

Complete spirituality and nonmetro listings available online at www.justout.com

General

Asian & Pacific Islander Lesbians and Gays is a nonprofit community voice for gay, lesbian and bi Asian and Pacific Islanders. Activities include potlucks, recreational outings and cultural events. Friendly environment to meet and connect with other API. (PO Box 12661, Portland, OR 97232. aplgl_pdx@yahoo.com.)

Bad Girls is a social and educational leather and B/D/S/M club for self-identified women with an emphasis on safety and education. Workshops, discussions, events and parties. Women of all orientations can connect and ask questions during the Kinky Women's Welcoming Munch at 7 pm every second Tuesday. (503-972-2233. www.pdxbadgirls.net.)

Cascade Flyers are gay, lesbian and bi aviators, both private and professional, in Washington, Oregon and southern British Columbia. Dinner meetings in Portland area. (503-701-7922. casflyers@yahoo.com. www.geocities.com/casflyers.)

A Common Bond is a social support network for former or questioning Jehovah's Witnesses who are queer. (jacbpdx@webtv.net.)

Coqsure is a social group for people who were assigned a female sex at birth but identify otherwise (female-to-male, genderqueer, drag king, etc.). First Sunday meetings are open to partners and families of any configuration. (503-471-1515. groups.yahoo.com/group/coqsure.)

50+ lesbian social group for women meets on the third Saturday of the month. (4-7 pm. 503-642-3360 or 503-286-3575.)

Fem2fem social group forming for feminine singles between 30 and 50. (fem2fem_pdx@yahoo.com.)

FTM Pacific NW OR & WA is a social and discussion group for female-to-male trans men. (groups.yahoo.com/group/FTM_PacificNW.)

Funny Ladies, a social group for nice lesbians 35 and older as well as their friends and loved ones, holds potlucks on the second Saturday of each month. (503-639-7488. flataps@yahoo.com.)

Genealogy group forming. Gather with other lesbian researchers to trace your family tree and tackle "brickwall" female ancestors. (famhistnw@aol.com.)

Imperial Sovereign Rose Court of Oregon is the oldest gay, lesbian, bi and trans social/fundraising organization in the state of Oregon. Meetings are the first two Mondays of each month. (www.rosecourt.org.)

Jewish Gay Men's Group—please call for meeting time and place. (503-246-5939. efraimlevi@aol.com.)

Keshet is a social connection group for queer Jews and their spouses, partners, significant others and good friends, whether Jewish or not. It meets monthly for potluck dinners and special events. (David 503-226-7079, ext. 14, or Mike 503-331-1111.)

Leather Night and Red Hanky Social are the first and third Friday of each month at Gail's Dirty Duck Tavern. (9 pm-midnight. 439 NW Third Ave. 503-224-8446. earl@leathercigarboy.com.)

Lesbians Enjoying Nature and Science (LENS) is a fun-loving group of women who enjoy exploring all aspects of the environment. Activities include bird watching, nature walks, archaeology, camping, kayaking, star gazing and an occasional "lecture." No experience necessary. (6:45-8:30 pm second Thursday planning meeting. Laurie 503-977-2903. lensnews@yahoo.com.)

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. Call for a copy of the newsletter and information about upcoming events. (Linda 503-909-2002.)

Lesbians with Degrees is a social group for intellectual women and those who want to meet them. (Lani 503-233-3557. Join [listserv at LesbianswithDegrees-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:listserv@lesbianswithdegrees-subscribe@yahoo.com).)

Lulu's Pervy Playhouse is a social group for self-identifying women who are into S/M. Play parties are held on the second Saturday of the month. (503-231-3992. dykedadl@comcast.net. www.luluspervyplayhouse.org.)

Men Over 40 is a small, socially supportive group that meets second and fourth Thursdays. (503-777-1376.)

Oregon Men Enjoying Naturism is a social organization for gay male naturists/nudists. Social gathering second Saturday of every month. (omenpdx@omenpdx.org. www.omenpdx.org.)

