



Halifax Pride Gets Hallmark Festival Status

Halifax Regional Council recently voted to make the Halifax Pride Festival (July 18–26) a Hallmark Event and awarded the Pride Committee \$25,000 towards this year’s celebration.

Halifax’s definition of a Hallmark Event is, “A recurring event possessing such significance in terms of tradition, attractiveness, image or publicity that it provides to the host community with a competitive advantage. These events are associated with HRM’s identity, will raise its profile globally and position it as a place to invest. Over time, the events and destination can become inseparable in terms of their image.”

Awarding Hallmark status was a recommendation from HRM’s Special Events Advisory Committee (SEAC) and was put before Council by SEAC Chair, Councillor Brad

“This year’s theme is Breaking Down Walls; Building Bridges, which is kind of appropriate, when you think of it.”

Johns. Councillors Dawn Sloane and Jennifer Watts spoke in favour of the motion, noting the hard work of the Pride Committee and that Halifax had become a truly welcoming place for the gay community; no councillors

spoke against. “This is an extraordinary moment,” said Halifax Pride Chair Hugo Dann. This places Halifax Pride in the same category as other signature cultural events, such as the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo,

International Air Show and the Halifax Busker Festival.

“This year’s theme is Breaking Down Walls; Building Bridges, which is kind of appropriate, when you think of it,” said Dann. “There are some municipalities in Nova Scotia that have recently gone to extraordinary lengths not to fly the Rainbow

Flag. Halifax Regional Council recognizing Pride as a Hallmark Festival is a major symbolic victory for our whole community,” said Dann. “I guess you could say that in our 21st year, we’ve come of age.”

Halifax Pride is the largest lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) cultural event in Atlantic Canada, and the fourth largest Pride Festival in the country.

As many as 75,000 people now take part in Halifax Pride events. It’s estimated that \$2,000,000 is generated for the local economy during Halifax Pride Week. This year’s festival takes place from July 18–26, with the Pride Parade on Saturday, July 25.



Leonard Preyra, Maureen MacDonald, and Howard Epstein celebrate the NDP’s landslide in the Nova Scotia election. Photo: Patrick Casey

Queer and Rebel Days in Halifax

By Queer and Rebel Organizing Team

If you’re out on the street in Halifax on July 11, you may see a group of queer and trans folks and their allies dressed up in costume, hurling water balloons at each other as they bike by. This queer costumed bike ride is one of the many events that will occur during Queer and Rebel Days – a week of queer events, actions, parties, and workshops – inspired by the Queer and Rebel Days in Schwartzer Canal, Berlin.

All events will be free, all-ages, trans-, lesbian-, gay-, bi-sexual-, queer- questioning-, intersex-, two-spirit, dyke-, fag-, poly-, asexual-, straight allies-positive, and volunteers will provide childcare upon request. We recognize the importance of language, and if you strongly don’t identify as queer please don’t let that keep you from coming because we

would love to hear your ideas in our friendly, non-competitive, feminist spaces.

Unfortunately, many corporate city Prides and urban gay centers tend to be exclusionary on the basis of class, race, gender and ability due to their intrinsic connection to money and consumerism. For example, If you can’t afford to go to an event, or if you can’t afford indicators of gay identity such as particular clothing, you might feel or be excluded from gay spaces. Queer and Rebel Days is meant to challenge consumerism as connected to gay identity (and consumerism in general) as well as the assimilation of queer identity into heteronormative standards.

The purpose of the week is to create an alternative, political, community forum for discussions, activities, and celebration. We are not trying to cause any riffs with Pride – in reality

many of us will be at many of the great events Pride has to offer – we are simply creating another option, another outlook. Please come share your personal experiences and we’ll discuss how to challenge the exclusions that take place in many gay and queer spaces in corporate Prides.

Queer and Rebel Days will run out of the Roberts Street Social Centre and will take place a week before Halifax Pride, from July 10-16. The full schedule is listed in the Halifax Happenings section on page 16. Please send us an e-mail if you want to be part of our mailing list. Also, if you are interested in volunteering for any of the events, just let us know. If you have any thoughts, comments or concerns, or to request childcare, please feel free to tell us at queer.and.rebel.days.2009@gmail.com or call 902-446-1788.

Happiness is...

By Angus Campbell

A wee bit of rain wasn’t enough to dampen anyone’s spirits on Saturday, May 30, as Doug Melanson (owner of SeaDogs and co-owner of Menz Bar) and Glenn Baker publicly professed their love for one another. Officiated by Rev. Bob Bond of Safe Harbour MCC the happy couple spoke their vows surrounded by family and friends in Point Pleasant Park, Halifax. Rev. Bob reminded the crowd how it is everyone’s responsibility as a community to ensure the success of relationships.

The reception was held at the newly-renovated Murphy’s on the Wharf. It was especially fun to see the staff’s reaction when our table started to kiss glasses for Doug and Glenn to kiss.

The celebration continued at Menz Bar where the couple cut their rainbow cake and we all drank champagne. Doug and Glenn’s first dance was to Rod Stewart’s “Have I Told You Lately That I Love You.” After more champagne DJ Sonny D got the crowd up and dancing a Conga



Photo: Rob Isbister

line throughout the establishment. A great time was had by all.

On behalf of Wayves I would like to congratulate Doug and Glenn and wish them the best of everything for the future.

P.E.I. Pride Friday, July 3

Kick Off Party! What’s Pride without a kick off party? This festival happens only once a year so we want to begin that with a true sense of celebration! Join us at the Studio, located at the Confederation Centre of the Arts in Charlottetown, from 10:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m. All guests must be of legal age to attend. ID’s will be required and requested. Door prizes will be

given out over the night to add to the celebration, including a 50/50 draw and a wine tasting station provided by our sponsor, Vincor Canada.

Sunday, July 5

Church Service and Evening Primrose B&B Potluck: These two events have been a long-standing tradition in our community provided by members of our community, for

which we are very thankful. For service details please contact Jim Culbert at jimculbert@gaypei.com. The Annual Potluck is held each year at the Evening Primrose Bed & Breakfast. For directions or if you have any questions please contact eveningprimrose@xplornet.com or call (902) 437-3134.

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ENVIRONMENT

EQUALITY

FIGHTING
PRIVATIZATION

PENSIONS



Be Out. Be Informed. Be Compassionate.

By Wayves staff

On Friday, May 15 a crowd of about 150 community members and supporters gathered at Parade Square to commemorate the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia (IDAHT). Hugo Dann introduced the event's speakers. Kevin Kindred's message was one of honesty, knowledge, understanding and reaching out. Here is a summary of his "Be Out. Be Informed. Be Compassionate" speech.

I'm glad that the previous speakers have given us such a variety of perspectives on the multi-faceted problems of homophobia and transphobia. We see how hate can manifest itself in policy decisions, like the organ donor policy; how it can impact daily lives in subtle and blatant messages of exclusion; and how, in its worst form, it can lead to violence and even death.

I don't like attending events like this and walking away depressed at the size of the problem. So I want to take a few minutes to focus on the question, "What can I do about

it?" Whether we're lawyers, activists, policy makers, or just people trying to make a difference in our ordinary lives, I want us all to take away a sense of what to do about the problem of homophobia and transphobia. I want to do this so that we can walk away with the message of hope, not desperation.

No matter how you encounter homophobia in your life, I can recommend three ways to address it.

First, be out. If you're gay or lesbian, bi or trans, they most important thing you can do is grow comfortable enough in your own skin to be open about your life. Even those of us who think we've been out for years continue to find people and situations who make us hesitate to be honest. We need to fight that with all the courage we can muster. And if you're a supporter of the rainbow community, you need to be open about that, too. Tell people about the LGBT people in your life, tell them you go to Pride, tell them you were at a rally today. We know that hate thrives in the darkness, and people

start changing their minds when they see that their attitudes affect people they know and care about.

Secondly, be informed. You'll find yourselves in conversations about blood donations, or about diversity education in schools, or about health care for trans people. You need to be equipped to use those conversations as moments of change. Know the arguments for gay marriage, know what's going on in the education system, learn about the realities of trans people's lives. Don't be forced to shy away from talking about it because you don't know the issues. The more we can clear away misinformation about the rainbow community, the harder it is for homophobia and transphobia to subsist.

And finally, be compassionate. This is something I've learned to value more and more with the more experience I get as an activist. The goal of the movement is not to label people homophobes and then run away. That's a failure. The goal is to change people's minds, to broaden them. We do that by being reason-

able, by opening dialogue. We know that the strongest weapon in the face of hate is love. If someone is influenced by homophobia or transphobia, try to listen to them. Understand them, see where they're coming from and how they formed their beliefs. Look for the beliefs you have in common before focusing on the differences. We need you to be open and welcoming to people influenced by homophobia and transphobia, not closed and dismissive. Approach every conversation with compassion, and you'll learn so much more about where hatred comes from and how we can eliminate it.

So, that's the best I can recommend. Be out. Be informed. And above all, be compassionate. I hope



Kevin Kindred, 15 May, 2009

you can each find ways in your everyday lives to take those recommendations to heart, and work to eliminate homophobia and transphobia.

New Co-chairs at Halifax Pride

By Angus Campbell

Due to health concerns Halifax Pride chairperson Hugo Dann submitted his resignation to the board of directors on Monday, June 15, 2009. The

board met immediately to ensure that the newly-awarded Hallmark Event would continue as planned. Well-known community leaders Ed "Boom Boom" Savage and Liz McQuaid have been appointed as co-chairs.

"Hugo's resignation is an unfortunate surprise, but a person's health has to be the priority," said Savage. "We are a community of many creative

and talented people. The board and volunteers continue to work hard to ensure the success of Pride."

Every organization faces challenges but losing the chairperson just six weeks before the big event might paralyze the plans. "Not ours," added McQuaid. "We're team players and when one member is injured, the others play harder to win the game." They further explained that because of the continuing popularity of Pride, with increased attendance and festivities, returning to the traditional two co-chair positions may actually be advantageous. Both also expressed their good wishes for Hugo. "He has done so much for the organization," continued Savage. "It won't be quite the same without him at the helm. But he'll be proud of his friends, and community."

Important WAYVES Dates!

Issue Content Deadlines: *Fridays:*

Jul 3, Aug 7, Sep 4, Oct 2, Nov 6; that is, the first Friday of each month (skipping January.) You can send your news, ideas, comments, criticisms, columns, cartoons and more to submissions@wayves.ca any time!

Production Meetings (Halifax):

Mondays Aug 10, Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 9. Help decide what goes in the next issue, 7:30 PM, Blowers St Paper Chase, Halifax. All welcome, every meeting.

Magazine Layout (Halifax): Jul

12, Aug 16, Sep 13, Oct 11, Nov 15. Help build the paper - no special skills required, just enthusiasm, and joining us even once, or for a few hours helps a LOT! 9:30 AM. Email us for location. **We are on the stands, in the mail, and online the fourth Friday of every month.**



Our Cover:

A Halifax Pride Festival reveller at the North Commons Halifax 2008. Cover Design: Cameron McLeod

Wayves On Line!

Did you miss the last issue of *Wayves*? Or did your favourite distribution point run out of copies? Don't fret! Now you can visit www.wayves.ca, and download the current issue, and the archives too! We have 2007 back issues on line now and will be adding 2006 soon. If you'd like to be notified when the current issue is online- email us at submissions@wayves.ca!

Wayves

Wayves exists to inform Atlantic Canadian lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people of activities in their communities, to promote those activities and to support their aims and objectives.

Wayves is an independent publication, published every month except February by a non-profit collective. Anyone who contributes to *Wayves* is automatically considered to be a member of the collective and is welcome to participate in all meetings and discussions. *Wayves* reserves the right to refuse material that might be reasonably considered heterosexism, racism, sexism or an attack on individuals or communities. Opinions expressed in *Wayves* are not necessarily those of the editorial collective. The article submission deadlines are posted in the *Important Wayves Dates* section of this page. Articles should be a maximum of 1,000 words and may be edited for length. Submissions should be emailed in plain text to the address below. Articles and letters may be published with pseudonyms or anonymously, but *Wayves* must have contact information for the author. The copyright for all submissions remains the property of the original author/creator.

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distributors in Atlantic Canada and around the country. If there are none handy to your home, write to submissions@wayves.ca and tell us where we should be!

We All Come From Somewhere

By Chris Aucoin, Gay Men's Health Coordinator, ACNS

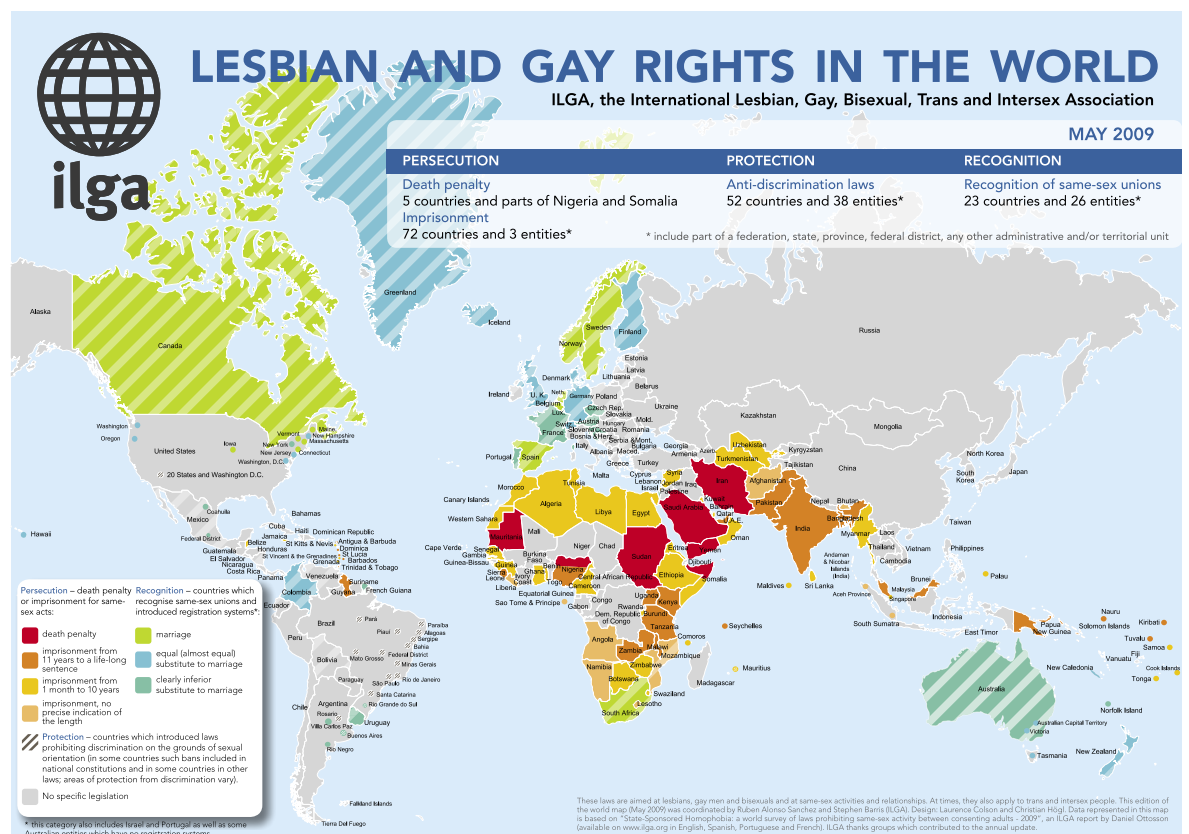
My family's roots in Canada go back four centuries to some of the very first Acadian settlers at Port Royale. Another branch of my family tree is made up of United Empire Loyalists (of Irish extraction) from New York State who arrived at what is now Sydney Harbour in the fall of 1785 (and spent that first winter on the boat that brought them before settling in the Sydney area). I also have Scottish heritage, and some fairly recent French (from France) heritage too. And if you go back far enough there's some Welsh and German in there somewhere as well; you know—a fairly typical Canadian "Heinz 57" mix.

