

Good Samaritan Hospital. (1040 NW 22nd Ave., Sixth Floor, meeting room B.) (11/00)

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.) (11/00)

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.) (11/00)

Rainbow Al-Anon meets Thursdays at 6 pm at the MCC Church, NW 24th Ave. and Broadway. (503-222-5756.) (11/00)

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.) (11/00)

SOCIAL

Metro: Arts & Music

First Wednesday Social is a potluck for HIV+ people and their friends. (Contact Phillip at 503-493-3761.) (11/00)

The **Portland Lesbian Choir** welcomes supportive members and volunteers. (503-241-8994.) (11/00)

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.) (11/00)

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.) (11/00)

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 first and third Mondays. (7:30 pm at Mojo's Coffee Den, 2853 SE Stark St. Laury 503-285-4848.) (11/00)

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. Board meetings every third Monday of the month at 5:30 pm. (Brian, PO Box 3182, Portland, OR 97208. 503-417-7991.) (11/00)

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. (11/00)

Dipstick Lesbians and Dykes with Hot Rods invite women with cool cars to go cruising with them. (Rachel 503-735-1184, Devienne 503-289-3104.) (11/00)

FRIENDS is a weekly support and discussion group for African American gay and bisexual men that meets Wednesdays 5-7 pm. (Brian, 503-287-8651.) (11/00)

Funny Ladies Tea and Posy Society is a social group for lesbians 35 and over, singles or couples. They meet for a potluck on the third Saturday of each month and take camping trips during the summer. Monthly newsletter is \$9 per year. (503-232-9714.)

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.) (11/00)

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. (503-306-0700, ISRC@aol.com, www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Heights/7887.) (11/00)

Jewish Gay Men's Group—call for meeting time and place. (503-246-5939, eframiev@aol.com.) (11/00)

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.) (11/00)

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 lespnw@aol.com.) (11/00)

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.) (11/00)

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.) (11/00)

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.jp.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.) (11/00)

Oregon Bears is a social group for bears and their admirers. Newsletter, activities and monthly social gatherings. (503-240-2813, www.oregonbears.org.) (11/00)

First Baptist Church, 125 SE Cows St., McMinnville. Don 503-434-6266.) (11/00)

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.) (11/00)

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. (bcbiker@yahoo.com, www.borderriders.org.) (11/00)

CLIPS-Cycling Lesbians in Portland meets Mondays at 6 pm for bicycle rides. All riding levels welcome. (503-254-6971.) (11/00)

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/~gjm.) (11/00)

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.) (11/00)

Lesbian Equestrian Group. Do you have a horse? Looking to get together with womyn and horses for equestrian activities in the Pacific Northwest. Call

Denise at (503) 654-3865 or Lynn at (503) 777-2339, or e-mail kelrav@drup.com. (11/00)

Lesbian Garden Club is a group of women who love gardens and gardening. They exchange plants, seeds, advice and encouragement while having a good time. Please call or e-mail for a current copy of the newsletter and information about upcoming events. (Kathe, 503-909-2002, e-mail LCCOregon@aol.com.) (11/00)

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.) (11/00)

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, members.aol.com/BOWLpdx/pcba.html.) (11/00)

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.) (11/00)

Ski Out is a LGBT ski club with outings twice monthly to Mt. Hood and other destinations. Join us for

downhill and cross-country skiing, snow boarding or lodge lounging. (503-973-3441, www.skiout.org.) (05/00)

Team Portland Tennis Association plays every Sunday 8 am-noon at the University of Portland. Women and men players of all skill levels are welcome. (Alex Godinez 503-282-7210.) (11/00)

Team Quest, the athletic and exercise program of Project Quest, offers individual and group, indoor and outdoor physical recreation opportunities for people living with HIV and AIDS. (503-493-0288.) (11/00)

Southern Oregon: Social

Abdill-Ellis Lambda Community Center hosts social events and groups. Call for schedule. (Mailing address: PO Box 927 Ashland, OR 97520. Location: 281 Fourth St., Ashland, OR 97520. 541-488-6990, lambdacntr@aol.com, www.aelcca.org.) (11/00)

Washington: Social

MenTalk of Vancouver holds a social on the first Monday and a discussion group on the third Monday of each month at 7 pm. (Peter 360-576-6595, MenTalkofVancWA@webtv.net.) (11/00)

