

Northern Lambda Nord Communiqué

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'TIS THE SEASON FOR GIVING by Dick

Many stores and local businesses are anxious for each of us to purchase gifts for our friends and loved ones. Businesses often survive or fail on the basis of a successful selling spree during November and December. Many businesses earn over half of their annual income during this season. Even the local charites, such as United Way, have their campaigns at this time. Something I discovered about one of these "United Way"-type charities deserves some attention.

As a federal government employee (more exactly, an employee of the Department of Defense at Loring Air Force Base), I am approached every year by a member of my local department to give to the CFC or Combined Federal Campaign. This combined charity drive is regionalized in different areas of the country; the CFC campaign at Loring covers Aroostook County and collects contributions from October 20 through November 30. The Aroostook CFC provides a listing of about 90 groups, international agencies (such as CARE and OXFAM America), as well as "neighborhood services" such as Aroostook Home Care Agency and the Retired Senior Volunteers, "health services/handicapped services", services for children and family, youth and recreation, plus national and federal groups (American Kidney Fund and many Maine Chapters of medical charities). In years past, I've given to Cancer research and perhaps one local group. But this year I decided to read the fine print more closely.

Donations are usually given through payroll deduction, with a minimum of \$2 per month for military and \$1 per month for civilian employees. The form you fill out lists deductions (suggested) from \$2.50 per paycheck to \$15 per check, plus one blank for "other amount". This list of 90 agencies in the informational brochure includes those which "were recipients of all valid donations made in the 1984-85 and 1985-86 Aroostook Area Combined Federal Campaign. This list is not an exhaustive list of the voluntary ... charities to which you may designate all or part of your contribution." That meant that I could give weekly donations to charities NOT on this list. So I read further: "Any health or welfare charity recognized as tax-exempt by the Internal Revenue Service under 26 U.S.C. 501 (c)(3) may be designated on the blank space provided on the pledge card." And then the bells began to ring. Northern Lambda Nord is tax-exempt under 501 (c)(3) and therefore qualifies for donations through the CFC!! And, "to preserve your privacy, you may enclose your pledge card and contribution in a sealed envelope to be opened and viewed in confidence only by the Aroostook CFC Chairman."

So I decided to give my money this year to a local, self-help, volunteer group of gays. I did not put it in an envelope, though it crossed my mind. And it seems that from the description of which qualified charities are listed in the informational booklet, that after two years receiving donations, NLN will also be listed as a bonafide recipient of monies. I'll make sure that next year when they come around I'll designate NLN again, and then our local group should be included in subsequent years. What the hell -- if the National Right to Life Educational Trust Fund and the reputedly homophobic Salvation Army can solicit money through the CFC, why not Northern Lambda Nord?!

TUNE IN MAINE PUBLIC TELEVISION FOR GAYS ON THE TUBE!

BEFORE STONEWALL is a 90-minute documentary which traces the origins of the gay-lesbian rights movement in the United States, chronicling the social and political activities within our community from 1920 through 1970. The film looks

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at lesbian bars during the '20s, the army induction stations of World War II -- secretly called "seduction stations", and the formation of the first organizations for gaymen, the Mattachine Society (1950) and for lesbians, the Daughters of Bilitis (1955). The film includes interviews with noted gay and lesbian poets, historians, playwrights, novelists, and ordinary people, recounting their personal experiences. "My mother was told that I was living a lesbian life ... All she had to say was that I was living a lesbian life and that was grounds enough to have you committed to an insane asylum without any hearing. I was picked up off the streets on a Friday, thrown in a police car ... and (they) put me down into the psycho ward of General Hospital." BEFORE STONEWALL also combines archival material, film clips, songs, home movies, and personal snapshots. The film has received several awards, including first prize for Best Non-Fiction Feature at the Houston International Film Festival, and Best Non-Fiction Feature Film Award at Filmex in Los Angeles. Author Rita Mae Brown narrates this film, presented by the Maine Public Broadcasting Network on channel 10 (Presque Isle), Tuesday, December 16, 9-10:30pm.

