



COMMUNIQUE

VOLUME XIX: NO. 1
JANVIER-FÉVRIER/JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1998

From the Director's Pen

A new year, a new Board, and snow, snow, snow!

by Donald Weatherford, Director

Hello to All! I think it would be safe to say that winter has certainly arrived. Did I know it could snow this much?! I had heard tales, but I was a non-believer. Now I believe. I do hope that everybody had a great holiday. Here's hoping that we all have a great New Year !!

A new Steering Committee – our Board of Directors – has been voted in. They are as follows: *secretary*, Diana L. Campbell; *treasurer*, Philip Bushey; *communications director*, Terry White; *newsletter editor*, Dick Harrison; *librarian*, Chris Levasseur; *members-at-large*, Wayne Morrow, Lauri St.Peter & Walter Fournier. Oh, yeah, and me, Donald W. Weatherford, as director. Thank you to all who took the time to vote. This is a strong board, and I look forward to working with them in the coming year.

You may have noticed that the position of Social Director is empty. There was no interest in this position, so it will remain vacant. The duties will be incorporated into the regular duties of the board. If, by chance, there *is* interest in this position, please let me know. In the meantime, we are planning a Valentine's dance, pot luck suppers, and snow tubing in New Denmark. If you have any ideas of what might be fun, again, let me know.

You may have also noticed that the position of Phoneline Director has been eliminated and Communications Director has been added. The duties of the Phoneline project have been added to the Director, me. The reason for a Communications Director is that we are now on-line and have a web page, and these need to be maintained, so in November the Steering Committee decided to create this new position. After reviewing the Constitution, I realized that we did that illegally. So you will find enclosed in this mailing a ballot to amend the Constitution. In addition to the Communications Director, because of interest, we would like to increase the number of members-at-large to five. It's short notice to the General Membership, but we would like to vote on this on January 25th. The Steering Committee meeting was postponed until this date because of bad weather. It will be a short meeting before the Board Retreat. The time is 1-2pm at Dick & Phil's. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this proposal, please contact me or come to the meeting.

February 10th is just around the corner. You will start hearing more about this issue (the "peoples' veto" of the "gay rights" law) as the date draws closer. I am asking that EVERYBODY get out there and vote, VOTE NO !!! NO to repeal the law that Governor King and the Legislature of this state felt was necessary and needed. The voter turnout will be low, primarily because this issue does not seem to concern a majority of people. Those who *will* venture out are those who want to repeal this law. Those of us who wish to see the law stay intact will vote, but there are those of us who will not vote. *Why?* FEAR. Fear of disclosure. I am well aware that there are those of us who are in the closet, especially here in Aroostook County. I am not suggesting that your fear is not real and justified; what I *am* suggesting, however, is that you use "their" fear against them. Many fear, "if I vote, they will know." That is what the extreme right is counting on. May I suggest that you use "their" narrowmindedness to our advantage. Deception is not something that I normally advocate, but the end results will justify the means.

What am I rambling about? If you're a male, take a female with you to vote. If you're a female, take a male along. If you do not know a member of the opposite sex, then slip on a Moral Majority sweatshirt with a picture of Jerry Falwell plastered on the front, grab the nearest King James Bible and strut into the nearest polling booth, slide the curtain shut and VOTE NO! What goes on behind that curtain, *no one* will ever know. Don't allow a group of people to continue to make us the evil vermin of this state. We are descent, taxpaying individuals who deserve the same basic rights that others take for granted. We are electricians, accountants, teachers, health care providers, even convenience store clerks. Our numbers are larger than even *we* realize. If each and every one of us can encourage at least one person to get out there and VOTE NO on the 10th of February, "NO - we do NOT want to repeal the law," then I believe that the next time we speak there will be a law in effect that will protect us against hatred, bigotry, and narrowmindedness. I will get off my soapbox now.

