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# YARD IV: Friday, November 26, 2010



Info & tickets @ www.yardla.com

#### facebook

Name: Status: Los Angeles Band Of Brothers None

Fans: **712** 

#### 2010 Titleholders



Brad Taylor Mr. Regiment 2010 Mr. Los Angeles Leather 2010



Louie Pacheco



Marcus Hopkins
Mr. Pistons Leather



Chewy
Mr Ashram West Leath



Lloyd MacDonald Mr. Bullet Leather



Tom Pardoe



Russ Coleman



Manuel Ramirez



Greg Oaglin Mr. Oil Can Harr



Pup Don



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#### Brad Taylor Mr. Regiment 2010 Mr. Los Angeles Leather 2010

Brad Taylor was born and raised in Seattle, Washington in 1974 before heading to San Francisco in the late 90's where he pursued his love of wrestling and joined "Golden Gate Wrestling." In 2002, he won the Gold Medal in the Heavyweight Division at the "Gay Games" in Sydney, Australia. However, upon meeting Master Kevin, he moved to Los Angeles and has been collared for almost 10 years.

Brad is currently enrolled in community college while working as a tour guide for Warner Brothers Studios.

Brad has been involved in the leather and bear community since 1997, and has held the titles of "Bay Area Cub 2002" and "So Cal Cub 2004" (both title vests are now part of the Leather Archives), as well as competing at "International Bear Rendezvous 2002." His leather journey continued as he worked at "Gauntlet II," which then became "Eagle L.A.".

Brad was honored to be named Mr. Los Angeles Leather in March of 2010, and went on to compete at the 2010 International Mr. Leather contest in Chicago, IL, where he placed in the top twenty of the 2010 competitors. Brad continues to spend his time going to school and working, while traveling to California leather events to represent both the Mr. L.A. Leather title and the Los Angeles Band of Brothers.



**Brad Taylor** 



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#### Louie Pacheco Saenz Mr. CSW Leather 2010/2011 American Leatherman 2010 President, Los Angeles Band of Brothers

Louie was born in Granada, Nicaragua in October 1971, where he lived with his parents and sisters. He was raised Catholic and when to Catholic School, where he was an altar boy.

"I lived a very privilege life and lived to be part of the Sandinistas/Contras War...until we had to leave Nicaragua to come to The US due to Communism in Nicaragua."

At 15 he and his mother moved to Texas where they lived for a year before his father and two sisters joined them, at which point they moved to Los Angeles where he has lived to this day.

"We gained Political Asylum and became American Citizens just last year after some inner struggles within myself as to why, after so many years of having been 'qualified' to became a citizen I finally decided to do it." As of June 2009, Louie became officially became an American Citizen.

"At a very young age I knew I was different on many levels. The most and strongest was that I knew I liked boys and had very interesting and strange way of thinking about my fantasies."

Louie went to school for Fashion Design and was very involved in the fashion scene here in Los Angeles back in the 90's. During this time, he met his first partner with whom he was together for almost six-and-half years.



Louie Pacheco

"This caused a lot of problems with my father and at 23, after moving on from my relationship, I decided to move to San Francisco where I resided for 10 years and was able to truly blossom as a gay/leather man. During all those years in San Francisco, my life changed drastically. My relationship with my family got stronger."

Louie was elected to serve as the first official President of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers in July of 2010, and was elected by unanimous vote to serve on the Board of Christopher Street West in September of 2010. Shortly after being named President of LABB, Louie was named American Leatherman 2010. His return to Los Angeles has been an amazing homecoming for him, as one of the biggest things that has happened to him since he moved was being given the privilege of becoming Mr. Christopher Street West 2010.

"My involvement with my Leather Family/Community since that moment has truly changed my life today."



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#### Marcus J. Hopkins Mr. Pistons Leather 2010 Communication Officer, Los Angeles Band of Brothers

Marcus J. Hopkins grew up in the midst of the East Coast leather community in New York City during the 1980's. While other children were watching Saturday morning cartoons and reading "Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret," Marcus was participating in Act Up Die-Ins with his mother and (thanks to his two Dom/sub roommates) reading "Mr. Benson." He got a first-hand look at some of the havoc that was wreaked at the hands of the HIV/AIDS virus when one of those roommates passed away in 1989 (two days before his eighth birthday) as a result of complications. It was this event that would serve as the catalyst for his decision to work in HIV/AIDS Advocacy.

After a number of years living away from exposure to the leather community, Marcus re-entered as a participating member of the community when he met his first partner in 1998, and has been actively involved in the BDSM, Leather, and Fetish cultures ever since.

Marcus was elected to serve as the Communication Officer for the Los Angeles Band of Brothers in July of 2010, and was later appointed as the Events Committee Chairman shortly thereafter. Along with the other members of the Events and YARD Committee, Marcus is currently in charge of producing and promoting LABB-sponsored events.

Marcus currently resides in Santa Clarita, CA, with his partner, J.R. (Mr. Sanctuary Leather 2008) and their pets, Topanga and Gremlin Reaper. He maintains an apartment in Long Beach, CA, with his best-friend of ten years. He is currently pursuing a degree in Health Communication and continuing his career in HIV/AIDS Advocacy. He is delighted to be granted such an amazing opportunity to interact with and contribute to his new found community, and is looking forward to spending his title year getting to know and love his new surroundings, family, and friends.



Marcus J. Hopkins



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#### Chewy Mr. Ashram West Leather 2010

Chewy was born on 4th July 1972 and grew up in Alexandria, Louisiana. He was raised in a Cajun, right-wing way of life. At an early age Chewy knew he was different from his kinfolk. But no matter how different he was, or how hard his life was, his Grandmother was always there to love him. Chewy's Grandmother died in 1991.

