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## clubs & krewes

by Douglas Minich, New Orleans  
E-mail: [nolaclubrptr@yahoo.com](mailto:nolaclubrptr@yahoo.com)

Carnival has started and so have the Carnival balls. All of the hard work going into the preparations will be sights to be seen for every krewe.

The Lords of Leather are busy at their den in the Marigny building costumes in preparation for their big night on Sunday, February 18 at the Alario Center in Westwego. Tickets will be available from any Lords member. General admission tickets are on sale for \$45 from any member of the Lords and will be available at the Night of the Black Mask Block Party. Ball Captain Lord George H. invites everyone to join the worlds only Leather Mardi Gras Krewe for Bal Masque XXIV as they celebrate "The Great White Way".

The Lords are also preparing for the Annual Night of the Black Mask Block Party at the Phoenix on Friday, February 16. Festivities for the block party usually kick-off about 9pm and run past midnight. I hear that there will be a few extras offered along with the traditional Beer Bust as well. Look for some vendors selling very unique wares in all things rainbow as well as leather oriented and from past experience, just plain cool. Look for bottled water to be sold outside as well as canned beer for those that may not prefer draft. Check the Lords web site, [lordsofleather.com](http://lordsofleather.com), for information on all their events.

The New Orleans Bear and Bear Trapper Social Club and the Cavaliers will be participating in the Block Party as well. Come on over and see what is going on. This is one of the premier Leather and Bear events in the south!

The Krewe of Armeinius is busy preparing for their Bal Masque on Saturday, February 17, also being held at the Alario Center in Westwego. Captain Charles Tuberville has been busy planning and working out the details as well as hosting a 12th Night Party for the krewe. Look for costumes bigger and better than ever from these hard working guys. Armeinius member Jim tells me that they have all been busy throughout the year working on their costumes as well.

Captain Charles also says that "view" tickets for Armeinius are available now for \$15. They can be purchased at Freddy Guest Gallery, 901 Royal Street. Charles also wants everyone to know that they have a new web site, [kreweofarmeinius.com](http://kreweofarmeinius.com) which they are having redone.

Congratulations to N.O.B.B.T.S.C. members and Sweet Olive B&B owners Dale and Dave on a very successful Bears and Bubbles New Year's celebration. Dave and Dale have a beautiful place in the Marigny and are always good hosts for the events. Many of the Bears were also there to lend support and celebrate the year.

Big congrats also go to NOBBTSC for

their new web site: [neworleansbears.com](http://neworleansbears.com). They have put in a lot of work on a great site!

There are several events coming up for in the next two weeks as well. Phoenix Bar/New Orleans Eagle manager Clint Taylor has a full schedule. Friday, January 19th will be a Fetish Party in the Eagle from 9pm till 1am to raise money for Mr. Louisiana Leather Travel Fund as Mark prepares to represent Louisiana at International Mr. Leather in Chicago. A strict dress code will be enforced; you will have to be in appropriate leather, uniform or rubber to be admitted to the Eagle that night. There will be drink and shot specials for participants throughout the event according to Clint.

The Phoenix will also be hosting a Super Bowl Party on Super Sunday, February 4th and air the big game on a new 50 inch television which they will be installing. No telling what else will be on that TV after the game.

The Phoenix is home bar to The Bears, The Lords and of course Mr. Louisiana Leather. Information on events can be found on their web site, [phoenixbar.com](http://phoenixbar.com).

Joey over at Good Friends bar told me he is planning a Super Bowl Party as well. I am sure there will be parties everywhere if the Saints make it all the way.

Our neighbors over in Mobile are busy getting ready for Mardi Gras as well. I am

sure Jerry at B-Bob's will be putting in many hours as Mobile readies for the party. The Gulf Coast Bear and Leather Association has traditionally set up and sold beer and water at B-bob's as well.

Speaking of the GCBLA, I was very happy to hear about their incredibly successful Teddy Bear Auction held in December. GCBLA Treasurer Kerry wrote to tell me about a spectacular night. With over 200 people in attendance at the Roundup in Pensacola, and over 30 bears available to auction, the bidding was intense.

Kerry donated the hottest item of the night, a TMX Elmo. Apparently, "due to extreme demand and poor planning on Mattel's part" these were almost impossible to come by at the stores. The winning bid was \$500 after which the winning bidder generously donated it back to be auctioned off again. The second time around Elmo fetched another \$500 bid and the generosity of the night prevailed and Elmo was donated back a second time fetching \$400 on his third go round. Now that is a great crowd!

