

Networking 45° North

Volume 13, Issue 3

September 1999

Bike Tour '99

Over 80 people gathered on 15 acres of private land just east of Frankfort, MI. As usual, we had many familiar faces, as well as some new, for a weekend full of fun and laughter. Reminiscing with old friends and making new ones is what the Tour is all about.

Despite the rain on Saturday morning, the 8th Annual F.N. Bike Tour was a great time!

People from as far away as St. Louis, MO,

Chicago... even Boston, as well as locals and "downstaters" toured Benzie county; riding

around both Big and Little Platte lakes, Crystal Lake and, of course, Lake Michigan.

Dinner was held at Crystal Mountain Resort, overlooking the beautiful Northern Michigan countryside. Some even took a ride on the chairlift to an observation deck for live music and breathtaking views of Lake Michigan, Crystal Lake and a portion of the Dunes.



The 8th annual Bike Tour was definitely one of this summer's highlights.

Email Announcement List

We recieved many great suggestions on our Bike Tour survey. It was suggested that an email announcement list would make it easier to pass on information about events to friends. It can be difficult to pass on a flier to more than one or two people, but, as anyone who deals with email knows, it's simple to forward an email on to as many friends as you like. So, we're pleased to announce the new Friends North email announcement list.

Subscribers will receive timely information regarding events and last minute updates. This is only an announcement list, not a discussion list, so you don't have to worry about your mailbox filling up with a lot of chatter.

To subscribe, send an email to friendsnorth@hotmail.com with your request.



The mission of Friends North of Michigan, Inc. is to provide social, educational, and support activities and opportunities for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered communities in northern Michigan.

Networking 45° North is the newsletter of Friends North of Michigan, Inc. For information, write to Friends North, PO Box 562, Traverse City, MI 49685-0562.

Northern Michigan Help Line 231-946-1804
Web site <http://welcome.to/friends.north>
E-mail friendsnorth@hotmail.com

Viewpoints expressed in Networking 45° North do not necessarily represent those of the Board of Trustees or the general membership.

Friends North of Michigan, Inc. is an association of gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered, and their friends from northwestern lower Michigan, centered in Traverse City. Friends North provides social activities, a newsletter, an information line, workshops, a web site, and a scholarship fund for financial assistance.

Friends North's Board of Trustees is elected each December. Regular Board meetings are held at Grace Episcopal Church, at the corner of Washington and Boardman in Traverse City, at 6:30 PM on the first Tuesday of every month except July. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please contact Friends North in writing ahead of time if you have an item for the agenda. Current members of the Board include:

Kirk Mallow (President): 231-933-5250
Sheryl Layton (Vice-President): 231-938-9865 or TrufaloGal@aol.com
Lissa Napora (Secretary): 231-933-4424 or LissaCMT1@aol.com
Joe Kau-Be-Nau: 231-947-9593 or NativeAmer@aol.com
Tim: TCTimber@aol.com
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The Friends North Newsletter Committee is responsible for the publication of Networking 45° North.

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Contributions to Networking 45° North are welcome. Letters, essays, features, reflections, poetry, original artwork, etc. should be sent to Networking 45° North, PO Box 562, Traverse City MI 49685-0562 (or friendsnorth@hotmail.com). Networking 45° North will not accept material that is sexist, discriminatory, or sexually explicit. Contributors are responsible for obtaining permission from those whose names they submit for publication. Please include your name, address, and a phone number where you can be reached. If you would like your contribution to be printed anonymously, please let us know.

Address Changes should be sent in advance to the above address.

Subscriptions/Memberships are \$15/single or \$25/couple. Please send checks or money orders to the above address. Complimentary subscriptions are also available.

Distribution: Networking 45° North is sent via bulk mail in a plain envelope to subscribers. Additional copies are available at select local establishments.

From The President

Kirk Mallow

This year has seen some awesome events-High Tea, Den Dance, Pride Day, and Bike Tour-to name a few. All were BIG successes, and well attended. What you may not know, or have ever thought about, is the people who volunteer to organize these events, or more importantly, why they volunteer their time and resources. To understand, you have to look at where these people are in their personal lives. It has been my experience that most volunteers are:

1-pretty stable in who they are

2-looking to broaden their social circles

to include a wide variety of people I believe the latter to be the main reason behind most volunteerism. I didn't come out of my shell, so to speak, until I started volunteering to help organize some events. I had found myself in a rut with no end in sight, when a friend insisted I tag along to a "Pride" organizing meeting, about six years ago. I was at first reluctant to speak up at this meeting, but soon found myself putting in my "two cents". Yes, it took some prodding from my friend, but I soon found myself at more and more meetings, helping out with more and more events until, now-well, I find myself writing this article as President of Friends North. That's how it happened for me. Volunteering literally changed my life, as it has for many others in our community.

