

CHAPTER NEWS

NLA's newest Chapter in Formation, **NLA:Austin**, reports a very busy beginning towards their efforts at Chapter formation. To date, they have had one get-acquainted general meeting, one meeting with an interpretation of what NLA is, and one meeting with emphasis on membership and recruitment. Also, they were active participants in the WALK ON AUSTIN, which raised \$100,000 altogether for AIDS benefits. Meanwhile, the temporary Officers' Council has been meeting virtually every Monday night for three months. This gives promise of becoming a most active and dedicated Chapter.

In Georgia, **NLA:Atlanta** reports a growing and active membership. At their November meeting, a report was delivered on Living in Leather and the Organization meetings which accompanied it. The Chapter sponsored a cocktail party at Panthers' *Prowl II*, which was gratefully acknowledged. The Chapter will be working with other area levi/leather organizations in collecting food and personal items for PWA's, using collecting barrels, and culminating in a multi-club Grand Finale party on December 23. Recently, **NLA:Atlanta** hosted its Christmas Party following their monthly meeting on December 9. Starting in January, 1991, meetings will be on the 4th Sunday of each month.

The **NLA:Metro New York** Chapter held its first raffle at its November social. First prize was a black deerskin calf, with a native American style beaded handle, donated by two members; second prize was a year's membership in NLA (Chapter AND National); Third prize was an invitation to the Chapter Holiday Play Party, set for December 29, for Members and guests. Metro New York is planning a series of workshops, in addition to its regular monthly meetings and socials. For the latest information, phone 212-686-5248 between noon and 8 PM (Eastern Time) or call in with your modem from 8 PM to noon (same number).

In Oregon, **NLA:Portland** has recently held elections. New President is Gregg Sylvester; Vice President is Roland Bynum; Bill Schmeling is Secretary; and Richard Williams is Treasurer. Board members are K.T., Kevin Koesel, and Sallee Huber. December 16 will welcome the Black Christmas Party at 4 PM at the PDX Eagle. Events for 1991 will include a Valentine's Day Social, a summer beer bust, the Mr/Ms NLA:PDX in September, and the annual Christmas Party. Portland will establish a Bar Night in the near future.

December 1 brought the semi-annual general meeting of **NLA:Seattle**. May Day plans are in the works, with co-chairs Wes. Randall and Linda Coomas. Among workshops tentatively planned are SM-101, Spirituality, and "On the Edge." Meanwhile, monthly workshops are being planned for coming year (except October and May). Dale Trotter is organizing a February fundraiser/auction, and members are working on a February 22 Kinky Kouples Party.

Seattle elected Wes Randall as President, Howard Martin as Treasurer, George Nelson as Secretary, Al D. Sowers as Vice President, and Casey J. Androzany, Dale Trotter and Roger Axline as At-Large Board reps. Bylaw amendments lowered the number of At-Large Board Representatives from 7 to 3, (elected once a year) and eliminated the Honorary Board of Directors.

In the yuletide theme, the **Seattle** meeting was followed by George Nelson doing Holiday decorating--Mr. NLA Howard Martin was the tree, and ornaments included red and green clothespins, with bells attached ("Now, don't let me hear those bells ring!"), and copious quantities of red and green wax.

Other news from **Seattle** includes the selection of NLA Board Member Ken Locke as Seattle Bear Cub during the Seattle Eagle Anniversary, the planning of a Northwest memorial plaque by Lee Willis of Stud Works, and the postponement of C-Space activities due to the closure of the Balcony Tavern--watch for a new location and new dates.

(continued on page 3)

N.L.A. CALENDAR

DECEMBER, 1990					
14	HOUSTON Hot Night in Leather	Houston, TX	15	SAN DIEGO Christmas Potluck	San Diego Wolf's
	PORTLAND Black Christmas Party	Portland, OR Eagle	16	SOUTH FLORIDA Members' Bar-B-Que	Miami
13	SAN DIEGO Bd. of Directors Mtng	San Diego	18	SAN FRAN. BAY AREA S.F. Executive Meeting	
			19	METRO NEW YORK General Meeting	NYC
			21	DETROIT Bar Night: Decor. Friends	Detroit Eagle
			21	DENVER Christmas Party	Denver, CO
			22	CHICAGO Bar Night	Chicago, IL AA Meat Market
			29	METRO NEW YORK Play Party	N.Y.C.

NLA ADDRESS LIST

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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

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THE FIRST LINK: PRODUCTION CREDITS

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BEAT JESSE! CAMPAIGN

It was a disappointment to both of us that North Carolina did not replace Senator Jesse Helms with Harvey Gantt. The leather/SM/fetish community can, however, take great pride in what was accomplished during our involvement in the **Beat Jesse!** campaign. This involvement came as a response to the attempted censorship of the Maplethorpe exhibit and the attack against the National Endowment for the Arts.

Leather/SM/fetish individuals were able to join with artists, the greater gay/lesbian community, heterosexual men and women, people of color, and ordinary folks across the United States. Our combined fundraising of over \$7,000 supported either the Senate Vote '90 campaign or went directly to Harvey Gantt.

In this day and age of multi-issue candidates, it is not often that people--whether gay, lesbian, heterosexual, or bisexual--can concentrate our strength and determination against one opponent. Jesse Helms showed us what can be done when our attention is focused on a single political target. Our coalition proved to be a very strong group to have angry with him.

Censorship is an affront against all people! The effort to protect our rights is not just out there on the national level, but within each local arena. Exert *your* influence in legislative activities by asking pointed questions of all newly-elected officials, writing one letter to the editor of your local newspaper, or sending a telegram to your representatives. Do it--OR--there will be no safe/sane/consensual world in which to live.

