

Northern Lambda Nord Communiqué

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This newsletter is a brief one, due to time constraints.

FROM CABBAGETOWN TO P'TOWN - Reflections of Summer '85, Part II, by Randy, NLN Canadian

Correspondent

Gazing out my kitchen window this morning (November 10th) at the light covering of wet snow which unexpectedly arrived overnight, it's difficult to imagine that only four months ago we were bronzing our bodies on the beaches of Cape Cod. We Northerners are subject to such temperature variations.

Provincetown has some interesting attractions for vacationers, but its two most appealing aspects are the sandy beaches which surround the Cape and refreshingly cool waters which lap at its shores. We were fortunate to be blessed with five days of warm, sunny weather -- for some unexplicable reason those harbingers of inclement weather, clouds, just did not seem to like the Cape. We took great joy in watching them settle over the coastline of Massachusetts.

Vacations should not become routine but gradually we found ourselves following a general daily pattern. Our day began with a late morning jog to White Point Beach, followed by breakfast or brunch. Afterwards we shopped for personal items and took delight in buying gifts at half-price (on sale?), even though they sold at twice their normal value the day previous.

A day in P'town is not complete without at least one "Mecca" to the beach. Being 2-3 miles from town, access to the beach can easily be made on foot. If it's too hot or you're too lazy to walk, the "Town Loop" (gay locals affectionately call it the "Fruit Loop" -- "after all, it IS our bus") makes the trip several times a day for a minimal fee.

Just soaking up those ultraviolets and surrounding yourself with sand, surf and "sons" would be pleasure enough for most, but a short distance away, in the dunes, something very physical is going on.... If one listens real well one can hear grunts and groans as tanned and muscled bodies work up a gleaming sweat in the midday sun. What could they be doing to create such excitement? They're playing volleyball -- gay volleyball, no less! After the game, both teams are ready for a dip in the ocean. You can't skinny dip at the beach, but you can stretch the rules a bit. Here's what you do. Complete with swimsuit on, go in the water up to your waist. Take off swimsuit and put it around your neck so that it hangs through one leg hole...Enjoy! It's rather amusing to watch the lily-white bottoms of otherwise deeply-tanned bodies break the ocean's surface, if only "briefly".

After an afternoon siesta, it's over to the Boatslip for T-dance. When you've managed to wade through the hundreds or so who are dancing to disco, rock & roll, and soft rock, there are quieter moments awaiting you on deck. The Boatslip deck overlooks P'town harbour. The view from the deck is really picturesque, with watercraft of every size and shape moored at their high-tide posts.

Dining out in P'town requires neither formal nor semi-formal wear. Dress as you please (summer shorts and tank or t-shirt is just fine) after all, you are on vacation. Dinner is highly recommended at Provincetown Inn's Harbourview Dining Room, which features three daily four-course specials (wine included) -- all for \$10 per person. The quality of the food and the prompt personal service, plus a quiet, relaxed atmosphere (candlelight) makes for a romantic evening indeed.

Ready to dance? Then swing your body among the multitudes at A-House (Atlantic House) or Backstreet. Has all that dancing made you hungry again? Then follow everyone else to Spiritus (Pizza) for a "slice and a Coke". When the bars close, this nightly nocturnal tradition features some surprise entertainment as scores of people munch and mingle outside the popular pizzeria.

About 4 or 5 am, it's off to bed...tomorrow (yawn) we'll do it all over again!

DOOR DONATION POLICY MODIFIED

The membership at the November business meeting voted to amend the policy governing donations requested at major Lambda functions. The new policy is as follows: NLN members, \$2 (no change); Guests who reside in the four counties from which Northern Lambda Nord draws its members (Aroostook, Madawaska, Victoria, and Carleton), \$6; Guests who are from someplace other than the four-county area, \$3 (new). This will be in effect at the Christmas Party. US and Canadian funds are accepted at par.

AIDS

HTLV-III TESTING AVAILABLE IN AROOSTOOK COUNTY

The Aroostook County Action Program (ACAP) is providing screening for the HTLV-III/LAV test, to determine if you have been exposed to the AIDS virus, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. Patricia Spicer of ACAP telephoned NLN's Phoneline, asking that people be made aware that this test is available from the ACAP Venus Clinic, Skyway Park, Presque Isle (207/764-3721 or, in Maine only, 1-800/432-7881). The test is \$6 (cost of the "kit") plus a small fee (\$15 or less). Each person is given a number, which is used when results are reported to a Maine Health Office in Augusta. The Venus Clinic will know the name of the person tested. It is legal to use a pseudonym when going to the Clinic. If you have any questions, please feel free to call "Peesh" at the Venus Clinic. She's easy to talk to.

AIDS-Line GETS TOLL FREE NUMBER

Beginning about the 16th of December, the Gay Health Action Committee's AIDS-Line will expand from two to three telephones and will have a TOLL FREE STATEWIDE NUMBER - 1-800/851-AIDS. (Good from Maine exchanges only).

