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Maine Statewide News Letter No. 76 (May 1986)

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Number 76

"All the News That Fits to Print"

May, 1986

IT'S A MAN'S WORLD

"Mainely Men" is holding its ninth annual weekend-conference at the Pilgrim Lodge in West Gardiner, on May 16th to 18th. The weekend provides an open and trusting environment for men to share their experiences in exploring traditional and changing views of masculinity. Some past workshop topics included Job Stress, Conflict Resolution, Feminism, Homophobia, and Divorce. Registration fees are dependent on income, from \$20 to \$35, which cover cost of workshops, meals and lodging. For more information call Eric Johnson 743-6536, Willy White 474-8582, Craig Cooper 799-3051, Willy Willette 883-9797, Alan Bernstein 767-2314, or Dodd Roberts 866-2694.

WE HOPE THIS ISN'T UNLUCKY-

^because it's Dialogue 86 sponsored by Northern Lambda Nord, the Maine Lesbian and Gaymen's Symposium XIII. Scheduled from Fri. May 23-Mon. May 26, at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, it features workshops, films, dancing, dinner-theatre and more. Registration is \$15 (or more if you can afford it), students and seniors \$10.

Workshop topics cover a wide range from rural issues to self defense, from S&M to computers, from the military to parenting. There is even a guided tour to the very top of Maine.

Childcare and housing is available. Write Symposium XIII, POB 990, Caribou 04736.

The Symposium is the one time each year when lesbians and gaymen in Maine get together to share ideas and develop new friendships. Straight people can learn much from the events as well. For carpooling from the south call 780-4085 (Portland), or 989-3306 (Bangor).

LET'S HEAR FROM YOU

What month and year is listed in the right hand corner of your address label? If it's earlier than "5/86" or just a number like "3", then we haven't heard from you for at least a year and want to hear from you now. That's why a subscription form and return envelope have been included with this newsletter. If you have a "3" or nothing in the corner, we probably haven't heard from you in a couple of years and will remove you from the mailing list unless we hear from you in May or June. Please show us a sign of life.

You may have noticed that the paper used in the last newsletter was slightly scorched. It was a "fire sale special," cheap paper used to keep down the cost of putting out this newsletter, since some costs, especially postage, are fixed and constantly rising. When we began the MSN in 1980, bulk rates were 2.4¢ per newsletter for mailing. Now they are 8.7¢, about a 350% increase. We're cutting costs to keep costs low and to make the newsletter self-supporting, but your subscriptions are also important. We can't do this without YOU, so please respond!

Besides the attached newsletter subscription form is an order form for the Maine Statewide Yellow Pages. All newsletter subscribers will receive one copy in the mail (barring post office foul-ups). We hope you will give a donation for this publication. We feel it is well worth it. As with the newsletter, we have recommended a donation (\$2.50) but will gladly accept whatever you can afford. Donate now or donate later. Also, if you'd like to order extra copies to give out or sell, indicate that on the Yellow Pages form. They will be mailed about May 7, and you should receive them within 2-7 days.

DELEGATION DEFENDS DINÉ ② CHANGE YOUR MIND AND GO

A Maine CALC (Clergy and Laity Concerned) delegation will be leaving Maine & arriving in Arizona on May 14 to begin a 2-week witness in support of the native people of Big Mountain. The Me. delegation is from all over the state & includes Native Americans.

The goals of the delegation are: (1) Oppose the forced relocation of more than 10,000 Diné (Navajo) people and their way of life by participating in an ongoing non-violent presence in the Navajo-Hopi Joint Use Area in Arizona. (2) Develop a deeper understanding of the situation in discussions with traditional and development-oriented Indians and government officials. (3) Live & work with the affected people. (4) Bring the messages of Big Mountain back to the media and communities in Maine.

The Maine delegation has been organizing in their areas through showings of "In Defense of Sacred Land," a slide show about Big Mountain, and speaking and writing letters. To arrange for a showing of the slide show either before May 14 or after the delegation returns, contact Maine CALC, 96 Lawn Ave., Portland 04103, 879-0171. Because the relocation is scheduled to begin in July, people are urged to mobilize in their areas in May & June to oppose the relocation through letter-writing, lobbying, and financial contributions.

YET ANOTHER REFERENDUM

Maine Yankee Referendum #3 is just about ready to go out on petitions after a referendum without petitions was rejected by the Maine legislature. This time the question will be: "Do you want to let any power plant like Maine Yankee operate after July 4, 1988 (or 1990) if it makes high level nuclear waste?" The referendum's sponsor, the Maine Nuclear Referendum Committee, doesn't mind having the plant as long as it doesn't produce waste. In fact, they hope a plan for converting the plant to burning natural gas will be developed.

Signature gathering for this referendum will likely begin on or just before primary day, June 10. If you'd like to circulate petitions in your town or gather signatures at the polls on June 10, contact the MNRC, Box 2627, Augusta 04330 or call 622-4395 or 647-8580.

We all have a goal of world peace. On Saturday, May 3 at the Hammond St. Congregational Church, Bangor, there will be a conference entitled "Changing Our Minds for Peace." This conference will examine our perceptions of the world and how they relate to that goal of peace. Running from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, the workshops will focus on U.S.-U.S.S.R. relations, ecology & peace, teaching & children. It's sponsored by the Clergy and Laity Concerned, Educators for Social Responsibility, Physicians for Social Responsibility, and Social Workers for Peace. To register write: Maine ESR, RFD #3, Box 139, Ellsworth 04605, 469-6066.

MEMORIALIZING PEACE

"Music for Peace" will be an afternoon celebration of life at the Congregational Church in Lubec on May 26, Memorial Day. Five hours of classical, folk, blues, boogie, and whatever else people bring to share. All of Washington County and part of New Brunswick is invited--musicians and non-, amateurs, professionals, and participants of all categories--from noon to 5 pm. It will take place outdoors if the weather is good.

