



FIRST LINK

NATIONAL LEATHER ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 17463
Seattle, WA 98107

BOARD IN BRIEF

With nearly the full Board present and 5 additional members (a new record) the meeting progressed smoothly through the normal run of business. An 2nd first (?) was encountered by the Secretary who actually had a table as well as a chair!

Steve was welcomed back from his eastcoast globe-trotting and reported very productive meetings with GMSMA President Barry Douglas as well as members of the Caucus Steering Com. and members of the Chicago Leather community. GMSMA has given NLS a copy of its Organization mailing list for use related to the Caucus and this will be a big help. Steve also met with members of LSM (Lesbian Sex Mafia) of NYC. GMSMA has promised include our Caucus group as a benefactee of its fund raising efforts.

Our treasury is still on very shakey ground, and although there are more funds existing then present payables, with Chain Link due out in 2 weeks, we do not have enough to cover all its related expenses. These thoughts were echoed again by Conference Co-Chair Tonja in her report.

Program Committee reminded us of upcoming Seattle Leatherwomyn contest and reception (25 & 24th respectively). The Float planning is now in its 3rd Chair & M. Kenmir will be co-ordinating the effort.

The next meeting of the Conference Committee sub-committees will be 6-11 when final decision & differences concerning the erotica show will be ironed out. Closing party will be held in the hotel for convenience & cost savings.

Chain Link issue II will be printed June 19 & a mail out party will be held 6-20. (Contact Cookie Hunt if you can volunteer some time). Ad exchanges have been arranged with Male Entertainment Network & GMSMA. Cookie also announced that Steve Maidhof & Katherine Boren have been elected this years Gay Pride Parade Grand Marshalls. Congratulations to both!

A Fundraiser Male Erotica show is tentatively planned for Seattle & Portland (July 19 & 5th resp.) and an Art Auction is also being considered. Doug Connell was welcomed as new Fund Raising Chair and he is working closely with Marty Henderson in his efforts.

Next Meeting of the Board will again be at the home of C. Harbaugh (322-7043) and is, as always, open to all members.

NLA CALENDAR

JUNE

- 21 Fundraiser Portland, OR
NLA & Int'nat'l Ms Leather Travel
7:30 Primary Domain \$5.00
- 23 Program Com & Fund Raising Comm.
7:30 Sparks Tavern Seattle
- 24 Pre-Contest Reception 7:00
Seattle Leatherwomom Sparks
- 27 Float Party
Details TBA
- 28 Gay Pride March Seattle
- 31 Conference Comm. 7:00
Contact Co-Chair for info.

JULY

- 5 Fund Raiser Portland, OR
Men's Erotica Show \$5.00 (?)
7:00
- 14 Board Meeting (322-7043)
C. Harbaugh 7:00
- 16 Conference Comm 7:00
- 19 Fundraiser Seattle
Men's Erotica Show \$5.00(?)
Location TBA
- 25 Copy Deadline Conference Prog.
Living in Leather II
- 30 Conference Comm.
- 28 Program Comm.

AUGUST

- 1 Advertising Deadline
Living in LEather II Program
- 2&3 Fundraising Vancouver, B.C.
Gay Pride Parking Lot Carnival
NLA Benefit & Others
Sponser Mack's LEathers
- 12 Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 14 Copy Deadling Chain Link 3
- 21 Adv. Deadline Chain Link 3
- 25 Program Comm.
- 28-31 LIVING in LEATHER II Seattle
Executive Inn Headquarters

SEPTEMBER

- 8 Board Meeting
- 22 Program Comm.
- ? Major Fund Raiser

OCTOBER

- 10 Leather Caucus Washington DC
- 11 National March "
- 13 Board Meeting

NOVEMBER

- 4 Board Meeting Pre-election
- 10 Membership Meeting & Election

We are proud to note that we are now

AFFILIATE MEMBER



AFFILIATE CALENDAR

JUNE

- 20 Gay Pride Parade Portland, Or
- 21 Leather Pride Night IV Saint NYC
Benefit several Leather related
Organizations incl. GMSMA
6-10 PM \$5.00
- 21 Fundraiser Portland OR
International MS Leather Travel
Primary Domain \$5.00 7:00
- 21 Daddy Contest Seattle
Sparks 7:00
- 21-26 International MR Drummer
Weekend Events
- 24 Avatar Meeting L.A
- 24 GMSMA Annual Meeting 8:30 NYC
- 25 Seattle Leatherwomon Contest
Sparks \$5.00 8:00
- 27 Hartford Colts M/C Hartford Ct
Bar Night Baristers (?)
- 28 Gay Pride Parades
San Francisco, Seattle, NYC etc

