

Northern Lambda Nord Communiqué

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PLANNING CONTINUES FOR NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON

Both regional and national meetings are being held to continue planning for a second "March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights", scheduled for October 11, 1987. Seven demands will be made:

(1) Legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships, entitling domestic partners to the same rights as married heterosexual couples, and expanded social services for lesbian and gay youth

(2) Repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime, since they violate the constitutional right to privacy

(3) Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government, particularly in the military and in immigration, and that the President end exclusion of people with AIDS or HIV-antibody positivity from government employment

(4) Passage of the congressional lesbian and gay civil rights bill

(5) An end to discrimination against people with AIDS, ARC (AIDS-related complex), HIV-positive status, or those perceived to have AIDS; massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care; money for AIDS, not for war - these monies should come from the military budget, not existing social services

(6) Reproductive freedom, the right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression

(7) An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa - As lesbians and gaymen, we are affected by rising racism and sexism which oppresses people of color and women; our liberation is intricately linked to the struggle against racism, sexism, and anti-semitism. "None of us will be free until we all are free". We demand an end to all social, economic, judicial, and legal oppression of lesbians and gays, and people of every race, gender, ability, class, ethnicity, faith, political ideology, transgenderal orientation, and sexual orientation.

Schedules of related events have been sent to NLN; we have also received listings of hotel/motel accommodations in the Washington DC area, with reduced rates available. Over \$30,000 has been pledged to the national march by both gay and non-gay groups. The budget for the march totals over \$300,000, which includes expenses such as outreach, staging, sound, printing, office rent, and phones. Regional and local march committees are raising money. Anyone wishing to contribute may send a check to March on Washington, POB 7781, Washington DC 20044.

GAY POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE ONE OF LARGEST IN UNITED STATES

The Federal Elections Commission, overseer of the nation's more than 4,500 political action committees (PACs), has formally ranked the Human Rights Campaign Fund as the 16th largest independent PAC in the US. "Independents" are not affiliated with a parent organization. In a listing of all PACs, the Fund is 39th in size. The Fund raised more than \$1.4 million during the 1986 election cycle, putting it in the top 1% of PAC fundraisers nationwide. These facts do not go unnoticed by those in the political sphere. It marks our increasing clout in the election process and in the legislative process in this country. The Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's only gay and lesbian PAC, contributes money to candidates running for the U.S. House and Senate who support gay-lesbian civil rights and increased federal funding for AIDS education and treatment. (HRCF, 1012 14th St, NW, 6th floor, Wash DC 20005)

At the June 28th business meeting at Echo Lake, Presque Isle, a full calendar of summer events was set. These include:

- July 3-5 Symposium in Orono/Bangor
- July 4th Red-White-Blue party in Presque Isle
- July 5th afternoon picnic in Presque Isle
- July 12th outing to Haystack Mountain
- July 18th party in Caribou
- July 25th party in Presque Isle
- July 26th monthly meeting in Caribou
- August 2nd excursion to King's Landing
- August 8th party in Presque Isle
- August 16th excursion to the Acadian Village
- August 21-23 weekend gathering/picnic supper/dance in New Sweden
(Maine Lesbian-Gay Political Alliance annual Aroostook weekend - all invited)
- August 29th party in Presque Isle
- August 30th monthly meeting in Presque Isle
- September 6th annual Labour Day Party in Ste-Anne-de-Madawaska

The six current members of the Steering Committee were re-elected. Monthly meetings will begin at 3pm (Maine), 4pm (N-B)

— HOMOPHOBIC MILITARY REPORT REJECTED BY CANADIAN GOVERNMENT (GO Info, Ottawa) —

The Conservative Government has rejected an Armed Forces "study" which recommends that "the current policy of not employing homosexuals in the Canadian Armed Forces be continued as a reasonable limitation within the meaning of section 1 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms."

In a statement before a House of Commons Committee, Defence Minister Perrin Beatty announced that, despite the recommendation, he would institute two changes to defence policy on homosexuals:

- (1) "The obligation for members to report suspected homosexuality will be removed
- (2) "The continuing exclusion of homosexuals will be based on conduct or behaviour rather than on orientation alone"

However, in a bizarre twist, the Government interprets "conduct or behaviour" to mean total celibacy for homosexuals, a position similar to Catholic Church policy. Perrin Beatty says that the government is prepared to defend celibacy in the courts as a reasonable limitation for gays and lesbians. He is depending upon the military's Charter Task Force Report which he claims is "as thorough as possible a survey of all the implication of moving in this area."

