

**LAW INFORMATION PROJECT**

**THE LINK**

**National Leather Association: International**

**LAW INFORMATION PROJECT**

The National Leather Association: International is pleased to announce the LAW INFORMATION PROJECT. The project is aimed at removing myths about laws as they apply to SM players and/or legal actions taken against SM players in our community and creating usable databases and research materials for lawyers, legal workers, and community members alike.

Too often we hear a story of "I heard that this person was convicted of assault after a scene with their bottom." When asked for details, the answer is often, "I don't know, but I know it happened." That information is not particularly helpful to other players.

If you know of a case involving SM players where the SM played a part in the case, e.g., child custody, criminal cases, whether or not the person lost or won their case, please let us know so that we can research it more fully and add the information to our database.

Send as much of the following as you can:

1. Name of the party(ies).
2. Where did the case happen?
  - a) state
  - b) county
  - c) city
3. Which court did it take place in?
  - a) civil
  - b) criminal
  - c) superior court
  - d) family court
  - e) other
4. Approximate date of the case (year)

If you are aware of laws or regulations pertaining to SM activities, please send us information about that, too. [E.g., carrying of knives, are certain toys illegal (e.g., handcuffs are not legal in Boston),wearing of uniforms, nudity, flogging in bars, etc.]

1. What is the law? Provide the statute number if possible or, better yet, a copy of it.
2. Where is the law located?

Please send your information to:

Spencer Bergstedt, Attorney at Law  
1202 Pike # 1070  
Seattle, WA 98122

or send the information by e-mail to Mstr-Spence@aol.com

**Newly Approved Policy and Procedure to be Used in Special Election**

by Dean Walradt

Due to the lack of candidates for the female Co-Chair position in the last annual elections, NLA-I's newly elected EC at its opening October meeting, directed the Elections & Credential Committee to open nominations for a special election. The election process as laid out in the newly approved provides for nominations to be sought in this issue of THE LINK.

Nominations were opened at the Annual Meeting of the General Membership with Jan Hall of Columbus Oh and Michelle Harris of Dallas TX nominated.

Nominations must be received by Election & Credential Committee Chair Dean Walradt by December 15. Those nominating are encouraged to use the form included in this copy of THE LINK and mail to **Dean Walradt, 5306 Fleetwood Oaks #126, Dallas Texas 75235 ATTN. NOMINATIONS.** To be valid nominations must be received on or before 12/15.

All nominators and nominees eligibility must be determined. Nominations must include the name of the member making the nominations as well as the member being nominated. Nominees will be contacted to confirm their willingness to be a candidate who will then provide an acceptance/biography for publication when ballots go to the general membership.

Nominations can be faxed to the committee if necessary. The member faxing should receive a voice confirmation of reception of his nomination fax within three days. If he/she does not receive that confirmation, the nominator should contact committee chair, Dean Walradt to determine a possible problem. Dean's voice & fax number is 1-214-520-3248 (please keep calls between 9am & 10pm CST). Mailed or faxed, make sure all information is legible.

Members will receive a ballot in the January issue of THE LINK. The Elections Committee will provide a loose ballot and a return address label. Voting members are requested to provide an envelope, a \$.32 stamp and mail the ballot. Ballots will be returned to **Elections Committee, C/o Mark Frazier, 4120 Bowser #A, Dallas Texas 75219.** Ballots must be received by April 1st, 1997 to be valid.

Mark will count the sealed ballots, confirm number received and forward them unopened to Committee Chair, Dean Walradt, who will open and tally the votes. They will then be forwarded to Membership Chair, Glenn Scott. Glenn will tally the votes then compare that tally with Deans tally and confirm consensus on the outcome. All three will compare and confirm number of ballots received. Ballots will then be forwarded to NLA-I Secretary, Phil Swenson, who will record the results and add the ballots to the archives. The Committee will inform each candidate and the EC of the final results, and the new female Co-Chair is expected to take office at the April EC meeting. Please, if you have a nomination for Female Co-Chair( self nominations are permissible) fill out the nomination form provided here on the inside back page of THE LINK and mail it today. When you receive your ballots in January, vote immediately and mail right away.

**inside...**

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# A BIT OF HISTORY

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD HISTORY

- 1987 **SUSIE BRIGHT** Feminist and lesbian sex positive activist, author, editor and publisher.
- ANTHONY F. DEBLASE a.k.a FLEDERMAUS** SM writer, editor, educator. Originator of "DungeonMaster" and publisher of *Drummer*, *Mach* and other titles. In 1989 originator of the Leather Pride Flag.
- 1988 **GAYLE RUBIN** SM activist, writer, sociologist, historian, archivist, and educator. A founder of Samois, the first female SM organization in the world; a founder of The Outcasts.
- ALAN SELBY** Leather maker, businessman and activist. A founder and tireless fund-raiser for the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund. The "Mayor of Folsom Street."
- 1989 **GEOFF MAINS** Author of "Urban Aboriginals" and other important volumes on gay male SM sexuality. (First Posthumous Award)
- CYNTHIA SLATER** Founder of the Society of Janus in Berkeley, CA. an SM positive organization open to all sexes and orientations. The second oldest such organization in the world.
- 1990 **PAT CALIFIA** SM writer and activist. Longtime writer of *The Advocate's* Sexpert advice column and many other sex and SM positive articles and books. A Co-founder of Samois.
- CHUCK RENSLow** Leather businessman and activist. Co-founder of Kris Studios in 1950, Chicago's famous leather bar, the Gold Coast in 1969, and the International Mr. Leather Contest in 1979, the originator of The Leather Archives Museum.
- 1991 **Jan Lyons** A founding member of the NLA and one who has served it continuously in many capacities including Ms NLA and as female Co-Chair.
- STEVE MAIDHOF** Founding Daddy of the National Leather Association. Gayle Rubin and Tony DeBlase, presented this Award to him in his hospital bed, shortly before his death.
- 1992 **PAT BOND** Founder of The Eulenspiegel Society, 1971 in New York City. This was the first SM positive organization in the world and it welcomed persons of both sexes and all orientations.
- 1993 **DOROTHY HAJDYS** Mrs. Hajdys' first exposure to alternative sexuality's came when her son, Alan Shindler, a sailor in the US Navy, was murdered because he was gay, by a fellow sailor. She immediately became a gay rights activist and marched in the 1993, March on Washington. "Sometimes a lifetime can be experienced in one year."
- FAKIR MUSAFAR** A lifelong advocate of body modification in its most extreme, and of spiritual rituals of transcendental pain, such as those exhibited in the video "Dances Sacred and Profane" and discussed in Research, volume 12, "Modern Primitive."
- 1994 **NAN BORROWS** "Masstress" Nan is one of the best known and most widely respected female dominants in North America. She was pansexual long before the term was coined, and has for many years been one of the most important activist and educators in the heterosexual SM community.
- JOHN PRESTON** Writer/Pornographer The Author of "Mr. Benson" and many other erotic and SM explicit stories. He went on to become one of the best know writers in America, but was always proud to be a pornographer. (Awarded posthumously a few months after his death)
- 1995 **VIOLA JOHNSON** Organizer, activist, and educator, she is one of the best known BOTTOMS in North America. She is the recipient of the 1995, Pantheon of Leather Lifetime Achievement Award. Vi has been active in the SM scene for over twenty years and with NLA since 1988.
- LARRY TOWNSEND** Activist, writer, editor, and publisher. Author of *The Leathermans Handbook* in 1972, the FIRST publication to deal with SM activities on a real life, non-fictional basis. Author of many stories and novels and the editor/publisher of a series of SM publications that have provided opening venues to many SM writers.

