

Northern Lambda Nord

Communiqué

CP/POB990 Caribou Maine 04736 USA

207/896-5888

VOLUME V: NUMBER 8

OCTOBER 1984

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First of all, you'll notice that the print is a little bit smaller this month; to be exact, it's 78% of the size it usually appears. It's a trial. Lambda's new photocopier can reduce the size of copies. This is an experiment. If it appears too small to read easily, the former size will reappear. But if the majority of readers feels that this is legible, it will remain this size. The reduction of print size allows for more writing in the same area. But if that's at the sacrifice of ease of reading, it may not be worth it. Feedback, please.

NEW FISCAL YEAR, NEW MEMBERSHIP YEAR, NEW PRICES

It's October and NLN's new fiscal year begins. This means that everyone's membership expired on October 1. Renewal forms are enclosed.

At the September 23rd general business meeting in Fort Kent, the following structure was adopted for membership fees, parties, and the newsletter subscription, effective October 1, 1984:

MEMBERSHIP - The annual fee has been increased from \$10 to \$13. The \$10 membership fee has been in effect since NLN's beginning in 1980. It was felt that with inflation and rising costs, it was time to increase the price of membership. Low income people are still encouraged to pay in installments if needed. Remember: Lambda Nord accepts Canadian and U.S. funds at par.

NEWSLETTER - The one year (10 issues) subscription fee for Communiqué has been increased from \$7 to \$10.

DONATION POLICY - There are two types of Lambda gatherings where money is requested: parties and the monthly pot luck suppers which follow the general business meeting.

Parties - It was approved that at all "major" parties (Hallowe'en, Christmas, New Year's, NLN anniversary, February/Valentine's Day, Spring Prom, summer party) the door donation will remain at \$1 for NLN members but will increase from \$5 to \$6 for non-members.

Pot-luck meals - The old policy was: members, \$1 or food contribution and non-members were \$2. The new policy is: both for members and guests, either food contribution or \$2. ▼

SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER EXECUTIVE MEETING (Sept. 22 '84)

Four of the six executive members were present at this meeting, held in transit between Portland and Augusta. * There still is a need for an in-town location for the Phoneline. January 1 is a possible deadline - either a new location or disconnection.

* National Phoneline Conference in Washington DC, October 6-8, was cancelled. NLN representative was only one of three in US expressing interest.

* Advertising in newspapers: A series of five ads have been placed in the Univ. of Maine/Presque Isle student newspaper, covering the first semester.

It was recommended that we place ads in the Univ. of Maine/Orono paper during the week preceding school vacations, to target Aroostook County students before they visit home.

It was also suggested to place ads in the following weeklies: Woodstock Bugle, Hartland Observer, Grand Falls Cataract, Victoria County Record, Le Madawaska, and La République.

The Saint John Valley Times refused to accept our paid ad. Both the Maine Human Rights Commission and our attorney in Machias (who is handling the Caribou Winter Carnival case) were notified.

* Television advertising: The Fund for Human Dignity has five 30-second announcements stating facts about gay and lesbian people. A copy of the public service announcements (PSAs) was provided to WAGM television in Presque Isle. We await their decision to air

or not to air. They rejected four of the five; they may approve one.

* Bibliothèque Lambda files are slowly being entered into the computer. A complete library listing is eminent.

* The discussion groups, which meet monthly, should be revived now that fall is here.

* Christmas food baskets must be organized and prepared soon. ▼

SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING - (only 8 people present) -

(Sept. 23 '84)

* Reports were given on: NLN's Speakers Bureau which met with Resident Assistants at Univ. of Maine/Presque Isle; the Portland Autumnfest, "A Celebration of Gay and Lesbian Life in Maine"; and the NLN presentation to the Gay People's Alliance meeting in Portland.

* Treasurer's report: at the end of our fiscal year (September 30, 1984) we have a balance of \$16.94 in the U.S. account and \$281.99 in the Canadian account, which means we are in the black. A separate account contains the money received from the grant.

* Still waiting word from the Internal Revenue Service in regard to our non-profit status.

* New Speakers Bureau engagement at Univ. of Maine/Fort Kent, October 11.

* Food baskets discussed; preliminary arrangements begun.

* A LONG discussion concerning the possibility of Northern Lambda Nord sponsoring the Maine Lesbian and Gaymen's Symposium XIII, which will be in the spring of 1986. Consensus showed interest in hosting the Symposium. It will be investigated.

* Decisions about money (reported above). ▼

FROM A FRONT ROW SEAT AT THE MR. GAY NEW BRUNSWICK CONTEST by Hank

The Mr. Gay New Brunswick contest for 1984 took place at the Union Hall on Tower Street in Saint John on September 15. The crowd began to gather early and was quite large by the starting time of 10 pm. It promised to be a fun evening and no one was disappointed.

Judging was done by five people (four men and one woman). While every effort was made to represent the three groups in New Brunswick, the men from Moncton were not available. Lambda was represented by Randy and myself. (I also represented FLAG.)

Judging was done on a basis of 30 points, with 10 points being allotted for each category: formal wear, casual wear, and swimsuits. Guess which was the most popular.

The seven contestants were first brought out as a group to let the judges see them together. Following a previously-held lottery to determine order of appearance, the candidates were then brought out one-by-one in each category. The contestants looked stunning in their individual styles of formal wear, and it was lovely to see what good-looking men can look like when they really get themselves decked out.

