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Wed., Nov. 25th, Complimentary Desserts 6-9pm

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thank everyone for a great Halloween!



under the gaydar ...from 10

dinner times and seating charts like other cruise lines. I love this concept. And did this ship have numerous dining choices from the buffet open all day to the poolside grill, to the 24 hour hamburger joint called Blue Bayou. But it also had its share of fine dining, with the Windows and Garden Room dining rooms. In addition to the Italian restaurant they had a French restaurant called Le Bistro, a steakhouse called Cagney's and a sushi bar and Asian themed restaurant called Shogun. After dinner, we went to the opening show in the theatre by Suzanne Westenhoefer. Suzanne Westenhoefer's ground-breaking career as the first openly gay comedian ever, includes appearances on **Letterman**, **HBO**, **Bravo**, **Logo** and **GSN** as well as performances across the US in popular theaters, clubs, and fundraisers.

The welcome show was just a taste of coming attractions for the rest of the trip. Then we all went up to the Galaxy of the Stars on the top deck for a welcome reception party. The dance floor was packed and the music was pumping when the first wave from Ida hit the boat out of nowhere. Dancing took on a new meaning for me as you tried to maneuver your dance moves on a rocking ship.

Again James quipped, "bet you wish we took the life vest class now." My answer was to grab the girls who closely resembled Stella Stevens and Shelley Winters and we climb the Christmas tree. For those who do not understand this reference, rent the movie **The Poseidon Adventure** (and not the new one, that was garbage).

This barrage of swaying went on until

the following afternoon. There were lesbians down all over the ship as the crew passed out Dramamine like chicklet gum. I was luckily spared from getting sick, I guess all those years of drinking taught me how to walk straight when the world around me is tossing and turning.

But after all the rocking of the boat subsided, the sun came out and stomachs calmed and all was good in the world. Monday night was the first of the themed parties which happened every night. Monday was the ever so much fun Pink Party, followed by the 80's Party on Tuesday, which was my favorite one. The other late night parties included a Champagne and Bubbles or prom theme, a Sweet and Sassy theme and concluded with the final night which was a pajama and lingerie soiree. The DJs spinning every night were among the best in the lesbian community, such as DJ's Dirty Kurty, Trina J, Euphoric, Saratonin and Ms. Jackson.

The entertainment aboard the boat was top notch with some of the best lesbian comics around today. First there was Suzanne Westenhoefer who did the opening and closing show. Her final night show was a non-stop, laugh out loud event. I can see why she is in such hot demand. Rounding out the list of the other great comedian were Erin Foley, Gloria Bigelow, Sandra Valls, Kate Mckinnon, Nicol Paone, Jennie McNulty and Amy Tee. All these ladies were funny, personable and I thoroughly enjoyed meeting all of them. I found them all very down to earth, especially Nicol and Erin who happened to be on a few of my excursions, so we got to interact more.

And the comics were not the only entertainers on the ship, there had many

great musicians aboard. My favorite is Jen Foster who has some amazingly refreshing songs. Other talented artists aboard included Edie Carey, Jen Corday, Natalia Zuckerman and Adrienne. There was also some famous directors of lesbian and gay movies aboard as well as popular television and movie stars. I enjoyed meeting the wonderful Jill Bennet who is on one of my guilty pleasures, the show **Dante's Cove**. It is a gay themed soap opera with lots of hot guys in not too much clothing. She is currently in the web series **We Have To Stop Now**, also starring Suzanne Westenhoefer and Cathy DeBuono, who was also on the ship. They actually filmed some episodes. The wonderful ladies from Cherrybomb, a web series on **afterellen.com**, were also filming a few episodes. Picture a lesbian version of **The View**. I was lucky enough to sit in on one of their tapings and saw them interview Dani Campbell from MTV's **A Shot at Love with Tila Tequila**. She is currently making headlines again with the rumor that Tila has now come out and professed her love for the once firefighter. But being the stargazer I am, my favorite sighting on the boat was Meredith Baxter, the mom from **Family Ties**, who was on the boat filming a guest spot on Cathy and Jill's show.

