

Newsletter

[President's Message](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Minutes](#)

[Club Contact Info](#)

Seattle Men in Leather, founded in 1989, is a non-profit, gay men's social group Promoting with Power and Pride the Seattle Men's Leather Community.

President's Message

Fellow Leathermen,

Another Holiday season is upon us and as always, this is a busy time for Seattle Men in Leather. Upcoming is the Daddy/Daddy's Boy contest, the SML Holiday Party, and our fundraiser, Pictures with Santa.

Daddy Carl and boy Kirk have done a great job at getting the contest together but we seem to be lacking contestants. Think about running and serving a year as a titleholder. It is a great way to get more deeply involved in the Leather community. See www.seattlemeninleather.org for contest details and contestant applications.

- The Leather Social for November will be held 7:00-10:00 PM, Friday, November 24th at The Cuff instead of the usual Wednesday.
- The Contest follows the next day at 7:00 PM sharp, Saturday, November 25th at The Cuff. Remember that your activity sticker will not get you in the door.
- The victory brunch will be at the Broadway Grill at Noon, Sunday, November 26th.

Mike and I are looking forward to hosting the Holiday Party at our house from 6:00-10:00 PM on Saturday, December 2nd. Bring your own refreshment of choice. Hors d'oeuvres will be served. The location is at 3806 52nd Avenue SW, Seattle, WA 98116. Leather attire requested. No RSVP necessary.

Pictures with Santa will be the evenings of December 8th and 9th at The Cuff. The new titleholders will be eager for volunteers so step forward if you would like to be an elf.

On a bright note, you may notice that you got a newsletter – the first one in a long time. This is a temporary quick newsletter pulled together to get our news out during this busy holiday time. We have to date, been using our website to get news out of upcoming events. We are following up on an idea to produce the newsletter in a blog format online on our website so that individual chairs can publish articles to the membership as a blog. Members would get an email via SML-info that a new article is available. Old articles would be archived and would be viewable to the membership in the blog archive. I think this is a great idea as it will eliminate the need of the newsletter production and relying on individuals to timely coordinate getting info to a newsletter editor. The role of newsletter editor will be simply to maintain the configuration of the blog and to print out a hardcopy once a month to send via snail mail to members who don't have Internet access.

I also have a new web hosting provider that I'm trying out before deciding to move our website to a new provider. Our old provider asked us about a year ago to start looking for alternatives as they were no longer able to guarantee a service level commitment.

Have a great Holiday. Yours in leather,

Kelley Wilt

President, Seattle Men in Leather

Calendar

November

- 20
Steering Committee
7:30 PM
The Cuff
- 23
Thanksgiving
- 24
Leather Social
7:00-10:00 PM
The Cuff
- 25
Daddy / Daddy's Boy Contest
7:00PM
The Cuff
- 26
Victory Brunch
Noon
Broadway Grill

December

- 2
SML Holiday Social
6:00-10:00 PM
Mike and Kelley's
3806 52nd Ave SW
- 8
Pictures with Santa
"Evening"
The Cuff
- 9
Pictures with Santa
"Evening"
The Cuff
- 18
Steering Committee
7:30 PM
The Cuff
- 22
Tribal Instinct
(Tentative)
- 25
Christmas
- 26
Kwanzaa
- 27
Leather Social
7:00-10:00 PM
The Cuff

Minutes

October 16, 2006

Call to order 7:29 P.M.

Board Members Attending: Kelley W. – President; Mike D. – Secretary; Tom S. – Treasurer; Stan P. – Member-at-Large; Carl B. – Member-at-Large; Rusty J. – Member-at-Large

Board Members Absent: Jim D. – Membership; Jeremy D. – Member-at-Large; Brent S. – Member-at-Large

Members present: Sheldon J.; Boy Kirk L.

Reports:

President's Report:

- Kelley W. had nothing to report.
- Discussion about brunch to be had later in the meeting

Treasurer's Report:

- Board review of the September reconciliation report
- Lambert House donation check has been cashed.
- Check has been issued for the Long House for Equinox expenses

- The Audit committee hopes to complete an audit of the books by the end of the year.

Secretary's Report:

- The September 2006 minutes were adopted as presented, as no feed-back had been given. (Subsequent tense change was requested by Jim D.)

Membership Report:

- No member ship report presented at the meeting as Jim D. was out of town.

