

THE EULENSPIEGEL SOCIETY™

CANDIDATES STATEMENTS — SEPTEMBER 2010 ELECTION

On Tuesday September 21, the members of The Eulenspiegel Society will again have the opportunity to elect the people who will be directing the affairs of the Society for the coming year.

Being contested in this election are 5 of the 9 positions on the Board of Directors, as well as the posts of Parliamentarian (a non-voting member of the Board) and Arbiter. The Parliamentarian and Arbiter are 1 position each.

Current Positions, Expiring Terms in UPPERCASE BOLD:

Arbiter: LADY VELVET EAGLE AERIE

Parliamentarian: MARK RICHARDS

Board: 007, CATELYNN, JASON, LADY SABRINA, MARY ANN, MICHELE, SIR GUY, THRASH AND WES BARON

There are 12 candidates for the 5 Board seats: Catelynn, Dr. Clockwork, Joe, Lou, Pete Mosq, Richard Cordage, Sir J, Sir Raven, StacyCat, Tara (Button), Thrash, and Wes Baron.

The 4 candidates receiving the highest votes in this election will win 2-year terms on the Board; the person coming in 5th will be seated for a 1-year term.

There are two candidates for Parliamentarian:
Mark Richards and StacyCat

And finally, there is one candidate for Arbiter:
Lady Velvet Eagle Aerie

Please take note of the following important dates:

- Meet the Candidates Night - Tuesday, August 17th;
- Membership Meeting & Elections: Tuesday, September 21st

As is customary in every TES election, the candidates have been asked to each provide a short statement. Following herein are those statements. They are given in alphabetical order, by first name, within each category (Arbiter, Board, Parliamentarian).

Here then are the candidates, in their own words ...

FOR ARBITER

Lady Velvet Eagle Aerie

Esteemed TES Membership:

Two years as Arbiter have not been without some concern for the health and well being of TES. Fortunately issues confronted never reached arbitration level. However there is work to be done to improve our organization.

I kept an attitude of the notorious three monkeys, "see no evil, hear no evil and speak no evil"! Prudent choice at any time, but especially in the internet era. It has vastly altered the way any organization handles private issues. Something occurs, all know and comment with random or no knowledge of the issue.

It is important for all of us to recognize that organizations have by-laws which need time to be interpreted and then followed during a problematic situation and allowed to be used to mediate a difficult issue.

I believe that I can continue to be objective when issues come up. As a TES Ambassador-at-large, I seek to create a positive attitude towards our organization wherever I am.

Respectfully submitted,

Lady Velvet Eagle Aerie

Current TES Arbiter

FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Catelynn

I am Catelynn and I am running to continue on the board after having been appointed in the middle of the board year. I was previously on the board for 5 years, earning emeritus status, but had been away from the active board for several years before I accepted this appointment.

I hope in the coming year to be one of the chairs to run TES Fest, celebrating our 40th anniversary; being on the board helps to facilitate this. I enjoyed being involved in the success of this past TES Fest and look forward to a repeat of that success.

I am also very interested in helping to mentor some of the new members that have started to become involved in TES' day to day operations. We have a lot of new members who are interested in becoming more involved but they need encouragement and guidance to grow in the organization. Areas that I am currently assisting in are IT and Operations.

I have learned a lot at TES over the years that has helped in both the kink and non-kink sides of my life. I want TES to continue so the our newer members can have the same positive experiences.

Dr. Clockwork

I have been a member of TES for the past 5 years, and have seen this organization grow and change a lot in that time. Yet, there is still a long way to go for both TES as an organization, and for the community at large. As TES turns 40 this year, it is mission critical to continue this process of growth and development and not stagnate with the status quo. There is still much work to be done.

If elected to the TES board, I will bring new blood and sparkling insights to a largely incumbent board of directors. It is important to bring new ideas and ways of thinking to an organization as it develops and matures. I will be fair and balanced, bring an air of inclusiveness and acceptance to TES, and will strive for the constant improvement of our beloved organization.

