Northern Lambda Nord Communique, Vol.8, No.9 (November 1987)

Northern Lambda Nord

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/nln_communique

Part of the American Studies Commons, and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Commons

Recommended Citation
http://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/nln_communique/148
COMMUNIQUÉ

Volume VIII: number 9 November 1987
Volume VIII: numéro 9 novembre 1987

JOHN S. KINNEY
May 5, 1958-October 24, 1987
A native of Caribou, John recently married and moved to Fredericton. He had been a dental hygienist in the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Loring Air Force Base. John attended many Lambda functions and will be remembered for his warm smile and the good wishes he had for all. He is survived by his wife, Jeannne, and his lover, Charles.

HALLOWEEN PARTY DRAWS FEW COSTUMES

Though the crowd was average for a Lambda party, few people dressed in costume for our annual Halloween gathering. The judges deliberated only momentarily to choose the winning costumes. The BEST COSTUME award, a $10 certificate to Yusef's Restaurant in Caribou, went to a couple dressed as Bonnie and Clyde. The MOST ORIGINAL costume was "Aroostook: The Crown of Maine", presented with at $10 certificate to the Mai Tai Restaurant in Presque Isle.

SUMMARY OF OCTOBER 18TH MEETING

The Steering Committee met in Presque Isle and planned a calendar of events for the balance of this year. Plans were finalized for the Halloween party; a date was set for the Christmas party (December 19), which will be a "Yankee Swap" (bring a gift, get a gift). The last party of 1987 is New Year's Eve. The November meeting will be Sunday the 29th in Caribou and will include not only the general business, but the film "OUTRAGEOUS" with Craig Russell will be shown. We'll also order out for pizza, so you needn't bring food for a pot luck meal. On Monday, December 7th, we'll get together to fold and stuff the newsletter. The December meeting will be held January 3rd and will be combined with a fold-and-stuff. The January meeting will be January 31st; we need a location for this gathering.

The party and meeting schedule planning only emphasized Lambda's need for more alternative locations for gatherings. Until we have the ability to establish a Gay and Lesbian Community Center to serve this region, it is necessary to continue to rotate locations of our gatherings in members' homes throughout the area. Our membership now includes folks from as far south as Danforth and the Houlton/Woodstock area to Edmundston/Madawaska in the north. We attempt to rotate meeting places so that members need not drive long distances for every gathering. In the seven and one-half year history of Lambda, we've met in
Fort Kent, Frenchville, Madawaska, Saint-Basile, Sainte-Anne-de-Madawaska, Lille-sur-Saint-Jean, Van Buren, Saint-Léonard, New Sweden, Caribou, Presque Isle, Limestone, Fort Fairfield, Ashland, Houlton, Linneus, and Woodstock. But most recently, available gathering places have been reduced to the Caribou-Presque Isle area; we want to expand the available gathering spots. If you would like to help by offering your home for an afternoon meeting, a party, film, or discussion group, please let someone on the steering committee know. We'll be discussing this again at the November 29th meeting.

In the realm of 'outreach', the steering committee approved placing an advertisement in the 1988 Aroostook County tourist/business guide, "Echoes". The 2-1/4 x 2-1/4" advert will cost $126. "Echoes" will be distributed through the Chambers of Commerce, Maine Tourism Offices, and other agencies and businesses to promote development and tourism in northern Maine.

Lambda's advertisement will appear again this year in The University Times, the student newspaper at the University of Maine/Presque Isle.

After hand-stamping over 8000 envelopes with NLN's return address over the past seven and one-half years for the 78 issues of Communiqué, $62 has been allocated to purchase 2000 pre-printed envelopes. Now, one less thing to do at the monthly fold-and-stuff!

Agenda for the November meeting will focus on NLN's finances, plans for activities for the winter months, and nominations for the six positions on the steering committee. Elections will take place in January. The future of Lambda will be guided by the interests of its membership. Activities will reflect the desires of what you want to do. Come to the next meeting in Caribou and make your feelings known.

