



**FIRST
 LINK**

BOARD IN BRIEF

The February meeting progressed very smoothly under the able direction of new President Vik Stump. All but one Board member were present and 4 other members were in attendance.

Our Treasurer reported cash-on-hand as stable, especially reflecting the membership funds received. With 3 new affiliates and 15 individual members since the Jan. meeting we are seeing a return on the heavy mailings in Nov. and Dec. The Keggar in January raised about \$80. with no expenditures. BLACK HEARTS on the 12th has received donations of pop from SPARKS and a keg in memory of leather community members and AIDS victims William & Lewis.

Publicist Cookie Hunt reported she will have a CHAIN LINK ready to go with her to Dallas on the 12th. It will include membership information and a LIL III registration form.

NLA will be represented at the Dallas meeting by Cookie (flying on funds provided from the SM/Leather contingent of the Washington March forwarded by Barry Douglas) and by David Meador, a member from Richmond Virginia. Additionally to NLA: Seattle and NLA:BC they will represent the Leather Masters, Inc. of L.A. one of our Affiliate members. Several of the other Affiliates will have direct representatives at the meeting. Outcasts, Briar Rose, MS. Int'l Leather, and Oklahoma Linemen will all have representation, and David & Cookie will be caucusing with them frequently.

A registration form & basic fees for LIL III were approved with discounts for members & early registration. Rooms have been reserved at Seattle Center. The Roosevelt Hotel will serve as home-base & has reserved 50 rooms that will be directly booked by attendees.

Two new (well 1 new & 1 returning) members were elected to the Board. Julie Hensford ("BABY DYKE") will add her remarkable energy to the Board. Keith Hughes will return to the Board. Additionally Keith was elected to serve until Nov. elections as our Vice-President. Congratulations to them both.

Also of import was the setting of monthly meetings to be held in the TIMBERLINE starting March 2nd & to be the 1st Wed. of each month.

Next month's meeting will be on March 8th at Chuck's (322-7043) and, as always is open to the membership.

NLA CALENDAR

****FEBRUARY, 1988****

 20 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
 * Bondage Workshop 7:30 PM *
 * \$2 members/\$3 non-members *

21 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
 Board Meeting 7 PM VGLCC
 5,12,19,26 NLA NIGHT SEATTLE:Eagle

****MARCH, 1988****

 *2 NLA:SEATTLE 7:30 PM SEATTLE *
 * Open Forum & Potluck Timberline*
 * 2015 Boren*

8 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
 Board Meeting 7 PM Chuck's

 *12 NLA:BC VANCOUVER *
 * Fundraiser 8PM Ms. T's *
 * Dancing/Etc. *

13 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
 Board Meeting 7 PM VGLCC
 13 Deadline FIRST LINK II:4
 4,11,18,25 NLA NIGHT SEATTLE:Eagle

****APRIL, 1988****

6 NLA:SEATTLE 7:30 PM SEATTLE
 Program/Meet & Greet Timberline
 10 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
 Board Meeting 7 PM VGLCC
 12 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
 Board Meeting 7 PM
 Deadline FIRST LINK II:5

 30-May 1 NLA:SEATTLE/SDG SEATTLE
 * May-Day II Weekend *

1,8,15,22,29 NLA NIGHT SEATTLE:Eagle

****MAY, 1988****

1 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
 May-Day II/Mr./Ms. NLA Contest
 4 NLA:SEATTLE 7:30 PM SEATTLE
 Program Timberline
 8 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
 Board Meeting 7 PM VGLCC
 10 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
 Board Meeting 7 PM
 Deadline FIRST LINK II:6
 6,13,20,27 NLA NIGHT SEATTLE:Eagle



LIVING IN LEATHER III



The National Leather Association proudly announces that its 1988 conference, Living in Leather III, will be held October 7-9 in Seattle Washington. LIL III, through the workshop format, will focus on such topics as Leather S/M community development, Psychology of SM, Confronting our oppressors, Roles and SM, Special demonstrations.

