

Statewide summit convenes for GLBT leaders

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recommendation was for each individual to take responsibility for his or her own knowledge, or lack thereof.

The group also discussed social weaknesses within the gay community. Among these were the lack of opportunities for youth, permanent public spaces, social outlets, and a public identity. The small group assigned to discuss strategies on these topics suggested that small moves could make a big difference. Something as small as announcing a regular gathering a local pizza parlor or pool hall can create a social life for people who are not interested in the bars. Ideas for funding for community centers also surfaced. Again, personal accountability was a key, "If you wonder why you don't see queer couples holding hands on Main Street, ask yourself why you aren't doing it," said Thomas Henning. The group challenged everyone at the meeting to plan one small gathering and publicize it in the OITM calendar.

Yet another group was assigned to brainstorm solutions to communication problems. Ideas ranged from holding Internet workshops for the technologically challenged and starting an email discussion group for Vermont queers to establishing conflict resolution training for use in disagreements between the organizations. The suggestion that the VCLGR become organizationally based and meet on a quarterly basis was made as well.

That same idea presented itself in the group that discussed the issues around resources. Additionally they suggested that professional leadership training be offered for organizers and that a system for sharing volunteers be developed. As did several individuals throughout the day, this group emphasized the need to record the history of gay Vermont and its movement.

The VCLGR conference on October 10 at UVM will be the next check in for the group and anyone else who wants to get involved. Having identified problems and suggested solutions, in October the question will be "What have we done about it?"

Palmer to Run for State Senate Seat

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deserve full time attention and, as a senator, I'll want to be an unencumbered voice," said Palmer. He stressed that he wanted to avoid any possibility of conflict of interest.

Palmer earned his BA in political science from the University at Albany and his MS in public communications from Syracuse University.

[Editor's note: Steve Howard of Rutland has also announced his candidacy for the State Senate. We will run a story about him in the September issue of OITM. Should Howard and Palmer both win their bids for office, Vermont will have two openly gay men serving in the State Senate.]

99.7% White - Woman Searches for Community

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wouldn't get what I needed there. Where, in this community, can a young Black woman, an up and coming Hispanic man, or any person of color meet their needs of finding people like them. Now, I'm not saying there aren't Hispanic queers in Vermont, what I'm saying is that we as a community do not make it known that there are people of color out there in the lesbian, gay, by, trans, QUEER community.

I went to the NOW conference knowing that there would have to be a workshop with the word lesbian in the title, and I didn't care what it was about, I was going. I came out of that workshop feeling less isolated, less alone and less of an example. Whenever I feel that way I go back to that room and remember the diversity of color, experience and age in it and bask in the power it gives me. But I do have to (virtually) leave Vermont to experience that.

Another great thing that I took from that conference was a book called *Does your Mama Know? An anthology of Lesbian Coming Out stories* by Lisa Moore. This book was my bible when I came out to my family. Some coming out experiences are universal but some aren't. For instance when you come out as a member of a white family you are not going to be asked why do you want to be like those white people with their funny quirks? Issues aren't the same, similar sometimes, but not the same. Talking to people in Vermont about coming out is good, but doesn't prepare people of color in the way it prepares everyone else.

The community that I've found in Vermont is great but it doesn't fill all of my needs, and no community does for anyone would be my guess, but I would like to see some community networking amongst the queer community and groups or individuals of color. I would also like to stop hearing excuses like there are no people of color in Vermont, and there are no queer people of color or even people of color aren't interested because frankly they are simply excuses and they're also untrue. I also don't want to do all of the work, its not my responsibility, its OUR responsibility, and our job is to enrich the diversity of our community. In the meantime you can reach me through OITM. Lets truly represent the rainbow so that people like me don't have to travel 500 miles to find people they can identify with.

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VERMONT

BASIC INSTINCT This 55-year-old Male, 145 lbs, with brown hair and brown eyes seeks sexual encounters with Males. (Vermont) ☎16923

REGULAR HOOK-UP This in-shape Male, 5'9", 180 lbs, with red hair would like to meet other Guys for fun. I'm into everything, and would like to hook up on a regular basis if it works out. (Vermont) ☎16811

WHO'S AFRAID? I'm a 40-year-old Male, 5'10", 180 lbs, tired of meeting wimps, creeps, and commitment-phobic people. I want a serious relationship. Call me if you do, too. (Vermont) ☎16686

LIFE SHOULD BE SHARED I'm a 32-year-old Male, 5'6", 200 lbs, moderately hairy, with brown hair and brown eyes. I enjoy camping, nude sunbathing, the outdoors, antiques, flea markets, yard sales, and trying new things. I'm seeking a long-term relationship with someone who wants to settle down and share life. Age is unimportant, as long as you're not too young or too old. I'm tired of games, so let's start slow and see what happens. I'm willing to travel throughout Vermont and New Hampshire. (Lindenville) ☎10261

