

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

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

Portland Lesbian Choir, led by talented artistic director Ray Elliot, strives for musical excellence and making fulfilled harmonies and is open and welcoming to all women. 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 97222. aplg_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. brmcprpz@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.geo.cities.com/casflyers)

A Common Bond is a social support network for former or questioning Jehovah's Witnesses who are queer. (achportland@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@aracnet.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. saturday@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. (flflaps@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 dedicated 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. 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.)

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. Joinlistserv@LesbianswDegrees-subscribe@yahoogroups.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 **Pinocle 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 Audencio 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@yahoogroups.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.geo.cities.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. (thesapphossocialclub@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)

Fits Bowling invites you to come join this fun, friendly, alternative league at AMF Pro 300 Lanes. (7 pm Friday, 3031 SE Powell Blvd. 503-234-0237.)

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. imnoregon@comcast.net. www.geo.cities.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.turfgrlz.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 north-west Oregon and southwest Washington. (www.outkayaking.org)

PDX Pride Bowling League is recruiting for fun games Friday nights September through April. (info@pdxpridebowl.com)

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. (Gary info@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.brotbrodpdx.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)

Butcher Than Thou

Why am I so uncomfortable around this old-school dyke?

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

My partner and I recently spent the afternoon with a lesbian couple we had just met. One of the women was an older, sort of old-school butch and her partner more soft-butch-to-classically-femme.

I've never spent much time figuring out where I fit on the butch spectrum, but when I'm around women who are what I think of as very, very butch, I get off balance. I suddenly don't know how to "be" and find myself trying to be more butch than my natural state.

It's an uncomfortable feeling, and I wish I could figure out how to stay grounded in these situations. When it's happening, it feels like some sort of game, but it's a game I don't even want to play! What do you recommend?



Ms. Behavior
BY MERYL COHN

—Bothered in Butchdom

DEAR BOTHERED IN BUTCHDOM:

Oh, dear. A Bothered Butch is a sad sight, all red-faced and itchy and stuffed into a manly suit with nonbreathable fabric. You need to be restored to your naturally graceful, agile state, where your stride is long and confident and your skin is smooth and unruffled.

This is why Ms. Behavior dropped all other potential questions to rescue you from your discomfort. You've been unwittingly dragged into a "butcher than thou" competition, and like a Rottweiler who's had her hind quarters sniffed by a Dogo Argentino, you're not so sure it's a good idea to sniff back.

But please don't despair. Since you and your partner just met this couple, you could not have been prepared for how off balance (and perhaps diminished?) you felt around the überbutch.

So, you'll need a strategy for next time, to keep you feeling comfortable and balanced, no matter just how butch the old-school butch might be. Ms. Behavior has two (opposing) suggestions for you to choose from, depending on which feels more natural to you:

1. Next time you plan to see your new friends again, be sure to first spend some time locating and cultivating your Top Dog essence. Sit quietly and focus until you connect to your expansive manly energy. Breathe deeply into it. Love it. Massage it. Remind yourself that no one can take it from you and that nothing can eclipse it. Practice sitting with your knees far apart. Speak with a gravelly voice. Notice how unshakable your essence really is.

2. Remind yourself that you are a complex and layered person. Marvel at how well-integrated you really are. Feel your generosity of spirit as you allow the old-school butch to be the butchest person in the room. Let her pour your drinks, pull out your chair and hold the door for you. Stare admiringly when she adjusts her "balls." Know, deep inside, that your butchness isn't at stake, that you are choosing to be the bigger person and that you are resilient enough to be unharmed by your flexibility and kindness.

Either way, take a break from your state of hypervigilance. True butches are often very tired people. You might find that if you relax, the mega-butch will relax, too.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

A gay male couple I know are getting married after 10 years, and there are two separate bachelor and "bachelorette" parties. One of the grooms happens to be a self-proclaimed queen, and he's going to dress in drag for the bachelor(ette) party.

I think this is awesome and will be tons of fun, but I would like to bring a gift. Do you have any suggestions about what would be an appropriate gift without it being raunchy? I suppose the gift could be on the gag gift level, but I don't want to be completely tasteless. If it were a girlfriend's party, I would consider bringing her a hot pair of panties or something. All ideas are welcome! Thanks.

—Party Guest

DEAR PARTY GUEST:

When a self-proclaimed queen gets married, the gift possibilities are wide open. Think about anything a young bride might like and mix it with something that a groom would appreciate.

A hot pair of panties would actually be fine. You could also consider a tiara, tasteful porn, a waxing kit (or even a waxing treatment to be given during the party, which would be extra-entertaining for guests), handcuffs, a day at the spa, baby doll pajamas, a manicure or pedicure, a facial, a boa, a pair of sparkly sandals, etc. Of course, since the couple have been together for 10 years, they might be more geared toward comfort than hot sex, so you could also try an attractive hot water bottle, slippers, a set of *Will & Grace* DVDs or a riding crop. 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.

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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 an 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: Editorial), PO Box 14400, Portland, OR 97293 0400. Fax submissions to 503-236-1271 or e-mail justout@justout.com. Submissions cannot be accepted over the phone.

Please type your announcements and include full contact information.