



BOARD IN BRIEF

The December meeting of the Board began nearly on time (7:15) with 3 members absent (perhaps that's why it started nearly on time).

CHAIN LINK III should be published by the New Year, additional material may still be submitted, Extra ads. owed for the LIL II program will be included.

The Carnival made a small profit (about \$275.00) after expenses and the Board Thanked Doug Connell for his hard work in organizing the event and SPARKS Tavern for their assistance (esp. for only charging for half keg).

The Conference Comm. for LIL III presented a report on their initial progress & plans and a copy of the 1st official Press Release which will go out within the week.

The Board was grateful to receive from the women of Lesberados a donation from the receipts of the Vancouver performances last month.

Black Hearts Ball plans are in the works. The Ball will be on FRIDAY the 12th of February and may be complimented by a dungeon event on Sat. the 13th by SDG.

Also in very initial planning is MAY DAY 88.

Plans for a Board Retreat are actually starting to move. Plans call for serious discussions of the Dallas networking meeting (also in Feb.), improving our financial status, increasing the role of our Affiliate members, and general Association goals.

The Board regretfully received the resignation of Dean Dunlap as Finance Comm. Chair effective Jan 1st, however Dean's point about not being a magical was understood. And while discussing Committee Chairs, Jeff Henness volunteered to serve as an interm chair for the Program Comm. Additional members to both committies would be extremely welcome.

The next meeting will be on Jan. 12th, 7:00 PM at the home of Jeff Henness (325-5267). All members are welcome.

Don't forget NLA:BC's New Years Party for members. J.R. "MACK" McKinnon has information (Mack's Leathers). and NLA:SEATTLE January Event "GEORGE'S KEGGER" at the Seattle EAGLE, 4 PM.

Anniversary Issue

FIRST LINK

NLA CALENDAR

DECEMBER, 1987

12 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Board Meeting 7 PM VGLCC

*31 NLA:BC VANCOUVER *
* Members' Party, contact *
* Mack for Information *

18,25 NLA NIGHT SEATTLE:Eagle

JANUARY, 1988

10 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Board Meeting 7 PM VGLCC
12 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Board Meeting 7 PM

*17 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE *
* George's Kegger EAGLE *
* 4:00 P.M. *

8,15,22,29 NLA NIGHT SEATTLE:Eagle

FEBRUARY, 1988

9 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Board Meeting 7 PM
12 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Black Heart's Ball
Major Event
14 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Board Meeting 7 PM VGLCC

MARCH, 1988

8 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Board Meeting 7 PM
13 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Board Meeting 7 PM VGLCC

FEATURES

In this issue you'll find 3 special features. For the widest circulation possible I'm enclosing a copy of the 1988 Conference Press Release. If your local community paper doesn't print the copy we send, give them another one. Just cut the center page in half.

Second, I've come to realize that nationally our Board & Officers may not be well known, so I'm going to do a brief biographical sketch of one each month (being mine is the closest, you get the Secretary first).

Finally I'm going to get a brief release on each of our Affiliate Organization (see the back cover). As they spread from coast to coast these should prove a resource to our traveling community.

*** AFFILIATE CALENDAR ***

****DECEMBER, 1987****

3-21 BRANDING IRON, DISC. DALLAS, TX
 OF DE SADE, FIRE DAN- Trestle
 CERS. PWA Gift Project
 19 III VLC Bar Night SPRINGFIELD
 The Quarry
 19 Chicago Hellfire Club CHICAGO
 Clubhouse Party
 19 Lost Angels/Spartan WASH DC
 MC, Party Hearty
 19 SLM Stockholm STOCKHOLM
 Christmas Party
 19 MSC Finland FINLAND
 Christmas Party
 20 DISC. OF DE SADE DALLAS, TX
 Sundance Reunion Trestle
 21 S. F. Bondage Club, 9- S. FRAN
 2 Party, \$10, BOYB/T
 22 PEP WASH, DC
 Holiday Gala G. C. C.
 26 Colts, 9-1, Wrecked HARTFORD
 Reindeer Social Bearristers
 27 FIREDANCERS DALLAS, TX
 Royal Hunt of the Sun Trestle
 31 New Year's Eve Party SEATTLE
 Eagle
 31-Jan. 3 Philadelphians MC PHIL
 Tri-Cen V New Yr Celeb.

