

# COMMUNIQUE

VOLUME XVIII: NO. 5

OCTOBRE-NOVEMBRE/OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1997

*From the Director's Pen*

## Assets, loss, challenge & support

*by Donald Weatherford, Director*

Can you believe that October is almost over! Where has the time gone? We have had a beautiful fall this year. The colors have been spectacular, and the temperatures have not been that bad. A lot has happened since last we spoke, so let me get started.

As everybody already knows, John Nelson has moved away. He was an asset, and his presence will be missed on the NLN Board of Directors and within the community. But, as they say, every cloud has a silver lining. Karen Smith has volunteered to take John's member-at-large seat on the board, and your steering committee accepted her offer with delight; she has been a blessing. We welcome her, and I look forward to working with her. I feel that she will, indeed, be an asset to all concerned.

The past four months have been filled with upsetting news and sadness. The loss of Princess Diana and Mother Teresa will have a lasting effect on the world. Princess Diana humanized AIDS and made people realize that AIDS was not a gay disease, but a disease that affects all humankind. Her loss will be felt by us all in one way or another. Regardless of religious convictions, the loss of Mother Teresa, indeed, is a loss to us all. Her work in the AIDS community will be missed. And on a more personal note, on the day that Diana was laid to rest, a dear friend of mine lost *his* battle with AIDS. That makes seventy people I know that have lost this battle. These three events combined only enhances my desire for HIV-prevention.

On a local note, the Christian Civic League has supposedly garnered enough signatures to bring the non-discrimination law to a statewide vote. We may have won the battle when Angus King signed the bill into law; it is apparent, however, that the War has yet to be won. There is an impending battle beyond the horizon, and I pray

that we, humankind, emerge victorious. For that to happen, all will have to be prepared for battle. How you choose to fight is a personal choice. Whether it be in the trenches getting dirty, or if it is in the background utilizing your vote, it will take us all joining together, to win this war. A war analogy . . . how quaint!

Two more things I need to address. First, it is renewal time. NLN is here for you and NLN cannot survive without your financial support. We need your input and - yes - we need your money. If you like the direction that NLN is taking, please support us. If you do not like the direction that NLN is taking, here is issue #2. Elections for the Board of Directors are just around the corner. Your vote and input is important. If you do not like where we're going, you have the power to change it. A nominating committee has been set up and, hopefully, all members will participate in the nominating and electoral process. Your nominating committee consists of Sheila Everett, Dick Harrison, and me. If one of us does not contact you for your input, please contact us at the Community Center. The phone number is 207.498-2088. NLN is a democracy, and all input is important. Please give us your input. The ballots should be arriving to you during the last week of November. Please use your right and vote!

I lied. I have one more thing to tell you. December first is World AIDS Day. We will be having a candlelight vigil on that evening to remember the people who have lost the battle and those who continue to fight. Perhaps we'll even educate a few. I hope that you continue to have a wonderful fall, and I wish you all a special Thanksgiving. I will be talking to you come December. Remember to keep your chin up and your heads held high. You are all special.

Until next time, /s/ Donald



*Communiqué est publié par*

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## Not another referendum?!

by Dick Harrison, editor, Communiqué

Well, the Christian (sic) Civic League of Maine won't accept the fact that Maine won't accept discrimination because of someone's sexual orientation. The League has collected thousands of signatures in their "people's veto" campaign, whereby the recently-enacted amendment to the Maine Human Rights Act (adding "sexual orientation" to the list of categories) may be repealed by a statewide referendum. The governor must schedule a vote within six months. Meanwhile, the Secretary of State's office is reviewing the signatures for validity. His office will announce the results October 20 (by the time you've received this newsletter). If his office has invalidated enough signatures, the League will *surely* appeal that ruling. Whatever happens Monday, the Maine Lesbian-Gay Political Alliance and the re-energized Maine Won't Discriminate group is having their own signature challenge effort. They have five working days (seven calendar days),

starting at noon October 20 to review the signatures and find enough bad ones to reduce the number of valid ones on the petitions, thereby avoiding another costly, divisive and hate-filled referendum campaign. MLGPA and MWD have rented an office in Hallowell, have 20 computers and dozens of volunteers who will be there on 4-hour shifts, 24-hours each day, from noon Monday October 20 till noon Monday, October 27. They'll compare the name of the registered voter in the computer with the name as that voter signed a petition. If James Smith signed "Jim Smith", but is registered as "James," that signature is invalid. Names and signatures must match to the letter. It will be slow, tedious work, but from what I've read on Maine Gaynet on the internet, energy is high. People are car-pooling to Hallowell to help, and overnight accommodations are being arranged for those who need them. If you can help with this important effort, it's not too late to contact Sam and volunteer - her phone number is 778-6827; her e-mail is [vetobuster@hotmail.com](mailto:vetobuster@hotmail.com). ▼

### NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD, INC.

POB 990, Caribou ME 04736-0990 USA ▼ CP 990, Caribou ME 04736-0990 USA  
Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center Centre communautaire des gais & lesbiennes  
398 Main Street (mail: POB 990) 398, rue Principale (postes: CP 990)  
Caribou, Maine USA Caribou, Maine USA  
Gay & Lesbian Phoneline 207.498-2088 Télégai 207.498-2088  
toll-free within Maine 800.468-2088 sans frais de l'intérieur du Maine 800.468-2088  
e-mail: [nlamban@agate.net](mailto:nlamban@agate.net) e-mail: [nlambdan@agate.net](mailto:nlambdan@agate.net)

OUR MISSION is to advance the interests and well-being of the gay-lesbian-bisexual-transgendered community of the Upper Saint John River Valley of New Brunswick and Aroostook County, Maine.

NOTRE MISSION: Développer les intérêts et le bien-être de la communauté des gais, lesbiennes, bisexuelles et transgenres de la vallée de la haut St-Jean au Nouveau-Brunswick et de la comté Aroostook au Maine.

### STEERING COMMITTEE ▼ COMITÉ EXECUTIF

<u>Director/directeur</u>	<u>Social Director/directrice des activités sociales</u>
Donald Weatherford, Limestone, Maine	Sheila Everett, Ste-Anne-de-Madawaska, New Brunswick
<u>Treasurer/trésorier</u>	<u>Librarian/bibliothécaire</u>
Phil Bushey, New Sweden, Maine	Chris Levasseur, Van Buren, Maine
<u>Secretary/secrétaire</u>	<u>Phoneline coordinator/coordonateur du téléphone</u>
Diana Campbell, Limestone, Maine	Debra Madore, Presque Isle, Maine
<u>Members-at-Large/membres en liberté</u>	<u>Newsletter editor/rédacteur du bulletin</u>
Walter Fournier, Sinclair, Maine	Dick Harrison, New Sweden, Maine
Wayne Morrow, Van Buren, Maine	
Karen Smith, New Sweden, Maine	

## COMMUNIQUÉ

Communiqué publié six fois par année par Northern Lambda Nord, une organisation pour la communauté gaie-lesbienne-bisexuelle au nord-ouest du Nouveau-Brunswick et au nord du Maine (les comtés Madawaska, Victoria, Carleton et Aroostook). *Abonnement*, 15\$ par année. *Adhésion NLN*, 25\$ par année (fonds E-U), dans lequel inclus l'abonnement. Ceux qui ont de la difficulté financièrement, des paiements à terme peut être organisée. NLN est une organisation à but non-lucratif; toutes donations sont taxe deductible aux E-U seulement. Les tarifs de publicité dans le Communiqué sont disponible. Vos commentaires et contributions sont les bienvenue.

## COMMUNIQUÉ

Communiqué is published six times yearly by Northern Lambda Nord, an organization serving the gay-lesbian-bisexual community of northern Maine and northwestern New Brunswick (Aroostook, Madawaska, Victoria and Carleton counties). *Subscriptions*, \$15 per year. *NLN Membership*, \$25 per year (U.S. funds), which includes a subscription. 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.

## brief notes en bref

• **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-LESBIAN ART EXHIBIT** - An art exhibit which documents 25 years of lesbian and gay culture in Halifax, is on display at the Mount Saint Vincent University Art Gallery through November 16. Titled, "Queer Looking, Queer Acting: Lesbian & Gay Vernacular," the show includes posters, placards, t-shirts, and other printed items, material not generally associated with art galleries. Designed primarily as low-cost, throw-away media, these items announce community events and symbolize solidarity. A lavishly illustrated catalogue accompanies the exhibition and is available for purchase from the gallery (Canadian\$12, 902-457-6160).

• **FIRST IT'S DISNEY, WHO'S NEXT?** - The Southern Baptists don't like Disney's support of gay people, such as domestic partner benefits. So maybe they'll soon call for boycotts of credit cards, telephones, books, beer, film, computers, and photocopiers?! Add these names to the list of companies who offer domestic partner benefits to same-sex couples: American Express, Barnes & Noble, US West (phone company), Coors Brewing, Eastman Kodak, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Microsoft, NYNEX/Bell Atlantic, Pacific Telesis, Quark, Sun Microsystems, Time-

Warner, and Xerox. There are dozens more, but these are some of the latest. This only begs the questions, does your employer offer these basic benefits? If not, why not?

