



FIRST LINK

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

BOARD IN BRIEF

The October meeting of the Board accomplished several rather important issues of business.

Reports from agents noted need of 88 budgets for the finance comm. to prepare for the Nov. meeting, articles on recent events for Publicist Cookie Hunt to update the material already held, review of reactions to the National March and Leather Caucus earlier this month, review of preparations for the October event at the Boxing Club on the 24th, and an update on current financial status including the loss of an expected donation of \$500.00.

Perhaps the most important business in the long run was the passing by the Board of recommendation to adopt 3 By-law changes for consideration at the Nov. meeting. One allowing flexible dates for the semi-annual meetings, one changing our rules for conduct of meetings (Sturgins rules have just not been available), and adding "sexual orientation" to our non-discrimination clause to equate our Local and National level By-laws.

Also of import, the Board accepted a proposal to establish a Committee to begin immediately to plan our LIVING IN LEATHER III Conference for 1988. Chair will be Jan Lyon with Dean Dunlap and Wayne Gloege serving as immediate Assistants. They will be working closely with the Board and are ready to receive questionnaires on LIL II immediately.

The Board also approved the dates of OCTOBER 7th thru 10th for LIVING IN LEATHER III. (Mark your calendars) It was felt this was a much more accessible weekend with fewer conflicts nationwide and not so closely surrounded by other major events (such as Hellfire's Inferno XVII or the many Women's Music Festivals of the west coast.

A policy was established to allow non Seattle Chapter NLA members to vote in Seattle elections so long as Seattle officers are serving as National Officers.

The next meeting of the Board will be Nov. 3rd, Tuesday 7 PM at L. Beitlers (325-6162). As always, the meeting is open to the membership and encourages them to attend and participate.

NLA CALENDAR



OCTOBER

- 24 NLA:Seattle 918 E Pike "FIRESIDE EVENING" 9-12 PM \$4.00 at door \$2.00 w/pot
31 NLA:BC Heritage House "FETISH and FANTASY BALL" 8 PM \$5.00 advance (\$4.00 US) \$10.00 at door PRIZES

NOVEMBER

- 1 NLA: Seattle/National Membership Dues Renewal \$25.00
3 NLA: Seattle 7:00 PM Board Meeting Pre-Election L. Beitler 325-6162
10 NLA:Seattle 7:30 PM Semi-Annual Membership Meeting Election of Officers SPARKS
14 NLA:BC Heritage House Lesbian Erotica Show (women only)
15 NLA:BC VGLCC Board Meeting 7 PM
22 NLA:Seattle SPARKS "AUTUMN CARNIVAL II" 3 PM Major Annual Fundraiser

DECEMBER

- 6 NLA:Seattle Fundraiser Cocktail Party details TBA
8 NLA:Seattle 7 PM Board Meeting
20 NLA:BC VGLCC Board Meeting
31 NLA:BC Slave Auction "Bargain Bottoms"

JANUARY - 1988

- 12 NLA:Seattle 7 PM Board Meeting
17 NLA:Seattle Keggar Fundraiser
17 NLA:BC 7 PM Board VGLCC

FEBRUARY

- 9 NLA:Seattle 7 PM Board Meeting
13 NLA:Seattle Major Event "BLACK HEARTS BALL"
21 NLA:BC 7 PM Board VGLCC



A FIRESIDE EVENING AND POTLUCK

FOR NATIONAL LEATHER ASSOCIATION MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

OCTOBER 24, 1987

9 PM - 12 MIDNIGHT

COSTS: \$4 AT THE DOOR OR \$2 AND POTLUCK DISH

AN EVENING WITH JAN AND DEAN

A DUNGEON SPONSORED BY THE SEATTLE DUNGEON GUILD

OCTOBER 25, 1987

\$10.00 OR \$8.00 TO N.L.A. MEMBERS

MIDNIGHT TO 7 AM



AFFILIATE CALENDAR

OCTOBER

21 GMSMA Board NYC
 21 SM Gays 8:15 London
 Pins & Needles LLGC
 23-24 MS Panther Koln:Germany
 Anniversary XIII
 23-25 Entre Nous Boston
 Provincetown Run '87
 24 Seattle Dungeon Guild Seattle
 Evening with Jan & Dean 12-7AM
 for men & women NLA \$8.00
 non-members \$10.00 at door
 24 Sigma Washington
 Halloween Party
 24 Colts 9-1AM Hartford
 Leather Fantasy Night Bearristers
 24 Bucks MC
 Anniversary XV
 26 Outcasts San Fran.
 Orientation SM House
 28 GMSMA NYC
 SM & Monster Mythology 8:30
 28 AVATAR Los Ang.
 Tatoos
 30-NOV 1 GLPA S. F.
 1987 Southwest/Northwest
 Regional Conference
 30-NOV 1 Rams MC Rochester, NY
 12th Anniversary
 Brotherhood Weekend

