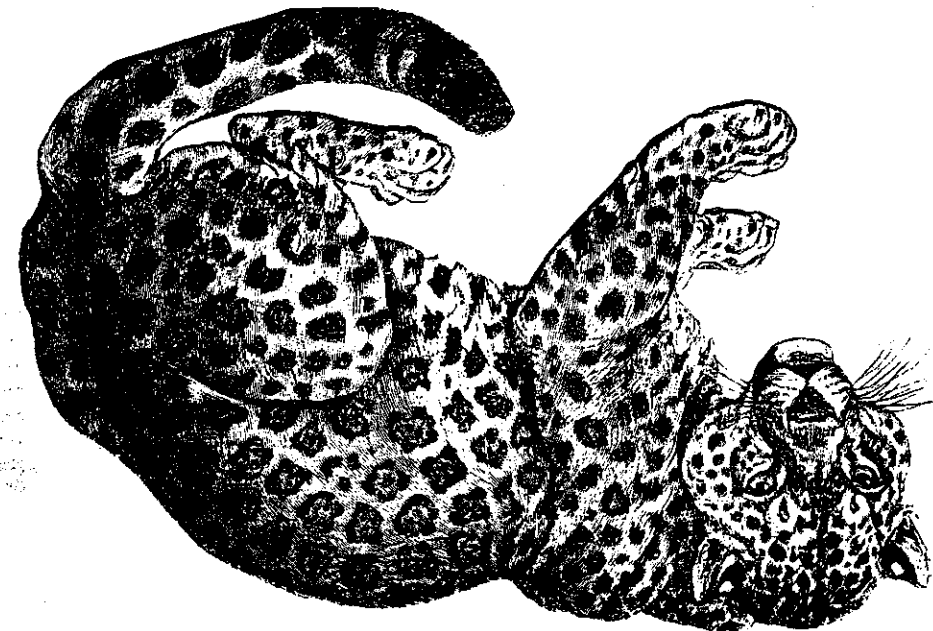

FIRST LINK



BOARD IN BRIEF

The October meeting of the Board went over most standard business with little problem. LIL III major financial reports will be ready for the Nov. Board meeting, but the Conference was recognized as being a success. 145 tickets were sold at the door of the Fashion show. 120 memberships can be directly linked to LIL III. A retail edition of the video of the fashion show may be a viable resource & a calendar will be considered for 1989-90.

Current individual memberships exceed 300 (Oregon, South Cal & North Cal all have minimum chapter set-up numbers).

It has been verified that some vital IRS documentation has not been received by IRS. Attributed to our all volunteer make-up & lack of corporate legal experience, current steps to rectify the problem include re-application & documentation of necessary paperwork & obtaining legal counsel specializing in non-profit requirements. Best news from our Treasurer was noting - officially - that the LIL II debt has been cleared.

The November members meeting & election will be followed by a Kegger (SPARKS, 5 PM Sunday, Nov. 13th). Reminders were given of Dues renewal by Nov. 1st. for many of the local membership.

Christmas fundraiser will be held 12-11 at the EAGLE for toys & cash to be used on 12-18th at a Children's Christmas party being organized by Cheri.

A mailing in January (a large one) will both publicize past LIL's and future plans for LIL IV. This should be the beginning of publicity for LIL IV.

Next meeting will be at Keith's loft (623-7969), 5 PM, Sunday Nov. 20th. As always, the meeting is open to all members.

NLA CALENDAR

****OCTOBER, 1988****

- *****
- *29 NLA:BC VANCOUVE
- * Fetish & Fantasy Ball II
- * 8 PM Heritage Hous.
- *****
- 27 LEATHER NIGHT SEATTLE:Spark
- 28 NLA NIGHT SEATTLE:Eagle

****NOVEMBER, 1988****

- 13 NLA:BC VANCOUV.
- Board Meeting 7 PM GLC
- 13 NLA:SEATTLE 5 pm SEATL
- General Meeting/Election Spar
- Followed by Kegger/Potluck
- 19-20 NLA:BC VANCOUV
- SM Theory Workshop GLC
- Women Only:SM Ritual--Alder
- 20 NLA:SEATTLE SEATL
- Board of Directors Meeting
- Deadline FIRST LINK II:12
- 3,10,17,24 LEATHER NIGHT SEATL
- Sparks
- 4,11,18,25 NLA NIGHT SEATTLE:EA