The craziest of all the parties on the ship was the pool party on the final day thrown by Club Skirts which throw the Dinah Shore parties in Palm Springs every year. There were the hottest female go-go dancers I have ever seen in a while along with a wet tee shirt contest. They also had a New Orleans contingent of lesbians on the ship that brought beads with them, so soon the scene turned into

a Mardi Gras bead toss, so you can imagine I saw lots of skin. You have to love us New Orleanians, we believe that beads can solve most of the world's problems (and get us laid).

But my favorite thing about the cruise was the Ports of Call. We traveled to Costa Maya and Cozumel in Mexico, Belize City and Roatan, Honduras. And you know the "When in Rome" saying so I decided to do some of the same tours as the ladies on the boat. Now I like a little adventure, but these women are machines. I climbed Mayan Ruins in Costa Maya, snorkeled over the reefs in Cozumel, went air boating through crocodile infested waters in Belize then fed large iguanas, and off-roaded in an open air jeep in Roatan. For a second I felt like I was on **Survivor**, in fact one of the tours in Roatan was called **Jungle Survivor Adventure**. I am exploratory, but not crazy so I steered pass that one. Gay boys have a different perception of roughing it on vacation. Our idea of adventure is tackling a mall with only eight hours in port and still managing to get in a few hours on the beach for a tan, and trying to score with the waiter serving you drinks. I wouldn't zip line in forty foot tall trees if Tarzan himself was waiting on the other side. Well maybe if I knew he had a margarita waiting.

But all kidding aside, these ports were spectacular. The beaches were pristine and the areas were soaked in history and culture. What Sweet should be recognized for is their eco-friendly stance on vacation. In each port, they arranged excursions where you can help out the local area. It is called voluntourism, where you come on vacation and use part of it to help

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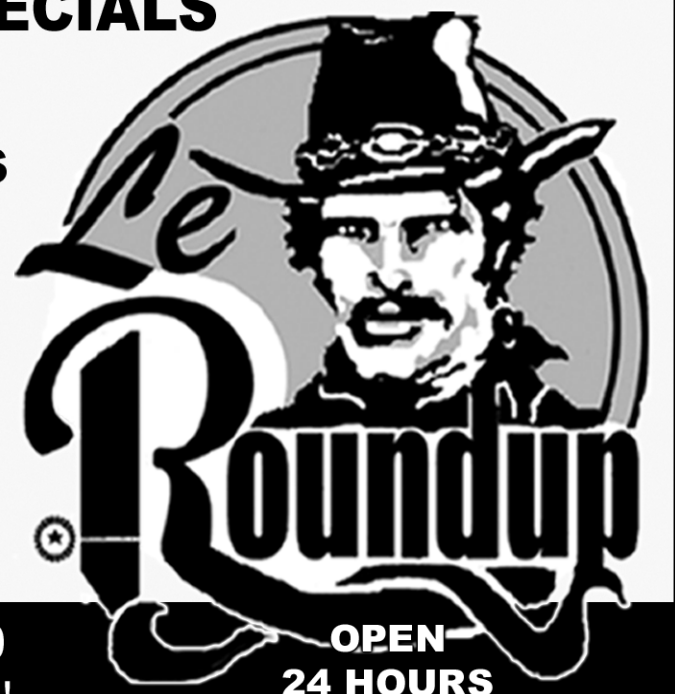
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QUEEN ON THE SCENE

by Nathan Brooks

Email: Nathan@nathanbrooksentertainment.com

Gay Reality TV and Trampa!

Lord if you thought there should ever be a gay reality show, here we go! For everyone who noticed, or those who follow me on twitter (NBrooks2009), I took a small vacation from New Orleans for a week to travel to Tampa, Florida and join the boys of College Boys Live.com. The web site is Big Brother Gone GAY. 14 web cams broadcast the lives of 4 guys in the house both inside and out. This includes their bedrooms, showers, kitchen, living room, well pretty much every where.