In a post-election '90 editorial, Washington Post editorial page columnist Richard Cohen was discussing Helms' reelection *vis-a-vis* the 800 gay-bashings reported nationally in 1989, which included 62 fatalities. His observation underscores our continued call to arms: "Hatred of homosexuals remains the last acceptable American bigotry--To some men, the difference between gays and deer is a mere technicality. The latter can only be hunted in season."

Thank you for your support, wherever you are. Don't let it stop at November 6, 1990.

In Leather Strength,
 Jan Lyon

Leather Journal Woman of the Year 1990
 Ms. National Leather Association 1989-90
 Susie Shepherd

International Ms Leather 1989

N.L.A. CALENDAR

JANUARY, 1991

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 4 | SAN DIEGO Beer Bust | San Diego Wolf's |
| 8 | DALLAS Meeting | Dallas, TX |
| 9 | HOUSTON Bar Night | Houston, TX Venture Inn |
| 9 | METRO NEW YORK Social | N.Y.C. |
| 10 | HOUSTON Meeting | Houston, TX C&N Cafe |
| 12 | VIRGINIA Meeting 7PM | Richmond, VA Fan-Free Clinic |
| 12 | NEW ENGLAND Meeting 4PM | Boston, MA Obsessions |
| 13 | SAN DIEGO Fisting Workshop | San Diego Wolf's |
| 13 | SOUTH FLORIDA Meeting | Miami |
| 14 | PORTLAND General Meeting 7-9 | Portland, OR Embers |
| 17 | SEATTLE Board Meeting | Seattle, WA Off Ramp Cafe |
| 17 | METRO NEW YORK Meeting | N.Y.C. |
| 19 | SEATTLE Program: SM 101 | Seattle, WA |
| 23 | HOUSTON Bar Night | Houston, TX Venture Inn |
| 27 | ATLANTA Meeting 5 PM | Atlanta, GA |

FEBRUARY, 1991

- | | | |
|-------|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | SAN DIEGO Beer Bust | San Diego Wolf's |
| 5 | DALLAS Meeting | Dallas, TX |
| 6 | METRO NEW YORK Social | N.Y.C. |
| 9 | NEW ENGLAND Dungeon Party | Boston, MA |
| 9 | VIRGINIA Meeting 7PM | Richmond, VA Fan-Free Clinic |
| 10 | SAN DIEGO Workshop | San Diego Wolf's |
| 10 | NEW ENGLAND Bar Night | Boston, MA |
| 10 | SOUTH FLORIDA Meeting | Miami |
| 13 | HOUSTON Bar Night | Houston, TX Venture Inn |
| 14 | HOUSTON Meeting | Houston, TX C&N Cafe |
| 15 | METRO NEW YORK Lupercal Fest | N.Y.C. |
| 15-17 | SAN FRAN BAY AREA Mini-Conference (tent.) | S.F. |
| 19 | METRO NEW YORK Meeting | N.Y.C. |
| 22 | SEATTLE Kinky Kouples Night | Seattle, WA |
| 24 | ATLANTA Meeting 5 PM | Atlanta, GA |
| 27 | HOUSTON Bar Night | Houston, TX Venture Inn |

MARCH, 1991

- | | | |
|------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | NEW ENGLAND Dungeon Party | Boston, MA |
| 5 | DALLAS Meeting | Dallas, TX |
| 8-10 | SAN DIEGO Leatherfest Weekend | San Diego |
| 10 | SOUTH FLORIDA Meeting | Miami |
| 13 | HOUSTON Bar Night | Houston, TX Venture Inn |
| 14 | HOUSTON Meeting | Houston, TX C&N Cafe |
| 24 | ATLANTA Meeting 5 PM | Atlanta, GA |
| 27 | HOUSTON Bar Night | Houston, TX Venture Inn |

MORE NLA CHAPTER NEWS

During their November 9th Board meeting, **NLA: Denver** opened nominations for their new Officers. Nominee for President is Don Dustin, for Vice-President are Sharon Price and Chuck Keays, for Recording Secretary is Jamie Gehringer, for Corresponding Secretary is Kathy Lockheart, and for Treasurer is Keith Knopp. Members are also voting on Bylaw amendments. Denver reports a great success at the October Wellness Fest, with many inquiries about the NLA and its purposes.

At their November 9, **NLA: Chicago** celebrated granting of their Chapter Charter by National, and discussed needed revisions of their Chapter Bylaws. New business included confirmation of Bar Nights at the A. A. Meat Market: November 24 was Informational Night, while ideas were discussed for the December 22 function. Chapter members are looking forward to the October 1990 Living in Leather VI Conference in Chicago.

The **NLA: South Florida** chapter in Formation is now meeting at the Lambda Community Center in Miami on the second Sunday of each month. Bylaw work continues. A Bar-Be-Que for members will be held the third Sunday in December. Topic for the December meeting is safe sex and safe sexual behavior, while January's meeting will feature the care and feeding of leather. Future monthly workshops are being planned on piercing and medical scenes. Membership recruitment is pro-

ceeding very well, and the Chapter is proud of the demographic mix of its members.

In Little Rock, **NLA: Arkansas** featured a "last party" on December first, in commemoration of the predicted earthquake! A Chapter Christmas party will occur in December. The election of Chapter officers is coming soon. Arkansas members are excited about **Lockup 2**, set as the Chapter's second anniversary celebration in 1991. The event should be both interesting and worthwhile. Fundraisers are being put on line, to send the titleholder selected at Lockup to compete at the International Mr. Leather Competition in Chicago in June. The Chapter has not yet found a suitable site for their monthly bar night, but events and planning guarantee an interesting year to come in Arkansas.

Big news from **NLA: Houston** (a Chapter in Formation) is that they are about to submit their Bylaws for approval. Houston reports that last month's Red Hanky Party (with special guest Larry Arbo), held at the Venture Inn, was a smash success. The Venture Inn is the Chapter's home bar, and will be the site of their bar nights, the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. The Chapter meeting will be held the second Thursday of each month at the C and N Restaurant, 604 Fairview. This New Years, the Chapter in Formation will stage a bar-hop with a charter bus, to publicize NLA to Houston. The group has developed a Chapter patch, and hopes to be electing permanent officers this Winter. Other news from Houston reports that the Rip Cord and Leather by Boots (struck by a recent fire) have reopened.

