
7-1979

Mainely Gay (July/August 1979)

Susan Henderson

Peter Prizer

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**MAINELY
GAY**

July-August 1979

Vol. 5 No. 8

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Who We Are

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The opinions of Mainely Gay are expressed only in its editorials.

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COVER

Artist's rendering:
the proposed Dickey-
Lincoln Lake in
northern Maine



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Note To Readers

Somehow, this issue of Mainely Gay turned into a "humor" issue, with little or no help from the editors.

After we put the layout together it became obvious that summer heat often turns otherwise bizarre minds to new heights of absurdity. Oh well...

Not to say that there's not several very serious articles herein--there are, and Diane Elze's Open Letter is especially of interest, we think.

"BOONIES" is a new publication "for rural gays" put out by the Gay Alliance for Equality of Halifax, Nova Scotia as a service to the Gay Community of Atlantic Canada. "BOONIES" is free for the writing. They're at: BOONIES, RRI, Paradise, Anna. Co., Nova Scotia BOS 1R0

This issue, esthetically at least, is somewhat of a departure from our regular

format. You can thank Stan Fortuna, who gave us a hand during a month's vacation from out West. We appreciate his energy and new ideas and especially his inspiration!

Vanity Flair: the entire contents of Mainely Gay, beginning with this issue, are copyrighted.

The next issue of MG will be dated September/October, and should be out in early September. At the moment, some of MG is produced at the Gay People's Alliance of USM at 92 Bedford St. in Portland.

Please don't send any mail there, but at least one of us can usually be reached there by phone, 780-4085.

Have a pleasant and safe summer!

--Susan Henderson
Peter Prizer



NEWS SHORTS

BOSTON (GCN) -- Richard Bearse, a Fitchburg, Mass. barber convicted of "Intent to rape (statutory)" of a 14-1/2-year-old young man, has fled to Holland and has been granted assylum there. Testimony in his trial showed that he sat nude in a sauna with the young man for 20 minutes and massaged his neck, shoulders and stomach; but the young man did not allege any sexual touching, soliciting or conversation. The Werkgrupp Pedophilie and Sexual Reform Institute of Holland have come to Bearse's defense and gained assylum for him from the Dutch government; one of the lawyers they have obtained for him is a noted law professor. Bearse's supporters on both sides of the Atlantic consider him the victim of an anti-gay witch hunt.

LOS ANGELES -- A group called Gays for No on Bigotry in California (NOBIC) is protesting the recent executions of homosexual men in Iran. Spokesperson Morris Kight notes that the men's trials were conducted in secrecy and apparently without due process of law, and appear to be part

of an anti-gay campaign by the Khomeini regime. Letters of protest against this campaign can be sent to Dr. Djafer Faghidh, Embassy of Iran, 3005 Massachusetts Ave., Washington, DC 20008; letters to the Hon. Ayatollah Khomeini and Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan may be sent to the same address. One may also write to Mr. Jamal Shemprani, Deputy Permanent Representative, Iranian Mission to the United Nations, 622 Third Ave. New York, NY 10017.

(Last spring, Feminist activist Kate Millett was deported from Iran for her support of Iranian women's resistance to the veil and to government efforts to turn back recent advances in women's status. Millett was in Iran at the invitation of Iranian women's groups).

SAN FRANCISCO (Philadelphia Gay News) -- Pediatrician Dr. Aubert Dykes and Rev. Jim Dykes of the Metropolitan Community Church, a gay male couple living openly as such, have been granted legal adoption of a two-year-old boy. No objection to their homosexuality was raised during the adoption proceedings. Since California law does not recognize gay marriages, the adoption is listed as a single-parent adoption with Rev. Jim Dykes as the father. Rev.

NEWS SHORTS

Dykes legally took his lover's name several years ago.

• • • • •
EDINBURGH (The Body Politic) -- Following the lead of Northern Ireland gay groups, Sheila McAskill, Derek Ogg, and Ian Dunn, three gay Scots, are taking the British government to court for breaking Article 8 of the European Human Rights Code, which prohibits discrimination on the grounds of sex, national or other minority status. The specific charge is that while the English sodomy laws were repealed in 1967, the British Parliament has refused to act on repeal of such laws in Scotland, and that this constitutes discrimination against a national minority. Many Scots gays had urged a Yes vote on a referendum on limited self-rule for Scotland (the No votes won), arguing that this was the only way Scots gays could attain equal rights.

• • • • •
NEW YORK CITY (GCN) -- In an attempt to force cancellation of the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, Tom Abrams, a member of the NYC media committee for the march, was kidnapped, drugged and held hostage for several hours while march

organizers, along with the New York City and Nassau County police departments, tried to locate the whereabouts of Abrams and his abductors. Three hours after his abduction, Abrams escaped from his attackers and was taken by police to a hospital, where he was subject to mistreatment and ridicule by the hospital staff. The ordeal left Abrams bruised and extremely upset and left the march organizers angry at this act of violence against one of their workers.

After Abrams had been abducted, a phone caller to the New York office for the march said, "We have Tom Abrams. Unless you go on national television within 24 hours and cancel the National march on Washington, we will assassinate him." The caller then hung up.

Earlier, Abrams had received a call at home from a young woman who said that she thought she may be gay and was experiencing difficulty with her parents. She said she would meet him in a blue car near a local train station. He agreed to meet her and left his home. When he arrived at the car, he opened the door and she invited him in. He sat down, but then

NEWS SHORTS

heard a rustling in the back seat and suddenly felt a gun at the back of his head. The car began to move and a man's voice from the back seat told him to lean forward. At this point he was struck with a sharp instrument, perhaps a needle. He began to feel nauseous and the man told him that if he kept quiet, everything would be all right. Next, the car stopped at a beach and the man got out. Abrams eased his door open, got out, and kicked the man between the legs from behind. The man yelled and fell down. Abrams ran to the beach and, as he did, heard the car pull away. He ran to the boardwalk and called the march office, who called the police.

Security measures will be improved at the march office and all activists have been urged to take special precautions in the aftermath of the incident.

SEATTLE (New Women's Times)

-- The Lesbian Mothers' National Defense Fund is planning a Seattle to San

Francisco "Bikeathon" this fall as part of a major fund-raising project. The five-year-old organization has provided legal, emotional and financial aid to Lesbian mothers across the country and has experienced a steady increase in requests for financial aid in the past few years. The women behind the Lesbian Mothers' National Defense Fund must pay 20 attorneys every month for fees that range from several hundred dollars to over \$10,000. Because of these enormous costs, financial assistance is necessary for many mothers who would otherwise not have the option of fighting for custody of their children. The proposed "Bikeathon" would raise money by collecting per mile monetary pledges for each woman who participates. The organizers are now seeking prospective pedalers and patrons, and they urge interested women to contact them as soon as possible at the following address:

Lesbian Mothers' National
Defense Fund
Attention: Linda
PO Box 21567
Seattle, WA 98111

FEEDBACK

Dear friends,

I wanted to let you know that the State of Maine was grandly and gaudily represented in the recent San Francisco "Gay Freedom Parade."

As a former Mainiac I couldn't let the march go by without any people from the Lobster State in attendance. Flanked on the left by the Pennsylvania rep and on the right by my beautiful friend from Vancouver, I marched about one-half the parade route as the sole representative.

Every once in a while someone would rush from the crowd, embrace me and offer moral support.

Finally, a wild and wooly dyke came from out of nowhere and asked to share in carrying the Maine placard. We marched together for the duration of the parade; joined on several occasions by two faggots in drag, a hard-hatted Castro Clone and another dyke.

All together, more than a dozen people acknowledged Maine as their past or present habitat. I even got my picture snapped by a tourist family who wanted to share me with the folks back home.

Gay Freedom Day is such a beautiful experience. It was a real pleasure to share it with my fellow Downeasters.

Although San Francisco is now my adopted home, there's still a whole lot of Maine Yankee left in this Happy Homo. I think of you all often, especially during blueberry season. We are family.

Alan Hamm
San Francisco
California

Dear friends,

We were invited to participate in a workshop on the theme of homosexuality, Feb. 17, 1979, at the Chatham United Methodist Church, Chatham, N.J. -- one of the most enlightening groups we have ever met with!

(cont.)

FEEDBACK

Lay persons, clergy, and gays were in attendance -- approximately 20 in all.

At the conclusion of the workshop the following list of proposals will be the framework of suggestions to be recommended to the Cabinet which is the governing body for the United Methodist Churches of North Jersey.

