

# MAINE LESBIAN FEMINIST NEWSLETTER

June 83

**Get ready for fun!** This weekend is the first MLF meeting / party / potluck barbeque of the summer! (Yay !!) Yes, bring your tapes & goodies to Laura & Cathie's in Augusta for a terrific evening of womyn... what could be better? The gathering begins at 2pm on Sat. July 2<sup>nd</sup>. The map is on the following page, but if you need further information or clarification, you can call Laura @ Cathie at 622-6329. Aside from having a great time, this gathering will give us all an opportunity to talk about what we want out of Maine Lesbian Feminist, out of the newsletter, and our womyn's community.

Our thanks to Laura @ Cathie and we'll see you there!





GARDINER

HALLOWELL

State Street

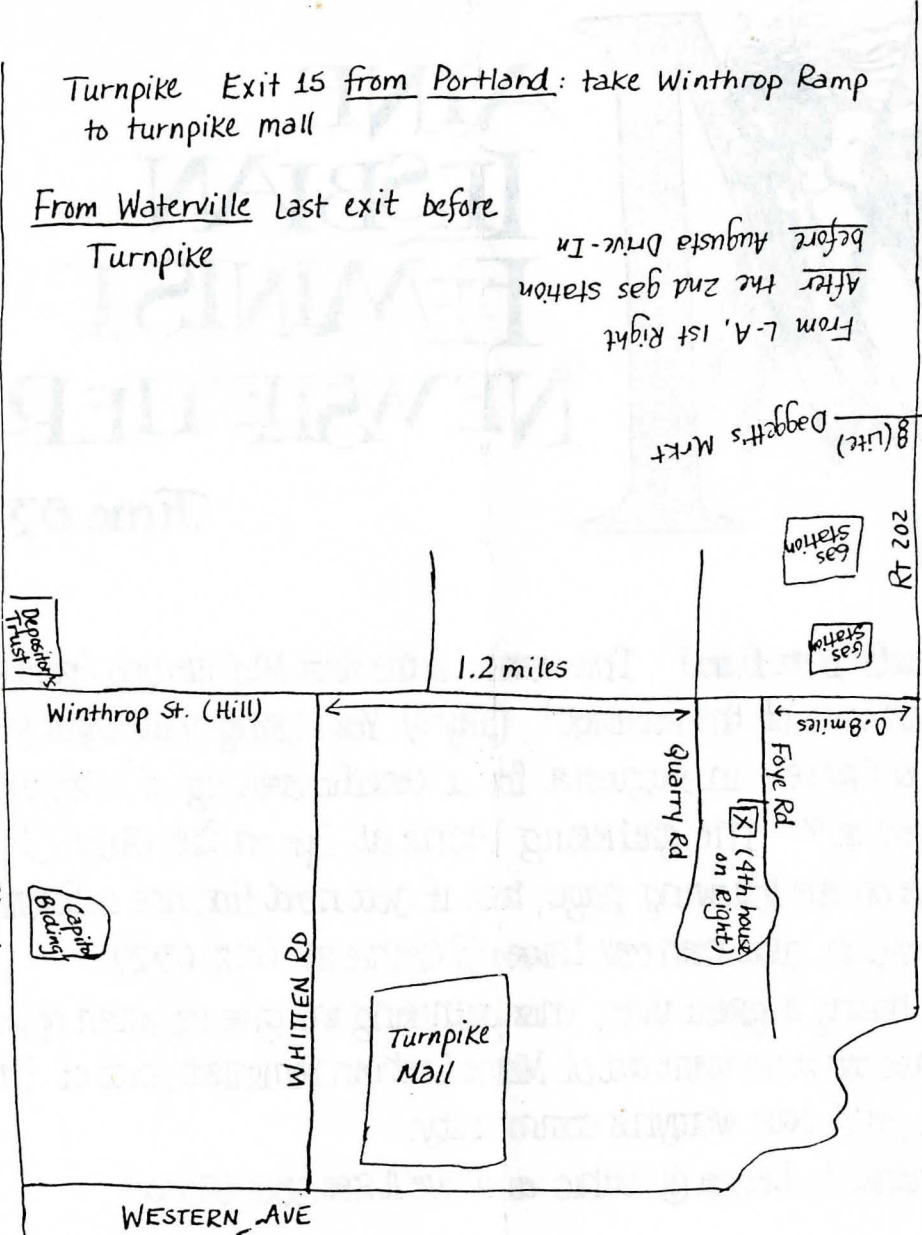
Turnpike Exit 15 from Portland: take Winthrop Ramp to turnpike mall

From Waterville last exit before Turnpike

From L.A. 1st Right  
After the 2nd gas station  
before Augusta Drive-In

TO WINTHROP, LEWISTON-AUBURN ↑

Augusta Drive-In



Turnpike Exit puts you here from Waterville & Portland

# What's New?



Blind Lesbian Feminist, 33, would like feminist & lesbian friends who speak English. Prefer to correspond by cassette so a 3rd person won't be involved. I'm especially interested in how others cope with disability, welfare, etc. My interests are: reading of all kinds, creative writing, drama & fantasy, animals, pop & 60's music. Tape or Braille letters - Felicity % Gemma, BM 5700, London, WC1N, 3XX England.