NOVEMBER

1 Branding Iron Dallas
 Beer Bust Trestle
 5 Knights d'Orleans New Orleans LA
 Bar Knight Back Door
 6 Urania Sommerville MA
 6-8 Harbor Masters Portland ME
 Anniversary Run V
 6-8 Disciples of De Sade Dallas
 Discipline III Anniversary
 11 Avatar L.A.
 Kinky Cafeteria
 11 GMSMA NYC
 Boots & Gloves 8:30
 11 Dreizehn 8:30 Boston
 Paradise Cafe Cambridge
 14 MR Leather New York NYC
 Contest 8 PM Tracks
 15 Outcasts Meeting S.F.
 15 Disciples of de Sade Dallas
 Beer Bust Trestle
 18 SM Gays 8:15 London
 Motorcycle Mystique LLGC
 18 GMSMA Board NYC
 21 Leathermasters L. A.
 Anniversary V
 25 GMSMA NYC
 Thanksgiving Eve Social
 27 Branding Iron Trestle Dallas
 Men in Leather Labor Auction
 28 Bucks MC New Hope, PA
 Santa Saturday Benefit
 28 Colts Bearristers Hartford
 Toys for Tots/AIDS Benefit 9-1AM
 9 Sigma Wash. DC
 Piercing-One way & Another
 13-15 Companions MC Philadelphia
 Anniversary XI
 13-15 Firedancers LLC Dallas
 Firedance I

DECEMBER

4 Knights d'Orleans N. O.
 Bar Knight Back Door
 6 SM Flea Market S. F.
 SM House
 9 Avatar L. A.
 SM & the Law
 9 Dreizehn 8:30 Boston
 Paradise Cafe Cambridge
 NYC
 9 GMSMA 8:30
 SM & Ageing
 13 Outcasts Meeting S. F.
 14 Sigma Wash. DC
 Inferno Retrospect
 16 GMSMA Board NYC
 16 SM Gays 8:15 London
 Hoods & Helmits LLGC
 26 Colts Hartford
 Wrecked Reindeer Social Bearristers
 31-Jan 3 Philadelphians MC Phil.
 Tri-Cen V New Year Celebration
 5 Thunderbolts Westport, NY
 Bar Night the Brook

JANUARY 1988

2 Thunderbolts Westport, NY
 Bar Night the Brook
 7 Knights d'Orleans N.O.
 Bar Knight Back Door
 13 GMSMA 8:30 NYC
 Handcuffs
 17 GMSMA NYC
 Anniversary VII
 Dinner and Auction
 20 GMSMA Board NYC
 27 AVATAR L.A.
 Whipping-the Lash that Leads
 to Ecstasy
 27 GMSMA 8:30 NYC
 Cut & Uncut

FEBRUARY

4 Knights d'Orleans N. O.
 Bar Knight Back Door
 10 GMSMA 8:30 NYC
 SM in Cartoons & Animation
 17 GMSMA Board NYC
 24 GMSMA 6-10PM NYC
 Black & Blue Ball Cell Block
 GMSMA mem. \$10.00 others \$13.00

BY-LAW CHANGES

Three changes to our Seattle Chapter By-laws will be presented at the Nov. membership meeting. The text of each is as follows:
 A) ARTICLE II, Section B - Regular Meetings -shall be changed to read- "The members of the Association shall meet regularly, at least twice yearly, once in the Fall when Pres., Vice-Pres. Sec. Treas., and 3 Directors will be elected, and once in the Spring when 4 Directors shall be elected to the Board of Directors."
 B) ARTICLE II, Section J - Conduct of Meetings -shall be changed to read- "Meetings of the Association shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts' 'Rules of Order'."
 C) ARTICLE I, Section C Conditions of Membership in Good Standing, Sub-section 4 -shall read: "Membership shall be determined without regard for sex, race, creed, color, age, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, citizenship, and/or the presence of any sensory or physical handicap."
 Copies of the changes will be available at the meeting.



So much mail (yes that's a-i-1) and so little time. Since conference I'm pleased to note an increase in inquiries into NLA. Although our Oct 4th event wasn't our best attended, it was at least partially successful in that it was responsible for at least 4 new members and earned us a little much needed money.

It has been a pleasure to receive letters from several conference attendees regarding their impressions. They have been uniformly positive in nature, and some downright glowing. Conference response questionnaires are already prepared and mailed. Next years' conference comm. is ready to receive them.

Speaking of forms, I want to remind all members that their dues expire October 31st (unless already paid). Current dues cards will be needed to vote in the Nov. meeting. Additionally - lets face it - we can sure use the cash.