The point I'm making is, if you're looking for a chance to change the rut you're in, try volunteering to help organize an event. I bet you'll walk away with nothing less than a couple of new friends...and who couldn't use another friend in their world?

Thanks to Friends North and to Hilda and Sheryl for the use of their delightful property for the Bike Tour.

I took the 52-mile route. It was great! From Platte River to Platte Lake, around Crystal Lake... stopover in Frankfort, to Benzonia and home again. The one and a half-hour ride in the rain was o.k. too, with the sun beating at about 85 degrees after.

It was fun meeting up with people and chatting en route. I was there for the day only, because my dog, Maggie, needed that insulin shot in the evening.

A personal challenge accomplished and fun, too. What more could you ask for.

Thanks,
Sue Schwartz

Friends North Fall Canoe Trip

**Come join us for a beautiful fall canoe trip on the
Platte River
September 18, 1999**



**We will meet at Sam's Club parking lot in
Traverse City at 12:30 pm**

The cost for this event will be \$15.50 per person, or \$29.50 per couple. This price includes the canoe and a light lunch after the trip. If you bring your own canoe, please make a donation toward lunch.



**For more information or to confirm
call Joe Kau-Be-Naw at 231-947-9593**

Life As Domestic Partners

Joe C. MacQuarrie

The past few months have been an exciting challenge for my partner Kirk and I. There are things that we face as domestic partners everyday that you don't think about until it happens.

The first challenge was when we decided my name should be put onto a vehicle title at the Secretary of State. The law requires that if you are not a direct blood relative or legally married, the person being added to a title has to pay tax on the fair market value of the vehicle!


Then came the insurance company-a whole new ballgame. Unless both persons are listed on the title, or are legally married, you cannot have an insurance policy together. One insurance company actually went so far as to tell us we needed four separate policies. There was one company which advertised as a "gay friendly" progressive insurance company to all domestic couples. The only problem was that they were more than twice the cost of the others. Our insurance agent is currently working to find a solution to this frustrating dilemma.

Next came the house purchase together. Luckily, we have good friends in both the real estate business as well as the mortgage business. Those two things flowed quite well, I am happy to report. The funny thing was when we were in the closing together. The person from the closing company had prepared the papers at closing designating if one of us were to pass away it would go directly into probate court, and the respective surviving family would receive half of the estate. All four of us-Kirk, myself, the real estate agent and our mortgage officer just kind of chuckled at her assumption. We told her we would want the estate to go to the survivor. The clueless closing officer just did not understand. After a few minutes of insisting that we really did understand what we were asking for, she changed the paper work.


Upon moving into our new home, we had a garage sale. Kirk's mom came up from downstate to help us with this fun task. This was the perfect time for all of the already curious neighbors to stop by and say "hi". I have to say, people are funny when they are curious. We often explained all of the stuff for sale as the "merging of two households". Kirk's mom would often explain she lived downstate. Most walked away just plain confused, some even thought that Kirk's mom was my wife! They will get it someday.

I think the most fun event of the summer has been attending my ten-year class reunion, taking my partner, of course. It actually went quite well. At first there were a few confused looks, mixed with looks of disbelief (I was not anywhere near being out in school). As the night went on, we had a nice time. I also found out I was not the only one out in the world since graduation from my class. One former classmate pulled Kirk and I aside and showed us a picture of her "friend" with a smile on her face!

I think this world has come a long way in the acceptance of us as being the people we are. Not two perverted people in a sick sexual act, but rather two people who genuinely love each other. who wish to only live our lives together happily Kirk and I as domestic partners are never in peoples faces about our sexuality, however we are always around, together, and not hiding.. I think the more people see good examples of healthy relationships, the more they accept and understand.



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Lincoln Restoration: Part 2

Tim Schmidt

I've found that old cars are like old homes... full of surprises! It's funny how one day the power windows will work and the next day they won't... how by really looking underneath this beast I've found things I really didn't want to find, like the fact that the gas tank is only being held in place by one metal strap instead of two and that they both look really rusty! Seems she must have sat too long on the ground in a wet place... to fix such a rusty problem only involves removing the gas tank and welding new straps in place... only is the key word here!