Performers and those wanting to help with publicity or other details about this Washington County "first" should contact Lynn Brubaker, Cutler Rd., E. Machias 04630, 255-4981.

BELATED BIRTHDAY

It's long pasta January, but not too late for the Kennebunk Forum's annual Martin Luther King dinner on May 10. Spaghetti will be flying at the Kennebunk Unitarian Church beginning at 6:30 pm, followed by troubador Mike K. Nobel singing songs of peace, freedom and garlic at about 8. Adults can get the double feature for \$5, with kids 6-12 half price, and under six getting in free. Childcare is available.

To make the event a success, volunteers to set up and take down, serve, and clean up are needed. Work for your supper! All proceeds will benefit the Forum's peace activities. To help out, call 985-7620.

Interested craftspeople, artists, growers & non-profit organizations are invited to apply for space at a weekly "Market Day" on the streets of downtown Bangor to run every Sat. from May to October. Contact Joan Grimble, 945-0977 for further info or applications.

BIKERS AID(s)

A trans-america bike rally from New York to San Francisco to raise funds for a national AIDS service, and for home-town AIDS organizations will take place from May 26 to mid-August. The New England Rally will join the main rally in New York, and will begin on May 13 in, of all places, Bangor. Interested bicyclists can do all or any segment of the route, from 1 to 3,000 miles. Host cities along the route, Boston, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Chicago, and Denver to name a few, will schedule special events such as dances or bike-a-thons to coincide with the bicyclists' arrivals.

Participation is open to anyone, gay or straight. Volunteers are also needed to put up posters, host a reception, and many other things. For those interested in riding from Maine, some or all of the way, the rally will be in these places on the following dates: Bangor-May 13th, Waterville-14th, Lewiston-15th, Portland-16th, Ogunquit to Portsmouth, N.H.-17th. For more information write Rally '86, 29 Cluster St., A301, Jamaica Plain, MA. 02130 or call (617) 522-9194.

TO YOUR HEALTH

The Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center of Bangor is pleased to announce that their services will be available to area women beginning in June. They will be offering birth control and family planning services, plus basic medical services, especially gynecological health care. For an appointment or more information about the center, call 947-0297. The MWWHC also publishes a newsletter with coming events as well as facts about women's health. For a copy: 214 Elm St., Bangor 04401, 827-5897.

The Center is sponsoring two health education programs in May: "Lesbian Health Care" on May 6, 7 PM at Bangor Women's Health Care, 325 Center St., Bangor, with Peaches Bass, and "A History of Abortion" with Bass and Sharon Barker, May 29, 7 pm, at Taylor Hospital (lower level). Call 945-6832.

③ SURVIVORS GATHER

On Sat. May 17 at the Augusta Civic Center's University of Maine section, "Looking Up" will have a workshop gathering for adult women survivors of incest. This survivors only gathering, running from 8 am to 4 pm is free of charge and will include a luncheon, a dance/narration, workshops on healing techniques, sexual relationships-straight and lesbian, creative writing, and body movements.

Books, free literature, photo board and professionally staffed "safe room" will be available. Advanced registration for the Gathering is required and accepted by mail only, with a capacity of 100 on a first-come first-served basis. Register by May 5th if possible by sending name and address to "Looking Up", RFD 1, Box 2620, Mt. Vernon 04352 or calling 293-2750.

And WomanKind, along with numerous state and local Machias agencies, is holding an incest awareness workshop on Tues. May 6th at the Holy Name Parish Hall in Machias. Registration, at 8:45 am, is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. For more information please contact WomanKind, Box 493, Machias 04654 or call 255-4785.

CRIS IN CONCERT

The recipient has changed, but the performers are still the same. Wise Woman Books (featured last month as a potential investment opportunity) needed investors quickly & didn't find them, so it is closing up. (See, you gotta act fast on our tips!)

