



**FIRST
LINK**

Issue: I- 9

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

BOARD IN BRIEF

The August meeting of the Board moved reasonably smoothly through its normal order of business, after getting a late start (see note on timekeeping elsewhere in this issue).

The single most important action of the Board was receipt from Vancouver, B.C. area members of a petition requesting official local NLA Chapter status (as NLA: BC). The motion was made to accept the request and passed unanimously resulting in the 2nd official chapter (Seattle of course being the first) of our Association. Officers of NLA: BC are Co-Chairs, Jan Brown & "Mack" MacKinnon, Sec. Johanna Clark, Treasurer, Stephanie Kalinova, and Co-ordinator, Ami Moore all serving pro-tem until a formal election is held Sept. 20th.

CONGRATULATIONS
VANCOUVER

Our treasury is in reasonable shape with considerable increase in receipts due to conference registrations and several new individual and affiliate memberships.

Obviously much business centered on the Conference. Funds in excess of \$1300. have already been spent and \$400. more was specifically appropriated, with preparations for a further \$2500. Material for the Conference program must get to Cookie immediately (as in before this letter is actually printed). Hospitality noted the donation of 10 cases of soda pop and from Hombres Saloon a full keg and tap. Drink sales should provide revenue enough to cover most hospitality expenses. Registrations are coming in well and are now being passed directly to Kent for computer entry which will both maintain & process our registration packets.

The Conference Comm. will meet every Thursday until conference. Call Steve for info. (323-3653). Wayne (784-7367) still needs additional volunteer workers.

Caucus plans are progressing & it appears a location has at last been found - we hope.

Also NLA:Seattle was both surprised and honored by a donation from Vancouver members of over \$200.00 toward conference expenses.

Next meeting - as always - open to ALL members - will be Sept. 8th, 7:00 PM at Kent Chumlea's (328-8635).

NLA CALENDAR



THE NATIONAL LEATHER
ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS
**LIVING IN
LEATHER**
Seattle
THE 1987 CONFERENCE

AUGUST

- 21 Chain Link 3 Copy Deadline
- 28-31 *LIVING in LEATHER II 1987*
- 28 Registration Opens 7:00 PM
Seattle Executive Inn
200 Taylor Ave N
- 28 Keggar & Buffet Welcome
Seattle: EAGLE 7:30 PM
- 29 Registration & Exhibits open
Exhibits open 10 AM to 7 PM
- 29 Workshops commence 11 AM
- 29 Erotica Show
Separate admissions \$5/6.00
- 29 Dual Dungeons II 11:30-7:00 AM
Sponsored by Seattle Dungeon
Guild Separate admission
Registrants \$8.00 Others \$10.00
- 30 Exhibits open 10-6
Workshops open 1 PM
- 30 Banquet, Awards Presentation,
Fashion leathers 7:30 PM
- 30 Black Out Ball II 8:30 PM

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Chain Link 3 Advertising Deadline
- 12-13 (?) Board Retreat
Triangle Campground, Index
- 20 NLA:BC Meeting & Election
- 22 Program Committee 7:30
- 8 Board Meeting 7:00
Kent Chumlea (328-8635)
- 25 NLA: BC
Piercing Workshop
by Jim Ward of Gauntlet Ent.

OCTOBER

- 13 Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 10 National Leather Caucus
Washington DC
- 11 National March on Washington
- 27 Program Comm. 7:30 PM

NOVEMBER

- 4 Board Meeting 7:00 PM
Pre-membership meeting
- 10 General Membership meeting
Election of Officers & 3 Board

SAFE SANE CONSENSUAL

SM/LEATHER CONTINGENT -- NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON

AFFILIATE CALENDAR

AUGUST

- 18 P.E.P. Washington DC
S/M Ettiquette
- 21-23 SF. Bondage Club S. F.
"Wildwood Weekend"
- 24 Eulenspiegel Soc. NYC
"Sexual Prejudice & Persecution
in Society Today"
- 25 PEP W.DC
Finding a Partner, part II
- 30 Seattle Dungeon Guild
Double Dungeon II 11:30 PM
\$8.00 NLA & L.in L. registers
\$10.00 others
Seattle Boxing Club

