

Willamette Valley: Community

5015 COYOTE is an association for sex workers in Eugene. (PO Box 12244, Eugene, OR 97401.) (6/00)

AFTER 8 works for political change and provides information and referral for lesbians, gay men, trans and bisexuals in Benton and Linn counties and sponsors an annual Harvey Milk Awards Dinner in November. (7 pm second Tuesday, 101 NW 23rd St., Corvallis. PO Box 1828, Corvallis, OR 97339. 541-752-8157.) (6/00)

Imperial Sovereign Court of the Willamette Empire meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the 300 Club. (300 Liberty St. SE in Salem. Bob 503-371-8395, e-mail bobphil@uswest.net or Imperial Princess IX, Lydia Octavia 503-463-8585.) (6/00)

Lesbian and Gay Parenting Group, for parents of children ages 0-3 years, meets the second Saturday of each month in Eugene. (Aquene: 541-344-5847.) (6/00)

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) provides support, education and advocacy. (6:45 pm third Monday at First Congregational Church on E 23rd Ave., Eugene. 541-346-4239.) (6/00)

Men's Support Group, sponsored by Sweet Spirit Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), meets every Thursday at 7 pm to share concerns, discuss gay issues, and support the MCC community. Open to the public. (David: 503-363-4828, Joseph: 503-363-3392.) (6/00)

HEALTH

Metro: Anti-violence

Bradley-Angle House provides emergency shelter for female-identified domestic violence survivors and a support group for women battered by women. (503-232-7805, 503-289-6869 ext. 11.) (6/00)

Clackamas Women's Services offer shelter, support and resource referral services for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. (Office: 503-722-2366, crisis line: 503-654-2288.) (6/00)

Family Center Outreach Office, a program of Volunteers of America located in Southeast Portland, offers support groups and drop-in services to women and children who are survivors of domestic violence. (Natalie 503-771-5503.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

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., Sixth Floor, meeting room B.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

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

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.) (6/00)

SOCIAL

Metro: Arts & Music

First Wednesday Social is a potluck for HIV+ people and their friends. (Contact Philip at 503-234-1811.) (6/00)

The **Portland Lesbian Choir** welcomes supportive members and volunteers. (503-241-8994.) (6/00)

Portland Gay Men's Chorus is open to singers, support members and volunteers. (503-460-3689, www.pdxgmc.org.) (11/00)

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.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

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 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.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

Cocksure is a social group for female-born, gender-variant people including FTMs, transgays, genderqueers 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. (6/00)

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, PDXSaltyDg@aol.com.) (6/00)

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, 503-289-3605 or 503-639-8936 or 503-466-0058 or e-mail to lespsnw@aol.com.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

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

Mount Hood Womyn networking professionally and socially. (503-701-8302.) (11/00)

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.) (6/00)

Oregon Bears is a social group for bears and their admirers. Newsletter, activities and monthly social gatherings. (503-240-2813, www.oregonbears.org.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

Portland Metro Prime Timers is a social group for men. (PO Box 5884, Portland, OR 97228. 504-244-7550 or 360-254-1718, pdxprime-timers@yahoo.com.) (11/00)

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: queersandallies@mail.pdx.edu, www.ess.pdx.edu/sfcsq/queersandallies. 503-725-5681.) (6/00)

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.) (6/00)

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 Cowie St., McMinnville. Don 503-434-6266.) (6/00)

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.adventuregroup.org.) (6/00)

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



Ms. Behavior

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I met my girlfriend at work about two years ago. She was married at the time, but after about three months of dating me on the side, she left her husband to be with me. I thought we were very happy together.

The problem is that, lately, she's been staying late to work on projects with a geeky guy named Fred. I found a romantic card that Fred sent her under her car seat last month when I cleaned out her car. When I asked her about it, she said that Fred had a harmless crush on her but that she didn't share his feelings. I'm not sure I believe in harmless crushes.

Last weekend she and Fred went for an eight-hour bicycle ride together while I stayed home and did chores. The week before that, she went to the office on Saturday to help him with a deadline and spent most of the day with him. I don't want to nag her because I'm afraid it will drive her away, but I want her to be honest with me. What should I do?

—Kate

DEAR KATE:

If your girlfriend left someone to be with you, you might have surmised that she'd be capable of leaving you to be with someone else. It goes against the desperate wish to be special, but if you want to know what someone is likely to do, look at what they've done in the past. That may sound harsh—yes, people do recover from things like low self-esteem, addictions to smoking crack, and sometimes even an attraction to bad synthetic hairpieces—but in the absence of some kind of horrendous pain or dramatic spiritual transformation, they often stay stuck in bad habits. Like leaving someone else's panties in the glove box. (Perhaps you're lucky that a card is all you found.) Or dumping their devoted mate for the next exciting person who comes along.

Worse yet, your partner may be primarily heterosexual. The problem with dating straight women, in case you haven't noticed, is that they're often recidivists. Sure, there's a chance they may love you and remain committed to you for life. But, before letting them into your heart, you also need to remember that there's probably a better chance they'll return to the hard stuff.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

Last September, I moved in with my boyfriend after a three-year courtship. We met online in a chat room.

He still likes to go online and chat with other gay men, and I have no problem with that. But, every time I enter his office and he is online, he quickly minimizes the

window so I won't see who he is chatting with or what he is typing. I respect his need to do this but have begun to get a little suspicious. A few nights ago, while he was asleep, I logged on to his computer and launched his mail

program. I know this was not an honest thing to do. There were several e-mail messages from a guy named Rob. My suspicions took over and I read them all, even the ones that my boyfriend sent Rob. I have been seriously pissed off for the past few days because of what I found. Rob and my boyfriend are indulging in e-mail sex and have exchanged nude photos of each other. I never even knew that my boyfriend had nude pictures, but I'd know that cock anywhere!

I can't say anything because he would be mad as hell if he knew I sneaked into his e-mail. He has a bad temper sometimes, and I hate when he is mad because he stops talking to me for days. But it really bugs me that he is doing this. Rob is from the West Coast and we live on the East Coast, so I'm not worried they will meet, but I am worried about my boyfriend's habit.

What do you think?

—E-mail Sneak

DEAR E-MAIL SNEAK:

It doesn't sound like letting it go and chalking it up to boyish fun is a choice; you'll probably continue to seethe about the raw correspondence you saw on your boyfriend's computer until you deal with it in some way.

But if you plan to confront your boyfriend about his e-mail affair, you should tell the whole truth, even though it may infuriate him. Don't, for example, ask him why he minimizes the window when you enter the room without disclosing your own sneaky behavior. It would be dishonest to challenge his right to privacy without telling him the real reason that you're upset.

Don't even think about taking a high-handed position. Be honest; tell him that you felt threatened and you know that reading his e-mail violated his privacy. Apologize for it. Tell him that you worry his involvement with other men online (especially if it's one particular, intimate relationship) could damage your relationship with him.

Ms. Behavior doesn't mean to worry you further, but don't be falsely comforted by the geographical distance. A mere 3,000 miles is rarely an obstacle to two sexually preoccupied people who delight in one another's e-mails.

Write your confused and conflicted heart out to MS. BEHAVIOR at MsBehavior@aol.com.