Chewy moved to Houston, Texas in 1992, and that is where he was first collared and owned. Sadly, Chewy took the dark path of addiction. Chewy moved on to San Francisco in 1996 and found the leather lifestyle he wanted. He was taught the art of Boot Blacking by "Driller," and was an apprentice until opening his own Boot Black stand at the Power House. After 11 years Chewy found himself homeless, friendless and hopeless due to addiction.

Chewy has always been a fighter, and has just celebrated 10 years of addiction FREE living. Chewy has turned his life around, and is a respected member of the leather community. Chewy has worked with non-profit organization in San Francisco and San Jose for years.

Master RED found Chewy in 2007. Master RED collared chewy in July 2008 and Master RED moved Chewy from San Jose to Long Beach October 2008. In July 2009 Master RED and Chewy opened "RED Chewy's Boot Black" and Chewy is now the resident Boot Black at Pistons Bar in Long Beach, CA.

Mamas Chewy (mamasfamily.org) Runner up Mr.Pistons Leather 2010



Chewy



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#### Lloyd MacDonald Mr. Bullet Leather 2010

A Los angeles native, masseur, aspiring writer and A free spirit.

Into working out and athletics. Fetishes include water sports, impact play, role play, uniforms, tattoos, and muscle worship, voyeurism, exhibition, sensory deprivation and an interest in fisting. He loves boxing and kickboxing. He has a love for science fiction and fantasy genres and is known to have a very overactive imagination and libido.



LLoyd MacDonald



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#### Tom Pardoe Eagle LA Mr. Leather 2010

Tom has been sniffing around the Leather Community since 1983 in Chicago but two years ago when Charlie and Hunter asked him to dance for them at the Eagle's MEAT RACK, everything started to change. Tom's leather roots are beginning to take flight and he is honored to represent. For 7 years Tom has been the producer/director for Aid For AIDS' most successful fundraiser, raising well over one million dollars for the organization, now in its 26th year. He is a member of the LA Band of Brothers, the Anvil Club, Broadway Cares/Equity Fights Aids, and is coming up on 17 years of continuous recovery. Tom wants to thank you for encouraging him to live outside the box. Now lets do this!



Tom Pardoe



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#### Russ Coleman Mr. Sanctuary 2010

Russ found his love of leather at the age of six while hanging out with the ranch hands on his grandfather's farm. The smell of the stables, the men, and the leather was intoxicating. He is a twenty-year entertainment industry executive, the founder of Proof Positive, the winner of the Humanitarian of the Year award from Samaritan Village, the Producer of the 2007 Best Documentary award winner at Outfest, and the father of four.



Russ Coleman



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#### Manuel Ramirez Mr. LA Leather Bear 2010

Manuel "Howie" Ramirez is a First generation Mexican American.

"I realized I was gay at the age of 8. I was attracted to music, early on, as I sang in Jr. High."

Manuel moved to Los Angeles in 1990, and was exposed to leather via Club Fuck.

"I was fortunate enough to find my way to Silverlake and to land my present job position in Hollywood. I love L.A.! It is the creative outlet I call home."



Manuel Ramire



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#### Greg Oaglin Mr. Oil Can Harry's 2010

Greg Oaglin was born and raised in Kona, Hawaii.

"I was one of the few white kids, though we were all minorities there."

After graduating from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN after 5 years with 3 BS degrees in Physics, Math, and Electrical Engineering, Greg worked for a year at Los Alamos National Lab. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Physics at California Institute of Technology.

Greg spends way too much time line dancing at Oil Can Harry's, and has done regular demonstrations at Mickey's.



Greg Oaglinr



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#### Pup Don Mr. Sister Leather 2010

Don Mike first got involved in the LA Leather community around 2001. Mostly known as Pup Don in leather circles, he has been a past member of the now defunct LA Pups, and a current member of Avatar LA and the LA boys of Leather, of which he was a founding member and has served two terms as President. Don's involvement in the community has been one of service and he is looking forward to using his title of Mr. Sister Leather 2010 to proudly represent the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence to the leather community and to raise awareness of the importance of mentorship in our community and the need to bridge the gap between the Old Guard, the New Guard and, to borrow a phrase from Sister Erotica, the Avant Guard.



Pup Don



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#### The L.A. Band of Brothers Installation Ceremony

Los Angeles - April 22, 2010 - The Los Angeles Band of Brothers conducted its founding ceremony on Thursday, April 15, as XX current and former L.A.-area leather titleholders gathered at a member's home in Los Angeles. One by one, titleholders from the last eleven years stood on a platform against the backdrop of the Hollywood Hills to formally welcome each other into a fraternal organization now almost two years in the making. The ceremony began with the group's Secretary, Billy Nakasaki, and Archivist, Louie Pacheco, signing the organization's bylaws, completing its incorporation as the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, Inc. The group is also pursuing non-profit status.

The L.A. Band of Brothers is an organization comprised of titleholders who have competed in the Mr. Los Angeles Leather contest since the foundation of the regional Los Angeles Leather Coalition in 1999, which produces the contest. The group began to form in 2008 as some of that year's "L.A. Eleven" titleholders began meeting with each other and with their predecessors to exchange support, mentorship, and coordination.

Those early meetings quickly outgrew the Mt. Washington patio that hosted them as more of L.A.'s experienced titleholders became involved. The Brothers quickly became a visible presence throughout L.A.'s leather community as they organized events raising funds for a variety of causes, as well as the memorable YARD gear/fetish/play parties of winter 2008 and 2009.

