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under the gaydar

by Tony Leggio

Email: ledgemgp@gmail.com

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Bartender of the Month

The bartender of the month for August comes from a tavern that lives up to its name, The Friendly Bar. This place is the ultimate neighborhood spot and Steve is just one of the great bartenders that keep people coming back. Steve has been a mainstay with The Friendly Bar for many years and is excellent at his job.

Pleasant, humorous and fast makes him a favorite with the regulars who frequent the bar. And for a neighborhood establishment, your regulars can make or break it for you. Steve helps achieve a Cheers-like atmosphere creating a welcoming and inviting environment for all patrons. One of his strongest qualities is an understanding the area (Marigny/Bywater) and its denizens. Knowing your clientele is just as important as making an awesome drink.



**Bartender Steve Tregre
The Friendly Bar**

Steve's mastery behind the bar and his talent at keeping customers happy is a perfect winning combination for a bartender. He is a seasoned professional who greets everyone warmly. So next time you are in the neighborhood, stop by and see Steve at The Friendly Bar. The Friendly Bar is located at 2301 Charters Street in the Faubourg Marigny.

Fire Up The Barbie!

The Krewe of Armeinius is hosting one special event that is sure to attract all the "Babes in Toyland" as they present their Barbie-Q Party on Saturday, July 16th at GrandPre's. This unique fundraiser will have lots of great food from the grill as well as a crazy show featuring all of your favorite Barbie entertainers. Tickets are only \$10 and the event is from 4 – 8pm. For tickets or more information, go to Armeinius Barbie-Q Party on Facebook or online at www.armeinius.org.

Sarong is So Right!

Join the Mystic Krewe of Satyricon for a scorching summer pool party on Saturday, July 16th as they present their annual Sippin' In Sarongs! This year's fete will feature a beautiful pool on the banks of Bayou St. John, a tropical buffet, a So-Wrong/So-Right sarong contest, a challenging limbo competition and special performances throughout the evening.

The event takes place from 5 - 10pm at 4314 Bancroft Drive, New Orleans. The tickets are \$20. For more information or tickets call 504.723.8964 or go to www.mystickreweofsatyricon.com.

Reminder: Belle Reve Gala

I just wanted to drop another quick reminder for the Belle Reve Breeze Gala on Saturday, August 23rd. The event is sponsored by Avita Drugs in the Big Room at Generations Hall. There will be lots of drinks, a silent auction, dancing and delicacies. Please come out and support this wonderful organization. The patron party begins at 7pm and the gala is from 8 – 11pm. Tickets are \$60 or \$300 for a table of four. The dress is summer cocktail attire. For tickets, go to www.breezegala.eventbrite.com.

Trashy Divas Unite!

The insanely fabulous Big Easy Sisters are hosting a White Trash Bash on Saturday, August 23rd from 7-10pm at Mags 940. These sacred lovelies will make sure you are well entertained. There will also be raffles, vittles (buffet), a White Trash Costume Contest and a silent auction. There is a \$5 donation at the door. All the proceeds from this fundraiser go to The Big Easy Sister Sisters Grant Fund which benefits local New Orleans charities. For details, their mission, or how to join The Big Easy Sisters, visit them at <http://www.facebook.com/thebigeasysisters>.

Next Holiday Halloween!

It is never too early to begin your plans for the next holiday coming up after Southern Decadence – Halloween. And in true tradition, Halloween New Orleans is celebrating the holiday with another awesome party at Apres Lounge New Orleans. Kick off your Southern Decadence weekend with a bang by joining the HNO crew and getting the details on our Halloween weekend events, October 23rd - 26th. Friday, August 29th is all about an

evening of champagne and leather. There will be opportunities to pay your host dues and get more information on our cause. As always, all HNO profits benefit our incredible partner, Project Lazarus. Please remember that Host dues will go UP to \$450 after Labor Day, so be sure to lock in last year's rate. There will be a \$5 cover for non-hosts for this event. The event is from 6 - 9pm. Apres is located at 608 Fulton Street. For more information, go to www.halloweenneworleans.com.