Many thanks to Tony DeBlase for compiling this list.

## Past President, Chair and Titleholders

### Presidents and Chairs

1986-1988	President	Steve Maidhof
1988-1989	President	Vik Stump
1989-1990	Co-Chair	Judy Tallwing McCarthy
1990-1991	Co-Chair	Jim Richards
1990-1991	Co-Chair	Shannon Thomas Kennedy
interim 1991	Co-Chair	Judy Tallwing McCarthy
1991-1992	Co-Chair	Jan Lyon
1991-1993	Co-Chair	Chuck Higgins
1992-1994	Co-Chair	Sallee Mallard Huber
1993-1995	Co-Chair	Abert Kraus
1994-1996	Co-Chair	K.T. Chase
1995-1997	Co-Chair	Mark Frazier
1996-1996	Co-Chair	Vacant

### Title Holders

1987	Jan Brown	T.K. Cuellar
1988	Steve Maidhof	Cherie Matisse
1989	Guy Baldwin	Jan Lyon
1990	Ruth Marks	Howard Martin
1991	Laura Goodwin	Bill Miranda Salzman
1992	Andy Anderson	K.T. Chase
1993	Mark Frazier	Artemis Silver Owl
1994	Don Bastian	Mary Dante
1995	Stacey	David Hoffenbacker

**THE LINK** November 1996  
**NEXT ISSUE** January 1997  
**Deadline for submissions for next issue is Dec 1 1996.**

### Editorial Staff

Editor Michelle Harris NLA: Dallas  
 Printing and distribution NLA: Houston

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THE LINK or leatherrose@intex.net  
 C/O LRS subject: NLA Link  
 POB 223971 please send in plain text  
 Dallas Texas 75232 UUencoding if possible.

The appearance of any person or organization or their names in **THE LINK** is not intended to imply anything about their sexual orientation or lifestyle.

The opinions expressed in **THE LINK** are those of the Authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of NLA International or its membership.

At Your Service

by K.T. Chase Male Co-Chair

by Mark Frazier

## Farewell Address

## A DIFFERENCE

Greetings, Fellow Members and Living in Leather XI Participants.

The past two years as your Co-chair have been interesting, to say the least. I know that many of you were fully aware of the problems that we faces as an organization. Many thought that we would not succeed through another year. I made a promise to all of the membership that a complete and through house cleaning would be done. We the task of straightening out all of the problems was placed into my hands, I sort of felt like Bill Clinton when he took office, as was told that national debt was a problem, only to discover that it reached to the moon and back 10 times.

Faced with the fact that if things did not change soon we would have to cease as an organization, that all of the years that our founders and long-time members had put into this organization would be for naught, that all of the chapters who had been doing the same would be left with nothing to show for all of their time and energy, I was determined not to let this happen.

Why put so much into this as a volunteer for absolutely not pay and a considerable amount of my own personal funds and time? Because I believe in this organization's Statement of Purpose and its ability to offer our community something it needs. For years, I was in total darkness as to why I wanted to do the things that we Leather/SM/Fetish people do. In my search for answers I met members of the leather community and was brought into the folds of NLA. Finally, a place where I could ask questions, and get answers. Experience things I'd never known. Meet people who were of the same mind set. I didn't feel alone or like I was some kind of freak. The relief of knowing that I was accepted for who I was and what I was to become. The wonderment of knowing that part of myself and meeting the people who would become part of my life, from whom I would continue to learn. Learning that we have traditions, and a code of honor that needs to be upheld.

I know how much, so many have given of their time and effort to create what we have today. I can not forget those have gone before is to gorge the path to make history. And to those who continue on into the future. This is why I felt it so necessary to give back what I have been given, to share the knowledge, to share the truth, to share the freedom.

We as an organization are now on a path of recovery. For the first time in years, we have an operating in the black. The success of all or our restructuring I owe to a most cooperative Executive Council and the membership. I would like to personally thank Mark Frazier for being there thought all of the dark times and being my right hand man. With the failing health of Albert Kraus, our then male Co-chair, all of the responsibility of the Co-chair position became mine. With Mark as treasurer for the first year of my term, he worked with me to make the necessary changes. Then, as the newly-elected male Co-chair, he continued with me in directing this organization to the path of success it has embarked upon today. It has been a total delight to work with a man such as Mark. You are my HERO.

Thank you so much, Phil Swenson, for your advice, confidence and support. Thank you, Tony DeBlase, for your limitless patience, wisdom and understanding. My personal thanks to the entire Executive Council for working together and communicating with one another on a consistent basis. WHAT A TEAM!

My only regret is that Albert is not here to share in the success that we have today, because he was so much a part of NLA-I history. I miss you, Albert, my dear friend. There is one person to who I truly owe the most thanks. Susie, my love, my slave, my world. No words can describe how I have come to depend on you and your understanding of my commitment to the NLA. Thank you, my dearest, for seeing me through this, and keeping me grounded in the knowledge that you will always be there.

Lastly, Thanks to all of the membership of NLA-I for your commitment and desire to see us succeed. It has truly been a pleasure to be at your service.

Respectfully,  
K.T. Chase

Editors note\* Although K.T.'s term as female Co-chair has official ended, she was ask to stay in as Interim Female Co-chair until the chair can be fill by holding a special elections. She has accepted, and will remain until a new Co-chair is seated during the Spring EC meeting in April.

What a difference a year makes. LIL XI is now a part of the history books. Our second decade has gotten off the a great start.

Let me share with some thoughts with you about this years LIL. Financially speaking, we have had our most successful LIL ever. Our new treasurer, Spencer Bergstedt, will be giving a update on our finances soon.

Communication between the EC and the membership and the EC among each other is stronger than I can remember. We may not always agree, but we put the betterment of the organization ahead of everything else. I foresee the New EC carrying the baton that was handed to them by the outgoing EC members with just as much energy.

The workshops were a tremendous success. Tony DeBlase did a sensational job organizing and staffing the workshops. The dungeons provided lots of fun. The vendors provided lots of merchandise to purchase.

Over 100 dinners were sold for the Thursdays night dinner. What a way the start and event. Catching up with and meeting new friends.

The opening ceremonies provided numerous things to be proud of. Items in remembrance of our past Co-Chair, Albert Kraus, were donated to the archives and brought many in the audience to tears. Our Lifetimes achievement award winners, the late Bob Flanagan and Sheree Rose, and Jo Arnone gave emotional and thought provoking speeches. The Order of Merit winners expressed surprise that they were chosen for the job they did. The following received order of merit for going beyond their normal responsibilities Although there were many who would have been winner. The Co-chairs can only choose three each.

The following was chosen by KT.

1. Michelle Harris - for publishing the newsletter on time and without the help of any staff. She invested her own dollars to upgrade her system so the membership received a professional looking newsletter. She also contributed to the set up of the Website.

2. Glenn Scott - for his effort to sort through and redefine our membership data base.  
3. Hardy Haberman - For taking the responsibility upon himself to develop a website for the NLA-I. All graphics and layouts were a result of his hard work.

Mark Frazier chose the following

1. Lolita - For her promotion of NLA-I and her efforts for bring many back to our membership by "Lolita speaking only as Lolita."  
2. Jim Richards - for his effort in formulating and documenting our Policies and Procedures. Jim has spent numerous hours researching and writing the P&P manual.  
3. Jan Hall - for all the effort she has put into the NLA-I since day one especially her effort on the Domestic Violence.

Saturday Night dinner and show served over 300 LIL attendees. KT Chase put together an outstanding night of entertainment that was enjoyed by all. I will always remember the Pony show.

