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Maine Statewide News Letter No. 6 (June 1980)

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- Vol. 1, No. 6 - JUNE 1980 - summer fun issue

FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS

There will be alternative Fourth of July celebrations this year in Belgrade, West Athens, and South Canaan.

BELGRADE: "Summer Celebration"

"Summer Celebration", a major fund-raising event for the New Day School, will be held July 4 at the Appleynd Farm in Belgrade.

The day will begin with a 10,000-meter (about 6 miles) mini-marathon. Registration for the race is \$2 in advance, or \$3 on the day of the race. The race will begin at 9 a.m. rain or shine. For more details or a registration form write Appleynd Farm, Rt 135, Belgrade 04917.

Starting about 9 a.m. there will also be craft exhibits, and tables of trash/treasures. (People interested in having a table can write the above address or call 495-7793).

Beginning at noon, for a \$1 fee, there will be music by Dave Whitney, Greg Boardman, Peter Re, the Al Newman Trio, and other Maine musicians. Jud Strunk and Roswell Rudd may appear.

Other events for the day include: raffles (\$1 a ticket) for \$150 and for an old-fashioned steam locomotive set; a silent auction; a food booth with coffee, doughnuts, and "New Age Pockets"; pony rides; and games for all ages.

The day will close with a steak dinner. (Hamburgers or vegetarian food will also be available.)

WEST ATHENS: 7th/8th annual celebration

Meanwhile, in West Athens, the seventh (or is it eighth?) annual celebration will take place. A

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 (LAST PAGE), along with a description of the S. CANAAN SEVENTH ANNUAL CELEBRATION.

DRAFT COUNSELOR TRAINING

A group in the Augusta area, acting in cooperation with Maine AFSC (American Friends Service Committee), is working to set up a network of draft counselors in Maine. The goal is to help groups interested in doing counseling form in local communities throughout the state, and to provide these groups with the necessary resources and training for counselin young people about their choices and supporting them in their decision-making.

A training session for people interested in becoming draft counselors is being planned for sometime during the second week of July. An effort is also underway to contact vets, COs, and draft resisters who are willing to speak to and/or develop programs for high school students.

For more information contact Maine AFSC, PO Box 7097, Lewiston 02420 (the phone is 784-1278; keep trying); or Tom Sturtevant, RFD 3, Winthrop 04364 (377-2370).

ALLIANCE FOR TROUBLED FAMILIES

A new organization called Alliance for Troubled Families is being formed in the Waterville area. Its goal is to help people with emotional problems, and their friends and families, find ways to cope. A meeting, for sharing feelings and ideas, will be held 7 p.m. June 30 at Kennebec Valley Mental Health Center, North Street, Waterville. The public is invited.

THE INTELLECTUAL TRIES TO RETIRE FROM POLITICS
the hell with dialectics; henceforward
i study tectonics --
the science of upheaval/the art of construction.

SURVIVAL SUMMER

"Survival Summer" is an effort by the Mobilization for Survival to get activist groups around the nation to coalesce into a grassroots movement "to stop the next war before it starts."

The 4 goals of Survival Summer are:

1. no war
2. stop the arms race
3. establish a sane energy policy
4. reorder national priorities

Several groups have joined together on Survival Summer to make connections among their concerns. In Maine these groups include Friends of the Earth, Maine Nuclear Referendum Committee, Greater Portland Nuclear Referendum Committee, Women And Life On Earth, SANE, and Maine AFSC (American Friends Service Committee).

Modeled after the civil rights "Freedom Summer" of 1964 and the anti-war "Vietnam Summer" of 1967, Survival Summer is an attempt to focus attention on the issue of human survival, through a series of activities and events.

Projects being worked on are: the training of volunteers in organizing skills; a resource listing of films, speakers, etc., available in Maine; and several major events for between now and November. Three events being planned are:

- (a) a Hiroshima/Nagasaki commemoration (public gathering and overnight vigil for August 5/6)
- (b) a forum for the medical community on the subject of evacuation and responses to a nuclear emergency
- (c) a service for survival involving the religious community.

