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Maine Statewide News Letter No. 78 (July 1986)

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July 1986

...MSN READER SURVEY FORM....

- Does a pro-choice stance on abortion pit women against children?
- Is U.S. military support for Israel leading to more war in the Middle East?
- Can feminists be in favor of pornography?
- Should the Sandinistas sign the Contadora agreement?
- Are puns the lowest form of humor?

There are many difficult questions such as these that the Maine Statewide Newsletter cannot address because of a lack of space and staff. To overcome that, there have been various discussions about developing a newspaper with a "progressive" perspective for the state of Maine.

A small group of interested people have met several times to discuss this idea. Before a change is made in the Maine Statewide Newsletter, however, we would like to know how you, the readers, would respond to an expanded format. And if you support these changes we would like to find out how you can help.

Your cooperation in answering the following questions will help us to determine the next steps:

1. Do you lack an alternative source of news?

Would you like one?

2. What papers and magazines do you currently read?

3. To which organizations do you belong?

4. Would you support an evolution of the Maine Statewide Newsletter into a newspaper covering a similarly wide range of "progressive" topics?

5. If so, what topics not currently covered in the Maine Statewide Newsletter could be included in a prospective newspaper?

- 6A. What aspects of the Maine Statewide Newsletter would you feel most strongly about retaining if it evolved into a newspaper?

- 6B. What aspects would you be happiest to see changed?

MSN READER SURVEY FORM

- 7A. How much would you be willing to pay for such a paper?
- 7B. Would you have strong objections to paid advertisements in such a newspaper?
8. Which news area(s) should receive the greatest concentration of coverage? () local, () state, () national, () international. Check one or more.
9. Are you interested in working on the paper in any of these areas? Writing (), Production (), Editing (), Graphics (), Advertising (), Finances (), Circulation/Distribution (), Local Correspondent ().
10. Other comments or thoughts regarding a statewide progressive newspaper:

Name _____

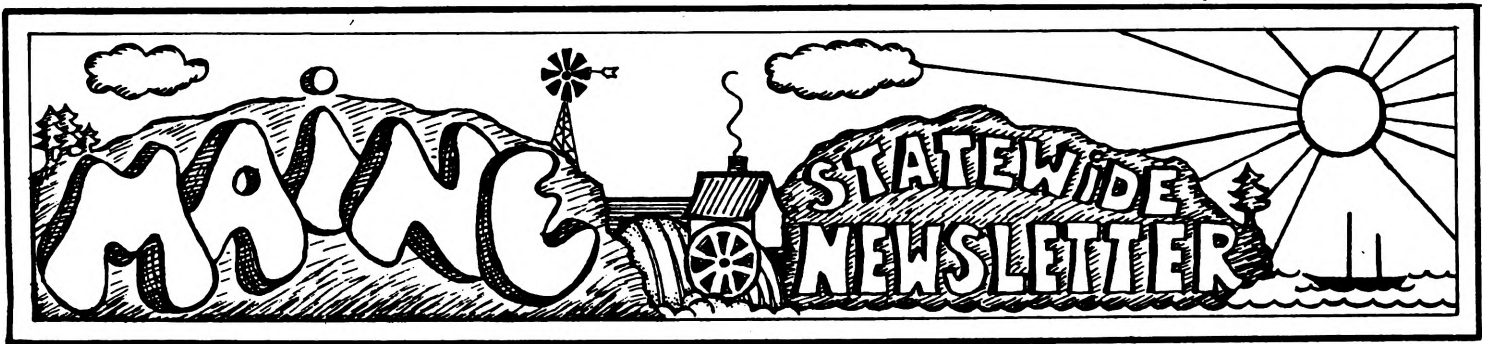
Address _____

Phone No. _____

(Optional unless you
respond to Question #9)

Please return this questionnaire to INVERT, PO Box 110, Stillwater, Me. 04489, 827-3107 by August 1.

P.S. If you haven't sent \$2.50 or a contribution for your copy of the Maine Statewide Yellow Pages, we encourage you to do so. We would like to publish a larger version in a couple of years, but find ourselves about 600 responses short of breaking even financially on this one. You are encouraged to include a contribution (if you haven't already) along with this response form.



Number 78

" All the News That Fits to Print "

July, 1986

CHARLIE HOWARD NOT FORGOTTEN RYPHON'S GOT RHYTHM

Charlie Howard was beaten and thrown into Kenduskeag Stream in Bangor on Jul. 7, 1984 by 3 teenaged boys. His murder and subsequent trial became a rallying point for gay activism in Bangor and Maine. On July 6 Bangor area gays and their friends will commemorate the second anniversary of his murder, and are hoping that many from Maine and New England will participate in remembering Charlie and celebrating their sense of community.

