

# 700 Club Restaurant

7pm-till Wednesday-Sunday

## Sliders

The 700, Cheese,  
Mushroom Swiss, Bacon & Blue

## Chicken Sliders

The 700, The Monterey,  
The Cordon Bleu, The Buffalo

## Quesadillas

Chicken, Veggie

## Paninis

Han & Cheese, Chicken Cordon Bleu,  
Philly Beef, Veggie Melt

## From The Fryer

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on

Sunday, January 10, 2010

at

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5:00 - 7:00 PM

FREE ADMISSION

WITH SPECIAL PERFORMANCES BY:

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Opal Masters

Elizabeth Bouvier

Marcy Marcell

Zsa Zsa d'LaHor

Rhonda Roget

Tami Tarmac

AND OTHERS

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## c'est bon ...from 10

finishing up around 5pm, we headed over to catch up with Marty at The Friendly Bar in the Marigny. It was after all, cocktail hour. She still offers her and Rene's 3 for \$5 well drinks or well beer from 4 till 9pm. And do yourself a favor. If you like margaritas, Marty fixes one of the very best we have ever had in New Orleans, so order one. You will find quite an eclectic crowd here from the surrounding neighborhood, and many of them will give you a laugh or two.

Next stop was back in the Quarter at the Home of Southern Decadence, Tubby's Golden Lantern. You will catch the Lantern's newest bartender David serving up your favorite cocktail, wine or brew on Tuesdays. And you're sure to find legendary Winston holding court on the front left corner of the bar. Now Winston can tell you a story or two, or three, or, you get the idea. He's always witty, and quite clever as you will soon find out once you get to know him. This day was a special one for us since we not only ran into Winston, but both Wilhemina and Marleeka were the other two in this fun trio of laughs this afternoon. Honey, once you get them a going, there's no stopping them!

While delivering earlier, we spotted Miss Cowvicky in town at The Corner Pocket, so, of course we had to get there to catch up with her. Many of you youngsters will only know him as Ted Mahaffy from Chicago, but those of us in the know, have seen the real deal, Miss Cowvicky. Hope we can dig up that old, old picture Ted loves so much of him in his cow suit to accompany this column. Now this queen can tell you the dirt on many of the old timers. And that is not a derogatory term. Even now, we believe we qualify to be some of those very old timers since we're a little past that golden age of 50. But getting back to Cowvicky, she used to work over at the Golden Lantern many moons ago and emceed the annual Christmas and Southern Decadence galas and shows at this historic New Orleans bar. And for those of us who can remember, wasn't she a "vision of loveliness"? You had to be there. After torturing her for quite some time, we had to call it a night and head back home to Bourbon Street.

## Hump Day Wednesdays

An unexpected Christmas present was scheduled to arrive between 3 and 5pm. About a week earlier, we experienced a small flood in the kitchen and part of the bedroom on the third floor, traveling down to the parlour on the second floor. Yes, our 17 year old washing machine, simply would not quit filling, overtopping onto the floor. Of course, we did know this was happening until Sassy hopped up on the bed soaking wet. By then, we had quite a

flood. What a lovely start to that day...mopping the floors and blow drying the fur on the ferrets. All of this before we could even get downstairs to the office for work. So we had to buy a new Kenmore just in time for Christmas and were awaiting its delivery. About 4:45 Opal and Darwin arrived to join us for cocktail hour, but still no washer. At. 4:59 the phone rang. It was the Sears delivery team. They were only 5 minutes away. Yea, right. We figured this just might be a case of drag time. Much to our surprise the buzzer rang at 5:07 and it was Sears. That sure was better than 30 minutes or 1 hour late. Amazingly, these guys knew what they were doing. The washer had to go to the third floor and the old one brought down to be taken away by them. They had this new gadget which they strapped under the washer with one side around the neck of the guy on the higher step and strapped to the guy's waist on the lower step. Lickity split, they were up in about 4 minutes, another 5 minutes installing attachments and about 4 minutes down the stairs and out of the building with the old one. We were on our way to cocktail hour by 5:25.

