

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. apl_gdx@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. (jacportland@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. (fem2fempdx@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. Joinlistserv@LesbianswDegrees-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. dykedadi@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.games.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. (veggieguys@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. kell-rav@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. outdancing@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. (pccoastboatclub@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 wel-

come 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. (rubbyredflippers@yahoo.com. www.rubbyredflippers.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. www.smyrc.org.)

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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), P.O. 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.

Hung Up

Patiently Waiting needs to build a bridge and get over his ex



Ms. Behavior
BY MERYL COHN

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

My ex and I were together for two years. We had our share of problems and finally split up two years ago.

Since about a week after we broke up, he has been with his current partner. For about a year, my ex and I have become friends and work at the same company. From the sounds of it, he and his current partner are on the edge of breaking up, or at least that is how it looked a month ago. I know, because he told me. At that point I confronted my ex and asked him if there would be a chance of us getting back together. The question was never answered. Now that the holidays are close, they seem to be much better, doing home improvements and things that couples who are going to stay together for a while would do.

I have been hung up on this guy ever since we broke up. I have dated a few people, but nothing feels as right as when I was with him. This small chance of us getting back together is gnawing at me. Should I try to confront him again, or should I just sit back and wait?

—Patiently Waiting

DEAR PATIENTLY WAITING:

Go check your driveway. Do you see your ex's car? Check the bathroom. Does his toothbrush inhabit the spot next to yours? Have you seen his brand of wine in your fridge? Ms. Behavior didn't think so. If your ex wanted to get back together, you'd have already found his boxer-briefs on your floor. (Sadly, you'd probably have stuffed them under your pillow.) But your floor is woefully devoid of someone else's boxer-briefs, isn't it?

So, it all adds up to zero evidence and/or probability that your ex is coming back; he hasn't given you the slightest suggestion that he's even entertaining the thought. Ignoring your question about getting back together was an answer: No.

Here's what's true: Your ex is with someone else, and he's apparently not leaving. Even if he does leave, he's not coming back to you. So, do not "confront your ex" and do not "sit back and wait." It's time to focus your energy on someone new, someone who might return your feelings.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

My girlfriend and I were very close to another couple; I'll call them Viv and Bette. The four of us did everything together, until one day Viv and Bette simply stopped returning our phone calls. We have no idea why, and though we tried to get them to talk with us like rational adults, they refused.

Through phone call messages and e-mails, they finally replied that we "simply weren't for them in terms of friends anymore." This was a bruising experience, though we suspect the issue had to do with the fact that we don't drink much—Viv and Bette can really tie one on.

The problem is that we are going to go to a series of women's potluck dinners for the holidays, and we expect that Viv and Bette will be at some of them. My girlfriend says she'd rather not go. But I say we have nothing to be ashamed of, so we should go and not be intimidated. What do you think?

—Dumped by Viv and Bette

DEAR DUMPED BY VIV AND BETTE:

Let's assume that you're not leaving out the juicy part of the story, where you slept with Viv or your girlfriend slept with Bette (or you slept with Bette or your girlfriend slept with Viv...). And let's assume that you didn't insult their families or steal their bathroom soaps or borrow their favorite signed books without returning them and that neither you nor your girlfriend has a vulgar mealtime habit you haven't mentioned.

If all of these assumptions are true and your story about Viv and Bette is perfectly straightforward, you might merely be dealing with women who need drama with others to keep their relationship alive. For such drama-hungry people, recycling friends is par for the course; nothing you could do would keep you in their good graces.

However, don't stay in hiding for the holidays just because two dour old lesbians have decided not to be your friends. Plenty of dykes will happily hang out with you at the holiday potlucks, whether or not you get drunk with them. And so what if you do run into Viv and Bette? What's the worst that can happen? They'll ignore you over the tofu loaf? They'll make faces at your three-bean salad?

You and your girlfriend have the opportunity to do exactly what you'd do when you run into an ex after an ugly breakup: Be happy. Have fun. Make them sorry that they dumped you. **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.