A working group has been set up to coordinate Survival Summer work in Maine. People interested in helping with any of the activities, or wanting to participate in the work of the working group, can contact Deb Hibbard, Box 7097, Lewiston 04240 (784-1278), Terry Prince (784-7880), or Amy Goodman, College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor 04609 (288-5015).

ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

The Alliance for Community Mental Health is a group of people who want to provide information, help, and support for mentally ill people and their friends and families.

The primary focus of the Alliance, thus far, has been developing community self-help support groups. These groups are comprised of the parents, relatives, and friends of mentally ill people.

In Portland the support group calls itself Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Maine, Inc. The contact person is: Penney Brown, Box 5196 Station A, Portland 04101 (781-4860).

A group is in the planning stages in the Bath/Brunswick area; the contact there is Bunny Coffey, Bath-Brunswick Mental Health Center, 76 Pleasant St., Brunswick 04011, 729-4171.

In Waterville a support group is just getting underway. It is called Alliance for Troubled Families and its contact person is Malcolm Wilson, Rt 1, Box 332-E, Oakland 04963 (547-3639). An announcement for their next meeting is on page 1 of this issue.

SHOESTRING THEATER

The Shoestring Theater will present "Caucasian Chalk Circle" at the People's Building, 155 Brackett St, Portland, at 7:30 p.m. June 27 & 29 and at 3:30 June 28. For information/reservations call 773-0899.

Shoestring will be on the streets of Portland, and possibly other cities, this summer doing street theater on topics such as big business, pesticide spraying, nuclear power, etc. Write or call them at the address and number above to arrange for special performances.

if there is a graphic (or anything else) that you would like to see in this space, why not send it to us?

DOES MAINE CLAMSHELL STILL EXIST?

Because of increasingly low turn-outs at statewide meetings, uncertainty about which Maine groups still see themselves as part of Clamshell and are still active, and the almost complete loss of contact with the rest of Clamshell, a questionnaire was sent out to see if Maine Clamshell still exists.

The questionnaire asked about such things as the newsletter and MAGIC meetings, to see if these should continue. The questionnaire also asked what form (if any) Clamshell should take in Maine in the future, and what relation (if any) Maine Clamshell should have with the rest of Clamshell.

200 questionnaires were mailed out, and additional copies were made available to some local groups. 31 people responded.

NEWSLETTER: a monthly newsletter is sent out by Steve Webster, PO Box 1, Orono 04473. All 21 people familiar with the newsletter hoped it would continue. The other 10 had not seen it/did not comment on whether it should continue.

MEETINGS: 16 people thought statewide meetings should continue on some regular basis; 9 preferred no regular statewide meetings. (It should be noted that the attendance at the meeting where these results were tabulated was 6, up from 3 at the previous 2 meetings.)

GATHERINGS: 26 people expressed support for the occasional large gatherings that have been held (the last one was March 1979). 17 further expressed interest in having one this summer. And 11 even indicated willingness to work on putting one together.

RELATION TO THE REST OF CLAMSHELL: 2 people called for seceding; 1 favored apathy; 5 felt Maine should participate passively (read the minutes to see what has been decided); 13 wanted active participation; and 7 did not respond. On a related question, only 2 people were interested in actually attending Clamshell Congresses and task force meetings.

Several people expressed interest on the questionnaires in having connections drawn between nuclear power and nuclear weapons. Therefore the next meeting, set for July 12, noon, at Mable Dennison's home in Temple (778-2513) will be for talking about the connections and planning for Hiroshima/Nagasaki days if people interested actually show up.

CLAMSHELL CONGRESS IN MAINE?

The next Clamshell Congress may be in Maine, somewhere in the York area and sometime in July.

A mailing from the Clamshell office in Seabrook N.H. incorrectly announced the Congress would be June 28-29 in Maine! Some people in York have indeed volunteered to set up the next Clamshell Congress, but they are still looking for a location and will not be ready until at least mid-July.