— ANOTHER CANADIAN PROVINCE MOVES TO PROTECT RIGHTS OF GAY CITIZENS —

The Attorney General of Manitoba has introduced legislation in that province to include "sexual orientation" in the Manitoba Human Rights Code. To date, the two largest provinces, Quebec and Ontario, grant equal civil rights protections to their gay and lesbian citizens. The debate in Manitoba is sure to spark controversy.

— NUMBER OF OPENLY GAY MEMBERS OF U.S. CONGRESS DOUBLES —

Barney Frank, member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Newton, Massachusetts, has come out in the pages of the *Boston Globe*. Now two of the gay members of the U.S. Congress are out; Representative Gerry Studds (Mass) was forced out of the closet when he was censured by Congress for fooling around with a male page. Studds did not resign, nor apologize for his actions. He was also re-elected by his conservative New Bedford constituency by 61%.

Frank, who was long-known to be gay by many in the Boston lesbian-gay community, was interviewed in May for the *Living Pages* of the Boston newspaper. When asked by the reporter, "Why haven't you come out?", Frank replied,

2

July. August '87

Communique



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.

"I don't know how to have a press conference to announce something that is
irrelevant...If you're asking me if I'm gay, the answer is yes, so what?"

Barney's act of courage has been applauded by lesbians and gaymen
throughout the US. Perhaps this will set an example for the rest of the
gay members of not only the U.S. Congress but of every legislative body in
this country.

NOTED CONSERVATIVE LEADER DIES OF AIDS (Washington Post)

Terry Dolan, founder of the National Conservative Political Action Committee
(NCPAC), died of complications of AIDS last December 28th. He was 36. Ten days
after his death, a memorial service was held, attended by hundreds of friends
and political allies, including Republican Senators Orrin Hatch (Utah) and
Gordon Humphrey (NH), and former senator Paul Laxalt of Nevada. Two days following
that service, the Reverend John Gingrich, Saint Matthew's Cathedral's longtime
liaison with the Washington gay community and Dolan's priest, celebrated a
mass. This service was attended by many gays in Washington who still keep
their homosexuality a carefully guarded secret.

During his life, Dolan publicly denied he was gay and that he had AIDS.
He had allied himself on some issues with people who openly condemned homosexuality
and who used anti-homosexual rhetoric for fund-raising purposes.

Dolan is only one of many gays in Washington who have come out after
they leave positions of power, many times when learning they have AIDS. Dan
Bradley, former head of the Legal Services Corporation, came out when he quit
that organization. He has AIDS. Leonard Matlovich, decorated Vietnam veteran
who was kicked out of the USAir Force in 1975 when he publicly stated he was gay,
also has AIDS. Republican member of Congress Stewart McKinney (Connecticut),
died of complications related to AIDS. His doctor said he believed McKinney
contracted the disease from blood transfusions; knowledgeable sources say
McKinney had had gay relationships. "It's a commonplace saying that if one
day all gay people turned purple, you'd be shocked to see how many people
around you are gay," says a gay Washingtonian. "In fact, that day has come,
only you don't turn purple, you get sick and die."

3

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87

Communique


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Gay/Lesbian GUIDE Lesbienne/Gai

- ★ **NORTHERN MAINE & NEW BRUNSWICK:** Northern Lambda Nord (NLN), CP/PÖB 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 - meets in Thursdays, 6-9pm in Sutton Lounge, Memorial Union Building
 - **BANGOR:** Bangor Area Gay-Lesbian-Straight Coalition (BAGLSC), POB 1805, 04401 - meets the first Sunday and third Thursday of each month, 7pm, at 87 Sunset Strip, Brewer - 989-3306 - dances once per month (summertime), twice monthly the rest of the year - call or write for details
 - **BANGOR:** DownEast Gay/Lesbian Organization (DEGLO) - contact Bangor Unitarian Church, corner Main and Union Streets, 04401
 - **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
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- 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
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- ★★★ **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.