The Unitarian-Universalist Church, Bangor Interweave, and the Bangor Area Gay Lesbian Straight Coalition are sponsoring the remembrance, which concludes with a keynote speech by feminist Sonja Johnson at 2:30 pm Sun. Jul. 6 at Davenport Park. Johnson is a fifth-generation Mormon who was excommunicated from the Mormon Church for her work on behalf of the federal Equal Rights Amendment. She is the author of from Housewife to Heretic.

The schedule of events for the remembrance:

Sat. Jul. 5, 7:30 pm, Unitarian Church: a panel discussion centering on the changes in living in Bangor since Charlie's death.

Sat. Jul. 5, 9 pm, Student Union, BCC: dancing and good company.

Sun. Jul. 6, 10:30 am, Unitarian Church: Memorial Service.

Sun. Jul. 6, 12 noon, Unitarian Church: March to Kenduskeag Stream.

Sun. Jul. 6, 1 pm, Davenport Park: picnic, music and remembrance of Charlie (concession stand available).

Sun. Jul. 6, 2:30 pm, Davenport Park: Keynote Address, Sonja Johnson.

Housing is available at U. Maine for \$3. Call 581-4545 or 581-4549 and ask for Joan or Amy.

"The Whole Thing '86" is an unusual 10-day art festival in Waldoboro from Fri. July 18 to Sun. July 27. Unusual, because its show-piece, a Second Annual Moods of Rhythm Concert Series has a pronounced international flair. Among the concerts will be Balinese, Bolivian, Brazilian, Indian and African performances, a classic guitar performance, and a folk and blues guitar performance.

Unusual because the Administrator for the event is Ryphon Gray, himself a remarkable artist. He is a woodworker, musical-instrument maker, composer, and crafter of unusual drinking vessels milled so thin that light shines through them. Despite being paralyzed in his right arm from a high-speed motorcycle collision, he invented an instrument he calls the "Voice of Reason," with a haunting tone produced by combining the principles of the flute with those of the mbira, an ancient African thumb piano. Ryphon considers the instrument a tool for reducing human and cultural barriers, and claims that its harmonics promote healing by breaking down the dissonances within the human body.

A non-profit group known as the Earthstar Foundation has gotten behind Ryphon to sponsor the festival. A whole range of community groups are also behind it, with some funding for performances provided by the Maine State Commission on the Arts and Humanities. Private donations are also being solicited.

In addition to the concerts, the festival will feature an invitational art exhibition with the theme 'How people of the world celebrate wellness,' featuring paintings, graphics, sculpture and crafts, plus a series of poetry readings, workshops, lectures and seminars on dance, musical in-

Continued on the next page

FLOGGED BY A DOG ~

The Dog-Faced Poet Laureate of Maine, one Bern Porter, will flog poets into action at another Maine Poets Festival July 5-7 in Belfast. The notorious Institute for Advanced Thinking (which doubles as Bern's house), 22 Salmond St., Belfast, 04915, will host readings from 9-noon and 2-5 pm on July 5-6, with an open house on the evening of the 5th at Art Fellows Gallery in Belfast.

The three-day event will conclude on July 7 with a sale of small press poetry and other Maine books at the Fertile Mind bookshop, and readings that evening at the Belfast Free Library by Carroll Terrell and James Lewisohn. Lewisohn's appearance will be his first public reading in 11 years. All poets, no matter how amateur, are encouraged to read at this ultimate in informal (i.e. funky) festival. Don't miss it!

JOIN THE MOVEMENT

The movement for freedom of movement will be advanced through two series of summer courses: "Freedom of Movement" and "Movement for Survivors" (of incest), being offered by movement dance therapist Karin Spitfire.

Spitfire will offer "Freedom of Movement" to adult women on Tuesdays (8-10 pm) in Belfast and Wednesdays (7:30-9:30) in Ellsworth beginning the week of July 7 and going 10 more weeks. Classes will cost \$5-\$25/week (sliding scale) and will emphasize the need for women to relearn their ability to have freedom of movement through dance, yoga, theater techniques, discussion, reading, lectures, relaxation, and other techniques. No experience is necessary.

"Movement for Survivors" (of incest) will take place on July 12, August 9, September 13, 10 am-5 pm in Brunswick; and July 19, August 23, and September 20 in Ellsworth.

People interested in these or other classes (classes or special sessions are also available for men and children) can contact Karin Spitfire, Box 54, E. Orland 04431, 326-8235. Childcare and some financial aid arrangements can also be made.

CAN YOU AID THEM?