SEPTEMBER

- 4-7 Knights of Malta Reno, NV
Annual Assembly
- 6 Wasatch Salt Lake City
Meeting
- 7 PEP W. DC
Birthday Party
- 7 Wasatch SLC
Leather Night The Inbetween
- 9 Dreizehn 8:30 Boston
Regular meeting Paradise
- 9 GMSMA 8:30 NYC
Welcome Back Social
- 4-7 Copperstate Leathermen Phoenix
Fort Waldorf III
- 11-13 Knights of Leather Minneapolis
Knights Tournament I Hinckley MN
- 11-14 Hellfire Chicago
Inferno XVI
- 14 SigMa 8:00 W.DC
Psychology 101
- 13 Outcasts S. F.
Orientation Berkeley
- 18 The 15 S.F.
Reception
- 18-20 Defenders NW Seattle
Deception Pass Camp-out
- 20 Folsom Street Fair S.F.
- 20 Disciples of DeSade Dallas
Beer Bust 4:00 Trestle
- 23 GMSMA 8:30 NYC
Humiliation
- 27 Outcasts 7:00 S.F.
Committee Night

OCTOBER

- 2-4 Knights d'Orleans New Orleans
Anniversary XIII Weekend
- 9-11 VASM Vancouver BC
Anniversary V Weekend
- 10 National Leather Caucus W.DC
- 11 National March W.DC
- 14 GMSMA 8:30 NYC
Perils of S/M Publishing
- 14 Dreizehn 8:30 Boston
Meeting Paradise, Cambridge
- 18 Disc. of DeSade Dallas
Beer Bust Trestle
- 23-24 MS Panther Koln; Germany
Anniversary XIII
- 28 GMSMA 8:30 NYC
S/M & Monster Mythology



In answer to the frequent question of "What workshops are planned?", this years conference roughly brakes into 3 catagories: Political activism, health concerns, and hands on (or in if you prefer) technical workshops. Political workshops include:

- Increasing S/M Leather Presence
 - Community Organizing
 - People of Color & Leather
- Health workshops include:
- Women's & Mens Safe Sex
 - Dungeon Medical Emegrancies
 - Clean & Sober Sexuality
- Technical workshops include:
- SM 101
 - Men's Top & Bottom
 - Women's Top & Bottom
 - Women's Fisting

A total of 18 diferent organized panels & workshops are planned with space available for about 10 additional groupings. Some of the above will be limited by gender, and limited space may close some workshops once full. Obviously, the list above is very tentative and may change.

Speakers and presenters confirmed for the conference so far include:

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Susie Bright | Tony de Blase |
| Michael Evans | Kent Chumlea |
| Cookie Hunt | Dr. Guy Baldwin |
| Barry Douglas | Alan Selby |
| Judy Tallwing | McCarthy |
| Dragon | Alder |
| Steve Maidhof | Gayle Ruben |

Others such as Pat Califia, John Preston, Dorothy Allison, Scott Tucker, and Larry Townsend are unconfirmed. It still makes a fairly impressive list.

NEW WOMEN'S
RESOURCE LIST

Pat Califia has developed a new Women's Resource List. The 18 page list is available directly from Pat for \$3.50 (check/money order) at:

P.O.Box 527
Richmond Hill, N.J.
11418-0527

The list has been very well received by such as Janus of San Francisco.

NOVEMBER

- 6-8 Harbor Masters Portland, ME
Anniversary Run V
- 11 GMSMA 8:30 NYC
Boots & Gloves
- 15 Disc. of DeSade Dallas
Beer Bust Trestle
- 25 GMSMA 8:30 NYC
Thanksgiving Eve Social

DECEMBER

- 9 GMSMA 8:30 NYC
S/M and Ageing

AFFILIATE MEMBER



Perhaps with lots more practice someday I'll learn to write as well as scribble. Only maybe.

First this month I extend my compliments to Cookie Hunt for assembling Issue 2 of CHAIN LINK. If our last issue got compliments, this one should win awards. Layout, photos, and content all improved. Overcoming problems with typesetters (or rather lack of same), late contributions, poor early photos, and God only knows what else, Cookie and her people have provided us with an issue to be proud of.

Before I forget, I was handed a marvelous quote from one of our straight members. She informed me that her "Head is dyke, but my cunt is straight."

