

The Lunatic Fringe

Newsletter of The Exiles - July 2012

Welcome back, Fringe!

Hello all Exiles members, associates, and admirers! We had such a blast with the newsletter that we're doing it again!

Here's what's in this newsletter:

- Places to see and be seen with the Exiles!
 - The next program: Novice Night!
 - Club News
 - The next Orientation: get your friends to join!
 - Report from the June Program: Fisting with Val and Rio
 - Minutes from the June Business Meeting
 - What's next for the Fringe??

Stay tuned for more regular delivery of the Lunatic Fringe.

-Lina

PLACES TO SEE AND BE SEEN WITH THE EXILES!

There are a lot of events going on as we head into Dore Alley and Folsom month -check our community calendars for the most up-to-date information: Our own calendar, plus links to the Leather Alliance and Janus Community calendars, can all be found at our website, <http://theexiles.org/>.

PROGRAM: Novice Night!! July 20th

Curious about BDSM? Want to know more?

Come join the Exiles for a fun-filled and informative evening, as our guest panelists talk about their lives, and answer your questions about leather, BDSM, kinky sex, women and genderqueer identities. Any and all questions are welcome!

Our panelists this year include: Angel, a queer and slave identified girl who's active in the leather community, Madame Butterfly, a bisexual femme bondage expert who makes her own rope; Ray, a genderqueer polyamorous Dominant who heads her own leather family, Sailor Aleks, a transgendered owned and collared switch; Tracy, a bisexual femme activist and the first Women's International Leather Legacy Titleholder; Trinity, a submissive

The Lunatic Fringe

Newsletter of The Exiles - July 2012

queer and American Leatherwoman 2011; Val, a butch-identified polyamorous lesbian masochist; and Zed, a bottom-heavy sadomasochist switch and a non-femme leathergirl.

They'll each speak about their experiences coming into the scene, and their perspectives on leather, then we'll open up the floor to your questions. This is the perfect opportunity for newcomers to find out what BDSM is all about, and get your questions answered in a warm and supportive atmosphere.

After a break we'll set up stations where our panelists and others will have mini-demonstrations of their skills and interests. You can try out things like flogging, paddling, caning, bondage, play piercing, toy-free play and more, to see what you may like.

All women – and those whose self-identity is other than male – are welcome to join us for this enlightening event.

For more information, please see [our website](#).

Program Meeting Info

The Women's Building is located at 3543 - 18th Street at Valencia in San Francisco. All women (and those whose gender self-identity is other than male) who are over 18 are welcome. We have sign language interpreters at all of our meetings.

Members are \$4; non-members \$10. Please have membership card or ID ready to speed entry. The program runs from 8:00 - 10:00pm and the doors open at 7:30pm.

Directions to The Women's Building

Public Transit BART - The Women's Building is close to 16th street BART. Special note: one side-effect of gentrification in the Mission is that there are a lot of people on the streets between The Women's Building and the BART station - all nice safe people going to one of the many new local restaurants. You'll probably feel safe walking the few blocks from 16th Mission BART and The Women's Building.

Muni - The 22 Fillmore runs down 16th Street. Get off at 16th & Valencia and walk two blocks to The Women's Building. The 14 Mission runs along Mission Street. Get off at 17th or 18th and walk 1-1/2 blocks to TWB.

Parking Garage - Street parking is difficult in this neighborhood. There is an inexpensive locked parking garage available on 21st St. between Valencia and Mission and 16th and on Hoff St between Mission and Valencia.

CLUB NEWS

- We have an exciting line-up of events that require hands, presence, and energy to keep going. If you can lend a hand at any events, please contact cocos@theexiles.org.
 - We have had some interesting changes and look forward to working with new board members, new energy, and new enthusiasm. Expect some big opportunities to lend a hand in the coming months!
-

The Lunatic Fringe

Newsletter of The Exiles - July 2012

ORIENTATION

The next Orientation will be Sunday, August 5th at 2pm at the Niebyl Proctor Marxist Library at 6501 Telegraph in Oakland. Invite your friends to become members of the Exiles! Members are always welcome to come and help out and schmooze. Contact Val, our Orientation Officer, at orientation@theexiles.org for more information.

June Program Report: Fisting Workshop by Summer

The June program was an interactive workshop on the art of vaginal fisting held at The Women's Building in San Francisco. We were graciously lent the slings from The Hell Hole for this workshop. The presenters were Val and Rio with Marilyn as a very lovely demo bottom. We had a relatively small turnout for this event but that just make it seem even more intimate.

