



## community compass

Community Compass is a service of OITM. GLBT organizations from around the state are invited to provide 200-word descriptions of recent or upcoming activities and events. Send your submissions to us by email at [editor@vtpride.org](mailto:editor@vtpride.org) by the 15th of the month.

### Bi-Net Vermont

Bi-Net Vermont has been gaining membership and momentum with a flurry of activities and increased communication. In October Bi-Net members met in Richmond, Vermont for a social gathering at the Daily Bread and Hike of Camel's Hump and in Central Vermont for a showing of "Better Than Chocolate" at the Savoy Theatre. In Burlington discussions are underway to plan a regular Sunday Breakfast/Brunch group. On the Internet members of Bi-Net are beginning to get to know each other through the a new discussion list. (To subscribe email to: [majordomo@queernet.org](mailto:majordomo@queernet.org) and type: subscribe binetvermont). On November 17 at 6pm Bi-Net will host a sledding or skating party in Montpelier, VT followed by hot coco at Uncommon Grounds. For more information about this event contact Kim at 802-229-0112

### Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society

Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society (CVUUS) in Middlebury is making a conscious effort on a daily basis to live up to our status as a Welcoming Congregation, in our sermons, social activities, language, religious education, printed matter, and advertising. We are working to live our values, including affirmation of the inherent worth and dignity of every person. Activities coming up: On Saturday, November 20, we are launching a monthly movie night, beginning with "Torch Song Trilogy" (see calendar listing). Munchies provided. Also, along with Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force, we will host a same-gender marriage Decision Day Openhouse beginning at 7 pm on whatever Friday the Vermont Supreme Court decision is announced. Whether it's a night for celebration or commiseration, we are "on." Bring some munchies and/or music if you are so inspired, or just come. All are warmly invited to our events. Look for the pink trian-

gle chalice on our sign at 6 Cross Street, Middlebury. For more information about CVUUS, please call 388-8080.

### Dignity Vermont

Dignity/VT is a group for LBGT Catholics and others. We are ecumenical and inclusive and provide a safe and supportive environment in which people may worship and socialize. We meet on the first Sunday of each month from 4 to 6 pm in the chapel at the Bishop Booth Conference Center at Rock Point in Burlington (off Institute Road near North Beach).

Although the format may vary from time to time, gatherings usually begin with a Celebration of the Eucharist and conclude with a short meeting and social time for which those in attendance are invited to bring refreshments to share.

For more information, please call Thom at 655-6706 or Charles at 658-4436. The mailing address for Dignity/VT is P.O. Box 61, Winooski, VT 05404.

Come experience the joy of being gay . . . and Christian!

### Mountain Pride Media

Mountain Pride Media board members and staff were in McIndoe Falls as part of our Green Mountain Tour, on October 2, 1999. We want to thank our hosts, Rob Larabee & Yves Morrissette, and the Green Mountain Band for providing musical entertainment. The day included a writing workshop conducted by OITM editor Barbara Dozetos and an evening reception.

New and renewed subscribers over the past several weeks were entered into a drawing to win tickets to Gilberto Gil, An Evening with Ellen DeGeneres and most recently the Moscow City Ballet's performance of Cinderella. Congratulations to the winners

Mountain Pride Media is also hard at work at improving our web site: [www.vtpride.org](http://www.vtpride.org). Mack Roark, our new web editor & designer, has been busy updating the look of the online version of *Out In The Mountains*. The first stage of

the redesign will be up in early November. Major support for our web improvement project came from The Gill Foundation, Haymarket People's Fund, and Physicians Computer Company as well as individual donations. There are many more enhancements on the way, so be sure to check us out on the web.

Mountain Pride Media is always looking for volunteers to help with monthly distribution of *Out In The Mountains*. If you would like to distribute papers in your area to designated drop off sites or can help with preparing the mailing in Richmond send an email to [oitm@together.net](mailto:oitm@together.net).

### Pride Committee 2000

The Pride Committee has been very busy in recent weeks with planning for next year's Pride festivities as well as fundraising events to help pay for it.

