

interesting scenes. "I had to go home from the club one evening," Wagner says, "wearing nothing but a pair of black boxer briefs, a leather harness and a pair of boots—and no one even batted an eye! Other cities that I've lived in can't boast that kind of acceptance!"

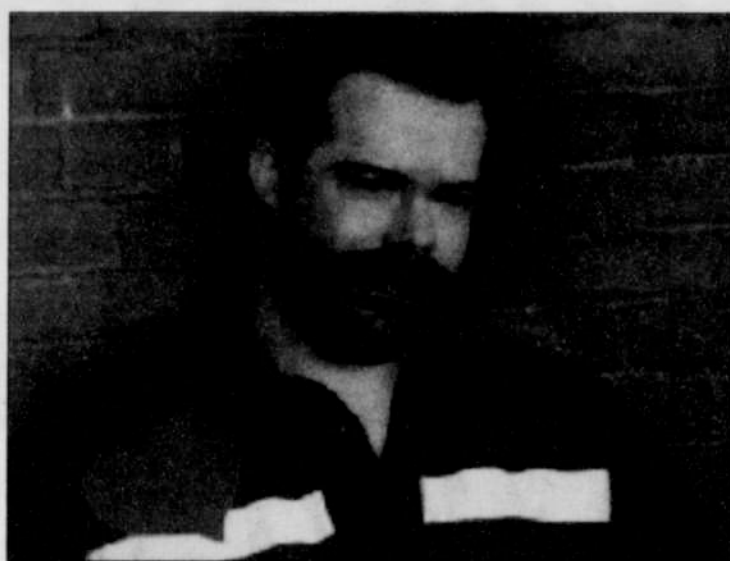
Leather Pride Week returns this year with a huge leather harness full of events (see sidebar). Hosted by the nine current member organizations of the Oregon Leather Pride Committee, this year's event promises to be bigger and badder than ever.

What's new this year? Besides expanded cooperation among different leather organizations, two new sponsors are contributing venues and money: Oregon Leather Fraternity and Queer Fetish. Because of the closure of Panorama, Stark Street has become less a focal point of venues. Also new: The Mark Spencer Hotel, besides offering a special Leather Pride Week rate, was the site of a pre-Pride community discussion Aug. 3 called "Diversity in our Dungeons."

New events include Leather Night at Booty, says Wagner. "I will be offering myself up to be flogged for charity during a spot called 'Beat the DJ.'"

What is the best event at Leather Pride Week? Of course, everyone's first answer is, whichever event piques your curiosity and satisfies your tastes. But when pressed, the same event is cited again and again: Leather Tastings.

Wagner: "One of my favorite events because you get to meet the people who make all these kinky toys for us." Mangels: "Leather Tastings is for those who want to explore kinky questions in a hands-on educational arena."



Mr. Oregon State Leather 2004 Andy Mangels says people are drawn to leather for its rebellious mystique.

Spector: "I love walking into a space where S/M play is happening...where I can let loose and enjoy myself, socialize, try things out, play, be silly."

And the best event for a newbie? Leather Family Barbecue.

Mangels: "Leather Family Barbecue is a great opportunity to meet friendly people from lots of different groups in an outdoor, daytime setting." Spector: "This is a wonderful time to meet other members of the community, hang out at Overlook Park, relax and enjoy. Folks are very welcoming and warm." **JM**

PORTLAND LEATHER PRIDE WEEK runs through Aug. 14 in various venues. For more info visit www.oregonleatherpride.org.

GLENN SCOFIELD WILLIAMS writes prose, poetry, plays, periodica and porn in Portland.

Just Out's Guide to Leather Pride Week

Friday, Aug. 5

- **The sixth annual Leather, Feathers & Fur Fetish Ball:** 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., Melody Ballroom, 615 S.E. Alder St., \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door, 21 and older.
- **Night in Black Leather:** 9 to 11 p.m., Dirty Duck Tavern, 438 N.W. Third Ave., no cover, 21 and older.

Saturday, Aug. 6

- **Kinky Auction & Mixed Play Party:** Auction 6:30 p.m. (free), party 8 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. (\$10), Venom Studios, 5224 S.E. Foster Road, 18 and older.
- **Uniform & Buzzcuts Party:** 9 p.m. to 2:30 a.m., Eagle PDX, 1300 S.W. Burnside St., \$4, 21 and older.

Sunday, Aug. 7

- **Leather Tastings:** Noon to 4 p.m., Venom Studios, 5224 S.E. Foster Road, \$3-\$5, 18 and older.

Monday, Aug. 8

- **Movie Night: Beyond Vanilla,** 7 p.m., Embers, 110 S.W. Broadway, \$5-\$10 sliding scale, 21 and older.

Tuesday, Aug. 9

- **Kinky Women's Munch & B/D/S/M Women's Social:** 7 to 11 p.m., Egyptian Club, 3701 S.E. Division St., no cover, 21 and older.
- **Leather Frat Party:** 8 p.m., Eagle PDX, 1300 S.W. Burnside St., no cover, 21 and older.

Wednesday, Aug. 10

- **Leather & Lace Show and On the Edge**

Show: 8 p.m., Embers, 110 S.W. Broadway, no cover, 21 and older.

Thursday, Aug. 11

- **Leather Family Barbecue:** Bring meat to grill and side to share, 6 to 9 p.m., Overlook Park, North Fremont Street and Interstate Avenue, free, all ages.
- **Booty Night: "Beat the DJ"** for charity, 9 p.m. to 2:30 a.m., Porky's Pub, 835 N. Lombard St., \$3, 21 and older.

Friday, Aug. 12

- **Oregon State Leather 2005 Contestant Meet & Greet:** 5 to 6 p.m., Embers, 110 N.W. Broadway, free, 21 and older.
- **An Erotic Production:** 7 p.m., Embers, 110 N.W. Broadway, \$10, 21 and older.
- **Bears in Leather Beer Bust:** 9 p.m. to midnight, Dirty Duck Tavern, 438 N.W. Third Ave., \$8, 21 and older.

Saturday, Aug. 13

- **Portland Leatherman Potluck:** E-mail furry@direcway.com for location.
- **Mr. & Ms. Oregon State Leather 2005 Contest:** 7 to 9 p.m., Embers, 110 N.W. Broadway, 21 and older.
- **Pansexual Dungeon Party:** After the contest, Venom Studios, 5224 S.E. Foster Road, \$5-\$15, 18 and older.

Sunday, Aug. 14

- **Celebrating the Leather Community:** 9 a.m., Metropolitan Community Church of Portland, 2400 N.E. Broadway, free, all ages.
- **Victory Brunch and Rose & Thorn Community Awards:** 11 a.m., Embers, 110 N.W. Broadway, \$15, 21 and older.

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