The general membership meeting saw us install the new EC. Members at large, Jim Richards, Athena, Sam. New Treasure Spencer B. They also saw KT installed as the interim Female Co-Chair until one can be elected in a special election. We must salute the retiring EC members, Bill Costomiras, Tony DeBlase and Jan Hall. Each of these individuals gave countless hours to make NLA-I a success. They each did one hell of a job. We thank you. New business was discussed and the NLA-I vision of the future was given by me.

You, the members will see numerous undertakings this year. You will also see a five year plan delivered by me to the membership before I step down from my position next October.

We need volunteer for projects! Please contact me if you want to volunteer you time. Be a part of the new and improved NLA-I. Lend your time and be part of making a difference.

In Service,  
Mark Frazier  
NLA-I Co-Chair  
4120 Bowser #A  
Dallas, TX 75219  
214-559-3511

# Statement of Purpose

To establish and maintain a worldwide communication, information, education and support network for sisters and brothers of the Leather/SM/Fetish community.

To promote with power and pride the right of all adults to engage in Safe, Sane and Consensual sexual expression.

To increase communication and understanding among women, men and transgenerals of Leather/SM/Fetish interests and lifestyles.

To facilitate political activism, visibility and education in order to destroy stereotypes, misconceptions, and media misrepresentations about the Leather/SM/Fetish family in the community at large.

To provide, through our publications, educational material and *LIVING IN LEATHER* conferences, a forum for sharing of knowledge, viewpoints and practices of a diverse group of men, women and transgenerals.

To build, strengthen and defend individuals, organizations, publications and businesses within our community, especially against threats to their freedom of expression, freedom of press, right to free association and right to equal protection under the law.

To develop outreach to women, those people of color, transgenerals, the hearing impaired, those physically challenged and other minorities who have been traditionally discriminated against or poorly represented in the Leather/SM/Fetish community.

To develop fund raising for deserving projects, clubs, organizations, defense funds, and/or other charities which have given, or are giving direct service to the Leather/SM/Fetish community.

To fight for the decriminalization of all sexual acts between consenting adults.

To preserve a record of our history, traditions and culture.

## FETISH FAIR FLEAMARKET #8!!!

NLA: New England presents the largest single fetish event in all of New England, the semi-annual Fetish Fair Fleamarket.

December 14th, noon-5pm, at Boston Center for the Arts Cyclorama, 539 Tremont Street in Boston's South End, easily accessible by orange line T, bus, and from the Massachusetts Turnpike and Route 93.

Join over fifty vendors of leather, fetish gear, toys, whips, chains, floggers, books, jewelry, latex wear, dungeon furniture, corsets, magazines, and more in a shopping orgy!

Demos, SM carnival games, a roving fashion show, and more await you.

NLA members, affiliated clubs, and anyone wearing leather club colors gets in free. General public will be \$5 at the door.

(You must be 18 years of age or older to enter. No children will be admitted under any circumstances--please do not bring them!)

Vendor registration deadline is November 26th.

For more information contact Cecilia at :  
ctan@cirlet.com

or visit the NLA: New England web site at:  
<http://www.cirlet.com/pub/u/ctan/nlane.htm>

ITEM #2:

NLA: New England now has a web site at:  
<http://www.cirlet.com/pub/u/ctan/nlane.html>

We invite other chapters and individuals to link to our site and would like to make reciprocal links to other groups interested.

Please contact:  
ctan@cirlet.com.

## STATEMENT ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

NLA International (NLA:I) has called on the Leather/SM/Fetish community to take the lead in reducing domestic violence through education.

NO GROUP IS FREE OF DOMESTIC BATTERING AND ABUSE, BUT FEAR, DENIAL AND LACK OF KNOWLEDGE HAVE SLOWED PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THIS SERIOUS SOCIETAL PROBLEM.

NLA:I is committed to reducing this violence by attempting to:

1. Show that community action can reduce domestic violence;
2. Hold batterers accountable for choosing to be violent; to encourage victims to take legal action; to deny drug or alcohol abuse excuses battering; and to encourage the batterer to seek treatment, and the victim to seek support;
3. Listen to and support those who have had the courage to tell us; to help them end their shame and isolation;
4. Educate the legal and social service systems about the difference between consensual SM and domestic violence, and to encourage their appropriate intervention;
5. Take responsibility for educating our community about the forms of domestic abuse and their extent and severity, and
6. Promote information and where to get help.

Domestic abuse takes many forms: physical violence, isolation, outright and subtle psychological or emotional abuse, economic control, sexual abuse and the destruction of personal property. Non-consensual manipulation, terror and assaults are not part of Sadomasochism.

NLA advocates relationships and friendships based on personal responsibility, honesty and integrity in which power and pleasure derive from mutual respect.

# BEYOND LEATHERSEX

## MR. LEATHERMAN TORONTO COMPETITION GROWS!

An expanded Mr. Leatherman Toronto 1997 Competition Weekend is set for Thanksgiving weekend. The focal point of the weekend will be the Mr. Leatherman Toronto 1997 Competition on November 30th. MLTC Producer Jay Wagner says, "Since its inception in 1989, the Toronto Competition has always been a way for leatherman to raise money for community groups." This year's contest is a fund-raiser for Positive Youth Outreach, an organization that helps young people with HIV/AIDS.

The 1997 Competition Weekend has been expanded to include a community educational forum produced by Duncan MacLachlan under the banner Beyond Leathersex. Highlights include workshops by IML '96 Joe Gallagher "Hitting, Punching and Bruising" and "The Joys Of Abrasion" by Michael Horowitz and are produced in association with the AIDS Committee Of Toronto's Safer SM Workshop Series. An interactive panel format will be used for topics like "Being A boy" and "SM: It's a Spiritual Thing!" and are produced in association with The National Leather Association: Toronto Chapter. A panel format will also be used to celebrate the diversity of SM Relationships. This panel is moderated by Robert Dante and is a benefit for the Boudoir Noir Defense Fund in aid of the Houghtons. Mary Dante Ms. NLA: 1 '95 and Joe Gallagher will Co-emcee the Contest Show which will include for the first time, community awards and a Parade Of Colours of visiting clubs and leather organizations. Other events include: "What He's Really Like: The boys tells all!" - a roast of MLT'96 Duncan MacLachlan on Nov. 28th, the "Get Linked Brunch" hosted by Gallagher and Horowitz on Dec. 1st, along with the expected Meet And Greet, parties and more.

Toronto means "the meeting place". Join us for the Mr. Leatherman Toronto Competition Weekend and Beyond Leathersex. There is no registration fee and all events are low cost. Most events will be signed.

The host hotel and venue for all panels and workshops is the Howard Johnson's Downtown Plaza Hotel. Reservations: call collect 1/416/924-0611 and ask for the MLT rate. Beyond Leathersex is supported by ACT's Safer SM Education Project, Boudoir Noir, NLA:TC. The Mr. Leatherman Toronto 1997 Competition is supported by The Barn, Black Eagle, BOOTS/Kurbash, Northbound Leather, PRIAPE, Toolbox, Woodys and more.

For more information on MLTC:

Jay Wagner 416/363-3134

For more information on Beyond Leathersex

Duncan MacLachlan 416/967-3364 e-mail: MrLT96@aol.com

### Beyond Leathersex A Community Educational Forum.

A series of five interactive panels and workshops. A rare opportunity to hear more than a dozen speakers from Toronto and the US.

A pansexual experience Don't miss it!  
produced by Duncan MacLachlan, Mr. Leatherman Toronto '96

SATURDAY, NOV. 30

Presented in association with the National Leather Association: Toronto Chapter with proceeds to same.