Over all, the GCBLA was able to raise \$3,006 for their three charities. This brings their philanthropic total to over \$46,000 in their 11 year existence. Great job gentlemen! Keep up the good work. I know the money will be useful to the charities you sponsor.

Mobile Alabama Pride is also getting ready to celebrate. Mobile Pride's theme this year is "...with Liberty and Justice for All" will be held April 14 - 15 right in downtown Mobile. For a day trip or the weekend, this is well worth your time. Our neighbors know how to throw a party over there! You can get information on the web site: [mobilealabamapride.com](http://mobilealabamapride.com). For those of you over that way, the Pride committee

meets the first Tuesday of every month at B-Bob's. I am sure they can always use another volunteer or three.

Come on out and join the fun. The ladies and gentlemen that put effort into putting on the events I tell you all about don't do it for themselves. It is done for many reason, one of the biggest is to entertain you all.

These and all the clubs are groups of men and women that have some interests in common and some that are varied. Mostly they are friends that support each other and our community.

As Carnival time approaches, and for that matter all the time, have fun. Party hard yet responsibly. Have a great time and enjoy!

### on the boards ...from M-20

**DRIVING MISS DAISY.** Actor's Theatre of New Orleans, WTIX-FM Building, second floor, 4539 N. I-10 Service Road, Metairie, 456.4111 — Alfred Uhry's Pulitzer Prize-winning play about an elderly Jewish widow who slowly warms to her African-American driver. Rebecca Hale directs Pauline Prelutsky, Timothy Bellow and Mike Schultz. Tickets \$16, \$14 students with ID/seniors. 7:30pm Thursday-Saturday, 2:30pm Sunday. Through Feb. 3.

**A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM.** Rivertown Repertory Theater, 325 Minor Street, Kenner, 468.7221 — Gary Rucker directs Stephen Sondheim and Burt Shevelove's classic musical set in Rome inspired by

[continued on Main-24]

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### Perfectly Paradise 373 Broadway

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### Sublime Cottage 3246 Constance

Nestled in a premier block of the Irish Channel, this storybook cottage is the perfect alternative to condo living. Just steps from Magazine & offering details such as gleaming wood floors, 10' ceilings & high end finishes; this 2 year-old renovation is ideal for first time buyer, grad students or use as an in-City pied-de-terre. A charming patio provides a tranquil retreat surrounded by lush landscaping. Come, live your dream here.

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### Notable Marigny 601 Elysian Fields

In a 1973 film interview for Canadian Broadcasting entitled "Tennessee Williams South" this building was designated by Mr. Williams as the inspiration for Stanley & Stella's residence in "A Streetcar Named Desire". Loaded with historical merit and in a prime location on Elysian Fields this property offers HMC-2 zoning, three floors of living and/or business space and unparalleled vistas of the City. Perfect for a combination residence and small, creative business venture. An exceptional property in an exceptional location for an exceptional opportunity.

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### on the boards ...from M-22

the comedies of Plautus. Tickets \$25, \$22 for seniors (55 and up) and students, \$12 for children (6-12). An optional pre-performance buffet served by Messina's is also available at \$18 (reservations required). 8pm Thursday-Saturday, 2:30pm Sunday. Through Jan. 28.

**THE GONDOLIERS.** Louis J. Roussel Performance Hall, corner of St. Charles Ave. and Calhoun St., 865.3037 — Loyola's College of Music and Fine Arts presents Gilbert & Sullivan's Venetian musical of mistaken identities and interlocking romances featuring a professional orchestra and 23-member chorus. David Morelock directs and Carol Rausch conducts. Tickets \$40/\$25, \$10 students. 7:30pm Friday, 3pm Sunday. January 19-21.

**THE GREEN, GOLD & PURPLE SHUFFLE.** Various locations, 891.6815 — Cripple Creek Theatre Company presents a play by Andrew Kingsley and Andrew Vaught about a how campaign for Parks Commissioner of New Orleans is rudely interrupted by David Duke. Call for tickets and details. Through Feb. 20.

**HATS!: The New Musical for the Rest of Your Life.** Harrah's New Orleans Casino, Canal Street, 593.8008 — Inspired by the phenomenon of the Red Hat society, with songs by Melissa Manchester, Gretchen Cryer, Amanda McBroom and Carol Hall. Lynn Taylor-Corbett directs and choreographs Sharon McKnight, Maxine Weldon, Terry Palasz, Carrie Saloutos,

Patricia Welch, Barbara Lauren, Lynda Reed, Cory Elias and Constance Lawton. Tickets \$44-\$69. 7pm Thursday-Friday, 2 and 7pm Saturday, 2 and 5pm Sunday. January 25-April 25.