Chairperson, Jan Lyon and associate chair Wayne Gloege have been working with the workshop coordinators Cookie Andrews Hunt and George Nelson to assure that the presentations will incorporate the concerns for the widest variety of Leather/SM practitioners.

The conference will open Friday evening with registration and a meet-and-greet for attendees. Saturday and Sunday will feature the workshop and discussions. Affiliate and interested organizations are encouraged to submit proposals for consideration and/or inclusion in the event planning. Exhibitors wanting to rent display booth(s) are encouraged to contact Jan Lyon c/o NLA.

Group rate hotel accommodations have been secured with the Roosevelt Hotel. Individuals requiring lodging are encouraged to contact the hotel at 1-800-426-0670 (be sure to tell them you are with the NLA conference). Room rates are: standard double occupancy rooms \$49/night, double with "living room" \$59/night, double with sauna \$66/night on a first come basis.

"It is our intention to continue the goals of LIL I in which I participated in the organization and presentation, as well as being "Mom" in the opening skits" said Jan Lyon.



"When we started the national conference approach we wanted to provide a forum of education, discussion and unity for all men and women who participate in the leather/SM lifestyle. I think that the growth of NLA and the conferences of the last two years have done an amazing amount of good toward maturity of those goals. I expect that attendees of LIL III will experience continuation of that growth and affiliation this next October."



LIL III Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____

Zip _____ Phone () _____

Member _____ Non Member _____

___ \$50.00 Single * ___ \$65.00 Single *

___ \$70.00 Couple * ___ \$90.00 Couple *

* After August 15, 1988 add \$5.00/single and \$10.00/couple for both members and non members.

Payment Method: Check _____ Money Order _____

Visa/Mastercard# _____

Exp. Date _____

All payments to be in U.S. funds.
Registration does not include meals.

Special Needs _____

Hearing Impaired _____

I certify that I am attending and am at least 21 years old. _____

I do not plan to attend, but would like more information. _____

Please mail to: NLA-LIL III, PO Box 17463, Seattle, WA 98107.

****FEBRUARY, 1988****

- *19 OUTCASTS 8 PM SF
Program Meeting Bondage/Clipping
- 19 P.E.P. 7:30 PM ALBUQUERQUE,NM
Dressing for Pleasure PEP House
- *20 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Bondage Workshop 7:30 PM
\$2 members/\$3 non-members
- *20 BRIAR ROSE WESTERVILLE,OH
Meeting
- 20 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX,AZ
General Meeting
- 20 P.E.P. ALBUQUERQUE,NM
Party PEP House
- 20 III VLC Bar Night SPRINGFIELD
The Quarry
- 20 TRIBE (Detroit) TORONTO,ONT
Crisco Wrestling Tool Box
- 20 POCONO WARRIORS SCRANTON,PA
10th Anniversary Dinner
- *21 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Board Meeting 7 PM VGLCC
- 21 HARTFORD COLTS HARTFORD,CT
Meeting 6:30 PM
- 21 BOUND & DETERMINED HADLEY,MA
After the Bell is Over 2PM
- *21 THE FIFTEEN 5-10 PM SF
Anniversary Party
- 21 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX,AZ
Kegger 5-8 PM Bum Steer
- 22 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Women's Fantasies/ Dram.Pers.Theat.
Playthings 7:15
- 23 P.E.P. 7:30 PM ALBUQUERQUE,NM
Attds to Sex Minorities PEP House
- 23 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Bi/SM Discuss Group
- 24 GMSMA 6-10 NYC
Black & Blue Ball Cell Block
Demos 6:15
\$10 GMSMA,\$13 others
- 24 GMSMA NYC
Small Groups/Co-Ed
- 24 AVATAR L.A.
Kinky Cafeteria
- 26 NLA night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- 26 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX,AZ
Leatherfest IV:Parade Bum Steer
of Leather 9 PM
- 26 P.E.P. 7:30 PM ALBUQUERQUE,NM
History/Culture/Upbrngng PEP House
- 27 P.E.P. 7 PM ALBUQUERQUE,NM
Workshop/Party PEP House
- 27 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX,AZ
Seminars 11 AM/3 PM
Black & Blue Party Bum Steer
9 PM/Mr.Leaher Copperstate
- 27 COLTS 9-1 HARTFORD,CT
Leather Lovers Night BearRisters
DREIZEHN Rope Body Harness
Presentation
- 27 MR.WASH STATE LTHR. 8 PM SEATTLE
Slave Auction/AIDS Bnft. Eagle
- 28 FIREDANCERS DALLAS
Bury Heart Wounded Trestle
Knee Beer Bust 5-9PM
- 28 VASH VANCOUVER
Catheters Demo 7:30 Mack's Lthrs
- 28 MR.WASH.STATE LTHR. 8 PM SEATTLE
Film/Lthr Auction Eastlake E
- 28 P.E.P. ALBUQUERQUE,NM
Rap Group PEP House
- 28 LESBIAN RESOURCE CNTR SEATTLE
17th Anniv.Celeb. Giorgina's
Leap Yr.Party 12 PM
- 28 SEATTLE EAGLE SEATTLE
Leap Year Party 8 PM
Day that Time Forgot
- 28 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX,AZ
Leather Fair 12-6 Bum Steer
- 29 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.