12:00 p.m. Being A boy Panel moderated by Lance Brittain Mr. Alameda County 94/95

2:00 p.m. SM: It's A Spiritual Thing Panel moderated by Duncan MacLachlan, MLT'96

Presented in association with Boudoir Noir magazine. Proceeds to benefit the Boudoir Noir Defense Fund in aid of the Houghtons.

4:00 p.m. A Celebration Of SM Relationships Panel moderated by Robert Dante, publisher/editor Boudoir Noir

SUNDAY, DEC. 1

Presented in association with the AIDS Committee Of Toronto Safer SM Education Project with proceeds to same. Pre-registration is appreciated (for Sunday workshops only) by calling John Maxwell at ACT 416/340-2437 ext. 245.

3:00 p.m. Hitting, Punching And Bruising Facilitated by Joe Gallagher, International Mr. Leather '96 with Syd Creighton, Ms. Leather Toronto '93

4:30 p.m. The Joys Of Abrasion Facilitated by Michael Horowitz, treasurer of the Leather Archives And Museum in Chicago, board member of Delta International, and associate of Chicago Hellfire.

Venue for all panels and workshops is the Buckingham Room, Howard Johnson's Plaza Hotel (N/E Corner) Yonge and Wood Streets. Suggested donation for each workshop \$10. No one turned away for lack of money. For more info on Beyond Leathersex call 416/967-3364 or e-mail: MrLT96@aol.com.

## National Leather Association International

### Executive Council 1996

Male Co-Chair	Mark Frazier	1995-1997
Female Co-Chair	Vacant	1996-1998
Secretary	Phil Swenson	1995-1997
Treasurer	Spencer Bergstedt	1996-1998
Former Chair	K.T. Chase	1996-1997

### VOTING MEMBERS AT LARGE

Class of 1997		Class of 1998	
Don Bastian	1995-1997	Sam Jeske	1996-1998
Syd Creighton	1995-1997	Athena Lyons	1996-1998
Viola Johnson	1995-1997	Jim Richards	1996-1998
Dean Walradt	1995-1997	Jeff Rose	1996-1998

### NON VOTING MEMBERS

Michelle Harris	Chair - Publications Committee
Jeff Rose	Director LIL XI
Glenn Scott	Membership Committee

Editors note (otherwise known as filling space) Please excuse any typos and errors, having extended the deadline to the 13th so everyone could send me up to date stuff, I ended up with 3 days to get it all together. Of course my computer decided this was the perfect time to throw a temper tantrum. So I ended up doing this in 2 evening. Oh well life in the fast lane.

In Leather  
Michelle

# MINUTES NLA: INTERNATIONAL SUMMER EC MEETING AUGUST 18TH, 1996

## Call to order

The summer meeting of the NLA-I Executive Council was called to order by Co-Chair K.T. Chase on August 18th, 1996 at 12:10 p.m. P.D.T.

The roll was called: K.T. Chase, Mark Frazier, Phil Swenson, Tony DeBlase, Jan Hall, Spencer Bergstedt, Dean Walradt, Jim Richards, Viola Johnson, and Don Bastian were present. The Chair declared a quorum.

## Open Session

NLA members Michelle Harris and Jeff Rose joined the meeting.

## Minutes

The minutes of the spring meeting as submitted by secretary, Phil Swenson, were presented to the Council. The EC reviewed the minutes. The Minutes were approved.

## Reports

**Co-Chair -K.T.-** She has been working on the membership database. NLA-I has picked up 100 new members in the past 6 months. She is sending 60 new membership packets out in the next few days.

**Co-Chair- Mark-** Mark advised the EC that David has resigned as Treasurer. He presented a written treasurers report to the EC based on the reports David provided him. He noted that in addition to the balance shown NLA-I had received 1100.00 for membership and 1400.00 for LIL.

**Treasurers Report-**See Co-chair Report.

**Budget and Finance-**No Report

**Elections-** No Report

**Publications-Michelle-** The website is up and running. The address is nla-i.com. The Link and membership applications are on-line. Space is available for chapter pages. Set up was less expensive than expected. She still isn't getting chapter information.

## New Business

**NLA Contest - Don B-** In accordance with the change from a title to an ambassadorship he has tried to simplify the application and process. He needs applicants. he proposed that the EC name: Stacy, Mark F., Jill Carter and George or Wayne as judges.

M/S/C- Move that executive committee approve judges.

**Policy & Procedures -Jim-** Submitted the following proposals for changes in Policies and Procedures:

Vacancy in Office-Amended to require 2/3's vote.

M/S/C to accept Vacancy in Office policy & procedure.

K.T. raised the question of what to do regarding the failure of any potential candidate to accept nomination for the Female Co-Chair position and suggested that the matter be addressed at the General Membership meeting at LIL.

M/S/C To accept nominations at General Membership Meeting at LIL, then hold special election.

Confidentiality- M/S/C to accept Policy and Procedure for Confidentiality as proposed.

Refusal of Membership- M/S/C to table the proposed Policy and Procedure to the fall meeting, pending revision in light of discussion.

Refusal of Renewal- M/S/C to table the proposed Policy and Procedure to the fall meeting, pending revision in light of discussion.

Revocation of Membership-M/S/C to table the proposed Policy and Procedure to the fall meeting, pending revision in light of discussion.

Causes for revocation-M/S/C to table the proposed Policy and Procedure to the fall meeting, pending revision in light of discussion.

**Affiliated Memberships-** Mark- M/S/C to amend Affiliate Membership proposal to permit affiliate members to use NLA-I logo and accept proposal as amended.

The EC agreed to add Affiliate Memberships to the Policies and Procedures.

**Pioneer Affiliates -Mark-** M/S/C to offer free 1st year affiliate membership and plaque to the 4 original NLA affiliates.

**Commercial Affiliates-Mark-** M/S/C to amend Commercial Affiliate Membership proposal to permit commercial affiliate members to use NLA-I logo and to accept proposal as amended.

**LIL XI-** Tony reported that artists are submitting work for the Art Show. He also reported that the workshop presenters list is nearly complete, but that Kate Bornstein and Pat Califia have had to change their plans and will not be able to attend.

Jeff reported that as of this date we had received: 61 general registrations; 15 special registrations; 22 vendor registration, 12 of who have paid in full and 10 who have confirmed but not paid.

Local hotels have advised him that there are rooms that will be released two weeks prior to LIL.

He requested donations for the travel fund auction.

He is requesting bids for LIL 12, and has sent letters to chapters.

He requests support for getting chapters to take ads in the LIL program.

He has arranged for sound and lights for the stage production.

He recommends that no play party packages be offered and that the admission charges be set at \$20.00 for single; \$30 for couples.

He wants to require that DM's take the DM workshop

M/S/C to name Irwin Kane and Mike Geinzer as DM Coordinators with executive authority to confirm dungeon operations and require DMs to attend a briefing before each play party.

**LIL XII** The EC reviewed a unsigned letter from someone indicating that Atlanta would be a good site for LIL XII. The EC agreed that there was insufficient information in the letter on which to base as decision to hold LIL XII in Atlanta. It was agreed to request a formal bid from the groups who wanted to put on LIL XII.

EC Contact List- M/S/C that the Secretary create a contact list for all EC members after the election.

## Old Business -

None

## Announcements

Tony announced that Jan Hall agreed to accept a nomination for the position of Female Co-Chair.