**IKNOWWHATITMEANS....** Le Chat Noir, 715 St. Charles Ave., 581-5812 — Ricky Graham's back with a brand new show, an evening of good, old-fashioned, real New Orleans laughs and songs. Tickets \$29 (includes \$5 bar credit). 8pm Friday-Saturday, 6pm Sunday. Through Feb. 9.

**A NOISE OF DEEDS.** Skyfire Theatre, 332 N. New Hampshire St., Covington, 985.875.7577 — George Sanchez's comedy based in the Irish Channel and involving the themes of life, death, politics and partying. Rex Badeaux, Gary Mendoza, Lori Molinary, Ray Perrer and others star. Tickets \$25. 8:30pm Friday-Saturday, 3:30pm Sunday. Through Jan. 28.

**THE PAPAYA MAN.** Anthony Bean Community Theater, 1333 S. Carrollton Ave., New Orleans, 862.7529 — A world premiere of Phyllis M. Clemons' romantic comedy. Tickets \$18, \$15 students & seniors. 8pm Friday-Saturday, 3pm Sunday. Through Feb. 11.

**A RAISIN IN THE SUN.** Slidell Little Theatre, 2024 Nellie Drive, Slidell, 985.643.0556 — Lorraine Hansberry's classic play about an inner city family's dreams and aspirations. Will Williams, Joan Spraggins and Judy Faust direct. Tickets \$12, \$5 youth. 8pm Friday-Saturday. Through Feb. 4.

**THE RED LIGHT DISTRICT VARIETY SHOW.** Le Chat Noir, 715 St. Charles Ave., 581-5812 — Jim Fitzmorris emcees a topical revue of gossip, raves, rants and rumors about our political affairs featuring dancing girls and musical guests. Tickets \$15. 11pm Saturday, January 27, February 10.

**STEEL MAGNOLIAS.** Teatro Wego! Dinner Theatre, 177 Sala Ave. Westwego, 885.2000 — Revolving around Truvy's Beauty Parlor in a small parish in modern-day Louisiana, Robert Harling's hit dramedy tells the story of a close-knit circle of six women. Dane Rhodes directs. Tickets \$26, seniors \$23. 7:30pm Friday-Saturday, 2pm Sunday. Through Jan. 21.

**THE SUNKEN LIVING ROOM.** Southern Rep Theatre, The Shops at Canal Place, 333 Canal St., third floor, 522.6545 — David Caudle's play, postponed from last year due to Katrina, tells the story of two teenage brothers, the possibly pregnant girlfriend of one, and their mother who is more concerned with her weekly bridge game than her family. Acclaimed by The Miami Herald as "the best play of the year." Tickets \$15-30, \$16-20 students and seniors. 8pm Thursday-Saturday, 3pm Sunday. Through Feb. 11.

**SYMPATHETIC MAGIC.** Marigny Theater, 1030 Marigny, 948.9608/945.9805/218.8559 — To Do Productions presents Steve Kubrick, T.J. Touns, Lisa Davis, Sharon Clement, Lewis Routh, El Tahra Ibrahim, Fredrick Mead and Jeff Mallon in Lanford Wilson's play. Tickets \$20, students \$15. 8pm Friday-Saturday,

6pm Sunday. January 26-February 11.

**TAKEME OUT.** Marigny Theater, 1030 Marigny, 948.9608/945.9805/218.8559 — Richard Greenberg's 2003 Tony Award-winning play about a gay baseball player receives an encore presentation of To Do Productions and Glenn Michaels' production. Featuring Jason George, Carlos Gonzalez, Steve Kubic, Duck Tennant, Alphonse Bladergroer, Gemayel Holloway, Joe Roybal, Jorge L. Lugo & Steve Patrick. Tickets \$20-\$30, \$15 students with ID. 8pm Friday-Saturday, 6pm Sunday. Through Jan. 21.

**WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA'S WOLF NOTE?** Minicapellis Dinner Playhouse, 1540 Lindberg Drive, Slidell, 985.781.6565 — Don Redman's comedy about a married woman's attempt to recapture her youth and love life. Grace Marshall directs Fred Martinez, Rita Stockstill-Sullivan, Christine Barnhill-Tramel, David Jacobs, Bob Gault and Stephen Cefalu, Jr. Tickets \$35 (dinner and show). 6:30pm Friday-Saturday. Through Jan. 20.

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