**** AFFILIATE CALENDAR ****

****MARCH, 1988****

- 1 P.E.P. 7:30 PM ALBUQUERQUE,NM
Fantasy Night PEP House
- 1 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Fun Night/Members Only
- 2 NLA:SEATTLE 7:30 PM SEATTLE
Open Forum & Potluck Timberline
- *4 TRADESMEN CHARLOTTE,NC
Club Night Brass Rail
- 4 P.E.P. 7:30 PM ALBUQUERQUE,NM
Revisit Sex Revolution PEP House
- 4 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- 4-6 SOMANDROS L.A.
Winter Run
- 4-6 MALL CITY CRUISERS KALAMAZOD,MI
Cruisin III Run
- 5 T-BOLTS Bar Night WATERBURY,CT
The Brook, Westport
- 5 TRIBE (Detroit) TOLEDO,OH
"Toga Party"bar night Hootrvl.Stn.
- *6 TRADESMEN CHARLOTTE,NC
Meeting 5 PM Brass Rail
- 6 SEATTLE EAGLE SEATTLE
Uniform Party 8PM
- 7 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Magic of 8/M 7:15 Dram.Pers.Theat.
- 8 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Switchables Discuss.Grp.
- 8 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Board Meeting 7 PM Chuck's
Deadline FIRST LINK II:4
- 9 GMSMA 8:30 NYC
Permanent Piercing
- 9 DREIZEHN BOSTON
Meeting Paradise,Cambridge
- 11 TRIBE DETROIT
In Town Bar Night Eagle
- 11 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- 11 P.E.P. 7:30 PM ALBUQUERQUE,NM
Show n' Tell PEP House
- 12 VASH VANCOUVER
Board Meeting 4:30 Mack's
Pub Night Chuck's Pub
- *12 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Fundraiser 8 PM Ms.T's
Dancing/Etc.
- 12 GMSMA NYC
How to live with
Non-SM Lover
- *13 OUTCASTS 7:30 SF
Steering Comm.Mtg.
- *13 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Board Meeting 7PM VGLCC
- 14 SIGMA 8 PM WASH,DC
Psychology of SM DC Eagle
- 14 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Fantasy/Roles 7:15 Dram.Par.Theat
- 15 P.E.P. 7:30 PM ALBUQUERQUE,NM
Pink Triangles/Sex PEP House
Oppression
- 15 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Women's Night
- 16 GMSMA Board NYC
- 16 SM GAYS 8:15 LONDON
Photog.of SM L.L.B.C.
- *17 TRADESMEN CHARLOTTE,NC
St.Patrick's Day Celeb.
- 18 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- *18 HARBOR MASTERS PORTLAND,ME
Reception/NE Drum Backstreet
8 PM
- *18 OUTCASTS 8 PM SF
Program Meeting
- *18-19 HARBOR MASTERS PORTLAND,NM
Mr.Drummer New Eng. Underground
- 18-20 ENTRE-NOUS BOSTON,MA
Equinox