## Next meeting

The outgoing EC meeting was set for Thursday October 3, 1996 in Portland at a time to be announced. The incoming EC meeting was set for Saturday October 5, 1996 at a time to be announced.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m. P.S.T

Respectfully Submitted

Phillip Swenson, Secretary

# CHAPTER OF THE YEAR NLA COLUMBUS

# Treasurer Report General Account 1/01 - 10/2/96

Our honored chapter of the year is committed to education, service, outreach and safe sane and consensual adult sexuality.

They are a multi-racial, multi-cultural diverse group of men, women, gays, lesbians, straight, bi, transgendered, urban, rural, suburban, married and single members of our tribe, who all enjoy the SM/Leather/Fetish lifestyle.

Columbus offers monthly "hands on" programs with a strong emphasis on ethics. Sample past programs included practice at talking dirty, how to do cuttings, a demo on sounds, making your own toys and tips on electricity.

The local Pride Fest includes their information booth.

They have a lending library available containing national publications and books from fantasy to how-to. They are beginning a resource file that can be accessed by all NLA International members and they also offer to be the base of NLA:I's speaker's bureau.

Hold on, there's more! They brought a traveling exhibit of the Leather Archives for a chapter program and also promoted the Archive at a charitable event. Spearheading an all-state video history of leather clubs, collecting items for the Colors Project, a Pride Fest voters registration project and home of NLA:I's Hotline led to even more community support.

They sponsored a benefit for the legal expenses of a couple who were fighting for custody of their children against a prejudiced law enforcement system, washed windows at the new home of AIDS Service Connection, collected carloads of supplies for ASC as part of the National Leatherwomens food drive, and are presently raising funds to supply a scholarship to the fall women's health convention as part of the National Leatherwomen's Health Awareness Project.

Columbus shows further responsibility with their special SM support group that meets monthly to discuss the emotional aspects of this lifestyle. Member sadomasochist who parent children were on a panel to educate the local children's hospital child abuse investigation team. Their SM 101 workshops are advertised in mainstream press and fill the house.

Braving the storm, members appeared in public with their real names, before the board of the city's library to denounce censorship and offer solutions. This landed their manes in the city's daily paper openly as sadomasochist and got surprisingly favorable press.

On the lighter side, they boast theme parties, potluck dinners, camping, drive-in movies, canoeing, gardening, helping people move, flea marketing, the Renaissance Faire, video nights, bird watching, visiting historical sites, howling, bad bar tours, a presence at the annual Anything for Love convention and they socialize with other leather clubs in town.

Last summer, by invitation, Columbus led workshops as part of the sexuality series at the National Women's Music Festival in Bloomington Indiana. It was not uncommon for this workshops to have up to forty participants, almost all of them eager novices.

They worked last winter supporting the Indianapolis fund-raiser at the Freeze and Sleaze. This fall they have been ask to present a workshop about SM and Social Prejudice at the large pagan event The Witches' Ball, and are slated to be the highlight of a half hour cable TV program to promote their chapter and explain SM to the public.

Columbus is proud of their activism and outreach and focus internally as well. They had a program to learn expression without words where participants did role-play and received a booklet of helpful sign language for the dungeon. In October ever year they hold a seminar on domestic violence education. Two way learning experiences were shared between members and a representative from the Suicide Prevention Service where practical crisis intervention was taught in case they were to ever have a suicidal member.

Check out NLA:Columbus' Pride Week! Last year they received coverage on two TV channels for their Pride float and celebrated with many educational programs, ran play parties, held fund-raisers, increased public awareness and won the all-city-club leather tug of war.

NLA Columbus  
PO Box 2763  
Columbus Ohio 43216

General Operating Expenses		7,384.00
Membership		
Miscellaneous	2,148.00	
Equipment	1,255.00	
Office Supplies	21.00	
Postage		
Printing		
Telephone/Fax/Conference Calls	3,087.00	
1996	1,887.00	
1995	1,200.00	
Bank Charges	553.00	
Mail Box Service	320.00	
Mailing Permits		
LIL X-Prior Years Expenses		237.00
Refunds	237.00	
Link		2,108.00
Miscellaneous	152.00	
Supplies		
Postage	939.00	
Printing	1,017.00	
Office Supplies		
Telephone/Fax		
Co-Chairs		431.00
Duplicating		
Hotel		
Miscellaneous		
Office Supplies		
Postage		
Telephone/Fax		
Travel	431.00	
Committee		69.00
Telephone/Fax/Printing	69.00	
Titleholder's Travel		
<b>TOTAL PAID EXPENSES YTD</b>		<b>10,229.00</b>

### NLA-I GENERAL OPERATING INCOME 1/96-10/2/96

Membership	12,602.00
Affiliates	
Commercial	
Other Income	
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>12,602.00</b>

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b>	<b>2,079.00</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>12,602.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>10,229.00</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>4,452.00</b>

At Press time the final books for LIL XI had not been complete, a full LIL XI balance sheet will be published in Januarys issue of THE LINK.

### NLA-I XI ROUGH FIGURES AS OF 10/2/96

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>28,185.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>26,919.00</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>6,266.00</b>

### NLA-I TRAVEL FUND

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b>	<b>1,075.00</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>0,000.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>0,000.00</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>1,075.00</b>

# NLA Lifetime Achievement Awards 1996

## Jo Arnone

In the early years of the woman's leather movement a few brave women put their butts on the line so that other women would have the chance to learn about the leather lifestyle. Gayle Rubin and Pat Califia worked hard on the west coast. Their legacy to future generations, *Samois*, *the Outcasts*, volumes of leather writings for woman and *COMING TO POWER* are now part of leather history. On the east coast Dorothy Alison and another very special woman were busy founding L.S.M. (Lesbian Sex Mafia) the old Dorothy, Gayle and Pat have gone on to the accolades and well deserved laurels of their tribe. One of these four founding mother is hardly mentioned in the history of Leatherwomen. Jo Arnone was the woman who, along with Dorothy Alison, founded L.S.M. If that were all that she had done, that deed alone would give her a place in leather history. But there is so much more to the history of Jo Arnone.

A leather presence at Gay Pride Parades is a given, and has been for many years. Someone had to be the forerunner. The first person to march in the Christopher Street parade in full leather over twenty two years ago was Jo Arnone. G.M.S.M.A. has a long tradition for male leather activism. It has one female member, Jo Arnone.

Leather pride nights, and leather fest are a tradition within the leather community. They serve as a way to generate much needed funds for the charities that help to support our tribe. The original Leather Pride Night in New York City has generated well over \$100,000 for worthy groups. It has had the same auctioneer since its inception 11 years ago, and she has been the backbone of the organization, its creator and its chief overseer since its inception.

Pat Califia's vampire in *DAUGHTER'S OF DARKNESS* was patterned after Jo Arnone.

On a more personal note...The woman who possesses one of the finest uniform collections anywhere is also a collector of thimbles and hand painted eggs. She is as likely to be found playing with her Staffordshire Terrier George as she is to be heading a meeting of the New York Leather Pride Night Committee.

Most know her legendary skill with flails and cats. Few however are aware that she is as comfortable with the furry, four legged, kind as she is with the cats that have nine leather tails.

I know that what Sir Jo is most proud of (other than her mate and backbone Janni) are her federal and New York state licenses for animal rehabilitation in the fields of migratory birds and indigenous species. She is active with Wildlife Rehabilitation. Many injured or ill animals have been nurtured back to health because of her caring hands. That is only a small part of what the public doesn't see. Jo is known most for the little things. Many of the leathermen and women in the tri-state area learned their sense of tradition and theirs/m/ techniques from Jo Arnone. Much of the fund raising for worthy causes and the solicitation of prized for club events happened because of the behind the scenes work of Jo Arnone. The workshops and club uniting functions that New York is known for were babied and nurtured by Jo Arnone. The unity between men.

