

Monday-Friday except 12:30-4:30 pm Wednesday.
426 SW Stark St., Sixth Floor. 503-988-3700.)

SOCIAL

Arts & Music

Confluence: The Willamette Valley Mixed GALA Chorus rehearses Sundays at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem. (4-6:30 pm. 5090 Center St. NE. 503-364-2370. confluence@aol.com. www.confluencechorus.org.)

Creative Connection (formerly Real Connection) is a social gathering for gay men who are artists, writers or musicians or who pursue some creative activity. Noncommercial, nonjudgmental; supporting personal creativity for novices and professionals alike. Monthly potlucks on the second Friday. (7 pm. Carl 503-284-2971.)

Film discussion group forming for gay, bi and trans men. Share your perspective regarding portrayals of sexual minority men in current films. Monthly activities include group outings to see films. (filmtalk@verizon.net.)

Foreign Film Group meets every second and fourth Sunday to screen foreign films at various venues, followed by a group discussion. (pdxgayfilm@yahoo.com.)

Portland Gay Men's Chorus is open to singers, support members and volunteers. (503-226-2588. www.pdxgmc.org.)

Portland Lesbian Choir, led by talented artistic director Ray Elliot, strives for musical excellence and making fun-filled harmonies and is open and welcoming to all. Nonaudition rehearsals for the 2007-2008 season begin Sept. 19 at Ainsworth United Church of Christ. Solo and small-group opportunities abound. (6:30-8:30 pm Wednesday, 2941 NE Ainsworth St. 503-727-3306. portlandlesbianchoir@hotmail.com. www.plchoir.org.)

Rose City Gay Freedom Band is a performance group for queers and supportive friends of varying musical skill levels with annual fall and spring concerts. Subgroups include the Rose City Swing band and a marching band with flag corps. Come join us! (503-790-2170. info@rcgfb.org. www.rcgfb.org.)

Satori Men's Chorus welcomes new members of all ages and races, regardless of sexual orientation or musical background, to join Wednesday rehearsals. No audition necessary. (503-299-4454. www.satorichorus.org.)

General

Asian & Pacific Islander Lesbians and Gays is a non-profit 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. apig_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.)

Border Riders Motorcycle Club provides social opportunities for gay men interested in recreational motorcycle touring and promotes education on safe and legal machinery. (503-281-4488. brmcprez@yahoo.com.)

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. (acbond@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.)

Dungeon Men PDX hosts a men's S/M party every other month in a Portland dungeon. Masters and novices always welcome. (503-281-2076. bighnboy@arcnet.com.)

F.A.G. PDX (Femme Affinity Group Portland), a radical activist and social group open to self-identified femmes of all genders, seeks to create solidarity among femmes, promote femme visibility and combat femmophobia in the community at large. (www.notsorry.org/fagpdx.)

50+ lesbian social group for women meets on the third Saturday of the month. (4-7 pm. 503-642-3360 or 503-288-1870. sutaytig@aol.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. (flataps@yahoo.com.)

Gay Men Who Have Lost Their Partners meets at the West Cafe to provide an opportunity for conversation and socializing. The death need not have occurred recently. (7:30 pm second Wednesday, 1201 SW Jefferson St. 503-701-9376.)

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

Happy Ours Productions is a grassroots group dedicat-

ed to building the visibility, community participation and collective leadership of lesbian women of color through a wide variety of social, networking, consciousness-raising and action-oriented activities, events and projects. (www.happyoursproductions.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. afraimlevi@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.)

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 that was started for degreed women, but no degree is necessary. Just come and join the fun! Pool parties, Scrabble and more. (Lani 503-233-3557. Join listserv 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.)

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.)

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.)

Podar 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 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 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. pdm@directway.com.)

Portland Lesbian Book Club gathers monthly to chat about a chosen book or to attend selected events. (6:30 pm third Tuesday. groups.yahoo.com/group/portlandlesbianbookclub.)

Portland Lesbian Network organizes brewpub visits, golf events, hiking, kayaking, cycling, Scrabble games and movie nights and keeps you aware of what's going on in the area. (PDXLesbianNetwork-subscribe@yahoo.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. rdcc@teleport.com. www.rdcc.org.)

Sappho Social Club is a group of women 40 years and older building community through social and cultural activities. (thesapphosocialclub@yahoo.com.)

Social OUTings is a social group for all interested in meeting people and doing activities other than bar-hopping. (kyleinportland@yahoo.com.)

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. (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.womenoftherivers.org.)

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. (503-772-1860. innoregon@comcast.net. www.geocities.com/ncc1127/forestpdx.)

Gay Men's Walking Group invites gay, bi and questioning men to stroll in various neighborhoods around Portland for fun, friendship and exercise. (10 am Saturday. Tom 503-984-4549.)