****DECEMBER, 1988****

- 2 NLA:BC VANCOUV.
- Bar Night 9:30 PM
- 11 NLA:BC VANCOUV.
- Board Meeting 7 PM VGLC
- 11 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
- Toyland Express Eagle
- Kegger/Benefit
- 18 NLA:SEATTLE SEATL
- Board Meeting 5 PM
- Deadline FIRST LINK III:1
- 18 NLA:SEATTLE SEATL
- Children's Holiday Party
- 1,8,15,22,29 LEATHER NIGHT SEAT
- Sparks
- 2,9,16,23,30 NLA NIGHT SEATTLE:

N. L. A.
P.O. BOX 17463
SEATTLE, WA.
98107-0463

ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED

LIVING IN LEATHER IV

The National Leather Association proudly announces Living in Leather IV, to be held in Seattle, Washington, Columbus Day Weekend, 1989. Though no details are final, Conference (Interim Chairs: Lyon and Wayne Gloege expect a Conference far bigger, far more diverse, far more enjoyable than any heretofore. Though they expect to present a detailed wrapup of LIL III in the November FIRST LINK, at this time they can proudly point to the following accomplishments: the crippling debt from LIL II is paid; all debts for LIL III are paid; the LIL Conference fund is in the black; the National Leather Association is in the black. Wayne and Jan have been pleased at the response so far received regarding LIL III; they need to receive YOUR LIL III questionnaires as soon as possible, though, so that they may plan an even bigger and better Conference for 1989. There is a great and wonderful group of people out there, supporting NLA and its LIL Conferences; let's all be a part of it.

OUR SPECIAL THANKS

Jan and Wayne, our entire Living in Leather III Team, and the National Leather Association join in giving their profoundest thanks to Dave Rhodes of the Leather Journal and to Mack MacKinnon of Mack's Leathers for sponsoring the appearance of Lynn Lavner at the closing party for Living in Leather III. We were all thrilled to meet Lynn and to witness her top-quality performance.

NLA:SEATTLE

The general meeting and election of the Seattle Chapter of the National Leather Association will be held at Sparks Tavern at 5:00 PM on November 13. Many of our current Board Members and Officers are finishing up their second terms and, according to our by-laws, they cannot run for office again. This is a very important election; be there, and make your votes count. NLA:SEATTLE has survived (sometimes against really nasty odds) thanks to your work and your participation. Let us inaugurate our third year with a record turnout of members. Some important by-law amendments are also on the agenda; the text of these, as recommended by the Board of Directors, has already been distributed to Seattle area members. Remember, though, that in order to attend this meeting or vote in this election, your dues must be current; many memberships (especially in the Seattle area) will be expiring on October 31. You will, of course, be able to pay your dues at the door of the meeting, November 13.

OUR CORDIAL THANKS TO.....

As you can see from the list that follows, it takes a lot of people to put a Conference like LIL III together. We wish to extend our most sincere thanks to everyone who helped make this a fantastic success, to everyone listed below, and to anyone we may have forgotten