Tribesmen, I am proud to say that Sir Jo (as she is known in the scene) is one of my hero's. I am proud to say that she is my friend.

Respectfully,

Viola Johnson

N.L.A. International Lifetime Achievement Award Winner 1995

She has done all of this and more for the leather community of New York and the leather world at large for over twenty years. Yet, she is hardly known outside of the community that she has chosen to serve. At this gathering of Living in Leather, N.L.A. International has corrected that oversight and twenty plus years of unselfish service has been acknowledged.

## Bob Flanagan and Sheree Rose

I met Bob Flanagan and Cheree Rose in 1982. I was at their home, surrounded by twenty strangers; it was the second meeting of the Los Angeles Janus Society, and the only thing any of us had in common was that we were all into SM. Sheree introduced herself as Mistress Rose and Bob as her submissive.

We began working for the movement together and became friends. Bob, I learned was a writer who had CF\*. Cheree was his Mistress in the strongest sense of the word and muse. Over the years I've known them, they have worked tirelessly for the Leather/SM/Fetish movement. They started the LA college outreach program that continues to this day, and Sheree was an LA representative to the meetings where NLA was conceived and born.

Gradually, they integrated their SM lifestyle with their artistic endeavors, and became collaborators. Sheree started by video taping some of their schemes, the video, *Leather From Home*, made in 1984, was an early example. Bob began publicly reading his SM writing including his *Slave Sonnets* and *Fuck Journal*. The art and leather people started rubbing shoulders at these events. The readings became performances and Sheree began videotaping the performances and photographing the crowd. Word of what they were going spread, and soon adventurous gallery owners and museum curators were asking them for works to include in exhibits.

They began to conceive and mount full scale performance art shows including *Nailed* in 1989 and *Bob Flanagan's Sick*, in 1991. Jesse Helms heard about them and put them on his hit list. All the while Bob was in and out of hospitals battling his CF.

In 1991 the publishers of RE Search chose Bob as the subject of the first volume of its People Series, and published *Bob Flanagan: Supermasochist*. The publication of *Supermasochist* brought Bob and Sheree to international awareness. He became an icon. The new and larger public awareness brought Bob and Sheree an invitation to do an installation from the Santa Monica Museum of Art. The result, was *Visiting Hours*, a show featuring Bob, suffering the late stages of CF, ensconced in bed in a hospital room surrounded by his *Wall of Pain*, *Video Casket*, *Bed of Nails* and other works. Every one in a while, Mistress Rose would enter the hospital room where Bob would be entertaining his visitors. The New Museum of Art in New York invited them to reprise the installation in 1994. After seeing the New York show, a publicly funded group from Germany invited them to come do a performance in Germany the following year.

Sadly there will be no more performances or installations by these artistic partners. After returning from Germany, it got harder and harder for Bob to come back from his bouts with CF. Bob always did his best to do whatever his Mistress asked of him over all the years I've known them, but by years' end, not even Sheree could make him want to take another breath. After sixteen years together as Mistress and slave, artistic collaborators, and lovers. Bob did one last performance from his death bed, one that filled his hospital with the laughter, love and tears of those who had gathered to say good-bye to a unique and special person. Twenty hours later, on January 4, 1996, Bob stopped fighting for his life, he died peacefully, in Sheree's arms, with family and friends.

Since Bob's death, Sheree has continued the work they started. Shortly after Bob's demise, the Japanese government invited Sheree to do an installation at the International Tokyo Art Zone show in August of this year. The invitation led to the creation of "Boballoon" a twenty foot tall balloon effigy of Bob, bound in a black leather straight jacket, gagged, wide eyed, his proudly erect cock waiting for another piercing needle to be pushed through it.

The inflation of Boballoon caused a furor among the artists and audience. The Tokyo police got wind of it and made a visit in the middle of the show. The police decided that Bob was lewd and offensive and ordered it to be removed from the show. Hours later, after much debate and negotiation, the police relented and agreed that Boballoon could remain on display provided that the offending member was hidden from view inside a diaper.

Bob and Sheree helped our community to define itself as being inclusive and pansexual. They helped push our lifestyle out into the mainstream consciousness. They showed the society at large that we all are more alike than different. We will never know how many people of every orientation and gender discovered themselves or the scene through their work. Now will we ever know how many people learned to accept, or at least tolerate our lifestyle through their efforts. All we will ever know for sure is that they were one of the sparks that brought our community to life, one of the forces that drove it to where it is today, and one of the lights that will lead other to understand us better in the future. I can think of no other people who are more worthy and deserving of the 1996 NLA: I Lifetime Achievement Award than Bob Flanagan and Sheree Rose.

Phil Swenson NLA-I Secretary

\*CF is Cystic Fibrosis, a hereditary disease which causes an abnormal amount of mucous to form in the lungs, blocking the intake of air so that the victim dies of oxygen starvation. There is no cure. Prognosis is death, other at a very young age. Bob surprised the medical profession and sometimes himself by living as long as he did.



# THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND LIL XI

I invite you to meet the LIL XI staff, without them this years wonderful event would not have been such a success.

## Jeff Rose, Director

Jeff Rose is currently Member at Large, for the NLA Portland Chapter. He was President during '94-'95, and has been a member of the board since '93. He Assistant Director for Living in Leather X. He is the Co-Founder of the Bill & Ann Shepherd Legal Scholarship and holds honorary titles with The Imperial Sovereign Rose Court.

## Thom Zollner, Assistant Director

Thom has been a member of and involved in the Leather Community in various ways for over twenty years where among other things, he was bartender at the DC Eagle in the early seventies. A Portland resident for over 10 years, Thom became active in the NLA about 3 years ago. Currently he is the President of the LIL XI Host Chapter, NLA Portland. Thom was Staff Whip for LIL X, in charge of all the volunteers, and continues his involvement with LIL XI.

## Ruth, Chief of Security

Ruth is NLA Portland's Vice President. Also, as an active member of Bad Girls, she has helped with orientation and educational demos. Ruth's impressive accomplishments include being a LIL IV & LIL V worker, a founder of Reno's Leather Underground; 1990-1991 Ms Salem Leather, a founder of The Capital Forum, the first gay organization in Salem, Oregon; A Board Member of the Imperial Court of the Willamette Empire; an original Catharsis member, the first Portland women's SM organization board member of ORGASM; and has held numerous NLA Portland positions.

## AJ Johnson, Staff Whip

AJ is currently Treasurer for NLA Portland and a member of Bad Girls of Portland, an SM educational group for women. AJ moved to Portland in 1994. In August, she won the "Ms. NLA Portland" title. AJ became a Member at Large of MLA Portland in November 1994. She Co-hosted many workshops with her Co-title holder. All workshops were mini fund raisers and were created to educate the participants on different ways to play safe. AJ hosted a 100 mile motorcycle run to benefit Ester's Pantry, a local food bank for PWA, and helped raise \$675.00.

## Tony DeBlase, Workshop Coordinator

Tony was NLA's Man of the Year in 1987. The Leather Journal named him Business Person of the Year in 1990 and honored him with the Lifetime Achievement Award in 1994. The creation of the LEATHER PRIDE FLAG is his proudest accomplishment. Tony created SM workshops and demos at Chicago Hellfire Club's Inferno VIII 1978, and presented them across America. He originated Dungeon Masters AKA the Popular Mechanic of the Dungeon, and later created the pansexual version, Sandmutopia Guardian, and founded Sandmutopia U. His series of SM how to videos prompted one view to dub him the "Julia Child of the Dungeon." He was Workshop Coordinator for LIL V through LIL VII & is filling that role for LIL XI. Tony joined NLA at LIL I in 1986 and this year will leave the Executive Council after seven years of service.