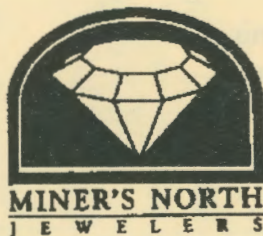
Being summer I thought it would be nice to put the top down and take her for a little drive... top went down once and hasn't gone down since... about 32 relay switches are involved with just the top mechanism alone... haven't quite figured out which of those are giving me the problem... such fun!

On the brighter side she is looking better simply by washing and cleaning... the photos here were taken at a friend's house shortly after buying the car... clean, yes, but if you'll note in one photo she is still hooked up to a wrecker truck... lost a tank full of gas due to improperly installed gas seal from the previous owner!

Well, I've actually driven her to Cadillac and back without losing the gas tank or anything else for that matter... in rough condition she gets lots of looks and thumbs up! And I guess that's what it's all about... like any work in process the final result takes time and, yes, money. I hope to have a picture for the next issue with the top down. There may be snow in the driveway, but I will have one more thing fixed!

Due to technical difficulties, we don't have photos of Tim's car for this issue. Watch for them next time.

More bike tour...



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Ask Mother

Ask mother will return in the next issue of Networking 45° North. According to rumor, Mother is honeymooning in Bora Bora with her futue ex-husband, and promises to tell us all about it.

If you have questions for mother, please send them to:

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or email your questions to
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Same as Me

Wendy Schroeder

Hot summer sun,
sharp blades of grass have cut your legs.
you bleed

you bleed?

Blue sky, not yet full of rain.
Sweat and red hair,
a walking Venus swinging a hammer.

Spellbound by fire,
flames lick glowing logs.
Strange feelings
yet familiar.

Equality and sameness,
never the same,
before you never the same,
with you
the same.

The heart, the chest and frame,
the same,
Below the waist and taste,
the same

Souls collide,
compelled to hide.
Truth always finds,
that which is real.

Tangerine mornings,
under your covers.
Admiring your stars,
finger faced-orchid.

Alive and free,
same as me.

“Kill Faggots” Says Bomb Threat Caller; Gay Fundraiser Cut Short

(Royal Oak, Michigan; 12 August 1999)——
What began as an evening of fun and frivolity, and a film preview benefitting a Michigan gay anti-violence organization, ended abruptly when the theater was evacuated, the result of a bomb threat. The caller said he intended to “kill faggots...”

About 320 patrons for the special screening to benefit the Triangle Foundation, along with patrons in the theater to see other films, were sent out into Main Street in Royal Oak as police moved in to search the premises of the Main Art Theatre. Reportedly, a caller telephoned the Ferndale police and said the bomb had been placed in the theater “against the gay people.”

The caller ended by saying, “kill the fucking faggots.”

“This is a cowardly act and one that is really appalling,” said Jeffrey Montgomery, Executive Director of the Triangle Foundation. “It’s a horrendous violation, but in the context of recent indiscriminate terrorist activity around the country, targeting minorities and gays, it is especially terrifying.”

“Not only were our supporters at risk, but the non-gay patrons of the theater were also unwitting targets of these hate-mongers. Terrorists do not care who they injure, who they damage,” Montgomery continued.

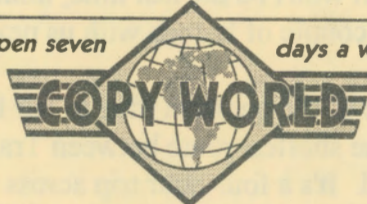
“This is one more example of why Federal and state-level legislation is needed to serve notice that we will not countenance hate violence against any group in our

society,” said Sean Kosofsky, Director of Policy and Victim Services for the Foundation.

The screening was for “Trick,” a film to be released next week. “Trick” is a gay-themed romantic comedy. “There was nothing funny or romantic about this trick,” Montgomery concluded.

The Triangle Foundation is Michigan’s statewide anti-violence and civil rights organization that serves the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. It has been in the forefront of efforts in the state and nationally to stop the plague of bias motivated crimes.

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P-Town

by Wendy Schroeder

It all started after we returned from a snowshoeing trip last March. Friends of ours had a gay and lesbian guide to Provincetown, Massachusetts sitting on their coffee table.

"Sue and I are going to the Cape during our summer vacation," I stated.

"How come I didn't hear about this?" she replied.

"Well, I guess I just decided," I responded, "judging by these photos, this place looks like fun!"

I'm a firm believer in affirmations. When Sue and I would talk about going out East she would say, "If we go to Cape Cod..." And I would say "when we go to Cape Cod..." As it turns out we did go to Cape Cod in Massachusetts and we did spend a majority of our time in Provincetown. It won't be the last time, infact we intend on taking a couple of friends with us next time.

