

children who are survivors of domestic violence. (Natalie [503] 771-5503.) (4/00)

**Portland Women's Crisis Line** operates 24 hours a day. Interpretation services are available for women who speak limited or no English. (503) 235-5333, 1-888-235-5333. (4/00)

Roots and Branches and Bradley Angle House sponsor a **support group for queer youth** who have experienced emotional, physical or sexual abuse in an intimate relationship. Free, confidential and safe. (503) 238-0780. (4/00)

**Metro: Mental Health**

**Helios Counseling** offers mental health services to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans communities. (525 NE Oregon St., Suite 220, Portland, OR 97232. (503) 238-0780.) (5/00)

**Metro: Recovery**

**Any Lengths Gay AA** is a group for gay men that meets to discuss their sobriety Sundays at 10 am at Good Samaritan Hospital. (1040 NW 22nd Ave., 6th floor, meeting room B.) (5/00)

**Live and Let Live Club** holds 12 step meetings and social activities for the lesbian and gay recovery community. Call for current meeting times and activities. (2940-A SE Belmont St. (503) 238-6091.) (4/00)

**The Lunch Bunch** hosts AA meetings for gays and lesbians, but is open to everyone. Meetings daily at noon except Sundays at 1 pm. (Metropolitan Community Church of Portland, 2400 NE Broadway, enter on the north side of the building.) (5/00)

**Rainbow Al-Anon** meets Thursdays at 6 pm at the MCC Church, NW 24th Ave. and Broadway. (503) 222-5756. (5/00)

and a polyamory interest group. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays. (7:30 pm at Utopia Cafe, 3320 SE Belmont St. Laury [503] 285-4848.) (4/00)

**Brother to Brother** is a family of African-American gay and bisexual men dedicated to the empowerment of, and improvement in the quality of life within our community. Activities include FRIENDS, a weekly support and discussion group that meets Wednesdays 5-7 pm. Board meetings every third Monday of the month at 5:30 pm. (Brian, PO Box 3182, Portland, OR 97208. (503) 417-7991.) (4/00)

**Cocksure** is a social group for female-born, gender-variant people including FTMs, transguys, genderqueer and significant others. We are based in Portland and welcome folks from Oregon and Washington. For more info about our monthly meetings and e-mail network, call (503) 471-1515. (5/00)

**Dipstick Lesbians and Dykes with Hot Rods** invite women with cool cars to go cruisin' with them. (Rachel [503] 735-1184, Deviourne [503] 289-3104.) (4/00)

**First Wednesday Social** is a potluck for HIV+ people and their friends. (Phillip [503] 234-1811.) (5/00)

**Gentle Giants of Oregon** is a group dedicated to providing an accepting, social environment for chubby men, and the men who like them that way. (503) 241-4535 or www.chubnet.net/gentlegiants. (5/00)

**Hoodland/Mount Hood womyn** are building a personal and professional community. Alcohol and drug-free social activities and networking. (Kim [503] 701-8302.) (4/00)

**Imperial Sovereign Rose Court of Oregon** is a nonprofit social organization dedicated to raising money for charities within the gay, lesbian, bisexual and trans community. ISRC Event Hotline lists upcoming events.

**Oregon Bears** is a social group for bears and their admirers. Newsletter, activities and monthly social gatherings. (503) 240-2813, www.oregonbears.org. (4/00)

**ORGAN (Oregon Regional Gay and Naked)** is a social club for nude men who enjoy being gay. Monthly potlucks and events. Guests are invited to attend two events before deciding on membership. (ORGAN, PO Box 14174, Portland, OR 97293-0174.) (4/00)

**Portland Bisexual Alliance** hosts social and political events for bisexual and bi-friendly people. Organizes Portland Bi Day rally and publishes calendar of bi events. Mixed gender discussion groups are held 7 pm on the first and third Fridays of the month at Laughing Horse Books, 3652 SE Division St. Open to all. (503) 775-9717, pba@biportland.org, www.biportland.org. (5/00)

**Portland Bisexual Women** is a support and discussion group for bisexual and questioning women. Women of any race, age or national origin are encouraged to attend. (7-9 pm second Friday at Common Ground Wellness Center, 2926 NE Flanders St. 5:30-7:45 pm fourth Sunday at It's My Pleasure, 3106 NE 64th Ave. \$2 donation. (503) 283-6433.) (4/00)

**Portland Leather Alliance** is a pansexual, not-for-profit organization dedicated to fostering a positive community for safe, sane, and consensual alternative adult sexualities in general and S/M/leather/fetish in particular. (503) 727-3148, www.pdxleatheralliance.org. (5/00)

Portland **Metro Prime Timers** meets from 3-6 pm every fourth Sunday of the month at Metropolitan Community Church Social Hall, 2400 NE Broadway. (PO Box 5884, Portland, OR 97228. (503) 625-8957, pdx-primertimers@yahoo.com.) (4/00)