700 Club was our first destination. After a short walk there we ordered our first drinks from bartender Matt. It gave us a chance to talk about the holidays, and the 17th King Cake Queen Coronation. Y'all know Opal will reign as The Parisian Queen. Earlier at the office, Opal had given us her list of invitees to add to our guest list for the coronation. It is by invitation only and admit cards are provided with each invitation. Opal also gave us the list for her ten invited guest to the 23rd Gay Mardi Gras Bead Toss which she will lead February 16th. We are only able to accommodate 50 guest each year which makes it possible for each guest to have time on the balcony, so we invite the last 40. That's why we are unable to admit anyone not invited personally by us. For the first time this year, admit cards will be required for entry to the bead toss. But getting back to 700 Club, co-owner Mike came out of the office so we got a chance to catch up with him on the latest. The hard work of he and partner Matt have made 700 Club the huge success it has become. They both work every day of the week and always have something going on, so be sure and stop in and grab a cold one.

Next stop brought us to Good Friends Bar. There was a lively crowd here getting in the Christmas Spirit. Opal and Darwin had us laughing with some of the antics going on around town. It is so much fun to relax and enjoy the season with good friends. After several rounds we moved on to our final destination.

Close to home, we stopped in at Oz where we found Adrian behind the bar. He's always a lot of fun and has a wry sense of humor. As Dance Club of the Year, you can always find the best in dance and circuit sounds. It's also home to DJ of the Year Tim Pflueger and Entertainer of the Year Coca. This is another hot spot for nightly entertainment with something happening every evening of the week. For those into shows, catch the ones here on Wednesdays and Sundays featuring the Oz Cast under the direction of GM Tommy Elias.

## It's Christmas Eve

Like most everyone else, we had to make a few things for our Christmas Day dinner on Christmas Eve. We made a batch of deviled eggs, our Down the Bayou Potato Salad, Artichoke Casserole, and a glaze for our picnic ham to be baked in the morning. Additionally, we tried our hands at our first homemade sugar free jellied cranberry sauce. We have been trying for a couple of years to get our cranberry sauce to taste like the delicious one from Ocean Spray. It was made with fresh cranberries, Splenda, water and unflavored gelatin. We placed it in our pyramid mode and hoped for the best. By the time we finished, we were exhausted and went upstairs for a nap.

At 4pm we headed back downstairs and out the door for the short drive over to the Marigny. We stopped in to see Juanita at Big Daddy's first. While having a cocktail, Kathy from Little Disseys came in after an exhausting day of cooking on the job, and then at home. Cooking at home is hard enough but on the job and at home, we told her we knew she must be exhausted. After chatting about menus for a few minutes, Kathy left. Shortly she returned, and to our surprise opened a bag and brought out three flavored butters she had prepared - honey butter, Italian butter and blue cheese butter which she gave to us. We thanked her and said we'd put all three to good use. The honey butter we'd use on our brown and serve rolls for Christmas, the blue cheese butter on some prime rib or filets, and the Italian butter on broiled seafood or french bread. What a nice Christmas present!

Cutter's next door was our stop for the bar's annual Christmas Dinner with dishes prepared by the Cutter's boys and many of the customers. The spread here is always incredible, and if there were an award for bar food, Cutter's would surely be ranked right at the top. Since Chris was in New York for Christmas, Mac himself was behind the bar. Dudley and Jimmy were at the front and as we made our way through the crowd, we saw a seat at the end of the bar. There was only one bar stool, so Brett was kind enough to move on the other side of Pat so we'd both have a seat. Everyone was in a very jolly mood, and some definitely had been sipping the Christmas cheer. Pat and Brett had us laughing, and then Kevin came down and said he should have brought the jade plant he and Chuck had growing for us. Lester came in shortly thereafter and he was getting a little frisky with Mac until Mac showed him his Christmas surprise. We thought Lester was going to swoon. More and more people kept piling on in, so there was barely a space left in the place. After partying well over an hour, we decided to get moving since we were also supposed to make it to Le Roundup for their dinner as well. On the way out we got to talk with Chuck and Lea, and snap a few shots before leaving.