Big announcement from **NLA: San Diego** is that the Leatherfest '91 weekend is set for March 8 to 10. Headquarters is the Mission Valley Inn. Friday will feature a bar night and Uniform Party at Wolf's;

Saturday will feature six demos, an art show, a vendor area, a cocktail party, and a Bulk bar event. Sunday continues the vendor and art shows, and features a brunch, a fun run for motorcycle and car, more demonstrations, and an afterglow party.

San Diego also is busy with other meetings and bar nights, including Beer Busts at Wolf's on Dec. 7, Jan. 4, and Feb. 1. December 15 will witness the Christmas potluck, with a dinner for NLA'ers only from 7 to 9, opening to the public at 9, at Wolf's. January 13 will see a fisting workshop at Wolf's, while February's workshop is set for the 10th (also at Wolf's).

Things are busy for **NLA: Dallas**. The December First Anniversary Christmas Party featured kinky tree trimming and tons of food. It was hosted by Denise and Terry, in Grand Prairie and had a huge showing, with many clubs represented and a very large Fort Worth contingent. Regular meetings continue at the MCC at 5353 Maple Avenue, January 8th, and then the first Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM. Last year's great "Beyond Vanilla" seminars will be continued in the spring. In Mid November, Dallas' Lesbian Visionaries featured a Susie Bright (of **On Our Backs**) workshop, and a women's' leather fashion show--with great clothes and great staging--a tremendous success!

Headquartered in the greater Boston area, **NLA: New England** as started a regular round of activities, featuring Chapter meetings/workshops and dungeons in alternate months. January 12 will feature a meeting at Obsessions at 4 PM. February 9 will be the NLA: New England Dungeon Party, followed by the Chapter Bar Night on the 10th. Further dungeon parties are being planned for March 1 and for May 10. Interest in NLA: New England is growing, as activities expand.

Holiday Greetings to All
 from the Officers of the
NLA and the staff of
First Link

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SOME FACTS AND FIGURES ON LIL V

Four years ago, in 1986, Living in Leather I was staged, with 99 participants. Living in Leather II brought 196 people to Seattle, while Living in Leather III (1988) saw an attendance of 366. The first Portland Conference, Living in Leather IV, in 1989, had 416 attendees. Final registration count for Living in Leather V is 626 persons. At Conference V, attendees came from Australia, Switzerland, Japan, the United Kingdom, Germany, New Zealand, from four Canadian Provinces, and from 32 States of the U. S. Attendance was heaviest from California, Washington, and Oregon, but registrants in significant numbers came

from as far away as Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, and Virginia.

Of the 626 registrants, 303 were members of the NLA (including members from all 16 Chapters and most Chapters-in-Formation). 263 registrants noted membership in 113 clubs and organizations other than the NLA. Leading the list, with over 20 members present, were Threshold and Outcasts. Organizations represented by over 10 members included Society of Janus, ORGASM, Outer Limits, Leather and Lace, Portland Power and Trust, and Chicago Hellfire Club. Among other clubs and organizations with significant numbers of attendees at LIL V were Arizona Power Exchange, Atlanta S&M Solidarity, Atons of Minneapolis, Black Leather Wings, Boston Ducks, Centurions of Columbus, Chicagoland Discussion Group, Copper-

state Leathermen, Disciples of De Sade, Eulenspiegel Society, Fifteen Association, GMSMA, Hot Ash, International Mr. Leather, International MS. Leather, Iron Cross, Knights of Leather, Leather & Blues MC, LSM, Panther LL, Rocky Mountaineers, the Society for Creative Anachronism, Southbay Leather Uniform Group, Sweet Misery, T-Bears of Boston, TDA Atlanta, Texas Riders, Tradesmen, Trident International, Los Angeles, Trusted Servants, VASM, Vikings, Wasatch Leathermen, Whips, and the Windy City Bondage Club.

It takes a huge staff to serve such a large and varied group. Serving at LIL were 83 Staff members, 89 workshop presenters, and 39 exhibitors and vendors, in addition to the Chairs and Organizers of the event.

and titleholder who have helped make Fantasy such a success in the last two years and have made the event the third largest draw of leather titleholders in the country.

We hope to see you all next year at Fantasy 91, which will be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma sponsored by myself and Bob, Dave Rhodes and "The Leather Journal", and the members of T.U.L.S.A. Watch for more details. We also hope to see you all at the Pantheon of Leather in January in Los Angeles sponsored by "The Leather Journal".

Finally, on behalf of my co-sponsors for Fantasy 90, Bob Ewing and Dave Rhodes - publisher of "The Leather Journal", please accept this money order presented to the NLA for \$1400. May you continue to grow and build. As I know you will.

In Leather Love

Dustin Logan, TLJ Man of the Year 90

Fantasy was designed with three purposes. The first, was to bring leather to a virgin community. The second, was as a fund raiser to give out all monies taken in (after expenses) to worthy charities. The third was as a unifying experience. One in which we could bring together people of all colors, male and female, leather, kinky, vanilla, male and female impersonators, etc...all to have a good time. To learn about our leather lifestyle, and hopefully to learn something about themselves as well.

In the past two year, Fantasy has raised over \$18,000. We would like to give special thanks to the Two Wheelers of Omaha, the NLA, Guy Baldwin, Jan Lyon, "The Leather Journal". "Drummer" Magazine, Chuck Renslow and Mr S Leathers for their constant support.

