

## LIL V A SMASH SUCCESS

Living in Leather V is over--but for those who were there it lives in memory as a fresh & invigorating experience. We feel newly energized by the dynamic persons attending & their interactions.

Workshops & panels featured the wise & insightful persons we have learned to know & respect, & faces new to our Living in Leather family. The mix of workshop topics was broad, including subjects to appeal to all. Heartiest thanks to Tony DeBlase & Karen Mendelsohn for coordinating this central feature of our Conference. A touch of inspiration was the "open" demo area, where volunteers showed off a variety of SM skills.

Kevin Koesel & Spread Eagle Productions coordinated the Mr./Ms. NLA Competition & the Afterglow Party, with style & professionalism. It is a treat to enjoy the talents of the same individuals with whom we have been learning, playing, & talking. The Afterglow entertainment lead to a fresh appreciation of the diverse talents of our "family."

Jan Lyon sold out our exhibits room, presenting a broad spectrum of leather professionals & craftspersons, & goods ranging from the sublime to the brutal.

Laurie & Anne in Hospitality, Cyd in Staffing, & Jim in Registration provided magnificent & critically important support for our complicated weekend.

J.C.'s art display was a winner--we'll be seeing more of both the pros & the new faces displayed this year.

Troy Perry's magnificent keynote speech gave us all some brimstone & hellfire to wear with our leather pride! We were pleased by Howard Martin's (Mr. NLA 1991) thoughtful remarks, & by Ruth Marks' (Ms. NLA 1991) proud anger. We were most honored to name Pat Califia & Chuck Renslow as the Slater/Mains Lifetime Achievement Award winners.

Particular recognition to LIL V Director Sallee Mal-lard Huber. With the support of assistant Jan Lyon & Conference Committee Chair George Nelson, Sallee ran the most exciting congregation of our leather clan ever!

## NATIONAL MEETINGS

The Living in Leather weekend in Portland, OR, featured a number of organizational meetings: including two Executive Committee meetings, a National Council meeting, & the annual General Meeting of the NLA. A word of appreciation to all those who came & participated in our festival of organizational masochism!

These meetings signalled a tremendous growth in our organization. The accomplishments this weekend include the seating of our first generally elected National Council, the election of the new Executive Committee, ratification of four new Chapters, the establishment of several Committees, & the setting of guidelines to insure our fiscal integrity. In light of our recent financial crisis, new routines have been established (including the hiring of a professional CPA, the bonding of our Treasurer, & new requirements for check signing & paperwork).

The NLA is in a period of vigorous growth. Reported at the meetings are a total of 703 individual members, 16 Chapters, 35 organizational affiliates, & 16 commercial affiliates. NLA members live in the United States, Canada, Japan, Germany, Finland, New Zealand, Australia, & England, while Affiliates are found in the U.S., Canada, & France.

Seated as Co-Chairs of NLA are Jim Richards of Dallas & Shannon Kennedy of Detroit. Elected as At-Large Executive Committee Members are Albert Kraus, Gayle Rubin, M.P. Breslin, Tony DeBlase, Jan Lyon, Jenifer MacFarland, Tony Shenton, Wayne Gloege, & Race Bannon. Alternates (who will serve if any at-large positions are vacated) are Sallee Huber, George Nelson, Les Robinson, Victoria Baker, & Pat Califia. Continuing as Membership Chair is Wayne Gloege, & as Finance Chair is Les Robinson. Other Officer positions (Secretaries, Elections & Credentials Chair, & Treasurer) are being filled by mail ballot by the National Council; serving in those positions until the election is finalized are Karen Mendelsohn, George Nelson, Shannon Kennedy, & Jan Hall. This body is diverse in geography, gender, & orientation.

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## N.L.A. CALENDAR

### \*\*NOVEMBER, 1990\*\*

20 SAN FRAN.BAY AREA S.F.  
 Executive Meeting  
 27 SAN FRAN.BAY AREA S.F.  
 Meeting 7:30 Amelia's  
 28 METRO NEW YORK NYC  
 Holiday Boutique

### \*\*DECEMBER, 1990\*\*

1 SEATTLE Seattle,WA  
 Gen. Meeting/Elections 7PM  
 Program: Holiday Decor.  
 1 VIRGINIA Richmond,VA  
 Exec.Comm.Meeting

1 DALLAS Dallas,TX  
 Holiday/Anniversary Party  
 2 DENVER Denver,CO  
 Beer Bust 4-8 Southtown  
 3 FIRST LINK PRESS DEADLINE  
 5 METRO NEW YORK NYC  
 Council Meeting

## News from the Chapters

### NLA ADDRESS LIST

**NLA:NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS** - P.O.Box 17463, Seattle, WA 98107 - (206)-789-8990  
**NLA:ARKANSAS** - P.O.Box 4392, No. Little Rock, ARK 72116  
**NLA:ATLANTA** - P.O.Box 8772, Atlanta, GA 30306-0118  
**NLA:AUSTIN** (Chapter-in-Formation) - P.O.Box 684013, Austin, TX 78768-4013  
**NLA:B.C.** - 1170 Bute St., Vancouver, B.C., V6E-1Z6 Canada  
**NLA:CENTRAL ARIZONA** - 4620 No. 7th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85013  
**NLA:CHICAGO** - 3143 N. Broadway, Chicago, IL 60657  
**NLA:DALLAS** - P.O.Box 7597, Dallas, TX 75209  
**NLA:DENVER** - P.O.Box 18568, Denver, CO 80218 (303)-650-8855  
**NLA:DETROIT** - P.O.Box 725368, Berkley, MICH 48072  
**NLA:HOUSTON** (Chapter-In-Formation) - P.O.Box 541921, Houston TX 77254-1921 713-526-1531  
**NLA:LOS ANGELES** - 7985 Santa Monica Blvd, Suite 109-217, West Hollywood, CA 90046 (213)-656-0258 ext.117  
**NLA:METRO NEW YORK** - P.O.Box 1084 New York City, NY 10156 212-686-5248  
**NLA:NEW ENGLAND** - P.O.Box N-1111 New Bedford, MA 02746  
**NLA:PITTSBURGH** (Chapter-In-Formation) - P.O.Box 81245 Pittsburgh, PA 15217  
**NLA:PORTLAND** - P.O.Box 5161, Portland, OR 97208  
**NLA:SAN DIEGO** - P.O.Box 3092, San Diego, CA 92103  
**NLA:SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA** - P.O.Box 855, San Francisco, CA 94101-0855 415-652-2067  
**NLA:SEATTLE** - P.O.Box 20674, Seattle, WA 98102 (206)-292-1025  
**NLA:SOUTH FLORIDA** (Chapter-In-Formation) - P.O.Box 432320, South Miami, FL 33243-2320 305-665-8575; BBS 305-662-1748; FAX 305-662-1748  
**NLA:VIRGINIA** - P.O.Box 4286 Richmond, VA 23220-8286

### NEW CHAPTERS

This month brings you fantastic news from the NLA. Our Executive Committee has ratified FOUR NEW CHAPTERS as of November 1, 1990 (pending minor bylaw revisions). Welcome to the NLA as full Chapters to NLA:NEW ENGLAND, NLA:ATLANTA, NLA:CHICAGO, & NLA:CENTRAL ARIZONA. This brings to 16 the total number of Chapters within our great NLA community, with 4 additional Chapters in Formation. Welcome to NLA:AUSTIN, listed for the first time this month as a "Chapter in Formation." We regret to report the passing of NLA:NASHVILLE, dropped for now from our listing of active Chapters in Formation.