:
 Sparks Timberline PNTA Linda S
 Susan Karen Michael R Dennis B
 Copper Seattle Center John K
 Evelyn B David A Stephanie S
 Laurie K Johanna B Linda F Betsy H
 Bill S B.J.J Mike A. Bill H
 The Tropics Debra W Bob B Joe I
 Sheree R Arvin E Don R Hody A
 Michael A Susan W NAF Productions
 Hilary Julie Stevias Barbi
 Sharon Pat C Hair Frequency
 Frank Bombshelter Video Janet
 Mistress Cath Tired Top Toys Billy
 Alder Lori Tamara Julie Daniel
 Miss Clash Angela's Play on Hair
 Tasha J.C. Cooper Sashie H Lisa
 Portland Power & Trust Judy T
 The Roosevelt JP Lauren Shiela
 Debra John Spike K.T. Lorie
 Caerage Tommi Shannon Linda Keith
 Mack's Leathers The Oz Nightclub Lynn L
 Cherie Michael D Judy Deb J
 JoBeth Lizzy Lisa Stud Works
 Fantasy Unlimited Dominant Design
 Lickerish Ltd. Mr. S. Leathers
 Pleasure Chest Ltd. Onyx Leathers
 Emily Holt Tattoo You Black Widow Prod
 S & M Market Hedonic Engineering
 Erotic Art of Naomi L.K. Desmodus Inc.
 Leather Journal Seattle Dungeon Guild
 butch boots FERRARI-puppy Ltd.
 Hide House Beyond the Closet Bookstore
 Grand Design Chain Male Co.Stormy Leathers
 Graphic FX Spartacus Enterprises Stevias
 Angela Mr. Frank Janet Axiom
 Jan L Shensi Reba Josie Keith H
 Wayne G Vik S Celeste Mary Rob
 Mistress Eris Carrera Tamara Bob N
 Cynthia Shari Dean Jo Keith H
 George N Jeff H Cookie Dean D
 Julie H Lainey Chuck H Geoff M
 Tim Artemis O Dorothy A Artemis M
 Roo M.V.P. Dragon Teri B Rea Rae
 Penguy Judy B Sluts from Hell Jim W
 Cleo D Sisters of P.I. Lamar Jan H
 Jim R Shan C Steve M Gayle George C
 Tony VASM Guy Race Nan B Sharon C
 Stacy D Joy S Geof W Carol T
 Jan B Joy S Alan S Mack Janus--L.A.
 Sky R Milton F Dave R Ice
 Bill H Julia K Sallee H NLA:BC
 Outcasts Stan & Laurie Bob & Dianne

NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The National Advisory Committee now consists of the following:

Seattle Board: Vik Stump, Chuck Harbaugh, George Nelson, Jeff Henness, Wayne Gloege, Lainey Beitler, Keith Hughes, and Julie Hansford
 NLA:BC: Jan Brown
 Publicist: Cookie Andrews-Hunt
 LIL Representative: Jan Lyon
 Representatives at Large: Judy Tallwing-McCarthy, Sashie Hyatt, Steve Maidhoff, Sheree Rose, and Gayle Rubin
 S.S.C.A. Representatives: Jim Richards, Ice, Shannon Kennedy, Stacey Dennen, Tony De Blase, John Ferrari, Cooper Aaxton
 Briar Rose: Jan H
 Seattle Dungeon Guild: Dean Dunlap
 Mack's Leathers: Mack MacKinnon
 Outcasts: Pat Califia
 Leather Journal: Dave Rhodes
 Shelix: Bet Power
 Portland Power and Trust: Sallee Huber
 The Stockade: Bob Schur
 International Ms. Leather: Sky Renfro
 Stormy Leathers: Kathy Andrews
 Lion Regiment: Don Carroll
 Boots: Jeff Suderman
 New members elected to the National Advisory Committee from the floor of the meeting are Les Robinson of Kansas City, Michael Blackburn of Los Angeles, Frank Jur of San Francisco, Karen Mendelsohn of San Francisco, Nan Borrowes of Los Angeles, Joan Donnely of New Bedford, MA, and Michael Spehr of Dallas, Tx.

Members of the NAC convened to elect officers and members at large to the Executive Committee of the NAC. The following were elected:
 Co-Chairs: Judy Tallwing-McCarthy and Jim Richards
 Treasurer: Dean Dunlap
 Co-Secretaries: Cooper Aaxton and George Nelson
 Members at Large: Les Robinson, Tony De Blase, Steve Maidhof, Mack MacKinnon, John Ferrari, Cookie Andrews-Hunt, Stacey Dennen
 Alternates: Ice, Jan Hall, Sashie Hyatt

VASM ANNIVERSARY VI

Careful planning, balanced programs, and good locations all worked together to provide the members and guests attending VASM's 6th Anniversary weekend (Oct. 1-2) a pleasant and relaxed event. The Hotel Dufferin was convenient (and included parking--a big plus in this vehicle-crowded city) to downtown and all weekend activities were in one location.

