

## July Program:

# Novice Night

Friday, July 19, 2013, 8-10 p.m. (doors open at 7:30 p.m.)

Center for Sex and Culture (1349 Mission in SF, between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>)

Curious about BDSM, the leather scene, or the local kink communities?

Come join the Exiles for a fun-filled and informative evening, as a panel talks about their lives and answers your questions about leather, BDSM, kinky sex, gender, and sexual identities. Any and all questions are welcome!

This year's panelists include a range of women and genderqueer people who identify as femme, butch, and neither; Tops, Dominants, and Masters; slaves, bottoms, and submissives; monogamous and polyamorous; sadists, masochists, straight, lesbian, queer, bisexual, gay, and everything in-between!

They'll each talk about how they came into the scene, then we'll open the floor for questions. This is the chance for newcomers to find out what BDSM is all about and get answers to questions about the scene in a friendly and nonjudgmental environment.

For the second half of the program we'll have sampler stations where you can try a wide range of BDSM activities, either giving or receiving (or just watching). You can sample flogging, spanking, caning, bondage, violet wands, and more. Try them all and see what you like!

### Program Meeting Information

- 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 \$4; non-members \$10. Please have membership card or ID ready to speed entry.
- Visit our [website](#) for more information.

**Directions to the Center for Sex & Culture:** The Center for Sex & Culture is located at 1349 Mission Street, between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets, in San Francisco. It is 2 blocks from the Civic Center BART station and the J, K, L, M, and T MUNI Metro lines. There is ample street parking in the area.

## Club News

- The Exiles' next **Business Meeting is on Sunday, July 7, from 5-7 p.m. at the Women's Building, Room A, 3543 18th St. #8, San Francisco.** These meetings are a way for you to help shape the future of this club. We still have some open officer positions; come learn more about them at this meeting:
  - **Doorkeeper:** Manages the door at monthly programs.
  - **Volunteer Coordinator:** Recruits and manages volunteers for the monthly programs, Orientations, and other Exiles events.
  - **Sergeant-at-Arms:** Provides door security at Exiles functions.
- Want to volunteer but don't have time to become an officer? We need extra hands at our monthly programs, the bimonthly orientations, and special events like the forthcoming Folsom Street Fair and our 15th Anniversary Bash. Events like these require hands, presence, and energy to produce. If you can pitch in at any events, please contact [cocos@theexiles.org](mailto:cocos@theexiles.org).
- A big thank you to Octavia for her work on the new Exiles palm cards.
- Save the Date: **our next New Member Orientation is Sunday, August 4, 2-4 p.m., at the Niebyl-Proctor Marxist Library, 6501 Telegraph Ave. in Oakland (near the White Horse).** If you're interested in helping or have any questions, contact [orientation@theexiles.org](mailto:orientation@theexiles.org). Bring your friends!
- Stay for the **Exiles Business Meeting** after the Orientation. The August Business Meeting will also be held at the **Niebyl-Proctor Marxist Library**, in Oakland (near the White Horse), from 5-7 p.m.
- Give feedback about the Exiles programs you've attended! You can **rate and comment on Programs on our website**. From the home page, click on *Programs*, then *PastPrograms*, and you'll see all of them. Find the one you want and click the rating stars or click *Leave A Comment* to tell us what you thought of the program.
- Speaking of events, Leather Week and the Folsom Street Fair are fast approaching! If you are interested in helping out at our meet and greet, play party, and at our booth on fair day, please contact [cocos@theexiles.org](mailto:cocos@theexiles.org) with your interest and availability.
- Donations to the Exiles, a 501(c)3 organization, are tax-deductible and may be made online with PayPal. Just click the big *Donate* button in the left-hand column on [our website](http://our website). Please let us know if we may thank you publicly for your donation or if you would prefer for it to be anonymous.
- Find new play partners, friends-with-benefits, a mentor, and/or true love by placing a free business-card sized personal ad in the *Fringe*! Email the ad to [fringe\\_editor@theexiles.org](mailto:fringe_editor@theexiles.org) by the 15th of the month to appear in the next month's *Fringe*. [cocos@theexiles.org](mailto:cocos@theexiles.org).
- What would *you* like to see in the monthly *Fringe*? Help make it happen! Send suggestions, column ideas, etc. to [fringe\\_editor@theexiles.org](mailto:fringe_editor@theexiles.org) by the 15th of the month.

## Exiles Membership Renewal

**It's renewal time!** Now is the time to renew your Exiles membership for 2013-2014. You can easily do so online:

1. Click on the [Renewals Page](#) on our website.
2. Click on *Fill out the online form*<sup>1</sup>.
3. Fill out the form and click *Next*.
  - If you don't know your member number, just leave it blank.
  - All members in your household can renew at once here.
  - **Check out the new "Supporting Member" option – it's a great deal!**
4. Select the renewal type from the drop list and click *Pay Now*, which takes you to PayPal.<sup>2</sup>
5. Pay as directed. Your membership card will be mailed to you shortly.