In addition to Nakasaki, the Brothers' other founding board members are its President, Mikel Gerle, Vice President Ernesto Provencio, Treasurer Don Anspauch, and Communications Officer, Jasun Mark. Looking to the future, the group's members are resolved to continue providing friendship and support to the men who choose to serve their community as titleholders.



#### The L.A. Band of Brothers

Since 2000, almost 100 men have competed in the Mr. L.A. Leather contest after winning a title contest sponsored by one of eleven community organizations or bars in Los Angeles. These businesses and organizations, with others, are members of the Los Angeles Leather Coalition (LALC). The LALC sponsors the annual Mr. Los Angeles Leather contest, whose winner represents the Los Angeles leather community at home and elsewhere, and competes at International Mr. Leather.

Together, this is the second-largest system of leather contests worldwide, after International Mr. Leather. The Los Angeles Band of Brothers was formed in 2008 as an association of these men. Los Angeles' leather community is blessed with a rich and diverse array of organizations, businesses, events, and people. We are fortunate to live in a community in which an organization like ours can even exist. It is an honor and a joy to serve.

#### Our Mission

The Los Angeles Band of Brothers is a fraternal organization of titleholders who have competed in the Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest. We

- a. to the support of titleholders in preparing for and during competition in the Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest;
- b. to the support of our members during events organized or sponsored by our members related to the Leather Community specifically, and the LGBTQ Community specifically;
  c. to the betterment of the Leather Community specifically, and the LGBTQ Community specifically; and
- d. to provide fun, fellowship and social camaraderie to our members.



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#### **Titleholders**

#### Who is Mr. L.A. Leather?

Each year, the Los Angeles Leather Coalition (LALC) sponsors the Mr. L.A. Leather contest. The contestants are the eleven men who have won titles in prior contests sponsored by community organizations or bars who are members of the LALC.

Mr. L.A. Leather represents the Los Angeles leather/fetish community at home and elsewhere. He competes at International Mr. Leather in Chicago each May. Mr. L.A. Leather 2010 is Brad Taylor.



Brad Taylor Mr. L.A. Leather 2010

#### What titles are there?

Eleven businesses and organizations who are members of the LALC sponsor title contests, sending the winner to compete at Mr. L.A. Leather:

- Ashram West
- Bears L.A.
- The Bullet
- Christopher Street West
- The Eagle L.A.
- The Faultline
- Oil Can Harry's
- **Pistons**
- The Regiment of the Black & Tans
- Sanctuary L.A.
- The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence

What is a titleholder?

#### A titleholder is...

- ...anyone prepared to make a commitment to a community.
- ...anyone who is secure with their honesty.
- ...anyone who believes they can make a difference.
- ...anyone who can dream.
- ...anyone with time to spare for a friend.
- ...anyone who can learn more than they already know.
- ...anyone who can pass on their knowledge.
- ...anyone with an ounce of courage.
- ...anyone who can be a leader.
- ...anyone who can have fun.
- ...anyone with heart.
- ...anyone.

A titleholder is you, if you are reading this.

There are other leather/fetish title contests in the Los Angeles area, which do not send a contestant to Mr. LA Leather, though some may send their winner to other competitions:

- Mr. Long Beach LeatherMr. Palm Springs Leather
- Mr. San Diego Leather
- Southern California Gay Sportbiker
- West Coast Rubber



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#### L.A. Band of Brothers Links

- · L.A. Band of Brothers Facebook
- YARD Party Event Website

#### **Current Los Angeles Leather** Title Organizations:

- Ashram West
- Bears LA
- The Bullet Bar
- Christopher Street West
- Eagle LA Oil Can Harry's
- **Pistons**
- Regiment of the Black and Tans
- Sanctuary
  Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence,
  Los Angeles House
- Los Angeles Leather Coalition: Information about the Mr. Los Angeles Leather Title

#### Community Resources

- **Avatar Club Los Angeles**
- The Barracks Bar, Palm Springs
- **Erotic City**
- Faultline
- Los Angeles Radical and Wicked Women
- LA Boys of Leather
- LA Doms & Subs
- LA Leather History Page LA Leather Weekend
- People of Leather Among You
- Palm Springs Leather Order of the
- L.A. Rodeo
- Southern California Bondage Club
- So Cal Leather Woman
- Threshold
- Warriors, MC
- West Coast Rubber

#### Friends & Supporters

- 665 Leather: 665 Leather is one of the premier leather retailers in the Los Angeles area, based out of West Hollywood, CA.
- Instigator Magazine: Instigator Magazine is an international BDSM/Fetish magazine based out of Los Angeles, CA.
- JayPG Photography: Jay is one of Los Angeles' definitive fetish photographers, and has been the official photographer for the Los Angeles Leather event.
- Leatherati: Leatherati is a resource for all events Leather, BDSM, Kink, and Fetish-oriented, with access to up-to-date information about national and international events, based out of Los Angeles, CA.
- The Leather Journal: The Leather Journal is the longest continuously running Leather/BDSM publication in the United States, based out of Los Angeles, CA.
- Oxballs: Oxballs is a producer of silicone toys and accessories, based out of Silverlake, CA.
- Rough Trade Leather: Rough Trade is one of the L.A. area's oldest and most respected leather and gear retailers, based out of Silverlake,
- The Stockroom: Located in Silverlake, CA, The Stockroom/Syren is a primarily rubber-oriented clothing and fetish retailer.
- Tom of Finland Foundation: The Foundation is an historical organization dedicated to the preservation of the BDSM, Leather and Fetish artwork of Tom of Finland, as well as the art of more recent artists who speak to the spirit of Tom's vision. ToFF is headquartered in the TOM House, located in Los Angeles, CA.