The Cris Williamson/Tret Fure/Carrie Barton concert on May 10 will go on, however, now to benefit the Women's Community Project. The concert is still at 8 pm on May 10, but the new location is the USM Gym in Portland. Tickets are \$10-12. The WCP, mentioned in last month's newsletter, is seeking space in Portland for the various programs and services offered to women in Southern Maine. For more info or to get or sell tickets: WCP, Box 3733, Portland 04104, 772-3966.

~~~~~ WOMEN, GET AWAY FROM IT ALL ~~~~~

Eight housekeeping cottages on Frenchman's Bay secluded with a private pebble beach will be the scene of a Women's Weekend at Mount Desert Island, May 23-26 (3 nights). Cost is \$75 for one or two. Site is just 3 miles from Acadia National Park. Write S.M. Corr, 40 Riverview Road, Hampden 04444, or call 862-2422 for more info.

KEEP THE SPRAY AWAY

④

Spring has sprung and the buds are in bloom, but also the sprayers are starting to spray. Some of the spraying of roadside growth is by the Maine Dept. of Transportation on its right-of-way land which is also used by landowners. The MDOT considers brush control as a safety matter, but landowners often see spraying to kill brush as an environmental violation. To resolve this, the MDOT also offers a "No Spray Agreement" to landowners in which the latter agree to be responsible for "roadside brush control", while the MDOT agrees not to spray.

The agreement is a written, not verbal, one requiring a commitment by landowners to keep brush cover next to roads down. It also requires "No Spray" signs which the DOT can provide. For a copy of a No Spray Agreement, contact your nearest DOT office or: MDOT, Sta. 16, Augusta 04333, 289-2661.

A REAL DUNES-BERRY

No one knows how it got its name but all who've been agree it's a lovely spot. Where? Goose Rocks Beach, site of Stewardship Workshop 1986 sponsored by the Maine Chapter of the Nature Conservancy and the Maine Coast Heritage Trust. Workshop will be Sat. May 3 from 9-2:15 at the Inn at Kennebunkport.

The workshop brings together folks concerned with stewardship of conservation lands to share ideas, concerns, experiences and resources. This year's discussions will focus on the particular challenges of managing preserves in areas of high public use, such as coastal York County. There is a choice of one of two workshops at 1:30, followed by a choice of one of four field trips at 2:15. Field trips include Vaughn's Island, East Point Sanctuary, Rachel Carson Refuge or Butler/Marshall preserve.

\$5 registration includes lunch & is accepted at the door, but suggest you call ahead. Write the Nature Conservancy, POB 338, Topsham 04086 or call Barbara Vickery at 729-5181 or Sue Van Hook at 276-5156, or Janet McMahon at 781-2330.

DO A GOOD TERN

You've probably pledged to walkathons or maybe even participated in one, but have you ever done a bird-a-thon? Here's your big chance! It's like a walkathon except instead of trudging miles in exchange for pledges per mile, you get a group of 1-4 others together, gather pledges, choose a 24-hour period between May 17 and May 24, jump in a car or boat, and count species of birds. It's sponsored by the Maine Audubon Society who claim that pro teams can expect to see 150 species, putzers maybe half as many. At a May 31 awards dinner, prizes will be awarded for most species, most money raised, and most sponsors gathered, and bird tales will be exchanged. Maine Audubon will also sponsor field trips for individuals not part of teams, led by expert birders. All proceeds will support Maine Audubon's wildlife conservation efforts.

Maine Audubon's Annual Meeting is slated for Wed. Jun. 4 with field trips starting at 12:30 & the business meeting at 5 pm with a social hour, dinner and evening program at Sebasco Lodge, 20 min. from Bath on Rt. 209.

Maine Audubon is offering 3 courses in May. "An Introduction to Ornithology" is their popular mini-course designed to stimulate interest in birds. Meets Thurs. eves 7-9:15, May 1, 8, 15, 22. "Designing an 'Edible Landscape' for Beauty, Food and Pleasure" will be presented Tues eve. May 13 from 7-9:30 pm. "Photographing Nature in Spring" will meet Tues. eves May 20, 27, June 3, 10 & 17 from 7-9:15 pm and includes a May 31 field trip and a videotaping session. Participants' slides and prints will be critiqued. All courses meet at Gilsland Farm, Falmouth.

Maine Audubon also offers a wide variety of field trips from now thru October. Among the May offerings are "Planning & Planting with Perennials," May 3 10-noon or 2-4 pm; "Wetlands and Wildlife: Canoeing Ruffingham Meadow," May 17, 9-1; "Eagles, Coyotes & Toads: Animals You Can Love" May 17, 24, 31, 9:30-11:30 am; "Spring Migration on Mount Dessert Island," May 16-18, 7 pm Fri.-noon Sun.

For other offerings & more details such as cost, tour leaders, registration, write Field Trips, Maine Audubon Society, 118 U.S. Route One, Falmouth 04105 or call 781-2330. Use same address (minus 'Field Trips') for more info on the classes, the Annual Meeting, or the birding.

SHOAH REMEMBERED ⑤

How can you forget the unforgettable? You can't, especially when it is remembered every year on a special day. This is true of Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom Ha Shoah), May 6, which will be observed in several parts of Maine.

Gov. Brennan will host a special performance of "The Diary of Anne Frank" by actress Barbara Baker. It will take place at the Blaine House at 3:30 pm. Several speakers about the Holocaust will also be featured. Although it is by invitation only, you may be able to get one from the Holocaust Human Rights Center of Maine, RFD 2 Box 573, Auburn 04210, 782-2142.

Local observances of the day will be held in Lewiston (sponsored by the L-A Interfaith Clergy Assn., call 786-4201) and in Portland (evening, sponsored by the Jewish Community Center, call 773-1394). Call local synagogues in other communities to see if they also are holding observances.

Finally, WCBT-TV will present "Memory of the Camps" at 9 pm and "The Courage to Care" at 10. The former is a record of conditions in concentration camps, while the latter (also shown on May 11 at 7:30 pm on MPBN-TV) demonstrates the courage of many non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jews from those camps.

NOTHING TO CELEBRATE

May 17 is a holiday--Armed Forces Day. It has also been pegged by opponents of U.S. policy in Central America as a day of actions to oppose U.S. (military) intervention and to express that opposition through a "Wall of Witness" or some other direct action.

Plans in Maine are just getting off the ground, but some actions at least in Bangor and Portland (and possibly other locations) are expected. To find out what will take place, contact Pledge of Resistance coordinators Sally Buckwalter, Orland 04472, 469-3471 and Bob Lipkin, RFD 2, Kennebunkport 04046, 967-2105. Also, an update should be available from the Central America Hotline in Portland. Call 774-0259 anytime and get a recorded message on upcoming legislative issues, local events and activities, and what you can do, as well as May 17 plans.

MAY DAY, MAY DAY

The American labor movement has a long and proud history. Much of that, however, is not well-known. An example is May Day, a worker's holiday. One hundred years ago workers all over the country were striking for an eight hour day. In Chicago, thousands of strikers were marching to Haymarket Square. City police and thugs met them with guns and clubs. A bomb exploded and by the time the Haymarket massacre had ended, several people were dead and many more injured. May 1 was declared to be International Workers Day by labor leaders, a day for all workers to join together to struggle for better working conditions and a shorter work day. Labor groups in many areas will observe this 100th anniversary with an agenda of a six hour day, no ties to South Africa, support for Maine Central Railroad strikers, and the defeat of Ronald Reagan.

On May 1 the first issue of the People's Daily World will appear, the first national daily paper presenting news from a Communist and workers perspective. It will feature stories from Communists, trade unionists, Socialists, and peace and civil rights leaders and it will attempt to balance the biased or nonexistent coverage of Communism and workers' efforts from other media sources.

May Day will also be celebrated on May 17 with a dance party in Portland to observe the 100th anniversary of May Day and the Haymarket incident and to welcome in the People's Daily World. It will be held at the Cummings Center, 134 Congress St., Portland from 8-11:30 pm, admission \$3. Music will be provided by DJ Alan Day. Tables are available for organization to set up and present their information.