Until next time, /s/ Donald ▼

*Feeling Spiritually Empty?***Here's Good News!**

Here's good news for those who may feel spiritually weak or empty. A new group has been established that may be for you. A few people have gotten together to form a group that will help in their need for spiritual guidance and growth. Though their numbers are few, they are aware that they are not alone in this quest. This group would like to open their doors to any and all who also feel a need for spiritual growth and guidance. There is no set doctrine to speak of, only that of a belief in a higher power. The group is diverse in its individual beliefs and has discovered that, by sharing, they are growing spiritually. The group welcomes you. If you are interested or have questions, you can contact Diana L. Campbell at 325-3413 or 498-2088 (the Phoneline) and leave a message. She will be more than happy to speak with you. The next meeting will be Sunday, January 25 at 11am. ▼

NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD, INC.

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 398 Main Street (mail: POB 990) 398, rue Principale (postes: CP 990)
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 toll-free within Maine 800.468-2088 sans frais de l'intérieur du Maine 800.468-2088
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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 haute St-Jean au Nouveau-Brunswick et de la comté Aroostook au Maine.

STEERING COMMITTEE ▼ COMITÉ EXECUTIF

Director/directeur	Social Director/directeur/-rice des activités sociales
Donald Weatherford, Caribou, Maine	Vacant
Treasurer/trésorier	Librarian/bibliothécaire
Phil Bushey, New Sweden, Maine	Chris Levasseur, Van Buren, Maine
Secretary/secrétaire	Communications director/directeur des communications
Diana L. Campbell, Limestone, Maine	Terry White, Castle Hill, Maine
Members-at-Large/membres en liberté	Newsletter editor/rédacteur du bulletin
Walter Fournier, Sinclair, Maine	Dick Harrison, New Sweden, Maine
Wayne Morrow, Van Buren, Maine	
Lauri St. Peter, Caribou, 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.

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- ✓ **SNOWTUBING** in New Denmark (east of Grand Falls)
 Saturday, January 24, meet at 2pm (Maine time) in the parking lot in front of Mr. Paperback/Jade Palace, Caribou
- ✓ **SPIRITUAL GROUP** Sunday, January 25, 11am (Maine time)
- ✓ **NLN BOARD MEETING & ANNUAL RETREAT**, Sunday, Jan 25
- ✓ **WORKSHOP & DISCUSSION "Homosexuality & the Bible"**
 Wednesday, January 28, 7-9pm, Caribou Inn & Convention Center, free admission; Penny White from Bangor, facilitator
- ✓ **MEXICAN POT LUCK SUPPER**, Saturday, February 7, in Caswell
- ✓ **ELECTION DAY IN MAINE VOTE NO**, Tuesday, February 10
- ✓ **NLN MONTHLY MEETING** Thursday, February 12, 6:30pm (Maine time) at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center of Northern Maine, 398 Main Street, Caribou
- ✓ **VALENTINE'S DANCE** Saturday, February 14, 8pm-1am (Maine time), New Sweden Mini-Mall Café; \$5 for NLN members, \$7 for non-members, BYOB
- ✓ **NEWSLETTER FOLD & STUFF** Friday, February 20, 7pm (Maine time) at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center of Northern Maine, 398 Main Street, Caribou
- ✓ **SNOWTUBING** in New Denmark (east of Grand Falls)
 Saturday, February 21, meet at 2pm (Maine time) in the parking lot in front of Mr. Paperback/Jade Palace, Caribou
- ✓ **MLGPA AWARDS BANQUET & DANCE** Saturday, March 7, Augusta Civic Center
- ✓ **NLN'S ANNUAL FIRST DAY OF SPRING BARBECUE** Saturday, March 21; dig out that grill!
- ✓ **MAINE LESBIAN & GAYMENS' SYMPOSIUM XXIV** May 23-26, University of Maine at Farmington campus ▼

Vote NO February 10th - NO!
Maine still Won't Discriminate!