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Consent To Join Bylaws House Rules

#### Gentlemen,

I would like to invite you to join the LA Band of Brothers as an active member. The Founders Installation will be Thursday, April 15, 2010 in a private home just north of Sunset in West Hollywood.

If you have competed for the Mr. LA Leather tile any time between 1999 and 2010, you are eligible to become a founding member.

In short, we are an alumni/fraternal organization. We are past and present titleholders who have competed for the Mr. LA Leather contest helping the current titleholders be the best men they can be. We help them as they prepare for the Mr. LA Leather competition and throughout their title year.

#### Our Mission

We are current and former Los Angeles titleholders whose primary purpose is to support current and future titleholders born out of the Mr. L.A. Leather contest system, and to represent the unique and diverse tribe of the Los Angeles Leather Coalition.

We do this by educating titleholders on ways to maximize their abilities, sharing our experience as titleholders, and maintaining a titleholder fund.

Where did the LABB come from?

Every year each class of titleholders has done their best to band together and make the most of their respective years. In the summer of 2008 the current class was called together by David Farah to discuss the possibility of raising money for a titleholder fund. At that meeting I suggested that we broaden our purpose and create a permanent group called the LA Band of Brothers.

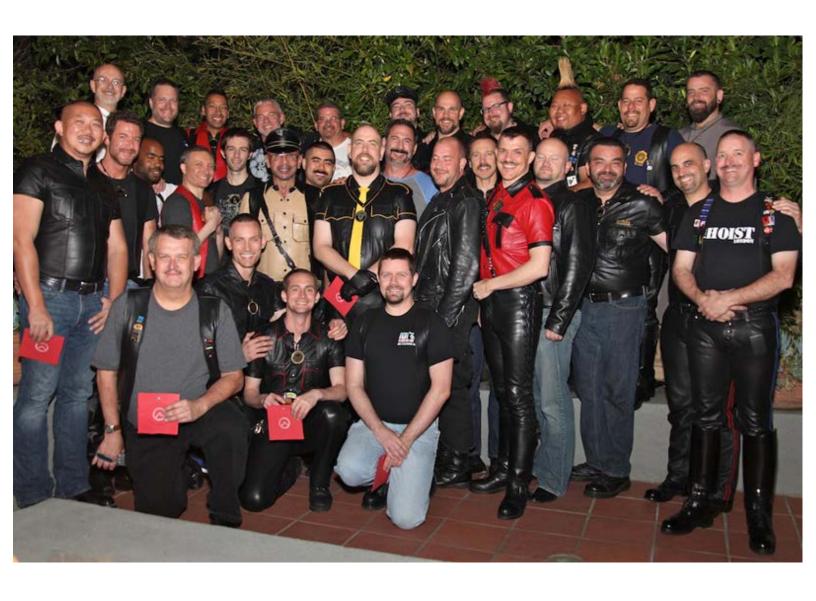
Since that first meeting past and current titleholders have worked together to address the needs of the current class while at the same time building a foundation necessary to incorporate as a formal group. The LABB mission statement and bylaws were developed and voted on by the members of the fledgling group and we are now ready to incorporate officially as the Los Angeles Band of Brothers.

Your work as a titleholder built the foundation on which we stand today. It is because you had the guts to compete and pave they way that we now have a proud tradition to stand on. Even if you have not been to a single LA Band of Brothers meeting, you have played a critical roll in making the LA Band of Brothers possible.

#### Please join us!

Just fill out the attached form and send it to either Bill Nagasaki or myself before April 15, 2010. For a \$25 fee, you will receive the LABB patch and pin.

Yours in Brotherhood, ~Mike Gerle LA Band of Brothers acting President Mr. Oil Can Harry's Leather 2007 Mr. LA Leather 2007



# CONSENT TO JOIN THE LOS ANGELES BAND OF BROTHERS

The Los Angeles Band of Brothers is a is a fraternal organization of titleholders who have competed in the Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest. The Los Angeles Band of Brothers is dedicated:

- (a) to the support of titleholders in preparing for and during competition in the Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest;
- (b) to the support of its members during events organized or sponsored by its members related to the Leather Community specifically, and the LGBTQ Community specifically;
- (c) to the betterment of the Leather Community specifically, and the LGBTQ Community specifically; and
- (d) to provide fun, fellowship and social camaraderie to its members.

#### MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

- 1. I understand and support the Los Angeles Band of Brothers objectives as expressed above.
- 2. I have read the Los Angeles Band of Brothers and Bylaws and House Rules (if any).
- 3. If I should resign or be expelled from the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, I will promptly return all materials of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers that have been entrusted to me, including all patches and other insignia.
- To the extent permitted by law, I will take reasonable steps to safeguard all confidential information of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers that is in my possession. I will not knowingly divulge information from the Los Angeles Band of Brothers' minutes, roster, archives, or membership roster to any non-member or organization.
- 5. I will issue no public statements or announcements in the name of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, except as specifically authorized by the Los Angeles Band of Brothers.
- 6. As evidenced by my signature below, I consent to join the Los Angeles Band of Brothers.

Signature and Date		
Printed Name	Date	

# BYLAWS FOR THE LOS ANGELES BAND OF BROTHERS

# THE MEMBERS OF THE LOS ANGELES BAND OF BROTHERS DEDICATE THESE BYLAWS TO OUR BRETHREN... PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE....

#### ARTICLE I: NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The name of this organization is: Los Angeles Band of Brothers.