All four of our new Chapters were represented at Living in Leather V & the National meetings held that same weekend with vigorous, active contingents. All will add immeasurably to our national Leather/SM/Fetish Community of organizations & individuals.

### NLA:NEW ENGLAND

The organizational group has been meeting for some months, & has established a regular meeting time of the second Saturday of each month, about 4 PM. The November meeting (with the theme of "Bringing the Conference Home") was held Nov. 10, & the December meeting is set for the 8th, both at Obsessions (132 Portland St., Boston, MA) at 4 PM. January will bring the Chapter's first party/social/demo. The Chapter includes as its targeted area the entirety of New England. While membership is heaviest in the Boston area right now, promotion & publicity will occur throughout the New England States. Serving as co-chairs are Bear-Dog & Joan Donnelly; Joan is also filling the Treasurer position, & Bear-Dog the Secretary & Membership positions.

### NLA:ATLANTA

NLA:Atlanta has been meeting for some time, & its membership is large & active, participating in events & organizations throughout the Southeastern U. S., & in the "Beat Jesse" campaign. NLA:Atlanta has stopped its bar nights for now (at the Eagle & Roughnecks), to devote the time & energy for more educational & political mat-

ters. The Chapter will, of course, stage bar nights in future for special occasions, fundraisers, etc. Recent activities include the sponsorship of a cocktail party for Prowl II. The Chapter is planning Christmas fundraising, to collect non-perishable food items & personal items for Persons with AIDS, to run from Thanksgiving to Christmas Eve. Starting in January, the Chapter will meet every 4th Sunday, at 5 PM. An open competition for the logo for NLA:Atlanta will be staged, with \$50 cash prize. Officers are Kim Brokaw & Linda Vickery Co-Chairs, Louise D. Secretary, & Pattie Breslin Treasurer.

### NLA:CHICAGO

Work is proceeding in the Chicago Chapter both with local outreach & activities & with initial preparations for Living in Leather VI, scheduled for October 9-13, 1991. NLA is gaining prominence in the Chicago area, with several local affiliates--Wild Times, Chicagoland Discussion Group, & Leather United Chicago--and with interactions with other organizations including Windy City Bondage Club & Chicago Hellfire. Many of the members are participants in more than one organization. Officers are Christopher Posler & Judith Lane Co-Chairs, Edward Luisi Treasurer, Traci Martinez Corresponding Secretary, & Terence Gowey Recording Secretary.

### NLA:CENTRAL ARIZONA

This Chapter is headquartered in Phoenix, AZ. Its Steering Committee has been meeting almost weekly since March. In its petition for Chapter Status delivered to the National during LIL V, it acknowledged gratitude to Ms. NLA 1989/90 Jan Lyon, for her help, support, & enthusiasm. "Jan, as Ms. National Leather Association, has been a superb representative of the national organization as well as all leather men & women."

Over this short time period, NLA: Central Arizona has acquired membership & prominence in their local area which will undoubtedly make them a most visible presence in the national community within the near future. Initial acting officers are Jerry Barnes Chairperson, Jody Ryan Secretary, & Michael Frank Treasurer.

### NLA:HOUSTON (Chapter in Formation)

"Buzz" Davis has provided a brief update of activities from the active group of Houstonians. Their first meeting was held on September 19, 1990, with nine in attendance. Temporary officers were elected, as follows: Dean Walradt, Chairperson pro temp, and Buzz Davis, Secretary/Treasurer pro temp.

The second meeting was held on October 11, 1990. The number in attendance was twenty. Glen Weber was selected as Membership Chairperson. An initial draft of proposed bylaws was presented. A final draft will be presented at the November meeting (meetings set for the second Thursday of each month).

A membership drive was scheduled at the "Venture-N" on November 3rd. Mr. Larry Arbo of Dallas was welcomed by the group and media releases published.

Houston's goal is to reach to all areas of the community. Dean Walradt states, "I hope the NLA:Houston will be a catalyst for bringing all areas of the Leather, SM, Fetish community together as a strong, visible force within the greater community."

As a note of general interest - Houston's Ripcord (Leather bar) and Leather by Boots (Leather shop) were both seriously damaged by arson on Sunday morning (October 28th). The fire was apparently arson and the bar is not expected to reopen until some time in December. Houston's telephone number is temporarily (713) 526-1531, due to the fire. Please leave messages on machine for call back.

### NLA:METRO NEW YORK

The second issue of *The Inquisitor*, Metro New York's attractive publication, has just been received. Mitch Kessler, Chapter President, writes that he believes NLA's future in New York "is to be a 'common ground,' a meeting place for individuals, a contact point for organizations ... without regard to orientation or political alignment."

"With time, I believe we can be a powerful healing force in the community. We have already seen some rather large and positive changes, brought about simply because we EXIST."

"Of course we will continue with as full and active a social, educational and recreational program as the membership can and will support. That goes without saying. But I hope our future strength and value will be along these community building lines."

### NLA:PORTLAND

A large number of members of NLA: Portland participated in Living in Leather

## News from the Chapters

### NLA:DALLAS

V, whether as workers, organizers, or participants. The success of the Conference is due in no small part to the energy & drive of these loyal members. A fundraising project included having Chapter T-shirts for sale during LIL V. NLA:Portland titleholders Hawke & Richard were both very visible, during LIL weekend & during the Mr/Ms NLA Competition.

Elections are occurring in Portland; we thank outgoing Officers & welcome aboard new Officers.

### NLA:ARKANSAS The Officer's Club

The November meeting will be a potluck/social on November 17th. At their October meeting, clean-up details for the first Club run (Lock Up I) were handled, and Leonard B. was picked as chairman of Lock Up II (for 1991).

NLA:Arkansas helped send their titleholder, Ms. NLA:Arkansas Linda Vickery, to Portland, OR, and the National Mr./Ms. NLA Competition, where she performed magnificently, coming in as First Runner-Up.

Elections are coming up in December. Dedicated candidates are needed; the organization is working on defining itself, and its place in the community (as the only leather organization in Arkansas). Certainly, its successful first year of operations suggest this Chapter's continued success and community visibility.

### NLA:BC

Kudos to NLA:B.C., which held fundraisers to provide scholarships for three individuals to come to Living in Leather who would not otherwise have been able to attend. Many persons from British Columbia & throughout Canada were present at LIL festivities, & BC members took an active role in several of the NLA meetings held during this megaweekend.