****JANUARY, 1988****

1 Tradesmen Club Night CHARLOTTE, NC
 Brass Rail
 2 T-Bolts WATERBURY
 Bar Night The Brook, Westport
 2 SLM Stockholm GASGRAND,
 Happy Lthr New Yr Party SWEDEN
 3 Tradesmen CHARLOTTE, NC
 5 PM meeting Brass Rail
 6 JUDY/SASHI FUNDRAISER SEATTLE
 7 Knights d'Orleans NEW ORLEANS
 Bar Knight Back Door
 8 TRIBE DETROIT
 In-Town Bar Night Eagle
 9 VASM VANCOUVER
 Pub Night 10 PM Chuck's Pub.
 11 SigMa WASH, DC
 AIDS-Personal View DC Eagle
 13 GMSMA, 8:30, Handcuffs NYC
 13 Dreizehn 9:00 BOSTON
 Paradise, Cambridge
 15 GMSMA, 8:30, Tit Tor- NYC
 ture Workshop
 15-17 Centaur MC Leather WASH, DC
 Weekend '88
 15-17 Mid-Atlantic Leath- WASH, DC
 erman Contest
 16 III VLC Bar Night SPRINGFIELD
 The Quarry
 16 THE FIFTEEN SF
 Fetish Nite/Rubber/SM
 17 GMSMA Anniversary 7 NYC
 Dinner & Auction
 17 OUTCASTS SF
 Steering Comm. Mtng.
 20 GMSMA Board NYC
 22 OUTCASTS SF
 Program Meeting
 23 Colts, 6-1 Uniform/ HARTFORD
 Leather Night Bearristers
 27 AVATER, Whipping, Lash LA
 that Leads to Ecstasy
 GMSMA, 8:30, Cut & Uncut NYC
 29 ZODIACS VANCOUVER, BC
 Anniv. 14. Meet-n-Greet Shaggy Horse
 29-31 So. Pacific Motor SYDNEY,
 Club, Come Rong '88 AUSTRALIA
 30 SLM Stockholm, Annual STOCKHOLM
 Meeting & Party
 30 ZODIACS VANCOUVER, BC
 14th Anniv. Dinner Thurlow's

****FEBRUARY, 1988****

4 Knights d'Orleans NEW ORLEANS
 Bar Knight Back Door
 6 T-Bolts Bar Night WATERBURY,
 The Brook, Westport
 8 SigMa, Shaving-- WASH, DC
 Erotic Experience D. C. Eagle
 10 Dreizehn BOSTON
 9 PM Paradise, Cambridge
 10 GMSMA, 8:30, SM in NYC
 Cartoons & Animation
 12 GMSMA, Forbidden Fan- NYC
 tasies Seminar
 12 TRIBE DETROIT
 In-Town Bar Night Eagle
 13 SDG SEATTLE
 Blackhearts Dungeon SDG
 13 GMSMA, Daddies/ NYC
 Daddies' Boys
 13 VASM VANCOUVER
 10 PM Pub Night Chuck's Pub
 14 OUTCASTS SF
 Steering Comm. Mtng.
 19 OUTCASTS SF
 Program Meeting
 20 III VLC Bar Night SPRINGFIELD
 The Quarry
 20 TRIBE (Detroit) TORONTO, ONT
 Crisco Wrestling Tool Box
 21 THE FIFTEEN SF
 Anniversary Party
 24 GMSMA 6-10 Black & NYC
 Blue Ball, Demos 6:15,
 Cell Block, \$10 GMSMA,
 \$13 others

****MARCH, 1988****

5 T-Bolts Bar Night WATERBURY,
 The Brook, Westport
 5 TRIBE (Detroit) TOLEDO
 "Toga Party" bar night Hootrvl. Stn.
 9 GMSMA, 8:30, Permanent NYC
 Piercing
 9 DERIZEHN BOSTON
 Meeting Paradise, Cambridge
 11 TRIBE DETROIT
 In Town Bar Night Eagle
 12 GMSMA, How to Live with NYC
 Non-SM Lover
 13 OUTCASTS SF
 Steering Comm. Mtng.
 14 SigMa, Psychology of WASH, DC
 SM DC Eagle
 16 GMSMA Board NYC
 18 OUTCASTS SF
 Program Meeting
 19 III VLC Bar Night SPRINGFIELD
 Quarry
 19 THE FIFTEEN S. F.
 Fetish Nite-Corp. Pun.