Since airfare is out of the question (due to our limited funds) we chose the shortest route between Traverse City and Cape Cod. It's a four-hour trip across the state to Port Huron, then another five hours through Canada until you hit Niagara Falls. Plan on spending at least three of four hours at the Falls. The tour behind the falls is the best and a picnic in the botanical gardens is a must. Get a time schedule as to when they backlight the falls at night. Niagara Falls, Canada must be gay friendly as they illuminate the falling water in rainbow colors!

Since I teach American History I was quite interested in many of the historical sights. The Cape is full of them. You can visit First Encounter Beach where the Pilgrims first met the friendly Wapanog Indians. Further south, you can see where the colonists drew up the Mayflower Compact, which was to become the first written set of laws in the early American colonies.

The state parks and beaches are beautifully maintained. We spent two nights camping at the Shawme-Crowell State Forest. I recommend you take your bikes with you because anywhere you need to go is accessible by bike.

We went to the southwestern portion of the Cape so we could catch a ferry out of Falmouth to get to Martha's Vineyard. The Vineyard is beautiful and less crowded than the neighboring island of Nantucket. Rent mopeds on Martha's Vineyard. It's a great way to see the whole island. Spend time in Edgartown and buy a coffee at Espresso Love.

Unfortunately, the waters off Martha's Vineyard were very congested with search and rescue boats trying to recover the bodies of John F. Kennedy, Jr., Carolyn Bessette Kennedy and her sister Lauren Bessette.. It was impossible to imagine even the most experienced pilot navigating off the coast in early morning or late evening fogs off the coast of the Cape.

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continued from page 8)

Sue and I camped five miles outside of Provincetown in North Truro (\$24 a night and showers cost \$.25) When we go back with friends we will probably opt for a beautiful bed and breakfast right down town. There are literally hundreds of them owned and operated by gay and lesbian couples.

We walked the beaches for miles and caught one of the most fiery sunsets I have ever seen. We biked on miles of trails through Cape Cod National Seashore and stopped into the visitor's center (don't miss it). If you hit the Cape in late July, like we did, make sure you take a whale-watching trip. It's \$17 per person and it is one of the greatest experiences you will ever have. I guarantee it! Our boat bobbed around in the middle of a pod of humpbacked whales. They come to the waters off the Cape to feed before they migrate down to the Caribbean to mate.

There is shopping and seafood. Dance bars and drag shows. If you can't find it in Provincetown, you can't find it.

Activism the Northern Michigan Way

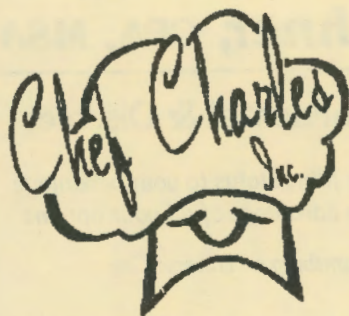
by Sheila McRae

What is activism? This question comes up a lot lately especially with the highly publicized Gay and Lesbian Millennium March on Washington event that is taking place next April. Some people say they think that activists are those on the front lines who are out there (no pun intended) lobbying for equal rights for all gays and lesbians, or those who organize grassroots efforts to elect gay friendly politicians or get our issues on ballots.

I believe that activism takes place all the time - every day in our community. When we vote, make our own families, come out to parents & co-workers, suggest domestic partner benefits at work, or donate time or money to a political candidate who we believe in, we're taking part in activism.

It has been a long frustrating path so far, but we've come a long way from where we were. Twenty five (or even 15) years ago, no one would've imagined approaching the elected Traverse City Commissioners and asking them to include sexual orientation in the discrimination code - a simple (and you would think a common sense) addition that should be included. The measure failed & instead we saw Matt Schoech (a John Birch Society member) appointed to the TC Human Rights commission. The next time the members of the TC Human Rights Commission brought it up, a

(continued on page 10)



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Traverse City commissioner threatened to slash their seat numbers in half. Members of the ultra conservative group "Grand Traverse Community Impact" also attended the public meeting and spouted their beliefs about homosexuality and how wrong it is to give us "special rights."

Now more than ever, it's very important that we keep moving forward with our efforts. The foundation for gay and lesbian rights in our area is being laid out with the successes (and failures) of our endeavors. This year we took another step forward by becoming more visible when we moved our Pride Festival site closer to Traverse City. Although I didn't attend it, I heard it was successful and enjoyable for everyone.