The Support Services Network of the AIDS project is looking for a few good women and men to provide support to victims of AIDS. If you can be a caring, committed buddy (like in the film "Buddies") to a person with AIDS (there are now people in Maine who have the disease), you are urged to call the AIDS line at 800-851-AIDS, or 775-1267, M-W-F from 6-9 pm. Leave your name and someone will call you back.

The AIDS line also needs more volunteers and a parttime paid coordinator. If AIDS-related work interests you, call the AIDS line or write PO Box 10723, Portland 04104.

FOR THE KIDS

For its 17th year, Hancock County Friends of the Arts will offer free programs in July for young people. This year's schedule includes:

- July 8: Puppeteer Nancy Nye
- July 15: Storyteller Milbre Burch
- July 21: Domaine Orchestra (Suzuki)
- July 29: Old Grey Goose "old time" duo

All programs will take place at 9:30 and 11 am at the Farmstead Barn in Gouldsboro except the Domaine Orchestra (1 pm at the Hall in Hancock). For directions or information on the Friends of the Arts: Ginia Davis Wexler, Gouldsboro 04607, 422-3615.

REST OF THE WHOLE

Continued from the previous page ~
strument making, natural healing and wellness, and aboriginal cultures in Maine. Nature walks, bike rides, boating excursions, and a whole range of children's activities are also scheduled.

As a special highlight, Henry B. Cabot is planning to serve five meals representing indigenous cuisines of the various continents, at the Pine Cone Public House.

For more information: Ryphon Gray, PO Box 38, Waldoboro 04572, 832-7770.

Do you know when your subscription to the Maine Statewide Newsletter will expire? Most people have a number and /86 or /87 on their address label. If the numbers precede 7/86, it means we haven't heard from you in at least 1 year. Send us a sign of life!

SOLIDARITY WITH NICARAGUANS

If you miss the celebration of America's independence on July 4, you can celebrate with Nicaraguans their independence from dictator Somoza on July 19 in Portland.

PAUSICA (Portlanders Against U.S. Intervention in Central America) will sponsor the 7th anniversary of the triumph with a fiesta beginning at 7 pm at the Portland Club, 156 State St.

The event will include folk music, poetry, Central American food, and a salute to the spirit of the people and their 1979 revolution. The evening will conclude with a dance at 9 pm featuring Boston's Grupo Iz-alco. For questions: PAUSICA, Box 5247 Sta. A, Portland 04101, 773-7873 or 774-0259.

PAUSICA is also proud to announce its new office on the second floor of Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland, and its new staff person, Suzanne Murphy, holding office hours from 10-5 on Tues. and Thurs. Call 773-7873 to talk to a real person about Central America issues.

If working full time to get the U.S. out of Central America and end the killing there is your calling, you could do this in the Bangor area and even get paid for it. BACASC (Bangor Area Central America Solidarity Committee), Box 8277, Bangor 04401, is seeking to hire someone to organize a "Stop the Bombing of El Salvador" campaign. Training, including a trip to El Salvador, will be provided, along with about \$500/mo. salary. The hours will be long but the benefits and satisfaction should be high. Some awareness of and commitment to Central America issues is helpful. Interested people should immediately call Barbara Kates at 947-6858.

YOU MAY WIN A PRIZE!

Almost everyone loves a contest, and if you're interested in alternative, safe energy and appropriate technology, you may want to enter your own pet project in "Technology Transfer 80's: National Awards Program for Energy Innovation", sponsored in Maine by the Office of Energy Resources.

Projects can be small or large, simple or complex, and must be submitted along with a relatively simple application form. Innovation and energy efficiency are the key elements. For an application form & other details: OER, Station 53, Augusta 04333, 289-3811. But hurry! the deadline is July 8.

--- AND NAVAJOS

July 7 marks the deadline for relocation of Navajos from the Hopi Partitionland known as Big Mountain. Although the government is now saying it will be 18 to 24 months before all the relocatees are moved, the extension of the deadline is just prolonging the agony and uncertainty for people who have been affected by the law.

The Maine delegation who visited Big Mountain in May are back and eager to share their experience with people here. The slide show "In Defense of Sacred Land" will be shown at the RR Square Cinema in Waterville and at the new Maine Writers Center in Brunswick in July.

To commemorate the deadline there will be a very special, spiritually oriented gathering Mon. July 7 at noon in Tommy's Park in Portland. Participating in and planning the event will be Penobscot poet, Sipsis, Big Mountain Delegation member Patty Clement, and other Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Indians. The Academy Award winning film "Broken Rainbow" (about Big Mountain) will be shown July 5, 6, and 7 at The Movies in the Exchange. Representatives of the Maine Big Mtn. Support Group will be there to answer questions.

