Northern Lambda Nord Communique, Vol.9, No.3 (March 1988)

Northern Lambda Nord

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DID YOU HEAR?

DALTON CAMP, Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister's Office and Privy Council of Canada, appeared on CBC Radio's "Morningside" program on Tuesday, January 26, 1988. Mr. Camp noted that:

We used to believe that anyone who was a homosexual...ah... was absolutely incapable of any public office. He or she could be blackmailed...ah...I think the armed forces may still be convinced of that or somebody out there may be convinced of that. The whole social mores changed and I like to believe our social mores are changing.

And then there was the statement by DAVID LOCKE, a Massachusetts State Senator from Wellesley who remarked during the deliberations on that state's gay-lesbian civil rights bill:

The gay community is a highly organized, militant marching group across America and around the world to gain social approval. Don't be fooled...they won't stop until the state government passes this bill. Their next goal is to legalize homosexual marriage -- then you'll have the camel, humps and all.

And finally, there is a quote from HARVEY MILK, San Francisco City Council member and gay activist who was assassinated along with Mayor George Moscone by former police officer Dan White (who later committed suicide). Harvey said:

If you are not personally free to be yourself in that most important of all human activities -- the expression of love -- then life itself loses its meaning.

NLN FEBRUARY MEETING - SUMMARY

Sunday, February 28th saw a small group of Lambs gathered in a home on the shores of Echo Lake, dining on meatless chili (tofu was substituted) and discussing the following agenda items:

SYMPOSIUM 1989 - The consensus was that NLN could host the Symposium again at the University of Maine/Presque Isle, but enough people would have to make the commitments to work. The conference would be much easier to hold than the one we hosted in 1986. More discussion at the March 27th meeting in Woodstock.

ECHOES MAGAZINE - Aroostook County's new quarterly publication, designed to promote "The Crown of Maine" is on the newsstands and includes an advertisement (page 22) for Northern Lambda Nord. The next issue will be in June. A small, less expensive but prominently visible advertisement will be placed in that summertime edition. Cost of first advert was $126; the second will be $72.

GRANT APPLICATION - An application from the Gay and Lesbian CAISSE POSTALE/POST OFFICE BOX 990 CARIBOU MAINE 04736 USA GAY-LESBIAN PHONELINE/TÉLÉGAI - 207 498-2088
Phoneline has been submitted to RESIST, a Boston-area group which funds progressive groups. NLN is asking for $600, the cost to run our Phoneline for 12 months. We will be notified of approval or disapproval by the end of March. If we are awarded the grant, that will free up monies for other projects.

RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT - Radio station WCXU (Channel X - WCXU/WKZX/WCXX) is putting together a 30-second Public Service Announcement (PSA) to promote the Gay and Lesbian Phoneline, "A service of Northern Lambda Nord". If you hear this PSA, please note the date, time, and which station you're listening to and drop a note to the Phoneline at POB 990.

AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT - The "Names Project" - Interest was expressed in creating quilt panels (3x6' each) as a remembrance of those men from Aroostook County who have died of AIDS. Panels will become part of the Quilt, now touring the United States. The Quilt was on display at the October National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights; it covered the entire surface of the Mall. If you're interested in participating (doing some sewing, designing, drawing,...) please attend the March meeting in Woodstock.

CALENDAR - March 19 - Saint Patrick's Day Party in Caribou
March 27 - Pizza party and meeting, Woodstock
April 4 - Fold and Stuff the newsletter, New Sweden
April 24 - Monthly meeting, location needed
April 30 - Spring party (tentative)

1988 MR. DRUMMER/NEW ENGLAND CONTEST CANCELLED

The Executive Board of Harbor Masters Inc. has decided to cancel the 1988 Mr. Drummer/New England contest for three reasons:
* As of issue #113 of DRUMMER magazine, there is no mention of the New England contest, no national publicity
* As of February 25th, no local contestants have applied to participate
* Financial considerations - a $500 debt from last year plus a $300 outlay for this year so far

The Harbor Masters Inc. will no longer sponsor the Mr. Drummer/New England contests; any other organizations wishing to be the sponsor should contact Harbor Masters, POB 4044, Station A, Portland 04101.

SYMPOSIUM XV AND GAY-LESBIAN PRIDE MARCH

The Maine Lesbian and Gaymen's Symposium XV will be hosted by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance of the University of Southern Maine/Portland-Gorham. Dates for this annual statewide gathering are Memorial Day weekend, May 28-30, 1988.

The second annual Portland Pride March will be held in conjunction with Symposium, Saturday, May 28. Last year's first Gay-Lesbian Pride March through Portland was expected to attract 75 marchers; over 200 attended. The 1988 March will be followed by a rally, featuring local speakers and entertainers, plus the Boston Lesbian and Gay Freedom Trail Band. Other events planned for that weekend include a free barbeque, entertainment, and group games at Two Lights State Park (May 30), and an AIDS Vigil at Monument Square, Portland (May 30).

For information on Symposium, contact GLA, 780-4085; details about the other activities, call 774-6877. DONATIONS to help the Pride Committee are encouraged, c/o POB 681, Scarborough, 04074.

