New Mexico

NEWSLEATHER

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Issue #3

Food For Thought: NMAPLA Library Saved by Leslie J. Anderson

In August of 1990, I began my volunteer services for the New Mexico Association of People Living with AIDS (NMAPLA). At that time, it was a 5-room operation, and that *included* the bathroom. I donated my 4 to 8 hours per week answering the phones and making referrals.

One day, I began to notice the multitudes of stacks and stash piles of books, magazines, clippings, and newsletters. Being the anal retentive neat-nick I am, I could not allow this project to go unattended any longer.

I began by sorting through the mess and creating smaller, more categorized piles. Before long, what I had was a comprehensive mess. Well, I knew where everything was!

Actually, I had assembled what would become the NMAPLA Library and Resource Room.

When the move from Silver Avenue to Montclaire Street took place, I packaged up my baby in careful detail. I firmly believed the library had reached its safe haven, and would grow and prosper from there. I felt quite certain that I would never move those books, periodicals, and binders again.

Well, as experience should remind me, the future is notoriously uncertain. NMAPLA's offices were closing, due no doubt to lack of funds and a multitude of other misfortunes. Something had to be done with the extensive library. Whatever was decided, I knew it had to incorporate a way for this already strong information base to grow, and it had to have a safe

and welcoming spot in which to reside.

Then, an inspiration came to me: Food for Thought!

FFT involved two phases to start. One, the transportation of the library items to another location, and two, the means by which the information can remain up-to-date on statistics, AIDS/HIV treatments and strategies, and the myriad other areas the library's resources covered.

Thanks to the grace, love, and creativity of many wonderful people, all of these goals and the potential for more are a reality. The Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church of Albuquerque (Copper

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Leslie J. Anderson Founder, "Food for Thought"

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Welcome Pat & pat by Diva Marie

pat baillie, International Ms. Leather 1995, and her partner Pat Langlois, have relocated to New Mexico. More specifically, to right here in Albuquerque.

Why here (there)? I can hear you pondering. Truth is, I would wonder the very same thing, if a) I didn't already live here and b) I didn't know Pat and pat.

To answer a):

The Sandia Mountains, which glow pink as the sun sets, is a sight everyone should be forced to watch at least once a week. Sandia translates to watermelon, if that gives you any visual aid as to the color I'm talking about.

There's a slower pace of life here. New Mexico is called "The Land of Manana," because "if things don't get done today, they'll get done manana (tomorrow)..."

The climate is moderate. We get all four seasons, but hardly any snow. Summers are generally hotter in California. No hurricanes, quakes, or tornadoes to ruin your day, either.

To answer b):

I met Pat and pat when I ran for Int'l Ms. Leather 1995. It was (and is) obvious how supportive they are of each other's endeavors. But more so, Pat always found a way to comfort the rest of the contestants, too. And this was what I knew of her before I discovered her vocation.

You see, Pat Langlois is the new pastor at the Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church (Copper and Dallas NE).

Pat is a dedicated pastor, and knows where she is wanted and needed, both by her community and her creator. We're glad to have such a dedicated person--and personality--amongst us.

pat baillie is a dedicated International Ms. Leather, and also knows where she is wanted and needed, both by her community and her creator. We're glad to have such a dedicated person--and personality--amongst us.

Let me be among the first to welcome you both to our community! --- DM

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and Dallas NE) donated the use of a room which looks and feels as though it was designed specifically for the FFT Library. It also is the perfect space within the city, as it sits close to a neighborhood locally famous for it's drug and prostitution traffic.

The best news is that the church itself is a safe, welcoming, and positively energized space. The perfect residence!

The program to develop and maintain the library was a little more complicated.

Food for Thought means exactly what it implies. I borrowed the canned food drive campaign of International Ms. Leather 1995, pat baillie (thanks, pat!), and developed its premise to attract the community into getting involved.

Businesses are solicited to collect nonperishable food items until they have reached an agreed-upon quota, whether that be 30 items or 300. Once the goal is reached, the business donates either an amount equal to one year's subscription on AIDS and HIV related periodicals (so we can keep the library's magazines and newsletters as current as possible), or another agreed-upon sum.

In return, the business gets a free ad in the New Mexico NewsLeather, and all the customers we can send them. The food itself is picked up by volunteers, and taken directly to the organizations and people who need it most.