Heading back towards Big Daddy's, we saw Wayne go in so decided to stop back in for another visit. Juanita was still behind the bar, and Wayne was due to come on later. The new boss David was also in so we chatted and got a pic of he, Juanita and Wayne. After ordering another drink, Marty and Koo came in. It must have been our night! They gave us each a jar of their famous upside down pickles with instructions to turn the jar over each morn-

ing for two weeks before they'd be ready. Butter and pickles, all in one stop! What else could we ask for. So we ended up staying here way longer than we'd anticipated, so when we finally headed back to the Quarter, we realized we were already hounded and better go straight home and not to the Roundup. Sorry we missed the party Candise.

## Christmas Day

Christmas morning finally arrived. It is one of our favorite of all holidays. With the house all decked out for the holiday, we were in the spirit. Waking up late was a nice start to the day. After playing with the babies and giving them their new Christmas present, a krinkly tunnel, we got them back to bed in their armoire and headed down to the second floor. Here we checked on our ham which we had cooked overnight in our crock pot. It was tender and falling off the bone so we turned it off. We had to get our oyster cornbread dressing and artichoke casserole in the oven. Then we opened the china cabinet and got out Granny's china and crystal to set the table. We placed it on one end side by side so we could see the Christmas tree and the train running on it's tracks near the top of the tree.

Now we had time to open our presents. Santa brought Marsha a beautiful gold cuff bracelet, Rip a snuggie, and both of us the *Julie & Julia* DVD, *The P&J Cookbook*, and *Mastering the Art of French Cooking* book by Julia Child. Also under the tree were seven other gifts. Tom Conners gave Marsha a beautiful initial jeweled necklace and an antique owl necklace. He also gave us a beautiful royal blue jeweled Easter Egg with a spinning angel inside which plays **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**. Opal and Darwin gave us a Waterford Christmas globe which lights up for the Christmas tree and a huge bottle of Riesling. David and Rhonda Roget gave us a lovely fleur de lis wall hanging. Tony Leggio gave us a beautiful ornate red Venetian style bowl from Italy. John and Paul from JohnPaul's gave us a box of those wonderful See's Famous Old Time candies. And don't forget, we got that new washing machine also. Once we were finished unwrapping gifts, we headed downstairs to do a few chores before heading back up for Christmas dinner. Once the oyster dressing and artichoke casserole were out of the oven, we put in the White Trash rolls (brown and serve rolls). After slicing the ham which just fell apart, unmolding the jellied cranberry sauce, and getting out the potato salad, the rolls came out of the oven, and we opened them and added a slice of Kathy's honey butter. To say we had a marvelous meal is an understatement. Everything was just fab, and yes, we finally made a fresh sugar free cranberry sauce which tasted just like Ocean Spray. After lunch, we went upstairs and watched *Julie & Julia*. The move was just wonderful. What a nice Christmas present from Santa.

It's now about time for everyone to be finished with their home and family outings, and time to hit the bars to relax and enjoy Christmas evening. Since Starlight was hosting its Christmas Party and Dinner, we walked down Dumaine to get to our destination on N. Rampart. A festive group was already getting into holiday

[continued on 14]



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## c'est bon ...from 12

mode. The smells of culinary delights permeated the air, and the big screen TV had a roaring fire really setting the atmosphere for this chilly Christmas evening. Paul was telling us about his new golden shoes for Paula Lane. Yes, it had been a good Christmas for everyone we spoke with.

Heading down N. Rampart to St. Ann, our first stop was Rawhide. Here Nate was behind the bar and some of the fellas were in an active game of pool. Did y'all know that now every Sunday, it's Strip Pool at 9:30pm? The winner gets a whopping \$60 in door chips. That's like getting a \$60 gift certificate to Rawhide!

A little further down St. Ann brought us to Good Friends Bar. Spencer and Richie were serving up Christmas cheer behind the bar here. And guess who was in the house? None other than Richie's mother Tammy. She is quite a looker so check out she and Richie's pic in this edition. Isn't it great when your mother is so accepting that she'd visit you at work on Christmas Day?

Then on to Bourbon Street and a stop at Oz. It was Dingo and Princesse Stephaney, in her own version of a sexy Ms. Claus, was headlining the event. Yes, even though it was Christmas, you could still win prizes at Oz for the Friday Dingo Games.

Last stop was to see Frankie who was behind the bar at Cafe Lafitte in Exile. He's one of those bar celebs that is always upbeat and ready to party, so you can see why he had such a happy group of holiday revelers.