PDX_FTM is a social group for female-to-male trans men and their significant others, friends, families and allies. (groups.yahoo.com/group/PDX_FTM.)

PDX Lesbo Nerds invite interesting, intelligent women 35 and older to socialize while playing board games like Scrabble and Spades. (games.groups.yahoo.com/group/PdxLesboNerds.)

The gay **Pinochle Group** meets Sundays at Hobo's. Come play cards and meet the gang. New players always welcome. (6 pm. 120 NW Third Ave. Mike 503-641-7224.)

Poder Latino is a nonprofit social community voice group for gay, lesbian, bi and trans people that reaches out to Latinos and Latinas by organizing events and retreats and advocating HIV prevention. Meets every other Monday at Outside In. (6:30 pm. 1030 SW 13th Ave. Hugo 503-997-8615 or Audencio 503-261-5463.)

Portland Bisexual Women is a discussion, social and support group for bi and questioning women. (503-347-5817. portlandbiwomen@comcast.net. www.portlandbiwomen.freesevers.com.)

Portland Leather Alliance is one of the largest pansexual, nonprofit B/D/S/M, leather and fetish lifestyle organizations in the Northwest. Regular social and educational opportunities, including KinkFest, Leather Ball, kind auctions and Fall Vendors Fair. (www.pdxleatheralliance.org.)

Portland Leather Men meet every second Saturday for potluck and socializing. Meet men into a leather lifestyle and keep abreast of leather happenings. No dues, no formal organization, no officers or board, just leather socialization for the past 21 years. (360-896-6665. plm@directway.com.)

Portland Metro Prime Timers is a social group for mature gay men and those who appreciate them, coming together for social, educational and cultural purposes. (PO Box 5884, Portland, OR 97228. 503-286-4613 or 360-693-5506. pdxprimetimers@yahoo.com. www.geocities.com/pdxprimetimers.)

Rainriders Motorcycle Club meets weekly at the Roxy. Ride your bike or just come meet the group. Everyone welcome. (10 am Sunday. 1121 SW Stark St. www.pdx-rmc.com.)

Rose City Discussion Club, the largest open pansexual/alternative sexuality 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.rcdc.org.)

Soyboys Vegetarian Men's Group is a fun, social gathering for gay and bi men who are interested in a healthy vegetarian or vegan lifestyle. A variety of activities and monthly potlucks on the last Friday. (veggieguy@aol.com.)

Women of the Rivers, the Portland/Vancouver chapter of the **Women on Wheels Motorcycle Club**, meets monthly at Elmer's, sponsors riding clinics and takes day trips. (7:15 pm second Thursday. 9848 N Whitaker Road. www.hevanet.com/chama/wow.)

Physical Recreation

Adventure Group organizes a variety of activities year round, including hiking, walking, cross-country and downhill skiing, rafting and mountain biking. (PO Box 2201, Portland, OR 97208-2201. www.adventuregroup.org.)

Amazon Dragons Paddling Club invites women 16 and older to join Portland's only out lesbian dragon boat team. Be part of the fun and fitness with this dynamic group. (www.amazondragons.org.)

The 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. (Dawn and Tami 503-659-2782. ncc1127@yahoo.com. www.geocities.com/ncc1127/forestpdx.)

The **Gay Women's Golf Group** welcomes all levels of players. (turfgrlz@yahoo.com.)

Lesbian Equestrian Group gets together for equestrian activities in the Pacific Northwest. (Denise 503-654-3865. Lynn 503-777-2339. kelrav@rdrop.com.)

National Gay Basketball League is forming a chapter in Portland to represent Oregon in the 2006 Gay Games. (www.ngba.us/portland/pdx.htm.)

Out Dancing teaches dancing for same-sex couples at Ankeny Street Studio. Classes for different dance styles start the first Friday of each month: country, swing, tango, cha-cha, etc. Call for schedule. (503-236-5129. out_dancing@yahoo.com. home.att.net/~outdancing.)

