

COMMUNIQUE

VOLUME XIX: NO. 3
MAI/JUIN - MAY/JUNE 1998

From the Director's Pen

Have WE been busy!

by Donald Weatherford, Director

What a busy couple of months it has been. I do think that it is slowing down a little. But first, I always comment on the weather. What more can I say other than it has been unbelievable. There are indeed tulips in bloom. The aromas from the lilacs fill the air. I know that everywhere else, El Niño has caused havoc and mayhem. But here in The County, El Niño has been our friend. Let us hope that it keeps up.

Here is a list of what has been going on. • MAY 02 - *Artists for AIDS Awareness*, raised over \$4,000 for HIV-awareness and prevention in The County. • MAY 09 - NLN had our *18th Anniversary Dinner* where we tried a new thing and honored three people for what they do to help make this a better place to dwell: STUART LIBBY, owner of RenTown in Presque Isle, for his donations of items, such as the TV last year, and the satellite dish this year, all to be raffled off to help support Northern Lambda Nord. For DARYLEN COTE, who works at Health 1ST, among other things, for all the work that she does to help educate the people of The County about HIV/AIDS, and for bringing to the forefront the homophobia that exists within The County and helping to change attitudes. (I know that you were unaware of any homophobia within The County; I did not mean to shock any of you!). A special award was presented to SHEILA EVERETT for all that she has done to help advance NLN in the community. For being the "Outspoken Token Lesbian from the Inner City" (or Canada).

On the 16th, a NLN booth was set up, donated by Roger A. Roy, Aroostook County Democratic Chair, at the MAINE STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION. Buttons were purchased and handed out to all delegates who attended the Convention. Our very own Dick designed the buttons. They are so cool; stop in the Center and get yourself one (they're free!). With a pink triangle in the background, the button reads, *DAD - Democrats Against Discrimination*. A special thank you to Dick and Susie for staffing the booth during the convention selling t-shirts, flags, pins, and raffle tickets, and just being a "gay presence" at the Forum in Presque Isle. On the 17th, a MEETING BETWEEN NLN AND MLGPA took place at the Community Center. (Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance) It was a very productive meeting. We aired our concerns and they aired theirs, (about the

February referendum, among other topics) and I think a better understanding came out of this meeting. Then, of course, there was the 24th MAINE LESBIAN & GAY SYMPOSIUM held at the University of Maine at Farmington. (REMINDER: NLN is hosting the 1999 Symposium, the 25th, at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, Memorial Day weekend - May 28-31, 1999)

Like I said, WHEW! A few things to remind you. We are still selling raffle tickets for an RCA satellite dish, donated by Stuart Libby from RenTown. Just contact one of the board members to purchase a ticket. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The drawing will be held at the annual Friends/Family/Pride Barbecue on the 20th of June in New Sweden. (see enclosed calendar or flyer) A POTLUCK AND NIGHT-OUT-AT-THE-WONDER BAR starts in Van Buren and ends at the bar in Madawaska. This takes place on Saturday, the 6th of June. Just check your calendar or give us a call at the Center.

It does appear that this is going to be a beautiful summer, if all things stay the same. I hope that we all can enjoy it. I know that vacation time is just around the corner, and I pray that you all have a safe one.

Until next time, /s/ Donald ▼

A Note of Thanks

20th of May

Dear Lambs,

Thanks for the beautiful plaque. It will occupy a prominent place in my new office. I am honored that you chose to recognize me in this way. The work that we have done (do!!!) together is the most meaningful, challenging, rewarding, difficult and FUN work of my career, on many levels.

Though it seems slow going at times, I think we will make, and are already making, changes in people's attitudes and behaviors that will have a lasting impact. An added bonus is that many of you have become treasured friends, not only to me but my family as well.

I'm looking forward with relish to continuing our journey together.