This year's International Day Against Homophobia* (May 17) campaign had a multicultural focus with the theme: "Homosexuality Knows No Borders." The Canadian campaign paid special attention to new immigrant and established ethno-cultural communities in Canada which often have very restrictive views on non-heterosexual sexuality and sexual expression more generally.

To mark this year's International Day Against Homophobia, and to illustrate the point (about GLBT members coming from all ethno-cultural groups), the Gay Men's Health

Project of the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia invited patrons of Halifax's Menz Bar to mark on a world map where their various ancestors came from (prior to coming to Canada unless those forebears were First Nations in which case you would indeed mark Canada). Fourteen countries were indicated on the map (and not surprisingly were dominated by Western Europe). They were: Canada, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Scotland, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United States, and Wales.

We also invited people to indicate the countries of origin for any and all same-sex erotic partners they have had throughout their lifetime. In this day of easy international mobility we expected that this list would be longer and more diverse than the first one and we were right; thirty five countries were indicated. They included: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Egypt, England, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Korea, New Zealand, Philippines, Poland, Russia, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Turkey, Ukraine, and the United States. The relative ease of international travel is also a factor in how HIV has made its way around



the globe, and a recent study has indicated that key vacation spots (especially those favoured by gay men) act as a hotbed for new infections. So if you are travelling for some fun make sure you plan ahead, pack all the

appropriate protective gear, and make certain you're not going to take home any unwelcome "guests."

It's perhaps not surprising that in each map list we mostly see countries that have quite progressive legal recognitions and protections of queer communities. In May the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) released its updated "State-sponsored Homophobia" report (go to www.ilga.org to download a copy or the colour-coded world map) which surveys laws prohibiting (or supporting) same sex relationships between consenting adults.

With gay marriage, human rights protections and hate crime legislation, Canada is at the forefront of being queer-friendly worldwide. This August marks the 40th anniversary of Canada decriminalizing homosexuality (thanks P.E.T.) and it would be

easy to forget that in eighty countries around the world that is still not the case. Furthermore, in no less than seven countries (Mauritania, Sudan, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and parts of Nigeria and Somalia) it is still state policy to execute people for homosexual acts (and unofficial state policy in some others).

We are very fortunate to live in the country that we do. That's not to say that all the battles have been won. Homophobia (and general sex-negativity) still exists here both in particular "communities" as well as broader Canadian society, and overcoming that homophobia is still a big challenge in doing HIV prevention work, and support work for those who are HIV+. But we have still come a very long way in a relatively short period of time; historically speaking. Let's not forget that as recently as 1991 you could (legally) lose your job in Nova Scotia, and much of the country, for no other reason than being gay.

THE COMPANY HOUSE

Fri July 17
Bonnie St Croix
 with
Ria Mae

Sat July 18
Dinah Thorpe
 and DJ
Motlette

Sun July 19
 DRINKS SPECIALS
 at the House post
 Dykes vs Diva's

Tue July 21
 Pride Movie Night

Wed July 22
SHEDOGS
 Pussy Playhouse
 Pre-drinks

Thu July 23
 TransAction presents
Pomo Homos
 at the CoHo
 PERFORMANCES BY
 RAE SPOON, NOLAN NATASHA,
 PINK VELVET BURLESQUE

Fri July 24
Madison Violet
 AKA Madviolet

Sat July 25
Happy Pride Day!
 Drink specials
 all day long...

'Tween Time
 Wed to Sat
 from 4-7pm

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 first Thursday
 of every month,
 6-9pm at the
Halifax Youth Project
 2281 Brunswick Street

Contact Michelle Malette
 992.431.8500

New MAC Leather Executive

On Saturday, May 16 a new executive was elected during the Annual General Meeting for the MAC Leather Society.

Many thanks go out to the past executives for their time and input within Atlantic Canada's Leather community and their continuing support for the future.

The newly elected executive is as follows: President, Grant Lively; Vice-President, Irl Washburn; Treasurer, Wayne Richard; Secretary/

Administrator, Steve Laviolette. A number of volunteers have committed to going out into the community as Members-at-Large.

Newly elected President, Grant Lively, stated, "Congratulations to our newest titleholders. In the coming year I'd like to see both them and MAC Leather in more cities throughout the Maritimes to educate those within the GLBT community about Leather. It's a tough job, but I believe that together we can do it."

East Coast Rainbow Softball Association

The East Coast Rainbow Softball Association (ECRSA - www.ecrsa.ca) continues to grow and offer the Halifax GLBT community and their straight allies an avenue for co-ed recreational softball in 2009. A record 102 participants joined this season—a new all-time high. Players have been divided onto six teams, each with its own sponsor. The team sponsors are Menz Bar, The Company House, Venus Envy, Bibby's Big Spender (Investors Group), LED Roadway Lighting, and Rosie's Riveters (Rosie Porter Realty).

The biggest change this season is the field. Our expansion has meant that we would not be able to get an earlier start time at the league's previous field, so we were required to change locations, and now playing the majority of our games at the Pit – Merv Sullivan Field in the North End (except games on Dykes vs. Divas Game Day, July 19).

ECRSA will again be present and sponsor the field rental and the umpire for Dykes vs. Divas, the annual Halifax Pride event. Many ECRSA players are looking forward to the

Northern AIDS Connection Society

Great news from northern Nova Scotia. The Northern AIDS Connection Society is getting geared up and ready the summer. The organization has been approved by Service Canada to hire a summer student to be the Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life Coordinator. This position starts on June 8, 2009. Anyone interested in being involved in our walks in Truro, New Glasgow, Amherst or Elmsdale can the coordinator at

walkcoordinator@eastlink.ca.

NACS is also very happy to announce that they have received funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada to hire a Hepatitis C Coordinator who will be starting on June 15th. The support of the Public Health Agency enables NACS to do

the much needed work in northern Nova Scotia pertaining to this issue and is very much appreciated.

The organization has participated in the Regional Atlantic AIDS Network meetings in Prince Edward Island in May. The Board, Staff and Volunteers will also be attending the

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Alcoholics Anonymous 21st Courage Round Up

The AA Round Up will be held August 7 – 9 at the Universalist Unitarian Church, 5500 Inglis Street in Halifax. This annual AA round up is sponsored by gay men and lesbians in AA, but it's open to all alcoholics, members of Al-Anon Family Group, and others affected by the alcoholism of friends or family.

The Courage Round Up theme this year is "AA: A safe port in a storm—it's not the gales but the set of the sails that determine the way we go."

Courage is a small, intimate AA round-up, the only gay and lesbian AA round up in Atlantic Canada and

the only one of its kind in Canada, east of Montreal.

The weekend includes fellowship, speaker meetings and workshop discussions of Alcoholics Anonymous recovery topics in a relaxed and peaceful setting of the Universalist Unitarian Church on the Friday evening, and all day Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Registration opens at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 7.

The cost is \$25.00, which includes lunch on Saturday at the Church (but no one will be turned away for lack of funds). The cost of the optional supper on Saturday is extra and estimated at \$12.00 and if you choose to go,

you pay for it at the nearby restaurant open just for us.

Pre-registration is appreciated (and may be done on-line if you wish). Send your cheque or money order to: Courage Round Up, c/o 1916 – 1333 South Park St., Halifax, NS B3J 2K9

For more information, phone (902) 425-8383, e-mail courage449@yahoo.com or check out the Courage website at www.rationalunacy.com/couragearoundup.

ISCANS News

Let the Summer Begin

by Nathan Boudreau

Hello to all! I bring another update of what ISCANS has been up to and what is yet to come. First I have to thank Gerry and Linda Publicover for hosting us on Victoria Day in May for our annual barbecue and a great Rumolli tournament. All who attended had some serious fun. In June Elle and Nate N! threw a grand ICP Ball party at Reflections Cabaret. Many thanks to Stephen and his great staff for hosting us. The Empress was away in June, so the boys got to play. However, we did the Emperor and his boys have a grand night out on June 28 where they entertained at Menz Bar. Thank you to Doug, David and staff as always.

And did I mention we started our barbecue season? We will host several barbecues outside at Menz over the summer, so be on the lookout for those when you are in the neighbourhood and support some great charities in the process of getting your munch on.

July's a busy month what with Pride coming up. You can certainly catch all of us in the parade, but first come join us the evening of July 19 at Menz at 10:00 p.m. for our annual Impersonation show. You will see some great impersonations of your

favourite celebrity performers, always good for laughs and good times, well worth the \$5.00 cover charge.

In case none of you have heard, our lovely Empress Boom Boom has put the challenge out there that if we can raise \$2000 before Pride Day, she will get in the dunk in full drag. All proceeds from this event will be to benefit Phoenix House one of Reign 9's charities.

Check back to Wayves for our monthly article and be sure to visit our website (www.imperialcourtns.com) for continuous event postings. Don't forget, if you have any comments or suggestions for events, be sure to drop us a line at events@imperialcourtns.com. Cheers!

Trans Family Nova Scotia

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3rd Monday of each month
6:30 - 8:30 pm at
The Youth Project
2281 Brunswick, Halifax
902.431.8500
transfamily@eastlink.ca



PRIDE MONTH

Wed., July 1st
CANADA DAY - Wear RED & WHITE
or **BRING YOUR CANADIAN FLAG** for a chance to **WIN!**
KARAOKE 9pm - Midnight
followed by **DANCING with DJ BEAR**

Sat., July 4th
INDEPENDENCE DAY - Wear RED WHITE & BLUE
to be eligible for a **SPECIAL DRAW!**

Fri., July 10th
PRESIDENT David's BIRTHDAY BASH!
featuring **DJ Sonny D**

PRIDE WEEK

Sun., July 19th
HAPPY HOUR & HOT DOGS After Dikes & Diva's Game
ISCANS Drag Show 9pm - 11pm
followed by dancing with **DJ Troy**

Mon., July 20th
PRIDE 2 for \$5.50 NIGHT!

Tue., July 21st
PRIDE TOONIE TUESDAY

Wed., July 22nd
PRIDE KARAOKE with Bear777 9:30pm - 1:30am

Thu., July 23rd
PRIDE CAFE DaPoPo
Queer Specialz Galore!

Fri., July 24th
OUT of TOWNER'S PARTY - Show Your Colors!
Cover \$5 after 10pm. Happy Hour from 3 - 10pm

Sat., July 25th
BLACK & BLUE PARTY - ALL MENZ NIGHT
featuring **DJ Sonny D**
Best Ass Contest, Door Prizes,
HAPPY HOUR & FREE Cover before 9pm (\$10 after 9pm)

Sun., July 26th
Safe Harbour MCC PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BRUNCH,
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Crawford Hastie's KIBITZ AND BITCH

Hi Tom

Well, it's Pride season! It used to be Pride day, then Pride week, then LGBT month, now I just act as if the whole season belongs to us queers. Metaphorically, I stake the rainbow flag on the land of summer, like the Americans did with their flag on the moon, and lay claim to all the beautiful, indolent, sunny days in the name of all queer folk.

I had some straight-but-not-narrow friends over for barbecue the other night and we were talking about how the very basic element of fire and the action of gathering for food (and plenty of gin!) brings comfort to us humans. It speaks somehow to a primitive, unconscious part of our spirits and goes back to the days of our earliest forebears. It occurred to me then that when we talk of queer history we don't go back far enough. Of course Stonewall is important but I tried to imagine queer ancestors from the time before the Greeks, before Gilgamesh, way back to the Cro Magnon period. Of course, if you are like Sarah Palin who thinks that dinosaurs existed during the time of Jesus then this is not so long ago. On the other hand, for those of us who remained only semi-asleep during science class, we know this was pre-historic times.

And, since there are no stories written down then there is nothing to contradict my version of the earliest homos among the homo sapiens. I like to picture them sitting around a camp fire, waxing each other's backs, talking about how to get cum stains out of fur and how the stones for the fire pit can be arranged in a way that is not only practical but aesthetically pleasing as well. While the flesh of some beast sears in the flames, they chomp on some green plants one of them has brought along to try. (You just know that salad was a gay invention.)

After the meal, proudly wanting to show off their bodies, and to take their minds off the hair that has been ripped from their backs, an exuberant dance begins, accompanied by a pounding of sticks and rocks producing only the most primitive of rhythms (okay, that part hasn't changed much!) while the moon and stars act as the first glitter ball.

It is so vividly real to me that I can't imagine why it was never an episode of the Flintstones. Is it too late to update the cartoon? After all if Archie can take sixty-eight years before proposing to Veronica (talk about commitment issues!) surely comic and cartoon lovers would understand why it took Barney so long to come out to Fred. And as a bonus it would probably make right-wing evangelicals' heads explode! What fun!

Speaking of apoplexy, the fact that Nova Scotia just elected a majority New Democratic government must have the Harperites writhing with frustration. That is the icing on a long-awaited cake. Will the Conservatives have representation in this year's Pride Parade I

wonder or will they decide that making any kind of good impression on the queer community is a lost cause? Will be interesting to see.

I love Pride week and even more so now that it has become more an act of celebration than protest. It is like a fabulous birthday party for everyone all at once and you know how much I love parties!

It saddens me, however, to see the limping progress made by our queer brothers and sisters in the US, but then nothing strengthens the gay community like adversity. And worldwide there are startling successes – first openly lesbian Prime Minister in Iceland – as well as terrifying repression, such as Uganda, already overtly hostile to LGBT folk, hosting an anti-gay seminar, led by three American ex-gay ministry types. We can't count on Obama to fix everything – who hasn't done anything yet about Don't Ask, Don't Tell, by the way. We all need to start thinking globally and getting involved, first by informing ourselves and then by doing what we can to act: Join Amnesty International, subscribe to websites that keep us up to date, sign petitions, write letters, ask our government officials what they intend to do about human rights issues – and remind them that gay rights ARE human rights. Most of all we need to let our rainbow family know wherever they are in the world that we care, that they are not alone.