JULY

- 2-5 Rocky Mountineers M/C Denver
"Jason Goes Country" Annual Run
- 3,10,17,24 "Catalog Fridays"
Chuck's Pub 9:00 Vancouver BC
Mack's Leathers Contests
- 4 Seattle Dungeon Guild
Black & Blue III
- 13 SigMa Washington DC
"Transfer of Power" 8:00
- 14 SigMA Third Anniversary
confirm locally
- 17-19 Silver Spurs Dallas, TX
Branding Iron Club
"69" Joint Anniversary
- 17-19 Zodiacs Vancouver BC
"Stampede 87 XIV" Coyote Campground
- 11 GMSMA Picnic in the Poconos
- 18 Wasatch Salt Lake City UT
Leather Night The Inbetween
- 25 "Xmas in July" Party Sparks Seattle
- 31-Aug 2 VASM Vancouver BC
"Fantasy Acres - A Woodsey"
- 31-Aug 3 B.C. Day & Gay Pride events
Vancouver BC

AUGUST

- 6-9 Wasatch SLC, UT
"Falcon Flight 87" Annual run
- 7-9 Defenders NW SEattle
Campout/Retreat Deception Pass
- 10 SigMA 8:00 Wash. DC
"Termpereure Torture"
- 14 Wasatch SLC, UT
Leather Night The Inbetween
- 16 Leathermasters L.A.
Art Sale
The Hun The Stud

SEPTEMBER

- 6 Wasatch Meeting SLC, UT
- 7 Wasatch SLC, UT
Leather Night The Inbetween
- 11-14 Hellfire Chicago
Inferno XVI

OCTOBER

- 9-11 VASM Vancouver BC
5th Anniversary

NOVEMBER

- 6-8 Harbor Masters Portland ME
5th Anniversary Run

WELCOME TO

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

After waiting patiently since near the first of the year for action on their applications, Leathermasters, Inc. of Los Angeles and Harbor Masters, Inc. of Portland Maine have been duly accepted as Affiliate National Members. With the passage last month of National By-laws, Affiliate Memberships became possible (Seattle local By-laws do not presently allow them). Both organizations had sent applications and dues early in the year & both have forwarded calendar dates for our publication. They will receive multiple copies of both First Link and Chain Link & we hope have representatives at the Conference in August. Welcome to both organizations.

CALENDAR FOLLOW-UPS

If you are interested in any of the events or organizations with events listed in our Affiliates Calendar, information is available on many of them from the NLA Secretary. Contact persons, addresses, event costs, and sometimes phone numbers are available. We do not publish all the details due to space requirements and respect for the confidentiality of these affiliate organizations and their members. Our list of organizations is continuously growing and we have listings literally from around the country. If any of our members are traveling, we will be able to supply contact addresses, at least, for a wide variety of locations.

Also, in order that this list be as comprehensive as possible, if you know of organizations who you feel should be on our contact and mailing lists, please forward the information to the Secretary so he can follow-up as well.

VANCOUVER PRIDE

NLA Seattle should make a special effort to support the Vancouver Pride Activities. Mack McKinnon, Mack's Leathers, is sponsoring a large tent at the Gay Pride Parking Lot Carnival and doing fund raising for the PWA Coalition, the VGLCC (Vancouver Gay & Lesbian Community Center) and NLA. Mack has asked NLA members help sell removable tatoos (which will be donated). We all are aware of the real need for improved finances. Mack is aware that Monday August 3rd will be difficult for US visitors, however Sunday the 2nd should be less problem and we hope Seattle will support Mack in his effort to support us. All 3 organizations are worth the effort.

See you in Vancouver!

More nearly useless information to my valued readers. In response to last month's news that I no longer have opinions, I take the opportunity to quote a member from Virginia who wrote, "Sorry to hear you'll no longer scribble. Anyone with 1/2 of a brain should realize a personal opinion over Assoc. policy. Look forward to your next 'editorial' in CHain Link." Thanks for the support.

Congratulations are in order to all the Seattle contestants at the recent IML contest. All 3 placed as semi-finalists. We are especially pleased that Ken Gordon was selected as this years 2nd runner up, the only US candidate of the 3 winners. By the way, all are NLA members. Must also note that Chuck Harbaugh made a significant impression with his speech - which he signed as he spoke. And finally, that woman is in my column again. Perhaps no single individual made a bigger impression on all the men in Chicago than Judy Tallwing who continues to push NLA in all her appearances. She just impresses the hell out'a me.