Party Down

Summertime and the living is easy in New Orleans and the parties are just as hot as the temperature. My two weeks had some fun ups and some literal downs. On Thursday, I went to **True Blue Bayou** at the AllWays Lounge. **True Blue Bayou: A Tribute to Linda Ronstadt** was a very entertaining and fascinating cabaret takes the audience through Ronstadt's humble beginnings growing up in Tucson, Arizona through today though song. Dorian Rush who serves as the writer, director and stars in the show is just simply amazing. Her vocal talents are superior as she volleys from the genres of rock, pop, country, folk, opera, and Cajun and Latin music as she sings all of Linda's greatest hits. The show opens with "It's So Easy To Fall In Love" and closes with her famous tune reminiscent of our great area "Blue Bayou."

On both Fridays I attended the Armeinius and Lords of Leather little evening gatherings at their new den on Broad Street. These are two actual social krewes that get together and do social things outside of their krewe fundraisers. And their new den is fabulous boasting an incredible deck out back for evening soirees. It is spacious, well laid out and perfectly designed for entertainment. On both days the parties began at dusk and went on into the nights. It was a relaxed environment for the krewe and supporters to mix and mingle with each other.

Saturday was all about Southern Decadence as Misti Ates presented one of the most unique fundraisers so far to date for the Southern Decadence 2014. She was the driving force behind and the host of Smatch Game. I was lucky to be a guest panelist as Edina to Elizabeth Bouvier's Patsy. Other famous celebs on hand were Carol Channing, Joan Crawford, Margarita Bergen and Reba Douglas. Contestants Arthur Sevario and Persana Shoulders kept things lively as the panel not only answered questions but performed some numbers. The event was a huge success and raised \$802 for the cause.

The next day was a Sunday Funday I am not sure to forget anytime soon. In fact I have a reminder that I will keep with me for the next six weeks, but I digress. Beaux, Barrett and I joined a

group of wonderful guys for a nice relaxing afternoon soiree at the Roget Estate in LaPlace. There was swimming, delicious food and copious amounts of cocktails. It was the most epic pool party of the summer. In fact it was so memorable I decided to make it even more unforgettable by tripping and breaking my wrist. I would love to say I was doing something really glamorous like a high dive, but unfortunately I just slipped. Anyhow, it is not a complete Sunday Funday until someone ends up in traction.

On Wednesday of the following week, Halloween New Orleans hosted a media party at Deveney Communications offices new offices on Magazine Street. The hosts mixed and mingled with local and national media who were in town for a familiarization trip for the city put on by the new Orleans CVB. It is great the city is working to get national coverage for our LGBT events.

Thursday, Renaissance Publishing held their monthly Hobknobbers event at the newly re-opened Pete's Pub in the Hotel InterContinental. This monthly networking event is ideal for making business connections. They also show off some of the city's best venues, like the almost completely remodeled Pete's Pub. The entire hotel is going through major renovations and the lounge is the first completion. The new look is open and modern but still retains its quaint atmosphere.

Saturday was an extremely busy day, which is hampered even more with a cast on one's right arm. Ugh, but I persevered and attended a wedding reception, some cool parties and openings for White Linen Night and the Gay Appreciation Awards. First, in the afternoon, I traveled to the Elizabeth Bouvier Chalmers mansion for the wedding party for two of the Betties (a fabulous New Orleans social group). Lauren and Denny said their I Do's in New York over 4th of July weekend and had the celebration for friends here. It was a fun, cocktail filled afternoon poolside with this great group of guys.

Then I ran home and donned my white attire and off to White Linen Night. My friends and I went to two great shops that held events, Fraques and RePurposing NOLA. Fraques is an ultra-hip men's clothing store on Baronne Street who was serving some refreshing cocktails. They were having great sales that night. RePurposing NOLA is an awesome store that takes scrap materials such as burlap and vinyl creating custom satchels, overnight bags, makeup bags, and purses. I have two of their bags I carry with me wherever I go. I love my "murse." They also served a champagne cocktail mixed with honeysuckle vodka and had two almost nude models displaying their goods. The male one in the window sat with one of their overnight bags placed strategically over his private parts, sexy,