This year for Pride I'd like a costume or something that shows an international flavour. My family roots are pretty much Anglo-Saxon – boring! – but why be restricted by genetics, right? Maybe we need an updated version of the Village People. Instead of the cowboy, construction worker etc. we could have a Jew with a rainbow yarmulke, a sexy Arab (sheiks are hot!), a beefy Samurai (the Japanese have made bondage into an art form – sort of like origami but using people instead of paper), a brawny Viking (I've always admired Thor's hammer) and a Polynesian – like those hot bare-chested men who twirl flaming (hello!) batons between their legs.

Happy Pride! Love ya!

Crawford

Ramblings from the Sanctuary Garden



You know you are moving up in the world when you receive public funds for your event, so congratulations are due to the Pride Committee for their successful application for funds. Funding, whether it be for corporations, NGO, cultural events or community events, just to name a few of the recipients of public funds, remains a mysterious process even though there is usually a detailed process to complete. The process is often a strange one as you work to fit your event or organization into the criteria listed, fumbling with words as you seek that special phrase or goal that is "understood" to have particular meaning to the funder. Some of us are better at doing this than others, though experience does help. A lot depends on the flavour of, and the political will of the government, of the day.

More importantly, it seems to me, is actually believing in the paradigm of the times that gives meaning to this process of funding. Some of the beliefs that underpin public funding might be: we won't survive without public money; we will be bigger and better if we have your money; we deserve it because it is public money and better us then you; we have come of age in the public's eyes; it is right and just; or it is unfair and discriminatory not to fund us; please add your own versions of beliefs here.

It seems to me that public funding is a form of welfare or family benefits. And there are some of us who see both types of funding as a flawed paradigm because of the attitudes of the funders, because of being the "flavour of the day" recipient (think of some funding that is given to some but not others due to historical events), because it is impossible to be completely free of prejudices and biases and therefore, unless the funding process is created in an open environment and then is adjudicated in an equally open manner, there will be both hidden (sometimes unconscious) and neglected agendas, depending on the power dynamics.

I was, for a time, an executive director of a non-profit organization. The job required entering the public funds race or hunt might be a better word. I was both successful and unsuccessful at it, sometimes winning, sometimes losing, but always being wounded. That is what I remember most. Who the organization was and what it did was significant but it never seemed to be a collaborative effort with the funder. Call me naive, I believe in an honest and fair process and it harms me to be manipulative

even in a good cause and I believe it harms all of us.

The voice of Dambisa Moyo—a Zambia-born, Harvard- and Oxford-educated economist, who worked for Goldman Sachs and the World Bank and was recently in Toronto for a Munk Debate on the proposition that foreign aid is doing more harm than good—was the trigger for me in writing this column. Though aid for pride day and aid for Africans are two different things it is a misdirection of thought to decry that there aren't similar consequences.

To quote Moyo, in conversation with Margret Wentz: "Look at the evidence. Over the past 50 or 60 years, things in Africa have got dramatically worse. In the 1970s, only 10 per cent of Africans were living in dire poverty. Now, it's over 70 per cent. Aid was supposed to alleviate poverty and promote long-term economic growth, and it has done neither." (Globe and Mail, Focus section, May 30, 2006).

When we look at the aid given to the various recipients we see something similar; organizations don't tend to grow, and often are quite marginalized, holding on for dear life; economic benefits don't accrue anymore than they might already doing; and competition between organizations continues to reflect the dominant culture capitalistic system, thus stifling creativity and collaborative work. Handing out public funds might even be seen as a way to appease without really addressing the issues.

Perhaps we need to be friends before we are give out money.

"Each friend represents a world in us, a world possibly not born until they arrive, and it is only by this meeting that a new world is born." (Author and diarist Anais Nin, 1903-1977)

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Vera from the Veranda

By Angus Campbell

About two weeks ago I was sitting on my veranda steps when this black and white kitty came bobbing across my front lawn. She approached without hesitation and kept rubbing against me with such affection. There was no identification and I was concerned about her safety, especially since I live on a very busy street and most of the cats in my neighbourhood keep to the backyards.

I decided to call her Vera from the veranda. Why not? There's Jenny from the block. I lifted the tail and checked for "grapes" otherwise the name would have been Pat from the patio and Vera would be his drag name. (Always planning for contingency, I am.)

Every morning I would go down to the front door to bring little Vera some breakfast. I often found her curled up in the big comfy chair where she would stretch and yawn "Good morning!" to me. She usually would greet me as I arrived home after work asking how my day was with a gentle meow. Finally, after a week and a substantial rainfall that left Vera sopping wet, I decided to bring her inside to see if she and Roxy, my 10-year-old tuxedo cat, would get along. They definitely would compliment one another colour-wise. (Okay planning for design too I'll admit.)

Amazingly they clicked. There

were a few hiss-offs but that's to be expected. One time they even were warming up with a round of air-boxing, about a metre apart from one another. I took Vera to the vet to see if she had a microchip so I could return her to her rightful owner. She did not. We also made an appointment for a check-up and some blood work.

Last night I received the phone call that Vera has been exposed to Feline Leukemia, (FeLV) which is a virus and not a cancer. The outcomes are generally not good, especially if the cat already has some health issues, which she does. She would need to be isolated from other cats for the rest of her life, and from people with compromised immune systems. As of her last test Roxy was FeLV-negative so I am not able to keep Vera. The chances of finding Vera a home are grim and now I face the ultimate pet owner decision.

But all this got me thinking about how we as a society treat people who have viruses. Are we supposed to isolate them physically? Stigma is isolation. When we stigmatize people we are also potentially paralyzing them emotionally, mentally and spiritually.

Do we criminalize all viruses or only life-threatening ones? Is HIV still considered life-threatening when we have such advanced treatment?

Gay Men's Health



What about hepatitis and other viruses? Hepatitis can and does kill.

Should we prosecute people who knowingly transmit a virus? What about people who avoid testing for viruses. Is their lack of action criminal, especially if they are considered to be part of a "high risk" group? Are all gay men high risk, or just those who participate in anal sex, or just unprotected anal sex?

These are not easy questions, and I don't pretend to know the answers.

Cats don't understand viruses and can't learn how to protect themselves. But we do and can. In some parts of Atlantic Canada anonymous testing for HIV definitely needs improvement. Other viral testing such as hepatitis, LGV, etc isn't anonymous, but it is available, and easily in some areas.

After great soul-searching Vera was gently euthanized. As with my human friends, I will keep her memory alive by talking about her. Although our time together was very limited she somehow touched me with her unconditional love. I won't know if Roxy has been infected for a while yet, but if she has been, I hope that she can forgive Vera for unknowingly exposing her, and will not have me arrested.

AngCam59@yahoo.ca

Diamond Divas: Photos Needed

Attention all you Diamond Divas and friends. As you may know, the Tenth Annual Diamond Divas Revue will take place on February 21, 2010 at the Capitol Theatre to assist the Crisis and Referral Agency Helpline.

We are now planning next year's special anniversary production. If you have performed or attended any of the past nine events, then we would like your help.

Over the past nine years many, many photos were taken of the event and its performers. However many of these photos are very seldom seen other than by those who took them. The producers of the Diamond Divas

Revue would like your assistance by providing us with your photos from past DDR events for a nine-years-past retrospective at the 2010 revue.

Please take the time and have a look around for any photos you may have if you have performed or attended. Any photos you have can be sent through directly to us via email at DiamondDivas10@hotmail.com. Your time in assisting us with this project is most appreciated and we thank you in advance for help. Should you have any questions about this year's event, you may also forward them to the same email address.

Study: Women's Sexual Pain

The University of Ottawa is seeking lesbian, bisexual and other sexual minority women (e.g. queer, unlabeled, nonheterosexual, etc.) aged 18 or over, who are currently experiencing vulvo-vaginal pain, genital pain, and/or pain during vaginal penetration (with fingers, sex toys, penis, tampons, etc.) to participate in an online research study.

Eligible participants will complete an anonymous and confidential online survey that includes questions on the current experience of vulvo-vaginal pain, gynecological history including a consultation history, sexual functioning, relationship satisfaction

and demographic information. The survey takes approximately 30 minutes to complete.

Women who are interested in participating may complete the survey directly at vulvarpain.isurvey.ca/home/ or for more info visit the University of Ottawa's Human Sexuality website www.sciencesociales.uottawa.ca/hslab-labosh/en. Additional information may be obtained from Heather Andruff, BA, PhD Candidate, (heather.andruff@uottawa.ca, 613-562-5800 ext. 4449) or Elke Reissing, PhD (elke.reissing@uottawa.ca, 613-562-5800 ext. 4944).

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Moncton Pride

River of Pride/Riviere de Fierce Inc. has proudly joined thousands within the International Association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex Pride Coordinators (www.interpride.org) in promoting the international pride theme for 2009: "Your Rights, Our Rights, Human Rights."

The focus this year is the continuing efforts of the gay community to ensure equal rights for everyone. This comes on the heels of the 60th anniversary of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) on December 10, 2008, the 40th anniversary of the decriminalization of homosexuality in Canada on May 14, 2009, and the 40th anniversary of the Stonewall riots on June 28, 2009.

Closer to home this will be the 10th Greater Moncton pride celebration. "It can be easy to take lavender life for granted if you live in a major queer metropolis. Easy to adopt a soupçon of fashionable ennui at the prospect of yet another year of watching extravagant floats parade down the avenue. Easy to moan about levels of commercialization in the megaprides that have taken over major cities from London to Los Angeles. Easy to forget that things aren't necessarily so straightforward (for want of a better word), businesses and politicians not so eager to join the cavalcade and the queer community not so safe to be seen walking that very same line outside gay ghetto borders. There are so many fights still to be fought -- and, we hope, won -- and nowhere does that seem more evident than in small cities and towns where the living isn't necessarily easy and a weekend Pride festival can literally be a lifeline".....posted on gay.com.

After months of planning, the Pride committee is pleased to offer a diverse program during the week of August 15 – 23, with the parade scheduled on August 22 at 2:30 p.m. The Delta Beausejour, our host hotel, is offering a special Pride rate of \$119.00 per night. To register as a participant in the parade, or as a volunteer, you can do so by filing out the Contact Us form on our website, www.fiertemonctonpride.ca.

June's Blue colour party, held at Triangles, was very successful, with a donation made to the local prostate cancer society. Future events include the July 4 Purple party in support



June's Blue colour party at Triangles. Moncton Pride chair Roger Poirier presents "best dressed in Blue."

of Safe Spaces and Violence against Women. A Pink party is planned for August 1 with the event focusing on breast cancer research. Both colour parties will be held at Triangles.

Now in the home stretch, the Pride committee continues to meet every second Sunday. We welcome you on July 12 and 26, so consult our website for both time and place.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Atlantic Canadian Pride communities the very best in their local events. We look forward to joining you in celebrating your Pride and we hope you can return the favour. Any inquiries can be addressed to riverofpride@hotmail.com.

Rocking the Gaybourhood III



Rocking the Gaybourhood III" produced by Ryan McGrath as a Halifax Pride fundraiser Saturday May 9 was another hugely successful event showcasing of queer and queer friendly bands.

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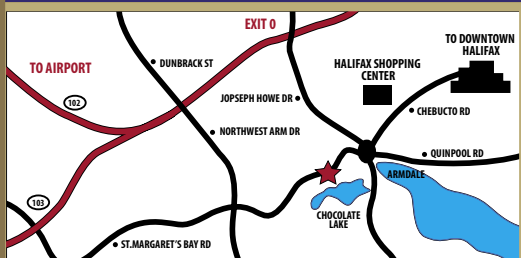
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MAC Leather XI



MACL XI Contestants onstage in Full Leather

Saint John, New Brunswick was the "port of call" for the Maritime Leather community during the May 2009 Victoria Day long weekend by hosting the Mr. & Ms. Atlantic Canada Leather XI contest.

Leather folk from around the Maritimes gathered on a sunny Saturday afternoon at the beautiful Mahogany Manor for the "Meet the Meat" barbeque and social. Mahogany Manor was base camp for the weekend and hosts Carl Trickey and Jim Crooks completely outdid themselves with their hospitality, food, fun and good times.

This year's male competitors were Troy Morehouse (Mr. Leather Saint John), Danny Perry (Mr. Leather GNG) and Rene Arsenault (Mr. Leather Moncton). This year's female competitors were Linda Northrup (Ms. Saint John), Lucy Chamberline (Ms. Leather GNG) and Bea Breau (Ms. Leather Moncton).

The judges for the competition were Don Murchy, Wayne Toole and Marcy Walton, all previous MACL titleholders. Art Vatour-Toole

served as Tallymaster and Francis Young as the Den Daddy. On Saturday evening the social activities carried over to ELEMENT Bar, where friends not seen in awhile met again and new friends were made.

The next day, the MAC Leather barbecue fundraiser was held at Mahogany Manor where more than \$100.00 was raised to benefit AIDS Saint John.

It was then full throttle at ELEMENT when the on-stage part of the contest began on Sunday night. The contestants were judged in casual, minimal and full leather wear. Their public speaking skills were also put to the test when emcee Steve Laviolette (MACL 2002) posed a fun question to each contestant while in minimal wear, and then a more serious question chosen by the judging panel during the full leather wear segment. The crowd of close to 100 had their input for each contestant during the "audience appreciation" part of the judging.

While the scores were being tallied, the MAC Leather Society was pleased to welcome a special guest, Mr. Leatherman Toronto Fellowship Corey Breau, who gave an inspirational speech regarding keeping Leather communities together not only here in the Maritimes but across Canada.

Before the newest titleholders were announced, Society bestowed

its Volunteer of the Year award to Irl Washburn of Saint John, NB, for his many years of unselfish giving, volunteering and participation within the Leather community.

The title of MAC Leather 2009 went to Rene Arsenault, while the MsAC Leather 2009 title went to Bea Breau. Congratulations to them and to all contestants for keeping Leather communities here in the Maritimes on the map. They all did an amazing job and the Atlantic GLBT community should take a moment and thank them for doing so.

The MAC Leather contest weekend could not be held without all of the volunteers and businesses that assist with services, products or time. Thank you to the Saint John production crew along with all of the other volunteers that assisted in ensuring things went well—you know who you are. Kudos to the businesses which showed true community spirit and involvement. They include the Mahogany Manor, ELEMENT Bar, Triangles, GNG, Au Bois Dormant Inn, Rainbow Lodge, Rivers

Edge Camping Resort and Tim Isaac Antiques. A very special thank you to Jeanne Chesnutt and Kate Hoey of Halfway Creations who donated the amazingly-crafted Leather prize packages for each of the contestants and the titleholders.



Dartmouth Mi'kmag Powwow, June 13th on the Dartmouth Commons: the Pride flag flies along with, left to right, American, Nova Scotian, Mi'kmag, Warrior, and Canadian flags.