#### ARTICLE II: MISSION STATEMENT

The Los Angeles Band of Brothers is a fraternal organization of titleholders who have competed in the Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest. We dedicate ourselves:

- (a) to the support of titleholders in preparing for and during competition in the Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest;
- (b) to the support of our members during events organized or sponsored by our members related to the Leather Community specifically, and the LGBTQ Community specifically;
- (c) to the betterment of the Leather Community specifically, and the LGBTQ Community specifically; and
- (d) to provide fun, fellowship and social camaraderie to our members.

#### **ARTICLE III: ADDRESS**

The principal office for the transaction of business of the organization is 7985 Santa Monica Blvd, Suite 105 PMB 155, West Hollywood, CA 90046-5905, located in the State of California, County of Los Angeles.

The principal office can be changed from one location in Los Angeles County to another location in Los Angeles County by majority vote of the Board of Officers. Any change of the location of the principal office will be noted by the Secretary on these Bylaws opposite this Article III without the need to further amend the Bylaws, or this Article III can be amended to state the current location according to the provisions relating to amending these Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE IV: NATURE OF LOS ANGELES BAND OF BROTHERS

The function of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers is:

- (a) to support titleholders in preparing for and during competition in the Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest;
- (b) to support our members during events organized or sponsored by our members related specifically to the Leather Community, and specifically to the LGBTQ Community;
- (c) to the betterment of the Leather Community specifically, and the LGBTQ Community specifically; and
- (d) to provide fun, fellowship and social camaraderie to our members.

Though the basis of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers is not primarily political in nature, the Los Angeles Band of Brothers anticipates:

- (i) taking official positions on legislation of interest to the Leather Community or to the LGBTQ Community in general, and on political candidates whose stated positions support the Leather Community specifically or the LGBTQ Community specifically;
- (ii) having its members work on behalf of legislation supporting the Leather Community specifically or the LGBTQ Community specifically, and on behalf of political candidates whose stated positions support the Leather Community specifically or the LGBTQ Community specifically; and
- (iii) having its members work against legislation that oppresses or persecutes the Leather Community specifically or the LGBTQ Community specifically, and having its members oppose political candidates whose stated positions oppress or persecute the Leather Community specifically or the LGBTQ Community specifically.

As such, the Los Angeles Band of Brothers will not seek an organizational form or a tax exempt status that would restrict or prohibit such positions or activities.

#### ARTICLE V: DEDICATION OF ASSETS

All assets and moneys acquired by or donated to the Los Angeles Band of Brothers will be used for fulfilling the mission of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers. On liquidation or dissolution of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, all remaining assets and moneys acquired by or donated to the Los Angeles Band of Brothers will be donated to one or more than one charitable organization dedicated to the betterment of the Leather Community specifically, or to the LGBTQ Community specifically as selected by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting deciding the issue at the time of liquidation or dissolution.

#### ARTICLE VI: MEMBERSHIP

#### SECTION 1. CANDIDACY FOR MEMBERSHIP

Subject to the Sections of this Article VI, a person at least 21 years of age is a "candidate for membership" in the Los Angeles Band of Brothers if:

- (a) (i) the person has received a leather title that entitles the person to compete in the Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest but the person has not competed in the Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest, and (ii) the person requests membership in writing; or
- (b) (i) the person has competed in one of the annual city-wide Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contests but is not a founding member in accordance with Article VI, Section 3, and (ii) the person has not been denied membership in accordance with Article VI, Section 2.

#### SECTION 2. PROCESS FOR JOINING BY NEW MEMBERS

- (a) The Secretary or the Secretary's designee will attempt to contact each candidate for membership in accordance with Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph (a) to ascertain the person's interest in membership in the Los Angeles Band of Brothers. If the candidate for membership expresses a willingness and ability to actively participate in the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, the candidate for membership will be provided with a copy of these Bylaws (and House Rules if any). The candidate for membership according to Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph (a) becomes a member (i) upon their completion of the Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest, and (ii) upon their execution of the written consent to membership which includes an acknowledgment that the candidate for membership has read the Bylaws (and House Rules if any) of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, assents to membership and agrees to uphold the Bylaws (and House Rules if any). No vote of the membership is required for the candidate for membership to become a member.
- (b) Candidates for membership according to Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph (a) but who did not compete in the Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest due to extraordinary circumstances; and candidates for membership according to Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph (b) can request membership by submitting a written request to one of the Board of Officers. The Board of Officers will review the request and vote whether to approved the request or deny the request. If the Board of Officers approves the request by a simple majority vote, the membership will be advised of the request at the next regular meeting. At that time, a member can move to require a vote of the members on the request. If the motion is seconded and passed, the members will vote on the request at the following regular meeting.

If the candidate for membership's membership request is approved, the candidate for membership will be provided with a copy of these Bylaws (and House Rules if any), and asked to confirm their willingness and ability to actively participate in the Los Angeles Band of

Brothers. The candidate for membership becomes a member of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers upon executing a written consent to membership which includes an acknowledgment that the candidate for membership has read the Bylaws (and House Rules if any) of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, assents to membership and agrees to uphold the Bylaws (and House Rules if any). If the request for membership is not approved, the candidate for membership can request to become a member at a future date no earlier than one year after date of the more recent earlier vote on membership. No record of the vote tally will be kept in the minutes of the meeting, only the result of the vote whether in favor of membership or not in favor of membership.

No candidate for membership will be denied membership due to actual or perceived: country of birth, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender assignment at birth, gender identity, HIV status, race, religion, sexual orientation, or for any other reason that does not impact that candidate for membership's ability to function as a member of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers.