Now more than ever you are urged to contact our congressional delegation, particularly Olympia Snowe, urging repeal of the Relocation Act, PL93-531. A repeal bill will be introduced by Mickey Leeland, Dem. Rep. from Texas, either just before summer recess or in the fall. Continued letter writing will hopefully encourage Snowe to consider co-sponsorship. Joe Brennan will also be involved, should he become our new First District Rep. Send copies of all correspondence, letters to the editor, etc. to: B.M.L.D.O.C., 124 N. San Francisco St. Suite B, Flagstaff, Az. 86001. The office staff of volunteers there will advise people on the most effective lobbying, and are soliciting your financial support. You might want to add a note to Kerry Lupe, a UMO student who is working there this summer as a volunteer.

For more info on statewide efforts contact: Roberto Mendoza and Pam Montanaro, 96 Lawn Ave., Portland 04103, 879-0171.

"If all the money in the world, notes and gold, were to disappear in an instant, there would be neither more nor less in the world than there was before."

----- John Ruskin

WHITE PAINTS DARK PICTURE

Robert White, former ambassador to El Salvador, who has been critical of U.S. policy there, will be the guest speaker at the annual meeting of CONA (Citizens Opposing Nuclear Arms) to be held on Sat. July 12 in Newcastle, near Damariscotta. He will speak on "Regional Conflict in the Nuclear Age" at 1 pm at St. Andrews Church, Glidden St., Newcastle.

Preceding the speech, there will be a CONA business meeting at 11:30 am, followed immediately by a buffet lunch. All three events (especially the lunch and speech) are open to the public at no charge. For more information on CONA activities/membership, or the annual meeting, write CONA, Box 7, Walpole 04573, or call 563-1378 or 832-7577.

SIDEMAN MAKES GARDEN MUSIC

The Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Assn. (MOFGA) has hired Dr. Eric Sideman as Director of Technical Services, capping a decade-long effort to "bring organic expertise directly to the Maine agricultural community," according to MOFGA President Dick Wells.

Sideman has taught Botany and Ecology courses at both Bates and Bowdoin Colleges. He will be available to provide assistance to all farmers and gardeners in the state interested in organic methods.

Sideman will also be working on publishing a series of informational brochures on growing organically, and will be trying to develop an organic assistance program for the traditional and troubled commodity crops.

He has put together a partial list of orchards not using the pesticide Alar (which is a possible carcinogen), or having some Alar-free fruit this year. If you have Alar-free apples for sale or know of an orchardist who does, or want the present list, please contact him at 622-3118, or write MOFGA, POB 2176, Augusta 04330.

The annual gathering of the Natural Organic Farmers Association is slated for Aug. 22-24 at Johnson State College in Vermont. Maine growers who have attended these NOFA conferences in the past have always found them to be stimulating.

FOOD FOR PEOPLE, NOT FOR PROFIT

The problem of hungry people in America is not that there are too many people and not enough food. It is getting the food together with people. (It may also be an economic and social system which denies basic necessities to people, but that issue is a little too big for this article.) Soup kitchens bring people to food. And the Good Shepherd Food Bank brings food to people.

There's no lack of food, as Good Shepherd's bursting warehouse acknowledges. But they need more churches, organizations, and local food cupboards throughout the state to act as distribution points for this food. Can you help? If so, contact Good Shepherd, 458 Court St., Auburn 04210, 782-3554.

BULBS TO LIGHTEN UP SPRING

The order forms are a little spiffier than in days of yore (products of a Macintosh Computer, Laserwriter Printer, and Larry's press), but the prices are still low... and if you want these bulbs to light your spring with blooms, then you've got to order them in August and plant them this fall.

What bulbs? Fedco Bulbs, a selection of 59 tulips, daffodils, crocuses, irises, and an allium and aconite, too.

Folks familiar with the often sexist-named vegetable seed varieties will not mourn the absence of names like Yellow Doll and Platinum Lady from the bulb selection. But the bulb list can boast of Queen of the Night, L'Innocence and even Yellow Hoop Petticoat, proving that the bulb industry isn't immune from the same warped perspective.

If you can overlook some of the names, orders are due Aug. 23. Write Fedco Bulbs, 52 Mayflower Hill Drive, Waterville 04901 or call 872-9093 for your very own order forms.

If you should by some horrid happenstance miss the ordering deadline, do not despair. Fedco Seeds expects to have its annual booth at the Common Ground Country Fair in September where they will offer some of the bulb selections, as well as seeds leftover from their 1986 pre-order.