For more information about the dance or for a sample copy of the paper, write: Maine Friends of the People's Daily World, PO Box 3604, Portland 04104, 772-3391. Don't miss this celebration of May Day.

TAKE A RIDE - - -

The Over the Hill Gang provides a Saturday morning transportation service (for a \$2 donation) for visitors to the Maine State Prison from the People's Building, 155 Brackett St., Portland, leaving at 10 am. Volunteer drivers or those wishing to use the service may call 775-0105.

Did you know that the U.S. has a lower percentage of workers in labor unions than most of those industrialized nations we compete with? In 1980, U.S. (24%) ranked way behind Sweden (84%), Denmark (60%), England (57%), Canada (36%)

KNOW YOUR OPTIONS

After a successful training session of draft & military counselors in Feb., Maine Draft and Military Counselors (MDMC) will meet on May 10 at Lithgow Public Library in Augusta, 1-4 pm, to plan how to bring their perspectives into the public schools.

Too often young men don't know about options like conscientious objection or their choices regarding registration. And many men and women enlist in a branch of the military without knowing what they are getting into--thinking it is just another job rather than an eight year commitment that they can't get out of.

MDMC is encouraging veterans and those concerned about what young people get (or don't get) in school to attend the meeting or contact one of the MDMC members below: Call 799-3847 (Portland), 377-2370 (Winthrop), 833-5016 (Harpwell), 443-9446 (Bath), 827-3107 (Old Town), or write RFD 4 Box 202, Houlton 04730.

ON RETREAT

Fr. Bill Callahan will be the featured presenter at this year's annual Pax Christi retreat, again to be held at Goose Cove Lodge in Deer Isle on May 23-25. Callahan works with the Quixote Center's "Quest for Peace," an effort to match the \$27 million being sent by the U.S. government to Nicaragua's Contra opposition with \$27 million in health, educational, agricultural, and other supplies being sent to the poor people of Nicaragua. A recent report estimated that about half of the \$27 million in goods had been raised. Callahan will challenge those attending to take some responsibility for the actions of the U.S. government and to respond through their faith positively.

For more info on the retreat (cost is \$65 but scholarships may be available) or on Pax Christi, contact Fr. Jim Gower, PO Box 5, Bucksport 04416, 469-3322. To receive the Pax Christi--Maine newsletter, send a card to Mary McCarthy, 81 Green St., Augusta 04330.

LATE BULLETIN

The Rape Crisis Center will hold their Annual Meeting Wed. Apr. 30, 7-9:30 pm at their new office at the Ctr. for Health Promotion, 576 St. John St., Portland. State Representative Nancy Clark will be guest speaker. For more info: Susan Lavigne, 775-0105 or 774-3613, POB 1371 Portland 04104.

⑥ GET FLEECE FOR PEACE

Last year Peter Haggerty, a sheep farmer from Kezar Falls, took a trip to the Soviet Union with a group of New England farmers. His intention was to observe the sheep practices of the Russian sheep farmers, and to obtain agreements for 1,000 lbs. of Soviet wool to be blended with equal parts American wool to produce what he calls Peace Fleece. It was used in the Boise Peace Quilt Project, a quilt made jointly by American and Soviet women. Peace Fleece will also be offered for sale to the public in the spring of '86 to increase awareness and to build trust through trade.

Now Peter Haggerty is organizing and leading a 1986 agricultural tour of the U.S.S.R. The tour will last from July 8th to July 23rd and will include Leningrad, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and then finish up in Moscow. There will be opportunities to visit both collective and state farms, and agriculture schools, to ask questions and to exchange opinions. This trip is especially geared for farmers & gardeners and should be an exciting opportunity to view Soviet farming practices first hand!

For more information write Peter Haggerty, RFD 1, Box 57, Kezar Falls, 04047, 625-4906.

Another tour of the Soviet Union took place from Apr. 18 to the 28th, in keeping with the efforts of Samantha Smith. At least seventy people, a mixture of students and adults, were led by Bill and Marilyn Forstchen on the 10-day cultural exchange. Bill and Marilyn are interested in furthering the project by making speakers available from the tour. Contact Bill and Marilyn Forstchen, RFD 1, Box 3714, Oakland 04963, 465-7430.

CONGRESS CONVENES

The annual Environmental Congress of the Natural Resources Council of Maine is coming up again on May 30-June 1 at Maine Maritime Academy in Castine. There will be a variety of field trips--bikes, hikes and boats--plus business plus Dick Ayres of the Natural Resources Defense Council speaking publicly on Saturday night on the legal issues surrounding acid rain. Ayres is a nationally-known attorney and advocate for clean air/water legislation!

Pre-registration is encouraged. Contact NRCM, 271 State St., Augusta 04330, 622-3101 for a brochure. Costs will be minimal--\$8 to register plus various housing and food arrangements are available for those of any income. Celebrate the outdoors at the Congress!

THE WAY IT WORKS FOR EVERYONE



"The United Way works for all of us." Well, not really. It works for some people but not for a lot of others. And there are a number of groups in Maine--the Maine Civil Liberties Union, the Maine People's Alliance, the Maine Freeze Campaign, and other social change groups which have no access to United Way funds. Their approach is different: instead of giving services to the victims of social problems (the United Way thrust), they attempt to get to the root of and solve problems of poverty, pollution, civil rights, militarism, and violence.

In the past there has been no "alternative United Way" for these groups, but INVERT has begun an effort to bring these and other statewide groups together as a federation and to raise funds, as United Way does, thru payroll deductions at workplaces such as businesses, government offices, schools and hospitals.

To kick off the idea in Maine, representatives of two other funds--Joe Vanni from the Fund for Community Progress in Rhode Island and Debbie Furry from Community Works in Boston--will be in Maine on Sat., May 31 to speak to representatives of statewide groups and interested individuals about their funds and how a similar fund could be started in Maine. Both funds raised about \$100,000 last year in their campaigns.

The meeting will be from 1-5 pm on May 31 at the Winthrop St. Universalist Church in Augusta, near the Lithgow Public Library. The public is invited. For more on the meeting or an explanation sheet on "What Is an Alternative United Way?": INVERT, PO Box 110, Stillwater 04489, 827-3107.

WOMEN WORKING FOR WOMEN

Working women will have two chances to learn more about opportunities and options available to them and how they can improve their self-image as workers. Women: you don't have to be "just a secretary" or "just a manager" anymore!

"Women in the Workplace, Making Choices" will take place on Thurs. May 1 at Chase Hall, Bates College, Lewiston, sponsored by the L-A YWCA and Women's Awareness at Bates College. Presentations by Jane Norris, President of Mechanic Savings Bank and Auburn City Manager Chip Morrison will be followed by workshops on management skills, stress, negotiation, and other skills.

The goal of the conference is better skilled and more confident women workers. Preregistration is preferred but can be done at the door. The cost is \$25. For details: Carol Michaud, YWCA, 248 Turner, Auburn 04210, 786-0657.

Then on May 17 from 1-3 pm comes "Every Woman Works," less of a workshop but more of a celebration and fair, with displays and demonstrations of various kinds of jobs and women who are successfully doing them. There will be a speaker, Jean Martin of the Maine Dept. of Labor, and discussions of women workers and how they fare with men in the workplace.

"Every Woman Works" will be held at the Unitarian Church, Pleasant St. in Brunswick, sponsored by Brunswick area NOW (National Organization for Women). To participate in the job display or to help in other ways with this unique event, contact Jean Jackins, 15 Blueberry Lane, Topsham 04086, 725-7191.

"We can be politically active or we can be radioactive."