Jim Freeman, Box 176, York 03909, is working on setting up the Congress. People interested in more details (or in volunteering to help) can reach him early evenings at 363-6073.

"PICK-POCKET PROTECTION"

The Maine Citizens Committee for Utility Rate Reform (MCURR), RR 2, Gardiner 04345 (582-5236) is looking for people to help distribute their leaflet "Pick-Pocket Protection" which gives information opposing the rate hike request of 36.3 million dollars made by Central Maine Power. The leaflet urges consumers to complain to the Public Utilities Commission (242 State St, Augusta 04330), attend rate hike hearings at the PUE on June 27, and to send them the \$5.70 charge instead of CMP.

OUT FOR BLOOD

June 28 is Gay Pride Day, a worldwide day of lesbian/gay celebration. To commemorate this day for 1980, Northern Lambda Nord and Midcoast Gay Men are asking gay people to donate one unit of blood to their local blood bank between now and June 28, and to notify them when you do; they will tally up the total number of blood units donated and will report this to the straight and gay press. Northern Lambda Nord is PO Box 990, Caribou 04736; Midcoast Gay Men is Box 57, Belfast 04915.

NEW LEAF BOOKS

New Leaf Books, 23 Main St, Rockport, specializes in books by and about women. They also have a large selection of non-establishment poetry and small press publications. Hours are 10-6 Monday through Saturday (open till 8 Thursday).

MAINE LESBIAN FEMINISTS

MLF (Maine Lesbian Feminists) was formed at Gay Symposium III to provide a base for support, consciousness-raising, and political action. MLF publishes a newsletter and has monthly meetings. For more information about MLF write them at Box 125, Belfast 04915.

NEW ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL TO OPEN

Saltwater Farm School, an offshoot of the International Waldorf School Movement, will open September 2 in S. Gouldsboro. There will be two full-time teachers, one of whom is experienced with the Waldorf system. The school will follow the same calendar as the public schools in the area.

For the first year the school will be housed in a wing of a large farm, until permanent land and buildings are acquired. Grades 1-3 will meet in one room, grades 4-6 in another.

Annual tuition is \$1,000, payable in 10 monthly installments. This does not include food; students are expected to provide their own lunch and daily snack. There is also a refundable \$25 application fee.

Scholarships will be available, and parents giving time to the school will receive consideration on tuition fees.

Waldorf schools attempt to engage the students' feelings as well as their intellectual and physical energies. The following books (available through Anthroposophic Press, 258 Hungry Hollow Road, Spring Valley NY 10977) describe the Waldorf approach: Teaching As A Lively Art, by Marjorie Spock; Way of a Child, by A.C. Harwood; and Recovery of Man (sic) in Childhood, also by A.C. Harwood.

For more information about Saltwater Farm School contact:

Gay Haroutunian, RFD 1 Box 96,
Steuben 04680 (546-7478)

Linnette Erhart or Shep Erhart,
Shore Rd, Franklin 04634 (565-2907)

Marilyn Bacon, Box 105, North
Sullivan 04664 (422-3611)

ANTI-NUKE ANTHOLOGY

Mark Melnicove of Dog Ear Press is editing a book entitled VOTE YES ON SEPTEMBER 23; an Anthology of Anti-Nuclear Writings, Poetry, and Graphics by Maine Artists.

By the time you read this notice the deadline for submissions will be past. The exact publication date is not set yet but the hope is to get the book published as soon as possible (for obvious reasons).

Neither Mark Melnicove nor Dog Ear Press will take any of the profits; all proceeds from the sale of the book will go to the Maine Nuclear Referendum Committee.

The book is being offered at a pre-publication price of 5 copies for \$10. To order, or for more information about the anthology, write Mark Melnicove, Dog Ear Press, Hulls Cove 04644.

AS WE GO TO PRESS: a note just arrived in the mail saying that the contents include an intro by Ray Shadis, interview with Alan Philbrook, articles, poetry by Bern Porter, Deborah Ward, Kathleen Lignell, Mark Melnicove, and more; single copies are \$2.50 postpaid; and checks should be made out to Dog Ear Press Nuclear Referendum Fund.