~ YOU DESERVE A BREAK TODAY ~

No, this is not a McDonald's commercial. It's the new slogan for the Maine Statewide Newsletter's Vacation Planning Service (TM) (5) And have we got a lineup for you, which we have lumped into four general categories:

CAMPS AND RESORTS

Ferry Beach (5 Morris Ave., Saco 04072, 284-8612) will offer several conferences each week, plus a resort atmosphere with meals and lodging provided plus hiking and swimming facilities. It also has a children's program and provides religious services (affiliated with Unitarian-Universalists). A sampling of Ferry Beach's conferences includes "Decision-Making at Mid-life," (July 12-19); "Gayla VIII--Gay Men's Week" (Aug. 9-16); and "World Religions: The Buddhist Experience," (Aug. 16-23).

Blueberry Cove Camp (HCR 35 Box 520, Tenants Harbor 04860, 372-6353) features a women's sailing school, July 6-11, and a weekend workshop with Libana (July 11-13), a women's folkdance and singing group. Libana will also perform at 8 pm, July 13 at the camp. August and September specials include more sailing, herbs and healing, dancing, ceramics, and writing. Write for a detailed brochure.

The Maine Audubon Ecology Camp (Dept. S, Sharon, Ct. 06069, 203-364-0522) offers 2 weeks on a spectacular island (with the unspectacular name of Hog Is., near Bristol). Learn about the flora and fauna, see animals and birds in their natural habitats, and develop an ethic of stewardship as well as ecological reverence.

The World Fellowship Center combines a resort atmosphere with daily discussions, films, and presentations. Try sessions on "Red Diaper Babies," (July 11-13); "Care for the Poor," (July 17-20); "Central America," (July 21-27); and "Peace Priorities," (Aug. 1-7). Programs on the family, economics, and the labor movement follow later in August. Write WFC, RF Box 136, Conway, N.H. 03818, 603-447-2280.

Another Place (Rt. 123, Greenville, N.H. 03048, 603-878-9883) offers "Ritual as a Tool of Freedom" with Starhawk (July 3-5) & "Massage" (July 11-13), plus programs in September and October in storytelling, child-raising and healing arts. Write for a brochure.

Finally, Rowe Camp (Rowe, Mass. 01367, 413-339-4216) provides a progressive camping experience for young people through most of the summer but also offers "WomenCircles: A Shared Spiritual Journey" (July 27-Aug. 2), a liberation camp for adults, and a Labor Day Gay Retreat.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Maine Educators for Social Responsibility and USM are sponsoring a special 5-day certified course, July 21-25 at USM, Gorham, on "Teaching for Social Responsibility" to help teachers and other educators to present nuclear and other controversial issues to young people. Cost for this course is \$173, but ESR has several \$100 scholarships that may still be available. Call 780-5316 (Portland), 926-4343 (New Gloucester), or 469-6066 (Bucksport) for details/flyer.

The North Woods Arts Center (RFD 3 Box 87A, Dover-Foxcroft 04426, 564-3032) offers several "Good Ol' Days" skills courses. "Basic Post and Beam Building" is offered July 23-28 and in Aug. and Sept. "Wood and Canvas Canoe Building," "Canoe Repair," and several other arts courses are scheduled according to individual interest.

In Massachusetts, the annual War Resisters League Organizer Training Program will take place July 25-Aug. 3 at Woolman Hill, Deerfield, Mass. Learning to do good leaflets, research, street speaking, and productive meetings will make organizers more effective and will help a slow-changing world to change faster. For a brochure: WRL, 339 Lafayette, New York, NY 10012, 212-228-0450.

Similarly, the Center for Popular Economics will demystify economics in its sessions in Amherst, Mass. on July 20-26 and Aug. 3-9. Write CPE, Box 785, Amherst, Ma. 01004, 413-545-0743 for a flyer. Childcare, sliding scale fees, and scholarships are available.

The Institute for Social Ecology (Box 384, Rochester, Vt. 05767) offers an advanced program in Social Ecology (July 21-Aug. 2) and "Building Sustainable Communities" (Aug. 4-16) alongside with other programs, many for college credit.

OUTDOORS AND ENVIRONMENT

New Routes (242 Dartmouth, Portland 04102, 772-1843) presents trips for mothers and children (July 12), sea-kayaking (July 19), and a

TAKE A BREAK--CONTINUED

Continued from the previous page.
mountain herb search (July 25-27), plus many more trips in August thru October--to Acadia, backpacking, canoeing, rockclimbing, and more. Almost every weekend is scheduled so get a brochure for a complete list.

If you've never canoed in whitewater before, the Appalachian Mountain Club offers a "summer instructional" on July 12-13 on the Androscoggin River. Contact Adair Heath, RFD 1 Box 336D, Yarmouth 04096 or call 773-3642. A schedule of AMC events is available from Box 8526, Portland 04104.

July events from Women Outdoors include a 30-mile bicycle trip on July 13 (call Trish, 247-4411) and a day hike on Evans Notch in the White Mountains (call Nancy, 829-3285). Backpacking and sailing are planned for August and Sept. respectively.