Love, Darylen (Cote) ▼

Where Do We Go From Here?

by Donald Weatherford

A meeting between members of the board of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance (MLGPA) and Northern Lambda Nord took place on the 17th of May to discuss this very issue - *what's next?* After the devastating loss this past February, where do we go from here. There are rumblings of a signature drive to get the issue (a non-discrimination law) on another ballot. There is the option of introducing a bill, with the intention of sending this issue to referendum on a general election, such in November 2000.

Representatives of MLGPA are traveling throughout the state talking with various organizations that represent the Gay and Lesbian communities about what to do and trying to organize unity. Only if we are united, such as the Christian Civic League or the Christian Coalition are, can victory be ours.

Also at this meeting, the issue of being separated from the rest of the state was talked about. MLGPA delegates agreed that NLN has been left out on of the communications loop. To that end they're making sure we are on their mailing list. ▼

NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD, INC.

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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: lambda@ctel.net e-mail: lambda@ctel.net
web: www.ctel.net/~lambda/ web: www.ctel.net/~lambda/

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.

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.

Getting Ready for 1999

NLN to host conference

by Dick Harrison, newsletter editor

We've done it three times before, and we have a reputation of doing it THE BEST in Maine. I'm talking about the annual gathering, the Maine Lesbian & Gaymen's Symposium. NLN's board voted several months ago to host the 25th annual conference over the Memorial Day weekend next year. The conference office at the University of Maine at Presque Isle has already been contacted.

Traditionally, the annual weekend is hosted either by a campus group (Wilde-Stein at the University of Maine at Orono, the Gay-Straight Alliance at the University of Southern Maine, . . .) or a group of local volunteers who agree to sponsor the conference, with the advice and help of an ad hoc "Symposium Forever" committee. NLN has the advantage of being an on-going organization, as opposed to a school-year campus group or temporarily organized local committee. We've hosted Symposium every three years since the mid '80s. When held in Presque Isle, we draw anywhere from one-quarter to one-third attendance from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and next year should be no different.

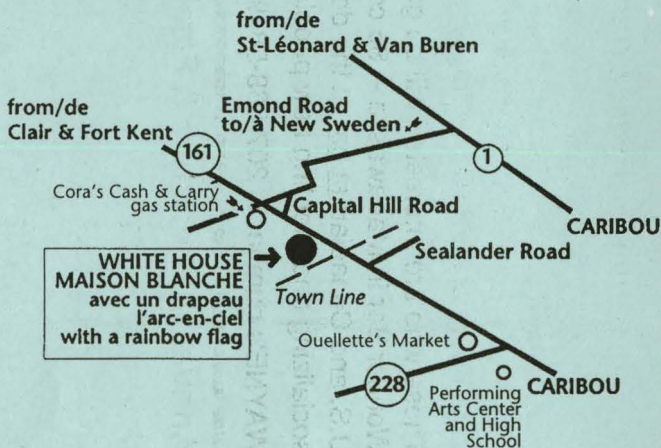
Symposium is organized according to what the local committee wants to do. Next year, the driving force is to establish networks of communication within, between, and among the various gay groups in Maine and neighboring Canada. Workshops will be of two types: organization-focused (how to become tax-exempt, organizing a board, using the media, finding funding) and the personal-type workshops (coming out, long-term relationships, legal issues, health issues). There will also be some "fun workshops" such as cooking, astrology, and such. The weekend will include a dance, films, meals and housing on campus, discussions, and socializing. Volunteers will be needed for all types of things throughout the next year, from selling ads for the program booklet to helping select videos to show. If you're interested, or want to find out more, contact Dick (me) during the day at 498-0900. ▼

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.

It's Northern Lambda Nord's 3rd Annual "Friends & Family" Day!