Following the formal attire part of the programme, each contestant appeared in casual wear. This ranged from GQ styles and butchy leather and denim, to camouflage. It was great to know that regardless of our mutual "preference" our "preferences" in dress vary widely.

Of course mention must be made of the last category, that of swimsuits. This writer had just a bit of trouble taking his eyes off any of the contestants as they "strutted their stuff" for all. New Brunswick has a great variety of scenery, and it's no wonder why we are called "The Picture Province."

When all was done, the men were all brought out for one last glorious look. The judges then retired for consultation. The final results were: Glenn from Saint John, winner; Clark from Fredericton as second place; Camille from Moncton, third. Trust me when I say that as a judge, it was one of the most difficult decisions I've ever made as to who should win.

Following the contest, a dance was held. Festivities went on far into the night. We wish LAGO-SJ, the sponsor of the evening, all the best with any future contests they might hold. This one provided great entertainment for all. ▼

This summer, Charles O. Howard was brutally beaten and thrown off Bangor's State Street Bridge into the Kenduskeag Stream. He drowned. His three teenage assailants plea-bargained "guilty" to manslaughter, so they'll be out of juvenile detention before you know it, and I understand that their records will be wiped clean.

Charlie's death has brought life to the gay-lesbian liberation movement in Maine. As with the Stonewall rebellion in 1969 and Anita Bryant's attacks on us in the 70's, Charlie is our focus around which we have new energy.

Since his murder in July, just look at what has happened in the Maine community:

- * Bangor Area Gay-Lesbian-Straight Coalition, a new organization
- * Central Maine Gay and Lesbian Awareness Coalition in Lewiston, a new organization
- * Maine Gay and Lesbian Anti-violence Project, a new organization
- * Maine Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance, a new organization
- * Autumnfest: A Celebration of Gay and Lesbian Life in Maine, a week's activities during September, including workshops, films, speakers, flea market, parties,...
- * Walking Free, an awareness week of activities focused around information about violence against us, including a rally and march in Lewiston-Auburn, films, parties, rap sessions, a Prom at the Underground, ... (scheduled for November 8-11)
- * New vitalization and focus for activism by Maine groups including Gay People's Alliance at the Univ. of Maine/Portland, Bowdoin College's Gay-Straight Alliance, the Harbor Masters in Portland,...
- * The Maine Human Rights Commission is going to have introduced and work for passage of the so-called "gay rights bill".

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Perhaps this is just the tip of the iceberg. But just as we are activated, so too are Rev. Buddy Frankland, Dr. Cameron (who visited Maine recently on his anti-gay tirade), Phyllis Schlafly, Jerry Falwell and their kind who put so much time and such vast sums of money to work against us.

Few of our community are activists. But so many others can help behind the scenes. Helping these organizations with money is the least we can each do. We needn't be in the forefront of our fight for just treatment to be in the fight. We needn't be visible to add to the energy needed to do the work necessary to gain legal protections.

Contributing time, energy, and or money is what is important. The more people who participate, the easier life is for everyone. ▼

NEW COMMUNIQUE

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This has been an abbreviated edition of the newsletter. The November issue will be mailed before the first of November. It will include results of a telephone survey of all the candidates running for the state legislature from Aroostook County (questioning their support - or non - of the next "gay rights bill"). There will also be a complete schedule of the November 8-11 "Walking Free" events in Lewiston-Auburn, Brunswick, and Portland. ▼

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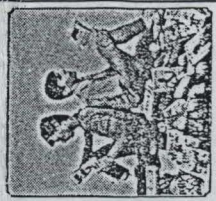
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LESBIAN-GAY Guide LESBIENNE-GAI

- ▼ FREDERICTON: FLAG, POB 1556, Sta. A., E3B 5G2; FLAGline - 506/457-2156, Tues, Wed, Thurs, 8-10 pm.
- ▼ CRONO: Wilde-Stein Club, Memorial Union, Univ. of Maine; meets Sundays, 7 pm, Peabody Lounge, 3rd floor, Memorial Union.
- ▼ SAINT JOHN: LAGO-SJ, POB 6494, Sta. A., E2L 4R9
- ▼ MONCTON: GLM (Gais et Lesbiennes de Moncton), CP 7102, Riverview, E1B 1V0
- ▼ HALIFAX: GAE (Gay Alliance for Equality), Box 3611, So. Postal Sta., B3J 3K6; 902/429-6969, M,T,W, 7-9 pm & Th, F, Sat, 7-10 pm.
- ▼ NEWFUNDLAND: GAIN, Box 1364, Sta. C., St. John's, A1C 5N5
- ▼ WEBWORK: women's correspondence club, New England & Maritimes - Box 131-N, Calais, Maine 04619
- ▼ MAINE LESBIAN FEMINISTS: POB 125, Belfast 04915
- ▼ OUR PAPER: A Voice for Lesbians and Gaymen in Maine - monthly newspaper, \$10 per year - POB 10744, Portland 04104
- ▼ NORTHERN MAINE & NEW BRUNSWICK: NLN, CP/POB 990, Caribou, Maine 04736 - Télégai/Gay Phoneline: 207/896-5888, Wed/mer, 7-9pm (Eastern time/heure de l'est)

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