---

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - 1986-1987 FISCAL YEAR

Northern Lambda Nord's fiscal and membership year is from October 1-September 30. Below is a summary of finances as of September 30, 1987.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue sharing</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photocopy service</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memberships</td>
<td>749.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>767.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds returned</td>
<td>55.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>2000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symposium XIII</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>325.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>8.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>3942.83</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HALIFAX ESTABLISHES COMMUNITY CENTRE - EPICINE magazine, Toronto

The Gay Alliance for Equality (GAE) has announced the purchase of its own building, to be used as a gay and lesbian community centre/social club/disco. After ten years of leasing space, they have obtained an old style cinema with a full stage for $400,000. The building is 150x50x50', has a legal capacity of 400, but could easily hold 600 persons. Despite early opposition by city alderperson Graham Downey, who mounted a strong campaign against an earlier move, the downtown area's Merchants' and Homeowners' Associations have publicly welcomed the new centre to their neighbourhood. The GAE envisions the new building, with renovations, as being large enough to encompass a non-alcohol bar, youth facilities, health club, sun deck, offices, meeting room, plays, concerts, films, hostel, cafe, boutique, games room, and bookshops, as well as their disco and bars.

(Gay Alliance for Equality, Box 3611, Station South, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 3K6 - 902/454-6551)

MAINE'S STUDENT GROUPS INCREASE IN NUMBERS

The first lesbian or gay group in Maine was a student organization. Named for Oscar Wilde and Gertrude Stein, the Wilde-Stein Club at the University of Maine at Orono began more than 14 years ago. They were later joined by a group at the Southern Maine campus of the University in Portland/Gorham. But in the past two years groups have sprung up at several private colleges in the state. They are all taking an active role to provide their student populations with support and a voice on campus, educating the student population and administration, and working to improve the lives of lesbian and gay youth. The student groups are:

Gay/Lesbian/Straight Alliance, Box 569, BATES COLLEGE, Lewiston 04240
Gay/Lesbian/Straight Alliance, BOWDOIN COLLEGE, Brunswick 04011
Lesbian/Gay Community, c/o Student Center, COLBY COLLEGE, Waterville 04901
Gay/Lesbian Alliance, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE, 92 Bedford Street, Portland 04102, 780-4085
Wilde-Stein Club, Memorial Union, UNIVERSITY OF MAINE, Orono 04469

PLUS OU MOINS DE DISCRIMINATION ENVERS LES GAIS? - magazine RG, Montréal

Dans sa dernière livraison de FORUM, la Commission des droits et libertés de la personne du Québec dresse une rétrospective de ses enquêtes effectuées en 1986. On note que seulement 2% des dossiers d'enquêtes ont porté sur l'orientation sexuelle, soit 23 dossiers sur 883. Neuf de ces cas concernent la discrimination au travail, cinq ont trait au logement, biens et services, alors qu'un dossier se rapporte aux lieux publics et accès aux services; un seul dossier de discrimination en rapport
à un avis public est mentionné. Conformément aux statistiques généralement reconnues, on devrait s'attendre à ce qu'environ de 10 à 15% des dossiers traitent d'orientation sexuelle. On peut présumer que la discrimination dans des actes concrets a diminué de beaucoup ou bien que les gens ne prennent pas la peine de se plaindre quand ils sont victimes de discrimination. On relève toutefois dans le rapport de la commission que plus de 50% des dossiers enquêtés se retrouvent dans la discrimination au travail et prioritairement en fonction du sexe, du handicap, et de l'âge, ce qui en gros semble refléter les préoccupations de la commission pendant les dernières années. On sait que la CDP peut accepter ou refuser d'enquêter après avoir examiné la plainte d'un citoyen.