June is traditionally "gay pride month", and Northern Lambda Nord cordially invites you to join the parents, friends, and family of gays and lesbians – and some real life gays and lesbians themselves for that matter – for a **Barbecue, Lawn Games & Fun Day** Saturday, June 20, 1998, starting at 1pm (Maine time) Rain or Shine at the home of Phil Bushey and Dick Harrison, Route 161, (the Caribou-New Sweden Road) in New Sweden, exactly 7 miles from Ouellette's Market by the High School in Caribou (coming from the north, it's 1 mile past Cora's Cash & Carry, on the right). NLN provides hot dogs and hamburgers, (we'll start the grill around 5-ish) so bring a picnic dish to share, your favorite beverage, a lawn chair and a friend. There will be games including volleyball and croquet, and the walking trails through the woods will be freshly mowed! Dick & Phil's number is 896-5726 if you can't find the house.



Calendrier Northern Lambda Nord Calendar



sunday/dimanche

monday/lundi

tuesday/mardi

wednesday/mercredi

thursday/jeudi

friday/vendredi

saturday/samedi

JUNE 98

Spiritual Gathering EVERY 7 SUN.

at the COMMUNITY CENTER

14

658 Main St. Caribou
11amM, noonN

21

Everyone welcome.

28

1

2

3
OPEN HOUSE EVERY WED.

at the COMMUNITY CENTER
658 Main St.

17

7-9pmM
8-10pmN

24

Time Zones:

M = Maine time

N = New Brunswick time

15

16

22

23

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30

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11

Monthly NLN Meeting at Community Center, 6:30pmM 7:30pmN Your ideas & input welcome

18

25

HELP Fold & Stuff newsletter & calendar, at Community Center, 7pmM/8pmN

5
OPEN HOUSE EVERY

12
FRIDAY
at the COMMUNITY CENTER

658 Main St.
7-9pmM
8-10pmN

26

6

POT LUCK SUPPER in Van Buren at Wayne Morrow's, 6pmM 7pmN then a Night Out at the Wonder Bar in Madawaska
FOOD: your last name - A-G dessert; H-M salad, appetizer or bread; N-Z main dish, hot or cold. BYOB

20

PRIDE BARBECUE & GAMES - NLN's annual Friends & Family BBQ - bring your parents, your children, your friends. Hot dogs & hamburgers provided; you bring a dish to share, a beverage & a lawn chair. Volleyball, croquet, etc. DRAWING for the winner of the satellite dish raffle - at Dick & Phil's, New Sweden from 1pm 'til ?

27

SAT. June 27 - visitors from OREGON talk about Rural Organizing for gay people - Univ. Maine/Presque Isle, Folsom 105, 4-7pm. WELCOME THE VISITORS and learn what life is like in rural Oregon - FREE - presented by the new "Maine Rural Network"

JULY 98

Spiritual Gathering EVERY 5 SUN.

at the COMMUNITY CENTER

12

658 Main St. Caribou

11am-M
noon-N

19

Everyone is welcome.

6

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1
OPEN HOUSE EVERY WED.

at the COMMUNITY CENTER
658 Main St. Caribou

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7-9pmM
8-10pmN

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3
OPEN HOUSE EVERY

10
FRIDAY
at the COMMUNITY CENTER

658 Main St. Caribou
7-9pmM
8-10pmN

24

11

Sat. July 11 - BANGOR PRIDE CELEBRATION - parade, parties, festivities, fun! INFO: Kevin Gilgan 947-2378 • NLN hopes to participate - details pending

25

OTHER EVENTS

- June 14-21: PORTLAND PRIDE, with Pier Dance Friday, June 19 and the Pride Parade Saturday, June 20
- July 9-12: BANGOR PRIDE, with the Pride Parade Saturday, July 11; info from Kevin Gilgan 947-2378
- August 1 & 2: FUR FEST in Fredericton, register by July 15 to Fur Fest, POB 1492, Station A, Fredericton E3B 5G2
- August 14: AUGUSTA PRIDE EVENTS and the beginning of the PHISH concert weekend

