

# OITM Classifieds

## looking for...

Are you a glbt/queer singer, performer, comedian, band? Then we want you! middlebury open queer alliance is looking for local talent for a coffeehouse/cabaret style event at Middlebury College on Thursday January 15th or 22nd. If you are interested, please send info to moqa, Drawer 8, Middlebury College, Middlebury 05753 or call Carolyn @ 388-9435.

Out In the Mountains is looking for an Advertising Representative, an opportunity to help a community based organization and make some extra money. The position is part time, part paid and part volunteer to start out, with the possibility of it becoming an entirely paid position. The job requires self-motivation and a car. Please call Chris at OITM 865 9294.

## living situations

Housemate wanted in Swanton Village. Available immediately. Large room with bathroom, \$350/month utilities included. One month deposit required. Call 802-868-5159 after 4:00 p.m.

Responsible GM looking for an inexpensive living situation in Hardwick area. Seeking sublet or extended house sitting arrangement. Don't smoke, don't have pets. call 865 0385.

36 Year old vegetarian, nonsmoking gay male looking for a quality roommate in my country home 35 minutes to Burlington with 8 acres, a wood-fired sauna and 2 shelties (smallish dogs). \$325, plus split utilities. Steven - 434-5653.

Non-smoking female roommate wanted for sublet, Thanksgiving through April with option of staying through the summer. On the lake, Bike path and Bus Route. No dogs. call 862 4467

## real estate

Cabin and Land For Sale: Year round rustic cabin on 10.27 wooded acres in guildhall, VT. 35 minutes East of St. Johnsbury. Cabin is newly finished this fall, no electric, well insulated, on a year round well maintained gravel road. Has low taxes, very private, and safe. \$28,900. call Teri Anderson (603) 788 5530

Urban Gardener's Haven - Heated sunroom, large sunny living room, one bath, two bedrooms, and a garden full of perennials, herbs, blueberries and dwarf fruit trees. \$97,000. Call Susan at 865-0436.

## volunteers

SISTER PAIRS NEEDED  
Volunteers to complete survey about how the lives of adult sisters are similar or different. Contact: Esther Rothblum, Box 278, Dewey Hall, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405, tel. 802-656-4156 and request two surveys or give addresses of you and your sister.

OITM is looking for volunteers to help with outreach, writing, reporting, photography and community building. Volunteers will need to be able to work with deadlines, but on the other hand will be invited to all the best parties.

How would you like to be a part of Vermont's first weekly LGBT News TV show. Volunteers are needed for camera operation, audio Technician, make up artist, and technical director. Producing a TV show that represents ourselves is an important avenue to educate and dispel the myths stereotypes that continue to plague society. The show takes dedication and sincere desire to make a difference. Please don't be intimidated if you have no experience, if you are the right person we will train you! If you are interested in becoming part of the crew contact Sharon Randall at 802 849 2739, or write to Lavender Visions Productions Inc., PO Box 307, St. Albans, VT 05478.

## personals

Female Searching for that special someone that will be my best friend, soulmate and eventually loving partner. If you're determined, sensitive, hard working and affectionate I'm 38 and I'd like to hear from you. Soul Mate, RR1 Box 25., West Danville, VT 05873

## help wanted

Rainbow Circle of Friends (RCOF) the first dating / introduction service for the glbt communities in New England, is looking for field representatives in Vermont, New Hampshire and northern Maine, to work on a commission basis. Sales, social services and public relations background required. Team player a must. Fun job. Future opportunities available.

The Vermont People with AIDS Coalition is seeking to hire a part-time HIV/AIDS Outreach Worker. Please send resume & letter of interest by Dec 12th 1997 to: VT PWA Coalition P.O. Box 11 Montpelier VT 05601-0011.

OITM's Classified section features items for sale, housing opportunities, Personals, help wanted and the like. As a new service to our readers Individuals may place ads for free! Donations are welcome and encouraged. We reserve the right to refuse ads. Responding or placing ads is done at an individual's own risk. Ads must be received by the twentieth of the previous month. Mail ad copy and optional donation to PO Box 177, Burlington VT 05402 or email it to OITM@together.net. We must have full name, address and phone number to run ads, however information will be kept confidential.

# Marching To a Different Beat



The Green Mountain Freedom Band performs at the 1997 Vermont Pride festivities in Burlington.

BY MIKI THOMAS

Peter Thomas had played his alto saxophone for school bands, town bands, and amateur wind ensembles but never for a specifically lesbian event. Actually, until 1992, he didn't know that there was such a thing as a "pride band."