***19 BRIAR ROSE WESTERVILLE,OH
Meeting**

- 19 III VLC Bar Night SPRINGFIELD
Quarry
- 19 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX,AZ
General Meeting
- *19 THE FIFTEEN S.F.
Fetish Nite-Corp.Punishment
- 20 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX,AZ
Kegger 5-8 PM Bum Steer
- 20 VASH 7:30 PM VANCOUVER,BC
Shaving Demo. Mack's Lthrs.
- 20 TRENTON BULLS TRENTON,NJ
10th Anniv. Gala Casa Lido
- 20 Wash.State MR.Leahr. SEATTLE
Boxing Club
- 21 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Submissive Women's Panel
7:15 Dramatis Personae Theat.
- 22 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Bi S/M Discuss Group
- 23 AVATAR L.A.
Wrestling
- *24 INTERNAT.MS.LEATHER SF
Press Party
- *25 INTERNAT.MS.LEATHER SF
Dinner/Dance
- 25 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- 25-27 SPARTAN MC BALTIMORE/WASH.,DC
20th Anniv. In-Town Celeb.
- 25-27 CONDUCTORS NASHVILLE,TN
Track VI Anniv.Run
- *26 INTERNAT.MS.LEATHER SF
8 PM Gift Center
- 26 HARTFORD COLTS HARTFORD,CT
Leather Night 9PM Bearristers
- 26 BRIFFINS NC NEW CASTLE,DE
1st Anniv. Dinner
- 28 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
T.B.A. 7:15 Dram.Person.Theat.
- 29 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Dom.Women/Subm.Men

****APRIL, 1988****

- 1 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- 2 T-BOLTS WESTPORT,CT
Bar Night The Brook
- 3 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX,AZ
Easter Parade
- 4 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Aging & S/M 7:15 Dram.Pers.Theat.
- 5 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Switch.Discuss.Group
- 6 NLA:SEATTLE 7:30 PM SEATTLE
Program Timberline
- 8 VASH 9 PM VANCOUVER
Piercing/J.Ward \$2 Chuck's Pub
- 8 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- 8-10 TRIBE MC DETROIT
17th "Do-a-Fool"---\$75/\$85
- 9 VASH VANCOUVER
Pub Night Chuck's Pub
- *9-10 MACK'S LEATHERS VANCOUVER
Piercing Clinic,Mack's
- *10 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Board Meeting 7 PM VGLCC
- 11 SIGMA 8 PM WASH,DC
Artistic Bondage DC Eagle
- 11 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Whipping Demo 7:15 Dram.Per.The.
- 12 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Board Meeting 7 PM
Deadline FIRST LINK II:5
- 13 DREIZEHN BOSTON
Meeting Paradise,Cambridge
- 14-17 SE CONF.LESBIANS/ ATLANTA,GA
SAY MEN Pierrmont Hotel
- 15 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle

CALENDAR (Cont.)