Ms.A.C.L Leather 2009 - Bea Breau & M.A.C.L Leather 2009 - Rene Arsenault


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indoors, so light up the barbecue,

Chef Darren is Chef/Co-owner of Chives Canadian Bistro, 1537 Barrington St., Halifax, N.S. Voted "Establishment of the Year 2008" by the Nova Scotia Association of Chefs and Cooks; awarded two out of three stars "Where to Eat in Canada 2009"; new member of "La Chaine des Rotisseurs International." Reservations (902) 420-9626.

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2 Tbsp chopped fresh chives
2 Tbsp chopped fresh flat leaf
parsley

1 lb double smoked bacon (cooked
crisp)
1 hand cut slices of Quebec OKA
Cheese
2 lb button mushrooms (sautéed and
kept warm)

Method

1. Make sure your ground beef is very well chilled before mixing. Gently crumble the meat into a large mixing bowl with the internal garnish and mix together just enough to incorporate the ingredients. Hand-form the meat into eight 8oz patties and return to the refrigerator until ready to grill.
2. Buy good quality brioche buns, cut them across the equator and spread with a light coating of garlic butter. Set aside.
3. Grill the burger patties on high 4 min each side, giving a quarter turn at the 2 minute mark to create nice hatch marks. When cooked top with cheese slice and set them aside to keep warm, then toast the bun until golden brown.
4. Build your cheeseburger using the bacon, sautéed mushrooms and your favorite condiments. I like red onion, tomato, horseradish mayo, sliced dill pickles, ketchup and romaine lettuce. Happy grilling!!!

Rugby Comes Out In Halifax

Running. Softball. Curling. Basketball. Ultimate Frisbee. What do all these sports have in common? A GLBT group in Halifax. And they might soon have company: rugby.

Aaron Stewart is starting a gay rugby team in Halifax this summer. Aaron first played rugby last fall while living in Ireland: "I really wanted to get out, meet some gay people and participate in a sport. I did some looking around and found the Emerald Warriors; a gay rugby team."

After meeting the team, Aaron was impressed with both the sport and the bonds of fraternity the club's members had formed. When he returned to Nova Scotia, he realized gay rugby could be transplanted here. It would supply a great way for people to stay active and provide an alternative to the bar scene. So, with the help of his friend Rob Craig, they started the Halifax Gay Rugby (the working

name until a club name is selected) Facebook group to build interest.

For this summer, there will only be exhibition games as the team develops. In January, the team will approach Rugby NS at their AGM to become a member club in their men's division. If there's sufficient interest, they will look at forming a women's team as well. They would then compete in the men's division in the summer of 2010. Aaron also hopes to have the team eventually compete on an international level. Rugby is played in the OutGames and IGRAB holds two international cups.

If you're interested in learning more or want to play, Halifax Gay Rugby is looking for players of all skill levels. If you'd like to play or learn more, you can contact Aaron Stewart (ab.stewart@dal.ca) or join the Facebook group ("Halifax Gay Rugby").

Blast From The Past

Brenda Beagan and Anne Bishop started the Secret Furies in 1989. The purpose of the group was to participate in social justice activism through music by teaching and leading songs for marches and demonstrations and performing at benefits. The group rehearsed weekly in the old projection booth at Rumours and got its name in 1990 from one of the movie posters on the wall, a film called The Secret Fury. The choir performed countless times, indoors and out, including two demonstrations during the campaign to have sexual orientation included as a prohibited ground of discrimination in the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act and the launch of the National Film Board film The Burning Times. The group started out at 9 voices and grew to include 25, singing in a cappella five-part harmony. Eight members shared the role of conductor. Over the three years of its existence, the group went back and forth on inclusion of straight women and in the end could not resolve the issue. The Secret Furies broke up in 1992 with an agreement that no one would use the name again. Two smaller groups formed from the Furies former membership, one based in Truro and the other in Halifax. The Halifax group became The Women



Next Door. They still sing together and have represented Nova Scotia at the Canadian Festival of Gay and

Lesbian Chorus. Photo: mid-1991, by Anita Martinez

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Photo Credit: Roger Pulver

HALIFAX PRIDE WEEK

JULY 18-26

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PARADE MAP



EVENTS

SATURDAY, JULY 18

Fred Hersch Trio, Atlantic Jazz Festival

SUNDAY, JULY 19

Dykes -vs- Divas

MONDAY, JULY 20

Artsy Fartsy Gallery Show

THURSDAY, JULY 23

Valley Wine Tours (Thursday to Friday)

FRIDAY, JULY 24

Songwriter's Circle

SATURDAY, JULY 25

PRIDE DAY! Parade, Concert,
Community Fair

SUNDAY, JULY 26

Pride Family Picnic

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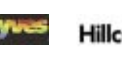
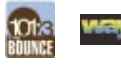
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ayves

HALIFAX PRIDE CONCERT 2009

This year's post parade concert will feature a number of local artists, some familiar and some entirely unexpected! In addition, we're delighted to officially announce the most poorly kept secret in Halifax, both The Cliks and The Hidden Cameras will be appearing as the headline acts for the Pride Concert 2009.

The Halifax Pride Concert is made possible in part with support from the Heritage Canada 'Building Communities Through Arts & Heritage' program and from Halifax Regional Municipality.



QUEEN OF THE VINEYARDS VALLEY WINE TOUR



Take a deluxe motor coach, mix with one shot 100 proof drag queen, shake with 3 Annapolis Valley wineries, and what do you get? One cocktail called Luxurious hilarity, and lots of it!! Ambassatours Gray Line and Halifax Pride are delighted to bring you the first ever Queen of the Vineyards Valley Wine Tour. Halifax Pride's Official Hostess, Rouge Fatale, will whisk you down to the valley on a delicious excursion, filled with laughter, wine and lunch! "I'd go just to see Rouge sashay through a vineyard in six-inch stilettos," said Pride Chair, Hugo Dann. If you are a wine lover or enjoy a guaranteed good time, then this is the pride event for you and your friends. Join Rouge Fatale on her journey to discover the wines of Nova Scotia. Rouge Fatale will take you to the Annapolis Valley where you'll visit three of the province's premiere wineries (Sainte Famille, Domaine de Grand Pre and Gaspereau Valley Vineyards) and enjoy a delicious lunch. After lunch, it's on to Gaspereau Valley Vineyards for a wine and artisanal cheese tasting featuring products from Fox Hill Farm. This tasting will also include a sample of an award-winning Icewine. All this and you'll be back in Halifax in plenty of time to enjoy some of the Pride options, including Halifax Pride's Under the Big Top" A Songwriter's Circle, taking place at the Pride Festival Site on Garrison Grounds!

Tickets are \$84.00 per person (plus HST). To book your Annapolis Valley Tour or to get more information visit www.ambassatours.com/halifaxpride or www.halifaxpride.com



HALIFAX PRIDE COMMUNITY FAIR 2009

This year our Community Fair has something for everyone. From carnival games to our celebrity dunk tank, inflatables to entertainment, there is something for the child in all of us. We are even planning a second stage in the Fair Grounds.

This year's Children's Fair theme is "Over the Rainbow". Children are welcome to dress up as their favourite "Wizard of Oz" character. Prizes are available for best costume. If you don't have something suitable in your closet, check out Glow Parties year round costume line. The 4Cs Art Bikers will be hosting arts and crafts on site again this year. Halifax Regional Police will be setting up a children's identification booth in addition to their attractions from last year. Also back by popular demand is the bouncing Castle. New this year will be a children's concert with none other than Nova Scotia's own Sun Shine Sue. At the end of the parade follow the yellow Brick Road to the Children's Fair. As always, all activities in the Children's Fair are free of charge for children 12 and under.

We are always trying to think up new ways to include our proud youth in our Pride Festivities and this year is no exception. One new attraction is a Youth Dance Competition for youth ages 12-19. The dance off will be produced and judged in partnership with Bounce FM. Check out the Halifax Pride website for more details. We will also be extending our free hand stamp policy for youth ages 12-19 for our extreme inflatables. Tickets will be available for purchase by those over the age of 19, but young and fun loving at heart.

The Halifax Pride Community Fair is sponsored in part by Glow Promotions and from Halifax Regional Municipality.

ARTSY FARTSY: QUEER YOUTH CULTURAL PRIDE

This is an exciting initiative co-sponsored by Halifax Pride and the LGB Youth Project. With generous support from the Cultural Opportunities for Youth Program of Nova Scotia's Department of Tourism, Culture & Heritage, this program will bring talented queer youth into contact with professional artist mentors from a whole range of disciplines. Workshops in screen printing, pottery, musical theatre, and songwriting will be taking place throughout June and July. The final works will be given a gala launch at Fred Salon, Café & Gallery, 2606 Agricola Street on Monday, July 20 (7 - 9pm) and the work will be on display throughout Pride Week.

"Artsy-Fartsy" is sponsored by the Nova Scotia Culture Division and by FRED.

BIENVENUE À FIERTÉ HALIFAX PRIDE



Cette année pour son 21^e anniversaire, Halifax Pride organise des célébrations diverses qui s'étendent sur toute une semaine. Une parade clôturera les célébrations du 19-26 juillet, mais il y a beaucoup plus à voir pendant ces festivités qu'une énorme parade: du théâtre, des BBQs, des films, des concerts, et toute une journée de programmation au Garrison Grounds marquent cette occasion exceptionnelle. Depuis ses débuts, les activités de Pride ont promu la diversité et l'ouverture. Ce fait est évident au regard de la dimension des festivités qui ont réuni plus de 75 000 participants l'année dernière. Le terme "Pride" est aussi plus inclusif. Les communautés gays, lesbiennes, bisexuelles, transsexuelles, queer, deux esprit et nos supporters font tous partis de la Pride.

En dépit de cet esprit d'ouverture, on a constaté jusqu'à présent très peu de collaboration entre la communauté gay et la communauté francophone de la Nouvelle-Ecosse. Ces deux groupes

pourtant partagent un passé marqué par la lutte contre la persécution. La francophonie en Amérique du Nord a débarqué ici en Nouvelle-Ecosse il y a plus que 400 ans. Cette histoire complexe et douloureuse a formé ce peuple fier, qui a toujours eu besoin de se battre pour ses droits. Pour ces raisons et à cause de la distance qui nous sépare toujours, le thème du Pride 2009 "Démolir les murs et construire les ponts." a une signification plus profonde pour nos deux communautés.

Si vous n'avez jamais participé à la Pride, rien de plus simple. Vous pouvez commencer par trouver une activité qui vous intéresse et y aller. Que vous veniez seul ou accompagné, vous ferez des rencontres; l'ouverture et les nouvelles rencontres sont les principes de base de la Pride. Si vous voulez vous engager davantage, pourquoi ne pas organiser un groupe pour la parade avec vos collègues ou une association dont vous êtes actifs? C'est un moyen génial d'encourager le partage et l'inclusion parmi vos collègues !

Pour plus de détails, consultez notre site web au www.halifaxpride.com

Par Adam Reid

FRED HERSCH TRIO

By Hugo Dann

"I celebrate myself!"

says Walt Whitman in *Leaves of Grass*. When set to music by Fred Hersch, the words of the "good gray (and gay) poet's surge forward like a Pride Parade, a celebration of identity, of freedom, and survival. Halifax Pride is excited to be partnering with the Atlantic Jazz Festival to present this proudly "out" pianist and composer to Halifax audiences on July 18. Picasso famously remarked that to know the art, one must know the artist. I loved Fred Hersch's music from the first moment I heard it, but the more I've learned about Fred Hersch the man, the deeper my appreciation and passion for his music has become. He is inspiring.

Now in his early fifties, Fred Hersch has been making music since childhood, when he exasperated his teachers by improvising freely on the classical pieces he was studying. After a lengthy apprenticeship, studying in his native Cincinnati and Boston, before settling in New York, he began recording in the mid-80s. His music is extraordinarily diverse – drawing on a variety of influences – including African and Brazilian rhythms, his classical background, and the whole rich symphony of American music, from Aaron Copland to Bill Evans and Sonny Rollins. His many accomplishments include two Grammy nominations for Best Jazz Instrumental Performance and a 2006 Grammy nomination for Best Instrumental Composition. He has recorded more than two-dozen albums as a solo artist.

Fred Hersch is one of only a handful of openly gay jazz artists operating at the international level, a surprising thing considering the rich queer history of American jazz going back to Ma Rainey and the great Billy Strayhorn. He is also very public about living with HIV/AIDS. "I came out in a big way in '93. A big, big way – about having HIV and being gay. I ... feel like to be open and honest is the best thing for me psychologically, and it's also something that other people might find hopeful or inspiring, to say, "Yes, I deal with this every day." "No, it's not a death sentence."