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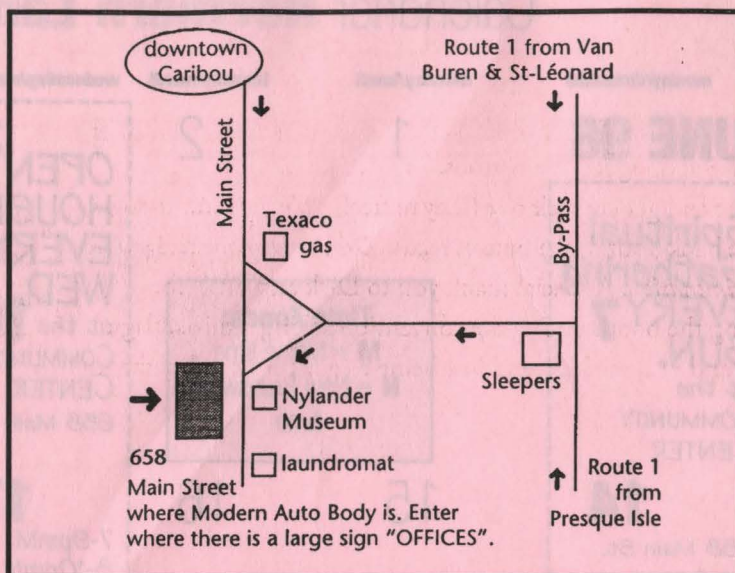
Sat-Sun, August 1-2 - annual WEEKEND ON LONG LAKE at Walter Fournier's, Sinclair - swimming, lawn games, bbq, relaxing - bring bbq foods, a beverage, lawn chair, games, a friend ...

Events at the Community Center

658 Main Street, Caribou

(M=Maine Time and N=N-B time)

- ✓ **Every SUNDAY - Spiritual Gathering**
11amM/noonN
- ✓ **Every WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY - Open House** 7-9pmM/8-10pmN
- ✓ Thursday, June 11 - **NLN Meeting**, 6:30pmM 7:30pmN
- ✓ Friday, June 26 - **Fold & Stuff** this calendar and newsletter, 7pmM/8pmN
- ✓ Thursday, July 9 - **NLN Meeting**, 6:30pmM 7:30pmN
- ✓ Friday, July 24 - **Fold & Stuff** this calendar and newsletter, 7pmM/8pmN



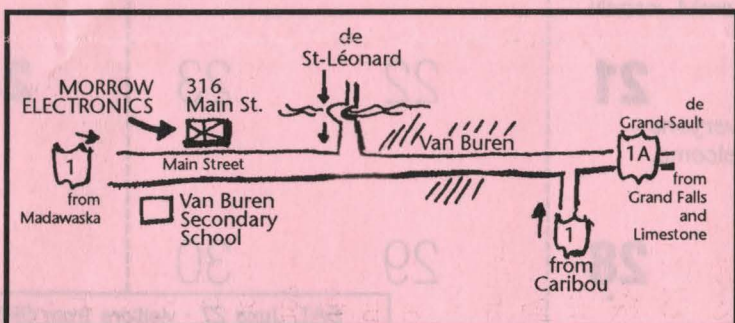
Pot Luck Supper

Saturday June 6, 6pmM • 7pmN

at Wayne Morrow's, Main Street, Van Buren (opposite the high school). Last Name: A-G brings a dessert, H-M a salad/appetizer/bread, N-Z main dish, hot or cold. BYO beverage.

Those who are interested will be going to the Wonder Bar in Madawaska -- \$5 cover (they take U.S. and Canadian at par at the door). Dancing and socializing and meeting new people.

WAYNE's number is 207-868-5879



Annual NLN Friends & Family Pride BBQ

Saturday June 20, any time after 1pmM • 2pmN

This is when you bring your friends, your parents, your children to a day of fun and food. It's NLN's Gay-Lesbian-Bi-Trans-& Allies Pride celebration!

FREE hot dogs and hamburgers (courtesy NLN) - please bring a picnic dish to share, your beverage and a lawn chair.

GAMES will be volleyball, croquet, and anything else you bring; walk along the woods paths

FOOD will be prepared about 5-ish or 6-ish.

RAIN OR SHINE!! - at Dick & Phil's, New Sweden Road, 7 miles from Caribou High School - 207-896-5726