Thankyou to Barry Douglas, NLA member, GMSMA Pres., and resident of the BIG APPLE from all of us in the Northwest. Glad you took care of our wandering President on his recent trip. I know he'd have never found his way home without your help. We were afraid he'd never get over the "Great White Way". It's a good thing he never blushes, - the color would look just terrible under kleig light.

And what's this I hear that you and Steve have been named as Charter Members in "Pushover Tops?"

Which brings up another idea. Several of you recognize that Publicist Cookie Hunt (who deserves hazardous duty pay for working on this next issue of CHAIN LINK) and I have had our share of diferences of opinion (providing of course that I had any!), but on one thing we find we both very much agree. We're both tired of pushy bottoms! It seems like forever since I've heard a simple "Yes, Sir." as an answer to a question - to ANY question!

1 1/2 cheers for Portland Leather. I had a delightful trip to the Rose Festival. It was great fun to watch the assembly procedures Friday night turn metal skeletons into self-propelled (mostly) floral art. And there were so many family members involved. Saturday night the bars were busier than I've usually witnessed. I'll even admit that I wasn't the only visable leather (I hope the rest wasn't all from out of town. Well I know at least one wasn't.). Was good to see it out - now just keep wearing it!

NLA was well represented at a recent Seattle Men's Chorus fund-raising bowlathon. Judy Tallwing (she never stays home) and Keith Hughes (NLA Board Member & MR Gay Seattle) both bowled until their arms were totally useless. They both said

they had a great time. Is the "A-Gay" establishment finally starting to notice that the Leather community is really here?

As noted elsewhere, I give a "Welcome" to our 1st National Affiliate members. From Portland, Maine the Harbor Masters and Leathermasters of Los Angeles couldn't be much further apart geographically and still be in the US, but that distance demonstrates the size of our leather community and the widespread notice and influence that NLA has achieved in its 10 months of life. I'm glad their with us.

With the rapid approach of the Gay Pride weekends around the country, I hope all our members are planning on participating in their own communities. And if not at home, visit somewhere that the celebration happens. I'll be attending 3, Seattle, of course, plus Portland and Vancouver, B.C. and I lookforward to each one. Be part of the party, and the family.



CHANGES of ADDRESS

If you haven't received all the copies of this members letter, or the CHAIN LINK, or you know another member who is not receiving their NLA mail, please let the Secretary know. Every month I receive back at least hald-a-dozen First Links returned for incorrect addresses or members who have moved and not informed us. (One members' letter came back with 3 address changes on it!) It is the responsibility of the individual member to inform us of any change of address or mailing situation. (for example, we have 2 members who prefer mail without specific NLA markings.) I will be happy to make special efforts if they are desired, but must receive these notifications before the mail goes out. Mail returned costs the association money, the Secretary time, and the member agrivation. Keep us informed.

FIRST LINK Deadlines

If you have calendar dates, or ideas that the Secretary might scribble on for the monthly members' letter, I need them by the date of the monthly Board meeting. Some of the material is prepared in advance of the meeting, but most is put together in the weekend following the meeting for printing at the begining of the next week. By-laws require that actions of the Board be published within 2 weeks of any meeting, so far I've been able to get it out in 10 days. If you get me material I'll try to use it.

VANCOUVER EAGLE EXITS

Mack has informed me that once again I've lied about just what's happening in Vancouver. As of the latest from him, Vancouver's Leather community is encouraged to descend on "CHUCK'S PUB" at the Heritage House Hotel (formerly the Lotus) on Friday & Saturday nights. These nights will be "Leather Only" Mack will be opening (make that has opened) a sales shop and the oriental decor is still scheduled to go (about the only thing right about the last report). Since the closing of John Barley's" the Vancouver Leather community has complained about having no place to go. Well, now's there chance to show they'll support a business if its there. Good Luck to Jean-Claude and Mack.

WOMANLINK

We have just received information of a new (we think) organization modeled on Interchain directed specifically toward SM womyn. They are offering special discount rates for charter subscribers. "WOMANLINK is operated by SM women, active in the San Francisco Bay Area SM community, who share concern for strengthening the SM women's network, for safe, consensual, non-exploitative SM, and safe sex." This is passed on as in information service to our members, who are recommended to investigate more carefully themselves. More information is available from the NLA Secretary.

N.L.A.
P.O.Box 17463
Seattle, WA 98107

Address Correction
Requested