PEACE ESSAY CONTEST -- \$1000 PRIZE

A group called Unilateral Initiative is offering a first prize of \$1000, and second and third prizes of \$500 each, for essays of 3,000 words or less on the following theme:

"The drift toward war between the US and Russia seems inexorable; what fresh ideas and plans for their implementation could you offer toward a constructive new relationship between the US and USSR?"

The deadline for entries is January 1, 1981; prizes will be awarded March 1, 1981. Essays will be judged for ideas rather than writing style, and priority will be given to imaginative and heretofore unexplored approaches.

Send essays to John Runnings,
2713 N.E. 94th St, Seattle WA 98115.

PEOPLE IN MOTION

"Cooperatives and Communities: People in Motion" is the title of a conference bringing low-income communities and the cooperative movement together. To be held in Washington, D.C., August 12-16, it will feature workshops on housing, food, finance, energy, health care, community alliances, networking, and more. Registration costs are \$85/per person, but scholarships are available and there is a reduced rate for 10 or more persons. For more details, car-pooling, etc., contact Lucinda Talbot, Fedco, Box 236, N Vassalboro 04962, 873-0716.

PATCHWORK FARM

Patchwork Farm is a cooperative farm dedicated to helping people, especially low-income people, get back to the land. The intent is to obtain land to work on and set up work/study programs to enable people to move back to the land.

At present they have acquired about 375 acres for use, spread out over a number of locations (for example, 49 acres in Hartland.) They also have farm equipment available for us through various barter agreements, and goats, pigs, chickens, and a sheep.

Some things they would like to do include (1) setting up a leather shop, wagon shop, wool shop, mechanics shop, wood-working shop, saw mill, etc.; (2) building an energy center to supply power for the shops; and (3) establishing a homestead school where people could learn how to build buildings, take care of animals, repair farm machinery, etc., while living on the land.

At present Patchwork Farm is looking for people to join their collective to plan and work on the farm/energy center/homestead school. They publish a monthly report on what they are doing, which can be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Elaine Moore and Eddie Moore, Box 401B, Pittsfield 04967.

POST SCRIPT: a recent fire burned up a lot of their books and magazines on farming and homesteading. If anyone has any materials on these subjects to donate to Patchwork Farm, send them to the address above.

MOOSE PRODUCE

Food cooperatives in all corners of the state, especially Aroostook, Penobscot, Washington, York, and Cumberland counties, now have Moose Produce to provide trucking of fresh produce, breads, and dairy products. A six-person non-profit collective has been formed to provide trucking of food from Boston (the Chelsea Wholesale Market) and from local producers to pre-order cooperatives in those areas and to coop stores throughout the state. Moose Produce is owned by the collective but may be consumer owned in the future.

Moose is especially intended for small coops which could not afford regular trucking and for stores that have a large, fast turnover.

Coops interested in ordering food through Moose Produce can get a brochure with an item list, price comparison, and other details from Tom Roberts, Box 158, Freedom 04941,

FAIR DISCOUNT

A discount of 50¢ per ticket is offered to groups of 30 or more who come to the Common Ground Fair by bus. MOFGA (Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association) is offering this discount to encourage people to travel cooperatively to the fair.

Admission for people age 12 or older will be \$2 (instead of the regular \$2.50) and people under 12 will be able to get in for \$1 (instead of the regular \$1.50).

To get this discount the group must send in the money for their tickets in advance. MOFGA will send back a certificate redeemable for tickets at the gate.

NO DEADLINE: While the deadline for food booths at the Common Ground Fair is past, there is no deadline for exhibitors and organizations who would like space at the fair. Space will continue to be sold until it is all gone.

The address to write to for more details is Common Ground, Box 188, Hallowell 04347; the phone is 622-3118.