****APRIL, 1988****

8-10 TRIBE
 17th "Do-a-Fool" DETROIT
 11 SIGMA WASH, DC
 Artistic Bondage DC Eagle
 13 DREIZEHN BOSTON
 Meeting Paradise, Cambridge
 16 THE FIFTEEN SF
 Fetish Nite/Lower Educ.
 26-29 ASUM WOM. COMM. SEATTLE, WA
 Power: forum Univ. of Wa.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 12,
1987

The National Leather Association proudly announces the 1988 Conference, LIVING IN LEATHER 3, which will take place in Seattle, Washington, October 7-10. Chair of the Conference Committee is Jan Lyon, with Associate Chairs Wayne Gloege and Dean Dunlap. Workshops will be featured: nationally significant members of the Gay and Lesbian leather community will present workshops on a variety of current political, social, and technical concerns. The Committee is planning an extensive vendor/exhibitor area, featuring leather/latex craftsmen, tailors, and vendors; their products will be introduced in a major fashion/apparel show. Also planned are several social events. Other leather/SM organizations from around the country are being invited to participate. Special provisions are being made for disability and low-income access to the Conference.

The Conference will open Friday evening, October 7, with a meet-and-greet and registration for attendees. Saturday will feature a fashion/apparel luncheon. Workshops will occupy the bulk of Saturday and Sunday. Additional events are being considered for Monday, October 10.

The National Leather Association is a national political, social, and charitable organization of Gays and Lesbians of Leather. The Seattle Chapter of N.L.A. is host group for this Conference, assisted by N.L.A./B.C. NLA/Seattle has won recognition with its first two Living in Leather Conferences. We are looking forward to a large, professional, and interesting Conference in 1988.

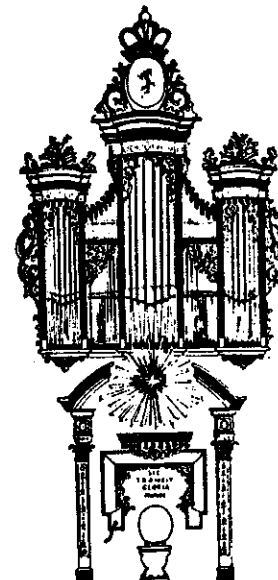
More information, on the National Leather Association and on the Conference, may be secured by writing: N.L.A., P.O.B. 17463, Seattle, WA, 98107.

BOARD BIO'S: SECRETARY GEORGE NELSON

George has been an active member of the Seattle leather community for over 10 years since his coming west from Boston and the Northeast where he had been active for 9 years. In addition to proudly being one of the founding members of NLA, George was a charter member of the Worcester Gay Union (Worcester Mass. & now unfortunately dissolved), a minor contributor to the Gay Community News & its predecessor The Fag Rag of Boston, a speaker and counselor for Boston's H.C.H.S. (the 1st state licensed homophile counseling service in the U.S.), and a member of the original Dorian Society in Seattle.

Currently, in addition to his work as Secretary of NLA, George serves as an agent of the Board for the Seattle Men's Chorus. As an active church musician George is frequently found at a variety of Seattle area organs. Musical fun is provided by work at the big old theater organ just to make his more proper musician friends a little uneasy.

As for future goals, George notes, "One of my primary concerns is to give younger or novice members of our leather community a positive attitude and environment toward their own sexuality. We need to recognize and encourage the continuing ability within each of us to learn, experience, and share our past to provide us all with a safer, more livable future."



SECRETARY SCRIBBLES

Well, we made it! this is issue number 13 (OK Vol II:1) we've actually competed our first year of monthly publication, and so far they've all been on time as required by the By-laws (yes we do have to publish this letter!) to notify the membership of Board Activities. A year ago I photocopied 75 copies (1 page 8½"x11"), nothing was especially crowded, and I think I've still got a copy or two in my closet. This Anniversary Issue I'll print 600 copies 2 pages larger format), will need to edit material to fit (if I don't add a 3rd page as we have occasionally), and there will be very few copies to spare after mailing to our membership, to over 250 community organizations and publications, and sending out a couple hundred to prospective new members. This will also be my last reminder to 1986 members who have not renewed their membership that you must renew if you wish to continue receiving this letter. The number of free copies we can send monthly diminishes as our organizational, publishing, and regular membership increases. In my secretary's budget for 1988 I included \$1500.00 toward FIRST LINK expenses, and I'm already certain that I'll be about \$200 more than that do to rapidly increasing size. I know I said something similar to this last month, but I want you all to realize just how important this is, both to our organization and to our Gay/Lesbian Leather/SM community.