SW Washington Gay and Lesbian Socialites is a Vancouver-based organization whose members get together regularly for social events and activities. The Socialites was organized to build a sense of community among gay men and lesbians in the Portland/Vancouver area. Newsletter available by e-mail or USPS. (360-735-1901, Socialites@aol.com.) (11/00)

The Thorny Roses is a social group for lesbians, primarily over 45, who live in the Vancouver/Clark County Wash. area. Please contact Judy, (360) 906-1763, e-mail: Judy342@cs.com. (11/00)



Eat your cake and have it too, at A Piece of Cake, playing at Stark Raving Theatre through Aug. 12

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I've been married to a wonderful man for 12 years, but I'm coming to accept that I'm probably a lesbian. I am 35 and very close to my family, who are loving but conservative and quite homophobic (in an ignorant, not a mean, way). I have been so happily married that I think if I told my family I was a lesbian they might have me committed (to say nothing of the heartbreak this would create for my wonderful husband).

I see now that I have ignored huge signs since age 6, and in the past eight years I have fallen in love with two women—who, luckily, were heterosexual. But this is starting to get painful and frightening as I enter my "baby-making" years. My life is very good in many ways, but I fear that it may not be "complete," whatever that means.

I'm not really physically attracted to men. I've had one lover in my entire life (my husband, whom I started dating when we were 18—he was a virgin too). My life has been so linked to this one person and this one path since I was a teen-ager. I have one incredible lesbian friend for support, but this is a lot for her to handle.

Anyway, I enjoyed your book so much and you seem to possess a lot of wisdom along with a wicked sense of humor. I know you don't have a crystal ball and god knows how many letters you receive, but I thought I'd give this a shot. What the hell should I do?

—D.

DEAR D.:

You're brave to take this on, and probably have no choice. It's bittersweet that coming out—if that's where you're headed—will be difficult because you're so happy in your marriage. Give yourself time to sort out your feelings. It may help to imagine yourself 10 years from now: Are you happy envisioning yourself with your wonderful husband? Or do you prefer to fantasize about life with a delightful bride?

If you make a decision that's based in truth, your family, your friends and even your husband may ultimately support you. But until then, you'll need more support than you can get from your one dyke friend and Ms. Behavior. That might mean one-on-one therapy, where you can safely discuss your confusion. Or, if you call queer support organizations, you can probably find a group of married-but-confused dykes-in-waiting, where you can sit in a circle and talk about your longing. [See listing for Late Awakenings in this paper's Out & About section.]



Ms. Behavior

But don't make your life unnecessarily dramatic; try not to leap into the warm and juicy lap of lesbianism until you've come to accept that it's what you want and need to do. A bit of prudence may prevent you from having

delusions of control and suffering the fate of many formerly heterosexual women who have been unceremoniously stripped of the belief that they could just dabble in brief and uncomplicated lesbian affairs while keeping the rest of their lives intact. (Ms Behavior believes that there's a potato chip commercial that addresses this particular issue.)

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I work for a company comprised of 50 people. I am the token gay male and we have a token lesbian, whom I'll call Sally. I am out to several straight people, but Sally keeps to herself. I know she's gay because she goes to the Dinah Shore golf tournament in Palm Springs and has a summer home in Provincetown.

I have tried to come out to her several times and wanted to make our relationship gay-friendly, but I have failed miserably. She used to be pleasant, but lately she has been terse and abrupt, which puzzles me. We are working on the same project, and last week she sent me a rude e-mail with insensitive remarks about my work.

This is not the first time I have locked horns with a lesbian. Why do lesbians hate me? I don't see a way to improve this situation. Please help.

—R

DEAR R:

Ms. Behavior doesn't mean to shock you, but not all lesbians are friendly. Furthermore, Ms. Behavior would have to meet you in person to determine why lesbians hate you, or even if it's true.

Sally may dislike your personality, but it's also possible that she's baring her teeth at you because she's self-loathing and closeted. The fact that you're both queer—if she plays golf she must be—may not be enough reason to be friends. If you worked in San Francisco or Manhattan, you'd have plenty of queer coworkers and wouldn't try so hard to court a grouchy and critical dyke. And if Sally is a closet case, attempts to insert subtle references to gay culture in conversation or to induce her to join you in show tunes will probably only annoy her.

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