No pledgeship system or trial membership will be established.

#### SECTION 3. FOUNDING MEMBERS

A person appointed by the existing Board of the group of persons forming the Los Angeles Band of Brothers will, to the extent possible, canvass all persons who, as of January 1, 2010, competed in any of the annual city-wide Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contests held between January 1, 1999 and December 31, 2009, and offer those persons membership in the Los Angeles Band of Brothers in accordance with Article VI, Section 2 (b). All such persons consenting to membership, and who have executed a written consent to membership which includes an acknowledgment that the person has read the Bylaws (and House Rules if any) of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, assents to membership and agrees to uphold the Bylaws (and House Rules if any) on or before the date of the 2010 Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest competition, will become a member of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers and will be designated a "founding member" of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers as of the completion of the 2010 Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest. The designation of "founding member" will not be extended to any other person after that date, even if that other person would have otherwise been entitled to become a founding member. All founding members are also members within the scope of these Bylaws, and the term "member" as used in these Bylaws (and House Rules if any), includes founding members. Being a founding member carries no additional responsibilities or privileges of membership except the designation "founding member" and the right to wear an insignia indicating the designation authorized by the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, such as a pin or patch.

#### SECTION 4. LIMITATION ON THE TYPES OF MEMBERS

Other than "founding member" as indicated in Article VI, Section 3, the Los Angeles Band of Brothers will not create any other special category of membership, or any other distinction

between members based on degree of membership, though the Board of Officers can establish official Committees in accordance with Article VI, Section 8, and the President can appoint Committee Chairs in accordance with Article VI, Section 9; however, the membership can establish one or more than one additional requirement for eligibility to vote based on attendance at regular meetings through amending the House Rules, and such additional requirement(s) will not be considered a special category of membership or distinction between members based on degree of membership for the purposes of this Section 4.

#### SECTION 5. RIGHTS OF MEMBERSHIP

#### A member is entitled:

- (a) to wear the Los Angeles Band of Brothers' official uniform or insignia as approved by the membership;
- (b) to participate in all events organized by or on behalf of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers;
- (c) to attend all meetings of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers;
- (d) to make motions at the meetings, to second motions, and to vote on motions at the regular meetings or other official meetings as called by the Board of Officers;
- (e) to receive notification of all meetings and events organized by or on behalf of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers. Electronic notification by e-mail or posting on the Los Angeles Band of Brothers' message board are suitable forms of notification; and
- (f) to access and to participate in the official message board, newsletter, or other internal communication media of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers.

No person other than a member of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers will be permitted participation in the official message board of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers; however, one or more than one person designated by the Los Angeles Band of Brothers skilled in maintaining such services will be permitted access to the official message board of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers solely for the purpose of maintaining the official message board service.

Unless otherwise specified, all votes of the membership are by simple majority vote.

All motions put forth by any member, including a motion to close debate, requires a second by another member before being voted upon.

Members can vote by proxy by submitting a written statement, including by electronic message, to any member of the Board of Officers before the vote indicating how the member

wants to vote on a particular issue, or allowing another member present at the meeting to vote on behalf of the member submitting the proxy as the member present wants. Proxy votes count equal to votes by members present unless indicated otherwise in these Bylaws.

#### SECTION 6. RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP

A member is responsible to attend a minimum of three (3) regular meetings during a calendar year.

If a member has not met this requirement, or will not be able to meet this requirement, the Board of Officers can consider the circumstances and then can at the discretion of the Board of Officers recommend to the membership that the member be expelled from the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, excuse the failure to comply with Section 6 as unavoidable and rectified, or can make no recommendation.

Any decision made by the Board will be announced to the membership at a regular meeting. Voting on the subsequent status change of a member will take place at the next regular meeting.

The status of the member will then be determined by a secret ballot excluding the member whose status is being decided. The expulsion of a member requires a three-fourths majority. No record of the vote tally will be kept in the minutes of the meeting, only the result of the vote whether in favor of maintenance of membership or of expulsion.

A member can resign by giving notice, including by electronic communication, to any member of the Board of Officers.

If a member resigns or is expelled, the member will return all property of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers in his possession, including all the insignia of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers. This requirement will be included in the written consent form referenced in these Bylaws.

The membership can establish additional requirements for maintaining eligibility to vote based on attendance participation in Los Angeles Band of Brothers' official events through amending the House Rules.

### SECTION 7. NUMBER AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE BOARD OF OFFICERS AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Officers will simultaneously serve as the Board of Directors for the Los Angeles Band of Brothers. Any member of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers is eligible to be on the Board of Officers. The Board of Officers consists of five offices as follows: the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and Communications Officer.

All of the members of the Board of Officers will be nominated at the regular meeting in June, and elected at the regular meeting in July and will serve for one year beginning immediately after the July meeting or immediately after an officer's installation event if one is held, until the next election at the regular meeting in July the following year or until immediately after an officer's installation event if one is held the next year.

No member of the Board of Officers will:

- (a) hold the same office for more than two consecutive years;
- (b) be eligible to hold the same position after two years of service until two or more than two years has passed since their prior term of service ended; or
- (c) be eligible to be on the Board of Officers for more than six consecutive years.

These term limitations will be calculated as beginning at the regular meeting in July 2010. No service to the Los Angeles Band of Brothers prior to July 2010 will count in the term limits.

Additionally, no two persons who are legally married, legally registered as domestic partners, legally joined in a civil union or holding themselves out to the public as a committed couple will simultaneously hold positions on the Board of Officers, or will have joint authority to execute contracts, obligate or make payments on behalf of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers.