Three couples competed in a "grab gab" bondage competition which preceeded the Anniversary Banquet. Three well-presented technical demonstrations followed. G. Cameron of Vancouver began with "Basics of Bondage"; J.Ferrari of Los Angeles presented "Points on Piercing"; and D.Dunlap of Seattle was most eloquent regarding the elations and evils of "Entertaining with Electricity." All were informational and stressed safe-sex practices which resulted in both peace-of-mind and pleasure for all participants. Attendees then adjourned to local watering holes before returning for some rest and/or recreation through much of the early morning. Sunday brunch was a pleasant capping of the festivities.

The banquet was also a recognition of G. Whiting retiring as VASM President and his years of work for the oldest SM Organization in the Northwest.

The Annual Meeting elected new officers: Mack MacKinnon-President, Don Robbins-Vice President, Jim Leroux-Secretary, George Cameron-Treasurer, and John Hansen-Member at Large. Congratulations!

Commendations to Georges W. & C. for their work. The weekend was completely successful and thoroughly enjoyed by all attending. Our greatest thanks to VASM and its members for shifting their Anniversary weekend from its traditional date so that VASM members would be free to attend LIL III in Seattle.

NLA:BC

NLA:BC is putting the final touches on their second Fetish and Fantasy Ball. All who were there last year had an outrageously good time; do not miss this year's festivities. Fetish and Fantasy Ball II begins at 8:00 PM on October 29 at the Heritage House in Vancouver, British Columbia. We expect there to be entertainment, dancing, music, good times, and prizes for all the kinkiest costumes we can imagine. Anything goes (almost). Costs are \$8 in advance OR for those bearing cards of ANY SM organization, and \$10 at the door. None of us would want to miss it.

NATIONAL



CALENDAR

OCTOBER, 1988

26 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Meeting/Home-Dungeon Center

27 Leather Night Sparks SEATTLE

27 SOCIETY OF JANUS S.F.
Torture Tool Show/Tell

28 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle

28 L.M.DUSSELDORF DUSSELDORF
Club Night Clublokal

29 PEP ALBUQUERQUE
Halloween Party PEP House

*29 BRIAR ROSE WESTERVILLE,OH
Meeting

29 THE RURALS REMOND,NETH
Club Night Sjinderhannes

*29 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Fetish & Fantasy Ball II
8PM \$8/\$10 Heritage House

29 SHIPMATES M.C. WASH.D.C.
Social D.C.Eagle

NOVEMBER, 1988

2 SM GAYS LONDON,ENG
Party 8:30 PM The Block

3 Leather Night Sparks SEATTLE

4 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle

4 VANGUARDS PHILADELPHIA
Party 9-12 Bike Stop

4-6 RURALS MC ROERMOND,NETH
Fox Hunt

4-6 DISCIPLES OF DE SADE DALLAS
Discipline IV

5 T-BOLTS WESTPORT,CT
Bar Night The Brook
Leather Swap & Shop
Mr.Mid Atlant.Drummer AIDS Benft

5 LOGE 70--SCHWEIZ ZURICH
Bar Night Barfusser

5 COSMOS Chicago
Founding Member Meeting

9 DREIZEHN CAMBRIDGE,MA
Meeting Paradise

9 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Meeting:SM/Community Center

10 Leather Night Sparks SEATTLE

11 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle

11 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Workshop:Basic Bondate

11-13 LM DUSSELDORF DUSSELDORF,GR
ECMC AGM-LM

12 KNIGHTS TEMPLAR S.F.
Party

12 COMPANIONS PHILADELPHIA
Anniversary XII

3 CLUB DOMENTIA S.F.
SM Women Dance/Play Party

3 LOGE 70--SCHWEIZ ZURICH
Bar Night Barfusser

8 Leather Night Sparks SEATTLE

9 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle

9-11 NLC FRANKEN NUREMBERG,GER
Christkindelsmarkt

10 KNIGHTS TEMPLAR S.F.
Party

*10 BRIAR ROSE WESTERVILLE,OH
Meeting

10 BATALLION MC DALLAS
Christmas Party

11 ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS DENVER
Christmas Party

11 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Board Meeting 7 PM GLC

11 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Toyland Express Keg-
ger & Benefit Eagle

*11 OUTCASTS S.F.
Steering Comm.