**PSU Queers and Allies** invites everyone to participate in activities and meetings. Educational and social programming, support and referral services for persons of all orientations and colors. (441A Smith Memorial Center, Portland State University campus. E-mail: queersandalies@mail.pdx.edu, www.ess.pdx.edu/sfscg/queersandalies. (503) 725-5681.) (4/00)

**Rose City Discussion Club**, the largest open pansexual club in the Northwest, is open to all orientations, fetishes and lifestyles that are safe, sane and consensual. Monthly meetings, workshops, and newsletter. (503) 650-7052, rcdc@teleport.com, www.teleport.com/~rcdc. (4/00)

**Together Works**, a confidential group for lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and friends, meets for socials and discussions of topics of mutual interest. Meets second and fourth Mondays. (7:30 pm May-Sept., 7 pm Oct.-April. First Baptist Church, 125 SE Cowles St., McMinnville. Don [503] 434-6266.) (4/00)

**Metro: Physical Recreation**

**The Adventure Group**, Portland's gay and lesbian outdoors group, organizes a variety of activities and social events including hiking, skiing, mountain biking, camping and rafting. (503) 452-5680, www.adventure-group.org. (5/00)

**Border Riders Motorcycle Club**, the largest motorcycle club for gay men and friends in Western Canada and the Pacific Northwest, hosts day runs and camping events. (bcbriders@yahoo.com, www.borderriders.org.) (4/00)

**FOREST Group** outings are cooperative adventures for women. Participants are responsible for providing their own equipment and choosing outings appropriate for their skill and fitness level. All skill levels welcome. (503) 286-5382, www.odin.cc.pdx.edu/~gijn. (5/00)

**K-9 Club** is a group of kindred folks and their dogs who meet to hike and talk in Portland parks on the second Sunday of each month. (503) 285-2986. (4/00)

**Lesbian Garden Club** is a social group that tackles major gardening projects in members' gardens, holds social events and visits various gardens and nurseries throughout the year. (Nicki, (503) 287-6120.) (4/00)

**Out Dancing** teaches partner dancing for same-sex couples at Sally Mack's School of Dance. Classes for different dance styles start the first Friday of each month. (503) 236-5129. (5/00)

**PDX Rain Riders** is Portland's gay and lesbian motorcycle club. (503) 641-6452, www.gaypdx.com/rainriders. (4/00)

**Portland Gay and Lesbian Community Bowling Association** bowls Sundays at 4 pm at Hollywood Lanes, 40th Ave. and Halsey St. (PO Box 80002, Portland, OR 97280-1002. (503) 293-0438, BOWLpdx@aol.com, http://members.aol.com/BOWLpdx/pcba.html.) (5/00)

**Rosetown Ramblers**, Portland's gay and lesbian square dance club, dances at mainstream, plus and advanced levels. (PO Box 5352, Portland, OR 97228-5352. (503) 234-9944, www.rdrop.com/users/ramblers.) (5/00)

*Romance with Empress Misha*

Well my lovelies looking for love and romance, spring is around the corner and love is in the air! I went looking for love for myself in all the right place this week at one of our local nightclubs. I saw from afar what I thought to be a shorter (which I love) blond-haired, baseball-cap-wearing Romeo—who turned out to be Georgette the Lesbian. Oh, woe is Misha! My love interest had the wrong equipment, he-he-hee. But now I have a new friend, and maybe she'll help me find my true love.

Taking the initiative to go up and talk to what I thought was a cute boy at least brought me a new friend. Sometimes you just need to take some initiative and show someone that you indeed are interested. The worst that will happen is you might meet a new friend. It shows not only that you are accessible and open to their romantic interests, but that you are not too proud to make the first move.

One of the simple things you can do to show interest is send the person a cocktail (if you are at a nightclub). Send a smile and show interest, initiate simple conversation by asking their name and a little about themselves; or tell them what you like about them that got your attention. And if this is still a little too forward for my shy ones, and you really are digging on this person, try being a secret cupid. This is a very fun way to entice love interests. The worst that can happen with your initiative is, like the Misha, you might meet a new friend or two.

DEAR MISHA:

My boyfriend and I have been together for three years now, but it's always the same ol' thang every weekend. A dinner, movie and then nightclubbing. I am so bored to death of the same places and same faces. What should I do, he is so sensitive and hates change?

DEAR STUCK IN A RUT,

I agree that when one becomes an expert on all the subtle differences between 43 different vodkas, it's time for a change. Nature abhors a vacuum, and so do you. Well then, change your situation by taking some initiative with a little added grace. Surprise your lover with a night out on the town produced specially for your little muffin. At the start of your usual weekend, just let your lover know that, because he is so special and always makes all the arrangements, you wanted to surprise him by giving him a night on the town just for him. Start at a restaurant that you have never been to—maybe try a different type of cuisine as well—then head off to a play or gallery. (I suggest the current Stroganoff exhibit at the Portland Art Museum; you won't be disappointed.) Then try late-night hot tubbing or an excursion to one of the many hot springs in the area for a romantic night fit with bubbly and berries he'll never forget. And if this fails, try abstinence—he'll sing a new tune for sure!