I understand we owe Tony de Blase a big word of Thanks. Tony graciously and spontaneously spoke some very favorable words of NLA at the recent Chicago Hellfire Club *INFERNO XVI*, one of the (no THE) premier SM gathering in the U.S.. We are very proud of Tony's association with and support of NLA and greatly appreciate his unsolicited comments.

I'm frequently surprised by what will cause, or allow, or encourage an individual to take the big personal step from recognizing leather SM only as a fantasy, to some form of personal participation in a physical activity. The realization that these fantasy interests can be either achieved or experienced requires willingness to learn and experience entirely new (and frequently socially unacceptable if not downright illegal) sensations. For a novice these realizations may suddenly become serious realities in an unexpected manner. A news article on some leather event (such as the National Caucus in Washington), a leather community event or party, or even through the viewing of a good leather video (such as I was privileged to see this last weekend in Vancouver). As NLA members, some of us having worn our leathers proudly for many years, we should be aware of just how influential our positive presentations can be. We need to be reminded to maintain this viewpoint ourselves and be willing to share it, especially with newcomers, and be patient. It's rather a lot to swallow for a novice, and the term "Second Coming Out" is not just a cliché. That man in the Eagle who is standing quietly in the corner wearing Nikes and a polo shirt may have made a tremendous step by coming through the front door.

The women sitting at the Bar in the Wild Rose looking selfconsciously over her beer at a table of leather dykes may be questioning both herself and them, not criticising. Cottontails can only stagnate or grow up. Tastes change and youngsters tire of vanilla.

Hope to see many of you in Vancouver on the 31st. NLA:BC's first official big party will be "*FETISH and FANTASY BALL*" in the lounge of the Heritage House Hotel. I'll be there and it should be a great party (in spite of that!). See you up north.

MEMBER'S MEETING

This is the last printed reminder of the November 10th Semi-annual meeting of the membership. To be held at Sparks, 1114 Howell St, Seattle, at 7:30 PM, we are planning to follow the meeting with NLA videos and a general party to celebrate the elections and completion of our first full year.

Remember that this is the annual elections of our 4 officers (all incumbents are opting to serve a 2nd term - this will be their last to hold their particular offices) and 3 Board members.

If they've done things you like, or don't like, or the organization isn't going where or the way you think it should, this is your chance to say so and do something about it.

Also 3 By-laws changes are proposed which require approval of the membership. All have received the support of the Board and should ease our operating procedures.

VASM ANNIVERSARY V

It was a pleasure to participate in the 5th Anniversary celebrations held recently for VASM in Vancouver, BC. The participants joined on Saturday afternoon for drinks & snacks (with a fine spread of food by George Cameron over a centerpiece provided by Bob Bishop - I must say Bob was spread in a most presentable manner) and pleasant conversation. We were presented with interesting videos including one by New World Leathermen of San Diego. Saturday evening found us enjoying a well prepared (and respectfully served) meal and later enjoying a variety of amusements upstairs in rooms of the Heritage House Hotel, locale of the anniversary.

A bit of mystery was provided by the disappearance of a 6½' high bondage cross, but the crusading cross was found after being "saved" by a couple of visitors from Portland.

A pleasant brunch was enjoyed by all followed by the VASM Annual General meeting. New officers include George Whiting, George Cameron, Tony Miranda, Mack McKinnon, and Dean Dunlap. Congratulations to them on their elections and to George Whiting, Anniversary Chair and all those who worked on the weekend for providing a most successful affair.

FETISH AND FANTASY BALL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 8:00 PM

NO ADMITTANCE AFTER 1:00 AM

Uncle Charlie's Lounge, Heritage House Hotel

A sleazy good time with dancing, food, fun and prizes from the dykes and fags who gave you the Mr and Ms Vancouver Leather Contest



Prizes for ■ Best Fantasy

■ Most Outrageous

■ Best Entourage

■ Best Fetish

■ Best Minimal

MACK MAKES MOVE

For the last year I've told you about Mack doing this or that and as soon as I've mailed the Link, Mack has called & told me he wasn't going to do whatever it was I said he was going to do. Well...here we try again.

As of the 1st of November, Mack will be opening a new shop in downtown Vancouver. The new location will be 1259 Granville St (V6Z-1M5 post code) with phone 604-688-MACK. He is sure this is going to happen - it has to his rent is up the 1st!

On the side, beside serving as Co-Chair of NLA:BC and Vice-Pres. of VASM, I understand he has also just been elected to Vancouver's Pride Festival Committee.

Best of luck in his new location.

N:L.A.
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Seattle, WA
98107-0463

Address Correction
Requested

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