11 MC MEN OF NEW MEXICO ALBUQUERQUE
Christmas Dinner

14 DREIZEHN CAMBRIDGE,MA
Meeting Paradise

14 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Holiday Social Paddles

15 Leather Night Sparks SEATTLE

16 OUTCASTS S.F.
Program

16 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle

16 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Workshop:Advanced Bondage

17 HARTFORD COLTS HARTFORD,CT
"Come Get Wrapped.." Bearristers

17 III VLC SPRINGFIELD,MA
Bar Night The Quarry

17 CITY BIKERS DENVER
Christmas party

17 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX,AZ
General Meeting/Christmas Party

18 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE,WA
Board Meeting 5 PM

18 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Children's Holiday Party

18 FIREDANCERS DALLAS
General Meeting

18 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX AZ
Christmas Kegger 5PM Bum Steer

21 SM GAYS LONDON,ENG.
Making Contact 8:15 LLGC

21 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Board Meeting

22 Leather Night Sparks SEATTLE

25 FIREDANCERS DALLAS
Beer Bust Trestle

29 Leather Night Sparks SEATTLE

12 THE RURALS REMOND,NETH
Club Night Sjinderhannes

13 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Board Meeting 7 PM GLC

*13 OUTCASTS S.F.
Steering Comm.

13 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE,WA
General Meeting/Election Sparks
Potluck/kegger to follow

16 SM GAYS LONDON,ENG.
Rubber 8:15 PM LLGC

16 GMSMA N.Y.C.
BOARD MEETING

17 Leather Night Sparks SEATTLE

18 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle

*18 OUTCASTS S.F.
Program

19 III VLC SPRINGFIELD,MA
Bar Night The Quarry

19 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX,AZ
General Meeting

*19 THE FIFTEEN S.F.
Fetish Nite/Jail House

19-20 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
SM Theory Workshop GLC
Women Only/SM Ritual--Alder

20 FIREDANCERS DALLAS
Monthly Meeting

20 COPPERSTATE LTHRMN'S PHOENIX,AZ
Kegger 5-8 PM Bum Steer

24 Leather Night Sparks SEATTLE

24-27 ARIZONA BROTHERHOOD RUN
(AZ.BROTHERHOOD COMMITTEE)

25 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle

*26 BRIAR ROSE WESTERVILLE,OH
Meeting

26 HARTFORD COLTS HARTFORD,CT
Toys-4-Tots/AIDS Bnft Bearristers

26 BUCKS M.C. BUCKINGHAM,PA
Santa Saturday

26 THE RURALS REMOND,NETH
Club Night Sjinderhannes

27 FIREDANCERS DALLAS
Beer Bust 7-9 PM Trestle

DECEMBER, 1988

1 Leather Night Sparks SEATTLE

2 NLA:BC VANCOUVER
Bar Night 9:30 PM

2 NLA Night SEATTLE
10 PM Eagle

3 T-BOLTS WESTPORT,CT
Bar Night/Xmas Party The Brook

3 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Dungeon Night Paddles

3 AIDS Fundraiser S.F.
Theater of Depraved SM House

JANUARY, 1989

8 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Carnival

11 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Meeting:Bondage Fashion Center

13 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Workshop:Tit Torture

13-15 CENTAUR M.C. WASH.D.C.
Leather Weekend/Mr.Mid-
Atlantic Leatherman Contest

15 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Anniversary 8 Dinner

18 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Board Meeting

25 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Meeting:Novices Center

FEBRUARY, 1989

4 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Black Hearts Ball

MARCH, 1989

4 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Formal Dinner/Ball

4 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Leatherfest

18 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
IMSL Regional Sendoff

APRIL, 1989

2 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Rocky Horror Picture
Show Party

28-30 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
May Day III/Mr.& Ms.
NLA Contest