- *15-16 LION REGIMENT BOISE, ID
1st Mr. Idaho Leather
- 15-17 SHIPMATES BALTIMORE, MD
Anniversary Celeb.
- *16 BRIAR ROSE WESTERVILLE, OH
Meeting
- *16 THE FIFTEEN SF
Fetish Nite/Lower Educ.
- 16 III VLC SPRINGFIELD, MA
Bar Night The Quarry
- 16 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX, AZ
General Meeting
- 16 2-WHEELERS M/C OMAHA, NB
MCC Benefit Diamond Bar
- 17 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX, AZ
Kegger 5-8 PM Bum Steer
- 18 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Humiliation 7:15 Dram. Pers. Theat
- 19 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Bi/S/M Discuss Group
- 20 SM GAYS LONDON
Equipment/Toys 8:15 L.L.G.C.
- 22 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- 22-24 PITTSBURGH MC. PITTSBURGH, PA
Three Rivers IV Anniv. Run
- 23 DRESSING FOR PLEASURE N.Y.
Constance Enterprises
- 23 HARTFORD COLTS HARTFORD, CT
Westerh/Leather 9PM Bearristers
- 23 MR. ARIZONA LEATHER
- 24 ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS NC DENVER
Shakedown Run
- 24 VASH VANCOUVER
Demonstration t.b.a.
- 25 EULENSPIEGEL SOC. N.Y.C.
Spring Bizarre Bazaar
7:15 Dramatis Personae Theat.
- 27 AVATAR L.A.
SM for One
- 29 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- 30-May 1 NLA:SEATTLE/SDG SEATTLE
May Day 88 Weekend
- *****
- **MAY, 1988*
- 1 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Mr./Ms. NLA Contest
- 4 NLA:SEATTLE 7:30 PM SEATTLE
Program Timberline
- 6 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- 6-8 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX, AZ
Riverside IV
- 7 T-BOLTS WESTPORT, CT
Bar Night The Brook
- *8 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Board Meeting 7 PM VGLCC
- 9 SIGMA 8 PM Pain/ WASH, DC
Stress/Chaing/Plsur DC Eagle
- 10 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Board Meeting 7 PM
- Deadling FIRST LINK II:6
- 11 DREIZEHN BOSTON
Meeting Paradise, Cambridge
- 13 CAROLINA DRUMMER CHARLOTTE, NC
Leatherette Show Scorpio
- 13 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- 13-15 S/M FAERIES PDLLOCK, LA
Sex Magic Faeries Circle
Briarpatch
- *14 BRIAR ROSE WESTERVILLE, OH
Meeting
- 14 CAROLINA DRUMMER CHARLOTTE, NC
Mr. CD '86 Roast Charades
- 15 CAROLINA DRUMMER CHARLOTTE, NC
Welcome Party 9-11 PM Brass Rail
- 14 VASH VANCOUVER
Board Meeting in Seattle
- 16 CAROLINA DRUMMER CHARLOTTE, NC
Recep/Buffer 4-7 PM Oleen's
Contest 7:30 PM Park Center
- 17 CAROLINA DRUMMER CHARLOTTE, NC
Mandance/Drummerboy
Contest 1 AM
- 18 SM GAYS LONDON
Sex/Drugs/Rock/Roll 8:15 LLGC
- 20 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- 20-22 TRIDENT INTERNAT. DETROIT
Run
- *21 THE FIFTEEN S.F.
Fetish Nite/Whip-Flog
- 21 III VLC SPRINGFIELD, MA
Bar Night The Quarry
- 21 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX, AZ
General Meeting
- 22 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX, AZ
Kegger 5-8 PM Bum Steer
- 27 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- 27-29 SPARTAN MC WASH, DC
20TH Anniv/Whitewater
Rafting/Banquet
- 27-29 IRON CROSS MONTREAL
16th Anniv. Celebration
- 27-30 SONS OF APOLLO
Grand Canyon Run
- 27-30 INTERNATIONAL MR. LTHR CHICAGO
- 27-30 Tex. Conf. Clubs Texas
Lonestar 7 Run \$55
- 28 HARTFORD COLTS HARTFORD, CT
Utility Leather 9PM Bearristers
- *****
- **JUNE, 1988**
- 1 NLA:SEATTLE 7:30 PM SEATTLE
Program Timberline
- 3 CALIF. EAGLES MC S.F.
When Eagles Dare III
- 3-5 PEGASUS MC WICHITA, KS
DeSade in Oz I
- 4 T-BOLTS WESTPORT, CT
Bar Night The Brook
- 10 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- 10-12 2-WHEELERS/ OMAHA
CORNHAULERS DES MOINES
- 2-Club Joint Run
- *11 BRIAR ROSE WESTERVILLE, OH
Meeting
- 11-12 FIREDANCERS DALLAS
1st Anniv. Party
- *12 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Board Meeting 7PM VGLCC
- 13 SIGMA 8 PM WASH., D.C.
General Assembly D.C. Eagle
- 14 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Board Meeting 7PM
- 15 SM GAYS LONDON
Uniforms 8:15 LLGC
- 17 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle
- *18 THE FIFTEEN S.F.
Fetish Nite/CBTT
- 18 III VLC SPRINGFIELD, MA
Bar Night The Quarry
- 18 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX, AZ
General Meeting
- 19 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX, AZ
Kegger 5-8 PM Bum Steer
Mr. AZ Leather Daddy
Contest 9 PM



