



Billy Foundation
211 W. Standley Street
Ukiah, CA 95482

Hi!

Thanks for requesting information about the Billy Club. Hopefully this will shine some light on who we are and tantalize you with the sensational side effects of becoming a Billy. But first, to dispel all rumors, we are not to be mistaken for or necessarily identified with the Gay Goat Herders Association of America, a radical vigilante group of police baton fetishists, a gay sub-chapter of Hell's Angels or a lesbian tennis team.

Ask twenty Billys what the Billy Club is, and you'll get, ooh, shall we say seventy different answers. You see, it's a pretty personal experience. But hopefully, there'll be common themes to those answers. The Billy Club is a growing family of friends, and friends of friends that tends to live rurally, or at least has a soft spot for the concept. We put on gatherings throughout the year and offer workshops of self-discovery. We have outrageous (and sometimes patently ridiculous) talent shows. We explore the world of ritual and transformation. We sit together in heart circles telling tales of love, wonder and personal courage drawn from the rich tapestries of our lives. We go on long hikes, cook meals together and hang out on the porch side by side.

We get involved. We sponsor events that benefit our local communities. We administer the Billy Emergency Support Fund, which receives donations from our Billys to financially assist those living with HIV and other difficulties in and round northern California. We've participated in World AIDS Days, and sponsored bringing the Names Project Quilt to a local high school.

We publish the Billy Times-a quarterly newsletter that lists up-coming gatherings and local social events. The local socials are mini-gatherings, shorter than the main gatherings (usually just an afternoon and evening) and are focused in particular geographical areas. They're great ways to meet and stay in touch with Billys who live in your area.

Is your appetite sufficiently whetted? Eager for more? Then it's time to subscribe to our mailing list. Send us your vital statistics-name, address, phone numbers, e-mail address (if you have one) – and a check for \$25 to cover costs, and we'll squeeze you into our ever growing database. Short on money? Send what you can afford and we'll put you on the mailing list anyway. Our mailing list is treated with complete confidentiality. We will not sell or trade your name to anyone, although we will consider helping you publicize events you're involved in if they're of general interest to the Billy community and you're willing to cover the cost.

We have 501(c)(3) non-profit status, so contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. We have a board of directors that meet monthly to create policy around anything having to do with the Billy Foundation, which is the name given to the collective efforts you've read about in this letter. The board regularly communicates with the Billys through the Billy Times and welcomes all Billys to its meetings.

Feel free to give us a call, drop in at the office, write us or send us an e-mail if you have any questions or concerns. You'll wonder why you didn't do it sooner.

Warmly,
The Billy Club