### NLA:SAN DIEGO

San Diego reports a huge success with their SM 101 demonstration at Wolfs on October 21st. The September program on Safer Sex & Substance Abuse was moderated by Jim Bridge of the San Diego AIDS Project. San Diego hosted their Leather Weekend November 9 to 11, featuring a Uniform Party, demonstrations, & the Mr. San Diego Leather Contest. Work has begun on Leatherfest '91. A December toy drive is being planned. A possible topic for the December program is "The Public & Private You." A possible Art Show may be set in January or later, including a pre-show "wine & cheese tasting." The Chapter is at work on Bylaw revisions.

Coming up is Dallas' first Anniversary and Holiday party set for December 1, in lieu of the regular Chapter meeting. Recent activities include joint participation with Ambush in a "Night in Black Leather," a program on SM on a Budget, and a successful yard sale. Discussion is being held regarding possible participation with NLA: Houston on a table at the Texas Gay Rodeo. Long-term goals include increasing membership, setting up a separate Political Information Committee, and "Beyond Vanilla" seminars twice a year. Short-term goals include increasing social activity and visibility, and a major fundraiser.

### NLA:SEATTLE

NLA:SEATTLE will be holding its General Membership Meeting and Elections at 7PM on December 1, followed by a Program and demonstration perfect for the season, on Decorating for the Holidays (hot wax, etc.). This membership meeting is particularly important, for it includes the election of Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) for the coming year, as well as possible Bylaw amendments. The Program will follow the meeting.

Seattle is particularly proud to have both Mr.NLA 1991 Howard Martin and first Runner-Up Dale Trotter on its Board of Directors.

### NLA:DENVER

The Denver Chapter extends its thanks to the owners and staff of DADS, for allowing them to have their functions, business meetings, and demos there. Denver extends its congratulations to member Greg L., Mr. Rocky Mountain Drummer 1990/91. The Chapter was asked to participate with two booths at the "Wellness Fest" on October 21, at the Auraria Campus Student Center. The Chapter also reports a great success with its Fetish & Fantasy beerbust. NLA:Denver also worked two of the three water stations at the Colorado AIDS Project's "From All Walks of Life" fundraiser, as well as having many members walk. Also, the Chapter hosted the bar and hospitality suite at this year's Coronation, and proved the champion fundraiser this year.

### NLA:DETROIT

The Officers and Members of the Chapter are concerned about the future of their organization. They are putting out a call for fresh Energy, fresh ideas, and fresh Leadership, to continue the success and prosperity of NLA: Detroit as a vital member of the NLA family.

## N.L.A. CALENDAR

### (\*\*DECEMBER, 1990\*\*)

7	SAN DIEGO	San Diego
	Beer Bust	Wolf's
8	VIRGINIA	Richmond, VA
	Meeting 7PM/Bondage	Fan-Free Clinic
8	ARKANSAS	Little Rock
	Meeting/Program	
	Bar Night	
8	NEW ENGLAND	Boston, MA
	Meeting/Program 4-6	Obsessions

9	ATLANTA	Atlanta, GA
	Meeting	Eagle
9	SAN DIEGO	San Diego
	Gen. Meeting	Wolf's
9	SOUTH FLORIDA (CIF)	Miami
	Gen. Mtng. 7:30 PM	GLCC
9	BC	Vancouver
	Board Meeting	GLC
9	SEATTLE	Seattle, WA
	Bar Night	Balcony
10	PORTLAND	Portland, OR
	Gen. Meeting	Embers
13	SAN DIEGO	San Diego
	Bd. of Directors Mtng	
18	SAN FRAN. BAY AREA S.F.	
	Executive Meeting	
19	METRO NEW YORK	NYC
	General Meeting	
21	DETROIT	Detroit
	Bar Night/Decor. Friends	Eagle
21	DENVER	Denver, CO
	Christmas Party	

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## National Committees Form

Mandated in the newly-ratified National Bylaws is the formation of certain standing Committees. As part of its proceedings during the National Council & Executive Committee meetings held in conjunction with Living in Leather V, several Committees Chairs were appointed or confirmed, & certain Committees ratified. Committee Chairs now established & writing policy & gathering members are Gayle Rubin--Archives & History Committee, Les Robinson--Budget & Finance Committee, Chuck Higgins--Chapter Concerns & Information Committee, Sallee Huber--Conference Committee, Susie Shepherd--Honors & Awards Committee, John Ferrari--Mack MacKinnon Travel Fund Committee, Wayne Gloege--Membership Committee, Race Bannon--Nominations committee, J.C. Collins--Organizational Identification Committee, Tony DeBlase--Publications Committee, & Jan Lyon--Publicity Committee. Serving as Chair of the Elections & Credentials Committee until the election of that Chair is Shannon Kennedy. In addition, Pagan is heading up our Political Action Committee, & Judy Tallwing McCarthey has been nominated to head a Speakers Bureau Committee.

Of particular concern to many members who view the Chapters as the backbone of the NLA, is the Chapter Concerns & Information Committee. This Committee (headed by Chuck Higgins of Little Rock, AR) has as its first goal the development of a standard operating procedure for Chapter/National relations & information. It shall act as a forum for Chapter concerns. It shall offer advise, support, & direction to Chapters, & operate as a liaison between Chapters & National. Input is wanted; any Chapter or Chapter member with concerns is invited to communicate with the Committee, which shall establish a dialogue & make appropriate responses. The Committee will meet on paper & via telephone, & pledges to develop an agenda & start initial implementation of its tasks by the holding of the International Mr. Leather, 1991, Competition in Chicago. Contact Chuck Higgins at P.O.Box 4392, North Little Rock, AR 72116.

A volunteer from the Membership Committee has volunteered to undertake the operation of sending expiring members renewal notices: a simple reminder letter will be sent to Chapter members, encouraging renewal through their Chapters; National members will receive letters and membership forms. This should make clearer to all members their need to renew memberships, and expand the base of operations of our organization. The Executive Committee voted to allow limited release of our membership figures; also, a count of 47 was established for next year's election of At Large Members to the National Council.

The Honors and Awards Committee will be preparing a draft of policies and guidelines for the selection of the Slater-Mains Lifetime Achievements Award, and a method for their selection and ratification.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be a winter mail meeting. The National Council is scheduled to meet for at least 5 hours on May 27th in Chicago, IL, during the celebration of the International Mr. Leather Competition.

## NLA Takes a Stand

At its recent meetings in Portland, Oregon, the NLA approved (at its General Meeting and at the National Council and Executive Committee meetings) the issuance of the following statements:

### CENSORSHIP AND THE ARTS

The recent controversy surrounding the National Endowment for the Arts' (NEA) funding of work by Robert Mapplethorpe & other controversial artists, which led to Congress passing the so-called Helms Amendment, is a heinous example of the way anti-S/M, anti-gay, & anti-sex attitudes can be exploited to impoverish our culture & place damaging restrictions upon the arts & literature.

We oppose the NEA's policy of requiring funded artists & writers to sign statements in which they promise to limit the content of their work. We believe that artists & writers should refuse to accept NEA funding rather than sign this agreement. We believe that anyone who is concerned about protecting our civil liberties should support efforts to force the NEA to withdraw its requirement that artists & writers sign a statement promising to limit the content of their work before they can receive grant monies. & we support the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati for refusing to close an exhibit of Mapplethorpe's work even after they were charged with violating obscenity laws.

