

# August Elderberries Newsletter - Number 2

## **Picnic - RSVP, please!**

Sunday August 21, beginning at 2:00 pm, the Elderberries will celebrate our first anniversary with the First Annual Elderberries Potluck Picnic. Pack up your sandwiches, salads, non-alcoholic beverages, sweets (and sweetie!) for a visit to Sir Sandford Fleming Park, aka The Dingle. Look for the rainbow flag and/or Elderberries pennants at or near the canteen area.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir\\_Sandford\\_Fleming\\_Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_Sandford_Fleming_Park)

Elderberries Potlucks are alcohol-free and scent-free. Thank you! You might want to bring large serving spoons if your dish needs them.

Our advance scouts would like to know how many picnic tables to set up, so could you please RSVP by email? However, don't let it stop you coming if you forget to do so - just bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on! Plates, bowls, napkins, knives, forks, cups, and one tablecloth (purple) will be provided.

If you need a ride, or can offer a ride, please let me know and we can try to match you up. Already have one member from Halifax and one from Dartmouth looking for rides.

## **Mike Sangster Letter**

The last newsletter carried news of the death of Rudolf Brazda, the last surviving veteran of the Pink Triangles - gay men who were imprisoned in Nazi death camps (lesbians were assigned black triangles, and were lumped in with prostitutes and other "anti-social" women).

Long-time activist Mike Sangster has sent in these thoughts :

"Just the other day I was talking to a friend about the Nazi death camps and how as they were liberated at the end of the war the prisoners with the 'pink triangle' were the only prisoners left in the camps as they were considered 'real criminals' not worthy of liberation by many of their liberators. With Rudolf Brazda's death goes the last living testament of the horrible time in human history. Certainly it is up

to all of us in our community to never forget his and his fellow ‘pink triangles’ sacrifice. We must always be vigilant even now because there are those who would love nothing more than to place us all into concentration camps.

Some out there in our own community say, ‘Why do we still need a Pride Parade?’ Rudolf’s life is one reason for sure.”

Homosexual acts between consenting adults remain illegal in about 70 countries around the world, with penalties ranging from very mild to the death penalty. The struggle is far from over.

### **Lesbian Entertainer at the Company House**

Saturday August 20, 9:00 pm, at the Company House, 2202 Gottingen St, Halifax : Mel Keith and the Strombachs with Robin Anne Ettles and Kendra Gale. \$5.00. MaryAnn Daye of the CoHo reports that Mel is an ECMA and Music New Brunswick nominee. For a clip, see <http://www.myspace.com/melkeithandthestrombachs>

### **Hero Award**

Reverend Darlene Young Community Hero Award will be presented at the NSRAP Gala on October 22, 2011. Nominations close August 22 at 7:00 pm. Nomination form and list of requirements for this and other awards are available at the NSRAP website, <http://nsrap.ca/gala>

Now is the chance to nominate your hero!

Nominations are also being accepted for the Allies Award, the Corporate Stewardship Award, and the Media Award.

### **Health Mentor Program**

Do you have a chronic health condition? Health professions students

are looking for volunteers for the Dalhousie Health Mentors program. You meet three or four times during the academic year with a mixed team of four students from different programs (e.g. nursing, dentistry, social work, etc). They will discuss with you what it is like to live with your condition, and what difficulties you have faced in dealing with the health care system. Yes, you can decline to answer specific questions if you wish. Orientation with your fellow resource people is September 1, 2011, but you need to register as a mentor in advance (see below). After orientation, a member of your student team will get in touch to organize a meeting, which might be at Dalhousie or at a coffee shop or even in your home. To register as a mentor before September 1, or to get more information, please email [snasser@dal.ca](mailto:snasser@dal.ca)

### **NSRAP Fridays at Coho**

Like to meet members of NSRAP or of the Elderberries socially in a club atmosphere? Drop in Friday evenings to the Company House, 2202 Gottingen St, Halifax, 5:00 to 7:00 for an NSRAP social time. Look to see Blye Frank, visiting back from Vancouver, on this Friday August 19.

### **Members :**

If you have received this newsletter, you are a registered member of Elderberries. To resign from Elderberries (but whyever would you want to?!?), please send resignation email to [malm1@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:malm1@ns.sympatico.ca).

### **Events Listings :**

- \* The Company House <http://www.thecompanyhouse.ca/html/calendar.html>
- \* Halifax: <http://gay.hfxns.org/LocalEvents>
- \* Elsewhere in Atlantic Canada: <http://www.wayves.ca/events.html>

## **TyPoo\$? What TYp00s?**

This newsletter was typed by seasonally unemployed elves from Santa's workshop. The potato salad up north always has polar bear fur in it, they are dead tired of seal flipper pie, and they are so eager to get to the first ever Annual Elderberry Picnic that they hev desyded to skip the proofreeding part of the project.

Don't forget to RSVP to the picnic invitation! See you soon!