Social:

- The December Holiday party will be held the first Saturday of December (December 2nd). It will be hosted by Mike D. and Kelley W.
- Nothing new to report on 4th Wednesday socials.

Media

- Kelley W. had not yet had any response from his contact with BMB (Big Muscle Bear) about using their code for the proposed SML members only profile site. (Site owners have been on vacation and will get back to Kelley the last week of October)

Education Committee:

- Jeremy D. will present a piercing demonstration at the October Tribal Instinct.

Finance Committee:

- Tom and Brent are trying to schedule a time for an audit of the SML books which is mutually convenient.

Dining/Brunch

- Rusty to start checking for a new brunch venue as Thumpers will be closing in late October.
- Discuss was held as to what happened with brunch not being arranged/confirmed with Thumpers

Equinox:

- Nothing to report.

Club Colors:

- Mike D. is working on combining three different lists of who has club colors and who has qualified for club colors. He wants to have it completed by the end of November.

Dave Lewis Fund:

- Nothing to report

Title Holders report:

- Carl B. noted the web site is 98% updated
- Sponsorship forms and sales would be available October 17th, 2006, with letters going out to previous sponsors
- Posters will need to be ready by the end of October as Carl will be out of town in early November. Rusty J. to check with Jim D. on time frame for finishing art work.

Boots & Buzz Cuts:

- Rusty committed to having the posters up and announcements sent to SGN by the end of the following weekend. (October 23rd)
- Rusty to verify the web site has been updated for the event.

New Business:

- Tom S. to check on availability of the pool where the winter pool party has usually been held.
- A general discussion on what SML should do during Leather Pride Week in March 2007.
- Kelley W. to start the formation of the election committee.
- Pictures with Santa:
 - Carl and Rusty to check on art work.
 - Discussion of Santas and elves. Carl to check on the Santas.

September 25, 2006

Call to order 7:33 P.M.

Board Members Attending: Kelley W. – President; Mike D. – Secretary; Tom S. – Treasurer; Jim D. – Membership; Carl B. – Member-at-Large; Jeremy D. – Member-at-Large; Rusty J. – Member-at-Large

Board Members Absent: Brent S. – Member-at-Large; Stan P. – Member-at-Large

Members present: Daddy Wendell J.; Doug T.; Boy Kirk

Reports:**President's Report:**

- Kelley W. had nothing to report

Treasurer's Report:

- Board review of the August reconciliation report
- Lambert House donation check has been issued but not cashed.
- The board had a general discussion of the merits of the SML membership with LGBT, and decided to table the discussion until December.
- Mike D. made a motion to send a check for Equinox in a minimum amount of \$1500.00 to the Long House. (The amount to increase based on

final reconciliation from Jeff H.) The motion was seconded by Jeremy. The motion passed unanimously.

- The Audit committee hopes to complete an audit of the books by the end of the year.

Secretary's Report:

- The August 2006 minutes were adopted as presented, with an addition to be made later by Jim D. which required Jim D. to forward language for a motion adopted at the August board meeting.

Membership Report:

- Current membership is at just over 200 individuals and has been holding steady.
- Jim D. was still working to create a Google Group to re-establish the general leather group that disbanded.

Social:

- The December Holiday party will be held the first Saturday of December (December 3rd). It will be hosted by Mike D. and Kelley W.
- Nothing new to report on 4th Wednesday socials.

Media

- Kelley W. had not yet had any response from his contact with BMB about using their code for the proposed SML members only profile site.

Education Committee:

- Jeremy D reported 20 plus people were at the last Tribal Instinct. Jeremy reported on what was planned for presentation for the rest of 2006.
- The board had a lively general discussion on future topics and possible presenters for 2007 Tribal Instincts.
- The general discussion also put forward several new ideas for new general education topics. (topics to be presented to a mixed audience)

Finance Committee:

- Tom and Brent are trying to schedule a time for an audit of the SML books which is mutually convenient.

Dining:

- Rusty to start checking for a new brunch venue as Thumpers will be closing in late October.

Equinox:

- Nothing to report.
- Kelley to approach Bruce B. about chairing Equinox VIII.

Club Colors:

- It was discussed and decided to make forms available at the Wednesday socials for those people who have qualified for Club Colors. This is meant

to facilitate the delivery to those who want the colors.

- The names of those who have chosen to take colors will be read at Equinox, and the annual dinner.

