

Willamette Valley: Health

Womenspace provides a 24-hour hot line and shelter for women and children who have been abused physically, sexually or emotionally and plays host to 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)

Help create a **Lesbian Art Guild**. Call the Lesbian Community Project for the date of the next planning meeting. For more information, call 503-223-0071 or 503-285-4339. (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.pdgmco.org.) (11/00)

Dipstick Lesbians and Dykes with Hot Rods invite women with cool cars to go cruisin' with them. (503-284-5546.) (11/00)

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

Funny Ladies Tea and Posy Society is a social group for lesbians 35 and older, 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 a year. (503-232-9714.) (11/00)

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.) (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, efrimlevi@aol.com.) (11/00)

An informal **Leather Night** and **Red Hanky Social** are held the first and third Friday of each month. (9 pm.)

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)

ORGAN (Oregon Regional Gay and Naked) is a social club for gay men who enjoy being nude. Monthly potlucks and events. Guests are invited to attend two events before deciding on membership. (ORGAN, PO Box 14174, Portland, OR 97293-0174.) (11/00)

Portland Bisexual Alliance plays host to social and political events for bisexual and bi-friendly people, organizes Portland Bi Day rally and publishes calendar of 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. (503-775-9717, pba@biportland.org, www.biportland.org.) (11/00)

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.) (11/00)

Portland **Metro Prime Timers** is a social group for men. (PO Box 5884, Portland, OR 97228, 503-244-7550 or 360-254-1718, pdxprimetimers@yahoo.com.) (11/00)

PSU Queers and Allies offer educational and social programming and support and referral services for people of all orientations and colors. Everyone is invited to participate in activities and meetings. (441A Smith Memorial Center, Portland State University campus, E-mail: queersandallies@mail.pdx.edu, www.ess.pdx.edu/sicg/queersandallies, 503-725-5681.) (11/00)

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. (503-972-1869, rcdc@teleport.com, www.teleport.com/~rcdc.) (11/00)

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-September, 7 pm October-April. First Baptist Church, 125 SE Cowles 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.adventure-group.org.) (11/00)

Border Riders Motorcycle Club, the largest motorcycle club for gay men and friends in Western Canada and the Pacific Northwest, plays host to day runs and camping events. (bcbriders@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/~gijm.) (11/00)

Gal Pals is a new group for single lesbians. (For information visit www.geocities.com/RodeoDrive/B0006204454/3346/GAL-PAL.html.) (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? (Denise 503-654-3865, Lynn 503-777-2339, e-mail ketrav@drop.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 LGCOregon@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 meets Sundays at 4 pm at Hollywood Lanes, 40th Avenue and Halsey Street. (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)

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, group, indoor and outdoor physical recreation opportunities for people living with HIV and AIDS. (503-493-0288.) (11/00)



It's a study in contrasts as the ISRC presents the fifth annual Leather and Lace Show at Embers Avenue Aug. 10

The Real Connection is a social gathering for gay men who are artists, writers or 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, bi, trans and supportive musicians and friends. (PO Box 1082, Portland, OR 97207, 503-790-2170, 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 FTM's, 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)

midnight 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 503-466-0058 or e-mail to lesprnw@aol.com.) (11/00)

Lesbian social group for women 50 and older meets on the third Saturday of the month. (4-7 pm, 503-642-3360, 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 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. (lululist@hotmail.com, www.spirittech.com/~awntie/lulu.htm, 503-231-3992.) (11/00)

Mount Hood Womyn network 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)

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

My long-term boyfriend, Larry, has a 16-year-old daughter, Heather, whom I've never met. He's bringing her to visit this month, and she's planning to stay with us for the summer.

The problem is that I'm not sure how to behave around her.

Ordinarily, Larry and I are affectionate. For example, when I pick him up at the airport, I usually give him a long, deep kiss.

Would that be inappropriate in front of his daughter? Also, should we refrain from hand holding or massaging each other while she visits? When I mentioned it to Larry, he told me not to worry, that we'd just see how it goes. If I butch it up or act less affectionate, is that homophobic?

—Jack

DEAR JACK:

Wouldn't you have been repulsed, as a teen-ager, to watch your mother slip your father the tongue? Homophobia isn't really the issue; teen-agers are horrified by parental sexuality, even when their parents are straight. Sixteen-year-old girls are especially easy to disgust.

You and Larry should be gradual in your affectionate behavior

When people say, "I don't want to break it off because I love her," it really means, "This may wrench my guts and tempt me to drink hemlock, but I can't give it up yet."

around Heather. If her threshold for grossness is exceeded from the beginning, she probably won't accept you.

So, when you meet them at the airport, shake Heather's hand, and give Larry a manly embrace. (OK, the manly part is optional.) If, after a few days of witnessing hand holding during meals, Heather still hasn't regurgitated your homosexual dinner, you can assume that small gestures of affection are OK.

Don't try to get her to call you "Daddy" (unless Larry already does). Don't buy yourself a pair of clam diggers and a Britney Spears CD in attempt to impress her; there's nothing more pathetic than middle-aged people trying to be hip.

And even once she seems comfortable, draw a careful line between affection and overt sexuality. No matter how cool Heather seems



Affection suggestion

Parental patience must be practiced, else daughter will be driven to disgust

with her two daddies, absolutely no hand jobs in the living room.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I recently ended a three-year relationship with a woman I met in prison. This woman thinks prison is lesbian paradise, and she's been there 12 years!

We both had drug charges; I did less than three years. She can't make parole because she chooses to do her time on her knees, if you catch my drift. I was celibate.

I ended the relationship and met someone online. She moved in two weeks ago. I tried to break this off because I wasn't comfortable with the age difference. She's 19, I'm 40.

But she won my heart. Now, every time I say or do something, she says, "You think just because I'm 19...." It's driving me nuts, and I don't want to break up because I love her. Who's uncomfortable, and how do we deal with it?

—AngelDyke

DEAR ANGELDYKE:

You and your teen-ager are both uncomfortable, because it's hard not to be "Mommy" with a 19-year-old. Try not to take care of her too much; don't make all her meals, and don't say, "Clean your room

right this minute, young lady." It will be deadly for your sex life and make you feel old.

Ms. Behavior isn't sure where the prison girlfriend fits in, but maybe you like uneven power dynamics. Was she in charge of rationing cigarettes or body cavity searches? How'd you have a relationship if you were celibate? (Or is this just a 1950s pulp fantasy?)

When people say, "I don't want to break it off because I love her," it really means, "This may wrench my guts and tempt me to drink hemlock, but I can't give it up yet." Love is a force of nature. Ms. Behavior sometimes offers gentle cautions, but she won't stand in the way.

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