### STATEMENT ON CENSORSHIP

The National Leather Association is opposed to government censorship of sexually explicitly material which features adults & is marketed for an adult audience. Adults are individuals who have reached or exceeded the legal age of consent. We believe that the public interest is best served when the First Amendment is liberally interpreted to protect the widest range of materials possible. Because the First Amendment has been interpreted by the courts in such a way that it has not been allowed to protect allegedly obscene materials, we support the repeal of all federal, state, & local obscenity laws which ban material that features adults & is marketed for an adult audience.

We also deplore censorship when it is practiced by private citizens who are in a position to restrict the materials that publishers, libraries, art galleries, bookstores, newsstands, or other outlets can produce, distribute, display, lend, or sell.

We demand an end to government attempts to entrap law-abiding citizens into violating laws against sending obscene matter through the mail. We further demand that the Department of Justice stop encouraging U.S. Attorneys to make obscenity prosecutions a top priority as related to sexually explicit materials featuring adults & marketed to an adult audience.

The marketplace of ideas is the hallmark of a free society. If we wish to safeguard the future of our own community, we must vigorously defend our right to speak, as explicitly as we wish, about our private & public lives.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF LIVING IN LEATHER V

### MR & MS NLA, 1991

With great pride and pleasure, the National Leather Association announces the selection of Mr/Ms NLA 1991. This year's titleholders were chosen by a distinguished panel of judges which included Michael Spehar, Brian Dawson, Jan Lyon, Guy Baldwin, Joan Donnelly, and Gayle Rubin--with Dave Rhodes and Susie Shepherd serving as alternates.

Ruth Marks of San Francisco and Howard Martin of Seattle were selected from a field of highly qualified candidates to hold the title of Ms/Mr NLA '91. Linda Vickery of Atlanta and Dale Trotter of Seattle were selected as first Runners Up.

Ruth and Howard bring tremendous vitality, enthusiasm, and commitment to their titles. Each brings a distinctive personal style, approach, and history within our community, allowing great flexibility and sensitivity for work with and movement within our National Leather/SM/ Fetish Family.

Howard and Ruth have expressed their availability to our community and its many organizations and events and their commitment to travel and appear as often as possible. They may be contacted through NLA at: National Leather Association, P.O.Box 17463, Seattle, WA, 98107, or by phone at the NLA National Information Line at 206-789-8990 (this is an answering machine; be sure to leave contact name and address). NLA and Ruth and Howard hope contacts will be made well in advance of any event to allow adequate planning to be accomplished and publicity released.

We congratulate Ruth and Howard on their selection and encourage our entire Leather/SM/Fetish Community to avail themselves of their offer of assistance and support which our new Mr. and Ms. NLA '91 have extended.

### FROM MR. N.L.A. Howard Martin

As I go into a new decade of leather, I have no choice but to reflect on the last. Our community has been devastated by AIDS; the women's community has been shadowed by Epstein-Barr. And if that isn't enough, our privacy has been invaded by organizations controlled by the likes of Jesse Helms and Dan Dannemeyer, and the bureaucratic inhumanity of the Bush administration. It seems like every time we're up for air, we're pulled down one more time.

The reason we have, and the reason we will survive, is the willingness in our hearts to help others. With groups such as the NLA, Urania of Boston, Society of Janus, and Tridents International, and many others--too many to count--these groups give us credibility, accountability, and a community network. With this we can and shall defeat the bigotry and ignorance which cur-

rently infect our nation. (This is OUR nation). And as we do this we shall grow together, and as we grow we shall learn, and as we learn we shall ultimately unify.

When you feel down and beat, all you have to remember is that you have the most important weapon against bigotry and ignorance on your side, and that weapon is with you each time you wake up and go to bed. And that weapon is leather pride, and it lays within your heart. Howard Martin

### FROM MS. N.L.A. Ruth Marks

Hi. My name is Ruth Marks, and much to my great pleasure I have been chosen to represent the NLA as Ms. NLA, 1991. I hope that I can be of use to both the many chapters of the NLA and the Affiliates. If you need to contact me, please feel free to do so at 415-588-5161.

In leather solidarity, Ruth Marks.

### PRIZES PRESENTED TO MR./MS. NLA 1991

Living in Leather VI Registrations  
T-Shirts and Pins from NLA General Store

Title Belts from Stud Works of Seattle  
Title Sashes from Stud Works of Seattle  
\$25.00 Gift Certificate from Onyx Leathers of Seattle  
Photo Shoot by Janet Ryan of Kansas City

Donation from Eagle Leathers of Tampa

Donation from Big Black Boots of San Diego

Our thanks to the generous donations to the NLA's new titleholders.

### LIL V OPENING CEREMONIES

The Opening Ceremonies of Living in Leather V were a moving experience for all who attended. The festivities began with a presentation of club colors by representatives of many of the large number of Leather/SM/Fetish organizations which were represented during Living in Leather V. This was followed by a uniformed color guard presenting flags from all nations whose citizens had come to Living in Leather--the United States, Canada, Japan, Switzerland, Germany, England, Japan, New Zealand, and Australia--the Leather Pride Flag and the original NLA banner. Troy Perry's speech was exciting and dynamic; it provided food for thought, laughter, and a standing ovation. George Nelson delivered Steve Maidhof's welcoming speech from Living in Leather I and gave us a short history of the Living in Leather Conferences. Judy Tallwing-McCarthy and Wayne Gloege read this list of names of all deceased NLA members. Sallee provided opening remarks--and the inevitable comic relief of "There is a gray Mustang with its lights on in the parking lot"

announcements. A particularly moving moment came with Jan Lyon's gift to the National Leather Association--a very large, and very heavy, banner for the NLA, with its current logo, accomplished on heavy leather with meticulous craftsmanship by Lee Willis of Stud Works, Seattle. This was a moving opening to a fantastic Conference.

### THANK YOU V

Dear Everyone:

It surprises me no end, to come away from another Living in Leather, catch my breath, and go Wow!

I had told enough people before I left Portland this past weekend, but just to make sure, I thought I'd put it on paper to make it more official.

Having been a "veteran" to all five Conferences it's continually blowing me away, that after the previous LIL, I figure that it can never be better than that--and then the following year it is better!

This year is no different. I want to congratulate all of you involved with LIL V, for another happy experience in my life, and you can be sure I intend to keep on being a "veteran" at upcoming LIL's for as long as they (& I) keep running!

Bless you all, and I'll be seeing you again, for LIL VI in Chicago. Yay!!!

Much love always--in all ways...

xxx Bill Houghton, a/k/a/Northwind

### A THANK YOU RECEIVED

The following was received by the NLA from Esther's Pantry/Oregon AIDS Food Bank, in Portland Oregon.

"A deeply felt "thank you" for your recent contribution and we look forward to your continued support. Donation: \$235 donated at this function on your behalf: 'N.L.A. Auction at Dirty Duck.' Thank you for your support!"

