

April Program:

Whips from Erotic Pleasure to Cathartic Needs

Friday, April 18, 2014, 8-10:15 p.m. (doors open at 7:30 p.m.)

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

A class on the use of whips in a scene, from erotic pleasure to cathartic needs.

In this class Zemís will cover the basics of whips: kinds, styles, and materials, and how they differ.

She will discuss and show the different ways one can use them in various places, from private to public, indoors and out. She will cover the vast array of touches whips can provide and the drills to build your skills to achieve the control and magic of the whip and energy it provides.

As she covers the various uses of the whip, she will also address pain processing to handle the speed and impact of various strikes on different parts of the body.

Zemís will be holding a practice and playing with whips after-party. So directly after the program people can head over to Alchemy and practice, get tips, let loose, and enjoy what they just learned in class.

Hope to see you there!

About Our Presenter:

Zemís in definition is the spirit that dwells within all: the trees, flowers, totems, and tools we use.

Our presenter mixes her love of dance, rhythm, sexuality, and sensuality into her use of one of the most feared and abused tools/toys in BDSM: the whip. The whip symbolizes taking and embracing a history of being abused and flipping it using the same items to create pleasure, orgasms, and the release of pain. The whip is a way to take back her power, and she now teaches how to change triggers and make what was once a bad trigger into pleasure and freedom.

Zemís has been involved in BDSM for the past nine years, exploring, learning, and falling down from time to time, only to stand taller and sillier than before. Love for the brain and all the cognitive, emotional, and stimulating aspects provides more avenues for her twisted sense of humor and entertainment.

Her scenes often incorporate her warped and ridiculous sense of humor...

Program Meeting Information:

- All women (and those whose gender self-identity is other than male) over 18 are welcome.
- ASL interpretation is available on request. Please contact Lou at mzconductor@gmail.com at least three days in advance if you need an ASL interpreter, and one will be provided.
- 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 is located at 1349 Mission St., between 9th & 10th Streets, in San Francisco. It is two blocks from the Civic Center BART station and the J, K, L, M, and T MUNI Metro lines. There's ample street parking in the area.

March Program Report: Elections & Game Night

By Rio

We held our annual officer elections and appointments in March and April, and here are the results:

Elected officers:

Co-coordinator: no one was elected. A couple of people have expressed interest, and we'll keep talking about it. (Rio remains the other co-coordinator, with one year left on her term.)

Treasurer: Angel, who has been our Treasurer for the last two years, cannot continue. She is willing to train her replacement, and work with them on our budget for next year. If you want to learn about bookkeeping, this is a great opportunity! It's a skill you can use anywhere.

Membership Officer: Marilyn was re-elected.

Recorder: no one was elected. This is an easy and fun post.

Appointed officers:

Doorkeeper: madpink was reappointed.

Newsletter editor: Suzanne was reappointed. She is looking for someone to ultimately take over the newsletter. This is a great chance to learn about putting out a periodical.

Orientation officer: Val stepped down from this post, and no one was appointed. Val will run the next Orientation, but we are looking for someone to take this over. Orientation is the most fun officer position available!

Outreach/PR: Samantha was reappointed.

Sergeant-at-Arms: Jessica was appointed.

Volunteer coordinator: This important position remains open. We could really use your help with this one.

Website officer: Countess stepped down from this post, and Val stepped up to take it over. Take a look at [our new website](#), which Countess spent a lot of time putting together. It's really beautiful! Ali also stepped up as an assistant to help Val with website design and appearance.

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Election News, continued...

We have several new people in leading positions; madpink, Jessica, Samantha, and Ali are all new within the last year. We have a lot of positive energy, and there's excitement in the air. You can be a part of it!

The Exiles needs your help to continue to perform our Orientations, educational programs, play parties, to have booths at major leather events, put on our **Champagne and Chocolate** socials at conferences, and represent leather women in the community. The officer group is fun and supportive. Join us!

Come to the next business meeting on Sunday, May 4, at 5:00 p.m., in San Francisco or email cocos@theexiles.org to learn more about these positions.

Club News

- **Our May business meeting is Sunday, May 4, 5-7 p.m.**, at the Women's Building, Room A, 3543 Eighteenth St. #8, San Francisco, Please join us and help shape the future of the Exiles! All members are urged to join us and welcomed when you do!
 - The next **New Member Orientation** will be held on **Friday, June 6 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. in San Francisco, at the SF LGBT Center, 1800 Market St.** Tell your kinky friends!
 - The **summer events season** is fast approaching, with International Ms Leather in April, the Northwest Leather Celebration in May, SF Pride in June, and the Folsom Street Fair in September. Events like these require hands, presence, and energy to produce. If you can pitch in at any events, please contact cocos@theexiles.org.
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The Exiles on the Web...