• **MAINE SPEAK OUT** - Circle Thursday, October 23rd on your calendar. That's when Jonathan Lee and Naomi Falcone from the Maine SpeakOut Project will be at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center in Caribou - 7pm (Maine time) (on South Main Street across from the Nylander Museum). The Project "promotes respect and understanding among persons of differing sexual orientations." They work to accomplish this by "training and empowering volunteers to share their personal experiences and perspectives with individuals and community groups." Jonathan & Naomi will talk about what the Project does here in Aroostook County, about the Same-Gender Marriage Forum, and they want to meet with people interested in SpeakOut, whether you want to speak to local community groups (churches, civic & service clubs, etc.) or just want to find out more. It's not often that we have visitors from "away", so let's make them welcome.

• **OCTOBER IS LESBIAN & GAY HISTORY MONTH** - Did you know that the first organized gay-movement group in the U.S. was the Society for Human Rights, formed in Chicago in 1924? What do you think *these* people have in common: Sappho, Socrates, Virginia Woolf, Tennessee Williams, James Baldwin, Gore Vidal, Alice B. Toklas, Gertrude Stein, E.M. Forster, Margaret Fuller, Dame Ethel Smyth, Sir Francis Bacon, Plato, Alexander the Great, Bessie Smith, John Maynard Keynes, Cole Porter, Walt Whitman, Oscar Wilde, Marcel Proust, Emperor Wu, Richard the Lion Hearted, Vita Sackville-West, Audre Lorde, Jean Cocteau, Vaslav Nijinski, Queen Christina of Sweden, Montezuma, Martina Navratilova, Andy Warhol, Margeurite Yourcenar, Edward Carpenter, Hans Christian Andersen, Michelangelo, Hadrian, Peter the Great, Henry David Thoreau, Chief Crazy Horse, W.H. Auden, Frederico Garcia Lorca, Willa Cather, Lord Byron, Leonardo da Vinci, Christopher Isherwood, Colette, Vito Russo, John Boswell, Freddie Mercury, Tchaikovsky, Emily Dickinson, Langston Hughes, Fats Waller, Randy Shilts, Marlon Riggs, Josephine Baker, Rock Hudson, Truman Capote, Leonard Bernstein, Billie Holiday, George Gershwin, Greta Garbo, Murray Hall, Marlene Dietrich, Janis Joplin, Liberace, Paul Monette, Billy Tipton, Alan Turing, Elton John, Edith Head, Agnes Moorehead, Nancy Kulp, Hattie McDaniel, Marjorie Main, Dick Sargent, Ma Rainey, Billy Strayhorn, Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer, Leslie Feinberg, Ani DiFranco, Kate Bornstein, Bill T. Jones, Greg Louganis, Muffin Spencer-Devlin, Ellen Degeneres, Gianni

Versace, kd lang, Sir Ian McKellen, Melissa Etheridge, Rita Mae Brown, Congressman Barney Frank, Me'shell Ndegeocello, Jamie Nabozny, RuPaul, and King James (of Bible fame). Hint: though some may have publicly followed the "straight and narrow," their personal lives were definitely "bent."

• **GAY GAMES 1998** - The fifth Gay Games will be held in Amsterdam from August 1-8, 1998. The 4th Gay Games in 1994 in New York City was the largest international sports event that year, larger than the Olympics. Over 30 different sporting events and a variety of cultural programs are planned for Amsterdam. They expect from 10,000 to 12,000 athletes and from 80,000 to 100,000 visitors. To encourage increased female participation, special emphasis will be placed on attracting more women athletes, who will be given priority for inexpensive housing, and child care facilities. There will be a three-day Women's Festival in conjunction with the games. This is in addition to the usual array of cultural and arts events planned. For more information: Gay Games Amsterdam 1998, Isabel van Leeuwen, P.O. Box 2837, 1000 CV Amsterdam, The Netherlands; telephone 31 (0)20 620 1998, fax 31 (0)20 626 1998, e-mail nicodame@gaygames.nl. ▼

## Supportez NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD devenez un membre

Depuis 1980, NLN avait déservé les communautés lesbienne-gaie-bisexuelle-transexe au comtés Madawaska, Victoria, Carleton, et Aroostook. Nous parrainons de fêtes, des dancés, des soupers "pot luck," et des autres activités sociaux. NLN avons une bibliothèque de prêt; nous faisons marcher "Télégai/Gay-Lesbian Phoneline," et nous publions un petit mensuel. Le côté d'entrée supporte les frais de Northern Lambda Nord. Notre liste des membres est confidentiel.

### C'est dans votre intérêt devenir un membre

- ☛ entrée aux fêtes - libre
- ☛ abonnement de notre petit journal mensuel - libre
- ☛ calendrier des activités - libre
- ☛ accès à la bibliothèque de prêt - libre
- ☛ vous supportez la seule organisation dans cette région, un group a été conçue pour vous!

☐ YES! I want to become a member!

