# A.C.L.C. NEWSLETTER

#### October to December 2022

VOL. 32, ISSUE 4

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#### **President's Letter**

Dear Members,

Are you ready for a new exciting year with ACLC? We finished our 29th year at our Anniversary Party on Oct. 8th at The World Famous Turf Club, hosted by Larry and Doug. We gave out grants to Dorothy Day House, Solano Pride, Urban Angels SF, TASHRA, along with the President's Fund to Alameda Food bank in memory of Jay Hemphill and our sponsorship of a buckle for The Best Buck in the Bay. The total given out to other non-profits this year was \$4,350.

In addition, we awarded our community with our club recognition awards:

Lee Bell

Member of the Year

Business of the Year

Rookie of the Year

Unsung Hero

President's Award

**Honorary Membership** 

Tyler Fong

Marc "Pony" Owens

The SF Eagle

Sweetie

Andrew "Bootdog" Johnson

Caity Lynch

Luis S.

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#### **President's Letter (continued)**

As is our custom, we gave out the club service pins for 3, 6, 10, 15, 20 and 30 years of participation and membership, along with introducing 3 new club members (Reika, Cody and Jeffery).

Our service pins recipients were:

**10 years** Jay Williams

15 years
Laurie Aguinaga
Marc "Pony" Owens

**20 years**Nyna Kaiser
Sebastian Wilson

I am so delighted to be back in-person to gather as a club and I look forward to seeing all of you more this upcoming year. We are planning to continue to highlight our past titleholders in our newsletter with each issue looking back at 30, 20 and 10 years ago in each newsletter. This quarter is Randy Wright



and Beth Elliott, both of whom have remained supportive and active in the club over the past 30 years in many various ways. It has been a pleasure to know both of them and to hear what they have to say in this issue. I am always happy when past members return to active status and participate in our events. Don't forget: Santa's Service Auction is December 4th.

And finally, welcome back to Bianca and to Deborah Hoffman Wade!

80% of the 2021-2022 Board at the Anniversary

# Puppy Play by Tyler Fong

Puppy Play is a popular role play activity. Though not a traditional S/M play it still requires a certain degree of attention to safety. Keep in mind that this

is a general overview of fundamental safety concerns and is open to more detail based upon individual needs and circumstances Let us consider the play environment, health and medical and gear.

The environment of the play space must be cool enough for active play to occur without risk of heatstroke and warm enough for naked play. Fans or heaters may need to be added to the play space to better regulate play area temperature. Flooring should be as level as possible with ample space to move around for pups and toys. A padded floor is best, but a carpeted area is better than hard flooring. Wrestling mats or interlocking exercising mats work well giving pups padding to roam about and make paws and knees more comfortable. Any hard objects or sharp corners, e.g. furniture, should be removed from the play area or set as far away as possible.

General health and medical specifics should be reviewed prior to engaging in puppy play. Proper nutrition is important prior to play as energy needs are above baseline/rest, whether cuddling in a puppy pile or active with fetch or wrestling. Proper food and water intake is recommended prior to play. Plan ahead in anticipation of your activity level and make sure to have ample rest.

Pups are often on all fours so the health and abilty of the hands, wrists and knees need to be evaluated prior to play. Reassessment might also need to be considered during play and possibly modified to avoid injury. Medical conditions can restrict or limit what type and how much play can happen

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before a break is needed. Things like pressure on the knees or wrists when on all fours, ability to crawl, back strength, ability to breathe, neck or shoulder mobility and dental work can limit how play happens. If you need a break from all fours, sit and rest. Bring your inhaler if you are an asthmatic. Caution when biting down on anything. Be aware that human puppy teeth are not as strong as a canine's, so tug-o-war between human pups will be less aggressive than that seen between non-human cainines.

Gear can help keep knees and hands/wrists comfortable during play. Knee pads and gloves provide a cushion for these areas of the body. Mitts or hand covering are available in varied materials and design like leather, faux leather, latex, cloth, etc. Super economical to fairly expensive types of knee pads are also available. Socks or soft footwear protect the pup's feet as well as other pups from accidental pinching or kicking. Soft footwear is recommended for Handler-types as well.