This project continues to branch as I write this. The FFT Library offers its readers vital information on such topics as wills, powers of attorney, life insurance, spritiual concerns, women's issues, and accessing networks of others who are affected by the disease. The FFT plan is intended to leave no caring, interested, or willing person out in the cold. If it makes the difference of enlightenment in one person, then it has been well worth all the effort involved.

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Leslie is a busy bottom: Co-publisher of the New Mexico NewsLeather, and a locally renowned leatherwoman and activist, she was first-runner up to Ms. New Mexico Leather 1995, a finalist at Int'l Ms. Leather the same year, and is competing for Ms. New Mexico Leather

1996 in March (see the events listing, this page). She is also the mainstay of Diva Marie's sanity at deadline time.



To find out how you can help with Food for Thought, to donate books or other items, or to volunteer your business to be our featured contributor for a month, write us (address on the last page).

Do you wanna submit?

Details on page 4...

Up & Coming Events

Local/Regional

National

AEL (Alternative Erotic Lifestyles)-- monthly playgroup. Next meeting Jan. 27; (505) 345-6484

Ms. Gulf Coast Leather--January 12-14, Houston, TX. (713) 661-9829

Mr. & Ms. New Mexico Leather-March 22-24, Albuquerque, NM. Sandia Leather, (505) 275-1616

Spring Iniquity--N.L.A.:Houston's Anniversary Five, Houston, TX, April 12-14. N.L.A.:H, (713) 527-9666

Texas Leather Pride--May 3-5, Austin, TX. N.L.A.:Austin, (512) 370-4713

Do you have an event you would like to have listed? Mail the details, including event name, date(s), where, and who to contact to the address on the back of this newsletter. Upcoming deadlines are February 15 and April 15, 1996; we reserve the right to edit for space.

Frotic Pantheon of Leather--February 9ygroup. 11, New Orleans, LA. The 5) 345- Leather Journal, (213) 656-5073

> The Eulenspiegel Society's 25th Anniversary--February 16-18, New York City, NY. TES, (212) 388-7022, e-mail tes@dorsai.org; World Wide Web address is http:// www.mcsp.com/tes/welcome.html

Leatherfest VIII---March 8-10, San Diego, CA. Club X, (800) 598-1859

International Mr. Leather--May 24-27, Chicago, IL. Details TBA

International Ms. Leather 1996--July 18-21, Philadelphia, PA. Bare Images Productions, (402) 451-7987

Living in Leather XI--October 3-7, Portland, OR. Details TBA

Leatherfest L.A.--November, Los Angeles, CA. Details TBA

So, you wanna submit.

This is the space where we showcase your talent. So send us that poem about spanking the girl next door, a picture or drawing of your favorite boy all bound up (smile!), or a congrats note (as below) for a leather colleague. Cartoons, favorite quotes-we don't ask for copyright, we'll print your name (or not, if you request it) and nothing is taboo here.

This is the place to do it. NOW.

Congratulations Are In Order

- -- To our community leaders who were recently nominated for Pantheon of Leather awards for the Rocky Mountain region: Lady Willow (Ms. New Mexico Leather 1995), Buddy LaRue (Mr. New Mexico Leather 1995), Matt Lopez (Mr. New Mexico Leather 1994), and the NewsLeather's own Diva Marie.
- -- To Mr. International Leather 1992 Lenny Broberg, on his graduation from the San Francisco Police Academy. Mmmmm, I just love a man in uniform!
- -- To Mr. New Mexico LeatherFest 1995, Tristan Tyler, on the recent publication of his newsletter (so jammed with info., it's a magazine!). Details on how to get your copy are promised to be in by next issue's deadline.
- -- To C.S. of Las Vegas, NM (you read it right, Nevada isn't the only state with one), who won the signed Aerosmith guitar raffled by Sandia Leathermen and Sandia Leatherwomen on Jan. 5--enjoy the tunes.

The Storm Which Torments Me by Marchesa Laurella

You know I'm obsessed with wanting you, yet you've never stopped me.

You don't want me, you want my want.

You've taken my gifts & teased my hungering eyes.

Once I kissed you gently in my thoughts; now the tenderness is gone the kiss turns to a snarl, as I bite down breaking flesh and drinking greedily; never satiated of this wanting.