### E.C.M.C.

We were privileged to meet Beat Ruedi, Secretary of the European Confederation of Motorcycle Clubs, in Portland during the LIL weekend. He kindly presented us with the 1991 formal schedule of the E.C.M.C. clubs (which has given us a head start on 1991 calendar building) and is also going to help us update our European Organizational mailing lists. Many Thanks to Beat for his grand smile and his cordial help.





**HOW TO BECOME AN AFFILIATE OF THE N.L.A.**

Any organization or business which supports the Statement of Purpose of the National Leather Association can become an Affiliate. Dues are \$25.00 per year for not-for-profit organizations, \$50.00 per year for businesses. Among the benefits accruing to an NLA Affiliate are representation on the NLA National Council (which directs the affairs of The Association), publicity within NLA publications, presentation on the NLA National Calendar, & participation in the National-International Pan-Sexual Leather/SM/Fetish Network represented by the NLA. Current Affiliates represent all segments of our heterogeneous constituency, & come from throughout the North American leather community.

If your group or business desires Affiliation, please write NLA at P. O. Box 17463, Seattle, WA, 98107, or leave a message on our answering machine at (206)-789-8990.

**NEW AFFILIATES**

We are indeed honored to welcome three new organizations as Affiliates of the NLA this month.

The first is the **Knights of Leather** headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Knights of Leather is a leather/SM club founded in 1984 as an organization for leather women to meet and network with other leather women and men across the nation. The first official meeting was held in January, 1985. The club has been changing from the beginning, from a levi-leather club to a leather-SM one. This means the promotion of leather-SM in a safe-sane and consensual manner; nothing else is condoned by the club.

The club works towards education for anyone wishing to learn. It sponsors the Erotic Power Exchange for women to women SM, education, and networking, which meets the 3rd Thursday of each month in a safe environment. It sponsors an annual Bowl-a-Thon fundraiser in March, with proceeds to groups or organizations whose work in some way helps the Lesbian and Gay community, and stages other fundraisers throughout the year.

The club has business meetings the 2nd Thursday of each month. All members must attend these as well as other club functions. All members pay monthly dues. Pledgeships are required by anyone wishing to join, as this is a learning time for all.

Associate membership into the club is open to anyone with whom the club is acquainted and who believes in the club's basic philosophy, as this way persons can show their support. Associates pay annual dues, receive small club patches, are kept updated on club business, and are not

required to attend club functions, though they are encouraged to do so when possible.

The club sponsors Knights Tournament, a social weekend, a gathering for leather people, and a place to learn about SM. There are demonstrations, workshops, play spaces, free time, food, and refreshments, in the great outdoors of Minnesota.

Club members work at trying to close the gender gap, fight for women's rights within the leather-SM community, and find out what's happening around the nation.

Contact Knights of Leather at P.O.Box 10601, Minneapolis, MN 55458 for further information.

The second of our new Affiliates is the **Thunder Head Club** of Dorchester, MA. For information on the group and its schedule, contact Steve at 617-282-7196. Thunder Head Club seeks to provide a private, safe, and fully-equipped dungeon space. It provides theme parties and demos. Its quarters are available for women's nights. Guest bunk space can be made available. Activities can occur on two large floors of dungeon space.

The third of our new Affiliates is **Leather United--Chicago**. They may be contacted at P.O.Box 138-058, Chicago, IL 60613. Leather United--Chicago was founded in March 1989 and became active in February, 1990, tripling in membership and with interest still increasing. Its home bar is AA Meat Market at 2933 N. Lincoln Ave. in Chicago; bar nights and other activities are hosted there.

The group's purpose is to provide a social and supportive for the Leather community and people with related interests, and to provide a forum where people can meet, talk, exchange ideas and feelings, and socialize without sexual or social pressures. LU-C is involved in networking among Chicago's clubs and organizations, and between the Chicago Leather community and those in other areas. Education and outreach are its goals. They represent the Leather community at parades, marches, functions, fundraisers, and benefits; they hope to sponsor charity benefits themselves when able.

LU-C is primarily gay, but welcomes persons of every persuasion. They are pansexual, and do not discriminate against anyone who agrees with their intents and behaves appropriately. Members are generally from Chicago, but Associate members come from San Francisco, West Hollywood, Phoenix, Indianapolis, and Milwaukee.

The group writes, "In this day and age it is vital for us to stand up for our love rights and say 'No More!' to the likes of Jesse Helms and William Dannemeyer. Change comes slowly for most people, and it takes a dedicated and determined group of people to nurture change and help it to grow. I believe that because of the stand that Leather United--Chicago takes, we attract those people who believe in freedom and are

willing to fight, if necessary, for what they believe in. Now is the time for all of us, brothers and sisters of the Leather/SM/Fetish community, to join our forces together, and show those who would discriminate against and oppress us that we are strong, proud, and united!"

**AFFILIATES REJOIN NLA**

We are glad to announce the renewals of several of our great NLA Affiliates this month.

**The Hun**, of Portland Oregon, creates, publishes, disseminates, and sells artwork by the Hun. The Hun offers 10% discount to NLA members on any purchase, with proof of membership. He specializes in "discretely understated," "naughty," sweat-drenched, biceps-bulging, larger than life and twice as hunky, homoerotic art. To LIL attendees (and those at a number of other recent major events featuring his work) he will be familiar. He offers mail order brochures. Contact the Hun at Hunhaus, P.O.Box 11308, Portland, OR 97211.

**The Knights of Malta: Stockman Chapter** has as its primary goals to be a Social Levi-Leather Organization, which raises money for Charity. They are non-gender-specific, and hold monthly meetings. They may be contacted at P.O.Box 9836, Denver, CO 80209.

**Arizona Power Exchange**, or **A.P.E.X.**, is found at 5821 N. 67th Ave., Suite #103-376, Glendale, AZ, 85301. This is a support and education group, offering rap groups, community outreach, and monthly play parties, meeting weekly. APEX is non-gender-specific, and has recently celebrated their second Anniversary. Their information phone is 602-264-0481.

**Portland Power and Trust** is a support and education group serving lesbian women from the Northwestern Oregon/Southwestern Washington area. They will celebrate their 5th Anniversary in January. They may be contacted at P.O.Box 3781, Portland, OR 97208.

Welcome back to these fine Affiliates!

**A.S.M.F., PARIS**

L'Association Sportive et Motocycliste de France celebrated its 15th anniversary September 14 to 18, followed by their General Assembly September 22. Festivities included a grand round of dinners, parties, and bar activities. Meeting agendas included elections, planning, and the possible creation of special-interest groups within the A.S.M.F. which could meet more frequently. A.S.M.F. has several major weekend activities planned for the next year--including the Winter European weekend Dec. 14-16, Rites of the Full Moon March 15-17, the Nuit des Demons (Devils' Night) June 14-16, the 16th Anniversary Sept. 13-15, and the 1991 European Weekend Dec. 13-15.

**NLA:SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA**

San Francisco is making tentative plans for a gala mini-conference, now scheduled for February 15-17. This weekend will include play parties, workshops, a brunch, a bar kegger, and a fundraiser and/or dance. More information is expected soon.

