

# A.C.L.C NEWSLETTER

October to December 2019

VOL. 30, ISSUE 1

## Top stories in this newsletter



State of the Club:  
President's Report



Education: Vetting



Slaving in the Kitchen  
with Lena May



Catch the Patch: Out  
and about in our communities

## State of the Club: Hiatus Year 2018-2019



In September, after a long hiatus year that a ragtag board of three ran with great success in budget reduction, club survey studies, fundraising, and community building, A.C.L.C. came together to vote on the future of the club. Our choices were to disband or move forward to a newer, expanded chapter in A.C.L.C. history. At the end of the meeting, the membership voted to move forward and elected a new board. I am honored to have been elected President of a very dynamic and capable board with Andrew, Caity, Nyna and Laurie. We will spend mostly of the year re-forming the club rules and by-laws to accommodate the new membership. Without titleholders our social calendar is wide open for weekends to produce events or plan educational formats.

Please contact the board with your ideas for making our first year exciting and successful!

In Leather Service,  
Joan Norry

## Outgoing President's Report



When we started the Hiatus Year, Den, Nyna, and I were not sure the Club would make it to the Annual meeting to vote on dissolution or changes to continue when we held that meeting, regardless of outcome, I felt we had a successful year.

Enough members felt the By-law changes we proposed would be sufficient to continue, with flexibility and (hopefully) inspiration to continue evolving, since that's never really done. It's worth briefly highlighting some of them here:

- Do business as the Alta California Leather Corps with members residing generally north of Kern County, California.
- The purpose for which this corporation is organized is to promote educational and charitable activities through social interaction among people with a interest in leather, Levi's and kink.
- The officers of the corporation shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and one Member-At-Large. Board staggered elections are replaced with three year limits on same office holding and no Title Holders on the Board, with Title Contest and committee optional.

At our anniversary party we celebrated the six beneficiaries of \$1,000 each and still have a good seed for the next board. I hope to see you all out in our communities.

-Sean O'Banion

2005-2006,2018-2019

President Alameda County Leather Corps

## Treasurer's Report- Mistress Nyna



4Q Board July, August, September 2019

Income \$1336.04

Expenses \$134.00

Total Income for 2018-2019 \$7262.65

Total Expenses for 2018-2019 \$2988.00

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## Treasurer's Report Continued

**2018-2019 charitable disbursements: \$6,000**

- Lavender Seniors of East Bay
- Dorothy Day House— Berkeley
- LGBTQ Center Oakland
- Everyone Home
- Alameda County Community Food Bank
- East Bay SPCA

Reminder that October is when dues for the year need to be paid, if you have not paid in October or November please send to the PO Box or pay the treasurer at a meeting/event.

Inventory of Storage and Treasurer Stock:

We have small patches for regular and affiliate members (\$5) and large patches available for (\$25), replacement member pins and replacement prior anniversary pins (\$5).

In the future we will make items from storage available for sale to members to reduce storage space.

Contact [treasurer@acleather.org](mailto:treasurer@acleather.org) if you are interested in purchasing a pin or patch.

Remember, you can designate ACLC on Amazon smile as your choice for a charitable organization to receive money from each Amazon purchase.

[Https://smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

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## Education: Vetting

**By: The Femmes of Femme Mountain**



When we talk about leather education, it opens the conversation for a lot of kinky topics. There are many “how to’s” written by fabulous educators armed with notes and toys, ready to show us what to do and it’s exciting. That’s how most of my journey in the leather community has been. Because I have lived near major cities with a large community, I’ve had ready access to resources and education.

But what do we do in a small town with a smaller number of kinky folks? What do we do when there isn’t a dungeon around the corner? I have asked this question of myself not too long ago. For me, the only real answer was open my own home for kink based skill share. Years ago this would have been how I found “the Community”. A network of private homes opening for others to play, socialize and teach others what cool thing “got them off.” Now it’s my turn to open my life up so others can also have the opportunity to learn and grow.

Which brings me to today. To this moment. I started hosting a skill share at Femme Mountain which is my home. In maintaining and facilitating a space, one of the best skills I use (outside of a clear code of conduct) would be “Vetting”. It’s an old skill we have all used for play partners, sexual partners and even events. In my small town, we do have players, but how do I know that who I am allowing in to my home, is really safe?

I vet them. I reach out to mutual contacts, I ask them questions, I observe them in the space. I look for congruency between words and action. It is a skill in itself. It requires one to have firm boundaries, be okay with push back and feedback and have a good ear for bullshit.