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

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

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.)

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.)

Portland Gay Basketball Association practices at Tubman Middle School. All skill levels welcome! (7:30-9:30 pm Monday, 2231 N Flint Ave. pdxgayhoops@yahoo.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. (Gayinfo@portlandfrontrunners.org. www.portlandfrontrunners.org.)

Join the **Rose City Softball Association**, Oregon's largest gay sports organization, for open and women's divisions of slow-pitch softball. Regular season games are played throughout the summer at Gordon Faber Recreational Complex in Hillsboro. All levels of experience are welcome. (4450 NW 229th Ave. www.rosecitysoftball.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.rose-townramblers.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.)

She Rocks, a supportive rock climbing group for lesbians 18 and older, organizes year-round climbing and training events chosen according to skill level. Monthly meetings are held at Bagdad Pub. (6:30-7:30 pm second Thursday, 3702 SE Hawthorne Blvd. www.sherocks.wetpaint.com.)

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@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.)

House of MOCHA (Men of Color Healthy & Aware) is a group of gay/bi/same-gender-loving men of color between 16 and 25 who want to engage in activities, socials and community events among their peers. (Kourtini 503-417-7991. www.brotobropdx.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.)

The L Word

It's been 102 days. Where is the love?

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I've been dating Michael for 102 days. We see each other every day, but he has never said that he loves me. Is something wrong with him? I waited until Day 62 to use the "L" word but felt it much earlier.

I think 102 days is an appropriate time frame in which to get to know someone and be able to express one's feelings. What do you think are the reasons for Michael's unwillingness to say he loves me back? (I think he does.)
—"L" Is for "Larry"



Ms. Behavior
BY MERYL COHN

DEAR "L" IS FOR "LARRY":

There are lots of possible explanations for Michael's reluctance to proclaim his love. Of course, the most dreadful possibility is that he doesn't actually love you and refuses to pretend he does. But hopefully, the problem you face is smaller; perhaps Michael grew up in a repressed family where no one talks about their feelings for fear of being spanked or locked in the basement. He might feel pressured by your expectation. Or maybe he is too shy to tell you and is waiting for a moment that feels right. Perhaps each time he's about to tell you, he's overcome with anxiety and nausea and the need to pee.

Words are sometimes cheap. Does Michael act like he loves you? Does he treat you with kindness and care and consideration? Does he hold you tight and fall asleep with his lips against your eyelids? Does he make you breakfast and rub your feet and blow you enthusiastically? Those things count more than words. You might feel happier and more secure if Michael could verbally express his love, but perhaps you should give him another 102 days to try.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

A year ago, my dearest childhood friend, Maggie, died of a sudden heart attack, leaving her four children, ages 10 to 17. This friend had been by my side during my coming out, as I struggled with my fear of telling family and friends. While she supported my relationship and wanted me to be happy, she did not want her husband or young children to know of my relationship with my partner.

Now that Maggie is gone, I have direct interaction with her children on a regular basis and find this to be a dilemma. I would like them to visit me this summer but do not want to pretend that my partner of nearly 10 years (we live together) is just another close friend.

Do I tell the children of my relationship, or do I honor my friend's wishes? If I do tell, what is the proper amount of time to wait? Is there an appropriate age at which to tell them? It is hard for me to believe I am to keep her wishes in perpetuity.

—Wondering What to Do

DEAR WONDERING WHAT TO DO:

It's tragic enough that you lost your dear friend, but you were also deprived of the opportunity to work out a crucial aspect of your relationship with her. Sometime, over a cup of tea or a dirty martini, you would have had the chance to tell her you were uncomfortable pretending to be straight for her kids. Maybe she'd have argued, believing she was protecting her children. You'd have explained why being out about your relationship was so important to you, perhaps reminding Maggie that children are not actually damaged by knowing happy lesbian couples. By the end of a couple of well-timed negotiations, Maggie very likely would have come around.

Now all you can do is imagine what might have happened if Maggie were still alive, and make your decision based on what feels right. It seems unfair for you to honor Maggie's wishes forever, when they were based on how she felt during a specific moment that's now frozen in time, without the benefit of further "processing."

There's no magic formula to determine how long to wait before coming out to Maggie's kids. Go with your gut about this, praying for courage and trusting that your intuition will guide you to the right time. Remember that telling the truth about your own life is not a betrayal of your friend. (It would be different if you promised, say, to help to keep the children drug-free and now wanted to instruct them to shoot up.) Since her kids span a seven-year age range, you might start by having a discussion with the oldest child or two. It will soon become clear whether it's the right time to include the younger ones.

Hopefully, the kids will notice you're even hipper than they'd realized and will happily embrace your partner as their new auntie (or "uncle").

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.

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 (on 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.