Actually, I could go on for quite a while naming names, but instead, I will just say Thank You to all of the leather dignitaries

GREETINGS FROM OMAHA, NEBRASKA

Let me start out by saying that my lover Bob and I are extremely disappointed that we are not here with you this weekend in Portland celebrating our leather lifestyle and the NLA, an organization that started out as a dream, and has continued to grow, and strengthen, providing us with an international group of people whose commitment to serve our leather community everywhere goes unmatched.

It is because of this commitment, that my lover Bob selected them as one of the beneficiaries for Fantasy 90 - A new Decade of Unity in Leather. Like the NLA, Fantasy started out as a dream. A dream to do a large leather event in an area where none would expect it to happen.

NEWS FROM NLA AFFILIATES

AFFILIATES REJOIN

We are glad to announce the renewals of several of our great NLA Affiliates this month. With pride, we welcome back the Seattle Dungeon Guild, a pioneer dungeon group and host of the dungeons for Living in Leather Conferences I to III, and its new plan for exciting demonstrations and workshops in the months ahead. Also, we are privileged to welcome back Menamore Leather/Levi Club of Wilmington, NC, which was recently a most active group in the anti-Helms movement.

SEATTLE DUNGEON GUILD

Seattle Dungeon Guild is pleased to report the inaccuracy of rumors of its demise by announcing a **new series of workshops**, to be held quarterly through 1991 on the third Sunday of the first month: i.e. January 20th, April 21st, etc. The series will feature hands-on instruction and sharing of various technical skills with all attendees being expected to participate. January will see the spotlight center on Rope and its various and nefarious uses. Knots, weaving, harnesses, and various other forms of SM macrame will be considered. Further information is available by contacting 206-322-4737, or any guildsman. A small admission charge will be made.

MENAMORE LEVI LEATHER CLUB

Menamore LLC of Wilmington, North Carolina, announces Lion's Pride II, its Anniversary Celebration, March 2 to 3, 1991. The event begins Saturday afternoon and winds down with a Sunday afternoon party. More details will be available soon. The site of their bar nights changes to Mickey Ratz. This move was highlighted by a Leather Weather Keg Party in November and a GROW PWA Emergency Fund "Bear Hug on December 8th, featuring Hugs from club Bears at \$1.00 each to charity.

In the Menamore newsletter, Ken Scott writes about the unfortunate outcome of the recent Jesse Helms election: "As the dust settles, and we hearten our wounded, it is now we must remember, more than ever, that the crusade does not end here. We must prepare and stand ready to face another onslaught that may come even tomorrow. We may not have achieved our ultimate goal with this particular skirmish, but we did let them know, without question,

that we are ready and willing to defend our people and principles. Our resolve made them sweat with that knowledge. ... Our crusade does not end here!"

CORNSHAULERS L & L CLUB

The Cornshaulers of Des Moines, Iowa, write that their first run in three years, "Discover Atlantis," was held in September. It was very successful, with 55 to 60 people attending, including representatives from Clubs in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Missouri, and a number of GDI's. On October second, Cornshaulers staged its fourth annual "All Iowa AIDS Benefit," a long and successful evening of entertainment and auctions, which raised over \$12,000.00 for various AIDS-related organizations throughout Iowa.

At their November meeting, Cornshaulers elections were held; the new Officers are Jim S.--President, Brad K.--Vice-President and Road Captain, Bob S.--Secretary, and Richard W., Treasurer. The Cornshaulers would like to wish all of the Chapters and Affiliates happiness this holiday season and throughout the coming year.

SEATTLE MEN IN LEATHER

The recent Seattle Leather Daddy and Daddy's Boy 1990 competition, hosted by **Seattle Men in Leather**, was a great success. Competition was fierce, with two men in the running for *Daddy* and three men and one woman competing for *Daddy's Boy* (with one person competing for both titles). Winners of the titles are Nile Baird as Seattle Leather Daddy, and Steve Hines as Daddy's Boy. Judges were Joey (PDX Leather Daddy '90), Jake (SF Daddy's Boy '84), Wes Randall (President NLA:Seattle), Bill Robbins (Leather Activist), and Mary Ridge (Leather Activist). The event was produced by Howard Martin and Jeff Hennes. \$100 was donated from the proceeds to AIDS Housing of Washington.

SML has admitted its first honorary members, Jan Lyon (Ms NLA 1989/90, Susie Shepherd (IMsL 1989), and Gabrielle Antolovich (IMsL 1990). Such honorary membership may be proposed for any "women who have repeatedly given outstanding support to the Seattle men's leather community and/or SML."

Other recent activities of SML include their slumber party, their second Twinkie Roundup, and participation in *From All Walks of Life '90* (with SML members turning in almost \$2500 in pledges). SML's regular brunch moves to Mikes on Madison in Seattle. March 1-3 will see SML's second Anniversary Weekend (Equinox II), set at Pilgrim Firs, in the scenic wilds of the Olympic Peninsula.

LONE STAR P.E.P.

Lone Star PEP continues its terrific rounds of parties, new-comers meetings, potlucks, etc. The action sounds wild in Dallas, and the fun varied and exciting. Particularly noteworthy was the October 27th Halloween Party, with costumes "from the mildest to the wildest, the subtle to the extreme, the outlandish, scary, pretty, sexy, [and] downright RUDE..." Membership is available at various levels; call the hot line at (214)-601-1320 for information on memberships, activities, and event admissions.

ORGASM

Portland's Oregon Guild Activists of S/M reports that it is alive and well, though it has been forced to cancel most of its scheduled dungeons and Jacks parties, as the organization is seeking a new location in Portland. The last dungeon in the old quarters was held December 7th; a Dungeon Breakdown Party will be held December 29th. ORGASM cannot yet announce its new site, or the date of its Moving In Party. After the hearty Living in Leather V dungeons, enthusiasm continues strong in Oregon.

LEATHER UNITED--CHICAGO

This group continues its round of club nights, community service, and meetings. It reports very successful Halloween club night and a great party, and a Guest Club Nite at Boot Camp Saloon in Milwaukee on November 3. A New Year's party is being planned. Address is P.O.Box 138-058, Chicago, IL 60613.