**MAJOR DONATIONS**

During the opening ceremonies of LIL V, the NLA received two generous donations: from Fantasy '90 (held in Omaha, Nebraska) came a check for \$1400.00. From Shades of Grey Leathers and proprietor Johnny Grey, sponsors of the Gulf Coast Mr. Drummer competition, came a check for \$200.00. We are fully cognizant of the amount of love and labor that goes into putting together such major weekends as these, and we are deeply grateful to the contributors. Thanks from the Membership and Officers of NLA!

From Chicago Hellfire Club comes a certificate of appreciation to NLA, for NLA's sponsorship of a recent event for Hellfire.

From Jan Lyon, Ms. NLA 1989/90, comes the give of a large banner (approximately 4 by 5 feet!), handcrafted by Lee Willis of Stud Works with studs on leather. This banner is beautiful, and will grace our events for many years to come.

**YOSEMITE CHAPTER**

Yosemite Chapter, Knights of Malta announces Fresno, California's, first Leather Daddy and Daddy's Boy Contest Feb. 14-16. Feb. 14 brings a Beer Bust and Meet and Greet at C's Dance Club, 2250 No. Weber. Saturday at 9:00 PM the contest will occur at Bumper's at 2731 Ventura. Sunday will see a Victory Brunch at C's. The contest is co-sponsored by the Knights of Malta and Mr. and Ms. Central Valley Leather. For information, write the Knights at P.O.Box 4162, Fresno, CA 93744.

**PANTHEON OF LEATHER**

January 25 to 27, 1991, brings the Pantheon of Leather 1991--a Tribute to the Leather Community, sponsored by **The Leather Journal**. This weekend features titleholders, a leather fashion show, cocktail parties, an erotic art show, and an elaborate evening presentation of awards, including Readers Choice, Publishers Award, Regional Awards, Forebear, Business/Business person of the Year, Club of the Year, Non-Profit Organization of the Year, Woman of the Year, and Man of the Year. Write Leather Journal at 7985 Santa Monica Blvd, #109-368, W.Hollywood, CA 90046 for information. Travel arrangements through G & W Travel at 213-664-5833. Host Hotel is the Holiday Inn Hollywood at 213-462-7181. This will be a fine

way to start any new year right, and to recognize our fantastic community leaders.

The Leather Journal will donate a percentage of the proceeds to various non-profit organizations both national and local, including Aid for AIDS, Los Angeles, Texas Conference of Clubs, National Leather Association, and Leather Force 2000, Worcester, MA.

**OUTCASTS**

We are pleased to report a tremendous success at the Outcasts' October 5 fundraiser, a Flog-a-Thon at the San Francisco Eagle, which is reported to have raised \$2000 for the Beat Jesse campaign.

The outcasts offers "Congratulations to Ruth Marks, voted Ms. NLA at the Living in Leather conference in Portland! And to three more Outcasts elected to NLA's executive committee."

**KNIGHTS D'ORLEANS**

The Knights Night of the Black Mask (their annual Carnival blow out) is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 8, 1991, at their home bar, the Phoenix, 941 Elysian Fields, New Orleans. The party will follow the Krewe of Hermes parade, and following in last year's tradition, will welcome hundreds of hot men and women from across the continent, "too much beer, too much Jaegermeister, [and] too many door prizes...." The Knights also are announcing their seventeenth anniversary weekend for October 5 to 7, 1991.

Over 100 persons were welcomed to their 16th anniversary weekend "Maximum Security." The weekend featured a bewildering array of parties, dinners, events, and great good fun!

**SOLDIER'S RIGHT TO RE-ENLIST UPHELD**

As reported by the newspapers and A.P. services on November 5-6, Perry Watkins of Tacoma, WA, won a Supreme court battle to re-enlist in the Army, despite the military's ban on homosexuals. Without comment, the Justices let stand a federal appeals court decision requiring the Army to allow Watkins to re-enlist. Watkins is a 16-year veteran, with a fine service record. When Watkins was drafted during the Viet Nam War, in 1967, he "checked the box," acknowledging homosexual tendencies. In spite of this, and in spite of three Army investigations, he was allowed to re-enlist 3 times. Only after a new regulation in 1981 requiring the discharge of all homosexuals from the Army went into effect was Perry required to accept an honorable discharge. Fortunately, Perry chose to fight the system; fortunately he won; fortunately indeed, Perry is a member of our own Leather/SM/Fetish Family, and we are proud indeed to say, "Hats off to Perry! A brave man, and a fine one!" wg

**Q.S.M.**

QSM continues to offer an exciting round of classes, for men and women of all sexual orientations. In the near future, a round of SM Video nights will occur: Nov. 20--*Shadows & Dungeons of Europe*, pt.1; on Nov. 27 *Boots, Biceps & Bulges & USSM/Two*; and on Dec. 6, Rope that Works & Suspension of Disbelief. November 30 to December 2 features "Electricity and Body Transformations: a Weekend with Jim Bruce, R.N." Classes include "Electricity Made Simple," "Scrotal Inflation & Other Genital Modifications," and "Electrical Applications." The Discipline, Terror & Interrogation series includes "Terror" on Nov. 28 by J.C.Collins and "Interrogation" on Dec. 4 by Tony DeBlase. To celebrate the start of a new, kinky year, QSM brings Bondage by Hal, with a lecture/demo. on cock & ball play Jan. 4 and a hands-on workshop on medical restraints Jan. 5. For more information, call 415-428-1321 or write to QSM at Box 520, 5251 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94618.

**H.R.C.F. LETTER**

Timothy McFeeley, Dir.  
Human Rights Campaign Fund  
1012 14th St. NW, #607  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. McFeeley:

I was disturbed to learn that HRCF intends to honor Boo Price and Lisa Vogel, owners of the Michigan Women's Music Festival, at a December 1 event in Detroit.

Vogel and Price are responsible for banning S/M activity, educational workshops about S/M, and, in effect, women who are part of the leather community, from the most recent festival. This bigoted and divisive action seems to me to be unworthy of an organization which features the concept "human rights" in its title.

The leather community is a large, well-organized, and vocal part of the gay and lesbian community. We have been one of the major sources of funding for AIDS education and for other pro-gay political action. In recent years, we have been the target of a disproportionate amount of law enforcement activity directed against our public institutions and media. By honoring these two women, HRCF sends a clear message to the leather community that our interests or needs are not part of your agenda.

If HRCF wishes to honor women who have contributed to the cause of lesbian freedom, surely two women can be found who exemplify this better than Vogel and Price.

I am sending a copy of this letter to leather organizations and publications and the gay and lesbian press.

Sincerely,  
Pat Califia

## ON WINGS OF LEATHER

On Wings of Leather will sponsor the Leather Faerie Directory, to be used as a phone directory for sm leathersex folk who wish to be in contact with others within this metaphysical brotherhood, and to meet sane persons into sm as ritual, as magick, as erotica, or.... Some are into Nature worship, some into Paganism, and some are involved with the Goddess, metaphysics, gnosticism, etc. If you wish to be placed in the Leather Faerie Directory, send a camera ready "ad (2 3/8" x 5 1/4")", with your name, address, and/or phone, including photos, art, or whatever. Whenever six "ads" are received, they will be joined together on one sheet, and sent to all contributors. Send your listing to Northwind at P.O.Box 2253, Vancouver, BC V6B-3W2 Canada.

