

THE LUNATIC FRINGE

Newsletter of the EXILES
SAN FRANCISCO

June Program: Traditional British Discipline and Punishment



Friday, June 20, 2014 • **Alchemy**

1060 Folsom in SF (between 6th & 7th)
Doors open: 7:30 pm, Program: 8-10 pm
\$4 for members, \$10 for non-members

**There will be a play party until midnight
immediately following the program.**
Bring your toys and play!
\$10 donation requested.

Val Langmuir and j explore the depths, depravities and delectability of British discipline and punishment throughout the ages, and bring it up to date in the context of consensual kink.

Refined over centuries, there is really no culture in the world quite like the British when it comes to discipline and punishment, for strictness, ritual, rules, uniform, and of course severe pain! With practical demonstrations, Val and j (perhaps with a little help from their friends) will show how discipline and punishment has been used in nearly every aspect of British society to elicit awe, fear, shame, humiliation, and even honor and pride, often accompanied by searing pain and a striped backside. Drawing on extensive personal experience of being on the receiving end, they will show you how to reproduce these practices and rituals to harness the deliciously stiff, uncompromising and strict qualities of British discipline and punishment for your own ends and needs. Whether for a raucous school caning role-play, the training of a traditional maidservant, or the quite genuine punishment of an errant submissive... All this and more is given the royal British treatment in this fun, informative and practice-based workshop.

About our Presenters:

j is a queer, femme-identified submissive with over a decade of experience as a performer, activist, author and workshop leader. She has worked with lobbying and safer sex education organizations including *ILGA World* and *RFSU*, and BDSM, Fetish and Kink organizations including *IMSL*, *Exiles*, *SM Dykes Manchester*, and *Wish International*. Originally from the UK, where she was trained as a submissive and a maid, j is now based in Stockholm, where she is a faculty member of and regular presenter for *The Academy*, a non-profit educational organization that delivers workshops on BDSM. She is one half of MWxj, in collaboration with Rebecca Wilcox, producing BDSM workshops, performances and happenings. She is also the co-organizer of the *Wish PowerExchange Summer Camp*, the *Wish International Conference*, and the performance and community space *Wotever Stockholm*. For more information see [Josephineallison - Home](#)

Val Langmuir is the current Ms San Francisco Leather.

Val was kinky from an early age, but only became aware of the BDSM community by accident, through the London activist group Feminists Against Censorship. Soon Val joined the London SM Dykes and the activist group Countdown on Spanner, helped organize events, including UK SM Pride celebrations, and made contact with the Leather community in North America.

After moving to San Francisco in the late 90s, Val joined The Exiles. First a regular member, Val had been a club officer since 2004. Val has worked on projects in the wider Leather community and beyond, including coordinating demos at Leather Alley at SF Pride, presenting at CUAV SafetyFest and BUTCH Voices, and promoting our community at the Frameline and QWOCCMAP film festivals.

Val has co-presented the Exiles Orientation class every two months for the last several years, including taking the class "on the road" to CUAV SafetyFest and to BUTCH Voices. Val has also either presented or co-presented classes in caning, role-play, SM Sex/SM relationships, fisting, piercing, and (of course?) SM 101. Organizations presented for include London SM Dykes and Black Rose. Over the years, Val has also enthusiastically demo-bottomed for any number of classes.

Legally married in California to Marilyn, Val is a polyamorous genderqueer switch with a great love of boots and a particular fondness for canes.

Program Meeting Information:

- All women (and those whose gender self-identification is other than male) over 18 are welcome.
- Members \$4; non-members \$10. Please have membership card or ID ready to speed entry.
- 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.
- Visit our website for more information.



The Exiles at SF Pride!

Every year the Exiles has a booth at Leather Alley, the separate section for the various leather clubs at Pride (Sunday, June 29). We hand out information cards, answer questions, and schmooze with each other, leather friends, and visitors. It's a fun time! We're looking for volunteers to help out with our booth. Here's what we need:

- **Workers:** Need 2 people each hour to work at the booth between 11 and 5 (or 6 if we can get volunteers). One person stays at the booth and one person passes out flyers in the crowd.
- **Tear Down:** 2-3 people to be there at 5 (or 6, if we can keep the booth open until then) to take down the booth.