North Woods Ways (same as North Woods Arts--see above) does regular canoe trips on several northern and eastern Maine rivers throughout the summer, plus a 3-week "Canadian Expedition." Costs are \$70/day for 4-8 day trips.

Maine Audubon (118 Old Rt. One, Falmouth 04105, 781-2330) has a large collection of half-day or day long events in July and beyond. For example: "Canoeing Northeast Creek" (July 12, 9-1, \$8-10); "Ferry Beach Botany" in Old Orchard Beach (July 12, 9:30-noon, \$8-10); and Blue Hill/Deer Isle Bicycle Weekend (July 26-27, \$76-82). Look for many more in Aug. and beyond.

Maine's Sierra Club sponsors a number of day hikes, including Tumbledown Mountain (near Weld) on July 19 and Little Jackson (near Tumbledown) on Aug. 17, plus Evans Notch, Baxter Park, and Blue Hill in Sept. and Baldface, Acadia, and Kezar Falls Gorge in Oct. Costs are \$2-5. For a schedule: Bill Hine, RFD 1, W. Peru 04290, 562-8278.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Music and arts will not be lacking in Me. and New England, as witnessed by the following events:

July 11-12: Rockport Folk Festival at the Opera House, with concerts (\$7.50) at 8 pm each night and free workshops on Saturday. Yodelin' Slim Clark, Margaret MacArthur, Rick and Lorraine Lee, and Different Shoes are among the festival performers. Call 236-4200.

⑥

July 11-13: Downeast Dulcimer Festival in Bar Harbor (Village Green), 12 noon-5 pm plus a concert on Friday evening and a dance on Saturday. Call 288-5653.

June 30-July 18: Bates College Dance Festival, with special performances on July 10 and July 16, 8:15 pm, \$7-10. Call 786-6400. Bates will also host a 2-week Canadian-American Cultural Camp, July 20-26.

July 20-27: Franco-American Festival with traditional music, crafts, parades, food, and more and more at Kennedy Park, Lewiston. Call 784-2926 for a complete schedule.

July 21-Aug. 29: music workshops and courses at Omega Institute (RFD 2 Box 377, Rhinebeck, N.Y. 12572, 800-862-8890) with performers like Kay Gardner, Olatunji, Odetta, storyteller Brother Blue, and a 5-day workshop on the arts, Aug. 18-22. Many other educational programs on a wide variety of subjects are also offered.

Aug. 1-3: The annual Maine Festival returns to Bowdoin College, offering a large collection of unique music, dance, crafts, and much more. Contact The Maine Festival, 29 Forest Ave., Portland 04101, 772-9012 for details.

Aug. 9-10: Bread and Puppet Theater's annual circus in Glover, Vt. (Rt. 122) with free bread and circuses, beautiful scenery, and lots of people. For questions or a map, try Mabel Dennison, Box 538, Temple 04984, 778-2513

Aug. 16: HOME Coop's (Box 10, Orland 04472, 469-7961) annual Craft and Farm Fair, with crafts (naturally!), food of all kinds, farm events and displays, and down home country & western, bluegrass and gospel music. Free for children & seniors, \$1 for everyone else.

Aug. 23-24: First Annual Fieldhi Folk Arts Fair (61 India St., Portland 04101, 761-4570) near Augusta (on the Blair Rd. off Riverside Drive--Rt. 201). This fair will offer demonstrations of traditional Maine folk arts and crafts, such as smoking fish, boat and canoe construction, folklore, and old songs. Maine historical items will be displayed.

So, take a break this summer (you deserve it), but make it a real vacation from MSN's VPS TM, not just a lousy night out at the fast food joint.

"Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power; we have guided missiles and misguided men."

--Martin Luther King

BOOKED UP FOR THE SUMMER YET?

From time to time the MSN receives copies of books, pamphlets and publications to peruse and review. These pile up until space permits us to delve into them. This month we have a little space, so here goes:

Poverty in Maine, 1970-1980 is one of four volumes examining poverty in Maine prepared by the State Planning Office. These contain statistics and analysis from the 1980 census on social and economic conditions in the state. For example, did you know that women constitute 58% of the poor but only 52% of the population? Or that Washington and Waldo Counties had the highest rates of poverty in the state, over 20%? Those interested in seeing more data should contact their local Community Action Agency or Regional Planning Commission or check out one of the major libraries in the state.

In 1984 Maine's consumption of petroleum rose for the first time in six years. Maine is still far more dependent on oil (60% of all energy consumed) than is the rest of the country (41%). Mainers spend more on home energy (\$1,300 annually) compared to their incomes than residents of any other state in the country. These statistics, future projections, and their ramifications for policy are all contained in the State of Maine Comprehensive Energy Resources Plan compiled by the Office of Energy Resources, State House Sta. 53, Augusta 04333, 289-3811. Anyone interested in energy policy should check this out.