* indicates NLA Affiliate Member Event

YOUR SEATTLE BOARD: JAN LYON

I have loved and been active in the Seattle Gay/Lesbian community since my coming out 20 years ago. I have always been proud of the community energy which is expressed by our "frontier" attitudes of the Northwest. When I participated in the Seattle Lesbian Caucus we were the only state which had a Lesbian caucus to support lobbyists at International Women's Year, Houston, during the Carter Administration. When I was on the steering committees of Seattle Committee Against Thirteen and Women Against Thirteen our campaign to retain the non-discrimination laws was resoundingly (62%) supported by the citizens of Seattle. --What a campaign!--

Following the campaign I became a board member and Chair of the Community Multi-Service Center (Gay Community Center). Many organizations existing today: Index Campground, Gay Men's Health Center, and Seattle Gay News-- were started under the umbrella of C.M.S.C./G.C.C.

My political activities in the leather/SM community came to public notice when I joined the original 5 who organized the first Living in Leather Conference (1986). Since then "Mom" has continued to be an active member of the N.L.A. Board of Direction. This year will bring it full circle as I am chair person for LIL III.

When I am not beating others with my opinions at board meetings I am found whipping my way around computer systems. I particularly enjoy training computer puppies in the proper positions to take with the system software and hardware. To that end I am currently working as a consultant with a custom software/hardware sales group.

THE TRADESMEN

We welcome THE TRADESMEN of Charlotte, NC as new Affiliate members. This group holds monthly meetings at its home bar The Brass Rail and pursues charitable fundraising & social activities. Although less than 2 years old, they are growing rapidly & are already planning their 2nd Anniversary weekend "TRADE-MARK II" for May 13-15. TRADESECRETS is the regular publication presenting in an informal manner news of club & local activities.

More information is available from the Secretary, or by writing: The Tradesmen L/L
P. O. Box 36712
Charlotte, N. C. 28204

It sometimes seems that I need about 2 extra days in the week, each of 36 hours, especially near production time for FIRST LINK. Trying to get it prepared, printed, assembled, and mailed in less than 10 days from the Board meeting is becoming more & more of a challenge. This time my column is being prepared on the 9th and some other units are already done. Next issue may need to be earlier still. And I must thank roommate Wayne G. for his considerable help with the calendars, and my boy John for his many hours of help with the assembly & mailing.

Congrat's to local member Perry Watkins on successful progress in his legal battle with the US ARMY concerning gays & re-enlistment into the Armed Forces. The US Circuit Court of Appeals held that the refusal to re-enlist on the basis of sexual orientation as discriminatory and unconstitutional. The Army will most likely appeal. I hope you all realize the tremendous importance of this ruling to all of us. For the first time a US Federal Court has upheld the Constitutional rights of a sexual minority - and that's us! Perry is one of my favorite sleazy people and has been a member of the NW leather community for many years.

Cookie Hunt of Seattle & David MEador of Richmond VA. are now attending the Dallas meeting representing NLA:SEATTLE, NLA:BC, & Leather MASTERS of L.A. Additionally David personally represents the Dukes of Durham, NC and Seattle Dungeon Guild. We wish them well in their work. Cookie's ticket was paid by funds of the DC Leather contingent forwarded by Barry Douglas of NYC. Our thanks for this crucial financial assistance.

While thinking of Dallas, I want to compliment Stacey Dennman, North Cal. area rep. on her hard and competent work getting her area some in-writing ideas for their possible consideration before the meeting. Her commitment and willingness to take the time required and carefully consider and present her approach, and her courage to actually publish these ideas deserve respect and commendation. She certainly has my appreciation.