[continued on 34]



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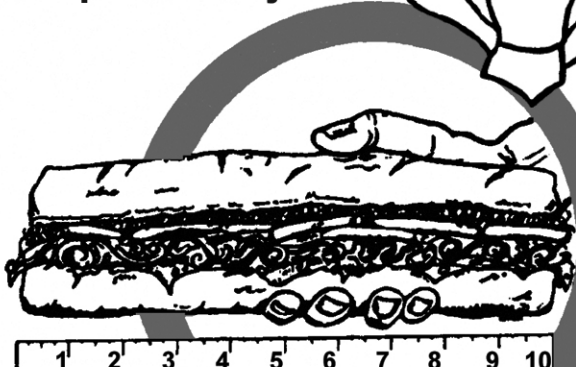
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communities ...from 24

the Kingdom of God. If we are righteous before God as an individual that is great; as important, is being a part of a community that is righteous before God. Then things begin to change because, in community, we begin to have an effect on the lives of its members. We support each other, we nurture each other, we have impact on jobs, just laws, and survival in our urban jungles. It is the body of Christ that compels the world to a righteous place. You say you do not approve of some of your daughters choices: free will. Are they bad choices, does she keep her eye on the prize, does she adapt and overcome or is she self absorbed and inward looking? All of these things add up to a life that is predictable. If you live a life of chaos you will reap chaos as a life. Anyway, I will truly pray for your daughter, you, and Lil.

under the gaydar ...from 32

while the female model lay seductively in a bathtub covered only by white fabric and make-up bags.

After those two stops, we went to Albert Carey's house for his annual cocktail party. There were great noshes and martinis shaken as it was a nice reprieve to beat the heat indoors. Finally we ended up at the Gay Appreciation Awards at Oz. Rip and Marsha once again did an excellent job with this year's ceremony. They had a huge turnout as the community came out in full force. Congratulations go out to all the winners and a very special one goes to Tommy Elias who bright home the Man of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Awards. Tommy is a major supporter of the gay community and much deserving of this honor. I want to send another shout out to Misti Ates, who is one of the hardest working lesbians on the stage today. Kudos to your Lesbian of the Year win. And Persana Shoulders, no one wears feathers or works a stage quite like you, you are a true entertainer.

Until next time, may your cocktail never run out of ice.

To Quote a Queen

Okay, I am truly behind the gun so to speak in admitting that I just saw the Liberace biopic "Behind the Candela-bra." I know shame on me, so to make up for it; my next fabulous Queen Quote is from the outrageous Liberace. He was shameless, ostentatious and lived an overabundant lifestyle, so three quotes I think suit him perfectly.

"You can have either the Resurrection or you can have Liberace. But you can't have both."

"When the reviews are bad I tell my staff that they can join me as I cry all the way to the bank."

"You know that bank I used to cry all the way to? I bought it."

OBSERVATIONS:

A lovely hard working Grandmother was beside herself Sunday. Her granddaughter Lil had gotten a job was learning a new trade and all was well. In the mean time her daughter was looking at unemployment, children to feed and care for, and tried to commit suicide being so overwhelmed. Lynette found herself at St. Anna's on Sunday with all of that. With her was Lil and her best friend Kathy. They decided to take Lil out for a cocktail. Both women straight both women dressing like they had come from church found themselves at Mag's. It was dark cool and it seemed to be jumping with fun. Princesse Stephaney acknowledged them as being part of St. Anna's. How so I do not know nor would I necessarily want to know. But the bottom line is the Mag's group on that day offered Kathy, Lil, and Lynett a time to decompress, a time to laugh, and even afforded them a drink on the house. That, my friends, is the kind of "hospitality" that is taught in true faith. Note: no rejection, no nay saying, not an ounce of discord just good times and best wishes for the visitors from another world. That is GRACE in action.

I am so happy that you guys got a break and enjoyed a Sunday afternoon. Sounds like you needed that. Where is God in the all of this? In the hospitality and acceptance and yes even in the gesture of "free drinks" at a Mag's bar. That is where you saw the face of God. Strange how that works He gave you a break.



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