Inclusion of Gays and Lesbians in the church:

1. to recognize the larger numbers of gay/Lesbians who are already in church 10%
2. include single persons in social affairs
3. discuss homosexuality at all levels of church life
4. enable gay people to be open.
5. enable all church members to be secure in their sexual identity
6. sermons on human sexuality
7. presentation of the issue to the Cabinet.

Our kindest regards and love to you all,

Evelyn & Floyd Bull
Parents of Gays,
Steering Committee

PS to the above letter:

"We enjoyed having Steve and David visit with us a few days during Christmas vacation."



AN OPEN LETTER TO THE LESBIAN COMMUNITY

QUEER BASHERS IN OUR MIDST, or
WHO NEEDS DAN WHITE WHEN WE HAVE EACH OTHER

By Diane Elze

I am outraged and repulsed by the divisiveness, hostility, violence and rumor-mongering currently infecting the Portland Lesbian community.

While women everywhere are daily being beaten, raped and emotionally assaulted by heterosexual men, within our own community women are physically abusing and threatening one another, lending support to the perpetrators, and encouraging and inciting such intolerable behavior. The patriarchy need not expend so much energy trying to keep us in our place, for we are quite adept at oppressing ourselves.

Straight women, Gays, Lesbians, poor people and other historically oppressed groups are all too familiar with violence in its multiple forms (i.e. physical, economic, social, emotional and spiritual) as a means by which those with power attempt to maintain their dominance over those with less power. Such violence is, of course, political in nature, for it seeks to perpetrate various unequal power relationships.

But what of the violence we perpetrate against one another? What are the personal and political ramifications of such behavior for those who are victimized, victimizing and for our entire community? How do we respond as witnesses to such behavior? What recourse do Lesbians have to end their victimization by other Lesbians? How would we respond if a sister seeks assistance from institutions outside our community (e.g., from the "criminal justice system")? What are the personal and political ramifications of seeking such assistance? What intra-

community alternatives can we create to constructively settle conflicts? Should we (how can we) hold each other accountable? What do we each do (or don't do) that perpetrates such a phenomenon within our community? What are we doing (what can we do) to stop it--individually and/or collectively?

How we translate our personal and political differences and conflicts behaviorally is a key to whether or not we, as individuals and/or as a community, are struggling to create an alternative, more life-respecting way of being than what heterosexist, patriarchal society has generated to date. How is the Lesbian who pummels her lover different from the battering husband who many of us would gladly "do in" if we had the chance? How is the Lesbian who resorts to fists to "settle" personal conflicts different from the man who rapes to humiliate, control and degrade his victim? How is the Lesbian who engages in behind-the-back trashing different from the Laffins and Briggs's of the world? (In fact, I submit that Laffin and his right-wing cohorts display at least a minimal amount of integrity in that they honestly espouse their ignorant opinions.)

When are we going to stop using the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Dan Whites as role models? And if we think we aren't, we're fooling ourselves. The only difference between them and some of us is anatomy--and sexual preference. Queer-bashers can be queer.

The issue of violence within our community needs to be confronted. How? I'm not sure, but I pose the issue for all to ponder. Sisterhood is not synonymous with every Lesbian liking every other Lesbian. Such an expectation is naive at best, destructive at worst. (False unity never a movement built.) However, sisterhood is also not synonymous with tolerating intolerable behavior. And violence within our community is intolerable. Or, does the desire of some Gays and Lesbians to prove to the world they're "just as normal" as straights extend into the realm of "I can bash a queer just as good as you can"? I suppose for some of us it does.

WORLD'S ONLY CHILDREN'S RIGHTS MAG TO STOP PUBLICATION:

FPS

**a magazine of young
people's liberation**

FPS SUSPENDS PUBLICATION

With this special double issue of FPS (#63/64), publication of the magazine will be suspended until the end of the year, and perhaps permanently. Since its founding in September 1970, FPS has been sustained through the regular financial subsidies of the all-volunteer staff and generous readers. Considering this shaky financial base it is amazing that FPS has lasted so long.

Ironically, the magazine's growth over the years has simply meant that it loses even more money and takes even more time and skill to produce. It is now financially impossible to continue without a benefactor or some type of foundation support.

Fortunately, the book publishing operation of Youth Liberation Press seems capable of being financially self-supporting, so the possible demise of FPS will not adversely affect our other work.

Because FPS is a truly unique magazine — really the only determined and professional children's rights magazine in the world — we feel it is important that it continue if at all possible. Over the coming summer we will study the possibility of reorganizing the magazine and obtaining outside financial support. We will report back to you on the results of that study in the Fall.

Naturally, if you know of possible funding sources or have suggestions for continuing the magazine, please contact us. We are especially interested in concrete information, such as the names of people who work with foundations that may be interested in a project like FPS. But any sort of lead, tip, or brainstorming ideas will be appreciated.

Youth Liberation
2007 Washtenaw Ave.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
(313) 995-4575

Sincerely,

Keith Hefner, Billie Chancey & John Autin
for Youth Liberation Press

Review

Recent news item:

PROTESTANT BIBLE CONSERVATIVE ON SEX

DALLAS(AP)--A new Bible that describes homosexuals as effeminate and ignores recent campaigns to eliminate "sexist" language from scriptures has been unveiled. The new version is aimed at ultraconservative Protestants.

The updated King James New Testament also portrays Jesus Christ in terms most

familiar to fundamentalist groups.

Edited by the Rev. Arthur Farstad of Dallas and published by Thomas Nelson, Inc. of Nashville, Tenn., the new Bible was introduced Wednesday in New York amid predictions that the new text will replace the "Revised Standard Version." as the predominate Protestant text.

(Waterville Sentinel)

Hallelujah! Just when America's religious fundamentalists face a real energy burn-out from almost fanatical opposition to everyone and everything even hinting of backdoor progressivism, along comes Rev. Farstad with his new "revised" Bible.

It should prove to be an enormous time-saver. In the past, untold millions of "ultraconservative" fundies would necessarily waste billions upon zillions of bigot-hours-- better spent whipping children in Christian Schools-- searching through dog-eared pages of the old King James for excerpts supporting their sundry and myriad prejudices. With the new Farstad Bible, worshippers need only locate their favorite predisposition in the Good Book's handy thumb index...and off they go!

The staff at "Mainely Gay" recently received a review

copy of the Farstad Bible. Our text, arriving with a few cents postage due, was personally machine autographed by Anita Bryant with an afterword by Jim Bakker of TV's "The PTL Club." Ms. Bryant's message was standard fare, and Mr. Bakker included a state-by-state program listing for his show, including the toll-free "800" number that viewers dial to pledge donations.

The book itself has a black, simulated vinyl cover and the edges of the 150-odd pages appear to be fool's gold-leafed. Although the advertisements--liberally sprinkled throughout the text--were somewhat distracting ("Praise ye the Christian Motel & Auto Body Shoppe--at the corner of Main and Ellipsoid in downtown Decatur"), the various chapters were quite easy to read and set in a type that appeared appreciably larger than that used in standard Bibles.

Of special note are the various line drawings that accompany the text: the full-page sketch depicting the inside of a gay disco in the Biblical town of Sodom was particularly instructive, although a small group of fundamentalist scholars assert that Sodomite society had little or no access to electric generators. Other sins listed in Sodom and Gomorrah are: pinball machines, fun, the Roman Catholic Church, chewing gum, 3.2 beer and punk rock. Worst of all: school systems in the two cities taught the principles of evolution!

While the Old Testament of the "old" version is relatively similar to that in the standard texts (one notable exception: in Farstad's Bible, Jonah, rather than getting swallowed by a large fish, instead swallows the "commie line" and glibly mouths socialist slogans for three days), it's the New Testament where Rev. Farstad has edited the most extensively. A sample excerpt from Matthew 4:12:

12 And Matthew spoke to the crowd, saying,
"Jimminy Cricket! Show me a male who swishes
and I'll show you a homosexual! Yes, my
brothers, you can actually spot these queers

a mile away: they usually wear robes and sandals, with full beards and long hippie hair that's never combed, trimmed or blown-dry. And when they speak, they're a dead giveaway: they all talk quietly, and when you ask them a direct question, they seek to evade it by responding with a question of their own!

An excerpt from 1 Corinthians (the Apostle Paul is speaking):

My brothers, I've travelled a whole lot in my lifetime: as a roving author of Epistles and also as a circuit-riding preacher. And on the road to the Gaza I've met many a fellow-traveller! And brothers, these commie pinko queers are right behind the so-called Equal Rights Amendment as the final, necessary step towards One World Red Government and the abolition of all our freedoms as we know them! Uni-sex toilets and haircuts! Lesbian missile silos! Affirmative action for transvestites and cockatrices! Gee Willikers! The ERA will force all our beloved-though-stermly-disciplined Christian children into Bolshevik day care centers staffed by faggots and diesel dykes! God is watching all this stuff, and let me say, brothers, He's ripped as all get-out!