- Check out our [redesigned website](#)! You can look here for information on upcoming programs, business meetings, orientations, and other events.
- Of course we're on [FetLife](#)! You can join discussions, learn more about Exiles events, and find out what else is happening out and about.
- You can find us on [Facebook](#) too. Please note that it's a closed group, but membership approval is quick and easy.

Ch-ch-ch-changes...

As the Exiles progresses and we integrate new members and club officers, procedures, and technology, we periodically review our Articles and policies to see if changes are necessary. When there are changes, they are published in the Fringe and are then voted on at the next business meeting (Sunday, May 4, 5-7 p.m., in San Francisco, in this instance). Here are a few proposed changes which will be discussed on May 4:

Membership: to change the dues for a household membership to \$54 for the first two members (essentially the second person pays half price) and \$15 for every additional person in the household.

Time-sensitive decisions for business meetings: The Treasurer is authorized to pay expenses approved at business meetings. If time-sensitive decisions arise outside of the normal business-meeting schedule, an online vote can be called, following these steps:

1. Anyone eligible to vote as of the end of the last business meeting is eligible to vote online.
2. The same quorum rules apply: the minimum number of votes must be received by the deadline for the vote to count. If not, the proposal can be abandoned, or reintroduced with a new deadline.
3. The requestor will publish a proposal to the business group email list, and request a second.
4. If no second is received, the proposal is dead (but can be reintroduced). If a second is received, the requestor calls for a vote.
5. The requestor must say if the issue is urgent or not. If urgent, they publish a time-and-day deadline of at least two full days. If not urgent (but needs to be dealt with before the next business meeting), they publish a time-and-day deadline of at least five full days.
6. The requestor sends a text message to all eligible voting members, stating that there is an online vote that needs their attention, including the deadline.
7. The requestor sends an email with the result of the voting once the deadline has been reached.

Election of Officers: Currently the Articles state that all candidates running unopposed are acclimated into office. Proposal made to have all officer positions put up for a vote.

Please note that all officers and other business meeting attendees should make sure that the Membership Officer has your current contact information, especially phone number and email address. These items should also be added to the Exiles Biz List Contact Info spreadsheet on Google Docs.

Business Meeting Minutes, February 2014 *(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 or come to the next biz meeting.)*

Attendees: Angel, Countess, Goldi, Lou, madpink, Rio, Sam

Core Business:

February Program Plans: Karen not able to present this month, so she suggested we contact Tatiana. Tatiana is available and will present at the February program. Officer and volunteer duties assigned for this program.

Postmortem of January Program (Flagging, Shilo McCabe): Great program. Never would have known that she never presented this program before because it was so solid. Excellent materials. Very social, people met, all around fantastic.

Discussion of Possible Future Programs: March – Elections and Game Night of some sort; bring games, no need for tables because CSC has them; raffle of IMsL pass; tickets to an Alchemy party; Lou taking general charge of Game Night. Elections: we have four elected officer positions open: Co-coordinator, Orientation Officer, Membership Officer, and Recorder. Third Friday in May conflicts with NWLC, so we voted to move our May meeting to the fourth Friday, May 23.

Old Business:

Review of Action Items List.

Review of Online Decisions: None.

New Business:

Website: Sam's proposals on website redesign were discussed, including the need for a new, more modern design and adding a private, Members-Only space. Countess and Sam will discuss the website changes at another time.

Vacant and Upcoming Officer Positions: Sam was voted as Outreach/PR Officer to begin immediately. Brainstorming re: who else might be interested and/or recruited.

ASL Interpretation: Lou is still main contact and will find a replacement if she's not available. Since the need for an interpreter does not exist at every program, we will ask people to contact us at least three days in advance if they need an interpreter.

IMsL ticket donation: IMsL is April 24-27 this year. We will raffle off this ticket at March program.

Advertising: Our current budget does not allow for us to do much of this, though everyone would like to run more ads. We *will* re-do the generic palm cards.

Proposed Change in Articles for Elections: Currently all candidates running unopposed are acclimated into office. Suggestion that going forward, all offices will be voted upon.

February 2014 Business Meeting Minutes, continued...