## Don Bastian, Special Events Coordinator

Mr. Bastian has devoted many miles, on many fronts, both socially and politically to the Leather Community the last six years. He was Male of the Year at the Pantheon of Leather Awards, 1996 Columnist - International Leatherman Magazine, 1996 EC Member at Large NLA-I, 1995 Mr. NLA-I, 1994 International Male of the Year - Pantheon of Leather Awards, 1993 International Mr. Drummer Rules Advisory Committee (the only international member) 1993 Co-Chair/Producer of Gathering of the Clans, 1993 Originator of Tribal Mother, 1992 Founder/Coordinator Gathering of the Clans, 1992 Man of the Year - Speak Sebastian Awards, 1992 Columnist - Leatherstrokes & Leatherline in Clue and Perceptions Magazines, 1991 Mr. NW Drummer, 1991 Vice President C.L.U.B. 1991 Originator Can we Talk, 1990 Founding members of C.L.U.B of Calgary.

## Jeff Henness, Publicist

Recipient of the 1996 West Coast Pantheon of Leather Award, Jeff Henness is a Seattle Leather Daddy and Bear Clan elder. He is addicted to his hungry pup, AKA Dan, computers and community service. Jeff is a long-term survivor of all too many committees (such as LIL II & III) boards (NLA 1987-89) and groups (as member, founder, officer). Currently he is one of two Directors for Leather Pride Project and the Publisher of "Leather Pride!" a monthly newsletter serving Washington State and the Pacific Northwest.

## Leslie Jacob's, Medical Head

Leslie is fairly new to the scene. Two and a half years ago she entered enthusiastically playing in Portland and Seattle. She was medical support for LIL X, and has volunteered for the position again, due to last years wonderful experience.

## Lynnda Hale, Stage Production Coordinator

Lynnda has been an active member of the Leather Community for about three years. She served as the Executive Production Assistant for the Mr. Portland leather contest in 1994-1995 and in 96/97, and has also been active within the Imperial Sovereign Rose Court.

## Jeff Tucker, Registrar

1994-95 International Mr. Leather, Jeff is happily wed to Steve and the proud father of a 14 year old daughter and 17 year old son. He also has a boy. He reprises his role as registrar from LIL IX and X.

## Frank Schrechenberger, Local Ad Sales

During the past 25 years, Frank has served as members of the Board of Directors for several gay/lesbian organizations. Currently Brinker Fund, which provides emergency financial assistance to Oregonians living with HIV. Frank is the Co-Founder of the Pride of the Rose Scholarship, which has enabled 40 gay men, lesbians and their children to continue educational endeavors. He is the Fifth elected Emperor of the Rose Court.

## Barry Burns, Hotel Liaison

This is Barry's second year as Hotel Liaison for LIL, having served in the same capacity for LIL X. As Mr. Portland Leather 1996, Barry has been busy since LIL X, working with and for the Portland Leather Community. Barry is also a Member of the Board for the Portland Chapter of NLA & a Coordinator for Portland's Men's SM educational group - C H A P S.

## Bill Schmeling, Vendor Coordinator

Bill, is better known as the "infamous" HUN, creator of Big Sig at Shady Nook, Gohr in the New Age and other hunky if slightly perverse dudes in various stages of undress, duress and excess. Bill's illustrations have appeared in Drummer, The Leather Journal, Cuir, Stroke, Bear, Bunkhouse, and numerous others. He has served on the Board of NLA Portland for many years. He was awarded the NLA-I's Order of Merit at LIL VIII and was named The Leather Journals Business of the Year at Pantheon '93.

## Mike Geinzer, Party Coordinator

A member of NLA since LIL VIII, Mike has been President of NLA Houston since 1994. As a serious practitioner of the SM arts, with special fondness for flogs, paddles, clothes-pins, and verbal abuse. Mike hones his talents upon his slave-boy "kneel" and those willing to submit to him. Mike is a chapter member of the newly formed Houston SM Leather Club, The Bayou City Leather Alliance and is associated with numerous other clubs and organizations. Mike was named "Associate of the Year" in 1995 by The Texas Riders of Houston and continues to conduct, in association with NLA: Houston, a lecture aimed at vanilla audiences entitled "Sex, Lies and Duct Tape." He has presented at Austin's Texas Leather Pride and at Dallas' Beyond Vanilla. He continues to add to his extensive collections of tattoos, body piercings, stories of club-life and Old Guard traditions.

## Dash Ohrenstein, Publicist / Vendor Coordinator Assistant

Dash relocated to the juicy NW in 1995, after nine years in the Sierra Mountains and many fine years of stomping around San Francisco & LA. Having located the Portland Leather Community during 1995 Portland Leather Pride, she soon joined NLA: Portland, inhaled LIL X, moved onto the staff of The Leather Quill - NLA Portland's Newsletter, jumped aboard LIL XI, and took up with those Bad Girls.

## Kirsten Cutts, Assistant Vendor Coordinator

Active in the BDSM community since 1985, Kirsten began her exploration of the scene in the Southern California Society of Jannus, now named Threshold. She bottomed to the post of newsletter editor of Jan, for 6 months before safewording. She has been in Portland since 1992. Kirsten is a happily untitled, highly involved member of several clubs, including The Rose City Discussion Group, Whips and Wings and the NLA.

## Kelly Durdel, Assistant Party Coordinator

Ms Durdel was Secretary for NLA Portland in 1995 and for the LIL X Committee. She has presented several workshops including Safety and How to Start Playing, for Bad Girls in Portland; Blood Sports and Safety for Powersurge in Seattle; and Daddy - Boy/Girl for International Leather Celebration in NYC. Ms Durdel has been an active member of the Portland Leather Community for about three years.

# NEWS FROM TORONTO

NLA: Toronto celebrated the Third Anniversary of its reconstitution with a weekend of fund-raising and festivities, September 27-29. Chapter Treasurer Don Deramanchuk planned the weekend which very successfully attained its goals both socially and financially. Business support for draws and door prizes for the weekend was phenomenal, thanks to the work of Don and our newly elected Chapter Secretary, Ernie Hallihan.

Events kicked off with a night at the Black Eagle, where Co-Chairs Ian Turner and Paris Sea, and Member-At-Large Jo Ryan worked elbow to elbow for their bootblacking challenge while the editors of The Flogger were "Flogging for Dollars" -- dealing out lashes for those willing to donate their flesh as well as their money.

Saturday's main event was the Branding, Tattooing, and Bloodsports workshop presented at the Toolbox. Special guest Damon of Urban Primitive branded member Paul in a spiritually charged demonstration. NLA: I Member-At-Large, Syd Creighton instructed the audience further with temporary piercings on Paul and a cutting on her partner, Mel. NLA: Toronto member Liz Bland completed the workshop discussing the significance and history of her tattoos and her work as a tattoo artist, as well as tattoo safety and care. Each of the presenters brought their unique personal insights of self-exploration through their skin to the audience of over forty people.

The socializing continued at the Toolbox with the premier of the video debut of "Slut Puppy and the Titleholders" on Saturday, and with brunch and the highly entertaining SM Games on Sunday. Winners in the Artistic Clothespin Sculpture, Two Bottom Bondage in a Bag, and the Animal Show contests were awarded dollar store pervertables by Gamesmaster Ian.