No member of the Board of Officers will vote on an issue where the member has a direct financial interest in the outcome of the vote, or the appearance of a direct financial interest in the outcome of the vote.

Any member can make a motion to recall a member on the Board of Officers at any regular meeting for conduct inconsistent with the Bylaws (or House Rules if any), stating the reason openly before the membership. If seconded, the motion will be voted upon by secret ballot. A two-thirds majority of the persons present at the regular meeting deciding the issue is necessary to recall a member on the Board of Officers. If a member of the Board of Officers is recalled, the member ceases to be a member of the Board of Officers immediately after the vote. Nominations to fill the vacant position can be made at the same meeting and voted upon at the next regular meeting, or can be made at the next regular meeting and voted upon at the immediately following regular meeting as determined by a vote of the membership at the meeting where the member of the Board of Officers is recalled. The remaining members of the Board of Officers will decide whether and how to fill the vacant position until a replacement for the recalled member of the Board of Officers is elected.

#### SECTION 8. POWERS OF THE BOARD OF OFFICERS

Subject to the applicable legal provisions governing organizations like the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, and any limitations in the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws relating to action required to be approved by the members, the affairs of the Los Angeles Band of

Brothers will be managed, and all powers will be exercised, by or under the direction of the Board of Officers.

All decisions made by the membership will be considered to be made by the Board of Officers to the extent that the law governing the form of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers requires that the decisions come directly from the Board of Officers. If law governing the form of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers requires it, such decisions made by the membership are non-binding on the Board of Officers.

The powers of the Board of Officers includes the powers:

- (a) to establish one or more than one Committee for the purpose of handling a specific activity or issue for the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, including the purpose of the Committee, the time frame for existence of the Committee which can be unlimited, the number of members on the Committee, and whether to dissolve the Committee; the Committee Chair appoints the remaining members on the Committee subject to approval of the Board of Officers and reports to the Board of Officers directly regarding the activities of the Committee;
- (b) to change the location of the principal office from one location in Los Angeles County California to another location in Los Angeles County California according to Article III;
- (c) to determine the location, time, agendas, and rules of procedure of regular meetings;
- (d) to hold brief, closed meetings of the Board of Officers at a regular meeting, where only members of the Board of Officers attend for the purposes of discussing and acting on issues of a personal nature for a member that the member requests be conducted in a closed meeting, or for the purposes of discussing and acting on issues where the Board determines that a closed meeting is appropriate under the circumstances; closed meetings will be held to a minimum time and minimum number to insure the widest participation of members in the running of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers;
- (e) to issue or approve the form and manner of official public announcements, including the form of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers website if any;
- (f) to approve the budget of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers;
- (g) to set dues;
- (h) to approve spending;
- (i) to ensure that taxes are paid; and
- (j) to adopt, make, and use an official seal; prescribe the forms of membership certificates; and

alter the form of the seal and certificate.

#### SECTION 9. DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF OFFICERS

Subject to the applicable legal provisions governing organizations like the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, and any limitations in the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws, the duties of the Board of Officers are as follows:

#### The President is obligated:

- (a) to preside over all meetings;
- (b) to determine rules of procedure governing discussion and voting at all meetings;
- (c) to appoint Committee Chairs, the Quartermaster and the Archivist;
- (d) to represent the Los Angeles Band of Brothers at all events both organized by and not organized by the Los Angeles Band of Brothers; and
- (e) to co-sign checks.

In order to conduct meetings in a spirit of neutrality, the President will not vote on issues at any meeting unless there is a tie vote, then the President casts the deciding vote.

In order to prevent the appearance of a conflict of interest, the President will not simultaneously serve on the Board of Officers or Board of Directors of any other Leather organization or motorcycle club except as the representative of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers.

#### The Vice- President is obligated:

- (a) to preside over all meetings in place of the President when the President is not at the meeting;
- (b) to determine the rules governing discussion and voting at all meetings in place of the President when the President is not at the meeting;
- (c) to represent the Los Angeles Band of Brothers at all events both organized by and not organized by the Los Angeles Band of Brothers in place of the President when the President is not at the event;
- (d) to co-sign checks; and
- (e) to act as Secretary or Treasurer at all meetings when the Secretary or Treasurer is absent and when the Vice-President is not acting in place of President at the meeting.

#### The Secretary is obligated:

- (a) to take minutes at all meetings;
- (b) to prepare a formal version of the minutes for the archives;
- (c) to distribute the formal version of the minutes to all members;
- (d) to obtain the executions of the written consent for membership from the prospective new members;
- (e) to maintain the roster of members;

- (f) to maintain the attendance records of members at meetings;
- (g) to access the mail box and collect the mail;
- (h) to ensure that notice is given all members of all meetings such as for example by posting on the official newsgroup of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers;
- (i) to co-sign checks;
- (j) to act as Treasurer at all meetings when the Treasurer and Vice-President are absent, or when the Treasurer is absent, and when the Vice-President is acting in place of President at the meeting; and
- (k) to notify by written notice a member of his expulsion from membership.

#### The Treasurer is obligated:

- (a) to keep the financial records, including records of receipts and expenditures;
- (b) to report on the financial status of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers at each regular meeting, including reporting on all income and disbursements made since the last report;
- (c) to pay bills that have been approved by the Board of Officers;
- (d) to collect and account for all money collected at events on behalf of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers;
- (e) to prepare and present an annual budget if requested by the Board of Officers;
- (f) to co-sign checks; and
- (g) to act as Secretary at all meetings when the Vice-President is acting in place of President at the meeting.