AIDS FORUMS TO BE HELD THROUGHOUT MAINE

The first of six proposed Open Forums for the Public on AIDS will be in Bangor Tuesday, December 17 (call the STD clinic at 947-0700 for time and place). Future forums will be in Lewiston, Portland, Rumford, Kittery, Farmington, Brunswick, and Presque Isle. The format includes a panel presentation (including remarks by a doctor, State health official, local authorities, and a member of an at-risk group) and a question and answer session follows. These forums are being sponsored by the Maine State Bureau of Health, Maine Health Foundation, Inc., Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, and the Maine Public Health Association. For more details, call Paula at 737-8265.



PROTECT YOURSELF! - Practice Safe and Sensible Sex!

SAFE

Massage
Hugging
Mutual masturbation
Social kissing (dry)
Body-to-body rubbing
(frottage)
Light S&M (no bruising
or bleeding)

POSSIBLY SAFE

French kissing (wet)
Anal sex with a condom
Sucking - stop before climax
Watersports - external only
RISK INCREASES WITH MULTIPLE
PARTNERS!!!

UNSAFE - Rimming, Fisting, Blood contact, Sharing sex toys, Semen or urine in the mouth, Anal sex without a condom. RISK INCREASES WITH MULTIPLE PARTNERS!!!

AIDS symptoms may include: Persistent fevers or nights sweats - Unexplained weight loss - Enlarged, hardened, or painful lymph nodes - Recently appearing new growths on top of or beneath the skin or on the mucous membranes (inside mouth, anus, nasal passages, or underneath eyelids) - Dry cough not related to cold or flu - Persistent diarrhea - Thrush, a whitish, thick, persistent coating on tongue or in throat - Easy bruisability or unexplained bleeding. CHECK WITH THE LAMBDA LIBRARY FOR LITERATURE ON AIDS AND STAYING HEALTHY.

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Gay/Lesbian GUIDE Lesbienne/Gai

- ★ **NORTHERN MAINE & NEW BRUNSWICK:** Northern Lambda Nord (NLN), CP/POB 990, Caribou, Maine 04736-0990 USA. Gay-Lesbian Phoneline/Télégai, 207/498-2088, Wednesdays/mercredi, 7-9pm (Eastern time/heure de l'est)
- **FREDERICTON:** Fredericton Lesbians and Gays (FLAG), POB 1556, Station A, E3B 5G2 - FLAGline, 506/457-2156
- **ORONO:** Wilde-Stein Club, Memorial Union, University of Maine 04469 - they meet Sundays, 7pm, South Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union
- **BANGOR:** Bangor Area Gay-Lesbian-Straight Coalition (BAGLS), POB 1805, 04401 - meets the second Tuesday of each month, 7pm, at 87 Sunset Strip, Brewer - 989-3306
- **BANGOR:** INTERWEAVE, POB 8008, 04401 - Pot-luck suppers on the first & third Saturdays, 6pm, 126 Union Street (Unitarian Church)
- **QUEBEC:** Centre homophile d'aide et de libération (CHAL), 175, Prince-Edouard, G1K 2M2, 418/523-4997
- **QUEBEC:** Groupe gai de l'Université Laval (GGUL) et Groupe des femmes gaies de l'Université Laval (GFGUL), CP 2500, Pavillon Lemieux, Cité Universitaire, Ste-Foy, G1K7P4
- **SAINT JOHN:** Lesbian and Gay Organization in Saint John (LAGO/SJ), POB 6496, Station A, E2L 4R9 - Gayline, 506/633-1256
- **MONCTON:** Gais et lesbiennes de Moncton/Gays and Lesbians of Moncton (GLM), CP/POB 7102, Riverview E1B 1V0
- **LEWISTON:** Central Maine Gay/Lesbian Awareness Coalition, POB 7917, 04240
- **PORTLAND:** Gay People's Alliance, University of Southern Maine, 92 Bedford Street, 04102, 207/780-4085
- **PORTLAND:** Harbor Masters, Inc., leather-levi group, POB 4044, 04104
- **HALIFAX:** Gay Alliance for Equality (GAE), Box 3611, South Postal Station, B3J 3K6, 902/429-6969
- **NEWFOUNDLAND:** Gay Association in Newfoundland (GAIN), Box 1364, Station C, St. John's, A1C 5N5
- **MONTREAL:** Télégai, 514/933-2395
- **ARCHIVES FOR THE PROTECTION OF GAY HISTORY AND LITERATURE:** Box 6368, Station A, Saint John, New Brunswick E2L 4R8
- **OUR PAPER:** A Voice for Lesbians and Gaymen in Maine - monthly newspaper; \$12 for one year subscription, POB 10744, Portland 04104
- **MAINE LESBIAN/GAY POLITICAL ALLIANCE:** POB 108, Yarmouth 04096

AIDS information SIDA

- **AIDS-Line,** information and referral service, 207/775-1267
- **GAY HEALTH ACTION COMMITTEE,** POB 10723, Portland 04104
- **MacAIDS,** the Metro Area Committee on AIDS, POB 1013, Halifax, B3J 2X1

★ **COMMUNIQUE** is published ten times yearly (monthly except June/July & August/September) by, for, and about the Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual community of northern Maine and northwestern New Brunswick. Subscriptions - \$10 per year.
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