I have thought long and hard about the decision to run for a board position. It was crucial that if I decided to run, that I would be committed to the position and perform my duties properly and without reservation. I have carefully examined my schedule for the upcoming year to ensure that I had the time to devote. As with all board members, personal sacrifices must be made in order to devote the amount of time to the position. I will gladly carry out those sacrifices for the labor of love that comes with giving back to TES, and the community as a whole.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration,

Dr. Clockwork

Joe

I have been an active member of TES for almost two years, attending as many meetings and parties as possible. Several times, when presenters were a no-show, I volunteered on the spur of the moment and will give my first official TES presentation in September. A volunteer for TF09, I took part in the DM Class at Paddles after Michael's community meeting and DM'd a recent TES party. Although I'm not a member of OPS, I frequently help break down after meetings and recently volunteered at Folsom East. I am a guest member of the Socials committee working to be a full member.

This November completes my second year in the public scene. When people converse about "the community" I automatically think of TES but not everyone else does.

I'd like to see TES as the figurehead of the NYC BDSM community and am running for board because I want to be part of making that happen. Through education we will increase our numbers and reputation. The number of continuing topic classes needs to increase. We need to further increase outreach to other organizations and offer our services and education in return for advertising.

My main reason for running for the TES Board is to see the organization return to a preeminent role in the NYC BDSM community, working with other organizations and seeing our membership number rise. I want to see TES once more become the flagship organization it has been.

Sincerely,

Joe

Lou

I've been Operations Chair for a year. It was rough at first. I had not worked a single shift. I was saved by my volunteers. I have worked at TESfest for a long time. I had fun helping plan meetings on the Calendar Committee. Most of you have dealt with me even if just in passing. I have a dedication to the lifestyle and the organization even if I don't play much.

Pete Mosq

12 years ago, I entered these doors and my life was changed forever.

There have been few things in my life that I have been as passionate about as TES. It was that passion that inspired me to run for the board the first time, and it's what inspires me to do so now. The Scene has gone through a great deal of changes over the years, but TES remains committed to serving the community through education, outreach and social activities. I spent 5 years on the board and served the organization in many capacities. I feel my experience, dedication, and work ethic can provide strong leadership that TES needs. Most importantly, the ability to do so without letting personal agendas and conflicts get in the way. I believed then, as I do now, that TES is best served by keeping personal conflicts out of the business of the organization.

I feel that I proudly represented TES and served with integrity, dignity, and pride during my time on the board. I should hope to do so again should you choose to elect me.

I welcome questions and feedback, please email me at: TESMosq@aol.com

Richard Cordage

My name is Richard Cordage and I am running for the board to help bring TES into the future. I currently serve on the Socials committee, served with IT and Promotions, and previously was Chair of Operations. I have held a seat on the board previously and wish to return to serve at the pleasure of the membership.

I have heard a lot from both members and non-members about how this organization needs to change. What TES has accomplished over the past several decades is significant, but it does not dictate the path that the organization must follow into the future. We must respect our past, yet we must also keep an eye on the future by being progressive and adjusting our policies in the best interest of you, the members. The community knows TES for its outstanding educational opportunities, and with this base, it can reestablish itself as relevant and, hopefully, a uniting beacon within the larger BDSM community. A first step could be offering our educational services leading into the parties of, or sharing meeting headquarters with, other groups, to our mutual benefit.

TES must become more efficient and responsive to its membership while operating as objectively as possible in order to move forward. We must welcome new ideas, and discuss them on equal bearing with 'what has worked' to ensure that the benefit is always most for TES. Vote for Richard Cordage and take a stand against stagnation.

Sir J

It is my intention to run for the Board of Directors vacancy in the next election.