#### The Communications Officer is obligated:

- (a) to maintain or supervise the maintenance of the content of the official Los Angeles Band of Brothers message board;
- (b) to handle routine correspondence and messages by phone or electronic communications sent to the Los Angeles Band of Brothers of a general nature directing the inquiry to the proper person as needed; and
- (c) to maintain or act as liaison to the official Los Angeles Band of Brothers web site.

#### SECTION 10. THE QUARTERMASTER

The Quartermaster is a presidentially appointed member, not necessarily a member of the Board of Directors. The Quartermaster is empowered to keep all properties of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers not currently needed by other members in the performance of their work, and is obliged to maintain an accurate inventory of the properties. The Quartermaster can be assigned other duties by the Board of Officers related to this function, including ordering and purchasing items needed by the Los Angeles Band of Brothers. The term of the Quartermaster will be until the President of the Board of Officers appoints a new Quartermaster or until the Quartermaster resigns.

#### SECTION 11. THE ARCHIVIST

The Archivist is a presidentially appointed member, not necessarily a member of the Board of Directors. The Archivist is empowered to keep historical records, including photos whether in hard form or electronic form of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers. The Archivist will provide copies of any portion of the archives of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers as instructed by the Board of Officers, including information on the Los Angeles Band of Brothers to new titleholders who are prospective members of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers. The Archivist The Archivist can be assigned other duties by the Board of Officers related to this function, including preparing copies of any portion of the archives for display at an event. The term of the Archivist will be until the President of the Board of Officers appoints a new Archivist or until the Archivist resigns.

#### ARTICLE VII

#### **MEETINGS**

#### SECTION 1. REGULAR MEETINGS

At least nine (9) regular meetings open to all members will be held during each year between January 1 and December 31 at a time and place determined by the Board of Officers. The Board of Officers can call other regular meetings at the discretion of the Board of Officers providing that suitable notification of the members is made in accordance with Article VI, Section 5 to address issues which cannot wait for the next regularly scheduled meeting or which require time in access of what is available at a regular meeting.

A quorum for the conduct of business at a regular meeting is at least one member of the Board of Officers, and at least 5 members total. Candidates for membership according to Article VI Section 1, who are allowed to attend meetings are not counted in the determination of a quorum.

Regular meetings are the only occasions upon which votes can be taken on:

- (a) the acceptance of new members;
- (b) the expulsion of a current member;
- (c) the election of members for the Board of Officers;
- (d) the recall of a member on the Board of Officers:
- (e) the filling of a vacancy on the Board of Officers; and
- (f) amending the Bylaws (and House Rules if any).

These votes and only these votes enumerated as (a) through (f) above will be made by secret ballot, supervised by two members appointed by the President, at least one of which is not on

the Board of Officers; all other votes will be made by oral count and not secret unless the Board of Officers determines that a vote on a motion other than the votes enumerated as (a) through (f) needs to be secret to protect the personal information of a member or non-member, in which case the vote will be made by secret ballot.

Attendance at regular meetings is limited to members, and at the discretion of the Board of Officers candidates for membership whose membership has not been denied in accordance with Article VI, except that the Board of Officers can permit a non-member to attend a portion of a regular meeting for the purposes of discussing an issue or offering a presentation, but the non-member will not be present for the regular meeting after their issue is addressed or the presentation is completed.

#### **SECTION 2. BOARD MEETINGS**

The Board of Officers is not required to hold meetings of the Board of Officers separate from the regular meetings; however, the Board of Officers has the right to call separate meetings provided that the members of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers who are not also members of the Board of Officers are notified of the separate meetings and allowed to attend and participate in the meetings. Minutes of any separate meeting will be kept with the same care as a regular meeting and made available to the members of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers by the Secretary.

#### **SECTION 3. ANNUAL MEETINGS**

If required by law, the regular meeting in January, or the first regular meeting held after January if a January meeting is not held, will serve as the annual meeting of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers.

#### ARTICLE VIII: MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION OF RECORDS

A member designated by the President of the Los Angeles Band of Brothers, usually the Archivist if one is appointed, or the Secretary if an Archivist is not appointed, will keep a copy of the Bylaws (and House Rules if any) as amended to date, and other official records including minutes of meetings, and financial records and will provide a copy to any member upon request of the member, however, personal information including contact information regarding members will not be made generally available to the membership without explicit permission of the member.

#### ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Amendments to these Bylaws can be proposed at any regular meeting, in writing, but will not

be voted on until the next regular meeting, giving the membership the necessary time to decide about the proposed amendment. A three-fourths vote of the entire membership, including proxies, not merely the members present at the meeting, will be necessary to pass any amendment to the Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE X: HOUSE RULES

The Los Angeles Band of Brothers can establish House Rules to address issues of administration, such as the form of motions or dealing with administrative matters, as long as the House Rule does not conflict with the letter or spirit of the Bylaws. A House Rule can be proposed by any member at any regular meeting and voted upon at the same meeting. A simple majority vote (including proxies) is necessary to pass or amend a House Rule. The Secretary will note the amendment to the House Rules in the minutes of the meeting and add the amendment to the official list of House Rules appended to the official copy of the Bylaws.

# HOUSE RULES FOR THE LOS ANGELES BAND OF BROTHERS

As Last Amended on [Fill in Date]

#1: A member forfeits their right to vote if they miss three regular meetings in a row, and has their right to vote reinstated at the third meeting of three meetings that they attend consecutively. This requirement will not be considered a special category of membership or distinction between members based on degree of membership for the purposes of this Section 4. [added on [fill in date]]