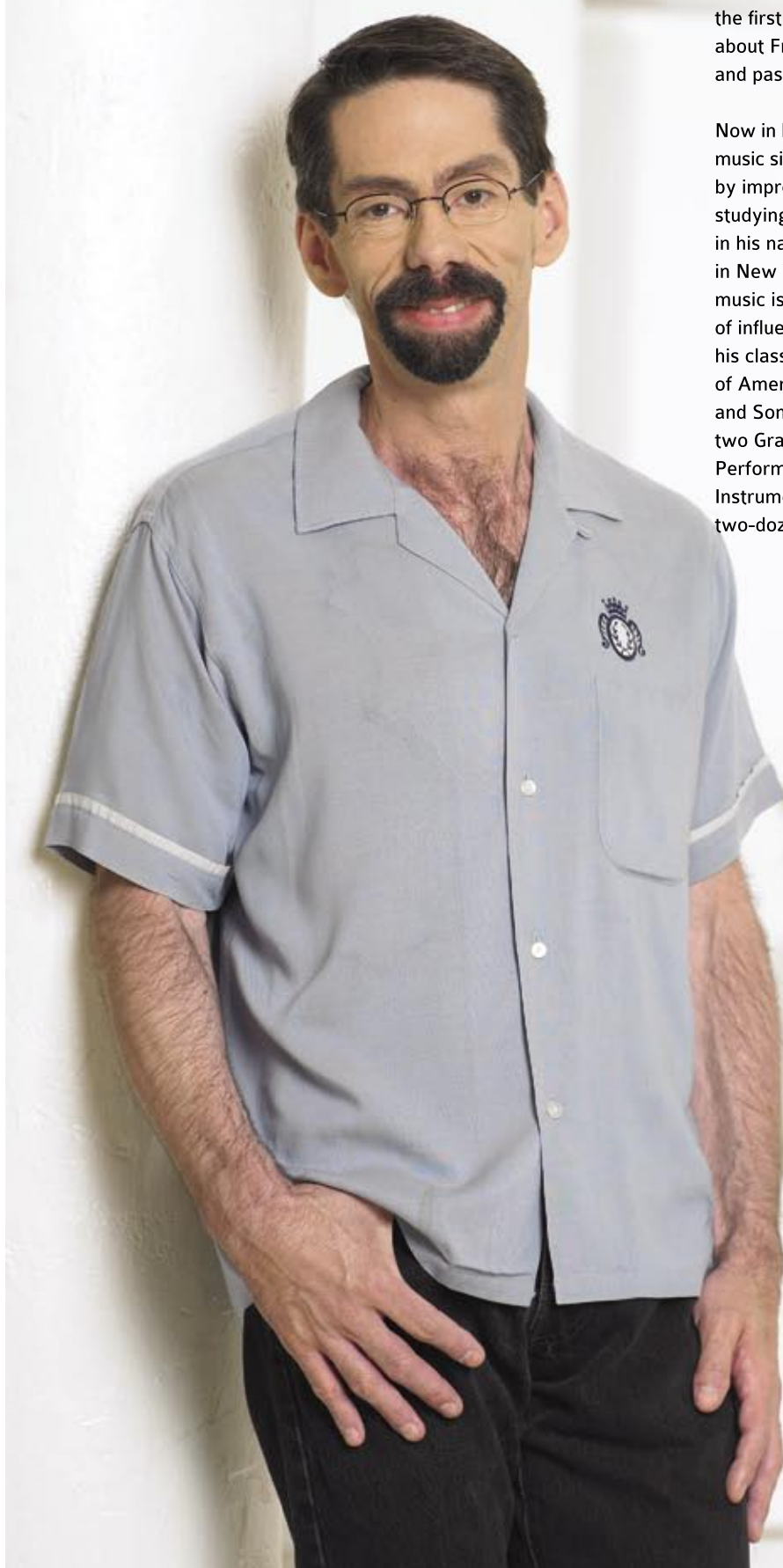
Despite living with HIV for seventeen years, "Fred Hersch's documented musical production was second to none in the jazz world," (Ted Panken, *Jazz.com*). However last year, Hersch had what can only be described as a massive health crisis. After months of hospitalization and rehab, during which he had to relearn how to walk and even how to swallow, he has made an extraordinary recovery and resumed his busy schedule of performances and touring. He credits much of this comeback to Scott Morgan, his partner of seven years, "... to be in a relationship with someone who I care about so deeply, who so deeply cares about me, is an incredible blessing."

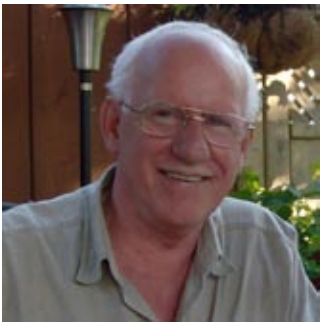
Fred Hersch is an activist who has helped to raise money (and awareness) for HIV/AIDS through recordings and concerts. He is both brave and candid in sharing details of his life. "It's not like I walk up to somebody and say, „Hi, I'm Fred. I'm gay. "I'd like to be known as a good person and a good musician who happens to be gay – and incidentally has HIV ... I think it would be dishonest of me not to talk about things ... I realized that you cannot be honest on the bandstand and dishonest off it." Picasso would agree!

Yet when we talk about Mr. Hersch and his life, we're talking about an artist and everything must lead us back to the music. In his song cycle drawn from Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*, the music – like Whitman's verse, veers from the joyful to the sublime, from the everyday to the cosmic. It is truly universal and yet, for me, it strikes a particular resonance as a member of the queer community – a glorious affirmation of being alive and in the moment. Inspiring!

The Fred Hersch Trio performs Saturday, July 18, 9:00pm, at the Baronet Ballroom in the Delta Halifax Hotel, 1990 Barrington Street. Tickets are \$35. For box office info, go to www.atlanticjazzfestival.ca and click Tickets.

*All the quotes in this article are pulled from a lengthy interview Fred Hersch gave to Ted Panken in May of this year for *Jazz.com* which can be read on their website. The Fred Hersch trio will be performing a number of different pieces, but *Leaves of Grass* is a great introduction to his music. You can hear *Leaves of Grass* recorded live by US public radio broadcaster NPR at Carnegie Hall in 2005. Go to www.npr.org and enter Fred Hersch into the Search engine. Look for the title, *Creators at Carnegie*. You'll be glad you did.*





By Gerard Veldhoven

As this issue reaches you, Pride Week in Amherst will be in full swing. I will report on the events that made this border town rock with excitement in the August issue of Wayves.

In the meantime we are not idle. During International Day Against Homophobia on May 17, the Cumberland Pride Society, along with

I Am What I Amherst

representation from the Northern AIDS Society, provided an information centre at the Amherst Centre Mall. It turned out to be a quiet day as many people were doing other things on the long weekend instead of shopping. However, we feel it was a success, nevertheless. A huge yard sale on June 6 to raise funds for the Society was a great success!

For those of you who receive Wayves before July 6, there is still time to purchase tickets for the dinner and dance to be held on July 11, but they must be bought by June 30. Tickets are sold at \$15.00 per person. (This should please one reader of Wayves who suggested last year that we were discriminating against singles as tick-

ets for couples were sold at \$30.00 and singles at \$20.00. Perhaps he will attend now that the price is the same for all!)

Also on July 11, a GLBTTQ parenting workshop will be held at Hertz Hall in Amherst. One must register by July 3rd. The Pride BBQ Picnic at Northport Provincial Park will be held on July 12. All one has to do is show up with some sort of dish you like. Barbecue meats will be supplied. However, if you prefer a steak, bring it along. Salads are also welcome.

The Town of Amherst has been extremely supportive to Pride Week celebrations and this year is no exception. The Cumberland County

Council is of the same mindset as last year, as they changed their flag raising policies as soon as my request was received to fly the Pride flag. The Count Warden, Keith Hunter, did decide to sign the Pride Week proclamation, possibly to save face. I have sent in a request to him to sign it again. We'll see how that fares. It is time for a committee to be formed to approach all jurisdictions in the province and convince them that raising the Pride Flag is a celebration of diversity and the coming together of everyone, regardless of sexual orientation.

As sad day in California as Proposition 8 was deemed legal by the California Supreme Court. The irony is that those 18,000 couples already

married will not be affected by the ruling. This is absolutely insane. Even in the United States this has to be unconstitutional. That ruling places a wedge between those who are married and those who are not allowed to marry legally. The United States Supreme Court must act immediately to stamp out this discriminating action that is seemingly legal under the umbrella of the law. Canada is so much more in tune with the diversity of its citizens. A lesson may be learned by our neighbours to the south.

That's it from Amherst for this issue of Wayves. Till the next time, we wish everyone in the Maritimes a happy and successful Pride Week. Stay tuned!

ARCPEI

PEI Pride

Cont'd from p. 1

Monday, July 6

Flag Raising: Please join us at Charlottetown City Hall at 11:30 a.m. to officially start the week with the raising of the Pride flag.

Wednesday, Jul. 8

Open Mic Coffee House: Plan to attend the second annual Open Mic Coffee House, located at Beanz on University Avenue. This night has a great mix of talent, poetry, singing and instrumental display—fun for the whole family. This event begins at 7:00 p.m. and will go until 9:00 p.m. Rain location is Mavor's Studio.

Saturday, July 11

Pride 2009 Parade, Post Parade Gathering in the Park, Pride Power Party This year's parade is going to be bigger than ever! We invite anyone from the community that wants to decorate their vehicle and have some fun for the parade to simply arrive at the parking lot behind the Shaw building at 11:30 a.m. on July 11. Parade begins at 1:00 p.m. This year we have many entries so we are very

much looking forward to this event. Join us after the parade at the park for a barbecue, see some old friends, and take in a few speeches from special guests to mark the wonderful day we are celebrating.

This year's Power Party is going to be even bigger than last year and even more fun! This year's theme is "Beach Party." We encourage you to dress in fun beachwear and come out and have a blast. There will be door prizes for all who enter. Party begins at 9:00

p.m. and goes until 2:00 a.m.

ARCPEI hopes to see all of you and your friends out at the events taking part in the fun and celebrating who you are. ARCPEI would like to extend thanks to the entire community for continuing to support the organization. We truly appreciate all of the great suggestions community has made. We are a community organization, run by the community for the community. That is why our tag line is "Community Unity."



Happy Pride Halifax!



The Pride Rose is available in limited quantities at:

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The Seahorse - 1665 Argyle St
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COVER at the door will be \$12

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July Happenings!



NOVA SCOTIA

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July 10 thru 16

Queer & Rebel Days

Friday July 10, 7pm

Kebab Kick off Party - (Roberts Street Social Centre- 5684 Roberts St.) (FREE and everyone friendly-friendly) - meet some folks and discuss, among other things, the importance of challenging consumerism and assimilation (and talk about what those words mean)

Saturday July 11 11am-2pm

Queer Costume, Water-Fight Bike Ride, (FREE and everyone friendly-friendly) - bike fixing, costume making, water balloon filling, face painting, target practice etc. 2pm- the bike ride leaves 5684 Roberts St.

Saturday July 11, 8pm

Queer Performance Night, (5684 Roberts St.) (FREE and everyone friendly-friendly) Raindate: Sunday, July 12, 7pm Still accepting performers- contact queer.and.rebel.days.2009@gmail.com or call 446-1788

Sunday, July 12, 12-5pm

Queer Expressions: DIY art workshops and fair, (5684 Roberts St.) (FREE and everyone friendly-friendly) - There will be zine making, button making, patch making and hair cutting stations. -there will also be art for sale by and for Queers and their allies.

Sunday July 12, 3-6pm

Are You Queer Enough?, (5684 Roberts St., upstairs) (FREE and everyone friendly-friendly) We will discuss the peer-policing of queer identities in the queer/gay community There will also be a story telling element, where folks can speak to times they did not feel 'queer enough' and what that even means. This will be followed by a collaborative zine making workshop for those interested.

Monday July 13-Thursday

July 16, 12-2pm: Lunch Time Discussions (5684 Roberts st.) (FREE and everyone friendly-friendly) There will be some food and a few folks hanging around to discuss any topics that might have been missed, and also to just generally hang out. Also, the button-maker will be available and so will the zine-making supplies.

Monday, July 13, 7pm

How to be an Ally, (5684 Roberts st., upstairs) (FREE and everyone friendly-friendly) Have you even wondered how to be an ally, not just to queer or trans folk, but in general? We will discuss principles and tactics of how to be a supportive ally.

Tuesday, July 14

12-2pm: Lunch Time Discussions (see above)

7pm: Flag Wars Screening - (5684 Roberts st., upstairs) (FREE and everyone friendly-friendly) Movie

has strong content -Will be followed by a discussion

Wednesday, July 15

12-2pm: Lunch Time Discussions (see above)

Queer Activist History: Guest Speaker and Discussion- , 7pm (5684 Roberts st., upstairs) (FREE and everyone friendly-friendly) -Talk about some historical moments of queer activism, and discuss where current activism is headed now -An opportunity to meet other folks interested in queer activist actions.

Thursday, July 16

6pm Wrap-up with Wraps (5684 Roberts st.) (FREE and everyone friendly-friendly) - Feedback and reflection- did anything make you uncomfortable? Did we miss anything? We want your feedback! - Direct action planning- Are there any actions you want to see happen? Are you interested in being an active queer activist? Come to this event!

July 27

Amy Campbell & Tiiu - The Carleton

August 7, 8, 9:

Alcoholics Anonymous 21st Annual Courage Round Up. Sponsored by Gay men and lesbians in AA. Open to all alcoholics and those affected by alcoholism in others. 5500 Inglis St. For more information call 902-425-8383.

September 27!

Mark your calendars. The 2009 Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life. Get started with the fundraising early. Call Laura at 425-4882 x 228 or email walk@acns.ns.ca to register. Help us

help others with the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia.

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Mondayz 2 for \$5.50 Night (Two 20oz Draught or Two Domestic Beer or any Two Well Shoots)! & All SHOOTERS \$2.50.

TOONIE Tuesdayz Buy any Beer, Draught, Well Shoot or Liquor at the regular price and get a 2nd for only \$2.75 & All SHOOTERS \$2.50.

Wednesdayz Karaoke with Bear777 from 9:30pm till 1:30am. Door Prizes, Drink Specials, Week End Bar Passes, Toonie Tune JACK POT min. \$200 and GROWING! Mystery Song is \$300, 1st Prize \$25, 2nd Prize \$50 & All SHOOTERS \$2.50.

Thursdayz POOR BOY Night - 60oz Pitcher of Draught ONLY \$13.50, TEQUILA SHOTS ONLY \$3.75, All SHOOTERS \$2.50 & FREE HOT DOGS with Drink Purchase all night long! Fridayz Dance Party with house DJ Needles & DJ Bear. FREE Cover before 10pm (\$5 after 10pm).

Happy Hour from 3pm till 10pm! All SHOOTERS \$2.50.

Saturdayz Dance Party with house DJ Needles or DJ Bear. FREE

Cover before 10pm (\$5 after 10pm). Happy Hour from 3pm till 10pm! All SHOOTERS \$2.50.
CANADA DAY Wednesday July 1st - Wear RED & WHITE or BRING YOUR CANADIAN FLAG & for a chance to WIN a special door prize DRAW! Karaoke from 9pm till Midnight followed by DANCING with DJ BEAR till 2am
Friday July 3rd - RETRO Party with DJ BEAR tunes from the 80's & 90's

INDEPENDENCE DAY Saturday July 4th "It's our American Cousin Party!" Wear RED WHITE & BLUE to be eligible for a SPECIAL DRAW!

Friday July 10th - PRESIDENT David's BIRTHDAY BASH! Featuring DJ Sonny D Darryl's Bar Special Double Rum & Coke \$7.50
Saturday July 11th Dance Party with house DJ Needles. FREE Cover before 10pm (\$5 after 10pm). Happy Hour from 3pm till 10pm! \$2.50 SHOOTERS all night
Friday July 17th
Saturday July 18th
Pride Week 09

Lay Chaplaincy Services

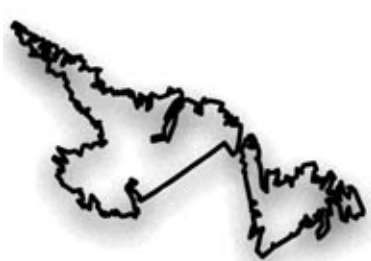
Universalist Unitarian Church of Halifax
5500 Inglis Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 1J8
uuchurch@eastlink.ca
902-429-5500

Susan Stephen & Gwen Armshaw Lay Chaplains
sstephen57@gmail.com ♦ armshaw@hfx.eastlink.ca

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Sunday July 19th - HAPPY HOUR & FREE HOT DOGS After Dikes & Diva's Ball Game followed by ISCANS Drag Show 9pm till 11pm followed by dancing with DJ Troy till 2am
Monday July 20th - Pride 2 for \$5.50 Night (Two 20oz Draught or Two Domestic Beer or any Two Well Shoots)! & All SHOOTERS \$2.50.