## Post Christmas Saturday

Yes, we were some of the crazy's out shopping the day after Christmas. We had planned to have lunch at China Doll across the river, but are you ready? They were closed through Monday for the Christmas holiday. Anyway they're right next to Burlington Coat Factory. We stopped here to look for a heavier Winter coat for Rip. Previously, we'd looked at Dillard's and the coats there started at \$250 up to \$1,200. Can you believe a \$1,200 coat for a man? That was not in our budget. Burlington Coat Factory proved to be a good choice since we found a \$225 suede faux fur lined coat for only \$89.

After having lunch at Piccadilly, we went shopping for evening gowns. Y'all know Carnival season is right around the corner. But today was not to be a successful one. There was nothing that really caught our eyes that would be suitable for ball season.

Next stop was Breaux Mart to pick up a few things for the week and New Year's Day lunch. We always have corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, turnips and black-eye peas to give us some luck and dollars in the New Year. After crossing the bridge and unloading our goodies at home we discovered it was cocktail hour. After all that shopping we were ready to relax.

We glided into JohnPaul's to catch Barry behind the bar. The bar had just opened so we were Barry's first customers. It gave us a chance to visit. We found out that he and Cathy (as in Cathy Fox) were moving right down the street from the club. That reminded us that we had a check for St. Anna's Food Pantry for a couple of auction items we had secured at

Cathy's *Divas Among Us* fundraiser. As Miss Louisiana Leatherette, Cathy hosted the show and auction in cooperation with the Lords of Leather at JohnPaul's raising over \$1,500 for the food pantry. Congrats on a job well done.

Right across the street we stopped in at Leather Bar of the Year, the Phoenix. Wayne was tending bar here, so we had a couple of drinks with him. He's always a lot of fun and was showing us his new camera he'd received from his sister for Christmas. It was the tinniest camera we'd ever seen. Wayne said he'll be able to help us now in getting pics of the action at the Phoenix for *Ambush*. Since there is only two of us, it is really a big help when so many of our friends and the clubs send in photos for the paper. The pics have always been *Ambush's* #1 selling point.

## Saints Sunday

To start off this day, we went to the Marigny for brunch at Feeling's Cafe where we had a gift certificate. It was quite busy so we started with a couple of mimosas, and would end up with a couple of more rounds. Our waiter told us about the appetizers, soup and entree specials. One of the appetizers, soft shell crawfish on a bed of avocado butter caught our attention. In addition to that appetizer, we had the chicken liver pate one as well. The soft shell crawfish was delicious, fried crisp and that avocado butter was to die for with a hint of lemon, capers and green onions. The pate, as always was good. For entrees Marsha chose Veal D'Aunoy and Rip chose Steak and Eggs. Both were excellent, the tender veal grilled with mushrooms and topped with hollandaise, and the fillet a perfect rare with runny poached eggs and cheese grits.

A short walk down Franklin brought us to Cutter's for the Saints vs. Tampa Bay Buccaneers game. It was in the first half of the game and the Saints were already ahead. Right after our arrival, the Saints scored their second touchdown, so the roaring crowd was ready as Mac and Lola went around offering everyone a free shot of schnapps. After visiting with the crowd we headed out for our next stop.

It would be at the Phoenix as the sports queers here were as enthusiastic as the ones over at Cutter's. Wayne was serving up the cocktails, so we grabbed a couple from him. We had to catch up with some of our friends so we took a short walk across the street.

JohnPaul's was rocking as well. Here we caught up with Opal, Darwin, David, Rhonda and Tony. They all wanted to know if we'd seen the Sunday paper. No, we hadn't. They told us the Gay Easter Parade Thank You Party had made *The Big Easy* page by Steven Forster. Steven is always so good to the gay community...thanks Steven! Only planning to stay here a short while, the second half of the game enticed us into staying to what would be the bitter end. We just knew the Saints were going to win today, but it was not in the cards. We still love you boys, but, God please let's win the next game!

Heading back to the Quarter we caught the beginning of Trash Disco at Lafitte's. It was already crowded, but we managed to get a couple of stools by the bar. DJ Johnny Love had us mesmerized with his fab videos, as the whole gang here got into just about every one that he played.

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