During my trip, I was able to meet a great cast of guys and I got a new tattoo on my left wrist. It was a wonderful idea at the time but no regrets. I also got to experience a horrible thing called "Last Call" at

the bar. To think that a DIVA couldn't get tequila sunrise after 2am! LORD JESUS! I was not happy! Oh well it's good to be home!

The Corner Pocket Still Top 10 in the Country

Unzipped magazine has said it again and again! New Orleans ONLY Corner Pocket has been named in the TOP 10 BEST STRIP CLUBS IN THE COUNTRY! I went to the Pocket on Friday to have a little fun on the bar and it seems like you guys can't get enough of the hot boys on the bar as it was PACKED from wall to wall! The boys there on Friday were probably the best I

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under the gaydar ...from 12

out the city. These ladies should be commended for not just their hard work and efforts to aid these communities, but casting a good light on the gay community in general. The volunteers helped paint a Children's Learning Center, cleaned up beaches and helped out in a pediatric ward. Even in New Orleans, they went out to Bayou Sauvage and planted foliage to help curtail the erosion of our wetlands. Now that is "Sweet."

The staff aboard the Norwegian were first-class, from the captain, to Simon the cruise director. But my favorites were Mitch who made sure my glass was never empty and Amin and Timothy from the tour desk. What was also great about this ship is that when the staff got off work, they were able to come to the parties and interact with the guests. And, I just love interacting with seamen. The Spirit also had an incredible Cirque du Soleil style show called *Elements*. This was an amazing mixture of magic and dancing. Walking on a rocking boat is hard enough to handle, can you imagine doing trapeze stunts on one. The dancers also joined the guests at the party, and I was crushing bad on one hottie in particular called Toebin.

But what I am taking back from this cruise, is not just the memories of a fabulous trip, but some great friendships like with Val from Boston and Leslie from Denver. This was a ship with some truly remarkable ladies. Thank you "sweeties."

For more information on Sweet's upcoming tours like their Kenyan Safari in February 2010 and their River Rafting Trip in August 2010, go to www.discoversweet.com.

Holidays Around the Corner

The holidays are right around the corner and this city's LGBT community are ready to kick it off right. The krewe of Satyricon is hosting two productions of both classic and soon-to-be-classic holiday theatrical performances. The first is *White Christmas* on Wednesday, December 2 at Le Petit at

8pm. This show is being hosted in conjunction with several other krewes. Ticket prices are \$30. Next up is *Running With Scissors Silent Night of the Lambs* at Le Chat Noir at 8pm on Friday, December 5. Ticket prices are \$25. For more information on these two shows, call 504.525.4498.

And the NO/AIDS Task Force's premier holiday party, Art Against AIDS, is on Saturday, December 5 at the Shops at Canal Place, which is a great place to host an event. The patron party and ornament sales starts at 7pm and runs to 8:30pm. Becoming a patron this year is better than ever. Not only do you help a worthwhile cause, but your patron ticket guarantees you an original work of art. Each patron will receive one ornament designed by local and national artists from the Patron Ornament sale. The evening will also feature a silent auction, cuisine from the city's finest eateries, complimentary cocktails and stellar entertainment. Tickets to Art Against AIDS start at \$50 and Patron Party tickets are \$200. Tickets can be purchased by calling 504.821.2601.

Petronius' Queer Shopping Network

Even though Halloween had barely come and gone, the Krewe of Petronius kicked off their holiday festivities with their Queer Shopping Network auction and show. Hosted by Bootsie DeVille, the event brought in lots of money for the krewe. The food was good and the show was wonderful with such notable entertainers like Marcy Marcell, ZsaZsa D'LaHor, Tami Tarmac and Cathy Fox. I got some great wreaths and holiday trees which have already been put up in my home. I thought it was time for me to get a head start on the holidays instead of the other way around. For more information on the Krewe of Petronius' upcoming events email kreweofpetronius@bellsouth.net.

Happy Thanksgiving! Have an event or have something of interest to the LGBT community, feel free to send press releases or information to tonymgp@hotmail.com.

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