In holding these events, I also set a convenient day and time, decide how often I can hold the event and how sustainable it is, advertise within local queer groups on social media and make sure that I have safety items ready: cleaning supplies, water, safety scissors, gloves, etc. Mostly importantly, I vet, vet, VET. I set up a code of conduct and communicate it clearly to all who are in attendance. I am not afraid to dismiss someone who doesn’t make the bar.

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## Education: Don't Forget the Anniversar(ies)

By: Caity Lynch

Welcome to the history column, where we'll look into the magic 8 ball of leather history for clues that might help us today! This month, we're tackling club anniversaries. More specifically, how can this be "the last anniversary" of Alameda County Leather Corps, if we just voted in a new board and chose to come out of hiatus? Well, ACLC is not the first club in the Bay Area to have two anniversaries in their history. Look no farther than the Golden Gate Guards, who celebrated their 33rd anniversary on November 16, 2019.

Along with this already lengthy club history, the Guard's backpatch or "overlay," clearly displays the year "1976," 43 years ago. Why the two dates? Well in 1976, the club began as the Imperial Guards, an arm of the Imperial Council. For 10 years, the Imperial Guards served as a bridge between the Imperial Courts and the Leather-Levi communities. But over the course of 10 years, creative differences developed, and some feared the Imperial Guards were simply too leather for the Imperial Court. Jack Goodall, Captain General of the Imperial Guards at the time, credits the Guard's Constitution as a key component of their efficient break from the imperial Court, and the subsequent restructuring. During this time, the Imperial Court stipulated that the club continue without the use of the word "Imperial" in their name.

Jack remembers that it was member Brian Kelly who coined the name "Golden Gate Guards," and the club was reborn. The rebirth is commemorated to this day in the Guards' overlay, emblazoned with "1976" the year of their original founding and the Golden Gate Bridge, supported by a banner displaying "1987," with a Phoenix rising above it, under a crown. Liberated thusly, the newly minted Golden Gate Guards flew full throttle into club culture. When a motorcycle run could be found literally every weekend beginning the last week of April, the Golden Gate Guard's annual run at Camp Mendocino served as the end of October finale to the run season.

The Golden Gate Guards became a 501(c)3 non profit in 2001 and served on the Leather Forum and Interclub Fund. Today, the Golden Gate Guards are a member of the SF Bay Area Leather Alliance. In addition to celebrating 33 years earlier this month, you can find them hosting the prestigious 48th Annual Golden Dildeux Awards (vote early, vote often!) the last Saturday of April, as well as sail the Bay with them next Folsom-eve (last Saturday afternoon in September) on the Leather Cruise.

For more information about the Golden Gate Guards please go their website:

[Htpps://Gguards.org](https://Gguards.org)

*Special thanks to Roger Sullivan and Jack Goodall for their support, time and stories for this article.*



## Catch the Patch: Where ACLC Attended/Represented



### September

September 27-29: Women of Drummer, Baltimore, MD

Mistress Nyna judged and had a great weekend, she highly recommends attending next year.

### October

October 11-14: American Brotherhood Weekend, Chicago, IL

Joan, Caity, and Tyler attended. Congratulations to Caity for the service award, and to Cody Elkin for winning American Leather Man, and Ms. Raven for winning American Leather Woman.

October 24-27: Palm Springs Leather Pride, Palm Springs, Ca

Jim, Marc, Joan, and Caity attended. Congratulations to Charlies Harding for winning Mr. Palm Springs Leather.

### November

November 9: 26th Anniversary Party, Hayward, Ca at the World's Famous Turf Club

***We want to hear from you! We know you are out there, volunteering, misbehaving, and most of all, representing. Take a (street legal) photo of yourself in your finest ACLC patch, pin, or other assorted gear and send it to [newsletter@acleather.org](mailto:newsletter@acleather.org)***

***We would love to feature your exploits in our next newsletter!***

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## Education: Slaving in the Kitchen with Lena Mae



It has been a while since my last column. It is so nice and exciting to see the Alameda County Leather Corp. back with us. I hope everyone has been having a ball or two. We all need to have a good time and enjoy life.

With the holidays just around the corner I thought I would do something about your buns (for dinner that is). We all like to serve a nice bun to our guests. I hope you take the time to make these as they are simple and don't take a lot of work to prepare.

Here is the recipe.

