

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_g_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. (acbondportland@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.)

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/fund-raising 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.)

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. (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 listserve at 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.)

Monamorous bi group forming for women in their 40s who are single and professionally employed. (jacknjill06@hotmail.com.)

Night in Black Leather and The Leather Duck Club 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. orleatherfrat@yahoo.com.)

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 Audencia 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 Saturday. (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.)

Gay Women's Golf Group welcomes all levels of players. (www.turfgrlz.com.)

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

Net Rippers is a gay men's indoor soccer team that's just starting up in Portland. (bendoverbeckham@gmail.com. www.myspace.com/netrippers.)

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 through May 17 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. (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.)

Soccer players capable of participating in 2006 Gay Games July 15-22 in Chicago sought for adult league in Portland. (Carlos 503-282-4907. gaygames_soccer@myway.com.)

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. teamporlandtennis@yahoo.com.)

YOUTH

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

Just Out is published on the first and third Friday of every month. The deadline for submissions is 14 days prior to publication.

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

Courteous Cruising

What's the appropriate etiquette for online hookups?

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

Friends and I disagree on appropriate online etiquette when cruising for sex on hookup sites. Bathhouses were easier: If you didn't have any interest, you just looked away—pretty much everyone understood it. However, online is tougher.

When someone e-mails you and unlocks their pictures, is a response required? How about when your profile specifies "looking for a masculine top between 30 and 45" and the solicitation comes from a 58-year-old feminine bottom? I view it as an insult that they didn't take time to read the profile that I took good care to write. And how to respond to those cads who specify "Neg 4 Neg" or "Neg UB2"? As an HIV-positive man, I want to fling back queries about their HPV; hepatitis A, B and C; and genetic predispositions to cancer and frankly ask if they really believe that everyone who's positive knows it.

Additionally, how do you respond to the men who: 1. Show up a half-hour late, 2. Don't show up at all with a lame excuse like "I fell asleep," or 3. Show up looking like a sun-dried version of their online photo—think grape to raisin. My tolerance of lies is limited, but I do understand slamming the door in their face could get my car keyed. Any help you can provide would be appreciated, since I believe manners are a two-way street and are even more important when strangers are involved.

—Virtually Confused

DEAR VIRTUALLY CONFUSED:

Ms. Behavior doesn't understand why some people expect every stranger they meet online to be attractive, honest and full of integrity. Is the implication that all the creepy men hang out in bars or bathhouses, but the hunky, ethical, kind people stay at home in front of their computers, constructing honest profiles and e-mailing photos of their dicks to prospective dates?

The online world is akin to the "meat world" in most ways. Expecting otherwise leads to disappointment. If someone online unlocks his picture but you don't like what you see, don't respond. Not responding is basically the equivalent of looking away when you don't want to meet someone's gaze.

If a middle-aged feminine bottom e-mails you, even though you've specified that you're seeking a younger top, why get outraged? Perhaps the bottom finds your photo attractive and hopes he can entice you to try something different. If you were in a bar, wouldn't you just say, "No thanks" and keep walking by?

Rudeness is rudeness, online or not. Lateness, poor excuses, lying about age and excluding prospective dates with HIV are all rude behaviors, which are unfortunately among the hazards of dating. Treat rude prospective cybertricks the way you would treat anyone: firmly but not unkindly. Hopefully, you'll someday meet a prompt and suitable young top who is honest about his age, looks just like his photo and is absolutely charmed by your self-righteous indignation.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I am 19 and not technically "out," but I need advice as to how I can come out of the closet without destroying myself or my father, who has kept things like the Easy-Bake Oven and Barbie away, fearing I would be gay.

I have been pondering for some time as to how I could come out, but because of my father's paranoia, I have been secluded from the gay community and do not know how to connect. Please, Ms. Behavior, can you help me?

—Tearful, Closeted and Lonely

DEAR TEARFUL, CLOSETED AND LONELY:

If you begged your parents for Barbie and an Easy-Bake Oven in your youth, you're probably not quite as closeted as you think. Your coming out won't shock (or kill) your father; it will merely confirm what he's already suspected.

When you say you're "secluded from the gay community," Ms. Behavior presumes this doesn't mean that your father has chained you to a radiator in your bedroom, but rather that his attitude might discourage you from bringing tricks home or keeping a pile of *Honcho* magazines and a bucket of lube on your nightstand. But if you weren't living with your father, he wouldn't be scrutinizing your daily comings and goings. Can you move out?

As for being secluded from the gay community, if you have the ability to use the Internet (which you obviously do, because that's how you sent your letter) and a car or a bicycle, then you have everything you need to connect with other gay people. Join a group for gay youth or gay swimmers or queer equestrians. The friendship and support of others will help you to come out. Ms. Behavior predicts that a few months from now, you'll be ever-so-happily gay. 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.

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