

### Purpose

The purpose of Out in the Mountains is to serve as a voice for lesbians, gay men, and our supporters in Vermont. We wish the newspaper to be a source of information, support and affirmation for lesbians and gay men. We also see it as a vehicle for celebration of the goodness and diversity of the lesbian and gay community.

### Editorial Policy

We will consider for publication any material which broadens our understanding of our lifestyles and of each other. Views and opinions appearing in the paper do not necessarily represent those of the staff. This paper cannot, and will not endorse any candidates and actions of public officials on issues of importance to lesbians and gay men.

We will not publish any material which is overtly racist, sexist, anti-Semitic, ageist, classist, or homophobic.

All materials submitted must be signed so we can contact the author should we need to consider editorial revisions. However, within the pages of the newspaper, articles may appear anonymously, upon request, and strict confidentiality will be observed. No revisions or rejections of materials will occur without dialogue with the author.

We welcome and encourage all readers to submit materials for publication and to share your comments, criticisms, and positive feelings with us. This paper is here for you. The deadline for submitting material for each issue is the 7th of the month prior to publication.

Materials should be sent to:  
Out in the Mountains  
PO Box 177  
Burlington, VT 05402

### To Submit Articles and Letters

We encourage our readers to participate in bringing this publication to Gay and Lesbian Vermonters. Please assist us by submitting articles no longer than two double-spaced typed pages and letters to the editor no longer than one double spaced typed page. Your submission should be received by OITM no later than the 7th of the previous month.

Thank you!

## Editorial

# Being Thankful

November has traditionally been a time in our country when we take stock of that for which we feel thankful, a time of Thanksgiving. There are many among us who are offended by the origin of this tradition as it is steeped in the exploitation of Native Americans by invading settlers. However, this tradition does remind us that it is important to stop and take notice of that which is good in our lives.

This is especially important for those of us who are working to bring about change in our oppressive system. Change never happens fast enough when you are being victimized. But change does happen and it is important to stop and notice that we are making a difference.

We are nearing the end of the decade of the '80's and good things have happened in Vermont for lesbians, gay men and bisexuals. These changes have included annual lesbian/gay pride celebrations which have brought with them a tremendous increase in our visibility in this state. We have seen the formation of a statewide coalition of lesbians and gay men which has been instrumental in advocating for our rights through legislative means. We have a monthly

newspaper (OITM) which tells the stories of many of our lives and demands that our trials and our victories be noticed. We have seen the formation and continuation of Vermont CARES which has advocated and educated toward a rational, caring response to the tragedy of AIDS. We have recently seen the formation of OUTRIGHT VERMONT, a group aimed at meeting the needs of our young brothers and sisters. We have seen parents of lesbians and gay men begin to speak out to our legislators and through the formation of various PFLAG groups in the state.

These are only a few of the things which we as lesbians, gay men and bisexuals can feel thankful for. None of this was in place ten years ago. Of course it is not enough, but it is a solid beginning.

It is important to appreciate the tremendous amount of time, energy and resources that individuals have put into making these changes happen. For the courage, integrity and commitment of all those people who have made change happen for us in this state, we at OITM are thankful.

## Letters from OITM Readers

Send mail: we at OITM miss your letters and feedback.

# Nothing to do Friday Nights?

Help get OITM Out- help stuff envelopes  
on Friday, December 1st  
8pm at 30 Elmwood Ave, Burl.

Help Make OITM Happen- Check the Calendar Dates for our Meeting times