Val began the workshop with explaining why we fist. Fisting is a true act of an intense power exchange, she explained. Not only do you have to be comfortable with each other for it to be successful, you have to keep trying. Val reminded us that not everyone can be fisted, and not to become discouraged if you find that you can't fist your partner. We all have differently shaped anatomy.

Val explained that the most important parts of fisting is communication and lube. Gloves are also an essential part of the experience, not only for safety but because it provides a smoother surface and can assist in insertion.

Rio demonstrated the "quack like a duck" technique that is favored for working the hand into the orifice, as Val demonstrated the slow working up of adding digits into the orifice until all the digits are inserted and the duck like motion is achieved. Both Val and Rio stressed that lube is essential and that there is no such thing as too much, especially as you get closer to slipping the ring of knuckles on your hand into the orifice.

Both Val and Marilyn explained that the use of slings are not essential in fisting but can be extremely useful as it provides a swinging motion for the bottom to assist in the activity. Some of the techniques Val explained was to try going in palm up or palm down as you work the muscle open. It's also essential to be sexually turned on first, and a vibrator was suggested to be used either during or before to help the muscles relax, but this depends entirely on how your body works.

Marilyn explained that once the whole fist is inserted there is a very full feeling that can be very emotionally intense. As Val slowly rocked her fist in and out and in a rotating motion, Rio demonstrated so that we could visualize how it was being done. Rio also explained that this activity also makes hitting the G-Spot much easier and therefore potentially can create very intense orgasms.

Once you are done you may need to break the vacuum seal that can be created by the

The Lunatic Fringe

Newsletter of The Exiles - July 2012

sliding of your hand in and out. Val suggested using your other hand to break the seal first before coordinating slowly pulling your hand back out. Marilyn says women who have had children are familiar with the sensation and "pushing out" that the bottom will need to do to help your partner remove their hand easier. Once the hand is removed there is a very empty feeling, there can be some slight bleeding and it's essential to urinate right after fisting to avoid a bladder infection.

After the break people were encouraged to try fisting in the various slings set up around the room. There were a few people brave enough to play but most seemed a little intimidated. Rio and Val floated around the room encouraging and assisting in verbal techniques for those who were attempting to play. It was a very fun and intimate demonstration and we look forward to our next program and sharing information with the community.

July Business Meeting Minutes

by Summer

June 3, 2012, 5pm, Marxist Library, Oakland

- Recognitions: Rio would like to recognize Summer and Judith for filling in as Doorkeeper & Sergeant-at-Arms, Summer recognizes Roz for stepping up as Second Doorkeeper, Bennett recognizes Octavia for the outstanding business cards. Val recognizes Rio & Marilyn for outstanding help at orientation they rocked it. Marilyn recognizes Angel for doing the announcements during the May program.
 - We are considering Revising our Articles of Association and will be conducting a meeting for this. This is in progress.
 - There will be steering committee meeting in July (officers only), an email will be sent out.
 - Leather Alley was a huge success with many people stopping by our booth.
 - Our Meet & Greet for Folsom will be at the Women's Building before the September program.
 - We're changing over the official officers registered with the Secretary of State to reflect the new officers.
 - We still need a Doorkeeper & Volunteer Coordinator. It's an excellent way to meet people. Please see our website for our upcoming events and consider getting involved!
-

The Lunatic Fringe

Newsletter of The Exiles - July 2012

NEXT STEPS FOR THE FRINGE

From the Editor:

There has been a lot of talk on the email lists and in person and on the FetLife page about ways that we as an organization can be effective and active parts of our community, large and unwieldy as it is here in the Bay Area. One of the things I keep thinking about as we navigate kink is presence. As members of the Exiles, we are one small part of a history, living and vibrant, not just here but for Women's Leather History in general. However, it's important that we recognize that part of what makes us so vital isn't just that we exist for the new and NOW, but that we remember the past that we come from and how it paints us in its brush. I am proud to say that I help the Exiles. I am proud to say that I am a member. (Have you renewed yet?) But more importantly, I am proud to add to the body of work that displays women, leather, kink, and all the beautiful pieces of that tapestry.

What will your contribution be?

Lina

If you are interested in writing a small piece of erotica, a poem, or something along those lines (yes, even Op-Eds) please contact me at fringe_editor@theexiles.org. I look forward to hearing from you!