MARITIME MOTORCYCLE GROUP FORMING

Gaymen in the Maritimes who are interested in a new motorcycle club are urged to contact MCM, Box 3154, Station A, Moncton, New Brunswick E1C 9J5. It is not necessary to own a motorcycle to become active in this new group.

the academia waltz

by berke breathed

MARCH ON WASHINGTON DRAW 600,000

Only the 1969 anti-Vietnam War march on Washington DC drew a larger crowd to the U.S. Capitol than the Columbus Day weekend March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The National Parks Service downplayed the numbers, releasing the figure of 200,000 to the media, though the open space between the Capitol and the Washington Monument, the Mall, holds at least 600,000 - and was overflowing with lesbians, gaymen, and our supporters. Here are some highlights of the coverage by the gay media:

Prominent gay activists and non-gay supporters included farm union leader Cesar Chavez, former National Organization for Women (NOW) president Eleanor Smeal, and Democratic Presidential Candidate Jesse Jackson addressed the crowd.

People with AIDS and ARC (AIDS-related complex) led the march, most walking but about three dozen wheeled by friends, lovers, family members, and 'buddies', including actress Whoopi Goldberg, who, looking somber in jeans and sneakers, wheeled an old friend, Jim Mannes, for the entire march.

For five hours, an array of geographical, religious, sports, political, musical, and other groups, reflecting the diversity of American gay life, marched the two miles past the White House. They angrily pointed their fingers at the White House as they shouted "SHAME, SHAME" and "Increase AIDS funding. Americans are dying".
"We do not ask for your acceptance. We DO demand that we be left alone to live our lives as we wish. That is the true meaning of our Constitution; and make no mistake about it: We will not stop until we have achieved our freedom, our justice, and our pursuit of happiness." Duke Comegys, Los Angeles activist and co-chair of the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

"We are together today to say we insist on legal protection under the law for every American...for workers' rights, for civil rights, for women's rights, for the rights of religious freedom, the rights of individual privacy, for the rights of sexual preference. We come together for rights for all of the American people." Jesse Jackson

"A lot of us came out at 15. A lot of us have told our parents. We're prepared to live our lives completely out, so this (march) is essential for us." Katie Kent, student at Williams College

Recent copies of Gay Community News (Boston), Bay Windows (Boston), and The Advocate (Los Angeles) have full reports on the March, the NAMES project (AIDS remembrance quilt), and many photographs. Copies are on file in Lambda's library.

FREDERICTON GROUP TO FOCUS ON CIVIL RIGHTS

With the sweeping election victory of the Liberal Party in New Brunswick, Fredericton Lesbians and Gays (FLAG) will begin to focus their energies on the passage of comprehensive civil rights legislation to protect lesbians and gaymen in the province from discrimination in jobs, housing, and other areas. It was only after the Liberals came to power in Ontario that similar legislation was passed in that province, with the primary support of the New Democratic Party, sponsors of the bill. Civil rights laws protecting Canadian citizens from discrimination based upon sexual orientation is now in effect in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, and the Yukon Territories. ...and in a related story...

October 25, 1987, is the second anniversary of the release of the report of the all-party Parliamentary Subcommittee on Equality Rights, which called for the inclusion of "sexual orientation" in the national Canadian Human Rights Act. Two years after the release of this report, the Tories are still stalling, if not opposing such protection for gaymen and lesbians. Canadians are urged to write to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and ask why this is taking so long. Demand to be protected! (from the newsletter of the Gay Association in Newfoundland, GAIN)
You may have noticed a change in the appearance of Communiqué - the typeface of the masthead on the cover is different, there's an addition of a lambda and triangle to the left, and the variety of typefaces used in the body of this newsletter has increased. This is all part of a modernizing of our image, the result of adoption of a new logo for Northern Lambda Nord. The old logo (at left, top) was used on the NLN stationery. It includes the Greek letter, Lambda, imposed on a (pink) triangle, internationally-recognized symbol of the modern gay-lesbian movement. The pink triangle was used by the Nazis in concentration camps to identify homosexual prisoners. Different colored triangles identified different prisoners. Our modern movement has adopted the pink triangle as a symbol of pride.