I have been in the lifestyle over the past thirteen years. I have supported and attended many TES, LILNR and Paddles events. During this past year I had the opportunity to be interviewed by the board for a vacant spot. My current involvement with the lifestyle is founder of W.N.C.B.D.S.M.P.F.E. group. Simply stated Western Nassau County BDSM for Police Fire and EMS personnel. We have over 615 members. Meetings and demonstrations are held at an undisclosed location for obvious reasons. Our main focus is on safety, training, health and hygiene and most importantly fun. Our dues paying members help support rent, insurance, utilities and light refreshments.

My past career experience that would lend itself to the TES organization would include but not limited to: development, recruiting and retention, event planning, membership, event security, first aid, dungeon monitor, training, operations, project management, parliamentarian and arbitration of contracts.

While I currently have not been able to attend meetings due to personal constraints, I will be able to become a more visible sight within the next two months.

My goal is to introduce the lifestyle to many people in a safe and simple way. A way in which people can easily approach and embrace bdsm as an alternative lifestyle just as nudists and/or vegans approach their way of life.

I take this opportunity to thank all of you for your anticipated support in my campaign effort. I believe that any great organization can only be reflective of its leadership and the right people doing the right job.

Sir Raven

I am pleased to have the opportunity to run for a position on the board of The Eulespiegel Society. I have been a member of TES since the 90s and look forward continuing to be one. I am have volunteered at TES groups as well as contributing articles to Prometheus. I am currently a board member of LeatherfirstNYC and was the secretary for ONYX-PearlNY (which is on hiatus) I also hold the position of treasure for MaSTMetro-NY.

I look to serve the members of TES and help this organization that has for several years has given me the opportunity to learn and grow while meeting some wonderful people along the way.

Sir Raven

StacyCat

I have been involved with TES since I moved to New York City, but I heard about TES for quite a while before. I moved here, joined the oldest BDSM organization in the US, and become involved. I am part of the Promotions Committee, (posting on Twitter), as well as serve on Bylaws and Socials. After watching for a few months, however, this organization seems stagnant, and in need of change.

I am running on three principals. The first is responsiveness to the members. The board should move quickly to address concerns of the members, and not delay for months to answer questions. The board should act as a unified board dedicated to what is best for the membership, rather than a collection of personalities.

Second is openness and transparency. The board needs to publish minutes regularly, so the membership is aware of the current governance of the board. Reports should be easy to understand, rather than hiding information behind confusing statements.

The last is Change. For too long, TES has operated in the same way, expecting the same results, but has seen its numbers decreasing. Electing new faces to the board can help revitalize an organization, while retaining our rich and deep history. A presenter said, "That is how we have always done it should Never come out of an organization looking for growth." The kink scene is growing, and TES should position ourselves at the forefront, rather than in the "good old days."

Tara (Button)

I have been a member of TES for just shy of two years. I have decided to run for Board because in talking with many people, they don't seem to share the same opinion of TES that I have. I come to meetings and events because that is where I have found amazing friends and educational opportunities.

I have always lent a helping hand where I could. This could be picking up garbage after a meeting to washing plates after a party to playing dead at a party (for me to hold still for a few minutes shows how much I care about this group) to coming up with class suggestions, to hosting panels or pinch demo-bottoming. However, I feel it is important to take greater steps to do more to help TES become for more people what it is for me, a family.

I believe I have many skill which I could put to better use as a Board member. I have a financial background from my years as finance head for a college debate team with a yearly budget in excess of \$35,000. That experience was enhanced by the MBA classes I've taken. I have been involved in running large events with attendance of approximately 400 people, overseeing logistics such as registration and housing arrangements to food and social activities.

Thank you,
Tara (Button)

Thrash

I have been a member of The Eulenspiegel Society, and an avid participant in the public scene, for over fifteen years; learning, growing and evolving alongside it. I've helped found and Co-Facilitate the TEC@TES SIGroup with Lady Velvet, presented at TES and worked on every Event since TES25. Chair of the Social Committee, member of the Programs & Education and Volunteer Committees and was a Vice-Chair of the Volunteer Committee, I've been your elected Board Member since 2006 and hope to continue in that role.