"I received a pamphlet on the Lesbian & Gay Bands of America from my sister who had seen the San Francisco freedom band play at the 1992 San Francisco Pride march," says Peter, "That was around June. Later that same year, I took a course on gay and lesbian culture at the Church Street Center. One of the exercises we did in class was to think of something each of us could do for the community and draw up an action plan. My plan was to organize a band."

According to Peter, that course "gave me the push to do something." Through some networking, he got in touch with Leah Wittenberg, who was involved with organizing

the 1993 Vermont Pride. By becoming part of the Pride committee, he met up with others interested in getting their instruments out of mothballs and playing for the yet unnamed Pride band. For a month before Pride, eight musicians rehearsed marching and playing, many for the first time since high school. Since then, the band has become a fixture in the Vermont Pride march, playing in every march except for 1995 due to rain.

In 1997, the "Pride band" officially became the Green Mountain Freedom Band, complete with uniforms and a more diverse repertoire that includes not only the traditional marches but classical, ragtime, and pop. The band also hopes to play more year around as opposed to just Pride day. Since September 1997, they have been meeting the third Monday of every month for a rehearsal just so they don't get rusty.

Another important milestone for the Green Mountain

Freedom Band was its official affiliation with the Lesbian and Gay Bands of America (LGBA), whose pamphlet inspired Peter to put together the band in the first place. LGBA is comprised of over 20 freedom bands around the country as well as in Australia, Canada, and Norway. Peter has marched with New York's Big Apple Corps band and played in its concert band. In August, Peter and one other member of the Green Mountain Freedom Band joined other musicians from New York, Montreal, and Rochester to march in Montreal's Pride. The biggest thrill for Peter will come in August 1998 when he and over 40 others from freedom bands around the world gather to play at the Gay Games in Amsterdam.

All in all, this is not bad for an organization that got its start as an exercise in a gay and lesbian history class.

For more information, contact Peter Thomas at 878 1123.

## around vermont

### THEATER ON A SHOE STRING GETS UNDERWAY.

(From TOAS via email) Theatre on a Shoestring, Vermont's newest theatre company, has established a website to help individuals get to know the group better as well as offering services that the thespian world is itching for.

On TOAS' webpage, an individual can learn how to become a member as well as upcoming events. TOAS also is in the planning stages of building an actor's database online where actors can place their headshot and resume online for the world to see.

The group also has many links to search. From Playbill to Greg Louganis' homepage to contests (win American Airline tickets!) and individuals, TOAS has what you're looking for.

TOAS is in the planning stages of putting a calendar of events online for all events in and around Vermont. This page will be updated daily as to eliminate closed events. No other organization can offer that.

For more information, contact TOAS online at theatreshoe@hotmail.com or visit our

website at <http://members.tripod.com/~dsp65>.

### NEW ECUMENICAL SPIRITUAL GROUP FORMS

(From Miki Thomas) An Ecumenical spiritual group is in the process of forming for fellowship and discussion around issues involving the spiritual lives of gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered people. Though Christian in its initial orientation, it is open to people of all faith backgrounds who have an interest in sharing with others their spiritual journeys. It is currently meeting on Sundays once a month at the Bishop Booth Conference Center at Rock Point from 4 to 6 pm. The December 28 meeting will have a discussion about the different holidays and celebrations of the season such as Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa. For more information regarding the group, call Tom at (802) 655-6706.

### RBA CELEBRATES THE HOLIDAYS

(From Joy Griffith via email) In an atmosphere of holiday decorations by Vermont Floral nearly 40 RBA members entered the Vermont Room overlooking Lake

Champlain at the Radisson Hotel last night, December 10th, to socialize, celebrate this exciting season and make business contacts. We enjoyed the open bar and the "non-stop" hors d'oeuvres, but it was the door prize drawing that created business, humor and pleasure! Fitch Hill Inn in Hyde Park gave an overnight certificate at their scenic and historic Inn. Bill Desautels from RE/MAX will be taking an R & R in Hyde Park! That's when Richard (one of the Inn's owners) learned by giving you can receive, because in the next drawing Richard's name was drawn! When Richard chose Valerie Ugro's Watercolor Landscape Painting he found the "Frame & Reframe" owner Lynn Goyette to take it over for framing! Vermont Floral's splendid Poinsettia plant was heartily received by an RBA visitor.

We want to thank the arrangements made by Thomas Crowley, President of Vermont Floral, Inc. and may the Radisson see more of the RBA in the coming months.

Joy.....to one and all during this season of Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Ramadan and Solstice!