Accessories like hoods and collars might have metal accents. Metal is hard and unforgiving when put up against human skin. Puppy play is often spontaneous and happens very quickly, thus the thought of how a spiked collar or hood might affect other pups in the area must not be overlooked. Be kind to your pupmates by removing spiked items prior to engaging in play. Also consider any body jewelry which could accidentally be poked, pinched, pulled or damaged during play.

Puppy play that has some time and thought put in prior to the actual play event makes play FUN for ALL! Shopping for gear can even be a pre-Event event for one or a group. Good, Sit! Now GO, PLAY!

### **Puppy Play Links**

https://www.thestranger.com/features/2015/06/24/22437022/what-is-puppy-play-and-why-is-it-so-popular

https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10508-019-01476-1

https://www.pupspace.net/

# Alameda County Leather Contest 1993 A Look Back 30 Years

#### **Beth Elliott**

#### Why did you run for Ms ACL in 1993?

I ran because I showed up for the contest and there were no female contestants. I got asked to serve ... and serve I did.

#### What was the value or best thing about having a title?

That people working together can empower others and build community

by being friendly and having a vision. Being a title holder brought with it a responsibility to be accessible to newbies, to welcome them in, and to help point them in positive directions. A number of us with that attitude had a vision of building a support system for doing the events we were charged with doing, and look how well that worked out!



## Have you been involved in leather community or lifestyle since your title and how...

It's harder to be involved in community these days because fewer people believe in community: they believe in their cruising apps. Events, including play parties, are seen more as opportunities to hang out with your individual clique and look cool. That said, I do know how to show up, and leather sexuality remains part of my tool kit for ecstasy and vision guesting.

# Alameda County Leather Contest 1993 A Look Back 30 Years

#### **Randy Wright**

I ran for Mr. Alameda County Leather to support and grow the new emerging leather community in the East Bay. None of this would have happened if not for Larry Gray at the Turf Club, HE alone wanted to bring leather into the East Bay bars and supported and funded the inaugural leather events. Mark McKee "groomed" me during his title year (I was in his fantasy during his competition in the first developmental year of leather in the East Bay).

I was familiar with the Bay Area leather scene in SF and San Jose and as a result of winning the title (which 2 of my judges were Mr. Marcus and Lenny Broberg)....it completely changed my social life and "identity" as a true "Man of Leather". The title brought me forward in the Bay Area leather community with recognition I never expected. My most valuable "take away" was understanding we were FUNDRAISING for needed charities while ELEVATING the exposure of the leather community. The motivation to get money where it was needed at that time (AIDS Emergency Fund, etc) created an urgency to excel at fundraising and to this day (30 years later) I have taken that talent I learned and still raise money whenever I'm asked: political, arts fund, schools, etc. I do so with the skills I developed from being Mr. Alameda County Leather.

My title was and still is a part of who I am as Randy Wright, it's my history that I take great pride in being blessed to have met and made many friends in the Leather and Drag Communities.

With Grace & Blessings,

Randy J. Wright



### **Treasurer's Report**

July-September 2022

Starting Balance	\$ 11,107.49
Income	2,108.62
Expenses	1,197.44
Donations	4,350.00
<b>Ending Balance</b>	\$ 7,668.67

### Don't Forget: Dues Are Due!

Annual Membership dues are currently due. Full membership is \$25 per year and affiliate membership is \$10 per year.

#### Dues can be paid through:

- Venmo (go to <u>www.venmo.com/u/ACLeather</u>)
- Paypal (go to <u>www.paypal.com</u> and search "Alameda County Leather Corps")
- Use one of the QR Codes below
- Pay in person at Santa's Service Auction (hint hint)
- Send a check to

ACLC P.O. Box 2981 Castro Valley, CA 94546









# Catch the Patch ACLC Members Out and About



### **ACLC Board of Directors**



**President** Nyna Kaiser

Vice President Joan Norry

**Treasurer**Andrew Johnson

**Secretary** Bianca Vigil

Member at Large Evelyn Sullivan