Additionally, Jesus Christ is depicted in terms most familiar to conservative fundamentalists. He stands about 6'5" with shortish, blue-black hair combed back with Vitalis and no sideburns. He often preaches in doubleknit suits with an American flag pin in his lapel.

A typical scene in the Farstad Bible has Jesus in the temple, where he routs the moneychangers in the standard version. But Farstad's Christ, rather than attempt to remove the capitalists from the shrine, instead berates them for using out-dated cash-flow techniques. He advises them to form a tax-exempt religious organization and syndicate a mass media promotional program that would appeal to "ultraconservatives." Visibly stunned, the moneychangers quickly regain their composure and form a

non-profit holding company, through sale of stock, for production of late-night, religious programs.

Also, Christ opposes sex education in public schools and supports "the God-given right of every Christian to bear arms" and increased military budgets.

Rev. Farstad, as the primary mover behind this new Bible, is obviously no shrinking violet when it comes to interpreting 2,000 years of religious dogma to suit his particular interests and prejudices. And the fundamentalist flock, the zealous though easily led believers that they are, will really go to town on this one!

--Peter Prizer

THE DESTRUCTION OF SODOME:
A SERMON PREACHED
at a publick Fast, before the honourable Assembly of the Commons House of Parliament,
At St. MARGARET'S Church in Westminster.
By JOHN HARRIS, Preacher there.
Feb. 18. 1628.
LONDON,
Printed by H.L. and R.J. for G.Lab.
dwelling in Pauls Church-yard
Figure of the Bishops head.

Cumberland County Curmudgeon

By Susan W. Henderson

SOME MAGICAL GAY HISTORY



Arthur Evans, Witchcraft and the Gay Counterculture, Boston, Fag Rag Books, Box 331, Kenmore Sq., 02215, 1978, 180 pp., \$5.50.

When I read excerpts from this book in Fag Rag three or four years ago (has it been that long?), I could hardly wait for the whole book to appear. Well, it's finally out, and I found it well worth waiting for. Evans has done a fine piece of scholarship -- he may not think that a compliment, because he rejects most of the conventions of academe; nonetheless, his research is impressive, and he tells the reader where he's coming from right from the start, as a good historian should. He describes the book in its preface as "one-sided, in that it is mostly concerned with the victims of Western civilization, rather than their rulers. It is subjective, in that it reflects my own personal value judgments and emotions. It is arbitrary, in that it picks and chooses among all the source material, accepting a few things here and there, but rejecting most as biased or unreliable." He goes on to say, oh so truly, "All historical works are one-sided, subjective and arbitrary. Every historian works this way. The real falsehood occurs when historians hide their values, emotions, and choices under a veneer of "objectivity." A work of history cannot be assessed apart from the values of the person who wrote it." As a PhD in history myself, I appreciate this perceptivity.

Evans demonstrates convincingly that what we know in European history as "witchcraft" was the survival of the pre-Christian nature religions, in some places as late as the end of the eighteenth century. These nature religions involved the worship of a mother-goddess and her associate, a horned god; both of whom were thought to preside over

the plants and animals needed for survival. These deities were worshipped in many ways, including ritual sex, both homo- and heterosexual, and the use of hallucinogenic drugs. Among these people, sex was considered a positive thing, and women and Gay people were held in esteem. The Christian church, which was anti-woman, anti-Gay, and anti-sex, equated the old religion and homosexuality with heresy and devil-worship, and unleashed a reign of terror against its practitioners through the inquisition and the witch-hunters. This sounds extreme, but the weight of the evidence supports it.

In my own studies, I have read that in some German villages practically all the women were killed as the result of a witch-hunter's investigation. Straight historians seem not to have noticed (or have ignored) how many accusations of heresy or witchcraft involved accusations of sodomy or other "sex crimes."

The first chapter of Witchcraft, on Joan of Arc and Gilles de Rais, is a tour de force. Joan was condemned, it appears, primarily because she was a transvestite, a preference commonly associated with homosexuality in the homophobic mind. Gilles de Rais is popularly thought of as the prototype of Bluebeard, and was executed on a charge of sex-murder of young boys (sound familiar?); however, Evans notes that there was a popular demonstration in his favor on the day of his execution, and that a fountain was later built on the fatal spot and believed to be a fertility charm. Evans argues convincingly that Joan and Gilles, who were close associates in the Hundred Years' War, were both practitioners of the Old Religion.

Evans makes his biases clear. He hopes for a return to the nature societies that our ancestors once had. He believes that patriarchy, industrialism, and militarism have misused technology and systematically alienated people from their bodies, feelings, and the knowledge of how



to survive in harmony with nature, and all this so that a few may have power over others. In this day of the latest oil "crisis," it's hard to argue against him. Evans urges Gay people to form rural collectives to regain survival skills, to learn to work and live together without hierarchical institutions, in harmony with all the other natural beings; in short, to revive nature-society and nature-religion. He regrets that violence may be necessary to defend the emerging counter-cultures from the patriarchy which he is sure will see them as a threat, but he refuses to shrink from it if it is necessary. One's first impulse is to dismiss all this as utopian, but on second thought, why couldn't it be possible? After all, our ancestors lived very well without the superstructure of the militarized industrial, patriarchal state. We could too, if we so chose.



full circle

A new feminist monthly newsletter/journal serving the women's community in New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine. Article submissions welcomed; monthly sections include special events, regional notes and news, feature stories, fiction, poetry, and graphics. Potential subscribers and contributors should send one dollar for the first issue to: Full Circle, P.O. Box 235, Contoocook, New Hampshire 03229. Projected date of first issue: March, 1979.

GAY LIBERATION versus GAY RIGHTS:

By Robbie Rosenberg and Eric Rofes
(The authors are two gay men active
in the gay movement in Boston)

It has been encouraging to see the Guardian (from which this article was reprinted; June 6, 1979), along with many other progressive and left groups, move towards a fuller recognition of the legitimacy of gay struggles. However, the Guardian's position and analysis, as exemplified in past Viewpoints and in the title of their new department "Gay Rights," is quite limited.

Irwin Silber, writing in 1971, summed up the past and present Guardian stance when he said, "The struggle for the 'rights' of homosexuals is...a struggle for democratic rights...it is in the self-interest of the left to support the movement of homosexuals for the rights of free expression, privacy, equality before the law and against discrimination." While we don't deny that these are valid demands, because of their narrow focus, in the long run, they will bring us to a dead-end as a movement.

The Guardian's position on gay liberation must be understood, historically, in the context of the left's relationship to issues of sexuality, feminism and the "politics of personal life."

Lesbians and gay men have often felt alienated from the left because of its lack of active support for the struggles we face and its failure to develop a meaningful analysis of our oppression. While lesbians and gay men have often been active in radical movements of many kinds (including the Russian revolution, the 1960s civil rights and antiwar movements, and labor struggles), the majority of left and progressive movements have not taken up our cause. The left press in this country has hardly even covered the gay liberation movement until two years ago when Anita Bryant et al. made it undeniably clear that lesbians and gay men were under attack.

Unfortunately, there are numerous groups on the left, even today, whose perspectives on "homosexuality" are far to the right

of the Guardian's. The Revolutionary Communist Party blindly calls homosexuality "bourgeois decadence." Some members of the Marxist-Leninist wing of the women's movement see unresolvable contradictions between the right to sexual choice and support for working-class families. Many groups incorrectly interpret the oppressive "invisibility" of third world and working-class lesbians and gay men as evidence that gay liberation is a white, middle-class concern.

While we hope that our previous article clearly refutes these ideas, it's important to understand why such reactionary thinking persists on the left. First of all, the current gay liberation movement is relatively young and it is only recently that many lesbians and gay men have felt strong and proud enough to speak out and to develop a solid analysis of our oppression. Second, most straight progressive-minded people have not really dealt with their own oppressive attitudes or taken a look at how homophobia and sexism affects them. Finally, the left, until the recent resurgence of feminism, has not taken issues of personal relationships and individual attitudes seriously, or has viewed them as "not political."

The time has certainly come for things to change.

THE CURRENT SITUATION

Before we can develop a strategy for the gay liberation movement we need to have a concrete understanding of the conditions which we are struggling to change. Twentieth century postindustrial society brought the erosion of the traditional patriarchal family and a questioning of the ideology associated with it. The beginnings of a gay liberation movement existed in pre-World War I Europe and then again in this country in the early 1950s. Unfortunately, the former was practically obliterated by the Nazis and the latter was crippled, though not destroyed, by the McCarthy anticommunist hysteria.

