

ACLCL Newsletter

August 2025



Pancake Breakfast photos courtesy of Leif Jones at Adventure Miles Photography



ACLCL Pride and Pancakes

The Alta California Leather Corps hosted a Pancake Breakfast at The Bolt in Sacramento during Sacramento Pride Weekend. The event was well organized and successfully executed, with raffle tickets sold by Andrew and Tyler, and pancakes expertly flipped by Cody and his boy, Gabriel. Photography was provided by Leif and ACLCL members Ken, Christy, and Mr. Alan were joined on the patio by members of the Sacramento Leather Community, including the current Mr. Bolt, Bear. It was a relaxed and enjoyable morning of connection, community, and fun had by all.



President's Report

Andrew Johnson



Hey all. I hope everyone is having a good summer so far. It's really been beautiful out where I live, and I hope you are all enjoying some nice weather. So, what has ACLC we been up to? Since the last newsletter, we held the Sacramento Pride Saturday Pancake Breakfast at the Bolt. It was SO MUCH FUN! I have SO MUCH LEFTOVER SYRUP! But seriously, we had a blast, met a bunch of people, and even made some new connections with organizations up in Sac. Collabs may be coming together. Stay tuned! *(continued next page)*



ACLC

Board of Directors

President

Andrew Johnson

Vice President

Jeffrey Wayne

Treasurer

Nyna Kaiser

Secretary

Joan Norry

Member at Large

Pup Loadz



Treasurer's Report

Nyna Kaiser

Financial report for April-June 2025

Beginning balance: \$7845

Ending balance \$8092

Gross income for quarter: \$247

Grant sent Dorothy Day House \$500



President's Report (*continued*)

Looking to the next few months, we're planning on ACLC meet-ups for Dore and Folsom. Times and places TBD, but it's going to be a low-key "See your friends, snap a few selfies, may grab a drink, then head out" sort of thing. Keep an eye on the Facebook group and the website (acleather.org) for more details as the events get closer. And of course, what would August be without the Mr. SF Bear Contest weekend. Produced by ACLC's very own Cody Elkin, the weekend runs from Thursday, August 14th to Sunday, August 17th. ACLC is proud to be sponsoring the weekend for the third year in a row. I do want to make clear, that while ACLC is fiscally sponsoring the weekend and a bunch of us are helping with the production, the weekend itself is really the work of Cody. We're just lending a hand, Cody and his team make all the magic happen. Finally, we're going to be starting ACLC Board election season shortly. Personally, serving on the Board is one of the most rewarding things I do in my life. I am proud to look back on my past two years of being the President and saying "I was a part of that." I heartily encouraged all of our members to consider running for a Board position. It's a great way to really be a part of what makes ACLC a great organization. If you're interested in running for a position, please talk to a Board member or email aclc-board@acleather.org. I'll see you out and about. Or maybe on our monthly Zoom get together *koff* July 22th at 7:00 pm *koff*.

Cheers!

Andrew Johnson

aka Bootdog

President

Alta California Leather Corps



Education

From the Pup Perspective: Baking as Barking

- How Acts of Service Show Love in Leather Spaces

by Pup Loadz

Hiya folks—your Friendly Pup here, reporting from the Intersection of tail wags and Tupperware. This month I want to talk about something that doesn't always get credit as "leather," but in my view? It absolutely is. It's not flashy. It's not high-protocol. It's not even necessarily kinky. But it's deeply rooted in what keeps our community going: Baking. Now, before you think I've confused this newsletter with a cooking blog, stick with me. This story starts at SF Rubber Weekend, and it involves volunteers, exhaustion, and a plate of cookies that landed a lot harder than you'd think.



Why Baking Matters

When ACLC hosted the volunteer hospitality suite this year, we could've just tossed some granola bars on a table and called it good. No one would've complained. But that's not what happened. People baked. They showed up early. They brought homemade brownies, banana bread, Cookies, and more. The kind of stuff that doesn't magically appear—you have to plan, shop, measure, maybe curse a little when you realize you forgot baking powder—and still follow through. That's not just nice. That's leather. Because what baking really says is: I was thinking about you before you got here. I wanted you to feel taken care of. For volunteers working long hours—standing on concrete, handling logistics, juggling radios, putting out fires left and right—walking into that suite and seeing not just food, but care? That hit deep. It didn't solve everything, but it mattered. It was a quiet reminder: you're not invisible. We see the work you're doing. Sit down. Take five. You've earned it.

(continued)



From the Pup Perspective: Baking as Barking - How Acts of Service Show Love in Leather Spaces (continued)

What This Has to Do With Pups

As a pup, I'm not surprised that this kind of service resonates. A lot of us are tuned into the energy of a room. We notice when people are tired or stressed or spinning out. And we respond. Sometimes that looks like bouncing around with big energy. Sometimes it looks like fetching water or sitting close without a word. And yeah—sometimes it looks like showing up with a box of muffins, because someone has to. Pups get stereotyped as being silly or chaotic (and sure, we can be). But service is just as much a part of pup play as roughhousing or gear. For a lot of us, being helpful is the kink. Whether we're trained in protocol or just following instinct, we often show love through action. Through presence. Through care. Baking might not be the first thing that comes to mind when you think of "pup behavior," but to me, it fits. It's physical. It's generous. It's a little messy. And most importantly—it's about showing up for your people.

The Bigger Picture

When ACLC does something like host a hospitality suite and fill it with warmth, food, and intention, we're not just providing a service. We're modeling what it means to be part of a healthy, functioning leather community. One that looks after its own. One that knows service doesn't have to come with a title or a contract to be real. It's easy to celebrate the loud stuff—titles, fundraisers, performances, speeches. But the quieter stuff? That's where the soul lives. That's what keeps people coming back. That's what makes someone feel safe enough to stay. So if you've ever baked for an event, or helped clean up, or just handed someone a snack when they looked like they needed it—thank you. This pup sees you. And if you're lucky, maybe next time I'll bring biscuits.

Pup Loadz



Know Your History!

2005

- Honorary members -2005
- Mark Dean, Mark Paladini, Kevin Roche.
- Titleholder -2005 Lee Bonde



**Ms ACLC
2005
Lee Bonde**