A number of new resources should be of interest to workers. Recognition: a Source Book on Labor for Teachers and Students compiled by Charles J. O'Leary, Bill Murphy and John R. Hanson, has a good bibliography on labor history, biographies, theses on Maine labor issues, and guides to labor laws and workers' compensation in the state. Organized Labor in Maine: Twentieth Century Origins by Charles A. Scontras is the first of a series of 4 volumes. It is available for \$10 and focuses on the development of the Maine Labor Movement in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Picking up the Pieces, A Handbook for Injured Workers by Anne Ladley and Mary Price covers everything from when to report an accident to how to cope with post-injury blues to what to do if you think the insurance company has put you under surveillance. It is available for \$5. Also for \$5: Maine Workers'

Compensation Handbook by Pat McTeague Esq., the most up-to-date source book on Maine's worker compensation system. All of these are available from the U. Maine, Bureau of Labor Education, 128 College Ave., Orono 04469, 581-4124.

The Me. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards published a Directory of Maine Labor Organizations, 1985. Write State House Sta. 45, Augusta 04333, or call 289-3331.

Women owners are the fastest growing segment of the small business community. If you are contemplating joining that segment, check out "Venturing Forth", a pamphlet of the Displaced Homemakers Project, U. of Me. at Augusta 04330, 1 copy free. The pamphlet recommends a 3-step approach: Know yourself, Know your business, and Know your market.

Before the 3d referendum to shut down Me. Yankee you might want to bone up by getting the Center for Biological Monitoring's booklet reviewing Radiological Surveillance Reports of Waste Effluents in Marine Pathways at the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company in Wiscasset, 1970-1984, H.G. Brack, Editor. This highly technical report recommends that a 5% sales tax be levied on commercial users of nuclear electricity in Maine to fund a more thorough program of radiological surveillance. It also contains an intriguing postscript which compares using nuclear power to generate electricity to a primitive religious ceremony in which the spent fuel is a sarcophagus and its contents among the Eleusinian Mysteries! Center for Biological Monitoring, Box 144, Hulls Cove 04644.

Finally (and this reduces our pile by about 50% so maybe we'll have more next month) there is The Peace Tax Fund and Conscientious Objection to Military Taxation by Hartley S. Armen: "I cannot in good conscience pay for war. It is out of the question. I cannot in good conscience violate the tax laws. I have obligations as an American. And I cannot in good conscience continue to raise my children from a subtaxable level. I have obligations as a parent." If that strikes a responsive chord, write Conscience & Military Tax Campaign, 4534½ University Way, NE #204, Seattle, Wash 98105, or call 206-547-0952.

TAKE IT BACK NOW

The annual Take Back the Night march will be held on Sept. 26 and will include a rally and march. In past years, there has been an all-day conference as well, but this year the march is being included as part of NOW's (National Organization for Women) state conference which will take place the next day in Brunswick.

The TBTN march is an annual event which celebrates the empowerment of women, breaks the traditional silence about violence against women, and tries to increase our community's awareness of the abuse and harassment of women everywhere--in the home, at work, and on the streets.

A planning group for this march has formed, but help is needed. The next planning meeting is July 20, 7 pm, at the YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland. For more details on the planning group, call Karmit at 767-3400.

GET YOUR MONEY'S WORTH

If you object to your taxes paying for war and preparation for war, you will want to know about the Peace Tax Fund Bill. If the Peace Tax Fund Bill became law, you would be able to assign the "current military" percentage of your taxes (35.6% in 1985) to a federal trust fund to promote peace-enhancing programs, such as retraining of workers displaced by conversion from military production; disarmament efforts; international exchanges for peaceful purposes; research and study of non-military and nonviolent solutions to international conflict, including selected projects of the U.S. Peace Institute; and improvement of international health, education, and welfare. The legislation would also apply to estate and gift taxes.

As of early 1986, the PTF Bill had 50 co-sponsors in the House and 4 in the Senate. For more information, contact: NCPTF, 2121 Decatur Pl., Washington, D.C., 20008, or the WTR Resource Center, 11 Old Mill Rd., Orono, 04473, 827-3107.

"Raise less corn & more hell--Save our family farms." Bumpersticker

FILL IT OUT FOR A CHANGE

⑧

Included in this newsletter you will find something never before included in the Maine Statewide Newsletter--a readership survey. You're probably wondering, why?

For over six years the MSN has plugged dependably along, telling readers in "Readers Digest" form about major and minor progressive events and happenings in our state. Many people, however, would like to expand the MSN to include more in-depth articles as well. Would you read such articles as well as the condensed information in this newsletter? If so, what articles, categories, or items would be most useful to you?