The reason I didn't go this year was because my partner and I went to San Francisco to take part in their pride festivities. It was such an eye-opener to see how gay and lesbian rights activism has evolved and how the city openly accepts our community. Politicians in SF strive to support the gay and lesbian voting caucus and it wasn't because their contingent stayed in the closets. There is so much diversity within the gay & lesbian community, which became apparent by watching the SF Gay, Lesbian, & Transgendered Pride Parade. During the parade we saw the mayor Willie Brown marching with his caberet and behind him was the SF chief of police marching with openly gay and lesbian police officers and their partners. Can you imagine seeing Ralph Soffredine or Jim Tompkins taking part in a Traverse City Gay, Lesbian and Transgendered Pride March? It was so wonderful to feel

comfortable taking Dianna's hand while walking down the street.

I remember seeing Congresswoman Lynn Rivers (D- Ann Arbor) address a group of us at a Gay & Lesbian Queer Youth Summit at Eastern Michigan University a few years ago. She said that it is difficult to get office candidates to publicly commit to supporting gay and lesbian rights, but what we need in order to be successful is offer our trump card. What is a trump card? It's the successful track record of helping our candidates get elected. It's actually doing some legwork on a campaign rather than sitting on the sidelines complaining that our efforts won't do us any good because we'll only lose again. Yes, we will lose some of our battles, but it's our foundation that we are laying out for our successes. San Francisco was not changed overnight, neither was Detroit or Ann Arbor. It takes time and perseverance, but the archconservatives of this town would like nothing more than to see us go back into our closets and hide. This November, two of the arch conservative Traverse City Commissioners are on the ballot for re-election - Jasper Weese and Phil Orth. We have a chance to build our trump card. One of the members of our Friends North board is running - Joseph Kau-be-naw and I'd like to urge everyone to get involved in this campaign in some way. We'll organize a few major literature drops this fall. You could also remember to vote in the election, or if you don't live the Traverse City area, make sure you get the word out to other people you know to vote for Joe. Or send him a donation to help cover the costs of a campaign, which can be very expensive. Last, but not least, mark your calendars for this event:

(Continued on page 11)



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(Continued from page 10)

What: A coffee and cheesecake fundraiser to meet the candidate, Joe Kau-be-naw

When: Friday, September 24, 1999 at 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Why: To show our support for gay and gay friendly political candidates

How much: A \$25 donation for Joe's campaign fund would be appreciated.

Where: Dianna and Sheila's house at 10656 S. Timberlee Dr., Traverse City

Directions: travel north on 22 through Grelickville, turn left onto Cherry Bend road, continue until you get to the stop sign at the corner of Bugai (Co. Rd. 641) and Cherry Bend (a.k.a Fouch Rd.). Go straight (or gayly forward) through the intersection. The second road on your left will be South Timberlee. Our house is the 6th one on the left and there will be signs & banners out front. Our telephone number is 933-0571.

If you can't attend the fundraiser, please forward your donation to: Kau-be-naw for Commissioner, 721 Sixth Street, Traverse City, MI 49684

(Friends North does not endorse any political candidates. The above opinions are those of the author.)

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Mail this form and your check to Friends North • PO Box 562 • Traverse City, MI 49685-0562 • Attn: Memberships

Friends North's membership list is strictly confidential, and mail from Friends North is sent in plain envelopes.

Upcoming Events

Friends North 2nd Annual Fundraiser at SideTraxx Friday September 17

Happy Hour starts at 6 PM and hors d'orves will be served from 6-9 PM. There will also be a 50/50 raffle. Come on out for a great time!

Friends North Fall Canoe Trip Saturday September 18

Canoe the Platte River and enjoy lunch while basking in the beauty of Northern Michigan autumn.

See Page 3 for details.

Friends North Autumn Hike Saturday October 16

This year we will be starting at 2 PM at the Leelanau Trail trailhead, 1/2 mile from M-22 on Cherry Bend Rd. The first three miles of this trail are paved, so roller blades and bikes are welcome this year.

There will be a pot luck afterwards.

Rain or Shine

Side Traxx Special Events —Sunday September 19

Scavenger hunt 3 PM until ???
We need teams of 3-5 people, one of whom needs to have a vehicle.

—Sunday October 10

10th Anniversary celebration!

Gay Men's Motorcycle Color Tour Saturday October 9

A beautiful ride along the dunes, through parts of Benzie and Leelanau counties. This trip was planned by two residents of Manistee who enjoy motorcycle riding and look forward to networking with other motorcyclists.