## TARHEEL LEATHER CLUB

With its fellow clubs in North Carolina, **Tradesmen and Menamore**, the **Tarheel Leather Club** has been particularly active in the "Beat Jesse" campaign. The mutual cooperation of area clubs, along with the National support which has been shown in this effort, are all remarkable. Fund-raising events were held from coast to coast, in Georgia, Washington, Texas, California, North Carolina, and elsewhere, and at a guess over 50,000 people have read about the "Beat Jesse" campaign.

In addition to such community activism, the Tarheel LC supports through its publications and activities the varied safe/sane/consensual expressions of the Leather/SM/Fetish lifestyle. "We have set some pretty high standards for ourselves and as leaders in our community we must set the example. The sense of family and tribal unity that exists in the Leather/SM/Fetish community will not tolerate anything less. As a basic guideline we can use the Golden Rule: 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.'"

## ORGASM OF PORTLAND

Members of ORGASM are now recuperating, after the heavy energy and activity of Living in Leather V. The dungeons were packed. "People were playing in every corner. The scenes were Hot: gut-punching scenes, beautifully artistic piercing scenes, rigid plaster-cast mummification, plus lots of good old fashioned whipping and cutting.

"Despite some minor mishaps like the coat rack collapsing under the weight of hundreds of leather jackets, the dungeons went extremely well." Indeed, all hats are off to the workers, Membership, and Board, who put on one hell of a party!

There IS life after LIL, as ORGASM continues its Orientations, Meetings, Parties, and activities. Portland, Oregon, has a community resource which is much to be envied. For information call 503-281-0408 or write the Oregon Guild at P.O.Box 5702, Portland, OR 97208.

## C-SPACE An Open Forum

This is an opportunity for open discussion with sisters and brothers from the Leather-S/M community. C-Space, where the "C" stands for Consensual, presents a series of classes. Classes run from 7 PM to 8:50 PM. Location is 918 E. Pike St., Seattle, WA. For more information, or to get on the mailing list, call Celeste at 206-361-8291 or write PO Box 25827, Seattle, WA, 98125-1327. November's classes include Let's Talk Basics on Nov.9, Toy Making Workshop on Nov. 16, and Living Clean and Sober in the S/M-Leather Community Nov. 23. December brings SM & Theatre the 7th, Basics the 14th, Gender Roles the 21st, and Submission the 28th. Classes are open to men and women of all orientations. Donation is \$5.00.

## PACIFIC BEARS

A new motorcycle club is forming in the Russian River area of Northern California, **Pacific Bears Leather M.C.** Its purpose is "To promote motorcycling in a group and individual setting, and to promote the S/M lifestyle in a safe, sane, consensual atmosphere in Northern California. They staged the first annual Fall Leather Fest on the Russian River on November 3-4, at the Russian River Resort. This featured a beer and soda bust, carnival booths, an auction, games, prizes, food, entertainment, and lots of "nasty bear fun on the river." Contact the Pacific Bears at P.O.Box 1089, Guerneville, CA 95446.

## TRAVEL KEYS TOURS

Tours are forming for gay leathermen's tours of the "Dungeons and Castles of Europe" in 1991. Spring and fall tours will visit dungeons and castles in England, France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany, and include after-dark events at leather clubs and bars. Contact Travel Keys Tours 16, P.O.Box 162266, Sacramento, CA 95816 or phone 916-452-5200 for further information.

## NATIONAL LESBIAN CONFERENCE

The National Lesbian Conference is coming soon, April 24 to 28, 1981, to Atlanta, GA. If you are attending, please register soon. Registration is on a graduated scale, according to income. Scheduled hotels are the Hilton (404-659-2000), Radisson (404-659-6500) and Holiday Inn (404-659-2727). Community housing, tenting locations, and accommodation for special needs are being facilitated. The NLC is committed to fighting racism and other forms of oppression, and is committed to accessibility for all lesbians with disabilities.

Over 5,000 lesbians are expected, and 400-500 workshop slots are being sought. Topics being considered include Ageism,

Racism, Spirituality, S/M, AIDS, Legal Rights, Visibility, etc., etc.; bids are invited for those wishing to present or facilitate workshop and panel sessions.

For more information, write the National Lesbian Conference at NLC, P.O.Box 1999, Decatur, GA 30031.

## I.S.I.S.

ISIS, the International Society of Intellectual Submissives, is a membership group embracing all levels of dominant and submissive concepts. They offer a quarterly newsletter with personal ads, features, articles, and announcements. Contact ISIS at P.O.Box 12452, Scottsdale, AZ 85260.

## EVENTS COMING UP

Mardi Gras in San Francisco, sponsored by the **Celestial Krewe de Cuir**, February 2, 1991.

**Knights of Malta, Dogwood Chapter's** 10th Anniversary, November 23-25, 1990, in Vancouver, BC, Canada

**Dreizehn** celebrates its Anniversary at the Ramrod in Boston, MA, December 2.

**Eulenspiegel Society** of New York presents its Bizarre Bazzar on November 26. Space available, first come first served.

**Pittsburgh Motorcycle Club** presents its major annual run, "Three Rivers VII, April 26 to 28, 1991.

**Griffins MC** is doing its annual "Clothes for the Homeless" drive in Newark, Delaware, continuing into January. Last year, 34 leaf bags of clothes were collected!

**Lords of Leather**, of New Orleans, hosts their 8th Ball Masque Feb. 11--they expect to top last year's 3,000 attendees!

**Mansfield Bucks** of Burlington, VT, are sponsoring the Emma Goldman Gypsy Players November 25. This is a group of Radical Faeries who perform in incredible costumes.

**Spearhead** of Toronto does their annual Toys for Tots Drive Dec. 9 at Trax Toolbox and/or Boot's & Buds.

In Texas, **Tejas MC** turns 11 Nov.30 to Dec.2, **Texas Riders** stages Fall Round-Up '90 Nov. 22-25, and **Dallas MC** celebrates 16 years Jan. 11-13.

**GMSMA** of New York City plans its 10th Anniversary Celebration March 9, 1991.

## CORRECTION

**Wild Times CORRECT** address is 2271 No. Lincoln Ave., Ste 470, Chicago, IL 60614. Their publication and staff send thanks for LIL V, its events, presentations, and exhibits.

## ADDRESS CHANGES

Please send us your address changes. We must pay 25 cents to get each piece of mail returned with an address change, and another quarter to remit it.

# Scribbles

You'd think that after a great Community event such as LIL V, it'd be incredibly easy to jot off a column such as "Scribbles." But think about it. All the important news about the important meetings is covered elsewhere in this issue (we're trying to be "Newsy-er"). Big highlights of the Conference will be on page one. Election results are already here (and congratulations to all our new N.C. and Exec. and Committee members).