I bite you I bleed you I love you I eat you
I drink you I chill you I warm you I feed you;
I watch you rest till the craving begins again.
I scold you I beat you I mark you I soothe you I take you;
I hold you so tightly you cry.

I was never afraid of YOU I was afraid of MYSELF.

Why didn't you stop me?
You don't want me.
You want my wanting.

I'm twisting I'm morphine I'm aching writhing down I'm gasping can't fight it can't take it can't shake it can't beat it can't defeat it can't quit it can't lose it can't find you can't have you anyway.

You don't want me you want my wanting I feel you feeding on it.

Once I kissed you gently in my thoughts; now the tenderness is gone the kiss turns to a snarl, as I bite down breaking flesh and drinking greedily' never satiated of this wanting.

You don't want me.
You want my wanting.

What if I took it away?

You and any number of guests are cordially invited to attend a leather event of cosmic proportion and universal significance.

The 1996 Mr. & Ms. New Mexico Leather Contest

to take place Friday, March twenty-second through Sunday, March twenty-fourth, nineteen-hundred and ninety-six

> The Ranch Bar 8900 Central S.E. Albuquerque, New Mexico

Friday's reception immediately followed by a weekend of workshops, demonstrations, entertainment, contestant speeches & fantasies, and Sunday brunch.

R.S.V.D. Sandia Leathermen & Sandia Leatherwomen care of The Ranch, (505) 275-1616

Weekend packages available . If you live in New Mexico and are interested in being a contestant, we have information to send you. "Call us.



Letters

We wouldn't go into the horror stories of keeping a newsletter afloat.

We wouldn't tell you how much it costs to create and mail each issue.

We wouldn't tug on your heartstrings or your pursestrings here.

But then we'd go broke.

So here's the deal: \$1 per issue and the 6th one is FREE. That's \$5 per year, folks, which is less than a movie. And you'd keep us doing what we love--supporting leather in all it's forms.

Show your Pride: Subscribe!

New Mexico NewsLeather

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Congratulations on your first and second issue of the New Mexico News Leather. It was well read in our household and enjoyed by all. Since receiving the newsleather (love the name) many people from around the country have mentioned it to me. Thanks so much for including [us] on your mailing list!

...The second issue just arrived and it's even better than the first! Please keep us on the mailing list!

...I loved the article on Living in Leather! We were unable to get there this year, so we're reading all we can to try to catch up on the news.

Keep up the great work...We appreciate getting the news from New Mexico!

Sarah Humble

American Leatherwoman 1994

Baltimore, MD

Sarah: Your letter came at a time when we both needed a good lift to keep this thing going. We almost gave up, and then three wonderful letters came to us-in a row-so we decided it was a sign from above to keep on keepin' on. Thanks again.

Hi New Mexico!

Just got your NewsLeather. It looks great!

Enclosed are a couple of brochures for info on our big event in February. Could you put TES 25 in your "upcoming event" list?

If you want brochures to distribute, we can send as many as you need. Just let me know.

Sincerely, Lolita

Lolita: We've made the big time, folks. The Eulenspiegel Society (via the lovely Lolita) has requested a listing!

Seriously, you'll find the TES 25 listed on page 2, and here's the address, too: TES, P.O. Box 2783, New York, NY 10163.

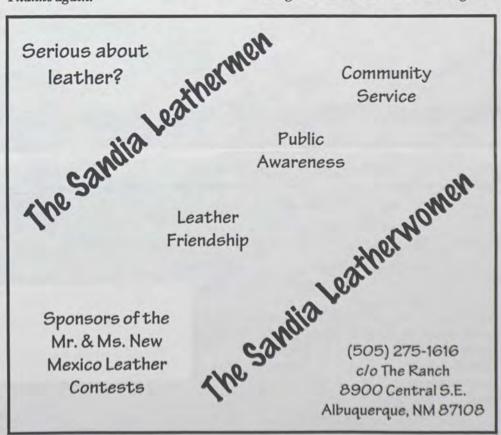
Diva:

Keep up the good work. The newsletter is great!

Leather love,

Vi

Vi: We learn from the best, and teach from that knowledge base. Thanks for being here to teach and encourage us.



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