

MacRory Tip to Clipboard

Have An Escape Plan

If your Mac freezes, escalate your escape in small, gentle steps:

1. "Command Period" (⌘+.) will solve some freezes
2. A "force quit" (⌘+Option+Escape) may be needed for others
3. A "soft boot" uses ⌘+Power+Control (or Shift for some Macs)
4. Press your Mac's physical "acupuncture point" reset button
5. Unplug the machine and wait 60 seconds

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CULTURE

Whip it!

Portland's Leather Pride Week drew in the crowds.

Even the mayor noticed.

BY DARKLADY

Mayor Vera Katz officially proclaimed Aug. 3 to 11 as Leather Pride

Week, making Portland the second city in the nation (after San Francisco) to formally acknowledge the positive contributions of the leather and fetish communities.

The proclamation also acknowledged the importance of the "safe, sane and consensual" B/D/S/M motto as well as the charitable and educational contributions of the various communities to the city's overall livability.

(Not bad for a mayor who recently decided black clothing and silver body piercings don't reflect well upon Rose City sidewalks.)

Announcement of the mayoral proclamation came during the Mr./Ms. Oregon State Leather Contest. "It was a very well received part of Leather Pride Week this year and something that the community was really proud of," says Don Hood, Blackout Leather Productions president.

Recognition is definitely one of the names of the game. An assortment of events ranging from the Fetish Ball at the Fez to the Mr./Ms. Oregon State Leather Victory Brunch at Embers are designed to bring various communities together for fun, socializing, education and acknowledgment of kinky accomplishments. Individuals and other leather fetish groups such as Bad Girls also play host to events and parties during the week.

This year's Mr. Oregon Leather titleholder is Salem's Mack McCall, a 40-year-old transplant from California who says that since arriving here he hasn't looked back. "I was sold on this place within four days!" he exclaims.

McCall is an armed courier involved with the Bear Troopers and Portland Leather Men. "I've gotten so much love and encouragement from my fellow peers that I decided earlier this year to go ahead and run for it. It was a very enjoyable experience."

The Ms. Oregon Leather title was won by 33-year-old Portland singer/songwriter Maria Webster. Involved with the leather community for the past 15 years, she decided it was time for her to "give a little bit back."

A supporter of pansexual leather activities, Webster plans to be deeply involved in women-only events and increase her presence in the political arena, particularly the Sexual Minorities Roundtable. "One of the things that I've noticed in recent years is that folks aren't as active politically as they used to be. I want to...bring that information back so that people know what's going on, act as a conduit for information."

Both McCall and Webster will participate



Maria Webster and Mack McCall are the proud new representatives of Oregon's leather community

in fund-raising activities and plan to reach out to leatherfolk outside of the Portland area.

Longtime fund-raising organizer and activist Andy Mangels received the new Blackout Leather Productions Person of the Year Award and plans to continue his successful run of events designed to raise money for the curators of Chicago's Leather Archives and Museum, who hope to purchase their own building. To date he has been instrumental in raising \$9,000 toward his \$10,000 goal. This is Mangels' first local award.

"One thing that I always try to impress on people, titleholders and not," he explains, "is that you can make a difference and accomplish wonderful things for your community without holding a title."

Other events during the week included an Erotica Show, which raised money for Camp Starlight, an annual experience for kids affected by HIV/AIDS, and the Imperial Sovereign Rose Court's Leather and Lace Show, which benefited Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays this year.

The Portland Leather Alliance organized a number of events, including the Fetish Ball, which raised \$500 for the National Coalition for Sexual Freedom.

The Leather Auction at C.C. Slaughters raised more than \$2,000 for the Leather Archives and Museum, and a night of Leather Tastings at the Eagle PDX included a sampling of kinky delights.

According to alliance president Ruth Thomas, this year's events were very well received, particularly the auction. The group is now focusing on a November Vendor's Fair and party to be held at the Portland Conference Center. ☐

Visit BLACKOUT LEATHER PRODUCTIONS at www.blackoutleather.org and the PORTLAND LEATHER ALLIANCE at www.pdxleatheralliance.org.

DARKLADY is a kinky, bi, poly, sex educator livin' and lovin' in Portland. No mutually consensual depravity is too unspeakable for her to write about, watch or even consider participating in—including running for office. Learn more at www.darklady.com.