DEAR MISHA:

I am totally in love with this girl at work, and she is always smiling at me when we pass in the hall. But I am not really sure if she is lesbian or just being friendly. She always says hi to me every time I see her at the office, and recently I saw her wearing a rainbow pin to work. Maybe she's hinting, but I'm too afraid to ask her. Help me please!

DEAR OFFICE CRUSH:

This is a delicate situation. First, realize you need to be careful and not be too forward with anyone in the workplace, no matter how innocent the intentions might be. I suggest you start by becoming friends during lunch breaks and getting to know her a little bit better. Maybe your conversations will lead to enlightenment regarding her orientation. And if you're still getting the green light, maybe on a Friday you can let her know you and some friends are heading to a really cool place called the Egyptian Club, where she might enjoy a night out with some friends. Best of luck, my lovely.

Hunt for love at Misha's Make-A-Date, starting at 9 p.m. every Tuesday at Boxxes, 1035 S.W. Stark St. in Portland. Find your recipes for romance there or online at www.themakeadate.com, and always find a little loving from the Mish. Send your letters to Misha, c/o Just Out, P.O. Box 14400, Portland, OR 97293-0400; or send an e-mail to misha@themisha.com.



Master Class convenes at Artists Repertory Theatre through April 23

PHOTO BY OWEN CARRY

**Willamette Valley: Health**

**Womenspace** provides a 24-hour hot line and shelter for women and children who have been abused physically, sexually, or emotionally. Also hosts a lesbian and bisexual women's support group. (Crisis: [541] 485-6513, business: [541] 485-8232, lesbian alliance: [541] 302-2417.) (4/00)

**SOCIAL**

**Metro: Arts & Music**

**First Wednesday Social** is a potluck for HIV+ people and their friends. (Contact Phillip at [503] 234-1811.) (5/00)

The **Portland Lesbian Choir** welcomes supportive members and volunteers. (503) 241-8994. (5/00)

**Portland Gay Men's Chorus** is open to singers, support members and volunteers. (503) 460-3689, www.pdgmcc.org. (4/00)

**The Real Connection** is a social gathering for gay men who are artists, writers, musicians or who pursue some creative activity. Monthly potlucks on the second Friday. (Todd [503] 236-5763.) (4/00)

**Rose City Gay Freedom Band** is a concert band open to lesbian, gay, transgendered, bi and supportive musicians and friends. (PO Box 1082, Portland, OR 97207. [503] 790-2170, http://community.oregonlive.com/cc/rcgfb.) (4/00)

**Metro: General**

**Bisexual Community Forum** is an age- and gender-inclusive social, support and education network founded in 1980. Activities include dances, potlucks, field trips

([503] 306-0700, ISRC@aol.com, www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Heights/7887.) (4/00)

An informal **Leather Night** and **Red Hanky Social** are held the first and third Friday of each month. (9 pm-12 am at the Dirty Duck Tavern, 439 NW Third Ave. [503] 224-8446, PDXSallyDg@aol.com.) (5/00)

**Jewish Gay Men's Group**—call for meeting time and place. ([503] 246-5939, efraimlevi@aol.com.) (5/00)

**Lair Dungeon** hosts monthly discussion groups and separate men's, women's and pansexual B/D/S/M parties. Refer to web site for schedule. (www.hawkenet.com/lairtothe/wolf.html.) (5/00)

**Lesbians Enjoying the Sciences** is a fun-loving group of women who enjoy exploring all aspects of the environment. Activities include bird watching, nature walks, archaeology, rock collecting, camping, kayaking, star gazing, an occasional "lecture" and a monthly planning potluck. No experience necessary. (6:45-8:30 pm second Thursday planning meeting. [503] 639-8936 or [503] 466-0058 or e-mail to lesprnw@aol.com.) (5/00)

**Lesbian social group for women 50 and over** meets on the third Saturday of the month. (4-7 pm. [503] 281-4424, [503] 331-0415.) (4/00)

**Long Yang Club—Portland Chapter**, a social group for Asian gays and lesbians and their friends, meets at 8 pm on the first Wednesday and third Sunday of each month at 3 Friends Coffeehouse. (503) 963-1841. (5/00)

**Lulu's Pervy Playhouse** is a social group for self-identifying women who are into SM. Play parties are held on the second Saturday of the month. (lulist@hotmail.com, www.jps.net/wynter/luluspage.html, [503] 231-3992.) (05/00)

**Northwest Gender Alliance** is a social and support organization for cross-dressers and transsexuals. Monthly open meetings and socials. (PO Box 4928, Portland, OR 97208. [503] 646-2802, www.teleport.com/~nwga.) (4/00)