OutKayaking, Portland's gay and lesbian sea kayak group, explores the lakes, rivers and bays of Northwest Oregon and Southwest Washington. (www.outkayaking.org.)

Pacific Coast Boating Club provides opportunities for gay and lesbian boaters to come together for fun on local rivers and promotes safe boating. (paccoastboatclub@comcast.net.)

Portland Avalanche rugby team is always seeking new players for practices Mondays and Wednesdays Aug. 29-Nov. 12 at East Delta Park. (6:30-8:30 pm. 10737 N Union Court. 503-715-3122. www.avalancherugby.org.)

Portland Gay & Lesbian Community Bowling

Association is in its 28th season! Meets Sundays at Hollywood Bowl. Drop-ins welcome anytime. (3:30 pm. 4030 NE Halsey St. Mailing address: PO Box 42034, Portland, OR 97242. 503-722-0438. pdxbowl@comcast.net. www.pdxbowl.com.)

Whether you're a running novice or a seasoned marathoner, **Portland Frontrunners** welcomes gay, lesbian, bi and trans people of all abilities and interests. (Gary info@portlandfrontrunners.org. www.portlandfrontrunners.org.)

Rosetown Ramblers, Portland's gay and lesbian square dance club, dances at mainstream and plus levels. (PO Box 5352, Portland, OR 97228-5352. www.rosetownramblers.com.)

Ruby Red Flippers, a group of gay and lesbian scuba divers in the Portland area, teaches new recruits and takes dives in Tacoma, Hood Canal and other Pacific Northwest waters. (rubyredflippers@yahoo.com. www.rubyredflippers.org.)

Team Oregon, the umbrella sports group coordinating efforts for Outgames 2006 in Montreal and Gay Games 2006 in Chicago, holds monthly meetings for those wanting to participate. (503-736-3292. www.teamoregon2006.org.)

Team Tennis meets Sundays at University of Portland. All levels of play welcome. First time is free, subsequent times are \$7. Please join us! (8 am-noon. 503-788-8192. teamportlandtennis@yahoo.com.)

YOUTH

Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE) is the only international organization specifically supporting young people with sexual minority parents. (colage@lmfamily.org. www.colage.org.)

Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) strives to assure that each member of every school community is valued and respected, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. (12700 SW North Dakota St., Suite 180 #129, Tigard, OR 97223. 503-525-1177. glsen@glsenoregon.org. www.glsenoregon.org.)

Outside In operates a clinic for anyone who can't qualify for the Oregon Health Plan as well as needle exchange services that include those who inject hormones. Provide transitional housing for youth 20 and younger and for those HIV-positive and younger than 23. Need volunteers of all ages. (10 am-6 pm Monday-Friday. 1132 SW 13th Ave. 503-535-3800. www.outsidein.org.)

Pride Project brings together Washington County queer and questioning youth to plan and attend monthly social events. Also information, referral and advocacy services in Washington County. (Austin 503-260-5792. austin@prideproject.org.)

Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center (SMYRC) offers support, recreation, counseling and referral to gay, lesbian, bi and trans kids 23 and younger. Drop-in computer access, pool tables and an informal place to hang out. Weekly trans, leadership and art support group meetings. (4-9 pm Wednesday, 4-11 pm Friday. 2100 SE Belmont St. 503-872-9664.)

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outreach listings of up to 50 words are provided free of charge to organizations and groups specifically serving the sexual minorities community. All listings are subject to editing, and inclusion is subject to space limitations, relevance and receipt by deadline. Listings expire once a year (in July), and submissions run from the date received until the next scheduled expiration date. Listings are automatically deleted upon expiration. To ensure uninterrupted listing, please submit updated information at least a month prior to the expiration date. Complete listings are available online at www.justout.com.

Send listings to Just Out (attn: Calendar), PO Box 14400, Portland, OR 97293 0400.

Fax submissions to 503 236 1257 or e-mail justout@justout.com.

Submissions cannot be accepted over the phone.

Please type your announcements and include full contact information.