~~~~~ WE'VE GOT THE POWER ~~~~~

The Feminist Spiritual Community of Portland is sponsoring a major conference on "Women and Power" to be held from Thur. June 5th to Sunday June 8th at the University of Southern Maine, Gorham campus. The conference will feature six major keynote speakers, music of empowerment, dance, and eighty workshops to enable women to explore their personal, community and spiritual power.

Registration will be held from 1 to 5 pm on Thursday. Speakers include: Johnella Butler, Chair of Afro-American Studies at Smith College; Chrystos, a Native American poet; Lois Reckitt, vice president of NOW; and author Barbara MacDonald. The workshops will feature Christian, community, incest, political, abortion, homosexuality, and feminist topics and how they relate to "women and power." For further information about the conference, write Martha Lunney or Debbie Leighton, Feminist Spiritual Community, 9 Deering St., Portland 04104 or call 773-2294. More on this next month.

PERSONALS ~

This month's want ads are all job opportunities. How about starting off the summer with a new job and/or direction? Check these out:

The Wassookeag School, a small alternative school in Dexter, is looking for a full-time teacher for children ages 6-8 and a half-time teacher for children ages 4-5. The school stresses a nurturing, non-competitive environment, incorporation of the arts, and multi-cultural experiences.

If you think you fill the bill, please send a resume to: Beverly Crockett, RFD 1 Box 1940, Cambridge 04923.

Would you like to be a director? How about doing it at the Brunswick Peace Center, or for the Maine Association of Handicapped Persons? The BBPC job is more laid back, asking about 15 hours/week for a "small stipend" to edit a newsletter, fundraising, finding and working with volunteers, and staffing the office. Send a resume to Box 975, Brunswick 04011. The MAHP job is more high powered, full-time, overseeing several other staff, and being a full-time advocate for the civil rights of handicapped people. For details on that one (the pay is higher, too), write MAHP, 237 Oxford St., Portland 04101, 774-4360.

If you just want something exciting for the summer, try working for the Maine People's Alliance on their summer canvass in the Bangor and Bar Harbor areas. They need both a director (experience canvassing needed) and canvassers to see the beauties of the city and the sea as they go door to door. Pay is \$175-\$225 for canvassers, more for the director. For details, contact MPA, Box 10292, Portland 04104 or call 761-4400.

Finally, if you're a real outdoors type, there is room for two working students at St. Francis Community for persons with a serious interest in working with and training work horses, especially for wood harvesting. Please write for details on costs, living arrangements, and an application: St. Francis Community, Box 44, E. Orland 04431 or call 469-3018 or 469-7961.

⑧: IS ANYONE WORTH VOTING FOR?

All of the Democratic candidates for governor (5) plus up to four independents are scheduled to appear at the Reiche School on May 7 for a Candidates Night. It will be one way for voters, especially those in Portland's West End, to choose among the many vying for election as the next Maine governor. Neither Republican candidate, however, is expected to attend.