The movement of today began to ignite in 1969 with the violent resistance by the patrons of the Stonewall Inn (a New York gay bar) to a police raid. Over the next few years, many independently organized "Gay Liberation Fronts" sprung up around the country. These groups were clearly linked to the politics of the New Left and included both lesbians and gay men.

These first few years saw an explosion of militant activism and

some success in changing the overall attitudes of our society. Unfortunately, in the mid-1970s as the left in general declined, the gay liberation movement began to splinter. Lesbians, influenced by the still growing strength of the women's liberation movement and in reaction to the sexism of gay men, began to form new organizations or make their primary focus feminist struggles.

Gay rights organizations, dominated by white male middle-class men lacking a radical vision of society, began to define the movement. At the same time, especially as some legal reforms were won, the "new right" reactionary forces began to direct their energies against lesbians and gay men, along with women, third world peoples and Jews.

In this last decade we've also seen the rise of new, more open and proud lesbian and gay male subcultures. While all homosexual women and men are not a part of these, their existence reflects certain strengths and weaknesses which must be examined. For lesbians, this has been primarily as part of the women's movement, in the development of feminist music, art, community space and politics.

While this clearly has been and still is profoundly positive, it has also hampered formation of alliances with other movements by the often unthinking exclusion of minority and working-class women, antimale attitudes and rigid antagonism toward the broader left. For gay men there has been an explosion of bars, businesses and media aimed at fulfilling our needs but more often at getting our money. A part of this newly visible and more acceptable gay male subculture has been the resurgence of traditional and even exaggerated notions of masculinity. The gay male movement has also been characterized by the exclusion of minority and working-class men, misogyny and isolation from other progressive movements.

The general rightward shift in the U.S. and economic hard times has made it more difficult to organize for gay liberation. However, in the last year, we have successfully defeated the antigay school workers Briggs initiative in California and prevented the repeal of the Seattle gay rights ordinance. In both cases lesbians and gay men were able to work together or coordinate their efforts. In Seattle, white and non-white communities united in opposition to both antigay hysteria and police brutality against third world people.

TOWARD A SOCIALIST PROGRAM

Lesbians and gay men with radical politics need to work both in our communities and as part of the left, feminist and other movements for social change. We need to understand what the real needs of lesbians and gay men are, provide important leadership and actively take part in and make the connections with the many other struggles going on today. Though these can be difficult and exhausting tasks, the present time is potentially a very exciting one for gay liberation. We are under attack, yet people are fighting back and rekindling their activism.

The fight for gay rights should be supported but its limitations need to be acknowledged and raised in the political work we do. Lesbian and gay socialists should not devote their energies to this. We should build alternatives in our communities, in social institutions and relationships that liberate us, that foster our strength and pride and lay the groundwork for a powerful grass roots movement.

The crucial importance of sexism in our oppression needs to be continually put forth. We still need to deepen our understanding of the connections between homophobia, lesbian and gay oppression and sexism. Gay men must make combating their own and other men's sexism a major priority while we work to build a strong and equal alliance between lesbians and gay men. The needs of lesbians as women, not just as "gay females," must be recognized. Respect for each other is a prerequisite for realistically working together.

We need to build a movement that is fully inclusive of national minorities and working-class people by addressing the needs of all lesbians and gay men. To do this, we will first need to deal with our own internal divisions: how both the lesbian and gay male communities are divided by racism and classism. Our movement will only be effective when we have a firm base among third world and working-class people. From this strength, we can begin to take a very important step in ending our oppression: building alliances with other oppressed groups.

Since one of our main problems has been our invisibility, the left press must commit itself to covering news and analysis of the struggles of lesbians and gay men. Furthermore, upfront lesbians and gay men working within the left should be identified as such.

Lesbians and gay men working in other progressive movements and in left parties and organizations need to be supported by a firm commitment on the part of straight activists to root out their antigay, homophobic and sexist attitudes and ideas, and make the fight against these a major priority.

Gay liberation must become an integral part of all movements for social change. These movements and their organizations need to become a safe place for lesbians and gay men, and work with us as real and equal allies.✱

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

WANTED: Volunteers for the Gay People's Alliance SPEAKER'S BUREAU. You don't have to commit much time, or be an experienced speaker, or even necessarily be all that "politically correct."

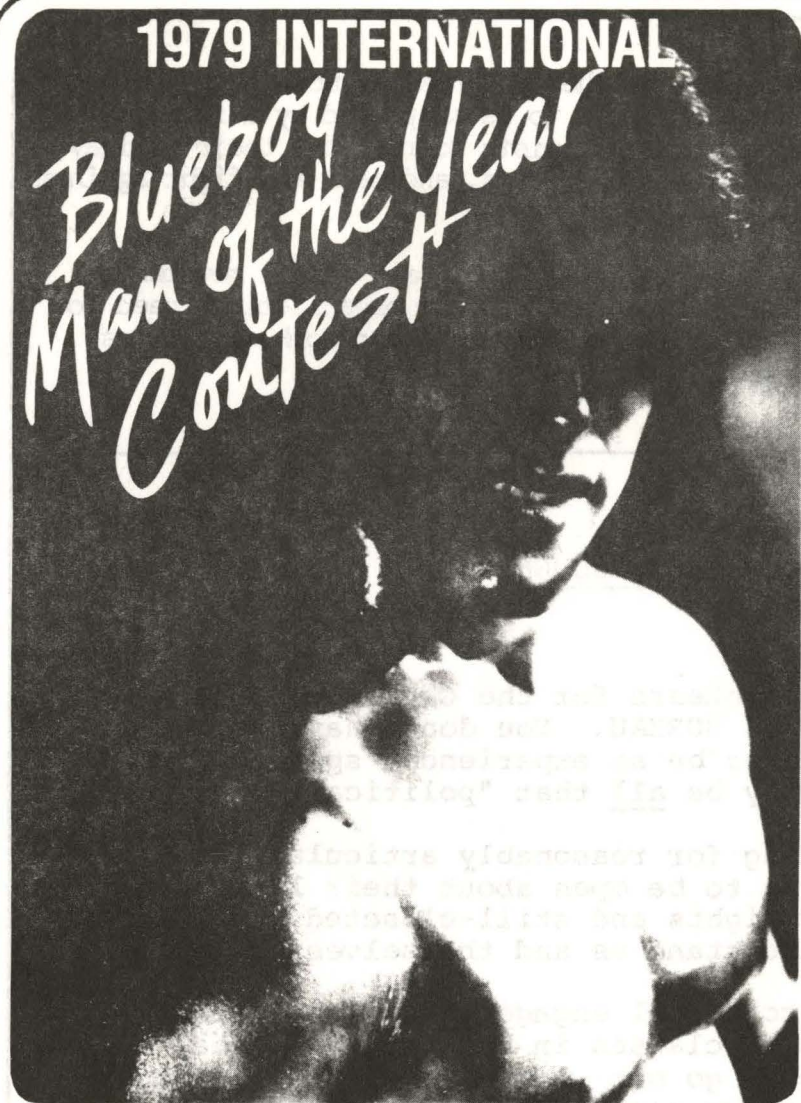
We're looking for reasonably articulate people who are willing to be open about their lives, in order that straights and still-closeted gay people may better understand us and themselves.

Involves occasional engagements with various organizations or classes in the Portland area. Speakers usually go out in pairs or small groups; rather than making speeches, the audience is invited to become involved with us in open discussion. Audiences are generally very receptive, and speakers often find the experience satisfying.

To become part of the SPEAKER'S BUREAU, call GPA at 780-4085 or write to Gay People's Alliance, 92 Bedford St., Portland, Maine 04103.

1979 INTERNATIONAL

*Blueboy
Man of the Year
Contest*



THE 73 WINNERS OF THE METROPOLITAN AND REGIONAL CONTESTS WILL COMPETE IN OCTOBER AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN FOR THE TITLE: "1979 INTERNATIONAL MAN OF THE YEAR."

INTERNATIONAL FINALS, SEPT. 30, 1979, MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

FIRST PRIZE \$10,000

REGIONAL CONTEST

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1979

ONE WAY PUB

9 PM

10 UNION ST.

PORTLAND, MAINE 04111



THE ONE WAY PUB is one of 73 establishments selected across the US, Canada, Great Britain and The Netherlands to host the BLUEBOY MAN OF THE YEAR CONTEST.