The Anniversary was an opportunity for awards and accolades. Along with many businesses who supported the events, MK Leatherworks was specially thanked for the creation of the Chapter Honour Roll, which memorializes members now deceased but fondly remembered. Five members whose contributions to the Chapter over the year stood out were honoured with the Executive awards: Diane T., Marc Lalonde, Peter Campbell, Ross M., and Syd Creighton. The newly created Chapter Award, The Order of the Rising Welt, was conferred on Syd Creighton. In the truest spirit of community, Syd dedicated this first induction into the Order to the memory of members James Brown and Jim T., as well as leather leaders and friends such as Albert Kraus and Chris Jackson. Her Chapter Award Pin will be affixed to the Honour Roll.

Finally, members enjoyed dinner prepared by the fine staff of the Toolbox, especially Ernie who serves the Chapter as both Secretary and Chef. Throughout the weekend, volunteers worked to provide information on the Chapter and NLA: International, as well as the Houghton Defense Fund, and the Get Linked Project in support of the Leather Archives and Museum. Donations for all these efforts were collected throughout the weekend.

The Chapter now looks forward to another year of growth and good fellowship with members of NLA: International from near and far. As part of our workshop on Domestic Violence, Jan Hall is coming to speak. Don Bastian will be in town for the Mr. Leatherman Toronto Competition and Beyond Leathersex Weekend Nov. 28 - Dec. 1. We welcome visitors to join us at our General Meetings on the 2nd Wed. each month at the 519 Church St. Community Centre or at our Educational Events on the 4th Sat. each month at the Toolbox, 508 Eastern Avenue.

## GOOD NEWS!

By VI Johnson

This issue the good news I want to related is in the form of a BIG thank you to all the advertisers that helped make LIL possible.

First and foremost my warmest thanks and regards to Doug Corso and Columbia Distributing/Miller Brewing Company for not only their full page ad in the program but also for their generosity in being a corporate sponsor for LIL again this year.

My thanks also goes out to the folks listed below who all placed ads in the program, thus showing their support and helping make LIL XI possible.

The Cuff, Seattle's Best Community Bar, Seattle WA.  
Leather Pride, Serving the Washington State Leather Community  
Full Circle Art of the Earth, Katie Chase  
Tim's Hideaway and Harts Video, There's always something on sale  
Chuck, First Gentleman to the Emperor  
Pantheon of Leather/The Leather Journal  
A Tribute...with Love.....susie  
NLA Toronto, Host LIL IX  
C.C. Slaughter's  
The Imperial Sovereign Rose Court  
The HUN & RB/H Productions  
Darcelle XV & Company  
Scandals Tavern, Gay Portland's Finest Pub  
Rose City Discussion Club, Offering and informal forum.  
Brother Speak Cascade Aids Project, Outreach, Education, Support  
NLA Portland - Host Chapter LIL XI  
Moonshadow, A Magical Pagan Shoppe  
Art Kranz, 310 Hair Design  
The Crimson Phoenix, A Sexuality Bookstore  
The Embers of the Avenue, Drink, Dine and Dance  
PDX Eagle, Your playground is ready and waiting

Lets not forget all the wonderful people behind the scene, that worked hard to make sure everything ran smoothly. Thank you NLA Portland: Thom, Ruth, AJ, Simon, Barry, Dash, Bill, Lynda, Niccole, Leslie, Roxy, Bruce, Orchid, boy bill, Tony, Kelly and all the wonderful local volunteers.

Last but not least, to the people that took time out of their busy schedule to host panels, workshops, and lend a hand where ever they were need.

Vi

### Upcoming events:

Educational Workshops: November 23 Pervertables  
December 28 Costume Dressing  
January 25 Fire Play

General Meetings: November 13  
~~December 11~~  
January 8

### An Open Letter to the Leather Community To My Community:

In her recent open letter, Viola Johnson suggested that NLA: Toronto Co-Chair Paris Sea contribute a pair of her underwear for the chapter's auction basket at Living In Leather XI. This idea was enthusiastically endorsed by the members of NLA: Toronto, who also reminded us of our commitment to gender parity.

Accordingly, I respectfully submit the jockstrap that I wore while bootblacking at a fund-raiser held at The Black Eagle on September 27, 1996. The fund-raiser was part of NLA: Toronto's Third Anniversary celebration. The funds raised by my bootblacking service went 50% to NLA: Toronto Chapter and 50% to the Houghton defense fund.

Hopefully this jockstrap, signed by me and sealed (unlaundered) in a plastic bag, will now help raise further funds. It is possible, of course, that some folk might offer to raise their bid for the basket if the jockstrap were excluded, or at any rate, kept sealed at all costs!

In sweaty leather solidarity,

bootboy ian  
a.k.a. Ian Turner  
Male Co-Chair  
National Leather Association: Toronto Chapter

c.c. The Leather Journal  
Viola Johnson

### \*editors note.

The basket was auctioned off as part of the festivities on Sat night at LIL, it fetched \$250.00 for the travel fund. I might also note it was a good thing that I and the checkbook were out of the room at the time of the auction or my Lovely Mistress would have cleaned out the bank account trying to win the bid.

Among the wonderful things in the basket including the jock strap was indeed a pair of Paris's panties with her name and a leather pride flag embroidered on them, which Rikki was truly intent on getting.

# NLA Chapter events for May and June

NLA: Atlanta  
PO Box 7941  
Atlanta, Ga. 30357-7941

No information provided

NLA: Houston  
PO Box 66553  
Houston, Texas 77266-6553

No information submitted.

NLA: Austin  
PO Box 49801  
Austin Texas 78765

No information provided

NLA: Los Angeles  
7985 Santa Monica Blvd. 109-217  
West Hollywood California 90046

No information submitted

NLA: Columbus  
PO Box 2763  
Columbus Ohio 43216

No information submitted.

NLA: Metro New York  
PO Box 488 Triborough Station  
New York, New York 10035-0488

No information submitted.

NLA: Dallas  
PO Box 7597  
Dallas Texas 75209-7597

Meeting/Program Nov 5th  
No general meeting in Dec.  
Holiday Party Dec TBA

NLA: New England  
831 Beacon St.  
Newton Center, MA. 02159-1822

Dec 14th Fetish Flea Market

NLA: Deaf International  
PO Box 30286  
Columbus Ohio 43230

Chapter no longer functioning.

NLA: Portland  
PO Box 5161  
Portland Oregon 97208

No information submitted.

NLA: Detroit  
PO Box 2844  
Southfield Michigan. 48037-2844

No information submitted.

NLA: Toronto  
Box 98, 268 Parliament Str.  
Toronto, ON. M5A-3A4 Canada

Workshops  
November 23 Pervertables  
December 28 Costume Dressing  
General Meeting November 13 December 11

NLA: Florida  
PO Box 4911  
Ft. Lauderdale Florida 33338-4911

No information submitted.

NLA: International  
3439 N.E. Sandy Boulevard #155  
Portland, Oregon 97232

If any of the above contact information is incorrect or incomplete please send updated information to the editor. Also if you have a phone # or Email address please forward that information also.

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**  
**Female Co-Chair Nomination**

Nominee \_\_\_\_\_ Nominator \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Biography (50 words or less) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please send nominations to:**

**Dean Walradt**  
**5306 Fleetwood Oaks #126**  
**Dallas, Texas 75235**

**Remember all ballots must be received by December 15th**  
**1996**

**All nominators and nominees must be current members in good standing of**  
**NLA I.**

3439 NE Sandy Blvd. # 155  
Portland, Oregon 97232

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

1946 10/1/96  
Chris Zimmerman  
1608 White Road  
Wilmington, NC 28405-7727

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