The new logo incorporates the Lambda on a stylized triangle, almost like a sail in motion. The words "northern" and "nord", representing our geographical location and stated in our two regional languages, surround the boldly written word, "LAMBDA".

The sample above is the complete advertisement as it will appear in ECHOES, the local tourist/business book (mentioned in another article, above). The enclosed members' Calendar of Activities is presented on the full-sized stationery.

CONTRA DANCES HELD IN ORONO

Regularly-scheduled contra dances for interested gays and lesbians are held the first and third Saturday of each month in Orono. If you were at the Maine Lesbian and Gaymen's Symposium XIV in Orono during July, you may have participated in these traditional New England dances, generally called "contras" (no relation to the Nicaraguans!). This type of dancing includes circle dancing, square dancing, waltzes, polkas, and other forms. Dave Lavoie of the DownEast Gay and Lesbian Organization in Bangor is the caller. Dances meet from 8pm until midnight at the Orono Community Center, Bennoch Road, November 21 (with a potluck at 6:30pm), December 5, and a special Christmas Dance December 19. For more information call 947-2329. Beginners are welcome; all dances are taught.

IMMIGRATION REFORM BILL INTRODUCED IN U.S. CONGRESS

Member of Congress Barney Frank (Democrat, Massachusetts), an openly gay member of the U.S. Congress, has introduced a bill to overhaul part of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Act. H.R. 1119, which has over 60 sponsors, would repeal the legal authority for excluding gaymen and lesbians from entering this country. Section 212(a), a 1950's McCarthy-era law, excludes a wide variety of aliens from visiting the U.S. This bill, which would give Congress the opportunity to "bring our nation's immigration law into the twentieth century", would remove the term, "sexual deviate". Despite the determinations by the American Psychiatric Association, other professional organizations, and the Surgeon General that homosexuality is no longer considered a "medical condition", the U.S. Supreme Court let stand a 1984 lower court ruling that permits
gays to be excluded under this provision. At public hearings, representatives of the Reagan administration did not object to the repeal of Section 212(a)(4), the "sexual deviate" exclusion. Those testifying in favor of the bill were the American Bar Association, the American Association of University Professors, and People for the American Way. Testifying against it were the Heritage Foundation, the American Legion, and William Rusher, publisher of the National Review. CANADIANS PLEASE NOTE: Until this section of the U.S. Immigration law is repealed, you can be excluded from entry into the United States solely because you are a lesbian or gay man. As long as you do not identify yourself as being gay, by wearing gay t-shirts or buttons, or telling U.S. Immigration officials of your sexuality, there is no problem crossing the border.

AMERICANS ARE URGED TO WRITE YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS and demand that they support H.R. 1119. Write to Member of Congress Olympia Snowe, State Street, Presque Isle 04769, or call her office at 1-800/432-1599, or 764-5124 in P.I.

the academia waltz

by berke breathed

HAS THE POPE READ THIS YET? - CUT! magazine, Madison, Wisconsin

The results of a 25-year study conducted by psychologist Richard Sipe has found that 20 percent of the 57,000 Roman Catholic priests in the United States are gay, and that roughly half of them are sexually active. Another 20 percent of the priests were found to be heterosexually active. Reaction to Sipe's study among other psychologists has been, "twenty percent are gay? That's all?!!

LAWYERS DISAPPROVE OF SUPREME COURT RULING - The Washington (DC) BLADE

According to a recent poll by the American Bar Association, 67% of the responding lawyers thought the Supreme Court reached the wrong decision in the Bowers v. Hardwick case, which ruled that there is no constitutionally-protected right to privacy in the bedroom between consenting adults, in this case two gay men. Fifty-seven percent of responding attorneys believed that anti-gay violence would increase, and the same number of lawyers felt that states should repeal sodomy laws.
FURNISHED ROOM
FOR RENT in gay household, central Aroostook. $175 per month, includes utilities, use of house. Available now. Non-smoker preferred. Call 498-2088, leave message.