Blueboy representatives will be in Portland to assist with the organization of the contest and a nominal door charge of \$5-- to help defray costs -- will be collected and retained by Blueboy.

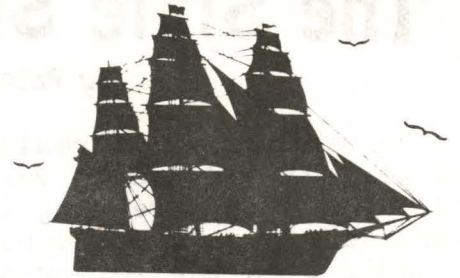
Each person who attends the MAINE REGIONAL CONTEST will receive a \$3 coupon from "Blueboy, Inc." which can be used towards purchase of any Blueboy publication or product.

EVERYONE is welcome! Potential contestants should contact THE ONE WAY PUB for details.

TEL. 207-772-9401

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ALL-WOMEN BOAT CRUISE!!



THE ONE WAY PUB WILL SPONSOR AN ALL-WOMEN BOAT CRUISE ON BEAUTIFUL CASCO BAY ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, FROM 8:30 to 11:30PM.

FOR THREE HOURS JUST WOMEN, MUSIC, DANCING AND GOOD TIMES!

THE COST PER PERSON IS \$5 WITH FREE SET UPS AVAILABLE (BYOB).

LIMITED TO THE FIRST 300 APPLICANTS
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IF YOU HAVE NEVER SAILED ON CASCO BAY

THIS IS CERTAINLY THE TIME!!

Any additional information may be obtained by any employee of



ONE WAY PUB
10 UNION ST.
PORTLAND, MAINE 04111
TEL. 207-772-9401

The State Street Straw

By Peter Prizer

No summertime is really complete, it seems, without some sort of "advanced" version of the standard Hollywood horror flick rearing its grotesque head. My summer, embarrassed to say, has apparently reached its intellectual nadir with the following title:

INVASION OF THE CRUSHPROOF ANTS!



But this is no ordinary, run-of-the-mill horror sci-fi; this is my home!

But late last week, however, I suddenly tired of the little monsters and decided to hold a press conference.

Striding casually into the kitchen and taking a cane chair next to the large wooden table, I was greeted enthusiastically by the 200 or so ants comprising the Insect Press Corp who were arranged rather randomly before me on the oak structure. From the raucous display of waving appendages and nodding antennae it was apparent that some time had elapsed since the last briefing.

"My fellow creatures who have sought refuge and fortune in this sort of humble abode," I opened earnestly, "I am indeed honored to come before you this fine evening and attempt to answer some of the typically in-depth questions I'm sure that all of you, as socially organized

insects, are into asking. Thank you, and are there any queries?"

"Peter," began the first question from an elder hymenopteron positioned atop the salt shaker, "how much longer can we expect to be tormented by the four cats as we attempt to cross the kitchen floor? We condemn the sadistic oppression perpetrated by the cats!"

"The policy of this household," I began as a two-pound glass ashtray suddenly levitated in the far corner of my left eye, "has been--and shall always be--one of complete tolerance of all living creatures who have taken up residence inside--and in some cases, between--these walls. As for the cats' intrigue with pain and humiliation, they have had their daily rations increased, and we believe that they will no longer be fascinated with batting you people across the floor like so many live hockey pucks."

Another questioner wanted to know why the vacuum cleaner was operated with little or no warning. "That's a fair question," I replied as a large glass object shattered loudly on the floor, "and I'll do my best to answer it."

"Briefly," I began, this household has attempted recently to reduce its dependency on foreign oil by reducing the level of unnecessary housecleaning, whenever possible. However, the situation arises--perhaps every four months--where it is absolutely imperative to operate the vacuum cleaner. While we are aware that this practice often results in the unintentional imprisonment of scores of your loved ones, I would point out in all fairness that the noise and movement of the vacuum so mesmerizes the kitties that it often distracts from their linoleum-style sadism during the event. In the winter I would suggest we will seek to employ the vacuum cleaner on an even more energy-conscious schedule."

A half-dozen tiny rear legs shot into the air, waving frantically to attract my notice.

"Yes, Auntie Deluvian," I responded, looking directly at the red critter seated on the handle of a dirty coffee spoon on loan from the University Kafe.

"Peter," she began, "is there any truth to the whispered allegations that some of our community have been antnapped by humans...and dropt from great heights into swirling toilet water...rinsed by the dozens of families into the bowels of churning garbage disposals...mashed by the scores by strategically-placed Converse in-steps... bisected alive..."

"Now Ms. Deluvian," I interrupted sternly, "what you are describing are activities that this household would never tolerate. We two-leggeds did not purpose-fully defoliate whole forests in southeast Asis to live in a society that flushes the less fortunate down the john. We support--for all--the individual pursuits of Life, Liberty and Happiness, as long as no one goes overboard, of course."

Wiping my forehead with a paper napkin, I inadvertently crushed a red jumbo who apparently had been exploring one of the creases.

"Peter," began another questioner, "how long will the shortage of No.7 oil last?" Four-hundred eyeballs awaited my answer.

"As you know," I began, wiping my brow, "our kitchen cooking areas are experiencing a seasonally-adjusted shortage of flying grease and oil associated with deep-fat frying. Perhaps by early October we will have our grease quotas back in adequate supplies. Peanut oil has become increasingly scarce, and it seems that we can never keep a can of Crisco in the pantry without some unexplained shortage. But we'll do our best."

"I have time for just one more question...OK...You in the Heinz catsup cap."

"Thank you," the mulitpede began. "I don't mean to"

sound hostile or antagonistic, but your promises seem to ring hollow..."

"Would you please speak up?" I interjected.

I DON'T MEAN TO SOUND HOSTILE, but two weeks ago we were assailed by tennis balls in the anteroom. And just last week, after we were promised special Scurrying Zones on the kitchen counters, someone sprayed D-Con around the cats' dishes. We were proud to ante up our half of the bargain, but now it seems..."

The question was never finished.

The End

(If you wish to learn what horrible fate interrupted the proceedings, simply mail \$3.50--the average cost of a movie in Portland--to me, c/o The State Street Straw and this magazine. Allow six weeks for delivery. Not responsible for condition of replies machine cancelled.)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Next month, August, will mark the 5th Anniversary of Mainely Gay. Begun in late summer, 1974, the publication "came out" as the official voice of the Maine Gay Task Force (MGTF), and was called "The MGTF Newsletter."

In January, 1977, the name was changed to "Mainely Gay" to reflect the broader interest of the mag. For almost four years, it was put out each month, but went to a bi-monthly schedule to remove some of the pressure from the all-volunteer staff. Now, "MG" is done at least six issues per year (every two months) with the option of special issues when deemed necessary by the staff.

Perhaps in the next issue (Sept/Oct) we'll have a broad history of Mainely Gay, if we can find some one to put it together. (Incidentally, the only known complete collection, from Vol.1, No.1 to the present, is owned by Stan Fortuna; neither the publication nor anyone else know of another complete series).

*

*

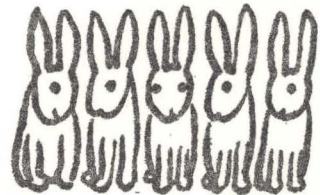
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WRITINGS ON BIRCH

*In the Sunshine
I see your Smile,
In the Rain
I feel your Tears,
In the Wind
I hear your Cries,
At Sunset, I wish each Star
were a kiss
Until Sunrise peaks over
your breasts.*

-Sipsis (Vol.1, No.1)

...on the occasion
of Mainely Gay's
Fifth Anniversary:



...a Five Bun Salute!

TATTOO

"Why the hell does anyone want a tattoo?"

"What is this, some kind of identity thing?"
if you check your hip now you'll remember who you
are?"

"What's that gonna be? a flyin kiss?
Winged heart with a rainbow, huh?"

*"I've always wanted one -- it feels like a power thing to me
magical sensual and strong!"*

"Most people who come in here get them just because
they want one -- that's all."

"Ooh painful! Let me see!"