28-30 NLA SEATTLE
N.A.C. Meetings

29 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Dungeon Night

MAY, 1989

20 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
IML Regional Sendoff

JUNE, 1989

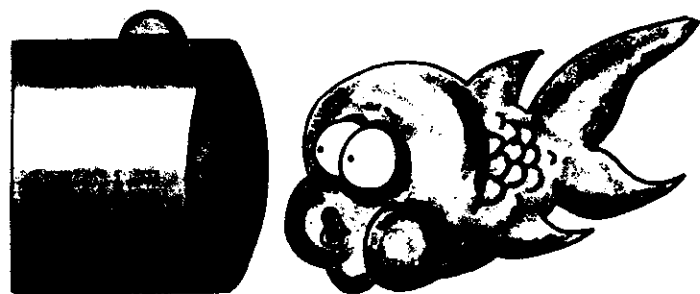
18 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Pride Festival

18 GMSMA N.Y.C.
Pride Night

24 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Pride Party

25 NLA:SEATTLE SEATTLE
Pride Parade

DUES



In February the Board recommended adoption of a floating anniversary annual dues renewal policy. This was approved by the members and was put into affect for all new members since Jan. 1 of this year. However, about 50% of our membership still expires as of October 31. Persons planning to run for office or Board positions at the November meeting, or who wish to vote in that meeting, or who are returning ballots on N.A.C. and National level motions, must also have dues current. Seattle membership is especially reminded to be sure to renew on time. Dues rate is still \$25.00 annually.

Obviously, NLA is growing and heading in new directions. With the expanded concept of a new Statement of Purpose, much wider national representation on the NAC, and at least 1 new chapter, NLA is moving strongly toward being a truly National organization.

All these activities depend on our membership base and we can't grow, or expect to be a visible organization, without it. Renewed members are equally important with new members. Renew and remain part of the work and part of the party.

You will note your expiration date on the mailing label of this month's FIRST LINK. The date is written with year first, followed by month (e.g.: 88.11 = the 11th month (November) of 1988, meaning that the membership expires as November 1, 1988). We are including membership forms with the FIRST LINKS of all members with dues expiring through December, 1988.

ATTENTION, ALL NLA MEMBERS

By the time you get this issue of FIRST LINK, you will have received your ballots for the new Statement of Purpose and various motions concerning the N.A.C. Please mark your votes on the enclosed postcard, and return as soon as possible to the NLA. Final deadline is November 30.

JAN LYON: A WOMAN FOR ALL SEASONS

Jan and I spent over 13 months, working intensively together, on the planning and execution of Living in Leather III. At this point in time, I can say I'm getting to know her, and I like what I see. Jan has been working WITH and FOR the NLA from the earliest meetings in Steve's apartment, and she has grown. She has always been a gifted planner but, with LIL III, we have also seen her work her buns off. She has strong opinions, but she knows the value of compromise. She has had to work to accomplish a series of short-term goals, but she knows the art of long-range planning. In the plays by Hoddy Allen which introduced Living in Leather I, Jan played "MOM" and, indeed, she has been a strong and nurturing mother throughout the history of our organization. But I think of her more as "sister," working along, side by side with the rest of us, towards the great and distant goals which we all cherish: liberty, freedom, equality, and power, for all men and women of the Seattle and the National leather/SM/kink communities.

We have learned to work well together. Jan has been the grand sailing ship, putting to sea in glorious strong breezes, and I have been the anchor, reminding her of harsh political and fiscal realities. Jan has been the balloon, soaring to heaven; I have been the tether, tying her to the realities of earth.

It is with extraordinary pride that I have worked with her; it is with the knowledge of a job well done that we look back on LIL III. It is with the hope and promise of glories yet to come for the National Leather/SM/Kink community that we begin the work Interim Chairing LIL IV, side by side.

Wayne Gloege

NLA:PORTLAND

A Chapter of the National Leather Association is forming in the Portland, Oregon, area. We are overjoyed to see this third chapter in formation, especially since we have been consistently impressed with the energy and power of our Oregon NLA members. At this time in the NLA's broadening membership and recognition in the National Leather scene, a new chapter is a particularly exciting event. Temporarily, NLA:PORTLAND may be reached at P.O.Box 3781, Portland, OR 97208. We encourage all Oregon NLA members to contact this address and make your presence and your eagerness felt. It is never easy to form an organization. Congratulations Sallee! Congratulations Portland.