For the first time our Leather community is beginning to unify, to let the rest of our homophile family know that we are going to be recognized as a living part of that family, to be heard and take an active part in the activities, decisions, and plans of our local and national communities. We recognize and will exercise our political and economic strengths, no longer being willing to just let the remainder of the community and its businesses make our decisions for us. And don't underestimate the awesome power we hold economically within our local communities. No business or service survives within our leather community without our support in cold cash! And with that cash we pay for the right to receive courteous service, well made goods, and reasonable prices. If we accept less without complaint it's our own fault.

Finally, we've shown both our gay and straight communities that women and men can work together and achieve success, recognizing our differences, learning from them, and using them to develop a stronger group. Anyone who doesn't see these contributions needs to be asked what group was the largest single contributor to the New York City Gay Pride Fund (for at least the 2nd year)?

Why was Steve Maidhof selected to be one of Seattle's Gay Pride March Grand Marshalls? (Hint-it wasn't for his contribution to strictly local color!) Why were 2 representatives of Vancouver B.C.'s Leather community asked to carry the Pride Banner and head their Pride Parade? Perhaps our straight community is not yet ready to recognize us, but our homophile community is beginning to.

We have made an impact!

* * * * *

As this is my only opportunity, I'd like to wish all of you a good solstice, happy Hannukah, merry Christmas, or Happy New Year as you choose, or at least a general enjoyment of everyone else's holiday. My best wishes to you all and Thanks for your support last year.

LIVING IN LEATHER III

As you know, last month we officially announced the dates for the 1988 LIVING IN LEATHER II Conference. So you all informed, the LIL III Committee was issued an official press release and has given me the following article for FIRST LINK readers.

The Seattle Chapter of the National Leather Association proudly announces that it will host the Living in Leather III Conference during the weekend of October 7-10, 1988, in Seattle. Now is the time to talk with friends and make plans to attend what is expected to be a full weekend for our leather and S/M pride.

We would like to incorporate your responses and ideas in the planning of events. The LIL II questionnaires are being returned (more would be welcome) and evaluated while initial plans are being made. However, if you did not receive a questionnaire please write us to share your suggestions and requests for any of the following areas:

Workshop or discussion group topics,
Technical demonstrations you would like presented,
Exhibitor and affiliate organizational area,
Fashion/Leatherwear presentation,
Any other ideas which you would like to share.

We will continue to inform you of the progress of the plans and work (another good reason to receive FIRST LINK each month) throughout the next several months.

In Love and Pride, Jan Lyon,
Chairperson LIL III.

REGIMENT BECOMES PART
OF COMPANY

EXTRAS

We are most pleased to receive as our newest Affiliate Organization the *LION REGIMENT, the Pride of Idaho*. The Regiment is a fairly young organization made up of men from central and south west Idaho. Meeting twice monthly they are planning the first MR IDAHO Leather contest to be held in Boise April 15-16th. More information is available by writing to them at:

P.O.Box 44123
Boise, ID 83711

Attn: Don Carroll
or by contacting the NLA Secretary.

WELCOME to them all! I've heard some fine stories about Idaho Mountain men, and we've all had mountain cabin fantasies. Now may be our chance.



The Secretary of NLA needs help. Yeh-I know but this time it's specifically for someone who can translate Finnish. We've received a well printed publication from MSC FINLANDIN. There is a brief article on the back cover in English but the rest is all in Finnish, including most of their calendar dates. We'd like to include them in our calendar but have to have some translation first. Titled "PRATKAPOSTI" is listed as the only mailing for non-German or -English speaking Finns. Looks like a good pub - I just wish I knew what the darn thing says.

Also, I just received word from Hartford of the success of the COLTS Toys for Tots drive (3 large boxes of toys plus a reasonable cash donation for more) and simultaneously raising a \$400.00 donation to the AIDS Ministries Program of Hartford. WELL DONE!

N. L. A.

P.O. BOX 17463
SEATTLE, WA.
98107-0463

ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED

BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
SEATTLE, WA.
PERMIT NO. 1416