(MORE AFFILIATE NEWS PAGE 10)

HOW TO BECOME AN NLA AFFILIATE

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. Benefits to NLA Affiliates include 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 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.

THE Leather/SM/Fetish Calendar

Table listing events for December 1990 and January 1991. Includes dates, event names, and locations like Paris, France, Dallas, and Chicago, IL.

Table listing events for February 1991. Includes dates, event names, and locations like Boston, MA, San Diego, CA, and Chicago, IL.



THE Leather/SM/Fetish Calendar

Table listing events for February 1991 and March 1991. Includes dates, event names, and locations like San Diego, CA, Dallas, TX, and Boston, MA.

Table listing events for March 1991 and April 1991. Includes dates, event names, and locations like Boston, MA, Chicago, IL, and Dallas, TX.

Table listing events for April 1991, May 1991, and June 1991. Includes dates, event names, and locations like Chicago, IL, Houston, TX, and Boston, MA.

PANTHEON OF LEATHER AWARDS

The first annual Pantheon of Leather Awards presentations are planned for January 25 through January 27, 1991, in Hollywood, California.

Deserving individuals and organizations have been nominated from all over the United States in the various categories, which include Regional, Non-Profit Organization, Forbearer, Club, and Man and Woman of the Year. There are two non-voting categories: Publisher's Award and Readers' Choice Award. The **Leather Journal** called for nominations from around the country (with the deadline set for November 1). Nominations have been posted to a panel including Guy Baldwin (International Mr. Leather 1989 and Mr. National Leather Association 1989-90), Jan Lyon (Ms National Leather Association 1989-90 and Leather Journal Woman of the Year 1990), and Dustin Logan (Leather Journal Man of the Year 1990). The panel's involved selection process will be tabulated by the accounting firm of Allen E. Steele of West Hollywood--with results released the evening of January 26, 1991.

Shan Carr will emcee this gala event, which will include titleholders and celebrities from all over the country as awards presenters. Other weekend highlights include an Erotic Fantasy Fashion Show, an Erotic Art show (with renowned veteran artists and newcomers), and a farewell brunch. New York choreographer Joel Carlinsky will create an opening number for the awards ceremony, featuring titleholders, and will himself perform a new erotic fantasy dance. Site of the awards show is

the Circus Disco in Hollywood, donated by Gene La Pietra, the owner. The evening's profits will be given to Aid for AIDS (Los Angeles), the National Leather Association, Leather Force 2000 (Worcester, MA), and the Texas Conference of Clubs.

Reservations for the pantheon of Leather Awards can be made by calling 213-469-5922 (with Visa or MC number) or by sending check or money order payable to the Leather Journal/Pantheon of Leather, 7985 Santa Monica Blvd, #109-368, W. Hollywood, CA 90046. Reserved seating for the event is \$60 (including a pin, T-shirt, souvenir program, and reserved table seating). Host hotel for the event is the Hollywood Holiday Inn, with rates ranging from \$74 single to \$96 quad per night--call 213-462-7181 & mention the Pantheon of Leather for reservations.

Nominees for the Pantheon of Leather Awards include: Man of the Year (Race Bannon, Joseph Bean, Bill Costomiris, Brian Dawson, Tony DeBlase, Wes Decker, Barry Douglas, David Eckhardt, John Ferrari, John Howe, Brad Kroeger, Howard Martin, George Nelson, Rob Neyts, Michael Pereyra, Chuck Renslow, Eric Rofes, Mark Ryan, and Alan Selby); Woman of the Year (Gabrielle Antolovich, Nan Borrow, M.P. Breslin, Pat Califia, Sallee Huber, Judy Smith-Johnson, Shannon Kennedy, Peri Jude Radecic, Gayle Rubin, Susie Shepherd, and Jolanne Tierney); Non-Profit Organization of the Year (Act Up, Aid for AIDS, American Civil Liberties Union, Aris Project, Brother Help Thyself, Chicago Brown Institute, Gay Male SM Activists, Inter-Club Fund, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, National Leather Association (National), National Leather Association: Los Angeles, National Leather Association: Portland, National Leather Association: San Diego, National Leather Association: Seattle, Robert Maplethorpe foundation, and the Tom of Finland Foundation); Club of the Year (APEX, Atlanta

Mcnamore Levi/Leather Club (Wilmington) William J. and Thom C. Representing the Independents is Lon H. Selected to serve as Caucus Secretary is Kevin D of Tarheel LC, and as Caucus Treasurer is Scott L. of Menamore LLC. Discussion was held regarding possibility of a North Carolina Chapter of the NLA, regarding differences and commonalities among represented clubs, regarding the possibility of a region-wide Carolina newsletter, and regarding the possibility of a Carolina Leather Finals Contest (perhaps in Jan-

uary). The Carolina Club Caucus is envisaged as a forum for clubs and individuals of both Carolinas. They invite individuals and potential organizations to maintain contact with the established clubs, to secure information on future events and meetings. A second meeting was set for November 30 to December 2, in Raleigh, N.C., hosted by Capital Leathermen as part of a Leather Caucus Weekend Correspondence may be addressed to Menamore LLC, P.O.Box 7364, Wilmington, NC 28406.

Contact Les Robinson at 213-469-5922 for further information.