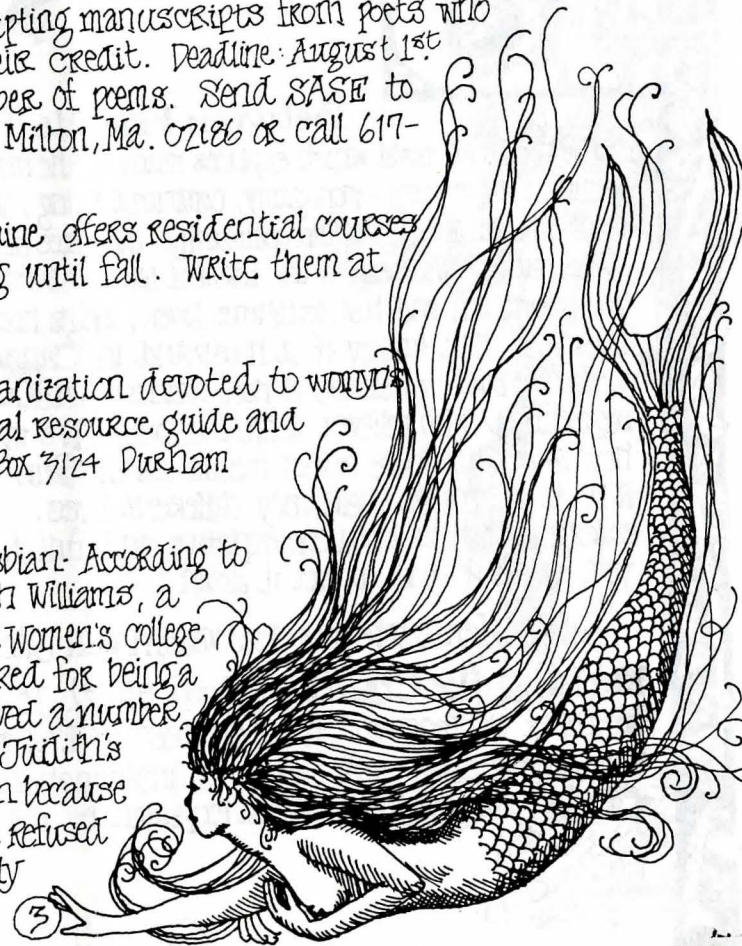
Agnes Mansour is the (ex) Catholic nun who was ordered by her church to resign as director of Michigan Dept. of Social Services because the agency finances abortions. Mansour resigned from her religious order to keep her welfare post. She criticized the church for what she called its failure to "dialogue" with her & her order, the Sisters of Mercy, on the issue.  
-New York Times

The Brush Hill Press is now accepting manuscripts from poets who do not have a published book to their credit. Deadline: August 1st. Contestants may submit any number of poems. Send SASE to Brush Hill Press, 367 Brush Hill Rd., Milton, Ma. 02186 or call 617-333-0512 for information.

Hardscrabble Hill in Orland, Maine offers residential courses and retreats for women from spring until fall. Write them at Box 130, Orland, Maine 04472.

Ladyslipper - a non-profit organization devoted to women's music which publishes an annual resource guide and catalogue of records. Write: P.O. Box 3124 Durham North Carolina 27705

House Parent fired for Being Lesbian: According to a report in Gay Scotland, Judith Williams, a house parent at Besswyn College, a women's college in Liagollen, Scotland, has been fired for being a lesbian. After the college received a number of anonymous phone calls about Judith's lesbianism, she was asked to resign because it was "too political an issue". She refused & was then fired for being "temporarily unsuitable".







# BOOKS

Reviewed by Lucie Bauer

available from New Leaf Books  
 27 Main Street, Rockport, Maine  
 04856 \* 207-236-2030

**Between Friends** by Gillian E. Hanscombe (Alyson, \$5.95)

is a wonderful novel which explores many of the most passionately felt issues in the lesbian feminist community - monogamy, communal living, lesbian-straight relations, lesbian motherhood, male children in the lesbian community, the place of love in a political movement, support for each other, etc. Written in the form of letters between Meg, a lesbian living in London with her young son and her longtime lover; Meg's homophobic college friend, Frances, who lives with her turkey of a husband in Canada; Argy, who with her lover Tim is working hard to create a non-sexist heterosexual relationship; and Jane, a separatist who believes women should give up their male children. It is surprising how dramatic these letters become as the four friends challenge each other to take risks and to re-think their very different lives. A novel of intrigue, betrayal, and courage which is both contemplative and full of suspense. Once you pick it up, you won't be able to put it down!