YOU WON'T LOSE A THING I love to dance and go to the movies. I want to meet other Men for friendship, maybe a possible relationship. Call me and we'll see what happens. (Bennington) ☎18608

LET'S DO IT TOGETHER I'm a masculine, uncut Male in my 40's who loves phone sex, mutual jack off and videos. Let's talk and do it together. (Barre) ☎19418

JUST ME AND YOU This 39 year old, Man is looking to meet someone my age or younger. I'm an active person who likes working on my house and working out. I want to meet someone who I can be together with; I don't smoke, drink or do drugs and neither should you. (Rutland) ☎19240

THIS GUY'S SHY I'm a shy, honest 42-year-old Male. I like to dance, go camping, and enjoy good times. I'm looking for a long-term relationship, if that's possible. (Manchester) ☎15921

MADLY IN LOVE This sincere, good natured, White male, 5'6", 200lbs, with Brown hair and eyes, seeks a mutually loving relationship with another nice guy. I can't promise that we'll fall madly in love on the first date but we have to start somewhere. (Lindenville) ☎12117

NO BONES ABOUT IT This attractive, 37 year old, White male, seeks a relationship. Let's get together to see what we have in common. (Barre) ☎13220

HEARTFELT IN HARTLAND Well built, White male, 43, 6ft, 180lbs, seeks other good looking men for fun times. (Hartland) ☎9360

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NOVICE EXPLORERS This good looking, submissive, leather man, in my 40's, 6ft, 195lbs, is a bearded, balding, hairy chested, bear type, seeking dominant men for kinky, creative encounters. Adventurous explorers and novice tops especially encouraged to call. A long term relationship is possible. ☎8557

JERSEY GENT I just moved here from New Jersey. I'm a sweet, honest guy, looking for friendship or more with someone special. I'm a Gay, White male, 5'9", 258lbs, with Brown hair, Blue eyes, glasses, and a mustache. (Newport) ☎8514

LEAN AND LIVELY I'm a Gay, White male, in my early 20's, 5'10", 140lbs, with Brown hair, Blue eyes, and a swimmer's build. My interests are many and I'd like to meet and share them with you. (Rutland) ☎8359

JUST LIKE OLD TIMES I'm a smooth, muscular, clean shaven, White male, 46, 5'8, 148lbs. I need an angry, hot, fat daddy, or an angry, Straight husband, to pull my pants down, turn me over his knee, and give me a good, hard, old fashioned, bare bottom spanking. I deserve it. ☎8280

MASSACHUSETTS

I'M THE BOTTOM Very, very attractive, 22, 6', 195, clean shaven M looking for another masculine top M, 18-40, in the area, for good times and a possible relationship. (Fall River) ☎20158

PRESCRIPTION FOR FUN I need a hot, muscular, hairy, young man, 30 to 40, to make me feel good. (Boston) ☎8519

GET PINNED This 37-year-old White Male with dark hair, dark eyes, and a mustache is looking for Guys who are into wrestling, fantasy fighting, and role playing. Let's get some hot, sweaty sessions going. (Boston) ☎17004

NEW HAMPSHIRE

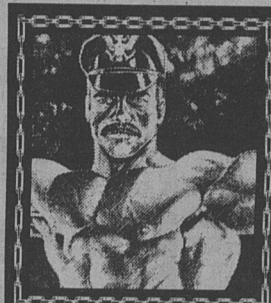
SOME FUN I'm a Gay Male who is looking for a relationship and some fun. ☎10482

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NEW YORK

TAN FOR FALL Good looking, very masculine, White male, 25, 6ft, 160lbs, with a great tan, Brown hair and eyes, seeks the same type of guy for fun. I enjoy going out, top 40 music, and most other fun stuff. I don't smoke and am not into drugs. I can be very discreet if you need for me to be. (Plattsburgh) ☎6901



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VERMONT

BEFORE THE SHIP SAILS Hi, I'm looking for a young, vibrant Female who likes to experience new things. I'm possibly looking for a long term relationship, so please call me. (Montpelier) ☎18155

ANIMAL LOVER This good natured, 31 year old, White female, seeks a womyn who's fun, caring, loving, and likes animals. ☎12624

MASSACHUSETTS

LET'S SEE THE SIGHTS This college student, 19, will be transferring to the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in the fall and would like to meet some new friends in the area who can show me around. (Amherst) ☎17249

YOUNG & SEXY? CALL ME I'm a Bi-sexual, feminine, Female who is looking for someone that is young, feminine, sexy and likes to have a good time. (Boston) ☎19416

NEW YORK

THE REAL ONE Hi, I'm a Gay, 28 year old, White Female, 5'5", brown hair, hazel eyes, who is looking for another Gay White Female between the ages of 28-40. You should be very interested in a serious relationship. I enjoy cooking, music, movies, and the beach. I am very romantic and passionate. (Albany) ☎18127

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