P.E.S.T. CONCERNED OVER
DEATH OF A CHILD

Bo Yerxa of P.E.S.T., an anti-spraying group, asked that the following be included this issue to express P.E.S.T.'s concern over recent pesticide spraying.

On the night of April 5, Tish Conklin, a Columbia resident, noticed that her 9-month-old daughter Sami Kendall had a slight fever. By morning the temperature was normal and she "seemed fine". Later that morning a tank truck adapted for rail travel rolled (with no public notice) down the Maine Central Railroad track a few hundred feet from the Conklin home. Almost immediately Sami took a marked turn for the worse. She broke out into a rash and her breathing became labored. Noting that her daughter's condition had seriously worsened, Tish Conklin decided to take her to a doctor at once. The child died as her mother was dressing her.

The police report listed the cause of death as "congestion". A Bangor Daily News story mentioned the death but emphasized the safety of the herbicides used by the railroad (Karmex, Atratol 80-W, and 2-4-D Amine). (Tests indicate the latter two may be deadly.)

Details on this incident are available from Joan McMurray, Harrington 04643, or Bo Yerxa, S. Princeton 04668.

PUPPETEERS

A group of puppeteers is forming in central western Maine (Farmington area) to do energy shows, anti-nuke street theater, and guerrilla theater. The group uses hand puppets, larger than life masks, and realistic disguises. They are looking for co-workers. A contact for the group is David Neufeld, Box 64, Temple 04984.

The number of people who have written in to let us know they would like to continue receiving the newsletter is 309.

If you would like to keep receiving the newsletter and haven't written yet to let us know, please do so. If you can send money too that of course is helpful, but we will be glad to send the newsletter even if you don't send money; but more important than getting the money is finding out who does and doesn't want to get this (so we don't waste our time and yours). Please write! Send in things you would like to see covered, and write to let us know how we are doing. If you'd like you can simply tear off this part of the page, fill it in, and send it back to us. Our address is: INVERT, RFD 1, Newport Maine 04953.

- I'd like to keep receiving the newsletter but don't have any money to spare right now.
- I'd like to keep receiving the newsletter and do have money to spare right now. Enclosed is (\$4/whatever:)
- I'd rather not keep receiving the newsletter. Please take me off the mailing list.
- I'd like to help produce the newsletter. Please write and tell me how I can help.

The post office charges us 25¢ for each incorrectly addressed newsletter (which they return to us rather than delivering.) Incorrect addresses are costing us about \$10 a month now. If your address has changed or is about to change, please let us know. Convenient space for filling in your address is right below.

Comments:

BRINGING THE BIG BUCKS TO MAINE

Efforts are now underway to make loans available to Maine cooperatives. Money has been made available to food coops through the Cooperative Fund of New England (CFNE), but that resource may be decentralized to provide loans to food and maybe other coops (craft, producer, housing, etc.) locally in Maine. A Maine Cooperative Loan Fund organizing committee has been formed to administer CFNE money, if it is available, and to raise additional capital. As much as \$30,000-50,000 may be available with successful

fund-raising.

The organizing committee is holding a gathering to decide whether to form a Maine Fund, and, if so, how. How to raise more money and how loans will be judged and money given out will be other discussion topics.

The meeting will be on Sunday, July 13th at 7 PM at 8 Boutelle Ave., Waterville (off N. Main St.), call 873-2540 for directions. Silvia Wilson Marsh, Box 236, N. Vassalboro 04962, 873-0716 has further details.

One of the results of the April 19th conference on fund-raising and financial management was a listing of fund-raising resources. The following is a partial list of books and information, most of which is available from the library of the Center for Research and Advanced Study, 246 Deering Ave., Portland 04101;

Foundation Center Source Book Profiles. The Foundation Center, 1977.

Foundation Directory. Marianna Lewis, ed. Foundation Center, 1977.

Foundation Grants Index. Lee Noe, ed. Foundation Center, 1978.

The Bread Game. Herb Allen, ed. Glide Publications, 1974.

How to Get Government Grants. Phillip Desmarais. Public Service Materials Center, 1977.