I mention a few personal moments, such as our wonderful new banner, courtesy of my favorite old Dyke Jan Lyon and the elegant craftsmanship of Lee Willis. The reading of the memorial plaque, thinking too many names in our short 4 years. Sybil Holiday--intelligent--articulate--vivacious--exciting. Joe Bean's delightful good humor. Being able to personally show--through one of the open demonstrations--one of the learning methods open to community. It was a pleasure to assist a less experienced "Top" in learning an unfamiliar technique. In the earlier Novice Workshop, "Jr/Sr Top" scenes had been discussed as

one way to learn techniques in a controlled environment.

I remember 10,000 sq. ft. of well-equipped dungeon space that was almost too crowded to play. Again my concerns were raised about dungeon or play space etiquette. I realize the overwhelming atmosphere that exists in a LIL play space, especially for first time attendees, but a way must be found to impress the need for respect for space (including sound level), the need for uninterrupted concentration, and the possible dangers to observers as well as players.

I would like to call attention to one small but important meeting which occurred at LIL--a meeting of a Publications Committee. For the first time in 4 years of regular issuing of **First Link**, a real group exists and is concerned with helping to improve our Newsletter, maintain its character, and better meet the needs of our membership. Perhaps you've noticed a few little changes in this issue for layout, look, and approach. More will be coming, hopefully by the first issue in '91, our 5th year. I'm very glad to have the help.

Perhaps my most important memory of LIL V is the same as I've had on each previous Conference. The look of wonder, disbelief, and security on the faces of our first time attendees, especially if they are newcomers to our Community. I know of no other occasion when our Leather/SM/Fetish Family is more unified in its support of all its individual members. Novices are openly welcomed as a viable and integral part of our body. Each year, in the last few weeks immediately preceding LIL, I've had occasions to seriously question whether the hours of work, the picky details, and the frequent little political upheavals are worth the anxiety, stress, and unpleasantness they generate. I know virtually every other LIL organizer has had the same questions. However, by the time I take my first look around the Hospitality Suite, even before main events get started, it's once again made absolutely clear why not only is the aggravation worth enduring, but is absolutely necessary for the life and continued existence of our community.

## NLA MEMBERSHIP

Benefits include **FIRST LINK**, discounts at NLA events and at certain community businesses, and participation in a national/international network serving educational, social, and charitable needs of our Leather/SM/Fetish family. Membership is open to all adults who support our statement of purpose. **National Dues are \$25. annually (\$30. outside North America--U.S. funds).** Use the form below to join the NLA or to renew your membership.

Members can tell their membership is expiring from the address label. The first 2 digits at the top indicate **Year** of expiration, the second 2 **month**.

## INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
(above info. is confidential)

I agree with the Goals of the NLA, support its efforts at activism & public service, & wish to become a member. I am at least 21 years old.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

You may release my name to the Chapter (if any) in my region. I may be contacted for NLA business by other NLA members? \_\_\_\_\_

Return with check or money order to  
**NATIONAL LEATHER ASSOCIATION**  
P.O. BOX 17463 SEATTLE, WA. 98107

## CLASSIFIED ADS:

Classified ads cost \$5.00 for the first 25 words, \$.25 for each additional word. Make checks payable to National Leather Association, POB 17463, Seattle, WA 98107. We do not provide forwarding service. Sexual solicitations and ads for roommates are not accepted.

**HARD-TO-FIND FETISH VIDEOS: EROTIC TATTOOING, BODY PIERCING, OUTLAW BIKERS, MORE! ILLUSTRATED CATALOG \$1! FLASH VIDEO, Box 410052, San Francisco, CA 94141**

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Producer: Wayne Gloege

Regular Contributors:

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Guy Baldwin  
Pagan

Production Assistance:

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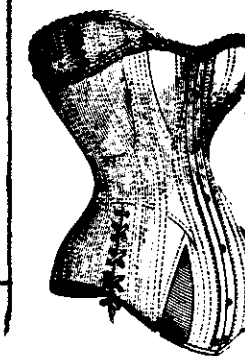
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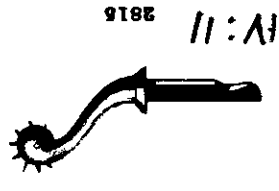
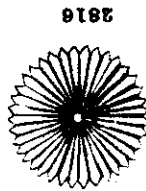
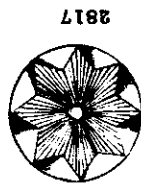
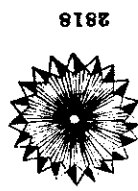
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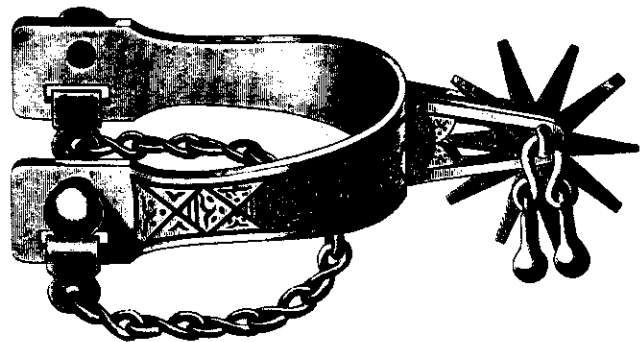
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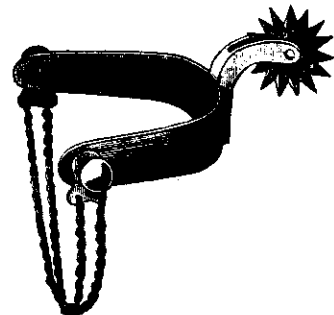
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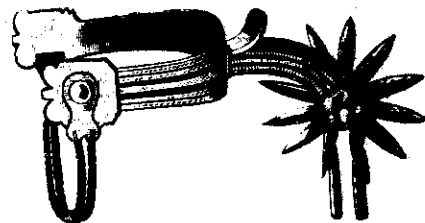
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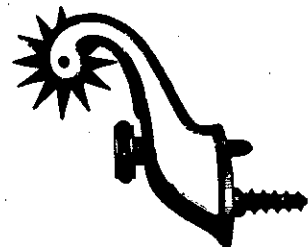
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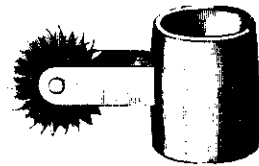
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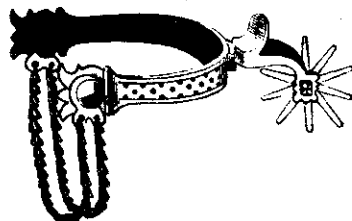
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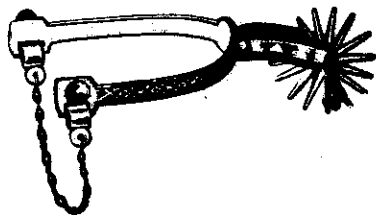
2823--Thomson's Patent Pocket Spur.



2824 - Whip Spur, for use on Sulky Whips.



2825



2826