I'm looking forward to the monthly members programs beginning in March at Seattle's TIMBERLINE, the new & very popular western dance bar. The meetings will be held in a small private room upstairs (appropriately nicknamed "Valhalla") the 1st Wednesday evening of each month. Fees will be low & programs varied. An alternative to bar activities was requested by the members & here is the response of the Program Comm.

I had a great evening at the recent "MARDI GRAS" Fundraising benefit for Oregon State Leatherwomen Sashi Hyatt and her lover, 1987 MS. International

Leather, Judy Tallwing McCarthy. Somewhat over 200 women & men of the greater NW leather S/M community turned out for the party. A Chinese Auction was broken by a series of entertainments. I most enjoyed 2 representatives from Portland. Shan Karr delivered a comedy monologue on "How I Became a Lesbian" which was both entertaining & highly perceptive. "Spread Eagle Production" members Kevin, Tim & Terry brought a polished vocal set from their current production "SWITCH". It this performance was indicative of the Portland production, they are putting on a good show which I'd recommend. There's a rumor that they may bring a show to Seattle. I hope they do - they've already sold at least 2 tickets. Compliments to the event's organizers and participants. The total donations exceeded \$1,300. It was a pleasure to demonstrate how important these women are to our community.

This promises to be a very busy leather weekend. I'm sure I'll see many Northwest friends at BLACK HEARTS, a Masque on Friday the 12th (I'll be the one without a mask - been told by friends(?) I don't need one). It should be a fun social evening. Thanks to Sparks for their donation of soda pop and from an anonymous source for the keg given in the memory of lovers & community members William & Lewis, both 1987 AIDS victims. Sat. night is SDG's DUAL DUNGEON IV. The facilities have been extensively cleaned. Paul Wilken of the EAGLE says the wall color is Apricot - Dean D. says its "titty pink". Some new equipment has been added. SDG even spent several hours cleaning 2 years accumulation of grease, etc. from the floor. Anyone attending the Washington State MR LEATHER (March 20th) will see the big changes. And finally I get to run off for an overnight. My boy's pouting because I told him to plan where. Sometimes I have him make decisions but he doesn't like it. At least I know he will, like it or not.

I seem to have created a full length novel this month, but I must congratulate new Board members Julie Hensford and Keith Hughes (yes-for Keith it is a return). Welcome to them. Wait until they find out how hot these seats can get. Come to a Board meeting & find out for yourself.

See you on the 12th at BLACK HEARTS and March 2nd for our FIRST monthly meeting.

* * * * *

I have just learned of the unfortunate loss of David Byerly. Dave was a former NLA member and has been fighting a battle with AIDS related cancer. He will be remembered by many for his hours behind the bar at SPARKS. His fight is over & was mercifully short, but that doesn't greatly ease our loss.



Issue 4 of The Leather Journal announced the choices of Women, Man, and Organization of 1987 for the Leather community. Several leading individuals and groups were nominated for recognition and I'm sure selection was difficult. All the nominees were worthy of note.

Cookie Andrews-Hunt, our pampered publicist was recognized as Women of the Year. Her longstanding efforts within the womens' community, her work for NLA, and her organizing work on the workshops & presentors at the SM/Leather contingent of the National March were all cited as exemplary.

Co-Chair of the MOW Leather Contingent Barry Douglas of NYC was chosen as Man of the Year. Barry is well known for his long work with GMSMA and this year for his MOW work.

Finally, the extensive uniting effect through the lesbian/leather community and increased strengthening of the ties with the men's community, and the tremendous fundraising work of the MS. INTERNATIONAL LEATHER organization of San Francisco was recognized. The work of Sky Renfroe & the Board of Directors of the I M S L worked very hard. For an organization only a little over 1 year old, they have earned the respect of us all.

Congratulations to them all and our thanks for their work which has been beneficial to each of us in our local & national community. And well done to the Journal for helping us publically show our gratitude.

ADDRESS CORRECTION
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