The event is being sponsored by several groups--the Portland NAACP branch, the Portland Labor Council, Maine Freeze Campaign, the Committee to Organize the Unemployed, and the Neighborhood Action Coalition. Other groups will be supporting the event as well, such as We Who Care, the Maine Assn. of Handicapped Persons, the Coalition on Undoing Racism, the Maine Project on Southern Africa, and the Southern Maine Area Agency on Aging.

There will be information tables staffed by sponsoring groups and for each candidate beginning at 6 pm. At 7 pm, the forum will begin with each candidate making a brief statement, then questions from representatives of the sponsoring groups, followed by questions from the floor. Angus King will moderate. For a flyer on the evening or more information: Neighborhood Action Coalition, 155 Brackett St., Portland 04102, 775-0105.

NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS

Beedy Parker, 68 Washington St., Camden 04843 has a 28-minute video to loan out to groups called "The Business of Hunger". It comes from "Food First" 1885 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103 and is edited down from a 90-minute special shown last June on MPBN called "Hungry for Profit" about the effects of multinational corporations exporting cash crops from countries where people are largely landless and not getting enough to eat (in this case the Phillipines, The Dominican Republic, Sahel, and Brazil). Should stimulate some good discussion. To arrange to borrow, call 236-8732 or write Beedy at the above address.

Did you know that since 1980 the percentage of U.S. workers in labor unions has slipped by an estimated 5% down to only 19% of the labor force?

OTHER GOOD PAPERS

It's hard to find information about progressive and social change activities in "mainstream" newspapers (or anywhere except a few newsletters like the MSN). But there are a few exceptions:

Take the Valley Voice and Neighbors Care, for example, quarterly publications put out by Androscoggin Valley Community Action and Oxford County Community Services, respectively. There is information on services for low-income people, an article on taxation (the burden is on the individual, not the corporation), TV as a pacifier, community development efforts, and a long list of local agencies. These are no ordinary papers! To subscribe (free): AVCA (Valley Voice), 2 Court St., Auburn 04210, 786-2481 or OCCS (Neighbors Care), Box 278, S. Paris 04281, 743-7716.

The weekly Smart Shopper looks and sounds mundane, but past issues had articles on the pornography referendum, Maine Audubon, and consumer tips. It covers Cumberland, Sagadahoc, and much of York County. Look for it in your local hangout or call 773-2906.

And in little Richmond, the Merrymee-ting Standard reports the local news every two weeks. Where else can you find articles occasionally in Cyrillic (Russian alphabet)? There's serious news as well as gossip, and fiction by local writer and gadfly, Kendall Merriam. Request a copy from the Standard, 41 Main, Richmond 04357, 737-8535.

TIME FOR A VACATION?

Next month we will again begin the first of our June/July/August vacation issues. Don't you know of a good place to go to get away from it all that combines a little social consciousness as well? How about a camp, or outdoor trips, or a music festival, or a special summer educational program? Whatever you know about, please send activities/events (or anything else of note) to INVERT by May 20 for June events or as soon as possible.

"If it weren't for time, we'd have to do everything all at once." --Art Thieme

9.

AND... A BETTER PAPER

What's wrong with the Maine Statewide Newsletter? Nuthin'. Well, it could be a little less crowded, and it could have more in-depth articles, and it could have a few graphics or something to catch the eye, and it could be a little less punny, and it could ...STOP! How dare you drag this wonderful publication through the muck and mire?!

No one wants to drag the MSN down, but people from several statewide groups think they can create something better and more like a newspaper. They hope to find others interested in working on a still funky and off-beat but more substantial statewide newspaper to communicate progressive activities and ideas statewide.

A survey is being circulated asking people whether they think this is a good idea. They have also scheduled a meeting on May 14, Wednesday, at 7 pm at Lithgow Library, State and Winthrop Sts., Augusta, to discuss the idea and also an "experimental" summer issue, combining the MSN with several other groups' newsletters for one sample issue. For more info or a survey form, contact INVERT, PO Box 110, Stillwater 04489, 827-3107 or Selma Sternlieb, 21 McKen St., Brunswick 04011, 725-7675.

Dear INERT,

Please humbly accept these entries to join the thousands of others that are no doubt pouring in for the Alternative License Plate Contest. The "Frostbiteland" design is my own; the "Broilingland" is that of my daughter, Audrey. On my own entry, please note that the word "Maine" is left of center. My original plans called for a pinko (uh, I mean pinkish) shade as the dominant color, but I instead chose ice blue. The hunting boots worn by the poor freezing soul pictured came from Marden's, not L.L. Bean as might be expected.

MARINA DAVIS, HARMONY



FIGHT CENSORSHIP @ THE END OF MAY.

A campaign committee entitled Maine Citizens against Censorship has been formed to oppose the anti-obscenity measure proposed by the Christian Civic League. In a surprise move at the end of its session, the Maine legislature voted to send the anti-obscenity proposal to the voters in the June 10 primary rather than in November.

This gives the proponents of the bill an advantage since they have had months to organize as they carried out their petition drive this past fall. Maine Citizens against Censorship is in need of financial support to help carry its message across the state, and volunteers to work on the campaign. Those interested in donating or volunteering can write to Maine Citizens against Censorship, PO Box 15303, Portland 04101. Until an office is set up questions can be directed to Sally Sutton at the Maine Civil Liberties Union, 774-5444.

The MCLU is holding its Annual Meeting Fri. May 9 at Moulton Union at Bowdoin College. Registration is 5:30 pm, followed by dinner at 6:30, business meeting at 7:45 and speakers. Speakers Barry Lynn and Mary Lou Dyer will address the topic: An Obscene Machine: Perspectives on the Anti-Obscenity Movement. There will be a general discussion of how MCLU members can work to defeat the anti-obscenity referendum.