You get into Leather Alley for free, we have chairs and water at the booth, and, well, it's just fun! Please contact Marilyn at membership@theexiles.org if you can help out.



Bootblacking Basics & Beyond

May's Program Presented by Q and Skittles

There was an excellent turnout for Q and Skittles program on bootblacking. We started a little late because of game night traffic but the wait was well worth it. Q and Skittles laid out for us an array of amazing bootblacking history and techniques. The mysterious questions around what goes into a good bootblack kit were covered in depth. They discussed the emotional reasons for why they were drawn to this service art form and spent a great and informative amount of time answering questions from all of us. Questions ranged from how to's and why's to the difference between erotic and non-erotic bootblacking. After the presentation part of the program, Q and Skittles spent time with those who brought boots with hands on help. Thank you both for an informative and entertaining program!



It's Membership Renewal Time

All Exiles memberships expire at the end of June, so it's time to renew your membership for 2014-2015. It's easy to do, all online:

1. Click on the [Renewals Page](#) on our web site.
2. Click on "Fill out the online form" *
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" addition**
4. Select your renewal type from the drop list and click Pay Now, which takes you to PayPal to pay. **
5. Pay as directed.

The first 20 people to renew their membership will receive a small Exiles patch!!

As a reminder, as an Exiles member you get the following benefits:

- Reduced entrance fee for Exiles programs (\$4 versus \$10).
- Reduced cost on safer sex supplies sold at programs.
- The Exiles newsletter, *The Lunatic Fringe*.
- The right to attend and vote at business meetings, and to run for an office.
- Reciprocity with some other BDSM clubs (Society of Janus, Lesbian Sex Mafia (New York) , Black Rose (DC area), Bound By Desire (Austin), and our most recent addition, the Bad Girls of Portland), giving you entry into their events at their member price.

Notes:

* You can select "Print out the membership form" to renew by postal mail; just include a check made out to The Exiles.

** The membership types are described on this page. Note the addition of the "Supporting Member". 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. If you have a Comp membership (officer, international titleholder, etc) then just don't click the Pay Now button. If you don't have PayPal, contact me and we can make other arrangements.



Champagne and Chocolate Reception at Northwest Leather Celebration, May 16th

The room was packed with hot bodies and the excitement ran high the first evening of Northwest Leather Celebration and The Exiles were pouring champagne and passing the chocolate. It was a great evening of greeting old friends, meeting new people, schmoozing, and cruising. Jak and Raven spent the evening behind the bar pouring bottle after bottle of white and rose as well as sparkling lemonade while Rio, Marilyn, Val, and many others refilled the chocolate and welcomed NWLC attendees to The Exiles Hospitality Suite at NWLC.

Frameline38:
San Francisco International LGBT Film



Frameline, the San Francisco LGBT film festival, has once again asked the Exiles to be a Community Partner by co-presenting the film "Folsom Forever". This is great news for the club, because we get:

- Mention on their website
- Four tickets to the screening
- The chance for a club representative to go onstage and promote our club before the screening
- A bunch of free tickets for matinee performances, to be given out to our members.

NOTE: we usually get the free tickets at the last minute. We expect to have them by our June program, so come to the program for a very good chance to get free matinee tickets for the festival films!



10th Annual Queer Women of Color Film Festival

June 13, 14 & 15, 2014

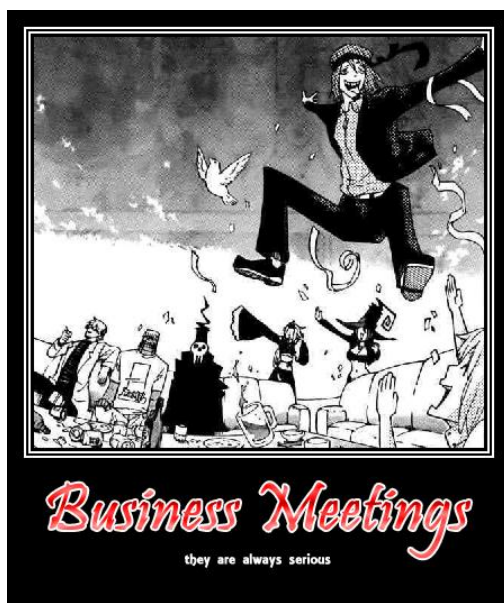
Queer Women of Color Film Festival - 2008 Best of the Bay Winner!

Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project (QWOCMAP) creates, exhibits and distributes new films that authentically reflect the lives of queer women of color and address the vital social justice issues that concern multiple communities. Our vision nurtures queer women of color filmmakers as artist-activist leaders to create systemic change through art, activism and community building.

The Exiles were once again a community partner with the Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project (QWOCMAP) film festival. The festival ran from Friday June 13th through Sunday June 15th at the Brava Theater; all films were free. The Exiles was one of the community partners sponsoring the Friday night showing, and had a table at the event.

Website: <http://qwocmap.org/festival/>

Trailer 2014: [2014 Queer Women of Color Film Festival TRAILER](#)



Business Meeting Minutes, May 4, 2014 5 p.m., Alchemy, San Francisco

(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.)

• In attendance: Rio*, Jessica, Sam*, Val*, Raven, Marilyn. (* = eligible to vote)

- Recognitions:

- Rio recognizes Ali and Sam for their work organizing the Exiles hospitality reception at IMsL.
- Suzanne recognizes Countess, MadPink, and Marilyn for proofreading the April Fringe.
- Suzanne recognizes Judith for submitting the April program report so quickly!
- Marilyn recognizes Golden Dildeaux Award-winning members: Angel for Pushy Bottom and Val for Iron Lady (best butch) and Best-looking Titleholder.
- Val recognizes all new officers who've stepped up
- Val recognizes Deborah Wade who was elected as Leather Marshall for this year's Pride parade

Core Business

• **May Program: Bootblacking, with Q**

• All presenters should be sent a link to the new presenter guidelines.

• Update Calendar - who will do it?

• **Post-Mortem of April Program (Whips, with Zemis).** Engaging, entertaining. Disorganized at the beginning, sometimes hard to follow. Follow-up at Alchemy was good. Queer mixer at the same time: Rio to talk to Leo to see about avoiding in the future.

• **Future programs:** June = Cell popping with Mistress Affinity. Lou is wrangler. Rio to follow up. July = Novice Night. Raven will be the organizer for Novice Night, probably with Jak's assistance.

• **Post-Mortem of IMsL Hospitality reception.** In general everything went well. Too much food. There was leftover food from other people. All of the open chocolates were eaten, as were most of the cupcakes. Choc fountain was great. Liked how we had the room set up, different from others; flowed better. Next year need water, maybe sparkling & still: people wanted something without alcohol or sugar. Let's not have juice with pulp - hard to clean off glasses. A set of sheets disappeared, since we had to clear out so fast. Difficult to recover things borrowed by Liza and Jody. Next year make sure everything is labeled. Val will buy the replacement expensive champagne and give the money to the Exiles. They didn't wash the platters. Perhaps not loan stuff without prior approval.

• **April Minutes:** approved

Old Business

- **Review of [Action Items list](#)**-NOT DONE. Marilyn took the action to clean up the list and follow up via email.
- **NWLC Sponsorship and Hospitality Suite.** Our Silver Sponsorship includes a free pass (includes 1 pass to NWLC, a Saturday luncheon, Sunday brunch, Friday dungeon pass, Saturday dungeon pass). We also get bag inserts, full-page ad in the program, and our logo on their website. We decided to offer the pass to the membership via email: first respondent gets it. It's a \$185 value, will sell it to benefit the Exiles for \$150. Rio to put it out to the membership. Marilyn to contact Octavia about getting 1/4 page artwork without background: print on cards.
- **QWOCMAP** - Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project – Film festival June 13-15 at the Brava Theater in SF. Val is point person. We need to have palm cards (or something else) by this date. Need volunteers.
- **June Orientation:** Room Q13 at the LGBT Center has been booked and confirmed. Needs to be paid for.
- **Policy change for Online voting:** Discussed and voted on using people on the phone to make a quorum, but afterwards decided this wasn't following our policies so the vote was rescinded and postponed until June.
- **Policy change: Proposal to raise the household membership rate.** Discussed and voted on using people on the phone to make a quorum, but afterwards decided this wasn't following our policies so the vote was rescinded and postponed until June.
- **Who gets Lou's mailbox and storage keys?** Rio has them. Rio has extra storage keys for officers.
- **Review of Online Decisions:** none

New Business

OFFICER ELECTIONS:

Open officer positions: Co-coordinator, Orientation, Recorder, Treasurer, Volunteer Coordinator.