### Easy Icebox Butter Buns

I hope everyone has an icebox (Not an icy box to cool your buns off)

1 package of yeast

2 Tbsp. lukewarm water

1/2 cup of sugar

2 cups warm milk

1tsp. Salt

1/4 cup melted fat half butter and half shortening (don't use Crisco from you know where, oops showing my age)

1 egg well beaten (now let's not get carried away)

6 cups of sifted flour

Scaled milk and set aside. Melt fat and set aside. Combine yeast, water, and sugar in a large bowl. When dissolved add milk, egg, salt and 2 cup of flour, mix. Add melted fat and the rest of the flour, mix until smooth but do not knead. Cover and leave in refrigerator overnight. About 4 hours before needed, divide dough into thirds, roll each third out thin on a floured surface and cut into pie-shaped wedges. Roll each piece from large side and place on a greased baking sheet. Let rise about 3 hours. Bake 10 to 12 minutes at 400 degrees.

Makes 3 dozen.

There it is! If you don't want to have the best buns on the block, buy some in a can and bake them.

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## Upcoming Events:



### DECEMBER 2019

December 1, 2019: National AIDS Memorial

ACLIC Representation at AIDS Memorial Grove National Memorial located at Golden Gate Park bowling green and Nancy Pelosi drive 12:00pm to 1:30pm

December 8, 2019: Santa Skivies Run

Run through the Castro 10am to 4pm

December 20, 2019: The Exiles: Carnal Carnival

SF Catalyst 7:30pm to 10:30pm

December 22, 2019: ACLC Naughty or Nice Beer Bust

SF Eagle beer bust, food (Chili and baked potatoes) and raffle 3:00pm to 6:00pm

### January 2020

Let us know where we will see you in 2020, we would love to join you!

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## ACLCL 26TH Anniversary Celebration: November 9th 2019



## The beginning of the Alameda County Leather Corps:

By: Den Calkins and Randy Wright



There has always been a leather lifestyle in the East Bay in one form or another, The Diablo Deviants prowled the area in 1980s. The Imperial Star (ISE), of the Imperial Court System, threw leather themed shows. Additionally, the World Famous Turf Club in Hayward on Sunday nights had drink specials for those dressed in leather returning from beet busts in San Francisco.

In 1992 Emperor XIII of ISE, CJ Stoyka and the owners of the Turf Club, Danny Burris and Larry Gray, talked of creating a leather titleholder contest. Wayne Franks and Steven Meisner, leather advisors to ISE, produced the first Mr. and Ms. Alameda County Leather contest. The event was a fundraiser for charities serving Alameda County and was held in Hayward at the World Famous Turf Club on July 26. Mark McKee and Lil Cooper won the titles in front of a full house.

In the summer of 1993, Mark, Lil and ISE returned to the Turf Club producing the second leather contest. Randy Wright and Beth Elliot won the leather titles. Again the bar was full and the contest was a success.

To celebrate ACLCL's first year, Randy Wright had Alameda County Leather Corps rectangular bar pins made. He personally pinned David Barker, Lee Bell, Den Calkins, Lil Cooper, Bill "Larissa" Divita, Beth Elliot, Robert Giudici, Dan Herrera, Andy "Slam" Hlebakos, Mark McKee, Shilo, Harry Wilmoth, and Mr. Marcus at the 1994 contest.

The Corps membership continued to grow, however these local leather folk did not identify themselves with cross dressing practices and wanted independence. ISE supported ACLCL's decision to stand as an independent organization and in 1994 gave the Mr. and Ms. Alameda County Leather titles to ACLCL.

In September 1995, the Corps elected their first board of directors: Chairperson Lil Cooper, Vice Chairperson Den Calkins, Treasurer Dan Herrera, Secretary Yvonne Driver, Sergeants-at-Arms Randy Wright and Lance Brittain. Also Mr. and Ms. Alameda County Leather 1995, Ken Meyer and Kris Cox, served on the board.

The origins of the Alameda County Leather Corps began with ISE and our future soon became our own.

ACLCL members and club supporters came together on Saturday November 9th to celebrate 26 years. We were able to give away \$6,000 to Alameda County charities and celebrated club members



## Thank You!

A special thank you to Dan Lloyd and Rich Stadtmiller for always capturing our clubs history. Photos can be found at:

<https://www.richtrove.com>

Remember all members are welcome to submit articles and photos to [newsletter@acleather.org](mailto:newsletter@acleather.org)

## Club Information

### ACLCL-2019-2020 Board of Directors

President– Joan Norry— [President@acleather.org](mailto:President@acleather.org)

Vice President– Caity Lynch– [Vicepresident@acleather.org](mailto:Vicepresident@acleather.org)

Secretary– Andrew Johnson– [Secretary@acleather.org](mailto:Secretary@acleather.org)

Member at Large– Laurie Aguin– [Memberatlarge@acleather.org](mailto:Memberatlarge@acleather.org)

To email entire board– [info@acleather.org](mailto:info@acleather.org)

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