Can (and should) we turn this newsletter into a newspaper while retaining some aspects of this newsletter (informal style, minimal cost, short informational articles) but also including longer articles, graphics/pictures/cartoons, ads, and perhaps interviews, poetry, debates, or thematic pieces?

So, please help us decide what changes (if any) you'd like to see, by filling out the survey form and returning it to INVERT, PO Box 110, Stillwater 04489 by August 1.

OUR AUGUST OFFERINGS

Looking ahead to August, several special events, in addition to those mentioned in the vacation article, are in final planning stages:

Aug. 3-8: "Living the Revolution: Analysis, Vision, and Building for Social Transformation" (workshops, training sessions, an intensive, but casual learning environment), \$75 (financial aid available), Bowdoin College, Brunswick. Write to the Center for Vision and Policy, 98 Clark St., Portland 04102, or call 389-2268 (Bath) for details.

Aug. 6-9: Hiroshima/Nagasaki commemorations of the dropping of the first atomic bombs. Contact Maine Freeze Campaign, PO Box 3842, Portland 04104, 772-0680, or Pax Christi, 1 Second St., Winslow 04901, 873-5849.

Aug. 9: First national convention of Veterans for Peace in Portland. Write Veterans for Peace, PO Box 3881, Portland 04104.

NOT JUST ARTISTS CREATE ART

"Peace in the World" is this year's theme of the Calligraphers of Maine traveling exhibit. Each year their show has a different theme, and tours various libraries throughout the state. Individual artists interpret the theme in their own style and choose their own quote.

This year 23 different pieces are on display from 16 different calligraphers, representing Massachusetts and a number of towns in Maine. Beginner, intermediate & advanced level works are included, with 5 merit awards for outstanding calligraphy.

The exhibit schedule is as follows:

July: Waterville Public Library
Aug: Dyer Library/Saco
Sept: Brunswick Public Library
Oct: Belfast Free Library
Nov: Rumford Library (not confirmed).

For more info: Calligraphers of Maine, Bonnie Mineart, POB 2751, South Portland 04106.

The Coalition for the Psychiatrically Labelled will present a midsummer art exhibit featuring works from the hands of Maine clients. The exhibit is aimed to increase the understanding that clients have abilities, not just disabilities. Some professionals will also donate art for sale in a silent auction. Site of the painting & sculpture show will be the Portland School of Art's Baxter Auditorium with a tentative starting date of Jul. 26.

MAINE STATEWIDE NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION/FEEDBACK FORM--AUG. COPY DEADLINE IS JULY 20

"The subject of plutonium as an environmental contaminant is a taboo..." A Review of Radiological Surveillance Reports of Waste Effluents in Marine Pathways at the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company at Wiscasset, Maine--1970-1984 (see page 7 MSN).

Name/Mailing Address _____

Here's (\$4/a donation/moral support and maybe \$ later) circle one.

Here's another \$2 for first class delivery _____

I (do/do not) want my name given out to other nonprofit groups for mailings.

Write a few pros and cons about this newsletter:

Others who ought to get a sample copy of MSN are: _____

Please fill out this form and return it to: INVERT, PO Box 110, Stillwater, Me 04489, 827-3107.

THE REST OF JULY

July 23: "Never too Old" (stereotypes on aging), 10:30 pm, MPBN and WCBB-TV.

July 23-26: Maine State Employees Assn. Summer Institute, Bowdoin Col., Brunswick. MSEA, 65 State St., Augusta 04330, 622-3151.

July 25-27: "Food as Medicine" (macrobiotic study), Way of Life Center, RFD 3, Waldoboro 04572, 832-4979.

July 26: "The Body as Teacher," 10 am-4pm, \$35, Bath-Newcastle Holistic Center (see July 1).

July 26: Sally Roger/Howard Burson concert to benefit Maine Nuclear Referendum Committee w/Nick Apollonio/Nancy Mattila, Rockport Opera House, 8 pm, \$6-8. Call 763-3401.

July 26: Art exhibit in Portland begins (9).

July 27: Bay Poets readings in Belfast. Call 338-2500x144.

July 27: Tour of sustainable, self-reliant farm, 2 pm, free at Khadighar, Box 1167, Farmington 04938, 778-6018 (rain date Aug. 3).

July 27-Aug. 8: Stonecoast Writers Conference at USM, 96 Falmouth St., Portland 04103, 780-4076.

July 30: "Diggers," (blacks in Panama), 9 pm, WCBB and MPBN-TV.

July 31: "Childbearing for Women in Kenya," 12:30 pm, MPBN-Radio.

"A just war is just a war."