The tattooist is big boned and freckled
light curly hair wide cloudless eyes
she smokes thin dark cigars frets
about her baby's first day at the sitter
fills the needles with one bright color after another
like 1st grade temperas
tilts back on her stool to dip the buzzing instrument
in running water
Lady Monarch can not be shocked

I intone silently:

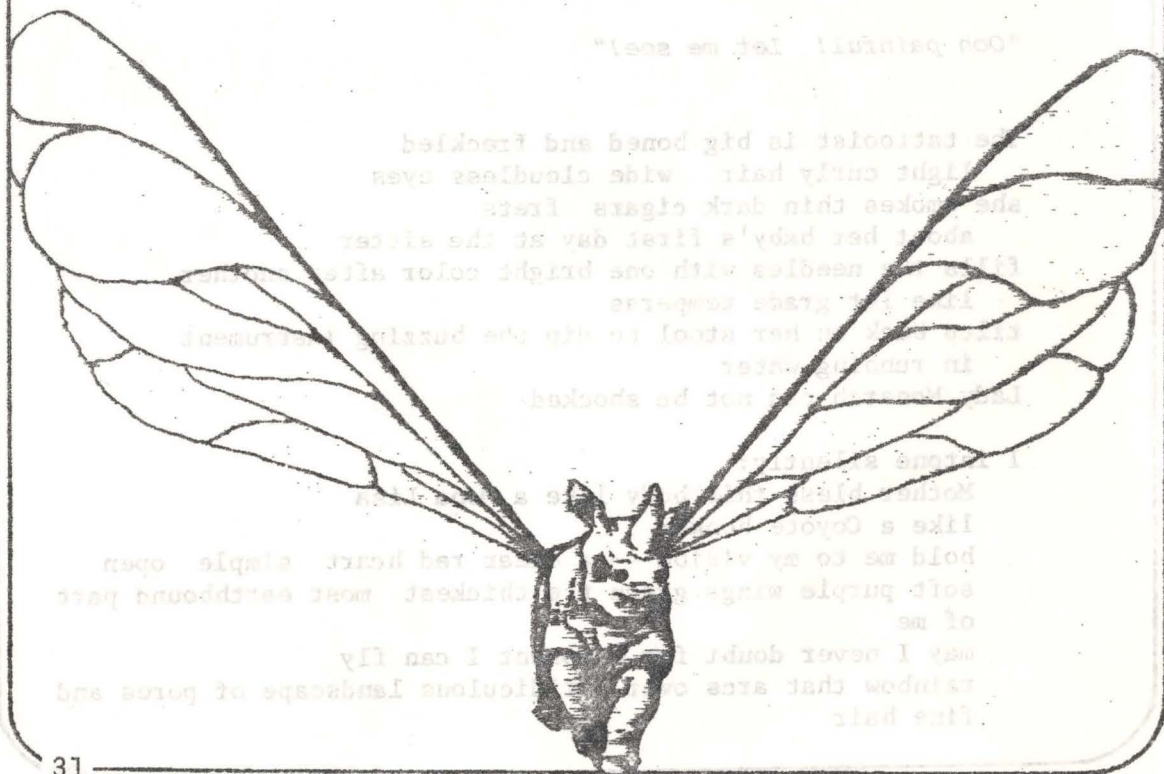
Mother bless this body like a Mona Lisa
like a Coyote hooker
hold me to my vision -- a clear red heart simple open
soft purple wings grace the thickest most earthbound part
of me
may I never doubt for a moment I can fly
rainbow that arcs over a ridiculous landscape of pores and
fine hair

may I treasure the absurd always and
may the light shine in and out of me

It will be days before the red bloom of swelling fades
the scab disappears
suspense of something outrageous beautiful about to emerge
I twist around catch the bright flash on my left hip
see how bad I am
how good I am
and laugh

Miriam Dyak

5/79



Etcetera, etc.

As promised in the last issue, what follows is a summary of the fate of L.D. 860, the state's gay rights bill.

It got creamed.

But Stanley Laffin's anti-gay bill, L.D. 930, met the same fate as 869 in the Maine legislature.

* *

The up-coming issue of Mainely Gay will have a survey seeking interested persons' opinion on the course and/or fate of the Maine Gay Task Force. At the April Gay Symposium, a workshop devoted to this subject was held.

Perhaps "MG" will be able to print some letters on the direction of MGTf in the next issue...

* *

The Gay People's Al-

liance of the University of Southern Maine is back in operation!

Diligently staffed by Gerri Merola and Peter Prizer, the office is located on the first floor at the Student Union, 94 Bedford St. in Portland.

Right now, we're planning activities for the fall semester--and we're open to any and all ideas. If you find yourself in the area, drop in and say hello (no charge for the first consultation!)

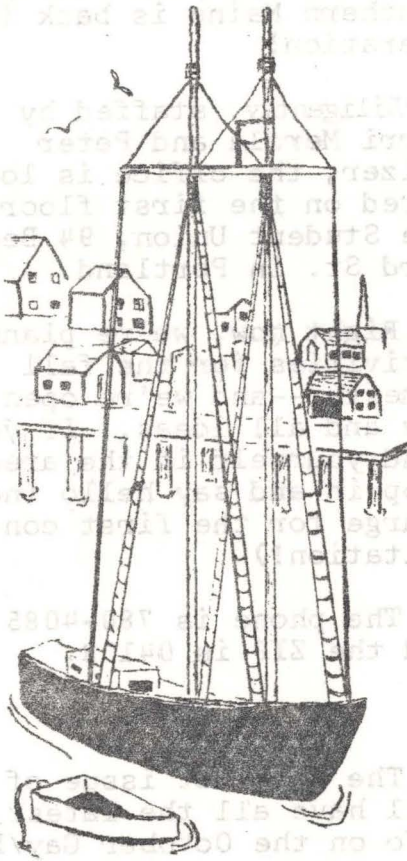
The phone is 780-4085 and the ZIP is 04103.

* *

The Sept/Oct issue of MG will have all the latest info on the October Gay/Lesbian March on Washington, D.C.



THE EAST SIDE



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HINTS FOR HEL' O EZ (or how come this never makes
it into the papers?)

Heloise!

I just discovered the neatest trick--I can't wait to tell you! I was trying to defrost my frig today and you know what a mess they are. Well you know this glass tray that's under the freezer compartment? Well I guess it got frozen to the back of the compartment in the back, well anyway I couldn't get it unstuck and it was filling up with water and about to overflow and I didn't know what to do. Then a flash of inspiration--I detached the hose from my douche bag and stuck one end in the tray and siphoned the water out into a bowl. (Be sure if you do this to unscrew the douche attachment because you don't want to put that in your mouth to start the siphon going, just the hose.) It worked wonders and saved the day!

Yours in the cause of greater efficiency!

Dolores Daphne Trumbull

Dear D.D.T.--what a sweetheart you are to share that with our readers and I'll bet your husband really got off on the clean refrigerator too!

Hey, Helly Belly (heh, heh!)

Ever think how much paper we waste just by throwing out the little cardboard rolls from the center of toilet paper rolls? Whole forests down the drain! I have one excellent use for them. Cut a small hole in the center of one side of the roll about as big as a dime. Take a double layer of aluminium foil twice the size of the hole and form a little aluminium cup to fit down in it--pierce the cup several times with a pin or needle. Now you've got a perfect spur-of-the-moment dope pipe. Just place your grass in the aluminium cup, put one hand over one of the

open ends and the other open end over your mouth, light it and toque up! Have a nice day now.

Mary Jane

Hey yourself, Molly Jolly! You've got some good conservationist thinking even if you are a bit spaced out and rude.

Heloise

Dear Heloise,

I'm so glad this is a letter and I don't have to worry about pronouncing your name right. I want to tell you that before I squeeze lemons, I roll them around on the floor under my bare feet. This loosens up all the juice and you get more for your lemon, plus the foot massage is really excellent, it gets all the basic foot reflexology points. Not to mention that the whole process is quite pleasurable. Enjoy yourself now!

Happy Hedonist

Dear Happy, you certainly live up to your name. I can hardly stop rolling these lemons (and oranges and grapefruit...) and pay attention to my work!

Heloise

Heloise,

Sometimes it seems the littlest things give us the worst problems. I have a little bit of leftover whiplash from an accident a long time ago and it never bothers me till I'm making love to my sweetie. I tried putting a pillow under her hips, but I still had a sore neck all the next day. Finally it dawned on me to use two big pillows and it really leveled us out. Hope some other hip sisters out there can use this advice too--it's so simple once you see it!

Sappho Goldberg

Thank you Sappho for your helpful tip--I like to do everything I can for the handicapped. Love ya!

Heloise

Hello? Easy does it!

Don't you love my cute pun? Well, sometimes I don't love my cats, like when they come in in the morning and walk on my face and drool in my ear. I've discovered the best defense is offense in this case. I grab them, ruffle them up and down frantically all over, scratch them in every conceivable place, turn them upside down and rub their bellies until they're really happy to leave me alone for another hour and let me sleep. Another solution would be to change over to feeding them at night, but it wouldn't be as much fun. Best from

Marquis de Sade

Dear Marquis, Glad you're sticking to cats these days. I'll pass the good word.