Gillian Hanscombe also has written with Jackie Forster a book on Lesbian mothers, **Rocking the Cradle**, (Alyson, \$5.95). It is based on interviews with a wide variety of lesbians and their children in England and Wales. They cover many topics including custody and artificial insemination and there is a wonderful chapter of kids talking about their experiences as children of lesbians.

# Poetry

· Morning ·

on the morning  
 of the sounds of rain  
 i hold you close  
 my hands touch your back  
 your arms surround my neck  
 scent of hair  
 loose and tumbled  
 warm from women's sleep  
 we hold so close  
 i feel your breathing  
 pulsing timing  
 with the water  
 from your roofs  
 feel your heart  
 not frightened  
 not frightened  
 but afraid i'll go away

9/21/80  
 Diane Stein

· portrait ·

her skin is very white  
 tiny veins at the surface  
 are like the underside of a leaf.

she is falling softly  
 a midnight snowstorm  
 her tears are like stars  
 she is made mostly of

grasshopper and mist  
 her skeleton is a brief sketch  
 done in pencil.

-Susan Shapiro  
 (from *Sojourner*)  
 June 83





# ☆ Dear Sisters,

There seems to be little interest in helping with the MLF Newsletter. If there is actually so little interest than perhaps the newsletter should no longer be produced. In all fairness I assume that everyone feels that what "little" they could contribute wouldn't be enough. In addition, we have a beautiful letter each month @ most of us have no idea how this comes about. How it comes about is that many times, one woman (not me) is doing the bulk of the work alone, and it takes many nights to complete. If several of us could get together for say, 3 nights a month, the entire newsletter could be done quickly, and with more womyn's energy & ideas, the newsletter would be of better quality & represent a wider range of interest. Possible dates/times to meet are flexible & open for discussion. You are invited to call Catherine at 378-7863 any evening if you would like to help the newsletter continue.

To all those who have sent in any articles or writings or contributions, we thank you. All help is greatly appreciated. We can always use new writings, drawings, advertisements to keep us going. Anything you can think of: a review of a book, movie, poetry reading, lecture, or any meeting or womyn's gathering you may have attended. Write out your opinions on any issue, news item, or any personal interests you like. Our newsletter can't be more than we are willing to make it. All of your thoughts & words are important, we need to share with each other - we are all unique & wonderful.

In sisterhood, AW

\* And a note from Catherine: This weekend at the MLF meeting/barbeque I would like to recruit 4 womyn who can commit themselves to at least 3 months of being the newsletter's "core staff". Thanks ♡ CM.



## WEBWORK

A contact and friendship network for women-identified women in New England.

For membership info, send SASE to WEBWORK \*  
BOX 131-P  
CALAIS, ME.  
04619



Are you looking for a discreet printer? Have your work done by JKS Printers \* A lesbian run business. 742-5946  
Box 125 \* Belfast \* Me

☆ JKS ☆



To Strongwoman: You are a constant wonder and I cherish you. Happy Birthday! L.



A Women's Newsletter




TELEWOMAN

P.O. Box 2306  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

send \$1.00 for sample issue



 **New Hope for Women** will sponsor an Antique / Craft Fair on Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Samoset Resort in Rockland. Craftspeople and antique dealers interested in reserving a booth at the fair should call 772-8247. Cost is \$15<sup>00</sup> for an 8x10 table and a \$5<sup>00</sup> deposit is required in advance.

There will be a \$1<sup>00</sup> admission fee at the door for the public. Raffle tickets for a beautiful seascape oil painting by Joan Anderson of Tenants Harbor will be on sale in advance @ at the fair.

Proceeds go for services to battered women @ their children in the Midcoast Area.



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for only \$7<sup>00</sup> /yr.  
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**NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD  
CP/POB 990  
CARIBOU, MAINE 04736 USA**

An international organization of lesbians and gaymen in northern Maine and northwestern New Brunswick. NLN publishes a monthly newsletter, Communiqué, has a lending library, 'Bibliothèque Lambda', which contains lesbian, gay, and feminist books and periodicals, and operates the Gay Phonenumber - 207/498-6556. A variety of gatherings are held throughout the region: pot-luck suppers, dances, business meetings, parties, discussion groups, & more.