Membership has its privileges! Exiles members get reduced door fees for all of our programs, very low prices on safer-sex supplies sold at the programs, reciprocity with other leather organizations<sup>3</sup>, this newsletter delivered to you monthly (you will no longer receive the *Fringe* if your membership lapses), a free personal ad in this newsletter, the right to vote on important Club decisions, and the opportunity to run for office. (It's also a great way to meet women!) So do it now while it's fresh in your mind – [renew your Exiles membership](#) today!

<sup>1</sup> You can select *Print out the membership form* to renew by postal mail; just include a check made out to *The Exiles*.

<sup>2</sup> The membership types are described on the [Renewals Page](#). Note the addition of the *Supporting Member* option. By paying an additional \$24 per person on top of an Individual or Household membership, that person gets free entry into all programs throughout the year.

<sup>3</sup> Exiles members enjoy reciprocity with the following organizations:

- [Society of Janus](#) (San Francisco)
- [Lesbian Sex Mafia](#) (New York)
- [Bound by Desire](#) (Austin)
- [Black Rose](#) (Washington, DC)
- [Bad Girls of Portland](#) (Oregon)

## June Program Report

### Feel the Steel: The Art and Magic of Needle Play

With Cleo Dubois and Friends

by Ray

Presenter Cleo Dubois began the program with some discussion of the energy that is pulled from piercing and the ways that needle play can be ritual. Cleo noted that the program was less than 24 hours after the solstice and less than 48 hours before the full moon, so she encouraged people to participate in the second half of the program to personally experience that power. Cleo displayed a slide presentation of many beautiful examples of her work, during which she discussed her pleasure and experience with this art form. She also showed us some photos she had taken of piercing rituals that are part of other cultures, and talked about the ancient understanding of the power of these rituals.

The second part of her presentation was a piercing of her lovely assistant Crystal. Cleo created a stunning necklace of 22 gauge needles all pointing up toward her head. Many in the audience were impressed by how Crystal was able to stand there without moving through the entire experience.

After the break there was a practical demo. Cleo pierced a number of women who were quite pleased for the opportunity, some of whom had not been pierced before. Many of the piercings had string attached, allowing others to pull on them for a deeper sensation. Cleo's assistant Pat gave instruction to people interested in learning to pierce. It was a very high energy program, and a wonderful time was had by all.



### Upcoming Programs

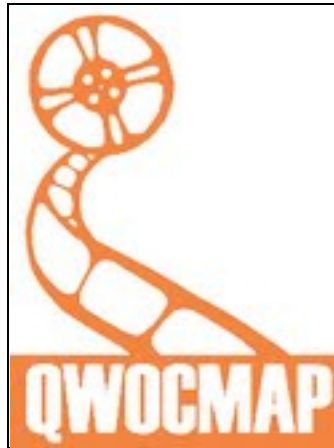
- August 16: Topping and Bottoming: Finding Your Groove – with Randi & Zed (CSC)
- September 20: Lessons Learned from the Animal Kingdom – with Liza & Jody (WB)
- October 18: Takin' It – with tomo (CSC)
- November 22: Mapping Shadowplay: Making Room for Our Deepest Inner Villains and Victims in Role Play – with Dossie Easton (CSC)
- December 20: Carnal Carnival – the kinkiest carnival ever! (CSC)

CSC: Center for Sex and Culture, 1349 Mission Street, San Francisco

WB: The Women's Building, 3543 18th Street, San Francisco

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## The Exiles: Out and About



### 9th Annual Queer Women of Color Film Festival

Bennett, Val, and Carmela represented the Exiles on opening night of the Queer Women of Color Film Festival on Friday, June 14th at the Brava Theater Center in San Francisco. This event, organized by the Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project, is now in its ninth year, and the Exiles have been a community partner of the film festival for the last several years.

The Exiles volunteers staffed the community partners table, handed out over 200 palm cards, fielded individual questions, and helped with food preparation. Bennett and Val gave a brief onstage pitch for the Exiles before the films started, encouraging women of color to attend our monthly programs, orientations, and leather event booths. Our palm cards and banner remained visible throughout the duration of the weekend. **Thanks to Bennett, who organized the Exiles' participation this year, and Val and Carmela for joining her in representing our club so well.**



### San Francisco Pride Celebration

San Francisco Pride was a huge success, as larger than usual crowds were everywhere. And the mood of the crowd was jubilant. Our booth in Leather Alley was very popular; we handed out more than 500 palm cards, and actually ran out at about 4:30 p.m.! Many women seemed interested our programs, especially the upcoming *Novice Night* in July. **Thank you to the many volunteers who came by and helped us hand out cards.**

## Business Meeting Minutes, May 2013

*(Note that since we now publish minutes a month in arrears (so that they can be approved by the biz group before publication), what you see here may not be the latest information. If you have any concerns or questions, feel free to contact [cocos@theexiles.org](mailto:cocos@theexiles.org) or come to the next biz meeting.)*

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**Attendees:** Angel, Lou, Marilyn, Randi, and Val.