SM Solidarity, Boots and Breeches, Centaur MC, Chicago Hellfire club, Disciples of DeSade, FFA: Miami, Golden Gate Guards, Knights on Iron MC, Motorcyclemen of New Mexico, ORGASM, Outcasts, Panthers LL, Riders MC, Satyrs MC, Seattle Men in Leather, Sirens MC, Southbay Leather Uniform Group, and Tarheel LLC. Nominated for Business/Business Person of the Year are Larry Dooley of Warlords Leather, Jay Borne of Second Skin Leather Co., Harriet Claire of Dreams and Sirens, Doug Deal of Mr. S., John Esqueda of The Heat, Jim Ward of Gauntlet Inc., Gauntlet II, David Golanka of The Noose, Dick Griffin of Griff's Bar and Grill, Mike Hodge of Parliament House, Leather by Leather, Marathon Films, Pink Triangle Gallery, Pleasure Chest (Chicago), Tom Weitzel of the Pleasure Chest (L.A.), R.J. Chaffin, Bill Schmeling (THE HUN), Alan Selby, Shades of Grey, Timberfell Lodge, Lee Willis of The Stud Works, and Wayne's Leatherack. Forbearer nominees include Sal Accordi, Anthony Bruno, Cirby, Barry Douglas, Wayne Gloege, Bob Graves, Jan Hall, Sashie Hyatt, Mack MacKinnon, Steve Maidhoff, Geoff Mains, Robert Maplethorpe, Ray Matienzo, George Nelson, Brian O'Dell, Chuck Renslow, Gayle Rubin, Alan Selby, Robert Sheets, David Stein, Tom of Finland, Larry Townsend, and Danny Williams. Regional nominees include Larry Arbo, Race Bannon, Bill Costomiris, Wes Decker, Jay Evans, John Ferrari, Jeff Henness, Ernie Hoop, Jeanette of Sweet Misery, Dan Kopka, David Lewis, Robert Linsley, Jeffrey Lysaght, Andy Mangels, Bruce Marcus, George Nelson, Rob Neyts, Steve Patten, Michael Pereyra, Dino Rosie, Dean Ryane, Randy Sauder, Alan Selby and Karen Udell.

DONATIONS RECEIVED

The Mack McKinnon Travel Fund provides assistance with travel expenses for the Co-chairs and Mr/Ms NLA while doing the public relations work for the NLA. We wish to thank all the fine companies which donated to the LIL V auction. Please remember their fine work by supporting their businesses.

Big Black Boots 1675 Regulus Street San Diego, CA 92111 619-278-9963 / \$100 Gift Certificate

The Leather Journal 7985 Santa Monica Blvd. #109-368 West Hollywood, CA 90046 213-469-5922 / Journal issues

Inquisition Unlimited 2418 Western Ave. Seattle, WA 98121 212-623-4085 / Studded Collar

Attitudes 1017 S.W. Morrison Studio 312 Portland, OR 97205 503-224-0050 / Two (2) Piercings

NLA General Store P.O. Box 17463 Seattle, WA 98107 206-789-8990 / NLA & SSC T-Shirts

The Hun P.O. Box 11308 Portland, OR 97211 503-285-9670 / Discreetly under-stated erotic SM Artwork

Penny Howard Designs P.O. Box 1208 Wickenburg, AZ 85358 602-265-0721 / Collar with matching earrings

Gauntlet Inc. 2377 Market Street San Francisco, CA 94114 415-431-3133 / One piercing with stainless jewelry

GrapiK Art Productions P.O. Box 460142 San Francisco, CA 94146-0142 415-282-6081 / Ten Bondage Videos

Raelyn Gallina P.O. Box 20034 Oakland, CA 94620 / One piercing with stainless ring

Sorodz P.O. Box 10692 San Francisco, CA 94610 415-829-2588 / Derlin Rod

Desmodus 24 Shotwell Street San Francisco, CA 415-252-1195 / Drummer Buckle & T-shirt 3 Videos

Top of the Line Designs 6536 N Missouri Portland, OR 97217 / Erotic Coloring Books

The Stud Works 22622 16th Ave. South Seattle, WA 98198 206-624-6278 / Studded Belt

Spartacus 300 SW 12th Portland, OR 503-224-2604 / Viper's Tongue Toy & Vest

The Eagle 4040 W. Kennedy Blvd. #711 Tampa, FL 33609 813-254-7892 / Rubber Bondage Hood

International Mr Leather 5025 N Clark Street Chicago, IL 60640 / Two IML Packages

Tom of Finland 1416 Levita Terrace Los Angeles, CA 90046 / T-Shirt

Heretic 7829 Melrose #344 Los Angeles, CA 90046 / Rubber T-Shirt

Sisterhood of Steel MC / Rubber Whip

Hedonic Engineering 2215R Market #107 S.F., CA 94114 / Belt Whip

The NLA also wishes to thank the companies which contributed gifts to the Mr/Ms NLA Contest.

Onyx Leather 1017 East Pike Seattle, WA 98122 / Gift Certificate \$25 Each

Janet Ryan Photography P.O. Box 32732 Kansas City, MO 64111 / Photo Shoot \$30.00 Value

The Stud Works 22622 16th Ave So Seattle, WA 98198 / Title Belt for each

FROM MS N.L.A.

Well, Folks, I have had quite a month since this title began. Howard and I made our first appearance together in San Jose on the weekend of Nov. 10th. Steve Lesh made this possible. THANK-YOU Steve! I made another quick trip to Los Angeles on Nov. 17th and spoke briefly at the Tridents: L.A. Saturday night party. It was a really lovely event and the guys made me feel quite welcome.

On a more serious note, I would like to take this opportunity to ask the medical

professionals in the community to contact me. I would like to encourage the medical professionals in the community to create some kind of effect safety guidelines. Beth Brown, an MD in the San Francisco area, has offered to act as a clearing house for this type of study. If you are interested in participating in this study, please write my P.O.Box and I'll pass the info on to Beth. Thanks.

I was asked to send a copy of my speech from LIL V to the **First Link**.... Well, I don't write speeches that way. What I have heard through the grapevine about what I said has really summed up my feelings very well. Someone referred to the speeches I made during LIL as having "Righteous

Anger." I quite like this description. I would like to encourage all of you to find your place of "Righteous Anger." If you are feeling afraid for your sexual civil liberties, or saddened by Helms' re-election, refocus that sadness, grief, and fear. Find your anger and let it work for you. With the new right breathing down our throats, we have no more time to indulge in grief about our mistreatment. Anger is our tool of power; work it, boys and girls!