Name/Nom \_\_\_\_\_ birthday (m,d)/anniversaire (m,j) \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Adresse \_\_\_\_\_

Town/Ville \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Téléphone \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Individual/Individu \$25us ☐ Student/Étudiant/e \$15us ☐ Couple \$45us

✓ Please make checks payable to NLN ✓ Veuillez faire chèques à l'ordre de NLN

Mail to/Envoyez à: NLN, POB 990, Caribou ME 04736-0990 USA

☐ I don't want to join right now, but let me know about special events!

☐ À ce moment, je ne veux devenir membre, mais dites-mois les dates des activités spéciaux!

## Support become a member

NLN has been serving the lesbian-gay-bisexual community in Aroostook, Madawaska, Victoria, and Carleton Counties since 1980. We sponsor parties, dancés, pot luck suppers, and other social activities; we host conferences and special events. NLN has a lending library, operates the Gay-Lesbian Phoneline, and publishes a monthly newsletter. The door charges at parties help support the costs of the organization.

### Benefits of NLN membership include

- ☛ free admission to parties
- ☛ free subscription to the newsletter
- ☛ free monthly events calendar
- ☛ free use of lending library
- ☛ supporting this areas only gay-lesbian-bisexual-trans organization

☐ OUI! Je veux devenir membre!

# Calendar • Calendrier

## • Halloween Party & Dance •

Friday, October 31, 8pm (Maine time) 9pm (NB time)

## • NLN Monthly meeting/rencontre mensuel •

Thursday, November 13, 6:30pm (Maine) 7:30pm (NB)

Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, Caribou

## • November Dance •

Saturday, November 29, 8pm (Maine time) 9pm (NB time)

## • Christmas Party with a gift exchange •

Saturday, December 13

## • New Year's Eve Party •

Wed, December 31, 8pm (Maine time) 9pm (NB time)

## • NLN's 18th anniversary dinner party •

January, 1998

## • Valentine's Party •

February, 1998

*PLUS . . . pot luck suppers,  
snowshoeing, & game  
nights*



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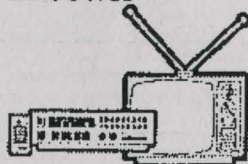
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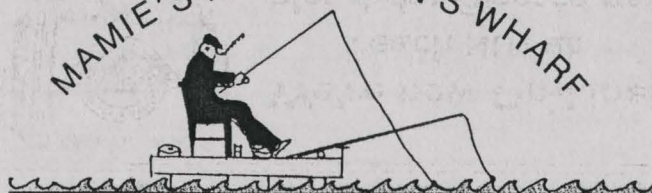
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## Regional GUIDE Régionale

**Fredericton Lesbians & Gays (FLAG)** POB 1556, Station A, E3B 5G2, 506.457-2156 (Mon & Thurs 6:30-8:30pm), **e-mail:** [u5mc@unb.ca](mailto:u5mc@unb.ca) **or website:** <http://www.unb.ca/web/gala>

**Gais.es. Nor Gays (GNG)** CP/POB 983, Bathurst E2A 4H8, 506.783-7440, **e-mail:** [andre@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:andre@nbnet.nb.ca)

**Maine Bisexual People's Network** POB 10818, Portland 04104

**AIDS New Brunswick** 65 Brunswick St., Fredericton 800.561-4009 or 506.459-7518

**HIV & AIDS Awareness & Prevention Project**, Caribou 207.498-2088 or in Maine 800.468-2088 Mon, Wed, Fri 7-9pm

**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, 902.492-4255

**Eastern Maine AIDS Network** POB 2038, Bangor 04401-2038, 207.990-EMAN

**Health 1st** anonymous HIV tests (northern Maine) 800.432-7881

**SIDA Nouveau-Brunswick** 65 rue Brunswick, Fredericton 800.561-4009 ou 506.459-7518

**Community Pride Reporter** newspaper for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community of Maine, published monthly, POB 178, Saco ME 04072, 207.282-4311, fax 207.282-4551 **e-mail:** [cprpride@ime.net](mailto:cprpride@ime.net)

**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@fox.nstn.ca](mailto:wayves@fox.nstn.ca) **or website:** <http://www.cglbrd.com/accounts/wayves>

**Maine Gay Network -**

<http://www.qrd.org/QRD/www/usa/maine/gaynet.html>

**Am Chofshi Jewish**, meets monthly, c/o Horowitz & Kass, RR#1 Box 686, South Harpswell 04079, 207.874-2970

**Dignity/Maine Catholic**, POB 8113, Portland 04104

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

**New Hope Community Church** c/o Unitarian House, 749 Charlotte St., Fredericton, 506.457-4675 ▼

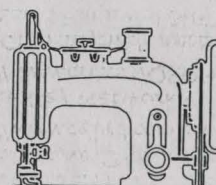
## Photographer

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