Tuesday July 21st - Pride Toonie Tuesday Buy any Beer, Draught, Well Shoot or Liquor at the regular price and get a 2nd for only \$2.75
Wednesday July 22nd PRIDE KARAOKE with Bear777 from 9:30pm till 1:30am. Door Prizes, Drink Specials, Week End Bar Passes, Toonie Tune JACK POT min. \$200 and GROWING! Mystery Song is \$300, 1st Prize \$25, 2nd Prize \$50 & All SHOOTERS \$2.50
Thursday July 23rd Pride Cafe DaPoPo - Queer specialz galore! 60oz Pitcher of Draught ONLY \$13.50, TEQUILA SHOTS ONLY \$3.75, All SHOOTERS \$2.50 & FREE HOT DOGS with Drink Purchase all night long!
Friday July 24th - Out of Towner's Party - All Welcome, show your colors! FREE Cover before 10pm (\$5 after 10pm). Happy Hour from 3pm till 10pm! \$2.50 SHOOTERS all night
Saturday July 25th - Black & Blue Party! "2nd Annual Menz Night" sponsored by Moosehead Breweries Ltd Featuring DJ Sonny D - Best Ass Contest win \$100, Door Prizes, Bar Specials, HAPPY HOUR & FREE Cover before 9pm (\$10 after 9pm)
Sunday July 26th - Safe Harbour MCC presents its 1st Annual Pride Community Pancake & Sausage Brunch, Noon till 3pm, \$10 donation requested with proceeds to Manna for Health.



NEWFOUNDLAND

St. John's

July 21 - Amy Campbell & Tiiu - The Grapevine.
July 22 - Amy Campbell & Tiiu - Distortion.
July 23 - Amy Campbell & Tiiu - The Bull and Barrell
July 24 - Amy Campbell & Tiiu - The Rose and Thistle



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Breadalbane

July 12 - Amy Campbell and Tiiu - The Dunk

Camp Out!

Exploring LGBTQ activist history in the Maritimes

What: Camp Out!, a weekend celebrating and exploring LGBTQ activism in the Maritimes, past and present, featuring: discussion groups, nature walks, barbeque, community campfire, live music and more. July 17th, 18th and 19th 2009, at The Mermaid and the Cow, queer campground, Pictou County, NS <http://www.themermaidandthecow.ca/>

For more information about Camp Out!, or to get a registration form, please email camp.out.2009@gmail.com or phone (902) 405-0340.. Here's the tentative schedule:

Friday July 17	Saturday July 18	Sunday July 19
All weekend: audio recording and zine station set up to collect and document people's stories and thoughts	Morning: Introduction about the farm and campground by Jane Morrigan Presentation of Masters thesis research by Kelly Baker small discussion groups	Morning: pack up camp sites, guided walk, optional discussion groups
	Afternoon: story circle on activist history, small discussion groups	
Evening: registration, orientation to the campground, setting up tents, community campfire	Evening: barbeque, slide show, music performances and campfire	



Teens Now Talk Magazine

In this new summer issue we have a letter from a brave youth who seen TNT magazine as a safe way to tell his parents about his sexuality..the letter is powerful and echo allot of fears which still exist for our youth of today. "The Explosive thing about Teens Now Talk -TNT magazine," says Jessica, "is that it's written by teens for teens and provides a platform for healthy expression while being Seen, heard and having a voice." Each teen brings a unique "solution" to the table as to what they see as today's issue and collectively through TNT raising the awareness, teen solutions ignites the changes needed to truly enhance their teens future. From its inception, the magazine has recognized sexual diversity as a normal part of teen life, and has regularly carried content frankly discussing LGBT issues. The letter is an example the heartfelt dialogue that is presented with every issue. Photo by Paul Adam

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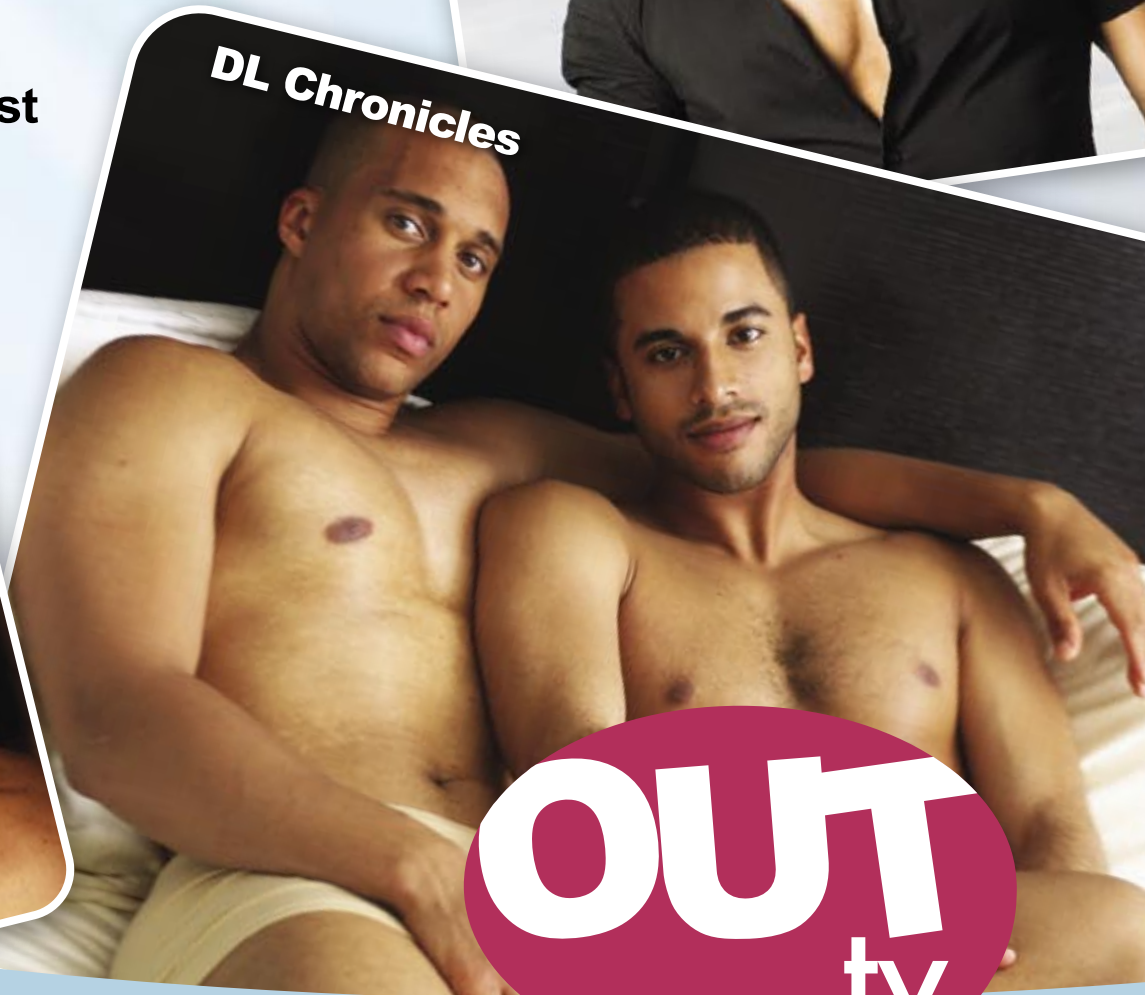
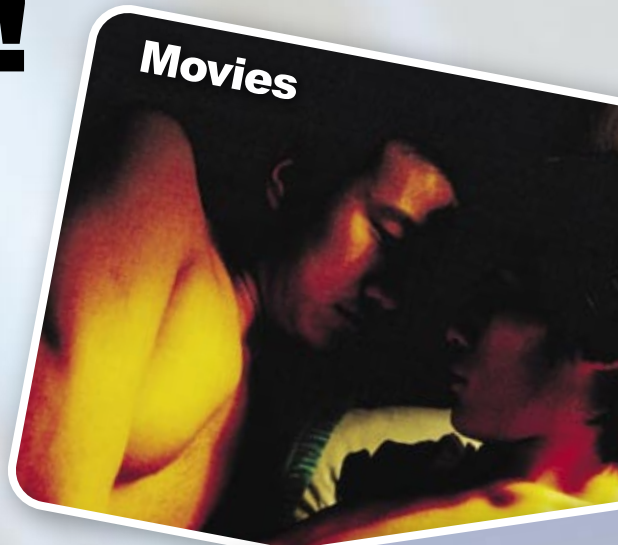
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Atlantic Canadian Lesbians : Online Group For Lesbians from the Atlantic Provinces.

AtlanticPoz: A new discussion group is for individuals living with HIV in Atlantic Canada. web: health.groups.yahoo.com/group/atlanticpoz/
Egale Canada - Atlantic: (888) 204-7777 email: egale.canada@egale.ca web: www.egale.ca

Gender Expressions Atlantic: Support for transgendered individuals ranging from Crossdressers to Transsexuals. email: gender_expressions@hotmail.com web: www.geocities.com/gender_expressions/ (No scheduled meeting. Occasional social events, by invitation only.)

Names Project (AIDS Memorial Quilt): panels - helping create, and lending. 902-454-5158 email: larrybaxter@ns.sympatico.ca web: www.quilt.ca (Call if interested in volunteering or making a panel) at 3544 Acadia St. Halifax, NS B3K 3P2

Narcotics Anonymous: a fellowship of recovering drug addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. 1-800-205-8402 web: centralnovaarea.ca at Call the phone number or visit the web page for meeting times and places.

Project E: Presentation for youth, on gender expression, myth busters, proper terminology and other facts. web: www.freewebs.com/xprojecte/ at available via web page

Wayves Magazine: Atlantic Canada's queer news and lifestyle magazine!. email: submissions@wayves.ca web: wayves.ca (Deadline: the first Friday of every month; Editorial meeting: the Monday following that; layout the Sunday following that. Email us to be put on our notification list!)

assorted cities

Mr Atlantic Canada Leather Society: Dedicated to developing gay leather communities in the Atlantic region. email: waydo7@hotmail.com

Dartmouth

Healing Our Nations: Healing Our Nations is an Aboriginal HIV/AIDS service organization that serves the Atlantic region. (902) 492-4255 email: director@accesswave.ca web: www.hon93.ca (Healing Our Nations staff meet once on a weekly basis. Training offered on request at no charge for Aboriginal peoples and/or organizations.) at 15 Alderney Dr., Suite 3, Dartmouth, NS. B2Y2N2

Fredericton

GaySpaces: Free postings of GLBT-friendly places to live in Canada. email: info@gayspaces.org web: www.gayspaces.org

Upper Musquodoboit

Maritime Transgender Workplace Solutions Project: Transgender Issues Workshops and information resource. (902)568-2935 email: denisesined@ns.sympatico.ca web: www3.ns.sympatico.ca/winpapernews (No meetings, Workshops by arrangements, Information source when requested. Newsletter Odds & Sods bi-weekly)

New Brunswick (506)

Fredericton

AIDS New Brunswick / SIDA Nouveau-Brunswick: committed to facilitating community-based responses to the issues of HIV/AIDS. 459-7518 email: sidaids@nbnet.nb.ca web: www.aidsnb.com (Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30AM to 12:30PM and 1:30PM to 4:30PM)
Fredericton Lesbians and Gays: Email listserv of events/news in the Fredericton for gblt men and women. email: jamesw@stu.ca web: www.geocities.com/westhollywood/3074

Integrity: Supports and encourages Gays and Lesbians in their spiritual lives. email: integrityfredericton@live.ca web: www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=46207976587, meets 3rd Sunday (4:00pm) at Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton at 874 York Street

PFLAG: Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. (506) 455-7190 email: pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca web: www.geocities.com/Pflagfredericton/, meets 4th Tuesday (7-9 pm (except December: 2nd Tuesday)) at Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton 874 York St. Fredericton NB E3B 3R8
Spectrum: social and support group for students, staff and faculty at UNB and STU. email: spectrum@unb.ca web: www.unbf.ca/clubs/spectrum, meets every Tuesday (See webpage for schedule.)

UNB/STU Women's Collective: Women of all ages and orientations. , meets every Monday at 5pm at the University Women's Centre at the SUB

Moncton

AIDS Moncton: offers support to people living with HIV and their families and friends, education and awareness. 859-9616 email: sidaidsm@sida-aidsmoncton.com web: www.sida-aidsmoncton.com at 80 Weldon St, Moncton, NB, E1C 5V8
Moncton Line Dancing: LINE DANCING for all levels from beginner to advanced. No partner required. No dress code. , meets every Wednesday (8:30pm sharp) at Triangles Bar, corner of St. George and Archibald.
PFLAG: Supporting all people with questions or concerns about sexual orientation and gender identity issues. (506) 869-8191 email: monctonnb@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/moncton.html, meets 3rd Monday (Occasionally on the 2nd Monday _ please call) at 7:30-9:30pm, University of Moncton, Adrien-J.-Cormier Bldg., Room 302

River Of Pride: Organizes, promotes and produces Moncton's Pride events!. email: monctonriverofpride2008@gmail.com web: www.fiertemonctonpride.ca (every second Sunday evening, to discuss upcoming events and activities, everyone is welcome to attend. check out time / location posted on website) at Triangles bar 234 St.George St. Moncton NB
Safe Spaces Moncton Region: Support Groups for GLBTQ Youth (14-25 years old). 506-854-3049
UN sur DIX - l'Association des tudiant.e.s GLB de l'Université de Moncton: Vise _ duquer, _ sensibiliser et _ offrir des ressources dans la langue fran_aise. email: unsurdix@umoncton.ca web: www.umoncton.ca/unsurdix/ (Visitez le site Web ou envoyez un courriel pour en apprendre davantage au sujet du travail que nous accomplissons.)

Mount Allison

University, Sackville

Catalyst: Catalyst, Mt. A's Queer-Straight Alliance, provides support & information for all Mt. A students, staff, and faculty through meetings, seminars, and social events. Everyone is welcome. email: catalyst@mta.ca web: www.mta.ca/clubs/catalyst/ (Catalyst meets approximately every week from Sept-Dec and Jan-April. For meeting info contact the president at catalyst@mta.ca or the Students' Administrative Council at sac@mta.ca.)

Petit-Rocher (Bathurst area)

Gais.es Nor Gays Inc. (GNG): A bilingual volunteer association serving gay men, lesbians and bisexuals of northern New Brunswick. email: info@gngnb.ca web: www.gngnb.ca (Dances are held at GNG club every Saturday night. See www.gngnb.ca for a list of upcoming events.) at 702 rue Principale, Petit-Rocher NB. Look for rainbow flag and/or door with pink triangle at rear of parking lot.