SVEND ROBINSON, MP, COMES OUT

New Democratic Party member Svend Robinson, Member of Parliament from Burnaby, British Columbia, is out. He appeared on CBC Television's "The Journal" and discussed his homosexuality. It was big news for the
next few days on the radio and TV. Many in the gay-lesbian community knew that Svend was gay; he has been an outspoken supporter of our rights in Parliament. He was overwhelmingly re-elected two years ago.

SVEND ROBINSON, Room 386 C.B., House of Commons, Ottawa K1A 0A6 613/996-5597.

GAY AND LESBIAN REPUBLICANS ORGANIZE

A newly-formed group serving the Northeastern United States, designed to lobby elected officials to support gay-lesbian issues and serve as a vehicle for communication, is aimed at gay Republicans. Known as REPUBLICANS FOR INDIVIDUAL FREEDOMS, the White Plains, New York-based groups is one of a growing number of organizations for lesbians and gaymen who consider themselves Republicans. "In order to be successful, the gay rights movement must involve both major political parties," noted Barry Adams of the new Republican group. "All too often, gay voters have written off the Republican Party and the Republican Party has written off the gay voter. The GOP must be educated on gay issues as were the Democrats in the 1960s and 1970s."

A newsletter for its members will be published; receptions with moderate Republican candidates and officials are planned. All mailing lists will be confidential; members' privacy will be respected.

Republicans for Individual Freedoms, POB 172, Gedney Station, White Plains, New York State 10605

NEW GAY-LESBIAN JOURNAL

The premier issue of OUT/LOOK, a new national journal of lesbian and gay opinion, politics, and culture, debuted in early March. The quarterly provides a national forum for in-depth writing by and for both men and women. A sampling of articles from the Spring 1988 issue include:

* Beyond the Gay Nation: Where Are We Marching? * Tokyo: Sexopolis

OUT/LOOK, POB 146430, San Francisco 94114 415/282-3344.

HIV TESTING IN MAINE

If you're planning to be tested for the Human Immunodeficiency Virus antibodies (HIV - the "AIDS test"), it's important to have proper pre-testing and post-testing counselling. You should also be aware that the Maine Legislature passed a law with regards to HIV testing. The law requires informed consent be given in writing; "informed consent" is defined as consent that is based on an actual understanding by the person to be tested that the test is being performed; of the nature of the test; of the persons to whom the result of that test may be disclosed; of the purpose for which the test results may be used; and of all foreseeable risks and benefits resulting from the test; and (be) wholly voluntary and free from express or implied coercion.

OUR PAPER reports that three Portland hospitals - Maine Medical Center, Mercy Hospital, and the Osteopathic Hospital - include language on their admission forms permitting the hospital to test patients for HIV in the event a health care worker is accidentally exposed to their blood. THIS IS NOT INFORMED CONSENT and violates the state law.
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.

GAY MALE WANTED FOR FRIENDSHIP (AND MORE?)
write:
JOHN R.W.
POB 125
Addison, Maine 04606

COMMUNIQUE

GAY/LESBIAN GUIDE Lesbienne/Gai

NORTHERN MAINE & NEW BRUNSWICK: Northern Lambda Nord (NLN), CP/POB 990, Caribou, Maine 04736 USA
• Gay-Lebian Phoneline/Télégai, 207/498-2088
• FREDERICTON: Fredericton Lesbians and Gays (FLG), POB 1556, Station A, E3B 5G2, 506/457-2156
• CRON: Wilde-Stein Club, Memorial Union, University of Maine, 04469 - meets Thursdays, 6-9pm
• Sutton Lounge, Memorial Union Building
• BANGOR: Bangor Area Gay-Lesbian-Straight Coalition (BAGISC - "Bagels"), c/o 87 Sunset Strip, Brewer, 04412 - meets first Sunday and third Thursday each month, 7pm at 87 Sunset Strip; Dances held at old Bangor Community College Student Union, first and third Saturday each month, 8pm-1am (alcohol & drug-free)
• BANGOR: DownEast Lesbian Gay Organization (DELGO), c/o Unitarian Church, 126 Union Street 04401, 207/924-6503
• QUEBEC CITY: Groupe Gaï de l'Université Laval (GGUL), CP 2500, Pavillon Lemieux, Cité Universitaire, Sainte-Foy, G1K 7P4, 418/648-2751
• QUEBEC CITY: Relais d'espérance, 617, rue Montmartre, G1N 1B3, 418/522-3301
• MONCTON: Gays et Lesbienes de Moncton/Gays and Lesbians of Moncton (GILM), 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: Harbor Masters, Inc., leather-levi group, POB 4044, 04104
• 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, 04101, 207/883-6934
• BOSTON: Maine Lesbian Feminists, POB 125, 04915
• CUR PAPER: A Voice for Lesbians and Gaymen in Maine, published monthly, $12 for one year subscription, 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 organisation serving the Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual community of northern Maine and northwestern New Brunswick. Subscriptions - $10 per year. NLN Membership - $11 per year, which includes Communiqué. 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 Communiqué are available upon request. Your comments and contributions are welcome.