Raven and Jak to be Acting Orientation Officers starting in August.

Raven is interested in taking on the Fringe.

What can we do to fill the other open positions, esp. Treasurer?

Folsom Meet & Greet and play party. Need a point person, budget, plans. Instead of the September program: have a meet & greet and play party. Preference is SF location, but Oakland may be OK.

Frameline38: San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival: Once again asked us to be a Community Partner, by co-presenting the film "Folsom Forever." No cost to us – we need to "help publicize the screening via our website, newsletter, and social media sites ." In return we get be listed and linked on their website, public acknowledgment before the screening, 4 free tickets to that film, and an opportunity to speak about our organization for one minute before the screening. Approved.

Newsletter:

- Marilyn to write up a blurb about reception at IMsL.
- Val to do a brief writeup about Ms. Margaret for the Fringe.
- Non-personal business card ads for members are also free.
- Raven interested in taking over the newsletter. Will try the next one, as Acting.

"The New Exiles" - Lee brought up at our last meeting that we're not doing much to be the "new" Exiles we've talked about being. She's offered to hold meetings at her house, outside of the business meetings, to brainstorm about what changes we want to make, and how to implement them. Discuss ideas, bring votes to the business group. Social at 5, meeting 6-8. Ideas brought to biz meeting. Need notes taken at every meeting, published online. Approved.

New "Ladies happy hour" in the Castro called La Femme. "It's the only ladies happy hour in the Castro, every Thursday from 4-9pm." Not really our demographic, so hesitate to put much effort into this. Offer ad space (paid) in our newsletter.

Eagle women's mixer (Val): Every Tuesday 4-8. Beth Bicoastal started it. Asked groups to guest host. This just means showing up, bring our banner. Positive response. Val to submit for voting online.

Gay Pride and Leather Alley (Val). Marilyn will be the point person and volunteers to staff our booth.

Does anyone want to march with our banner in the Leather contingent? Forgot, postponed.

Sponsorship rules for title contestants (to be sponsored by Exiles) : Val wanted to clarify the rules about contestant sponsorship because she's running for IMsL and wants Exiles sponsorship. Proposal for sponsorship forthcoming.

Eagle beer bust with Ms SF Leather? Important for the food to be planned in advance. Burgers and dogs are a good idea. Raven has been involved with all of the Dyke on Bikes

beer busts and they have it down, so use her as a resource. August 23 is better because it's not the weekend of the program.

June Orientation: Room booked at the LGBT. Val to run it in June and get volunteers.

Topics for later discussion

- Sponsors page on the web site
- Allow members to offer a discount to their businesses to Exiles members

Officer Reports

- Co-coordinator (Rio): Pins have arrived from Eville Designs! Patches are still MIA
- Co-coordinator (open):
- Treasurer (open):
- Recorder (open):
- Doorkeeper (Lee):
- Newsletter Editor (Suzanne): see questions above
- Membership (Marilyn): One additional member this month: Sal renewed, with a thank you for our free lifetime membership. 143 total. Starting to plan for renewals: patches to the first 50 renewers.
- Orientation (open): nothing to report
- Outreach/PR (Samantha): Problem with no access to social media. Setting up facebook account so at least can befriend Exiles page, have not even seen it. Randi got reset twitter email and will not reset without hearing from Rio or probably another recognized officer. Saw new job description posted in shared drive, interesting, does not feel viable or manageable to me.
- Sergeant-at-Arms (Jessica):
- Volunteer Coordinator (open):
- Web Site Manager (Val):

Meeting adjourned 7:00 p.m. Socializing followed. ☺

Exiles Officers

Co-Coordinators: **Rio** (2nd co-co position is open)

Treasurer: **open** (Angel interim)

Membership Officer: **Marilyn**

Recorder: **open**

Orientation Officer: **open** (Val interim)

Website Manager: **Val**

Sergeant - At - Arms: **Jessica**

Doorkeeper: **MadPink**

Newsletter Editor: **Raven**

Outreach/PR Officer: **open**

Volunteer Coordinator: **open**

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