I had a tremendous weekend in Vancouver for their various Pride activities. Mack, Ami, Jan, Tim, Stephanie and numerous other folks produced a strong program Sat. night for the Vancouver Leather Competition. This was their 1st MR/MS competition and it went off like it had been an annual event. Little Johanna seemed to be everywhere at once keeping the show moving and on track. We judges were provided with all assistance possible determining which of the 8 strong competitors would earn the titles. For my part it was a real pleasure to work with Sashi, Judy, Meridee, and Evan again, and for a first chance to meet Mark Alexander current Mr. Drummer. He and his lover Peter certainly made an impressive presence all weekend.

And the competition was not the only event of the weekend. A fabulous (or is that Faah-buhl-lous) brunch was prepared by kitchen master (as well as other locations) Jean-Claude at the home of Bill Houghton. It was a feast both of good food and superior conversation and company. Monday's Pride Parade was led by 2 members of the Leather community of Vancouver and the leather contingent further back in the parade numbered about 30 (take note Seattle & other bigger cities) and included 2 national and half a dozen regional & local title holders.

To all members of the Vancouver Leather community who participated, you provided a successful event, one of which you may be justifiably proud. You demonstrated pride in yourselves and your community to visitors, and leather strength and commitment toward unity to your own community. I am honored to have been and invited guest.

I learned something else during my Vancouver visit. We all know gays and lesbians in general have a rough time telling time. I



sometimes think that the homo-phile community resents operating on a time standard set up and used by the straight community. Anyhow, I long ago learned that faggot-time is 20 minutes slower than the rest of the world. Well, I was enlightened by several very aware leather dykes that Dyke-Time is 20 minutes later than Faggot-time. No wonder our Board meetings are always at least half an hour late starting.

As is obvious by the amount of space in this issue devoted to the conference I'm already very anxious for it to happen, and its 2 weeks away as I write this. I look forward to renewing acquaintances with old friends from New York, San Francisco, Houston, and Washington, and meeting many of the new members I've met through correspondence in the 10 months since Living in LEather I. Do you realize that I started getting inquiries about this little event of ours last December, less than 8 weeks after the last one! Now this is my last chance to encourage you all to come and participate in this year's event. There is no way I can convey the emotional lift this weekend will give us all. This gives us all a chance to realize that we are strong, we are caring, we have talents, and we can tell the rest of both our gay and straight communities "We're here, we're staying, and we're just as good as you! Work with us and we can all benefit. Work without us and we'll do it alone!"

I'll see you on the 28th.

MR/MS VANCOUVER LEATHER

Saturday evening, Aug. 1st was an historic one for the Vancouver & B. C. gay/lesbian leather community. Eight contestants gathered for the titles of MR & MS Vancouver Leather 1987 in a contest was exemplary for its smoothness, continuity, and entertaining relaxed atmosphere. Heritage House provided a comfortable, if crowded location. MC's Jan Brown & TK Cuellar (NLA title holders) kept the show moving well while being both entertaining and relaxed. The judges, all visitors from the US and including several National and regional title holders, worked using a point system (each contestant could accumulate a total of 600 points) to select the winners and runners-up, and I'm sure the vote must have been close. Runners-up for the women were Pam and Lisa and for the men Ian and Franklyn. Winning the title of MS Vancouver LEather 1987 was Ami Moore, and MR Vancouver Leather 1987 is Chas. Both winners received a complementary Conference package, a gift certificate, and will receive an expenses paid trip to the appropriate National Competition in Chicago or San Francisco next Spring. Congratulations to all.

NLA: BRITISH COLUMBIA

I'm sure all noticed the important note buried in the Board notes about the admission of NLA; BC as the second NLA local chapter. For our members, and prospective members we pass on a contact address;

NLA: B.C.
P. O. Box 76827
Station "S"
Vancouver, B.C. V5R-5S7

And if your in Vancouver, Mack (Mack's Leathers) has agreed to receive phone calls & inquiries. (604-435-6867)

Congratulations to Vancouver members.

Now who's next - Portland? San Francisco? New York?

NEW NATIONAL AFFILIATES

Two issues ago we were pleased to announce our first 2 affiliate members (Harbor Masters & Leathermasters) and last month Mack's LEathers became our first Commercial affiliate. This month we welcome to more organizations as National Affiliates; BOOTS of Vancouver, B.C. and M.O.D. (Men of Dungeons) of Dallas. The Secretary has more information on all these organizations (including Mack's video retail catalog) available for members inquiries. All have notified us of their willingness to host NLA members visiting their areas and provide information on local activities and places to go.



N.L.A.
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