For more information check out their website:
<http://web.triton.net/edju/index.html>

Want to get information about Friends North events in your email? Subscribe to our new "email announcement list." Send an email with your request to friendsnorth@hotmail.com and we'll subscribe you. It's free!
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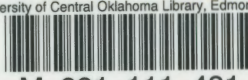
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Classifieds and Announcements

All classified advertisements and announcements are run free of charge. Please submit your ads and announcements in writing to *Networking* by either postal mail (PO Box 562, Traverse City MI 49685-0562) or e-mail (friendsnorth@hotmail.com).

Ongoing Announcements

QUESTIONS ABOUT HIV AND AIDS?

Call locally (616-947-1110) 24 hours a day. This program is sponsored by the HIV/AIDS Wellness Networks—Grand Traverse Area and is staffed by Third Level Crisis Center.

REPORT HATE CRIMES!!

Call the Triangle Foundation at 1-888-442-9287.

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The GTCHD's Reproductive Health Clinic is open to women and men of all ages. Confidential services provided are physical exams, HIV counseling and testing, pregnancy testing, sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment, all methods of birth control available, free Norplants, Depo-Provera, IUDs, and condoms. For more information about these and other methods which are charged on a sliding fee scale, call 922-4630. Services are by appointment only.

Groups

COMMON VOICES: THE FRIENDS NORTH RAP GROUP

Common Voices is a group of men and women who get together monthly for informal discussion, often on a particular topic. Common Voices meets on the second Wednesday of every month at Grace Episcopal Church, 349 Washington, Traverse City, at 7:30 PM. For more information, call Tom at 616-275-6127.

FRIENDS LIKE US

This Alpena-based group reaches out to lesbians, gays, and bisexuals in the northeast Michigan area. Informal potluck-type gatherings are generally held monthly in Alpena. In addition, occasional field trips are sometimes planned by interested participants. Call Brad Vauter at 517-354-0841 for more information.

FRIENDS NORTH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Friends North Board meets on the first Tuesday of each month (except July) at 6:30 PM at Grace Episcopal Church, on the corner of Washington and Boardman. All are welcome.

FRIENDS NORTH GENDER SOCIETY

This support group includes cross-dressers, transsexuals, transgendered, and those somewhere in between. Meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month. Spouses, friends, and SOs are also invited to attend this smoke- and alcohol-free environment. Call 616-946-1804 for more information.

GAY ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Meetings for gays and lesbians are held each Wednesday at 5:30 PM and Saturday at 11:00 AM at Grace Episcopal Church. For further information, call John at 616-922-0746 or Hilda at 616-938-9294.

GLSEN

The Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network is meeting monthly in Traverse City. They welcome all interested educators. For more information, call M'Lynn at 616-943-5050.

OUT 'N' ABOUT

Out 'n' About is a lesbian coffeehouse featuring entertainment as well as a chance to meet others from the area. It all happens at the Unity Church, 3600 Five Mile Road, in Traverse City.

THE PETOSKEY GROUP

A social group for lesbian, gay, and bisexual persons is meeting weekly in Petoskey. The group meets at 6:30 PM on Wednesdays in the Noggin Room of the Perry Hotel. For information, contact Tim at 616-348-8151.

HANDS-PETOSKEY

HANDS is an HIV/AIDS Network located north of Traverse City. They are currently seeking volunteers in the northern lower peninsula and eastern upper peninsula of Michigan. HANDS is a non-profit organization that has committed itself to helping and supporting the needs of HIV-infected persons. HANDS offers a number of services, including support groups, education, public awareness, and one-on-one friendship support. Volunteers are urgently needed in the Alpena, Gaylord, and Rogers City areas. If you would be interested in the program, please call 616-526-9213.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN WOMYN'S CHOIR

The Womyn's Choir is always looking for new voices. To obtain more information or for a performance schedule, contact Deb at 616-276-9357.

P-FLAG

This is a network of parents, friends, and families of lesbians and gays who meet monthly to offer information, support, and a place to talk with others about the issues concerning them. Gays and lesbians are also welcome and encouraged to attend P-FLAG meetings. Meet at Grace Episcopal Church every third Wednesday of the month, at 7:00 PM. For more information, call Patrice Stewart at 616-933-6628.

TRAVERSE CITY FRONTRUNNERS

If you are interested in running, call Kirk or Jim at 933-5250 and leave your name, number, and a message indicating that you are interested in Frontrunners. You will receive a return call with meeting times and places. All ages and abilities are welcome.

TRIANGLES AND RAINBOWS

A group of lesbian, gay, straight, and bisexual students at NMC who believe that celebrating diversity is fundamental to a healthy community and future. To help or participate, call T&R at 616-922-1673 or send e-mail (t_and_r_group@hotmail.com).