Sackville NB/Amherst NS

PFLAG: Support and education for GLBTT2IQQ persons, friends & family. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca, meets 2nd Monday (7:30 to 9:30pm No meeting in July and August.) at Meeting location alternates monthly between Sackville: United Church Parlours, 112 Main Street, and Amherst: Maggie's Place, 12 LaPlanche Street

Saint John

Affirming United Church - Centenary - Queen Square United Church: invites you to worship!. 634-8288 email: cqsunited@nb.aibn.com web: www.cqsunited.ca, meets every Sunday (10:30am) at 215 Wentworth St, Saint John, NB
AIDS Saint John: improve quality of life for those infected & affected by HIV, reduce the spread through education 652-2437 email: aidssj@nb.aibn.com web: www.aidssaintjohn.com
Gay Men_s Supper Club: web: www.portcityrainbowpride.com, meets 3rd Saturday (See webpage for more information) at 220 Germain St
PFLAG: Provides support to anyone dealing with issues of sexual orientation and/or gender identity. (506)648-9700 or 648-9227 email: saintjohnnb@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/saintjohn, meets 1st Friday (1st Friday of each month September - June from 7:00- 9:00 p.m. No meeting in July & August.) at 116 Coburg Street in Saint John, New Brunswick in the Community Health Centre next to St. Joseph's Hospital.

Port City Rainbow Pride: Pride Celebrations Committee. email: events@portcityrainbowpride.com web: www.portcityrainbowpride.com
Safe Spaces Fundy Region: Committed to ending discrimination around issues of sexual orientation in youth. email: safespaces@gmail.com web: www.safespacesfundy.com (See our webpage for schedule of meetings and socials etc @ www.safespacesfundy.com)
Saint John LGBTQ Lending Library: over 300 fiction and non-fiction titles. 634-8288 email: cqsunited@nb.aibn.com (open Monday through Friday, 9 AM to noon.) at the office of Centenary Queen Square United Church at 215 Wentworth Street.
The UNBSJ Q-Collective: A social and support organisation for UNBSJ

students, staff and faculty. 506-648-5737 email: QCollect@UNBSJ.ca web: www.unbsj.ca/clubs/qcollective (The UNBSJ Q-Collective is interested in hearing from other university LGBTQ organisations and would like to possibly meet or collaborate.) at Various locations; event particulars will be emailed to anyone who registers with the UNBSJ Q-Collective and/or who gets the UNBSJ weekly _E News_. Past events include the annual Rainbow Peace March, guest speakers, movie nights, participation in Maritime Pride Parades, Supporters of PFLAG Canada's "Communities Encourage Campaign" and "Champions Against Homophobia".

Woodstock

Woodstock GLBT Youth Advocate and Family OutReach: Books, movies, advice, directions, contacts, and support etc. for the family. 328-4868 email: richardb@nbnet.nb.ca

Newfoundland & Lab (709)

PFLAG Canada - St. John's: Information or referral to one of our parents. web: www.pflag.ca (For support or information on chapter meetings regarding PFLAG Canada contact Gemma Schlamp-Hickey, Atlantic Director at gemmamhickey@yahoo.ca or Diana Deacon, St. John's chapter contact at ddeacon@mun.ca)

St. John's

AIDS Committee of Newfoundland & Labrador: HIV/AIDS education and support for male/female/transgendered, all ages, Newfoundland and Labrador 579-8656 email: info@acnl.net web: www.acnl.net
Gay Urban Youth Zone Project: designed to increase HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, and STI knowledge and awareness 579-8656 (ext. 28) web: www.acnl.net at Tommy Sexton Centre 47 Janeway Place Pleasantville, across from the old Janeway Hospital AIDS Committee of Newfoundland and Labrador
LBGT-MUN Resource Centre: LBGT-MUN is an information/resource, service, and peer support centre staffed by trained volunteers!. 737-7619 email: lbg@munsu.ca (Open Monday-Friday 9-4. Biweekly meetings for members and volunteers.) at Smallwood/University Center, UC-6022. Building located on Prince Phillip Drive. Call us! Get involved!
St. John's Pride: St. John's Official Pride Organization. 709-746-6564

Nova Scotia (902)

GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL YOUTH GROUP AT Q.E.H.: Jeanie Buffet, Counsellor, at 421-6797
GLB CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE (SUNS): 494-6654 at c/o the Students_ Union of NS
Positive Connections: Teleconferenced support groups for people living with AIDS. email: connections@acns.ns.ca, meets every Monday (evening 7:00pm - 8:00pm) at by phone. No long distance charges. For more info call 425-4882 ext 228 or 1-800-566-2437 ext 228 or e-mail.
Saint Mary's Campus Outreach Society: Venus Envy Bursary Society: An annual award open to all women studying in NS. web: www.venusenvy.ca/halifax

(Cape Breton/Halifax/Annapolis Valley)

The Rainbow - Atlantic Awareness Society: email: tpineo@hotmail.com web: To be released

Amherst & Area

The Cumberland Pride Society: for: gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and transsexual individuals. 660-5004 email: cumberlandpride@hotmail.com web: cumberland-pride.sytes.net, meets 3rd Sunday (2-4pm)

Amherst

Sexual Health Centre Cumberland County: Open and inclusive services: information, education, workshops, free condoms. 667-7500 email: shccc@ns.aliantzinc.ca web: cumberlandcounty.cfsh.info (9 - 5 drop-in or appt) at 11 Elmwood Drive. Confidential, hassle-free. Free condoms.

Antigonish

X-Pride: social & support group at X. 867- 5007 web: www.stfx.ca/people/xpride

Bridgewater

Sexual Health Centre for Lunenburg County: Confidential info, education & support for everyone. Safer sex supplies, library, pamphlets, workshops. 527-2868 email: LunCo@NSSexualHealth.ca web: www.LunCo.cfsh.info (Hours vary. Open by appointment or by chance. Please call ahead.) at 4 Hillcrest Street Unit 8, Bridgewater. (On the corner of Dufferin and Hillcrest Streets). Closed during summers.
South Shore Pride Social Club: for 19 & older. 530-5986 email: info@southshorepride.ca web: www.southshorepride.ca, meets 3rd Saturday (-- dances -- 9:00PM to 1:00AM) at Call or email for location.

Cape Breton

Group Harrison Society: Dances, Socials & Support Group for Cape Bretoners. (902)371-8752 web: groupharrisonsocietydancespi.piczo.com, meets every Saturday (of every month Admission \$6.50 -\$5.50 for members- Restricted 19 yrs and over) at 780 Upper Prince Street Horizon Achievement Centre (Kinsmen), Sydney

Halifax

Affirm United: GLBT & Friends support, action and worshipping community within the United Church. 461-4528 email: alstew@eastlink.ca
AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia: non-profit, community-based AIDS organization, provincially mandated. (902)425-4882 email: acns@acns.ns.ca web: www.acns.ns.ca
Alcoholics Anonymous: Live & Let Live AA Group for GLBT community. (902) 425-8383/422-4972 email: courage449@yahoo.com, meets every Monday (at 8pm) at St Matthews United Church, 1479 Barrington St, Halifax (Use side door near Maritime Centre at bottom of stairs)
A n o n y m o u s H I V / AIDS Testing: 455-9656
Bedford United Church: An Affirming Ministry of the United Church of Canada - ALL welcome. 835-8497 email: affirmingcongregation@bedfordunited.com web: www.bedfordunited.com, meets every Sunday (9 am service - Casual and contemporary - with free coffee and muffins before church to take into this service. 11 am service - Quieter and more reverent in tone, coffee

after service. Call to confirm worship times as occasionally we have a 10 am combined service. Summer service at 10 am from June 21 - Sept. 6 inclusive) at 1200 Bedford Hwy at Sullivan's Hill, near Atlantic Gardens

BLT-Womyn of Halifax: Bi Sexauls, Lesbian, Transgender Womyn's Discussion Group. Sue's # 499-0335 email: sueandrews1964@hotmail.com web: ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynofhalifax/ (Every second Sunday evening 6pm - 7:30pm) at Dalhousie Women's Centre 6286 South Street (Beside Dalplex Driveway) Hope to see you at the next meeting!

Bluenose Bears (BnB): BnB is a private men's membership based social group for Bears and their admirers. Membership Fees are \$5 for a year. Event Fees are \$1 for Members and \$2 for Guests. Email for more info!. email: BluenoseBears2008@yahoo.ca (Social Gatherings are generally held once a month, on a Tuesday evening.) at Menz Bar (often) but venues vary. Sorry, no 'drop ins'. Members and their Guests only!!

DalOUT: LGBTQ Society at Dalhousie. 494-2190 email: dalout@dal.ca web: societies.dsu.ca/dalout, meets every Thursday (During the academic year we meet at about 7pm each Thursday night.) at Dalhousie University, check OUT our website or contact us for details

Frontrunners Halifax: Running/walking club. 422-7579 email: Bruce.Greenfield@dal.ca web: www.frontrunners.org/clubs/index.php?club=Halifax, meets every Saturday, and every Tuesday, and every Thursday (Sat: 9:30am, Tue: 6:00 pm, Thu: 6:00pm) at Main gates of the Halifax Public Gardens, corner of Spring Garden Road and South Park Street.

Get Out, Halifax!: Recreation activities (team activities, cycling, running, rowing - you name it) for metro & beyond!. web: www.getouthalifax.ca at Visit and get on the email list for more info.

Girl-ish Productions: Girl-ish puts on hot and heavy bi-monthly-ish dance parties for queer-ish folks and their friends. email: girlishproductions@yahoo.ca web: www.girlish.ca

Hal-Gal Mailing List: Low-traffic Yahoo group providing events and information for queer women in the Halifax area. email: hal-gal@yahoo.com web: groups.yahoo.com/group/hal-gal/ (Join the list to keep in touch or post your events.)

Halifax Sexual Health Centre: Anonymous HIV testing, open and inclusive sexual health clinical services, education and workshops. 455-9656 web: www.HalifaxSexualHealth.ca

Imperial and Sovereign Court of Atlantic Nova Society: Fundraising. 902-449-7612 web: www.imperialcourtns.com, meets 1st Sunday, and 2nd Sunday (Executive Meetings Are Currently Held Every Second Sunday) at Meeting Locations Vary

Koinonia Ecumenical Church: Meaning _community_. Call or email Pastor Elaine for more information. 876-8771 email: koinonia@ns.sympatico.ca (bi-weekly at 12:30pm) at Halifax Feast, Maritime Centre

Manna For Health: A special needs referral food bank for those living with life threatening illness. 429-7670

Mount Pride: GLBTQ group at Mount Saint Vincent University. email: mountpride@yahoo.com, meets 1st Tuesday, and 3rd Tuesday (bi-weekly on Tuesdays at 12 noon) at The Diversity Center in Roseria on campus, and online (see email) Possible events that are being planned for the winter semester include sexuality awareness week, movies nights, potlucks, guest speakers, and many more. There are always spontaneous meals and events that are always fun. This group is open to anyone who would like to join.

Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project: fostering change through networking, education, outreach & community education. 902-444-7887 email: nsrap@nsrap.ca web: www.nsrap.ca at TBA

Outlaw: GLBTQ & Allies Law Students Association at Dalhousie Law School. email: chad.skinner@dal.ca web: www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2416842853 (Meetings vary. Please email for further information or check out our Facebook group.) at Dalhousie Law School. 6061 University

Avenue. Halifax, Nova Scotia.

PFLAG: Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. 431-8500 email: halifaxns@pflagcanada.ca, meets 1st Thursday (902-431-8500) at Halifax Youth Project, 2281 Brunswick St

Play Group for Queer Families: 422-8780 (3-5pm) at Board Room (Play Room) at Needham Community Recreation Centre, 3372 Devonshire St (north end Halifax, near intersection of Duffus & Novalea, bus routes 7 & 9) Bring a snack for your child(ren). We will be collecting money from each family to cover the cost of the room rental, likely \$2-4 per week.

Pride Week: Producers of Atlantic Canada's largest LGBTQ cultural festival. 431-1194 email: info@halifaxpride.ca web: www.halifaxpride.ca (July 19 - 26, 2009)

Quakers: Quakerism emphasizes that we all manifest the Divine. 429-2904 web: halifax.quaker.ca, meets every Sunday at Library at Atlantic School of Theology, Franklyn St. All very welcome.

Queer Play: A Queer performing arts group in Halifax NS. email: queerplay@gmail.com

Rainbow Playtime: Food & social meetings for same sex families with tots or couples considering parenthood. 461-9414

Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church: A Christian Church with an affirming ministry to the GLBT community. Everyone is welcome!. 453-9249 email: safeharbour@eastlink.ca web: safeharbourmcc.com, meets every Sunday (11 am) at Veith House, 3115 Veith Street, Halifax

Spirituality For Lesbians: We seek to deepen our relationship with God, knowing that God loves us and calls us into life just as he has created us. Persons of every or no denomination are welcome. 459-2649, meets 2nd Wednesday (7:30-9PM, phone for meeting locations)

Team Halifax: All GLBT over 18, athletes and performance artists, as well as anyone willing to help out. 422-9510 web: www.teamhalifax.com (No fixed schedule at this time, look on website for further details.)

The Youth Project: Support, education

and social activities for youth 25 and under across Nova Scotia. Weekly events, plus a youth food bank and STI testing on site. 429-5429 email: thproject@youthproject.ns.ca web: www.youthproject.ns.ca, meets 1st Tuesday, and 3rd Tuesday (6-9pm) at 2281 Brunswick Street. 25 and under. Please refer to our website for details and schedule of upcoming events. LGB Youth Project Social Drop-in Nights. This is an unstructured event. It's a chance to hang out with old friends, make some new ones, and just talk about whatever.

Trans Family Nova Scotia: We are the Parents, Partners, Family, Friends & Allies of Trans-Identified Individuals. supporting one another. 902-431-8500 email: transfamily@eastlink.ca, meets 3rd Monday (6:30 to 8:30 pm) at The Youth Project (2281 Brunswick St., Halifax)

Universalist Unitarian Church: an inclusive liberal religious community 429-5500 email: uuchurch@eastlink.ca web: UUCH.ca, meets every Sunday (10:30; see website for special events) at 5500 Inglis St

Kentville

Red Door, The: Youth health adolescent center counselling, for up to age 30, all ages STD testing. 679-1411 web: thereddoor.ca (Monday through Friday, 1pm to 5pm, Wednesday open to 6:00) at 150 Park Street

Kingston

Valley Gay Men's Coffee House: socials for gay men; gay & lesbian dances 19+. 765-2821 email: menembracingmen@yahoo.ca web: faceitwithpride.tripod.com (Coffee every Thursday 7-9pm, Dances on the first Saturday of the month, for the exception of in November. There is two dances held in October, On the First Saturday and the Last Saturday of that Month and NO Dance in November.) at email or call for locations or special events or themes

Lunenburg

Second Story Women's Centre: We offer a meeting space for women, support counselling, programs, and referrals. (902)640-3044 email: secstory@eastlink.ca web: www.secstory.com at Second Story Women's Centre is located at 22 King Street, Post Office Centre, Lunenburg.