SECRETARY SCRIBBLES

This month our SCRIBBLES will be brief because most of my thoughts will be found in the column "Refractions". But I do have a few other bits.

Must note I had a very good time at VASM's Anniversary VI & offer a well done to all those who organized and worked on the event. Was a pleasure to have guests from L.A. (rumor has it John & puppy are actually now living quietly in Esquim, Washington's sunniest town, avoiding the long commute from LA). I also must express sympathy to D. Dunlap for having to work with such unco-operative, obstreperous, and physically displeasing subjects for his electrical demonstrations (both at VASM and LIL III).

My sincere thanks to all the individuals, organizations, & exhibitors who made LIL III such a pleasure for me. I hope everyone will note the very long list included in this issue. I hope they all realize that this was a success not only for NLA & Seattle, but also for our entire Leather/SM community. Each time we make a successful statement of our strength & our unity we discredit our detractors, we destroy our divided stereotypes, and we give ourselves a healthy dose of positive re-inforcement. You, and we, all "done good" for all of us.

MEASURE 8 IN OREGON

In the November general elections, a measure will appear on Oregon ballots of which we should all be aware; this is measure 8. To quote from a recent newsletter received from Reverend Troy D. Perry of Los Angeles, this measure will do two things. "First, it repeals the governor's Executive Order that bans discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in state employment and in state services. Second, it enacts a new law: 'No state official shall forbid the taking of any personnel action against any state employee based on the sexual orientation of such employee.' This confusing sentence means that state employees can be fired because they're gay." This is particularly shocking, in view of the rather liberal attitudes prevalent in Oregon and indeed in the Pacific Northwest in general up to this time. This measure threatens not only the gays and lesbians amongst us, but all of us who value our personal and sexual freedom. Please do whatever you can; support our sisters and brothers in Oregon. Do not let us condone this witch hunt through apathy or inattention.

REFRACTIONS

The dictionary defines "refract" as "to break up". A quality gemstone refracts light into many different colors. As I think on LIL III, I remember it in many pieces, none of which is complete without all the others. Together they a a single light with all the parts together. I'd like to share some of the parts:

exhibitors wearing smiles, a charismatic Dorothy Allyson, a crowded & happy hospital-ity room, the sudden appearance of 2 new NLA T-shirts, relief knowing "It's paid for", the exquisite grace & strength of Guy Baldwin's whipping arm, the incredible patient line for the opening program, Lynn Lavner- a diminutive dyke with dazzeling smile,...of all weeks for the zipper on my chaps to disintegrate, waiting for hotel rooms to be cleaned, hats-especially on Stacey & Jan, dungeons too crowded to play, smiles even before 1st morning coffee, relief when a lost workshop presenter arrived safely, sunny Sunday after grey Saturday, a smoking Space Needle, an ~~un-~~ **expectably** clean & tidy dungeonon Saturday immediately after Friday's busy evening, erotic photos of a chicken, 10 pizzas - 30 minutes late ("Damn, their all peperoni"), the slowest elevator in town, Rose wearing a new rose, a slave in immaculate blue dress uniform - a master in one of white, "Wha-d'ya mean no after-party dungeon!", one of my favorite dyke bottoms saying "I didn't know it was so much fun to stick needles into someone else!", neon, mirrors, and music of OZ, Alan Selby's "Blue Light Special Sale" courtesy of Mack McKinnon, Butch Boots, late arrivals disturbing many programs, exhaustion and exileration, materials back from fashion show within a couple of hours, lousy dungeon etiquette by far too many, The look on a QFC Market clerk when confronted by 3 dykes - 1 in corset, 1 in chaps, & 1 in uniform, low Seattle area attendance, SLUTS, S&M Market T-shirts, "How are you, darling?", "My God -- I said I'd do it again.", hearing over & over "I wish...could have been here.", screams of ecstasy through a dungeon wall, chain-mail head pieces-plain & fancy, a workshop that didn't quite work & one which exceeded every expectation, Jan L. saying "I guess maybe it was worth it!",....

I guess it was worth it too.