

Minutes June 21, 2009

The June 21, 2009, meeting of MAsT Pacific Northwest was called to order at 5:30 p.m. at a private residence. There were a total 17 members and guest in attendance. The following items were discussed:

Leadership change. slave paul was named to the position of co-director of our chapter. Master Gerard and slave janet were recognized for their leadership and service to the Chapter over the years.

Meeting location. The July meeting will be held at Bruce's house and the August meeting will be held at Leatherwoods. The September and subsequent meetings will be held at Valhalla House, a local dungeon. We may hold some special events at the Conservatory as the need arises. The cost for use of Valhalla House for meetings is \$50 per meeting. slave paul outlined plans to sell banner advertising on the Chapter website to businesses and other organizations willing to sponsor a meeting. Bruce and Bunnie were recognized for their generosity opening their homes up to the Chapter for meetings.

Financial report. The current bank balance for the Chapter is currently \$312.00, which includes a \$50 annual sponsorship from Relatively Wilde Books and Toys just received. slave paul will take care of obtaining a taxpayer identification number from the IRS, renewing the Chapter's registration with the State of Oregon and arranging to open a bank account in the Chapter's name.

Commitment to inclusion and diversity. There was a discussion about the importance of making a formal statement of our Chapter's commitment to inclusion and diversity. It was agreed that we will post such a statement to the Chapter's updated website, and that we will use language similar to that on the MAsT International website.

Call for volunteers. There was a discussion about the need for members to step up and volunteer for events that are of interest to them. A specific request was made for volunteers to take the lead on organizing a Protocol Dinner and to plan the joint MAsT meeting at Leatherwoods in August. slave serenity volunteered to organize the Protocol Dinner. Master Adak volunteered to plan the joint MAsT meeting at Leatherwoods.

Recordkeeping, reporting, and other housekeeping issues. There was a brief discussion about upcoming changes and improvements in recordkeeping and reporting, including the posting of agendas, minutes, and financial information to the Chapter website. slave shelley and slave paul discussed the importance of collecting member contact information and feedback about the Chapter, and development of a group email list for member communications that is not dependent upon Yahoo Groups.

Website. The Chapter allowed our original domain name, mastpnw.com, to expire and it was lost to another organization. slave paul registered the domain name mastpnw.org and is hosting the Chapter's website on his server at no charge. Master Bob uploaded a copy of the website to the new domain name, and slave paul will be redeveloping the website in the next week or two. The Chapter's website will provide a crucial means by which to offset the cost of our new meeting location through the selling of banner advertising.

Public outreach. There was a discussion about ways to reach out to other organizations which share some of our core values. Bruce volunteered to help put together written materials about our MAsT Chapter to share with prospective members and other organizations.

Mr. and Ms. Oregon State Leather 2009 contest. Thom Butts of Blackout Leather Productions provided contest information to share with the Chapter. All applications must be received no later than midnight, July 18, 2009. The contest information will be posted to the Chapter's website.

Oregon Leather Pride Week 2009. Thom Butts also provided flyers about Oregon Leather Pride Week, which is from July 31 to August 9, 2009. The flyers were distributed to members in attendance and will be posted to the Chapter's website. For additional information, members can visit the Oregon Leather Pride website at www.oregonleatherpride.org.

Leatherwoods. Ms. Reilly spoke about Leatherwoods which will be held eight miles East of Salem, Oregon from August 14 to 16, 2009. They are expecting approximately 200 attendees. Bunnie is serving as volunteer coordinator this year and those who are interested in volunteering should contact her. There will be a joint MAsT meeting held on August 16th in the morning, and Master Adak has volunteered to plan the joint MAsT meeting. Nearly all members in attendance at tonight's meeting will be attending Leatherwoods in August. For additional information, members can visit the Leatherwoods website at www.leatherwoods.org.

Discussion topic. The remainder of the meeting "The Journey from Fear to Trust"