Heloise

Madame Heloise,

I have such a simple solution to a delicate problem. I discovered to my chagrin that little particles of strange glop were adhering themselves to the beautiful luxuriant growth of hair under my arms. Deoderants not only didn't help, they made it worse. But plain old rubbing alcohol worked like a charm. Just a little on some cotton applied to the armpits in the morning and off comes the glop. Horray!

Cherie

Dear Cherie, I know there are probably just hundreds of women out there waiting to hear how to get rid of pit glop. You've done a very good deed today. Bless you!

Heloise

Well,

EXCUUUUSE us!!

We don't mean to waste any more of your valuable time hustling subscriptions, but we thought you'd like to know why other highly intelligent people subscribe to Mainely Gay:

"For the fun of it" -- Heloise

"Because they're [the readers] masochists" -- Susan Henderson

"I'm not sure" -- an agnostic

"We don't" -- Vatican rep

"I like to be offended" -- name withheld

"The special size of 'MG' is quite appropriate for squashing ants and swatting house flies" -- Peter Prizer

"We dig the lyrics" -- Village People

"Despite 'MG's' lack of organization, the mag has excellent graphics--probably better than the ones I used to draw"

-- Tim Bouffard

"I like the hot personals" -- Hung In Pownal, Maine

"...indepth interviews add much insight" -- F.Y.

"Vive le centrefolds!" -- Frederick the Great

"We like seeing our names in print" -- The Bob Green Family

"...the hand-addressed envelopes are too much!" -- Janice H.

"Keeps my hot buns in shape" -- a rabbit farmer in Sweden, Me.

\$5 yearly

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MAINELY GAY

PO box 4542

portland, me 04112

"THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN JOURNALISM AND LITERATURE IS THAT JOURNALISM IS UNREADABLE AND LITERATURE IS NOT READ" -- Oscar Wilde

Have you ever noticed that it snows two days after you had the snow tires removed? Or that it rains after you haul water to the garden? That the phone rings after you get into the tub, even if you spent the previous three hours in idle boredom? That this publication is loaded with typos?

Well folks, in a little book called Murphy's Law and Other Reasons Why Things Go Wrong! by Arthur Bloch (Price/Stern/Sloan, Inc. Los Angeles) all the universal principles that rule our lives are dutifully outlined. Although we've revised some of the rules a little, squeamish or timid readers are advised to skip the next couple pages.

Naturally, we'll start with:

MURPHY'S LAW:

IF ANYTHING CAN GO WRONG, IT WILL.

PURITAN'S POSTULATE:

IF YOU'RE FEELING GOOD, DON'T WORRY. YOU'LL GET OVER IT.

NASA'S FOURTH LAW:

ONCE A JOB IS FOULED UP, ANYTHING DONE TO IMPROVE IT WILL ONLY MAKE IT WORSE.

OPTIMIST'S LAW:

THE PROBABILITY OF ANYTHING HAPPENING IS IN INVERSE RATIO TO ITS DESIRABILITY.

MAINLY GAY'S LAW OF THERMODYNAMICS:

THINGS GET WORSE UNDER PRESSURE.

NON-RECIPROCAL LAWS OF EXPECTATIONS:

NEGATIVE EXPECTATIONS YIELD NEGATIVE RESULTS. POSITIVE EXPECTATIONS YIELD NEGATIVE RESULTS.

SLEEPER'S LAW OF CYBERNETIC ENTOMOLOGY:

THERE'S ALWAYS ONE MORE BUG.

BART'S PRINCIPLE:

BUILD A SYSTEM THAT EVEN A FOOL CAN USE, AND ONLY A FOOL WILL WANT TO USE IT.

WATSON'S LAW:

THE RELIABILITY OF MACHINERY IS INVERSELY PROPORTIONAL TO THE NUMBER AND SIGNIFICANCE OF ANY PERSONS WATCHING IT.

FORTUNA'S LAW:

IT WORKS BETTER IF YOU PLUG IT IN.

McQUEEN'S LAW:

IF IT JAMS--FORCE IT. IF IT BREAKS, IT NEEDED REPLACING ANYWAY.

PRIZER'S AXIOM:

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS, READ THE INSTRUCTIONS.

JEKINSON'S LAW:

IT WON'T WORK.

RESEARCHER'S LAW:

IF ENOUGH DATA IS COLLECTED, ANYTHING CAN BE PROVED BY STATISTICAL METHODS.

RULE OF ACCURACY:

WHEN WORKING TOWARD THE SOLUTION OF A PROBLEM, IT ALWAYS HELPS IF YOU KNOW THE ANSWER.

YOUNG'S LAW:

ALL GREAT DISCOVERIES ARE MADE BY MISTAKE.

Corollary:

THE GREATER THE FUNDING, THE LONGER IT TAKES TO MAKE THE MISTAKE.

SWAIN'S SIXTH LAW:

THE PROGRESS OF GAY LIBERATION VARIES INVERSELY WITH THE NUMBER OF LIBERATION JOURNALS PUBLISHED.

BOHN'S LAW:

THERE'S NEVER TIME TO DO IT RIGHT, BUT THERE'S ALWAYS TIME TO DO IT OVER.

LONGLEY'S LAW:

THE PERSON WHO CAN SMILE WHEN THINGS GO WRONG HAS THOUGHT OF SOMEONE TO BLAME IT ON.

WEINBERG'S COROLLARY:

AN EXPERT IS A PERSON WHO AVOIDS THE SMALL ERRORS WHILE SWEEPING ON TO THE GRAND FALLACY.

HUDSON'S SECOND LAW:

NEVER SLEEP WITH ANYONE CRAZIER THAN YOURSELF.

THE MOVEMENT'S FIRST LAW:

FACTIONS WILL WORK RATIONALLY WITH EACH OTHER ONLY WHEN ALL OTHER POSSIBILITIES HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED.

JONES'S MOTTO:

FRIENDS COME AND GO, BUT ENEMIES ACCUMULATE.

McCLAUGHRYS CODICIL TO JONES'S MOTTO:

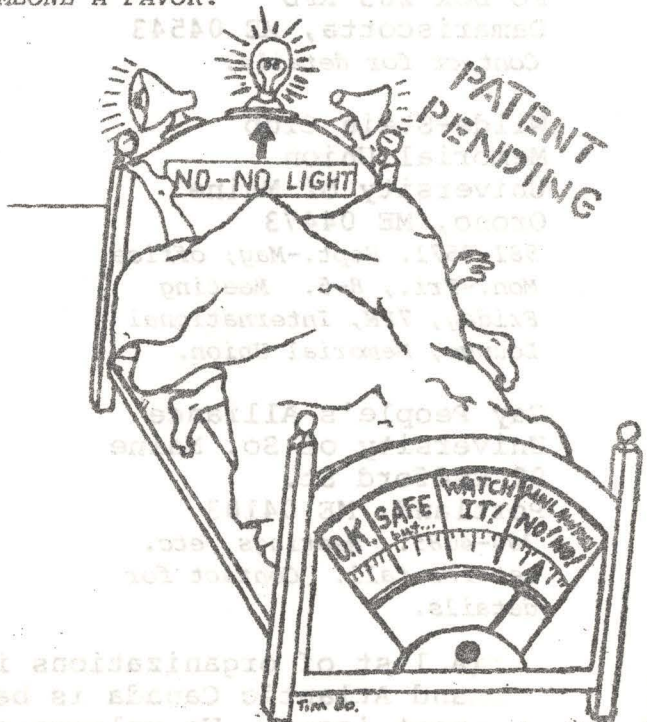
TO MAKE AN ENEMY, DO SOMEONE A FAVOR.

FUNDAMENTALIST'S DICTUM:

IF IT'S FUN, IT'S PROBABLY ILLEGAL.

Corollary:

IF IT'S NOT ILLEGAL, IT SHOULD BE!



GAY/LESBIAN AREA ORGANIZATIONS

MAINE

Maine Lesbian Feminists
PO Box 125
Belfast, ME 04915

Statewide organization; meetings and activities held all over Maine. Contact for details. A newsletter is published.

Integrity/Maine
PO Box 283 RFD
Damariscotta, ME 04543
Contact for details.

Wilde-Stein Club
Memorial Union
University of Maine
Orono, ME 04473
581-2571. Sept.-May; office Mon.-Fri., 8-5. Meeting Friday, 7PM, International Lounge, Memorial Union.

Gay People's Alliance
University of So. Maine
92 Bedford St.
Portland, ME 04103
780-4085. Meetings, etc. set for fall. Contact for details.

