuck!) and these t-shirts just prove it. It must be true; they're all over my office.

OK, so here's my plan: Ladies first, with pride. No. 1: The All-Terrain Sapphic Naked Chainsaw-toting Vegetarian Pancake-eating Lumberjack Roundup Spiked-Hair Gals. No. 2: The Naked Literary Virginia Woolf / Gertrude Stein / Vita Sackville-West Booklubber, LandRover Reading-by-flashlight Lesbians. No. 3: The Naked Wild Women Sheriff-of-the-West PMS Ragtime Music Band (Is there space for all this in a Large size?)

OK guys (gays), I wouldn't forget you. No. 1: The Nearly Naked Flaming-Queen Diana Ross and the Supremes / Maria Callas-worshipping She/He Devils on Glimmering Ice; and No. 2: The Naked but Fabulous Salon-Secure Ambidextrous Hairdressers of Western Civilization Hairdos and Don'ters.

Oh, I know – copyrights. But for the principal of it all: I don't just want my MTV; I want my own t-shirt, darn it! Who can help me get one started? Who can protect my First Amendment rights? I cry for the need to be naked, but NOT Co-Ed!
What's New in Our Library?

Northern Lambda Nord's lending library, Bibliothèque Lambda, is slowly growing. **Two more books** were added in January to the nearly 1,000 volumes of fiction, non-fiction, travel guides, and selection of gay & lesbian newspapers and magazines from around North America. The library is housed in the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center of Northern Maine in Caribou. Here are brief summaries of the new books available for members to borrow. Comments are taken from the book jackets and reviews.

**Reviving the Tribe: Regenerating Gay Men's Sexuality and Culture in the Ongoing Epidemic**, nonfiction by Eric Rofes (1996) A book “of special interest to those searching for renewed activism and fresh ways to conceptualize gay men's lives; these include gay men, lesbians involved in the mixed lesbian-gay movement, sociologists, public health workers, psychologists, sex educators, religious leaders, and AIDS prevention policymakers.”

The Front Runner - 20th Anniversary Edition, a novel by Patricia Nell Warren (1974); this copy is signed by the author. “Harlan Brown is a tough, conservative track coach – hiding from his past at a small college. Billy Sive is a brilliant young runner who is homosexual – and doesn't mind who knows it. When they fall in love, they will enter a race against hate and prejudice that takes them to the '76 Olympics and a shocking, shattering conclusion. . . With ten million copies in 7 languages, the most celebrated gay love story of all time.”

**SIDA**  
**LES NIVEAUX DE RISQUE**

**LE BAISER** avec échange de salive (french-kiss) ne comportent aucun risque. **LES CARESS ET LA MSTURBATION** 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 condon constitue un haut risque de transmission du VIH, qu'il y ait éjaculation ou non. **LES JOUETS SEXUELS** (ex.: vibrateur, 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.

**AIDS**  
**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, Shared enema equipment, douching equipment, or sex toys

**Brief Notes**

- **SAVE YOUR BOTTLES & CANS** - Northern Lambda Nord has an on-going Building Fund Drive, designed to raise money to purchase our own building. It grows, in part, from your bottle & can deposits. Please donate bottle & can money to the fund; either bring your empties to an NLN event or to the Community Center Office where there's a can for empties, or bring in the money.
- **GAY BOOKSTORE NOW ON-LINE** - Lambda Rising, one of the largest gay & lesbian bookstores in the world, has opened a bookstore on AOL, America Online. After shoppers log on to AOL they type the keyword “GAYBOOKS” which puts you on the main screen and gives access to all departments. Lambda Rising says that over 1,000 people visit the online store each day. Their original Washington DC bookstore opened in 1974; they also have stores in Baltimore and in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware and offer catalogue/mail order service. Info: 202.462-6969 or e-mail: lambdarising@his.com
- **GAYS & LESBIANS ON THE INTERNET** - More and more individuals and organizations are getting into CyberSpace! What we called science fiction in the '60s and '70s has become real life in the '90s! More than a half-dozen groups in Communiqué's Gay Lesbian Guide on page 6 now have e-mail addresses and/or sites on the world wide web, including the gay groups in Bathurst and Fredericton, two P-FLAG groups in New Brunswick, the Maine Lesbian-Gay Political Alliance, and two regional monthly publications, Wayves in Halifax and CPR in Portland. In Maine there are two websites of interest: the Maine Gay Network and CPR's list of Lesbian-Bisexual-Gay Resources. They're listed in the Guide
2ND AIDS Benefit February 9 in Caribou

Artists for AIDS Awareness, AFAA, an Aroostook County-based organization, will host their 2nd Annual AIDS Benefit to Celebrate Life on Friday, February 9 beginning at 6:30pm at the Caribou Inn and Convention Center. The evening will include a non-alcoholic "mocktail" hour around the pool, a buffet dinner, three performance artists, and an auction of artwork donated by County artists.