In Leather Solidarity,

Ruth Marks

P.O.B.42, So. San Francisco, CA 94083

CAROLINA CLUB CAUCUS FORMING

September 15 saw the first **Carolina Club Caucus** in Wilmington, North Carolina. Formally represented were **Tradesmen** (Charlotte) by Tony W. and Joe C. **Tarheel Leather Club** (Greensboro) by Bill C., **Capital Leathermen** (Raleigh) by Jim B., and

E.C.M.C.

The National Leather Association extends cordial thanks to Beat Ruedi, Secretary (chief officer) of the European Confederation of Motorcycle Clubs. At Living in Leather V, he volunteered to go over the

NLA European club listings. He recently returned a corrected list of clubs, which enabled us to remove 6 inactive clubs from our mailing lists, add about 10, and make changes in over 40 addresses. Beat sends thanks for a very enjoyable weekend in Portland; we thank him, for joining with us, and for his help.

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.

MORE NLA AFFILIATE NEWS

SOCIETY OF JANUS

Janus reports a splendid variety of recent events, tops among them being the December 13 *Bondage Beauty Pageant*. Again this year, Janus has offered members of the S/M Community a change to win a prize for tying someone (or several someones) up. Prizes were offered for Most Creative/Bizarre, Best Group, Best Non-Rope, Best Novice, Most Humorous, and Best of Show. Prizes were gift certificates from the Bay Area's *Stormy Leather*.

The Society's great Newsletter, *Growing Pains*, continues to report on Bay area goings on, events, and political items of great concern to our whole community.

THUNDER HEAD CLUB

A series of parties is being held by this men's play club in Boston, including scheduled parties on Jan. 26, March 23, and May 18th. Their second Anniversary Party is set for April 13th, and a Gay Pride Bar-B-Que

for June 8th. Their facilities also will be used for a series of NLA:New England and L.I.S.P. parties.

THE FIFTEEN

The Fifteen of San Francisco is pleased to announce new dungeon quarters, which should be officially renovated and opened during their eleventh anniversary celebration February 15 to 18, 1991. The Fifteen states that it exists to encourage safe, sane and responsible S/M, and invitations to its functions are issued to men who wish to enjoy serious S/M, within the limits imposed by standing rules of the Fifteen.

CHICAGOLAND DISCUSSION GROUP

For the new year, this club will be hosting increased meetings and social events, moving to a new location in Chicago. Future plans include a ladies Tea Party in February (for Dominant Women and their submissive males), Couples' meetings, another Orientation Meeting, Women's Rap Sessions, Social Nights, etc. The CDG is helping promote a "Kinky Alcoholics Anonymous Group" in Chicago (call the club line at 312-583-0922 for information or to volunteer to help). The Group will be participating with the rest of

the energetic Chicago Leather Community at the First Anniversary Celebration of the AA Meat Market.

OUTCASTS

In the December issue of *Lunatic Fringe*, Outcasts presents a remarkable body of material: a delicious review of *Living in Leather V* (cited as being a "roaring success" and "splendiferous"; an extremely moving history of the Catacombs, the pioneering San Francisco fisting palace, and the fantastic visionaries who created it; important letters surrounding the recent controversial Michigan Women's Festival; book reviews, etc. Outcasts' January 11th Program will concern Anger Management: the Antidote to Violence."

DISCIPLES OF DE SADE

The Disciples are working on Discipline VI (April 12-14, 1991), which will include suppers, parties, games, and contests, concluding with brunch and closing ceremonies. Packages are available; write Registration Committee at POB 57311, Dallas, TX 75207. The organization's purpose is the promotion of safe, sane and consensual S/M among adult gay men of like interests.

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

C-Space, in Seattle, reluctantly postpones classes, due to the closing of the Balcony, from whom space was rented. C-Space has tentatively rescheduled its exploratorium session to Jan. 11, at a new location. Write P.O.Box 25827 for information.

Black & White Men Together: Detroit announces the 1991 National Convention there on June 23-30, 1991. Write BWMT-Detroit, Convention '91, P.O.B.24-8831, Detroit, MI 48224 for information.

The **Mr. and Ms. Southeast Leather 1991 Competition** comes up during the **Southeast Leather Weekend**, "A Celebration of Leather," March 7 to 10, 1991, in Atlanta, GA. Among many celebrities present and events scheduled will be the first public performance of the Southeast Leather Chorus. Chuck Higgins and Diane Suisa (Mr. and Ms. SE Leather 1990) assure us this is THE weekend to attend. For information call 1-800-277-9933.

Nancy Ava Miller announces that, after forming two new **People Exchanging Power** groups (in Philadelphia and Washington, DC) she is back running **PEP New**

Mexico. She invites all **First Link** readers to drop in at PEP in Albuquerque. Call 505-764-5748 for information on PEP.

Chicago Hellfire Club plans a series of events December 29 to 31 (for members and sponsored guests). Individuals wishing to attend should contact a CHC member for sponsorship. Packages are available.

Mansfield Bucks of Burlington, VT, continues its fundraising for Vermont CARES. The entire proceeds of the weekly coat check the Bucks handles at Pearls goes to Vermont CARES.

The **Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation** reports that the Soviet law that subjects consenting homosexuals to up to five years in prison will be retained in the new edition of the Soviet Criminal Code. They advocate that letters of protest be sent to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, demanding abolition of Article 121.1--the address is simply **Moscow, USSR**.

The Finnish Government has funded a documentary on **Tom of Finland, Daddy and the Muscle Academy**, to be filmed in L.A. and S.F. in early 1991. The Finnish advertising and journalism industry also voted Tom the Comic Illustrator of the Year this year. (Courtesy **Stonewall Union Reports**--Columbus, OH).