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION—PETOSKEY

Meets at the Concord Academy, 2230 E. Mitchell St. Services are held on the first and third Sundays of the month at 11:00 AM. Call 616-347-8916 for details or write to PO Box 873, Petoskey MI 49770-0873

WELLNESS NETWORKS SUPPORT GROUP

For people with HIV or AIDS, and they welcome you to attend. Please drop in Monday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30 PM at Grace Episcopal Church. Every fourth Monday of the month, the Significant Other Support Group meets at 3301 Veterans Drive, Suite 221, just north of South Airport Road. For more information, call 616-933-0279.

WINDFIRE

This is a local youth support group for teens and others under the age of 25, which meets on a weekly basis in an atmosphere that is comfortable and friendly. Please contact Third Level at 616-922-4800 or 1-800-442-7315 for location, date, and time.

Proposed Change to Friends North By Laws—

The general membership will be asked to vote regarding whether to change the term for board members from 2 years to 3 years. This will take place at the Annual Meeting in December.

Your opinion is important. Please plan on attending this meeting and making your voice heard.

Resources

STATE AND NATIONAL HOTLINES

Department of Justice Hotline..... 800-347-4283
Gay/Lesbian National Youth Hotline 800-347-TEEN (8336)
Michigan Wellness Networks..... 800-872-AIDS (2437)
Triangle Hate Crime Reporting 877-7-TRIANGLE (877-787-4264)

STATEWIDE SERVICES

ACLU of Michigan 1249 Washington Blvd., Suite 209, Detroit MI 48220
Office 248-398-7105 Help Line 800-398-4297
E-mail michiactu@aol.com WWW http://michigan.aclu.org/
Affirmations Lesbian/Gay Community Center 195 W. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale MI 48220
Phone 810-398-7105
E-mail .. Affirmationsgibt@juno.com WWW http://www.pridenet.com/affirmations/
Between The Lines 20793 Farmington Road, Suite 25, Farmington MI 48336
Phone 248-615-7003 Fax 248-615-7018
E-mail Prideplis@aol.com WWW http://www.betweenthelinesnews.com/
Kalamazoo Gay/Lesbian Resource Center 629 Pioneer Street, Kalamazoo MI 49008
Phone 616-349-4234
E-mail kgirc@geocities.com WWW http://www.kgirc.org
Friends Tri-Cities PO Box 6543, Saginaw MI 48608-6543
E-mail TimFTC@aol.com WWW .. http://members.aol.com/MBSNexus/friends.html
Lansing Association for Human Rights PO Box 18062, Lansing MI 48826
Phone 517-332-3200 WWW http://www.macatawa.org/~lahr/
Lavender Morning PO Box 50792, Kalamazoo MI 49005
Phone 616-685-6061
Lesbian Connection PO Box 811, East Lansing MI 48826
Phone 517-371-5257
MBS Nexus: Gay Connections in Midland, Bay City, Saginaw, & Surrounding Areas
WWW http://members.aol.com/MBSNexus/
Michigan Pride, Inc. (statewide Pride March organization)
P.O. Box 16191, Lansing MI 48901 517-371-8466
E-mail pride@michiganpride.org WWW http://www.michiganpride.org/
The Network: Lesbian and Gay Community Network of Western Michigan
909 Cherry St. SE, Grand Rapids MI 49506 616-458-3511
Third Coast PO Box 7296, Grand Rapids MI 49510
Phone 616-248-9967
Triangle Foundation
19641 W. Seven Mile Rd, Detroit MI 48219 313-537-3323
Fax 313-537-3379 WWW http://www.tri.org/

NATIONAL SERVICES

ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project
125 Broad Street, New York NY 10004 415-621-0674
WWW http://www.aclu.org/issues/gay/hngl.html
Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund
1012 14th Street NW, Suite 1000, Washington DC 20005
Phone 202-842-8679 or 202-289-3863
E-mail VictoryF@aol.com WWW http://www.victoryfund.org/
GLAAD (Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation)
1875 Connecticut Ave. NW, #800, Washington DC 20009 800-GAY-MEDIA
E-mail glaad@glaad.org WWW http://www.glaad.org/
GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, & Straight Education Network)
121 W. 27th St., Suite 804, New York NY 10001
Phone 212-727-0135 Fax 212-727-0254
E-mail glsen@glsen.org WWW http://www.glsen.org/
HRC (Human Rights Campaign; organizers of National Coming Out Day)
919 18th Street NW, Washington DC 20006
Phone 202-628-4160 Fax 202-347-5323
E-mail hrc@hrc.org WWW http://www.hrc.org/
Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund
120 Wall St., Suite 1500, New York NY 10005
Phone 212-809-8585 Fax 212-809-0055
WWW http://www.thebody.com/lambdalambda.html
NGLTF (National Gay & Lesbian Task Force)
2320 Seventeenth Street NW, Washington DC 20009-2702
Phone 202-332-6483 Fax 202-332-0207
WWW http://www.nglftf.org/
PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)
1101 14th St. NW, Suite 1030, Washington DC 20005 202-638-4200
E-mail info@pflag.org WWW http://www.pflag.org/