Middleton

PFLAG: Information and support for GLBT community and their friends and families. 902-825-0548 email: middletomns@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/middleton

html (Check online for meeting times and locations- or phone 825-0548)

New Glasgow

Pictou County Centre for Sexual Health: 695-3366 email: youth.access@ns.sympatico.ca

Pride of Pictou County: All GBLT in Pictou County. web: www.PrideofPictouCounty.ca (see web page for meeting info)

New Minas / Annapolis

Valley

Valley Youth Project: Sexual Orientation. Gender Identity. Allies. Youth. email: valleyyouthproject@gmail.com (6-8:30 most Wednesdays through May) at New Minas Civic Center, 9209 Commercial St. Ages 25 & under. Free bus tickets available. Free food. Fun activities. Join us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Valley-Youth-Project/2241849495>

Nova Scotia

Hepatitis Outreach Society: Since 1999 the Hepatitis Outreach Society has been providing support, education and prevention information for those infected and affected by hepatitis in the province of Nova Scotia. 420-1767 in HRM or 1-800-521-0572 email: info@HepatitisOutreach.com web: www.HepatitisOutreach.com at Our office is located at 2973 Oxford Street, between Liverpool and Cork streets. Please call to make an appointment or email P.rogan@HepatitisOutreach.com.

Sackville NB/Amherst

NS

PFLAG: Support and education for GLBTQ2IQ persons, friends & family. 506-536-4245 email: sacknb-amns@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/en/prov-list-e.as.p?RegionNo=6&ProvAbbr=NB, meets 2nd monday (Phone or e-mail for meeting location and details.) at Sackville:112 Main Street or Amherst: 12 La Planche Street

Sydney

AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton: Support, advocacy, prevention/education for those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. Free condoms!. (902) 567-1766 email: joannerolls@acsb.ns.ca web: www.acsb.ns.ca (Free Anonymous Testing 1-902-567-1123 Check our Website for events and updates.) at 150 Bentinck St, Sydney, N.S. B1P 6H1

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902-453-9249
www.safeharbourmcc.com
safeharbour@eastlink.ca

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1-888-837-1388 / 902-444-DOGS

Diversity Centre: We provide a welcoming environment for GLBTQ people and their Allies. 902-563-1481 email: sdcc@cbusu.com (M-F 9-4pm. Call or drop by for event listings, Ally Training, and Anti-Heterosexism/Homophobia Workshops!) at the Students' Union Building, Cape Breton University. **PFLAG:** Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. Karen 564-8728 email: sydneys@pflagcanada.ca, meets last Sunday (of the month at 7:30pm. No meetings for July and August.) at Family Place Resource Centre 106 Townsend Street, Sydney NS **Pride Cape Breton Society:** Dances and Social Events. Monthly dances are Adults Only! Check website community events. (902) 539-4627 email: info@pridecapbreton.com web: www.pridecapbreton.com (Dances on the last Saturday of every month. Check website for dance and special event dates!) at Southend Community Centre. Maps are at our website.

Tatamagouche

Tatamagouche Centre: We are an affirming centre, welcoming all gay, lesbian, and transgendered people. 1.800.218.2220 email: tatacent@tatacentre.ca web: www.tatacentre.ca

Truro

Colchester Sexual Assault Centre: Provides support and information to anyone (GLBTQ included) affected by sexual assault and abuse. 902-897-4366 email: truorsexualassault@hotmail.com (Mon-Fri 9:30-4:30) at 80 Glenwood Drive **Northern AIDS Connection Society:** HIV prevention education initiative serving counties Colchester, Pictou, Cumberland & East Hants. 895-0931 email: nacs@eastlink.ca web: northernaidconnectionsociety.ca (Our Board of Directors meet bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month. Annual General

Meeting held regularly in June. See webpage for contact numbers in your area of northern Nova Scotia.) at 33 Pleasant Street, Truro, N.S. **PFLAG:** Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. 662.3774 **RESPECT:** Students Making Healthy Decisions. 893-6300 email: respect@nsac.ca at P.O. Box 550, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, N.S. B2N 5E3 **SAAFE (Supporting An Alternative Friendly Environment):** Social/support group at the NS Agricultural College. 893-6300 email: lyoung@nsac.ns.ca (Meetings as requested. Membership changes each academic year.) **Truro Pride:** A group supporting GLBT individuals in the Colchester County. 895-0931 email: truopride@hotmail.com, meets every Wednesday (6:30 p.m.) at FairTradeCafe on Prince Street, between Commercial and Dominion Streets.

Wolfville

Acadia Pride: Acadia Student Union's LGBT2IQ group. 585-2165 email: acadiapride@acadiau.ca web: euler.acadiiau.ca/~apride/, meets every Monday (9:00pm(during academic year)) at Beverage Forum (old SUB) **Acadia Women's Centre:** 585-2140 email: womens.centre@acadiau.ca (Acadia SUB Second Level Balcony)

Prince Edward Island (902)

Charlottetown

AIDS PEI: AIDS PEI creates a supportive environment for PHA's to all residents of PEI. 902-566-2437 email: info@aidspei.com web: www.aidspei.com at 144 Prince Street Charlottetown, PE C1A 2R6 **ARC -- Abegweit Rainbow Collective:** Serving GLBT Islanders, their friends and families. 894-5776 email: info@arcpei.ca web: www.arcpei.com

arcpei.com, meets 2nd Tuesday (7:30 PM) at 144 Prince Street **GLBT Youth group:** Safe Space Drop-Ins. 367-3408 or toll free 1 877 380 5776 (E-mail us for further details.) at 144 Prince St.

Island Wide

Gay PEI Mailing List: Electronic mailing list for all GLBT, questioning and friendly, focus is on PEI. email: gay-pei-owner@yahoo.com web: groups.yahoo.com/group/gay-pei at All first posts are moderated to stop spambots, otherwise, it's an open list. **PFLAG Canada - PEI:** Providing support, education and advocacy for GLBT persons, their families and friends in PEI. 902-887-3620 email: pflagpei@eastlink.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca, meets 3rd Tuesday at Ferry Road Centre, 24 Ferry Road, Cornwall, PE or Stratford City Hall check with Mary or Bill Kendrick on this month's location by calling 902-887-3620.

Trans Information and Resource Site

Egale Canada recently released a new website dedicated to news, resources and enabling more effective networking on trans issues. The site will also be the first step in the development of a national trans advocacy network within trans communities and among activists across the country. This work will assist in better promoting understanding and advocacy.

The website will feature news and updates related to trans issues and events in Canada and around the world in all different levels of community and political life. Mickey Wilson, chair of Egale's Trans Committee says, "We expect that the site will be an educational and resource tool as well as a provocateur, encouraging discussion on emerging issues and identifications such as third sex,

pan-gendered, androgynous, and intersex."

Lists of organizations and resources will be available on provincial and regional levels, with reports on what different levels of government are doing in regards to trans inclusion with their legal and policy initiatives to be added in the near future.

The site will also be used to initiate, assist and promote programs and studies specifically related to the challenges that trans-identified persons face in their daily lives, such as the 'Trans Men's Pap Campaign launched by the Sherbourne Health Centre, Ontario.

Visit the pilot site at www.trans.egale.ca or contact Mickey Wilson, Chair, Egale Trans Committee, at (403) 593-5923.



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The Last Word

Persistence of Memory

By Randall Perry

While going through some things I had in storage recently I found a dusty, taped-up box the contents of which escaped me. This is how I know I'm getting older, when my internal packing slip storage mechanism fails to retrieve even a faint idea as to the date the thing was even packed. When I slit the old tape and opened the box, the first thing I came across was a stack of photo album refill boards, the kind you buy in packs of 25 and load into a binder. The boards contained an assortment of newspaper clippings I had saved over the years: columns and photos. One of the photos caught my eye: in it, a motley gaggle of brightly-dressed individuals march down a street, carry colourful flags and signs. The caption read, "P.E.I. gays and lesbians march through the streets of Charlottetown Saturday to demand equal protection under human rights legislation. About 85 people took part in the march."

The date on the board read "July 18, 1994."

I realized I had found some of my archived material from my early activist days, material I thought I had lost during my moves through the years. The photo was snapped by a Guardian newspaper photographer on July 16, 1994, during P.E.I.'s first-ever gay pride march, fifteen years ago this month. The issue at hand was the community's desire to include "sexual orientation" as a prohibited ground of discrimination in the province's human rights legislation.

I basked in my memories. This march was organized on a wing and a prayer, took place under a cloudless blue sky, was attended by dozens and watched by hundreds. We were happy to be together but nervous at the implications of being out and proud in public in such a small place with few to no legal protections. As we gathered in Rochford Square park onlookers jammed together on the four

sides of the square, sometimes four and five people deep in places.

What sticks out in my mind, reading the newspaper clippings and looking at the packets of photos I also discovered in that box, is how ordinary we were, but how odd it was that we threatened many of the onlookers, shaking some of them to their very core. According to the newspaper report, one onlooker yelled, "In the goddamn sewers is where you belong! You're scum!"

While I didn't hear that remark, I do remember seeing a woman following us with a big crucifix held in front of her, praying away the gay as if she were warding off vampires with garlic. At one point I got nailed on the side of my head with a rotten orange. An old woman shuffled behind us for awhile, spitting on the ground. She eventually ran out of spit and someone gave her a bottle of water—once recharged, she resumed her shuffling and spitting.

How things change in such a short span of time. Our feisty little band in P.E.I. staged another march in 1995. A few movers and shakers went on to smaller projects, including successfully changing P.E.I.'s human rights legislation, and then regrouped to form the Abegweit Rainbow Collective in 1999, which held its first Pride parade in 2000 and continues to do so every July. This year makes number ten in that series, for a total of twelve P.E.I. Prides in all.

We have all followed each other's examples. Pride celebrations have sprung up in other cities and towns around the region, and the grandest of them all, Halifax Pride, turns 21 this year, coming of age with Hallmark status (and a generous cash helping) from HRM. I wasn't here in 1988 when the first Halifax Pride was held—I was in Toronto that summer attending my first Pride celebration ever—but I know many people wore paper bags over their heads to conceal

their identity. How ridiculous this must sound in the context of the equalities we enjoy today, but it did happen.

But I do remember, fifteen short years ago, a lot of people who could have been with us in the square in Charlottetown that warm day who instead chose, for whatever reason, to take a place on the sidelines where they remained safely, invisibly, out of the way. For them, the step into the quad was too big. Those of us who could afford to make that choice did so with the knowledge that the reward would be worth the risk—maybe not at first, but eventually. Many of those side-liners have since stepped into the square; some still hang back. No worries, I say. The gains we've made and continue to make are still gains for all.

Happy Pride.

Letters

Dear Wayves

While on the rocks beyond the nude beach I was approached by an officer of Halifax Regional Police today advising me that nudity was not permitted. He then continued further down the rocks looking for other naked people. One man was told he could be ticketed. Nudity on the sand is OK but not the rocks beyond the beach.

It would seem to me that a better use of that officer's time might be patrolling in the area of the latest shootings and stabbings.

aa

My name is Bruce Eisan and I am writing you in support of your magazine.

First, I'll give you an introduction on myself. I was born and raised in

Nova Scotia (Sackville to be exact). Though out my academic career, I stayed in Nova Scotia. Attending Dalhousie and St. Mary's university. After I completed my studies, I worked at ATV/ASN. It was there that my love for advertising grew. It grew so much that I realized that I had to move to Toronto to continue my passion. So in March of 2002, I took the jump and moved to Toronto to work in an advertising firm. Since then, I have moved through the ranks and become a supervisor, working on some of the best and biggest clients in the industry (Visa, Walt Disney, Cara Foods, Winners/Homesense, Revlon, and Sony Entertainment to name a few). I then made the jump to sales where I began at TQS. It's a French television network. After two years with the company, I took a position with OutTV as the Vice President of Sales

and Marketing.

The reason I am writing you is because I think it should be made aware to the people back home, what ambition can do for you. Working for OutTV has provided me the chance to help out the GLBT community. I volunteer with a number of events through the year and also raise money for ACT as well.

For more information I am Bruce_Easy_E on Twitter, and on Facebook.

All the best, Bruce Eisan

Dear Randall,

I thoroughly enjoyed and was inspired by your Last Word, "Stonewall Moments" June, 2009. Thanks!

Yes, even some straights can appreciate it; we too have our Stonewall moments!

Much appreciation, Hugs, Eldon

Northern AIDS

Cont'd from p. 5

Nova Scotia Skills Building Ceilidh and will be acting as co-host as this event is being held in Truro at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College.

One other event that might be of great interest is the Canadian AIDS Treatment Information Exchange (CATIE) Educational Conference will be co-hosted by NACS in October and will be taking place at the Best Western Glengarry Hotel in Truro. For information on this event contact our office at 902-895-0931 or through email at nacs@eastlink.ca.

Once again the Northern AIDS Connection Society will be hosting four walks in 2009, Truro, Amherst, New Glasgow and Elmsdale. We have been fortunate to receive support from the Sobey's Family Foundation for support for all walks in Atlantic Canada. A very special thank you to the Sobey family for their generous donation and ongoing support of the HIV/AIDS movement in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland/Labrador.

For information on information or events at Northern AIDS Connection you can reach: Al McNutt - Supervisor at nacsns@hotmail.com Bonnie Joldersma - Opera-

tions Coordinator at nacs@eastlink.ca Tom Harrison - Events Planner at eventsnacs@eastlink.ca Jacqui Arnold - Walk Coordinator at walkcoordinator@eastlink.ca Karen

Kittleson - Hep C Coordinator at hepc@eastlink.ca.

You can reach the office Monday to Friday from 8:30 to 4:30 at 902-895-0931.

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When Franzine heard that last month's question was "How big is your dildo? 3", 5", 8" or ouch" she knew she would be invited for her expert opinion of the dilly-icious results. After all, I myself have often been asked, "How deep is your love?"

Most responses ranged from 5" to 11" averaging at 8". One lucky reader reported a 14" double ender "and I'd love to have a bigger one to share with a buddy for a long LONG session." (I think we've met!) Another boasts owning all of the above and more. (I'd like to meet.) One brags of 25". (Traffic cone!!!)

Two Wayves readers confessed they don't own a dilly - one because he's "a total top" and the other "has a boyfriend." (I remember when I used to feel that way kitten.)

Franzine's personal dildo collection is limited in number but not in quality, and remember the extra batteries if you want to really get into the vibe of getting the vibe into you. I'm impressed that not one person responded "Ouch", so I'll teach you my war cry: "Don't dilly-dally, dilly daily!" Happy Pride wherever you are!

This Month's Question

During this time of Pride celebrations, what makes you proud to be a part of the LGBT community?

I am honoured to serve as your MLA.

"You cannot influence a political party to do right, if you stick to it when it does wrong."

JW Bengough, 1896

Leonard Preyra
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July 2009



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