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION ENDORSES GAY MARRIAGE, BENEFITS

The National Board of Directors of the ACLU voted October 19 to adopt a formal policy statement endorsing both gay and lesbian marriage and a range of economic benefits for gay and lesbian life partners. This statement will be added to longstanding ACLU policy against discrimination based on sexual orientation and against criminal laws prohibiting homosexual conduct. Benefits enumerated include employee fringe benefits, insurance benefits, income tax benefits, and visitation and next-of-kin rights when a lover is incapacitated.

NATIONAL DRAG BALL FOR AIDS FUNDING AND CIVIL RIGHTS

"Night of a Thousand Gowns" is the theme of a National Charity Ball to Honor the Imperial Court System, a tribute to the pioneering role of drag in the lesbian and gay communities. This first-of-its-kind national event will be Saturday, March 27, 1987, in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, New York City. They hope to attract 3,000 attendees from throughout North America, and to raise \$500,000 for several national gay and lesbian organizations primarily concerned with AIDS funding and gay civil rights. The 10,000-member Imperial Court System of North America is hosting this event. "High heels are not mandatory. Men, as well as women, may wear tuxedos, dress uniforms, or white tie. Of course, appropriate ball gowns will be *de rigueur*. We only advise people to dress as if they were to meet royalty or high society." A donation of \$250 includes admission to "Night of a Thousand Gowns." For an invitation and necessary information on hotels, air fare, limosines, etcetera, contact: Night of a Thousand Gowns, 106-1/4 Lexington Avenue, New York City 10016. Impersonators should make a note on their request to receive a special communication.

MARCH ON WASHINGTON DC SCHEDULED

Over two hundred representatives of the U.S. gay-lesbian community met in New York City November 14-16 to plan for a 1987 march on Washington DC. The



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A
VOICE
FOR
LESBIANS
AND
GAY MEN
IN MAINE

December 1986

Community

weekend strategy sessions included meetings of the 21-member New England regional caucus. The goal of this march, the second one held (the first was 1980 ?), is to bring hundreds of thousands of lesbians and gaymen and our supporters from throughout the US to Washington over Columbus Day weekend, October 10-12, 1987. The march itself will be October 11th. Demands will include: * a national lesbian and gay rights bill * repeal of sodomy laws * increased funding for AIDS research * an end to military and immigration regulations discriminating against homosexuals. A 44-member steering committee, representing 11 geographic regions and 20 national organizations, will plan the march. Each regional steering committee was required to reflect gender parity (two men/two women), with one of the four seats going to a person of color. The New England caucus will elect its four representatives January 10th, meeting in Boston City Hall. One regional caucus member noted that "helping to coordinate the massive effort to get thousands of New England gays and lesbians to march on Washington is a primary item on the agenda."

ALL GAY RIGHTS CO-SPONSORS RETURNED TO CONGRESS

For the third consecutive election, every co-sponsor of the national lesbian and gay civil rights bill were re-elected. Vic Basile, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund noted, "Active support for gay and lesbian civil rights is clearly not a negative (factor) as far as the majority of voters are concerned. In fact, outside the gay-lesbian community, it wasn't even an issue this year." In the House of Representative, 67 co-sponsors are joined by six Senators in formally endorsing the legislation. In addition, several anti-gay Senators were defeated, and additional co-sponsors are expected from the new Senate and House. (from *The Calendar*, San Antonio, Texas)



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 night 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 Phonenumber/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 - meets in Thursdays, 6-9pm in Sutton Lounge, Memorial Union Building
- **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, Inc., POB 8008, 04401 - Meets 2nd and 4th Saturdays, 8pm at University College Center, Texas Avenue, Bangor - Dance and coffee house every Saturday, 9pm-1am at University College Center - \$3.00 - Information: 884-7079
- **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, G1K 7P4
- **MONCTON:** Gais et Lesbiennes de Moncton/Gays and Lesbians of Moncton (GLM), CP/POB 7102, Riverview E1B 1V0
- **PORTLAND:** Gay/Lesbian 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 - 1-800/851-AIDS (-2437)
- **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 by Northern Lambda Nord, an organization★★★★ serving the Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual community of northern Maine and northwestern New Brunswick. Subscriptions - \$10 per year. NLN Membership - \$13 per year, which includes Communiqué. Low-income people may make arrangements to pay in installments. NLN accepts Canadian and U.S. funds at par. 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.