

Out in the Mountains

established in 1986

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To Submit Articles and Letters

We encourage and implore our readers to do what they can to make *OITM* a paper both for and by gay, lesbian, and bisexual Vermonters. Please assist us by typing your articles and letters double-spaced and including your name and phone number in case we have any questions. Your submission should be received by *OITM* no later than the 1st of the previous month. Thank you for helping out!

EDITORIAL

Just over a year ago I moved to Vermont from Washington, D.C. with my partner and our then 1 1/2 year old son. We left a community with a large lesbian and gay population, numerous social and service organizations, several bookstores and a weekly newspaper.

We choose Vermont partly because my partner grew up and had her roots in Burlington, partly to return to New England and in large part to escape the congestion and craziness of D.C. We were less sure how we were going to find a community here, though we knew one existed.

Not long after arriving, I walked into the offices of Vermont C.A.R.E.S, looking for information on social groups for lesbian and gay parents. I was handed a copy of *Out in the Mountains* and referred to the Resource Page and the Calendar section. It was while reading that issue, that I saw the listing for *OITM* stuffing and decided it would be a good way to get to know some people. Little did I anticipate that just over a year later I would become the new editor of the paper.

OITM served as my introduction to the lesbian and gay community in Vermont, highlighting the importance of the paper beyond its function as a statewide reporter of news. It is the most comprehensive resource guide to services of all types for the lesbian, gay, and bisexual community and an affirmation of our existence and variety as a community. One of the more creative uses of the paper occurred at Pride Day when at least two people cut out the pink triangle drawing from the front cover of the June issue to use as buttons.

Hugh Coyle, editor for the past year, is leaving for the wilds of Montana. Filling his shoes is a large task, but with the support of a large and committed staff, I'm confident the paper will continue to grow and improve as it has under Hugh's guidance.

This is an exciting time to be taking on the job of editor. As reported by Carrie Coy, Vermont's Gay Pride '91 was the biggest and best ever. The ACLU Biennial Conference, held in Burlington, featured a luncheon address by Tom Stoddard, President of Lambda Legal Defense Fund. The hate-crimes law is being enforced and once again, as reported by Ben Truman, we have an opportunity to enact a civil rights bill. I look forward to working with the staff of the paper and the gay and lesbian community of Vermont as we continue to grow, change, and become more visible.

Deborah Lashman ▼

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We're Here

This year's rally was a creation of newly-formed Vermont Pride, led by perennial organizer Ronnie Bancroft, and the Burlington Women's Council, with some first-time help from the Boston and New Hampshire Pride Committees. A grateful Bancroft thanked New Hampshire for supplying the walkie talkies to help coordinate marchers and camcorders to record the event.

The day stretched into a weekend with a Friday bash in Contois Auditorium that drew a hundred or so campy dancers and netted \$130 for its sponsors, the Multi-Cultural Council of Vermont and

OUTRIGHT Vermont. After the rally, comedienne Liz Sampson and singer/guitarist Lisa McCormick kept a mostly women audience cool and amused for several hours.

Capping off the night, rollicking music from Virginia and the Wolves coaxed even the most steadfast wall-flowers onto the floor at Memorial Auditorium.

In the end, the mood of the weekend seemed a response to an open-ended dilemma posed by Vermont C.A.R.E.S. director Lauren Corbett. How can C.A.R.E.S. volunteers, she wondered at the podium, affirm life in their daily work and still manage to acknowledge loss? The spirit of Pride '91 seemed to honor both. ▼