Humor Me

Funny girl has the misfortune of attracting dour lesbians

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

When you ask someone what he or she is looking for in a partner, people usually respond similarly: Everyone wants someone who is nice and attractive and hopefully sexy, too. Also, at the top of the list, everyone says, "A prospective partner has to make me laugh."

Well, I make people laugh (a lot), but my problem is I seem to attract the small portion of the lesbian population that doesn't put humor high on the list of desirable attributes for a partner. I have met every significant girlfriend in one serious setting or another, like work, classes, etc. It always ends the same way, with a furious lesbian screaming at me, "You're not funny; now get out!" What do you suppose is the problem?

—Karen



Ms. Behavior
BY MERYL COHN

DEAR KAREN:

Ms. Behavior feels that you're leaving something out. For example, exactly what type of humor do you expect your sourpuss girlfriends to appreciate? Are you a clown? A wiseass? Do you laugh when they're angry and make fun of their lips and their physical deformities? Or are you really just an extremely funny lesbian who has the misfortune of attracting dour lesbians who haven't smiled since their adult teeth grew in?

At first glance, it seems that you've identified the problem: You keep meeting your girlfriends in "serious" settings. But what, really, is a funny setting? A comedy club? The gynecologist's office? The IRS? Just as a truly nice person will be nice in nearly any setting, a funny person will actually be funny in any setting; if you're a really amusing person, the contrast of an unfunny setting (like, say, a hospital or a funeral home) only enhances your opportunity for humor.

Perhaps you're shooting for irony when you say that only a small portion of lesbians don't value humor. Do you actually mean to suggest that most dykes are humorless? If this is an example of an attempt at comedy, no wonder your girlfriends don't laugh! How could you make fun of your earnest, well-meaning sisters? If at first you're too defended to be kind to other sincere lesbians, you may need to practice in front of a mirror. Nod at yourself, as if affirming your existence. Practice a sensitive squint, as if you're responding to a horrific confession. Don't look at your own breasts or smile. Being a lesbian is serious work, and the sooner you recognize it, the happier you'll be!

—Smitten

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

First off, you do an awesome job at helping people out. I love that. You are a special individual.

Here is my question: I have been going to a coffee shop for many months. During this time, I have met a very sweet guy. We enjoy each other's company.

Another friend who I sit with sometimes at the coffee shop told me that the first guy is not my type. However, he and I do not hang together outside the coffee shop, so he doesn't know me well. How do I tell the first guy that I like him?

DEAR SMITTEN:

Ms. Behavior gives in to her frequent urges for iced tea, so she has seen people like you and your friends, who sit around in coffee shops for months on end. Don't you have anywhere to go? Your local coffee shop might serve good lattes and WiFi and hip music, but hanging out and drinking java is meant to be done between the meaningful events in your life; it shouldn't be the substance of your life. Even Jerry Seinfeld and George and Elaine and Kramer frequently left their coffee shop to go have a life, and their show was about nothing.

Still, if you want the coffee shop guy to know you like him, speak to him as kindly as you spoke to Ms. Behavior: Tell him he's "awesome" and a "special individual." Ask if he'd like to be rescued from his pitiful existence at the coffee shop. Tell him that you wonder how he'd look in actual daylight, instead of artificial light, and that you'd like to see him skiing down a mountain, or riding a bike, or perhaps even writhing beneath your body, sweating.

Ignore the naysayer who claims to know your type. He's probably just one of those bitter and jealous people who feels unhappy whenever anyone else locates his bliss. Leave him behind in the coffee shop when you and your man go on to live your fulfilling and functional lives, out in the world.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I just wanted to say how entertaining your columns are. I love your responses, and your forwardness helps me know I'm not alone in this world.

Thanks for entertaining me with your advice.

—Alicia 10

MERYL COHN is the author of *Do What I Say: Ms. Behavior's Guide to Gay and Lesbian Etiquette*. Signed copies are available directly from the author. Send questions or correspondence to msbehavior@aol.com.