BREAKING UP IS HARD TO DO

If you've experienced major life changes, especially those involving losses or separations from intimate relationships, you might be interested in a series of weekly programs being offered Monday nights 7-9 pm by the Community Health and Counseling Services. Called "Lives in Transition," scheduled for All Souls Church, Room C on 10 Broadway in Bangor, these programs will explore feelings about loss and change, look at grief as a response to loss, try to find ways to let go of the loss and examine the concept of trust. For more info: call Marian C. Allen, 947-0366x253. Or write CHCS, 43 Illinois Ave, Bangor 04401. How to develop intimacy without losing yourself? Check it out.

May 27: "A Matter of the Mind" (mental illness), 9 pm, MPBN-TV and WCBB-TV.

May 29: A History of Abortion (3).

May 30-Jun. 1: Way of Life Spring Camp (10).

May 30-June 1: Environmental Congress (6).

May 31: Kaleidoscope '86 Family Arts Festival, all day, Univ. of Maine, Augusta. Call 622-7131x271.

May 31: "American Independent Filmmakers," noon, MPBN Radio.

May 31: Baldface Mtn. Hike, \$5-7, Lewiston-Auburn YWCA, 248 Turner, Auburn 04210, 786-0657.

May 31: Alternative United Way Meeting (7).

June 5-8: "Women and Power" (7).

ZEN AND THE WAY OF LIFE

Interested in the practical and spiritual aspects of healing massage? Bone up on your meridians by reading Zen Shiatsu by Shizuto Masunaga (Japan Publications, available at the Way of Life Center), then attend the Zen Shiatsu with David Sergel, May 9-11 at the Way of Life Center in Waldoboro. The three day intensive includes two Do-In exercise classes and costs \$65, meals & lodging extra. For more info: Way of Life Center, RFD 3 Box 208, Waldoboro 04572 or call 832-4979 or 832-5366.

Way of Life Center also presents Maine Spring Camp '86 May 30-Jun. 1 at their new facility with plenty of beautiful camping space. The program includes an optional Indian sweat lodge, a contra dance, classes on herbal medicine and "Moving with the Planets," and macrobiotic meals. Special guests include (among others) Deb Soule, herbalist; Arifa Boehler, astrological counselor; and Dr. Christianne Northrup & Marcelle Pick of Women to Women. Cost is \$85/person, \$160/couple.

Therapeutic macrobiotic cooking classes will be presented on Thursdays in June, 6-9 pm starting on June 5. Cost is \$60 for the four classes.