Last year, the benefit raised over $3600, earmarked for a variety of HIV & AIDS education and prevention programs in Aroostook County.

This event is the only one of its kind in Maine outside Portland; a similar "Spring for Life" art auction is held in Portland.

The AFAA benefit solicits donations from individuals and businesses. The Caribou Inn is donating the space; their food manager is donating her time; much of the food will be donated as well. The printing of the evening's program booklet is provided by The Aroostook Medical Center in Presque Isle; Star Printing of Caribou is printing the tickets and posters.

The buffet menu for the evening is: green salad, ambrosia salad, choice of potatoes, vegetables, chicken, ham, sirloin tips, vegetable lasagna, and three desserts. Special dietary needs will be accommodated if requested in advance.

Entertainers include an Acadian dance performance by Don Cyr; musicians Bruce Wilkins, Frank Marmanik, David Desilets, Ken Gilman, and Bishal Maskey; and a mime performance by "Midcrew", a student group from Madawaska High School.

Tickets to the benefit are $15 each or 2 for $25, available at the following locations in Aroostook County: Volumes in Houlton; Pieces of Eight Bookstore in Presque Isle; The Northland Studio in Caribou; Graphique Design Works in Caribou; Route One Fashions in Fort Kent; Fort Kent Chamber of Commerce; and at the Madawaska High School office from student members of "Midcrew."

under the heading Internet. If you're aware of any other internet addresses for the groups listed, please send them to Communique. Access to the Internet has been discussed at NLN meetings; installing a computer in the Office and having an online address is a future goal of the group. If anyone knows of funding sources which can help us, please contact a member of the NLN Steering Committee.

• A GAY-FRIENDLY BUSINESS - There aren't always places we can go and be comfortable and welcomed by the proprietor of a business, but in Caribou, if you want some good food, relaxed atmosphere and friendly owner, it's L'il Bit o' Home Restaurant on South Main Street. Cecelia Chapman welcomes our business, so let's show our appreciation by patronizing her restaurant.

(Editors note: Caribou's homophobic business owners - those who supported the anti-gay referendum in Maine - include Devoe Color Center, Radio Shack, Rainbow Printing, and Rainbow Crafts. Ironic that they use the name, "rainbow")

• HIV TESTING IN NORTHERN MAINE

Health 1st offers anonymous HIV testing in Fort Kent, Presque Isle, and Houlton. There is a minimal $25 fee, but no one is refused testing. Info: 207.768-3062 or 800.432-7881.

• LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN - The New England Wrestling Club is a group of gaymen who share a common interest in wrestling. NEWC is both a social and educational group for those who enjoy wrestling or want to learn how. Their membership is from throughout the six New England states. They publish a monthly newsletter and calendar of events. For more information contact NEWC c/o Marc Lavik, POB 40868, Providence RI 02940, 401.467-6737.

Maine Lesbian & Gay Symposium XXII

The 22nd statewide gathering of our community and friends will be held at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor from noon, Saturday, August 17 through 2pm, Monday, August 19, 1996. Organizers from the Mt. Desert Island committee are currently working on a theme and arranging for keynote speakers and entertainers. Symposium will be the only event on campus that weekend.

Dormitory accommodations are limited to 135; additional sleeping space will be in nearby motels.

The Symposium XXII committee is planning to take advantage of the seaside venue and hope to have a boating and other outdoor activities scheduled for the weekend. The ferry from Yarmouth, Nova Scotia will give Maritimers an easy way to get to Bar Harbor.