Voting on Man and Woman of the Year: Each organization gets one vote. Three nominees for Woman of the Year are Angel "Leathergirl" Garfold, Rio Spooner, and Deborah Hoffman-Wade – all three are members of the Exiles in good standing. Votes were tied, so we will table this for now.

Officer Reports: Noted but not discussed.

Co-coordinator (Rio): Additional web domain names discussed. Asked for a quote on Exiles patches.

Membership (Marilyn): 132 members. One joined and three renewed at December program. Handed out "Come to Orientation" cards to all nonmembers at the door. Last year at this time we had 94.

Recorder (Ray): Due to family concerns, Ray needs to resign her Recorder office immediately.

Meeting adjourned.

Business Meeting Minutes, March 2014 *(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 or come to the next biz meeting.)*

Attendees: Countess, Lou, Marilyn, Misha, Rio, Sam

Recognitions: Suzanne recognizes Marilyn and madpink for proofreading the February Fringe. Rio recognizes The Exiles for the award of Best Leather/Fetish/Motorcycle event for the 2013 Carnal Carnival, presented at 48th Community Awards on March 2, 2014, by the SF Bay Area Leather Alliance. Countess recognizes Sam for input on the new website design.

Core Business:

March Program Plans: Officer and volunteer duties assigned for Elections & Game Night event.

Postmortem of February Program (Bondage, Mistress Tatiana): Everyone enjoyed the program; the strap-on chest harness good. Not bad attendance, 22 people; increasing membership would be helpful with revenue as well as attempting to bring more people to programs; Sam will get info from Countess on lists to publicize programs and Rio will email info too.

Future Programs: April – Zemis will present on whips. May – Maggie Mayhem on the physiology of orgasm; backup, Corey Alexander program on being stone. June – Mistress Affinity on skin popping. July – Novice Night. August – panel discussion. Topic TBD. September – Sharon Spector. October – Lou on knives. November – Minax. December – Carnal Carnival.

Old Business:

Review of Action Items List: Exiles pins reorder; workflow for event announcements to PR, Fringe, and Web; preview of new website design.

March 2014 Business Meeting Minutes, continued...

Review of Online Decisions: We need to continue to communicate online.

Calendar Concerns: 1) need to find venue for Sunday, June 6, orientation in San Francisco. 2) First Sunday in September is Labor Day and Camp Queer weekend. Business meeting moved to September 7. 3) This year the Folsom Street Fair is on the third weekend in September, so our program will fall on the Friday of Folsom weekend. Do we want to do our traditional Meet-and-Greet? A play party? Short program with socializing afterward? To be continued...

Online Voting: Eligibility for participating in online voting will have the same requirements as the in-person meeting voting. Online proposal will be made online for at least 48 hours before the final vote is counted. (For emergencies, 24 hours.) A standard voting format will be used for online voting proposals.

New Business:

NWLC Hospitality Suite: We are in contact with Erich to see what level of sponsorship is realistic for us to do budget-wise at this time.

Membership Proposal 1: Give away a free Exiles patch to the first twenty people who renew, starting June 1.

Membership Proposal 2: Household memberships previously made sense due to decreased mailing costs. This is no longer the case, since the Fringe and other mailings are now done electronically. There is a proposal for a policy change: household memberships will now be \$54 for the first two members and \$15 for every additional person in the household. This will be voted on at the May 4 business meeting.

Advertising: Golden Gate Guards contacted us about placing an ad in their yearbook. Voted down.

Consent Matters Group: Began on February 24, to be followed by a town hall at CSC on March 9. Marilyn is one of the moderators. Will be discussed in more detail at a future business meeting.

Alchemy "Happy Customers" Website Page: Exiles logo will be placed there, since we have hosted events there.

Mailbox and Storage Keys: Since Lou will no longer be co-coordinator and a new person hasn't been voted in, someone needs to take Lou's keys. Val will check mail occasionally.

Officer Reports: Noted but not discussed.

Membership (Marilyn): 142 members. Last year at this time we had 113, so there's a 26 percent year-over-year increase.

Website Manager (Countess): New front end is ready for rollout. In the future, content placeholders will be inserted if content is not received in a timely fashion.

Exiles Officers

Co-Coordinator:	Rio and 1 open
Treasurer:	(open)
Membership Officer:	Marilyn
Recorder:	(open)
Orientation Officer:	(open)
Website Manager:	Val
Sergeant-At-Arms:	Jessica
Doorkeeper:	madpink
Newsletter Editor:	Suzanne
Outreach/PR Officer:	Samantha
Volunteer Coordinator:	(open)

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