The latest **Journal of Sexual Liberty** includes disturbing pages from newspapers, highlighting the blatant accusation that S/M equals Violence Against Women. The **Journal** does an incredible job in combing the press, and is vital reading for those anxious to preserve "Our Sexual and Civil Liberties." Write POB 1592, San Francisco, CA 94101-1592 for information.

The **Windy City Bondage Club** of Chicago plans its annual meeting and election for January 25; W.C.B.C. is about to celebrate its fourth Anniversary.

GMSMA of New York announces its 10th Anniversary celebration, March 8 to 9. Events include a reception, a mini-conference on the s/m-leather lifestyle, and an anniversary dinner, with an appearance by Lynn Lavner. Write **GMSMA** at 496A Hudson St., #D23, NYC 10014.

Tridents of Central Mass. reports *Life Fight 90* was a grand success, with over \$3000 raised.

Black Rose of Washington, DC, announces that their meeting site, the Gay Community Center, has closed. Meetings shift to Badlands/The Annex. For program information call 301-369-7667.

Thanks to the **Texas Conference of Clubs** of Houston for their detailed schedule of 1991 Texas leather activities.

Scribbles

December...issue 12 and completion of year 4. Although it's done by everybody else--a brief review of the past year seems appropriate. I promise not to re-run old videos with commercials.

A year ago in December I remember difficulties with site procurement for LIL V. I recall assistance from many locals (most especially J. Ferrari and Ineka in San Francisco) and final contracting with the Portland Memorial Coliseum for a 2nd year. I know that Sallee Huber (our present Conference's Committee Chair) must be relieved to know our sites in Chicago are arranged.

I remember back to last winter and numerous by-law meetings trying to settle our structure into a written format which maintained consistency, was actually operable, and included initiation procedures. The relief of completing those often intense and detailed discussions in March and even more at finally mailing them to the Membership in April was like removing the pressure of a whole-body-size clothespin after 6 months of continuous application. The approval of these Bylaws by the entire membership by an overwhelming majority reflecting a high percentage of return was a most significant demonstration of Membership concern for its organization and appreciation of the intense work by the three Committees that had worked on this document. Hopefully, I'll never have to co-author, even with many others, a 3rd set of Bylaws for our National Organization.

A year ago, several Chapters (we had only 9 at that time) were experiencing problems and requested assistance from National. Unfortunately, no mechanism existed to either channel problems, or give real assistance beyond personal advise and a sympathetic ear. With new Bylaws as a foundation and newly nationally elected representatives to receive and respond to inquiries, one of the first actions at the first meeting of the National Council was to appoint a Chair for a new Chapter Relations Committee. Chair Chuck Higgins holds a nationally-respected reputation and is forming his Committee to reflect our varied

geographic and socio/political membership, and the 16 Chapters that now exist.

Lackadaisical financial control and many unanswered questions have been almost a tradition with NLA, and 1990 was generally no exception. However, although it's like shutting the barn door after the cow has walked out, this time she left behind several calves and other critters such as greater general membership awareness of need for controls, recognition that our fiscal state has in reality been better than we believed, and the knowledge that our National Community holds NLA important enough to back it financially. My Gawd! I've even been asked to formulate budget figures for 1991! The only other time this was done was 1987, and that recommended budget went completely ignored.

In general, the year has brought many positive changes to our organization and community. We've enjoyed a great growth in National -- no International membership and respect among other community organizations. Our Ms/Mr NLA Titleholders are treated as the true National Titleholders they are. Requests for official Political Statements from NLA are now formally requested. Our mistakes now also receive more publicity and community discussion as well. We've become a much more visible target for our oppressors from outside our community and the "nay-sayers" and sideliners within. We lost this year to the bigotry of Jesse, but not by the expected landslide, and we know we can make a difference. Maybe we won't lost next year, and there are plenty of skirmishes ahead. We've gotten better at recognizing our strengths and weaknesses and have begun our work of maintaining the former while diminishing the latter.

I think we've moved forward.

Finally, I'll offer my personal wishes to all members and friends for an enjoyable and safe holiday season, and a fulfilling and rewarding New Year.

G.N.

CLASSIFIED ADS:

\$5.00 for the first 25 words, \$.25 each additional word, payable to National Leather Association. No forwarding service. No sexual solicitations or roommate ads.

Computer/Modem Owners: Life-style BBS -- for Swinging, B&D, Bi, TV, Fetishes & Singles. Post ads, receive private mail, live keyboard 'chat', hot stories. No minute/hourly fees. Free info - log on 516-689-5390 (to 2400 baud).

Erotic Nipple Cuffs: Safe, sensual, comfortable nipple jewelry. Achieves the look of pierced nipples. Send S.A.S. E. for price/info sheet. W. Cohen, P.O. Box 6588, Arlington VA 22206-0588.

NLA MEMBERSHIP

Open to adults who support our statement of purpose. **National Dues \$25. (\$30. outside North America--U.S. funds).** Use form below to join or renew. Members, check your address label; the first 2 digits at the top indicate **Year** of expiration, the second 2 **month**.

FULL NAME: _____

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(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 NLA, POB 17463 SEATTLE, WA. 98107

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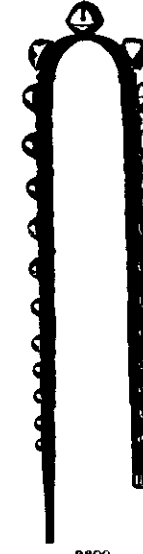
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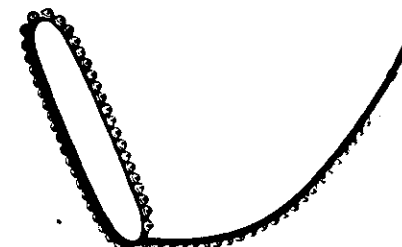
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