Communique will provide updates as more details become available.
Lesbian-Gay GUIDE Lesbienne-Gai

NORTHEN LAMDDA NORD Inc. (NLN)
CP/POB 990, Caribou ME 04736-0990 USA
207.498-2088 TTY/Voice - serving northern Maine & northwestern NB (Aroostook-Madawaska-Victoria-Carleton counties); desservent le nord-ouest du NB et le nord du Maine (les comtes Madawaska-Victoria-Carleton-Aroostook)

Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center of Northern Maine 398 South Main St, Caribou; mail: POB 990, Caribou ME 04736-0990 USA; 207.498-2088 TTY/Voice

Centre communautaire des gais.e.s et des lesbiennes 398, rue Principale sud, Caribou; poste: CP 990, Caribou ME 04736-0990 USA; 207.498-2088 TTY/Voice

Gay-Lesbian Pholene of Maine 207.498-2088 TTY/Voice - staffed Wed, 7-9pm (Maine) 8-10pm (N-B); mail: POB 990, Caribou ME 04736-0990

Gay-Lesbian AA meets each Tuesday evening, 7:30pm (Maine) 8:30pm (N-B) at the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center of Northern Maine, 398 South Main St, Caribou; call 207.498-2088 to make contact

- HEALTH - SANTÉ -
AIDS New Brunswick 65 Brunswick St, Fredericton
800.561-4009 or 506.459-7518
AIDS Moncton 14 Duke St, 2nd floor, 506.859-9616
AIDSLine/Maine 800.851-AIDS - Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Mon & Wed till 7:30pm
Atlantic First Nations AIDS Task Force POB 47049, Halifax B3K 2B0, 800.565-4255, 902.492.4925
Eastern Maine AIDS Network POB 2038, Bangor 04101-2038, 207.990-EHAN
PWA (People living with AIDS) Coalition of Maine 377 Cumberland Ave, Portland 04101, 207.773-8500
Health 1st anonymous HIV tests (northern Maine) 800.432-7861
SIDA Moncton 14 Duke St, 2nd floor, 506.859-9616
SIDA Nouveau-Brunswick 800.561-4009

- MEDIA - MEDIAS -
Community Pride Reporter newspaper for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community of Maine, published monthly, 142 High St, Suite 634, Portland 04101, 207.879-1342, e-mail: cprride@aol.com or website: http://www.tcpp.com/8000/QRD/wwwusa/maine/gymer.html

Fruit Cocktail radio program, 7pm Mondays on CHSR 97.9fm Fredericton, 506.453-4985
Wayves serving Atlantic Canada, 10 issues per year, POB 34090, Scotia Square, Halifax NS B3J 3S1, 902.423-6999 e-mail: wayves@foc.nna.ca or website: http://www.ggbnd.com/accounts/wayves

- YOUTH - JEUNESSE -
Dial Kids 207.774-TALK for lesbian, gay, bisexual & unsure youth under 19
Outright/Central Maine age 22 and younger, 800.339-4042
Outright/Portland POB 5077, Portland 04101, 207.774-TALK or 207.774-HELP
Outright TOO Bangor area, ages 16-22, 207.285-7100

- UNIVERSITY - UNIVERSITÉ -
Gay & Lesbian Alliance (GALA) University of New Brunswick, c/o Help Centre, UNB SUB, POB 4400, Fredericton E3B 5A3, 506.457-2156, e-mail: voss@unb.ca or website: http://www.unb.ca/web/gala/katie/gala.html
Gay/Lesbian Alliance University of Southern Maine, 88 Winlow Street, Portland 04103, 207.874-4596
Wilde-Stein Club University of Maine, Orono, every Thurs 6:30pm, Sutton Lounge in Memorial Union

- PARENTS -
Gay-Lesbian Bisexual Parents Support Group Portland 207.772-4741 (Frank)
Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG) Bangor/Brewer area 207.999-5180
Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG) Moncton area 506.536-0599 (Eldon Hay) or Pierre Bourgeois, 358 rue LaFrance, Dieppe E1A 2A8 e-mail: ERHAY@MATCA

- RELIGION -
Arm Choficheh Jew, meets monthly, c/o Horowicz & Kass, RR#1 Box 686, South Harpswell 04079, 207.874-2970
Dignity/Maine Catholic, POB 8113, Portland 04104
Integrity Episcopal, St. Matthew's Church, 18 Union St., Hallowell 04347, 207.622-6631
New Hope Community Church c/o Unitarain House, 749 Charlotte St., Fredericton, 506.457-4675

- PROFESSIONAL -
Lesbian-Gay Committee, Maine Chapter, National Association of Social Workers POB 5112, Station A, Portland 04102
Maine Gay Visual Artists' League 207.775-3420

- POLITICAL ACTION -

New Brunswick Coalition for Human Rights Reforms/la coalition pour la reforme des droits de la personne du Nouveau-Brunswick POB 1556, Station/Succursale A, Fredericton E3B 5G2, 506.457-2156

- INTERNET -