I've seen the best of Eulenspiegel, and been witness to some of the lowest points in our history, when it looked like the waves might sink the ship, but TES and its membership carry on, move forward and navigate the obstacles. We've had some tough times in our past but have always come back strong.

TES is in a state of flux right now, a turbulent time of change...also a time of opportunity. The membership of the Eulenspiegel Society will vote to fill five seats, a majority of the TES Board. I see great opportunity for change and would like to continue working for you, for TES, with this new Board, taking advantage of opportunities, changing, evolving.

You know me, you know how much I love TES, how much I have put into it. TES has given me a lot in return and I want to continue giving back. Please vote for me, you know what to expect.

Thanks for your consideration,
Thrash

Wes Baron

I want to start by thanking all my friends who encouraged me to run one last time for the Board of Directors here at TES. I do this in light of a financially successful TESFest 2010 where I was co-chair and looking forward to our 40th celebration next year. I do this to continue to contribute to TES on committees like Programs & Education and Promotions. On Promotions, due to good team work from volunteers; we are getting our calendar to all the locations we need to. The Weekly is getting out every week now and we are making it more readable by including poetry and fiction when we can. We are also producing color flyers for our party events.

On Programming, the calendar is getting out timely and going up on the website even before the print version comes out. Currently, I also serve as Treasurer and every penny spent is reported to the membership.

The responsibility of being a Board Member is more than being on committees. It is protecting TES and the vision that Pat Bond and Brother Leo had. It's securing our home and future. It is about resisting the business model that would have us reduce or do away with our classes. It is about continuing to raise the thousands of dollars that TES does for the NCSF. In order to do this, I ask for your vote again.

I love serving TES and I would appreciate the opportunity to continue.

Wes Baron

FOR PARLIAMENTARIAN

Mark Richards

My name is Mark Richards, and I am running for reelection as Parliamentarian because I can continue to be effective in helping our board and our organization take on the challenges and opportunities facing us in this, our 40th anniversary year.

I look forward to working with all members, both long-time and new, in building on our past and our legacy while looking forward to and working for our future.

In the years I've been a TES member and a participant in the community we're part of, I have seen much of what works as well as what doesn't. I've tried to bring those insights and my energy, passion and skill to my service as your Parliamentarian, to preside over board and members' meetings evenhandedly and firmly.

Details of the experience I bring to the table include, besides serving as your Parliamentarian for the past year:

- long-time Board member,
- Secretary (serving as interim presiding officer and running our annual meeting and elections on several occasions during my tenure),
- SIG co-facilitator,
- chair of community relations,
- representative of TES at NCSF and on the LPN committee, and
- publication coordinator of the last three issues of Prometheus (which doubled as the TES Fest '08, '09 and '10 program books).
-

Summing up, I feel I can continue to serve TES effectively and wish to continue doing so by continuing as your Parliamentarian. To do this, I'm asking for your vote.

Thank you.

Mark Richards

StacyCat

I am running for Parliamentarian to provide a choice to the members of their presiding officer.

The Parliamentarian is charged with keeping order at meetings, and acting as an impartial chair. Board meetings are almost painful to attend, and having an impartial Chairperson would do much to change that atmosphere. While I am passionate about the direction I believe that TES should go, as the presiding officer, I will empower the board to help it run itself. I would suggest that the Board undergo facilitation training, both to enhance the running of Board meetings, but also to better facilitate TES circle. The board could then come to a consensus on how the meeting is to be run, which would facilitate more harmonious meetings. With the autonomy of setting their own rules, the Board is ultimately in charge of how the meeting goes, with myself as Parliamentarian as an observer and guide.

In my professional life, I have worked with local non-profit organizations, and Coalition building. I ran several meetings for a growing Coalition in NYC. I took group facilitation courses as part of my personal and professional development, and constantly seek new and better practices for my clients and myself. I volunteer for TES in several capacities, including Promotions, Socials, and Bylaws