Way of Life Center has much more to come later in June and July including a whole grain bread cooking class, classes on pickle making and macrobiotic food processing, and several macrobiotic study weekends which explore self-diagnosis and food as medicine. Several medicinal herb walks will also be offered.

~~~~~ MORE MEETINGS IN MAY ~~~~~

May 9-11: Zen Shiatsu at Way of Life (10).

May 10: M.L. King Dinner in K'port (2).

May 10: WCP Benefit Concert (3).



May 10: Legislative Advocacy Workshop by NETWORK, Holy Cross School, Lisbon St., Lewiston. NETWORK, c/o Judy Donovan, 121 Webber, Lewiston 04240, 783-9069.

May 10: "Past Life and Rebirthing" workshop w/Marjorie Arber in Bath, 10-5, \$35. Bath-Newcastle Holistic Center, PO Box 474, Newcastle 04553, 442-7090.

May 10: Paul Winter & Sunsinger Trio, 8 pm, Bangor Opera House, \$9-11. Salt Pond Comm. Broadcasting, 2 Newworld Plaza, S. Blue Hill 04615, 374-2489.

May 11: Nonviolence Training Session in Belfast. Irene Cooper, 217 High St., Belfast 04915, 338-2374.

May 11: Appalachian Mountain Club hike on Upper Saco, \$2. Call Bill, 647-2251.

May 12: "Food Politics" w/Beedy Parker and Sue Silverio, 6 pm (potluck), 7:30 (program), First Universalist Church, 345 Broadway, Rockland. Call 594-4946.

May 12-16: "Owner as Contractor" at Cornerstones, 54 Cumberland St., Brunswick 04011, 729-6701, \$245.

May 13: Downeast Forestry Field Day (panel, workshop, demonstrations, displays) at Boggy Brook School, Ellsworth, 9 am-3 pm. SWOAM, S. Gouldsboro 04678, 963-2331.

May 13: "Human Rights in Latin America" w/Chilean Jose Zalaquette, First Parish Ch., 425 Congress, Portland, noon. World Affairs Council of Me., 716 Stevens, Portland 04103, 797-7261.

May 13-17: Bikes for AIDS in Maine (3).

May 14: Big Mountain Delegation (2).

May 14: Newsletter/Newspaper Meeting (9).

May 15: "Emily Dickinson-An American Original" readings by Kathleen Lignell, 4 pm, Sutton Lounge, UMO, Orono. Call 581-1441.

May 16: Sludge Forum, "Fate of Organic Compounds in Sludge Amended Soil," 9:30 am, Augusta Civic Ctr., \$3. Call 846-3737.

May 16-18: Mainely Men in W. Gardiner (1).

May 16-18: Bike Tour of Deer Isle area w/Women Outdoors. Call 829-5392.

May 16, 17, 23, 24: "Fiddler on the Roof" by Action for Children's Theater, 7:30 pm (16, 17, 23) and 2 pm (24), Hancock Co. Auditorium, Ellsworth, 800-462-7616.

May 17: "Every Woman Works" (7).

May 17: May Day Dance (5).

May 17: Armed Forces Day Protest (5).

May 17: Looking Up Gathering (3).

May 17, 24: "Exploring Nature with the Young Child" workshop, 10-noon (17) and 6-8 am (24) in Falmouth. Call 781-2330.

May 17-24: Audubon Bird-a-thon (4).

May 18: Maine Head Injury Foundation Conference, 8:30-4, Sonesta Hotel, Portland, Pre-register by May 2 to MHIF, PO Box 2224, Augusta 04330, 626-0022.

May 18: Take Back the Night march planning meeting, YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland 7 pm. Call 767-3400.

May 18-31: Log Building School (traditional Penobscot techniques) in Lakeville Twp (near Lincoln), \$300. Penobscot Nation, River Rd., Indian Island 04468, 827-7776x234.

May 19: Simple Minds concert to benefit Amnesty International, Cumberland County Civic Ctr., Portland. Call Thesil Morlan, 729-4720.

May 20: "The Bloods of Nam" (black vets), 9 pm, MPBN-TV and WCBB-TV.

May 21: Central America slide show, 7 pm, 2nd Cong. Church, Norway. W. Me. CALC, c/o Robyn Currie, 127 High St., Norway 04268, 743-8419.

May 23-4: "Making Tracks Dance Co. performs at Danspace, 22 Main St., Old Town 04468, 827-8201, 8 pm, \$4.

May 23-25: Pax Christi in Deer Isle (6).

May 23-26: Women's Weekend on MDI (3).

May 23-26: Symposium XIII in Presque Isle (1).

May 24: D'Oa, Hancock Co. Aud., 8 pm, 667-9500.

May 24: "Call to Action" nonviolent citizens strike at Seabrook Nuclear Plant site. Clamshell Alliance, PO Box 734, Concord, NH 03301, 603-224-4163.

May 25: "Variety Show" fundraiser for Central Maine Health Foundation at Sportsman's, 2 Bates St., Lewiston. CMHF, PO Box 3113, Lewiston 04240, 782-6113.

May 26: Music for Peace in Lubec (2).

MAY MAY CALENDAR MAY MAY MAY

(Listings with numbers following have more details on that page number.)

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Ap. 29:"Toxic Chemicals in the Air" workshop, Augusta Civic Ctr, 8:30-3, \$10, Me. Lung Assn., 128 Sewell, Augusta 04330, 622-6394.

Ap. 30:James Watt lecture, Student Ctr., Colby College, Waterville, 872-3000.

Ap. 30:Growing Thru Adoption informational mtg, Lewiston Armory, 7:30 pm, GTA, Box 7082, Lewiston 04240, 786-2597.

All May:Audubon courses and trips (4).

May 1:Women in the Workplace (7).

May 2:Forest Products Management & Marketing Assn. Annual Mtg. 6:30 pm, E. Sangerville Grange. Dick Johnson, Box 5, Dover-Foxcroft 04426, 564-2017.

May 2:Organ recital w/David Maxwell, State St. Church, 159 State, Portland, 8 pm, free (donations). Call 774-6396.

May 2:"Mosaic Called Maine" shown at Maine Indian Education Conference, Shead H.S., Eastport. Barney Berube, Dept. of Ed. & Cultural Affairs, Sta. 23, Augusta 04333, 289-5980.

May 2-3:"Exvoto II" world premiere of Bread & Puppet Theater, Schaeffer Theater, Bates College, Lewiston, 8 pm, \$9. Call 786-6255.

May 3:Stewardship Workshop (4).

May 3:"Changing Our Minds for Peace" (2).

May 3:"Pesticide Use at Home" w/Bonnie Lounsbury, 10:30 am, Roberts Union, Colby Col., Waterville. PEST, Milbridge 04658, 454-8029.

May 3:Nonviolence Training Session, 9-3:30, Blue Hill, Elaine Hewes, PO Box 115, Blue Hill 04615, 359-2785.

INVERT

PO Box 110
Stillwater, Me. 04489

Address Correction Requested

If there is a red "X" in this box, we have not heard from you in several years and will drop you from the mailing list if you don't respond by late June, 1986. Please show us a sign of life by filling out and returning the enclosed subscription form.



May 3:Ecological Sampling (various ecosystems) workshop, 9:30-noon, Chewonki Foundation, Wiscasset. Call 882-7323 (Don Hudson).

May 3-4:Food Abuse Workshop w/Maddy Spadola, 9-5, Oxbow Ctr., 32 Western Ave., Waterville 04901, 873-1351.

May 4:"Buddies," Lovejoy Hall, Colby College, Waterville, 3 & 7 pm.

May 5,12,19:"Lives in Transition" series (divorce, separation, life changes), 7 pm, All Souls Church, Bangor, \$4. Call 947-0366x253.

May 6:Lesbian Health Care (3).

May 6:WomanKind workshop (3).

May 6:Holocaust Remembrance Day (5).

May 6:"Star Wars" discussion, Damariscotta Baptist Church, 7:30 pm, CONA, POB 7, Walpole 04573, 832-4080.

May 6:Rape Education and Hotline volunteer training session in Oxford County, 674-2216.

May 7:Candidates Night in Portland (8).

May 7:"Medicated Theater" (Health/medicine in the theater), Theater by the Sea, 125 Bow, Portsmouth, NH, 8-5. Cont. Med. Education, UNE, Hills Beach Rd., Biddeford 04005, 283-0171, 603-431-5846.

May 7:Meditation w/Asha Devi, 7-9 pm, S. Parish Congregational Church, Augusta, free. Yoga Ctr., POB 1243, Portland 04101, 799-4449.

May 8:Meditation w/Asha Devi, 7-9 pm, Williston West, 32 Thames, Portland, free. Yoga Ctr. (see May 7).

May 9:"Political Jazz" on Prime Cuts, 8 pm, MPBN Radio.

May 9:MCLU Annual Meeting (10).

May 10:Maine Draft & Military Counselors (6).

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