



Elderberries Newsletter

October 2014

1. Elderberries Potluck Social - Sunday October 26, 2014, 2:00 to 5:00 pm

Location : the Penthouse, 2615 Northwood Terrace. Wheelchair accessible.



Please note that owing to the Thanksgiving weekend, the October Potluck Social has been moved from the second Sunday of the month to the fourth Sunday. October's Elderberries program will be a trip down memory lane. In 2013, the late Jim DeYoung sent Dan MacKay a box of photo albums to aid in illustrating the history of the Halifax LGBT community. JDY's famous photos of – ummm – the more personal side of the community will not be part of the program. Dan is bringing in a selection of the photos, many of them from drag shows. The names of some or all of the participants in each photo are now unknown. Help us fill in the blanks, for the sake of LGBT historians in generations to come!

The Social : The Potluck Social is a free monthly event for LGBT persons aged 50+ and our families, friends, and supporters. Bring a friend! Parking is often available in the surrounding streets, or there is paid parking in a lot just across from the entrance. Please - no scents, no peanuts, no alcohol, no pets. Service dogs welcome.

The Potluck : please bring something you would enjoy eating and sharing. Homemade or storebought are both welcome. Coffee and tea are provided. There are no kitchen facilities, so cold dishes or finger food are your best options. Please bring any serving utensils your dish requires : for example, knife for cutting cake, serving spoons for salad, etc.

2. Elderberries Coordinating Committee :

At the September meeting, the following members were elected by acclamation to the Elderberries Coordinating Committee :

Please note : starred names are those of returning Committee members.

Danny Chandler

Norval Collins *

Kirby Geddes

Jane Kansas

JJ Lyon

Dan MacKay *

Anita Martinez *

Hugo Dann * remains on the Committee ex officio as the NSRAP representative.

Congratulations and best wishes to all the Committee members.

3. Community events :

Spirit Day : October 16, 2014

Wear purple to show solidarity with LGBT youth who are taking a stand against bullying.

At the library :

The History of Musical Theatre, with David Overton. Keshen Goodman Public Library. A series of classes, with an emphasis on works that have changed the way audiences think about musicals. Mondays, 1:30 to 3:30 pm. October 6 to November 24 : no class October 13.

Ancestry.com: Getting Started. Captain William Spry Public Library. Friday October 10, 2:00 pm.

Understand and Get a Handle on Pain, with Dartmouth Community Health Team. Dartmouth North Public Library. Saturday October 4, 2:00 pm. Register at 460-4555; and, Woodlawn Public Library, Tuesday October 14, 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

Seniors Week : during Seniors Week, beginning October 19, Keshen Goodman Public Library is offering programs on Nordic Pole Walking, Physio for Everyday, and Chair Yoga. Pick up your free Library Guide at any outlet of Halifax Public Libraries for a complete list of October events.

Other events :

Call for nominations for NSRAP Community Hero Awards : deadline October 17. Nominations are now being accepted for the Rev Darlene Young Community Hero Award, the Raymond Taavel Media Award, and the Turret Stewardship Award. Details on nominations procedure are available at <http://nsrap.ca/community/2014heroes> The better your information, the better your nominee's chances of winning, so start

putting together your nomination and supporting letters early! Organizations, but not individuals, may nominate themselves.

Fund Raising Dinner in support of Manna for Health,



a special

needs food bank for those living with HIV/AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses.

Acadian Celebration Harvest Dinner : Monday October 27; two sittings at 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm. Cafe L'Acadie : authentic Acadian & other comfort food, in the Howard Johnson Bluenose Inn, 636 Bedford Highway at the foot of Larry Uteck Boulevard.

Tickets : \$25.00. Call Kirby Geddes at 902 423-4410, or email k.geddes@eastlink.ca.

4. Halloween music :

Looking for something different for Halloween? Once again, Fort Massey United Church presents a concert of scary (mostly classical) music : ***Phantom of the Pipes***. 5303 Tobin St, Saturday October 25 2014, at 7:30 pm. Special guests : Halifax Grammar School Choir.. Suggested donation : \$10.00. Children under 12 : free. Proceeds will support the Royal Canadian College of Organists Halifax, David MacDonald Scholarship Fund.

5. International news :

Mostly the international news on the status of LGBT people is gloomy, but this month we have sprinkled in a couple of good-news stories.

Greece :



New anti-racism bill also includes protection on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity against discrimination in the workplace. Hate speech and violence against LGBT individuals or groups are also punishable by fines and/or imprisonment. "LGBT Rights in Greece." *Wikipedia*. 25 Sep 2014. Web. 25 Sep 2014.

Indonesia :

Indonesia has the largest Muslim population in the world, but only Aceh province has officially adopted the strict sharia laws. Caning is already carried out as a punishment for gambling, drinking alcohol, and inappropriate relations with the opposite sex. Now there are plans to extend this penalty to homosexual acts. (Not *all* the international news is good).

Saeed Kamali Dehghan. "Indonesia's Aceh Province Debates Public Floggings for Homosexuality." *Guardian*. 24 Sep 2014. Web. 25 Sep 2014.

Mexico :

Coahuila Congress (equivalent to a provincial government) approves same sex marriage. Civil unions have been legal in Coahuila since 2007. "Mexican State of Coahuila Approves Same-Sex Marriage." *BBC News Latin America and Caribbean*. 02 Sep 2014. Web. 25 Sep 2014.

Uganda :



The third annual LGBT Pride March took place in Entebbe. Two hundred courageous participants, many masked, had something to celebrate, since the Ugandan courts had just overturned a draconian antigay law, which had included life imprisonment for some homosexual offences. "Ugandan Homosexuals Hold Pride Parade." *Daily Mail Online*. 09 Aug 2014. Web. 25 Sep 2014.

6. Community Event Links :

The Company House

<http://www.thecompanyhouse.ca/html/calendar.html>

Gay Halifax

<http://gayhfxns.org/LocalEvents>

HalifaxPride

<http://halifaxpride.com/events>

Menz & Mollyz Events Calendar

<http://menzbar.ca/calendar-events.html>

Wayves

<http://www.wayves.ca>

7. Message from the Interim Editor :



Lynn Murphy

If you have received this newsletter, you are a member in good standing of Elderberries, a free social group for LGBT persons aged fifty plus, and our families, friends, and supporters.

Contact : elderberries.scotia2@gmail...com

That is "gmail dot com." For reasons sure to be solved by your New Editor, somehow "gmail dot com," however frequently typed that way, is interpreted by the editorial computer as "gmail dot dot com" or even "gmail dot dot dot com." If corrected, it magically reverts to the double.dot or triple.dot version. Did your Interim Editor tell you we had gremlins? Yes. Did you believe her? No. **See above. The one on the left! The left!**

From time to time information is sent in for inclusion in the Newsletter. Inclusion does not imply that the information has the approval of the Newsletter or of Elderberries.

Your Interim Editor awaits with baited breath (that means "smelling like sardines") the appointment of the New Editor. In the meantime, Your Interim Editor is willing to admit that perhaps one or two of the typos and/or grammatical errors contained herein just *might* be her own fault. Improbably. With extreme unlikelihood. On an infinitesimal scale.