Tom Crowley has graciously given the Pride Vermont Committee a home by opening up his business as meeting space. More than 20 people came to the re-organizational meeting last month. The group is energized and eager to welcome anyone else who would like to participate in making Pride 2000 as fabulous as possible.

In order to make the planning process more accessible to everyone in the state, we have established an email discussion group, PrideVermont. To subscribe and participate in ongoing plans, send an email to [majordomo@queernet.org](mailto:majordomo@queernet.org) with the message: subscribe PrideVermont in the body of the email.

Emerald City Ball last month raised nearly \$500 for Pride. Thank you to all of you who helped and came to give support. Special thanks to the organizations who sponsored the event: Outright Vermont, Vermont Gay Social Alternatives, Cooperative Campus Ministries, Burlington R.U.1.2? Community Center, Mens Health Project of Vermont CARES, Free To Be GLBTA at UVM, NCOW Committee 1999, and the City of Burlington Community and Economic Development Office.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, November 10 at 6:30 at Vermont Floral on Pine Street in Burlington. We will be electing chairpersons for the committee.

### Samadhi Singers

On Saturday December 11th, The Samadhi Singers, A Sacred Music Chorale for Friends & Members of the GLBT Community will perform its fall concert at 8 pm in the University of Vermont's Ira Allen Chapel in Burlington (corner of University and Pearl). Now in their 3rd year of performing, The Samadhi Singers will sing a variety of pieces highlighting the theme "Embracing the Darkness - Looking Forward to the Light." Co-sponsored by UVM's office of LGBTQA Services and the Cooperative Christian Ministry @ UVM, ticket donations of \$8-12 will help to benefit the Respite House in Williston, VT. FMI call Annette Browne 860-9594.

### Samara Foundation of Vermont

Samara Foundation board members, Eileen Blackwood and Linda Markin, along with Executive Director Bill Lippert, joined representatives from fifteen GLBT community foundations at their recent national meeting in Minneapolis. GLBT community foundations from around the country exchanged ideas and developed a national GLBT community foundations network.

Mickey MacIntyre, strategist and trainer from the Gill Foundation, offered a day-long training and encouraged the development of GLBT community foundations in each of the 50 states. MacIntyre outlined what he called "5 in 50 by '05" a plan to build at least five local GLBT organizations in each state by 2005. Along with establishing in each state a GLBT community foundation, MacIntyre also views developing a community center, a non-profit law firm, an anti-violence project and a GLBT statewide political organization, as the necessary infrastructure for a truly successful GLBT social change

movement.

MacIntyre challenged participants to raise the necessary financial resources to develop this essential infrastructure. MacIntyre acknowledges that the GLBT community will have to take itself more seriously, and be willing to commit more charitable and political giving than ever before.

Samara Foundation is publishing its first *Samara Community Report*, a periodic newsletter of interest to the GLBT communities. If you want to be sure to receive a copy, contact Bill Lippert, Executive Director at 860-6236 or [info@samarafoundation.org](mailto:info@samarafoundation.org).

### Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force

In October we took our new tabletop displays, funded by Samara Foundation, to numerous community events around the state, including the two-day South Hero Applefest, where LOTS of signatures were collected in support of the freedom to marry. There is a lot of support out there — we just have to ask people! Another October highlight was the sea of hot pink "I Support the Freedom to Marry" stickers at Ellen's Coming Out week kickoff lecture in Burlington. What a wonderful sight!

Now that it's November, community events are becoming sparser, and we are lining up more engagements directly. On November 12 there will be a Clergy Panel in Bellows Falls (see the Community Calendar). Later in November or perhaps early December we plan to have a panel in Middlebury and a forum in Rutland — watch the online OITM calendar or our web page, [www.vtfreetomarry.org](http://www.vtfreetomarry.org), for more information. If you would like to receive email notification from us on Decision Day, please send your name and email address to [coord@vtfreetomarry.org](mailto:coord@vtfreetomarry.org). If you'd like to receive our fall newsletter, please send your snail mail address to the email above or call the Task Force at 388-2633. ▼