Dave Lewis Fund:

- Nothing to report

Title Holders report:

- Carl B is planning on Meeting with Dan D. of the Cuff in the next week to verify dates and times for the contest.
- Jim D. is to get the contact information for ordering back patches and belts to Carl B.
- The board authorized \$300 for the patches.
- Jim D. will update the web page for the contest site by the beginning of October 2006
- Rusty will take to the staff at Thumpers about scheduling the victory brunch. If Thumpers is unavailable he will talk to the staff at the Cuff and plan a menu.

New Business:

Boots & Buzz Cuts:

- Rusty has made arrangements for barbers, and was to contact Dan D. with the Cuff to finalize arrangements for set up and tear down.
- Jim D will update the poster from May 2006 Boots and Buzz cuts to be used for November 2006.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55pm after singing Happy Birthday to Kelley.

August 20, 2006

Call to order 7:33 P.M.

Board Members Attending: Kelley W. – President; Tom S. – Treasurer; Jim D. – Membership; Jeremy D. – Member-at-Large; Rusty J. – Member-at-Large; Stan P. – Member-at-Large; Brent S. – Member-at-Large

Board Members Absent: Carl B. – Member-at-Large; Mike D. - Secretary

Members present: Sheldon J.; Kirk L

Reports:

President's Report:

- Kelley W. requested the September board meeting be moved until the fourth Monday of the month (September 25th) at accommodate several board members who will out of town on September 18.

Treasurer's Report:

- See attached reconciliation financial report for June 2006.

Secretary's Report:

- Secretary was unable to attend the board meeting and had nothing to report. It was asked for the minutes to be posted on SML info after the board has had a chance to review within. The boards' intent is for the minutes to replace the newsletter until an editor for the newsletter is found, and the newsletter can be reestablished. (For members not subscribed to SML-info, SML will mail the minutes plus a copy of the Leather Calendar).

Membership Report:

- Report submitted 8/20/06. Jim D. reported the membership roster is now in database software. At a future date this information may become searchable. Current membership is at 203 individuals.

- Jim D. was to create a test group, as a first step, on Google Group in an attempt to re-establish the general leather group that disbanded.

Social:

- Nothing to report at this time. The Board moved and adopted to remove the word “enforced” from the description of the “Dress Code” social, as the dress code was not being enforced. The Social on the 4th Wednesday of the month will be referred to as a “Dress Code Social”.

Media

- Kelley W. to contact BMB (Big Muscle Bear) about using their code for the proposed SML members only profile site.

Education Committee:

- Jeremy D reported on the current schedule.

Finance Committee:

- Tom and Brent are trying to schedule a time for an audit of the SML books which is mutually convenient.

Dining:

- Brunch in August was cancelled due to miscommunication with Thumpers. (The SML brunch was accidentally cancelled due to NW LeatherSIR moving its brunch date; the two brunch dates had previously coincided.)

Equinox:

- Equinox VII was considered a success. The board discussed the need for SML to have a project at the site.

Club Contact Info

Website:

www.seattlemeninleather.org

Email:

info@seattlemeninleather.org

Mailing Address:

Seattle Men in Leather
1122 East Pike Street, PMB 1199
Seattle, WA 98122-3934

Club Colors:

- Club Colors were issued to several members at Equinox VII. The Club Colors committee is trying to find a time to meet to create a list of scroll patches to present to the board for approval.

Dave Lewis Fund:

- Currently about \$750 in the fund.

Title Holders report:

- Jim D. was appointed the board liaison to the Daddy/Daddy’s boy contest.

New Business:

There was an extended discussion about the lack of club participation in the Leather Contingent at the downtown Pride parade, including whether the board and the club supported the club’s mission statement via poor attendance. Issues about uncertainty with the two events, inadequate communication to the club, and so forth were discussed. We will try to have a better message to the club for Pride events next year.

A recent heated discussion on the SML-board list and efforts taken to quell the “flames” resulted in the adoption of a new policy: If heated discussions on an SML list warrant moderation of the list (approving of individual messages in order to stop the “flames”), the entire list will be moderated rather than individual members.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07pm

Membership:

Individual membership in Seattle Men in Leather is \$20 per year. Membership for couples is available for \$25 per year. For households, add \$5 per additional member.

Student membership is available for \$10 with proof of current enrollment.

You must be at least 21 years old and male (per state-issued ID).

Email: membership@seattlemeninleather.org



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