Mainely Gay
PO Box 4542
Portland, ME 04112
780-4085 mornings.

G.S.G.
(Growing Sober and Gay)
PO Box 893
Waterville, ME 04901
Contact for details of meetings for gay alcoholics and drug addicts trying to stay sober.

Parents of Gay People
Evelyn and Floyd Bull
c/o PO Box 4542
Portland, ME 04112
Rap groups and discussions by parents of gays--for parents of gays and others who wish to increase their understanding of gays/Lesbians.

Maine Gay Task Force
PO Box 4542
Portland, ME 04112
780-4085 for details. Info on Maine scene, etc.

(A list of organizations in Maine, New Hampshire and Atlantic Canada is being compiled for the next issue. We welcome any submissions)

HISTORY ERASED:

THE WHITE-WASHING OF SUSAN B. ANTHONY

By Karen A. Hagberg

Rochester has gone crazy celebrating the issuance of the Susan B. Anthony coin. Everyone is trying to outdo everyone else in claiming Susan for their own. Susan has been white-washed, prettied up and de-radicalized into a modern, middle-class symbol--as controversial as apple pie.

Rochester SAVings Bank boasts that Susan kept her money there; the University of Rochester reminds us that Susan "arranged" for women to enroll; and at the Susan B. Anthony Memorial, the Board of Directors locks out feminists from its meetings in order to preserve its polite, tea-party atmosphere. We want to remember Susan B. Anthony as she really was: a radical feminist who was considered rude, impolite and obnoxious by the society she fought so hard to change. People regarded her then as some regard feminists today.



THE 'PRETIIFIED' ANTHONY

I reject the white-washed image of Susan B. Anthony. I am filled with anger when I realize that the real woman has been erased from popular history.

Susan B. Anthony was jailed for voting illegally, she gave speeches that shocked people, and she loved other women. Were she alive today, she would not be welcome at the bank, the university or even her own house. She would be in the streets with the rest of us doing her best to make and preserve a history which, for most people, does not even exist.

Gay

People's

Alliance

92 BEDFORD ST.

PORTLAND, MAINE 04103

PHONE (207) 780-4085

During the summer, the office is staffed Monday through Friday, from 9AM to 4PM.

Call for details of current and planned activities. We also welcome suggestions!



University of Southern Maine

GAYELLOW PAGES™

The National Edition includes listings for the entire U.S. and Canada. Published November and May; \$5 third class, \$6 first class; outside North America \$7.

The quarterly NYC/NJ Edition covers New York City, Long Island, and New Jersey. Features include bar and cruising notes, and a special section, "Women's Gayellow Pages." \$1.50; \$2 by mail from Renaissance House, Box 292MG, Village Station, New York, NY 10014.

There is no charge for a basic Gayellow Pages entry. Write for an application.



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Monday & Wednesday

7:00 -- 8:30 PM

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SOCIAL NOTES FROM
ALL OVER...

PORTLAND, Maine (AP)--
Two members of the Iron
Horsemen motorcycle club
underwent surgery for in-
juries they received when
their motorcycles collided
apparently while playing
"chicken" on Riverside
Drive.

Police identified the
two as Harold Sergeant, 39,
and Daniel Sampson, 20,
both members of the Port-
land-based motorcycle club.

Police said Sampson's
foot was nearly severed in
the accident. Sergeant
suffered injuries to his
hand and foot and was in
surgery at Maine Medical
Center.

Portland Police Sgt.
John Fanning said, "Ap-
parently they were playing
chicken."

Chicken is a contest
in which two vehicles are
driven toward one another
to determine which driver
will turn his vehicle to
avoid a collision.



SAN LEANDRO, Calif (UPI)--
A wedding reception brawl that
began when the groom threw the
wedding cake in the bride's
face ended with five people ar-
rested and three police officers
injured.

The reception at the Blue
Dolphin Restaurant for the un-
identified couple had just
started Saturday when the newly-
weds suddenly began arguing
loudly before 300 stunned guests,
police said.

The argument climaxed with
the groom grabbing the wedding
cake and tossing it at the bride.
An enraged relative of the young
woman began throwing dishes, and
the fight was on.



Access A

APARTMENT TO SHARE -- Spacious, sunny clean, 3 bedrooms, in a nice section of Munjoy Hill, Portland. Total rent is \$150 plus utilities.

I'm a Lesbian-feminist, 31, independent, friendly, and like to laugh. Looking for a woman over 28, communicative, responsible, neat, non-smoking and otherwise into a healthy lifestyle. Call 773-3794.

We are a Lesbian collective in the process of compiling a book of photographs that will be a supportive statement of who Lesbian women are in our society. A positive image of Lesbians from all backgrounds and lifestyles will be presented. We are requesting additional 8" by 10" black and white prints of Lesbian women for our review. Include your name and address and title of print. Please indicate if the prints need to be returned and enclose

a self-addressed, stamped envelope for that purpose. Photographers chosen for possible inclusion will be contacted for release details and will receive proper credits and space for a short personal statement.

Sister Rise Collective
PO Box 940
Larkspur, CA 94939

WOMAN, 30, is moving to the Greater Portland area and desires correspondence from Maine people. (A lengthy, very friendly letter 'MG' received from her is too lengthy to be reprinted here--editors). Write to

Ms. Linda Perry
Leland Garden Apartments 22A
Plainfield, N.J. 07061

FOUND -- Did you lose your shirt at Maine Gay Symposium VI? Describe it, and it's your's. Write GM, c/o Mainely Gay, PO Box 4542, Portland, ME 04112.

COUNSELING -- Marjorie Meyer
443-5902

OPEN GIG -- Quiet lounge has opening for entertainer. Help us build and grow. Apply
Judy King 442-7513 Bath

Access A

FUTURE HOMESTEADER, 30, with some assets seeks to hear from others about their homesteading experiences and ambitions. Am seeking partner/s for renovating or building rural homestead. Also interested in existing settlements or rural communes. Erik Bergström, RFD #2, Lincolnville, Maine 04849.

IF YOU THINK you're getting ripped off by your local gas station, call this toll-free, Dept. of Energy no.: 1-800-424-9246. --Editors.

AROOSTOOK COUNTY -- Are there any Lesbians and Gay men out there? Gay man, new to Saint John Valley wishes to make contact with other gay men and Lesbians in northern Maine/New Brunswick area. All correspondence sincerely welcome. Isolation is no fun. Please write! Benjamin, PO Box 82, Van Buren, Maine 04785.

NEVER TOO LATE FOR A LAFF: (from the San Francisco column of Herb Caen, around April):

This may be the gay capital of the western world but not

everybody is against Proposition 6 (the anti-gay referendum), you know. Recently received a fighting newsletter called Checkmate, published in Belmont, Ca., by the Pro Family Coalition which lists all kinds of dandy reasons for voting yes on 6. Its concluding words are especially moving: "Not every city has a Bishop Maloney (like back in St. Paul) or Anita Bryant (in Miami) to stop these types of 'aggressive' sexual deviates. In the meantime, a few parents who have held their 'fingers in the dyke' all these years could sure use a little help."

THE LOVING BROTHERHOOD -- For men on the spiritual path... who care for each other. SASE for information to: TLB, Box 55MG, Sussex, New Jersey 07461.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: There is an increasing number of people failing to take advantage of the City of Portland's Venereal Disease Clinic. This office is trying to reach out to as many people as possible. Our number is 775-5451.



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WAYNE'S COUNTRY

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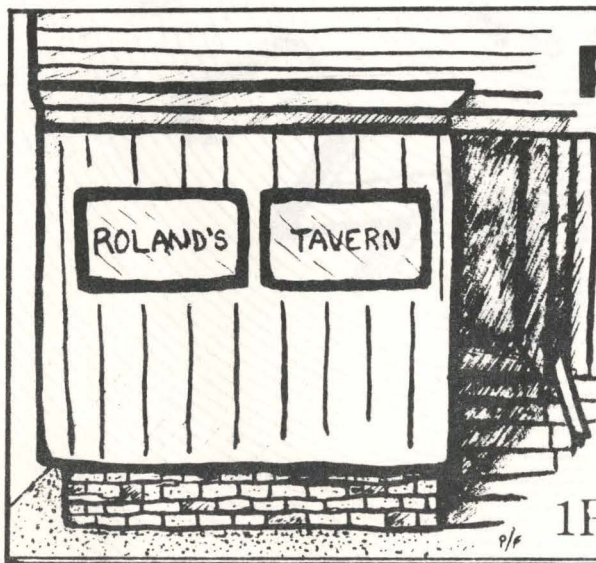
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