Developing Skills in Proposal Writing. Mary Hall. Continuing Education Pub., 1977.

Resource Directory for the Funding and Managing of Non-Profit Organizations.

Ingrid Lemaire. Edna McConnell Clark Foundation, 1977.

The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Write Proposals. Nancy Mitiguy. Citizen Involvement Training Project, 1978.

Tax-Exempt Charitable Organizations. Paul Treusch and N. A. Sugarman. American Law Institute, 1979.

Grantsmanship (sic) Center News. (Six issues per year)

Foundation News. (Six issues per year)

Grants Magazine. (Four issues per year)

Directory of Foundations in the State of Maine. Center for Research and Advanced Study, 1979. (Also includes tips on proposal writing)

Grass Roots Fund-Raising. Joan Flanagan. The Youth Project.

Bookkeeping Handbook for Low-Income Groups. National Council of Welfare, Ottawa, Can.

Fund-Raising in the Public Interest. David Grubb and David Zwick. Public Citizen.

Robin Hood Was Right. Vanguard Public Foundation, 1977.

Catalog of Change-Oriented Foundations. Playboy Foundation, 1978.

A listing of workshop facilitators from that conference and further details on the above list is available from INVERT, RFD 1, Newport 04953. Many of these people have additional fund-raising/financial management information they would be willing to share.

"Do not adjust your mind. There is fault in reality."

"Garbage is only raw materials we're too stupid to use."--Arthur Clarke

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 25-29--Caucasian Chalk Circle by the Shoestring Theater, Portland.*

June 27--Hearings on CMP Rate Case at PUC, Augusta.*

June 28--Alix Dobkin Concert in the Belfast area. Contact MLF, Box 125, Belfast, 04915.

June 30--Alliance for Troubled Families meeting in Waterville.*

July 4--W. Athens Gravel Pit play.*

July 4--New Day Benefit in Belgrade.*

July 4--Parade in South Canaan.*

July 12--Hiroshima/Nagasaki planning meeting in Temple.*

July 13--Cooperative Fund of Maine organizing committee mtg. in Waterville.*

July 18-21--"Moving from Scarcity to Abundance." Hardscrabble Hill. Box 62A, Orland 04472, 469-7112.

July 19-26--Avon Institute, Center Harbor, N. H. Retreat with social change activists. AFSC, 2161 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02140.

July 27--Benefit Concert at the Dhome, Anson. Somerset Org. for Mutual Assistance, Box 255, Anson 04911, 696-5285.

August 1-3--NOFA Celebration of Rural Life. Talks, slide shows, workshops, displays. Univ. of N. H., Durham.

August 5-6--Hiroshima/Nagasaki commemoration actions.*

*More details in the newsletter

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INVERT
RFD 1
Newport, Maine 04953

Address Correction Requested

cont. from page 1

parade of vehicles, costumes, and animals will march from the center of town to the gravel pit, a natural amphitheater, where "Moses and the Eleventh Commandment" will be performed. (Last year the play was "The Blob That Ate West Athens" in honor of the Three Mile Island accident.) The usual fun and games follow.

Many of this year's play performers will again be members of the In Spite of Life Players, a group which has been performing political theater in Central Maine for several years. Their next production, about futuristic time travel, will be available for bookings in the fall. Anyone interested in having the group perform can contact Linda or Ray Gill, Star Route, Wellington 04990 or call 683-2431.

Nearby in South Canaan, the 7th annual celebration will be held at Shooting Star Farm. Activities include:

a short parade, about 11 AM, through S. Canaan--costumes encouraged, and bring flags, musical instruments, etc.

a potluck at the farm after the parade--non-alcoholic fruit punch will be served, BYOB.

volleyball, softball, garden tours, and just plain hangin' out for the afternoon.

For directions, write C. R. Lawn, Box 102, Canaan 04924. No dogs, please.

Deadline for the next issues is July 20. Please send graphics, articles, and info to INVERT, RFD 1, Newport 04953, or call 938-2219.

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