VOTRE PUBLICITÉ
ICI
$2
YOUR ADVERT HERE

THIRD EDITION!
For gay men and lesbians, their families and friends, The Whole Gay Catalog brings the world of lesbian and gay literature as close as your telephone or mailbox. Offers BOOKS, plus VIDEOS, RECORDS & TAPES, GIFTS, and more! Over 100 pages, indexed. ORDER YOURS NOW! FROM THE WORLD'S LEADING GAY AND LESBIAN BOOKSTORE! (Discretely Packaged).

I enclose $2. Please send my copy of The Whole Gay Catalog.
Mail to: Lambda Rising, Dept. 267
1625 Connecticut, NW, Wash. DC 20009
Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
City ___________________ State ______ Zip ______

A COUNTRY JOURNAL
FOR GAY MEN EVERYWHERE

Gay/Lesbian GUIDE Lesbienne/Gai

★★★ NORTHERN MAINE & NEW BRUNSWICK: Northern Lambda Nord (NLN), CP/POB 990, Caribou, Maine 04736 USA
Gay/Lesbian Phone/Line/Telegal, 207/498-2088
• FREDERICTON: Fredericton Lesbians and Gays (FLG), P.OB 1556, Station A, E3B 5C2, 506/457-2155
• PORTLAND: Wilde-Stein Club, Memorial Union, University of Maine, 04469 - meets Thursdays, 6-9pm
• BANGOR: Bangor Area Gay-Lesbian-Straight Coalition (BAGLSC) - "Bagels"), c/o 87 Sunset Strip, Brewer, 04412 - meets first Tuesday of every month, 7pm at 87 Sunset Strip;
• MONCTON: DownEast Lesbian Gay Organization (DELGO), c/o Unitarian Church, 126 Union Street 04401
• QUEBEC CITY: Groupe Gaî de l'Université Laval (GGUL), CP 2500, Pavillon Lemieux, Cité Universitaire, Sainte-Foy, G1K 7P4, 418/648-2751
• QUEBEC CITY: Relais d'éspérance, 617, rue Montmartre, G1N 1B3, 418/522-3301
• MONCTON: Gais et lesbiennes de Moncton/Gays and Lesbians of Moncton (GIM), CP/POB 7102, Riverview, E1B 1V0, 506/858-1013
• PORTLAND: Gay/Lesbian Alliance, University of Southern Maine, 92 Bedford Street, 04102, 207/780-4085
• PORTLAND: Dignity/Maine, Catholic group, POB 8113, 04104
• PORTLAND: Lesbian/Gay Committee, Maine Chapter, National Association of Social Workers, POB 5112, Station A, 04101
• PORTLAND: Maine Bisexual People's Network, POB 1792, 04104, 207/780-4085 (message)
• PORTLAND: Portland Pride Committee, POB 5112, Station A, 04112, 207/883-6934
• BOSTON: Maine Lesbian Feminists, POB 125, 04915
• OUR PAPER: A Voice for Lesbians and Gaymen in Maine, published monthly, $12 for one year subscription, CP/POB 10744, Portland, 04104
• MAINE LESBIAN/GAY POLITICAL ALLIANCE, statewide group, POB 108, Yarmouth, 04096

AIDS information SIDA
• Maine - AIDS-Line, Monday & Wednesday, 6-9pm, Saturday, 10am-1pm, 1-800/851-AIDS (-2437)
• New/Nouveau-Brunswick - AIDS-Line, 1-800/561-4009 or 459-7518 (Fredericton)

★★★ 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 COMMUNIQUE. U.S. and Canadian funds accepted at par. 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 COMMUNIQUE are available upon request. Your comments and contributions are welcome.