**Recognitions:** Angel recognized Ramsey and Rosalinda for working the door at the program. Randi recognized all of the organizers and volunteers for the IMsL hospitality suite and Countess for getting the May program info on the website so fast. Val recognized Randi for stepping in with great energy on PR, and Marilyn recognized Suzanne, for doing an awesome job on her first newsletter.

### Core Business:

**May Program plans:** Officer and volunteer duties assigned. PR opportunities discussed.

**Future Programs:** Cleo Dubois will be approached about the June program. Novice Night will again be in July. August: Randi and Zed have offered to do an intro class on Topping and Bottoming. It will involve more experienced players so we don't present two strictly novice programs in a row. Liza and Jody will present "Lessons Learned from the Animal Kingdom" in September. For October, we've booked tomo for "Takin' It." Dossie Easton has agreed to do an interactive program on archetypes in November, and our annual Carnal Carnival will take place in December.

**Postmortem of April Program:** A very interactive program. Lamalani had fun presenting. Program worked well with no break in the middle. Eight members and nineteen non-members attended. Discussion about having programs scheduled for different nights of the week.

### Old Business:

**Review of action items list.**

**Review of online decisions:** We will not do a club donation to LLW due to lack of funds; individuals are encouraged to donate.

**Postmortem of IMsL Hospitality Suite:** It was fun. The chocolates were tasty, and though they were late, we had other things going on so it was okay. Angel sent an email card to the Seattle goL. There were great volunteers. Some Exiles volunteers didn't show up. Need to impress on people the importance of their participation. Say something to people who volunteered and didn't show up. We don't have invoices yet, so we don't have financial numbers yet. \$32 in tips collected. We asked in advance if we could do a fundraiser and Glenda said no, but other groups did it; they just didn't ask in advance. There was a perfect amount of drinks. More people drank juice. We bought champagne flutes from Tracy at thirty cents each, which was less than renting. (Originally thought they were eighty cents each, so there was a money concern – no issue.)

**Northwest Leather Celebration:** Rio is the main coordinator. We have all the chocolates and supplies we need. The only thing we need to do is buy the beverages and get another volunteer

# The Lunatic Fringe

July 2013



or two to help out. If we used 28 bottles for IMsL, estimate we'd need a maximum of 18-20 for NWLC. Lou to check on donations. Angel has info about what we need. We have a \$200 budget for it. We need to try and be under that.

**QWOCMAP Queer Women of Color Film Festival:** The Exiles are again a community partner for this event. We give money, provide volunteers, and cross-promote. Val and Bennett are running it for the Exiles. Bennett paid \$200 out of her own pocket and will cover it if we can't. Cross-promotion and other logistics discussed.

**Leather Week/Folsom Street Fair:** Lou will start discussion on email biz list.

## New Business:

**Membership:** Marilyn discussed changing the default email options on membership form and will create a mockup and send to group for review.

**Reciprocity with Bad Girls of Portland (Oregon):** Proposed by Marilyn. Unanimous vote in favor of this proposition.

**Volunteer Forms:** Lou will keep for now.

**Programs:** Discussion of whether or not we need a break during our programs was postponed.

**PR:** Discussions of holding Exiles orientation at the DeFrank Center in San Jose and having programs on Sundays post-orientations were postponed. Marilyn and Randi will be discussing ways to increase our membership. Reminder to folks that they can pay by credit card at events, by contacting treasurer@theexiles.org, or via PayPal.

**Leather Alley at SF Pride:** Lou and Rio will discuss on biz list. Val will connect with Rover.

**Officer Reports:** These reports were noted but not discussed. The treasurer (Angel) reported that there were \$1,718.75 in available funds, and that the balance included the O/S \$50 receivables due for the NWLC sponsorship. Angel is donating tax services for this year. We currently have 108 members.

## Exiles Officers

<http://theexiles.org/contact/>

Co-Coordinator:	<b>Rio and Lou</b>
Treasurer:	<b>Angel</b>
Membership Officer:	<b>Marilyn</b>
Recorder:	<b>Ray</b>
Orientation Officer:	<b>Val</b>
Website Manager:	<b>Countess</b>
Sergeant-At-Arms:	<b>(open)</b>
Doorkeeper:	<b>(open)</b>
Newsletter Editor:	<b>Suzanne (acting)</b>
Outreach/PR Officer:	<b>Randi (acting)</b>
Volunteer Coordinator:	<b>(open)</b>