LOCAL SPIRITUAL

Circle of the Sacred Earth: Rev. Nancy Hayward 616-223-7999
Journey in Light Ministries: Rev. Linda L. Wilson 616-271-2529
Unity Church: Rev. Geraldine Colvin 616-938-9587
3600 Five Mile Rd., Traverse City MI 49686
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Petoskey 616-347-8916
PO Box 873, Petoskey MI 49770
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Grand Traverse: Rev. Emmy Lou Belcher
Home 616-938-9078 Office 947-3117
6726 Center Rd., Traverse City MI 49686

LOCAL COUNSELING

Bay Area Counseling (Petoskey/Harbor Springs)
Margalo Bley, MSW, ACSW 616-348-3161
CDRS (free substance abuse referral) 808-A S. Garfield Ave., Traverse City MI 49686
Phone 616-929-1315 Toll-Free 800-686-0749
Third Level 1022 E. Front St., Traverse City MI 49686
Phone 616-922-4800 Toll-Free 800-442-7315
Women's Resource Center 616-941-1210
Susan Breuer, PhD (Frankfort/Traverse City) 616-352-4261
Amy Elena Cook, MSW, CSW 616-932-8699
Daniel C. Doran, PhD, CSW (Upper Peninsula) 906-635-9263
William D. Gould, MA (Gladwin) 517-426-2351
Rodger Landovy, PhD 616-929-1711
Joanna T. Lauber, MA, OTR, CHT 616-947-8842
Margo Million, ACSW 616-947-0511
Elizabeth Most, MSW, ACSW (Petoskey) 616-439-0656
David Rushlow, ACSW, Munson Medical Center 616-935-6385
Barbara Jones Smith, PhD 616-947-1444

LOCAL SERVICE/SOCIAL/POLITICAL

Common Voices: The Friends North Rap Group call Tom at 616-275-6127
Friends North PO Box 562, Traverse City MI 49685-0562
Northern Michigan Help Line 616-946-1804 Toll-Free 800-579-8769
E-mail friendsnorth@hotmail.com WWW http://welcome.to/friends.north
GLSEN Traverse City PO Box 9, Traverse City MI 49685
Phone 616-943-5050
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous Grace Episcopal Church, Traverse City
Call John 616-922-0746 or Hilda 616-938-9294
NOW (National Organization for Women) call Gail Trill at 616-938-1333
PFLAG Traverse City PO Box 1705, Acme MI 49610
Patrice Stewart 616-933-6628
Side Traxx (nightclub) 616-935-1666
Traverse City Human Rights Commission 616-922-4700
Triangles & Rainbows NMC GLBT group
Phone 616-922-1673 E-mail t_and_r_group@hotmail.com
Windfire Gay & Lesbian Youth Support Group call Third Level for location and time
Phone 616-922-4800 Toll-Free 800-442-7315

LOCAL HIV/AIDS HEALTH COUNSELING

Community Health Clinic (anonymous HIV testing/counseling, same-day results, no fee)
Phone 616-929-1844
Emmet County Health Department (anonymous HIV testing) 616-347-6014
Grand Traverse County Health Department (anonymous HIV testing) 616-922-4831
HANDS (HIV/AIDS Support, Petoskey) 800-248-6777
HIV/AIDS Wellness Networks—Grand Traverse Area, Inc.
PO Box 1632, Traverse City MI 49685
Phone 616-947-1110 Bus. Office 933-0279 Toll-Free 800-494-1160
Northern Michigan Planned Parenthood (anonymous HIV testing/counseling)
Phone 616-929-1844
Thomas Judd Care Center 1211 W. Front St., Traverse City MI 49684
Mary Dillinger, RN, Clinical Nurse Specialist 616-935-8140
David Rushlow, ACSW, Social Worker 616-935-6385

Gay? Lesbian? Bisexual? Transgendered?

Have Questions? Need Help?

Call the Northern Michigan Help Line!

616-946-1804 • 800-579-8769

Confidentially answered anytime.