

# QUEST

MAGAZINE

Vol. 21, # 9, September 2014



**NATE & STEVE ARE MARRIED  
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VENUES PERFECT FOR THE WEDDING  
TIPS ON GETTING THAT RING AND MORE**



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# MARRIAGE - Wedding Venues by Paul Masterson

Many years ago a straight friend of mine was planning his wedding. When I asked about the reception, he mentioned several auditoriums and supper clubs under consideration. The thought of my friend and his new wife celebrating their nuptials in some grim supper club was anathema to my gay sensibility. I suggested a beautiful old restaurant just outside of town. It was a December wedding so the space was decorated accordingly. Situated in a restored country mansion, the restaurant had a circular drive, a grand entrance, a marble hearth, dark oak paneling, excellent food and, above all, a quiet aura of elegance. My friends took my advice. Needless to say, it was a very memorable event.

Today we get to plan our own weddings. Call me old fashioned, but whether for both the ceremony and reception, or just the latter, picking the right site is critical. Nowadays we bump into straight weddings everywhere – bowling alleys, ice cream joints, and fast food restaurants. In the name of some regrettable notion to be trendy, their bride's maids (in obligatory fuchsia gowns) et al. line up for a hot fudge sundae in a cardboard cup. It is memorable, I suppose, but for all the wrong reasons. Mercifully, we know better. So here are some venue tips & ideas to make your wedding a success.

Obviously, the facility should be an LGBT welcoming one. Be sure to inform the owners of just what you are planning and who will attend. Any hesitation should be a red flag. The last thing you want is a place that is happy to take your money but will make you unwelcomed. Another question to ask is whether the staff is informed about the nature of the wedding. Just because the owners book your event doesn't mean that the staff will treat you with the same respect they would give a straight party. An overheard homophobic remark between waiters can ruin the whole event. An easy solution is to go with an LGBT owned business.

Be sure the venue has experience with wedding receptions. Weddings are not conventions or office holiday parties. This is your once-(hopefully)-in-a-lifetime occasion. It has to be perfect. Your favorite bar or restaurant might seem to be a logical sentimental choice but if they have no idea how to run a reception, you'll live to regret it. Depending on your needs, the choice of venue

may be based on its ability to provide certain amenities. Some may offer *only* the space itself leaving the choice of caterer, furniture rental, and all the rest with the client. This opens up the realm of endless possibilities, but, if you're going it alone without a professional wedding planner, coordinating it all can also be a logistical nightmare. Although more expensive, relying on one resource for most or all of your event needs is less worrisome and well worth the extra cost.

Before the venue hunt begins, decide on the amenities you need for your vision and, perhaps more importantly, your budget. A reception can be a simple cocktail affair or a sit down dinner. The more extravagant the event, the more layers of cost and logistical coordination there are to consider. Each requires some thought. Dancing? You need an adequate dance floor, a sound system and a DJ. A full dinner? The must haves include a professional kitchen, wait staff, tables, chairs, linens, silver, and, of course, a competent caterer. Also, be aware that certain landmark sites require special permits for photo shoots. Usually, these are included with a rental but if using the location just for photos, you may need to make prior arrangement and pay a fee. And don't forget – size matters. If you have 100 guests or 20, the reception room has to accommodate them. All the charm of a quaint Tudor cottage locale might be lost on your guests if they don't have enough elbow room to freely move about. On the other end of the spectrum, a huge ballroom or acres of gardens may swallow up your guests and make them feel lost.

Once you decide on the details, the selection of a venue is easier. Larger Wisconsin towns will have a reasonable selection of potential locations. In Milwaukee there are a great number of spectacular spots. Here are just a few possibilities.

Rail Hall, at 131 West Seeboth Avenue in Historic Walker's Point, accommodates up to 270 guests (or 225 sit-down) in its rustic and trendy 4000 sq ft space. It offers a "blank canvas" concept, allowing you complete creative control of the décor and set up. Rail Hall can provide a go-to coordinator as well as caterers, and other services through its preferred licensed and insured vendor list. It also has access to two condos for brides or grooms.



A nearby parking option (with or without valet service) is available. Rail Hall is part of Gravity Marketing, a gay owned company and member of the Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce. Find rates & more info at [www.gravitym.com/railhall](http://www.gravitym.com/railhall)

Another LGBT owned venue is The Hamilton. Located off North Water Street at 823 East Hamilton Street on Milwaukee's lower east side, this space once served as a hotel for cars! It has since been transformed into a wine and cocktail bar with a luxurious special event space for up to 200 guests. Its website at [info@thehamiltonmke.com](mailto:info@thehamiltonmke.com) will provide you with planning details.

The Mitchell Park Conservatory, better known as "the Domes", offers three wonderful environments for your guests to roam. Its horticultural horizon spans from desert to tropical as well as a changing floral show. It accommodates up to 500 for a cocktail event or 275 seated. It has its own house caterer. Prices vary according to time, date and season. The Domes are available for as little as \$375 for a 2-hour daytime ceremony to \$2450 for 7 hours on a Saturday evening in December. Photo sessions are \$61.25/hour plus admission per person. The Domes are just one part of the Milwaukee County Parks system and other sites

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The Milwaukee Art Museum's world renowned Quadracci Pavillion, the iconic Calatrava designed 2001 addition, offers a spectacular lakefront wedding venue that offers it all. Not only are you in a world-class architectural gem, its cathedral-like Windhover Hall seats 400+. With stunning views of the lake and city, there are indoor and outdoor locations of varying sizes to hold a ceremony, cocktail reception, and dinner. You can also be treated to a wing flap in your honor (weather permitting). There's Quadracci Suite for the bride's room. Your rental includes the tables and chairs, as well as the amazing city and lake views and access to one of the nation's top art collections. Catering by Cafe Calatrava is the exclusive food & beverage service. Special events info is at <http://mam.org/info/details/weddings.php>

### The Church Wedding

Although there are plenty of gay priests and pastors in town, it's unlikely any would officiate at a gay wedding. Chances are they wouldn't want you anywhere near the parish for a reception either. However, for those intent on a classic church wedding, there are other options.

Located at 2717 East Hampshire on Milwaukee's upper eastside is Plymouth Church. Built in 1913, Plymouth Church provides the perfect environment for a traditional wedding

ceremony. It boasts Tiffany stained glass windows and a magnificent pipe organ. Plymouth Church seats over 300 in its sanctuary. Its recently renovated reception area features a professional kitchen and room for 120 guests. The attached gymnasium can be used for additional space. Street parking is available with some restrictions. The basic rental cost for the church is \$750 for non-members plus \$200 for the reception area. There are additional fees for the organist and other amenities. You can also bring your own organist with approval by the church music director.

A member of the United Church of Christ, Plymouth Church is an affirming and accepting progressive Protestant congregation. It has been recognized since 1991 as an LGBT friendly community church. For more information go to [www.plymouth-church.org/](http://www.plymouth-church.org/)

For any location, do some research...no, do *lots* of research! Many online wedding websites offer reviews of local venues but recommendations by friends may be more honest and reliable. Above all, visit the site well ahead of making a decision. Rail Hall, for example, offers a weekly tour of its facility. Others arrange tours by appointment. Be sure to inspect the space at the same hour of the day of your event as light and ambiance can change dramatically. A bright sun-filled space may be inspiring but when lit artificially on a dark Wisconsin winter evening it may appear better suited for a funeral. On the other hand, the seemingly romantic ambiance of room lit with vintage sconces will be undone in the glaring daylight.


Make sure your contract covers everything! Here's where the little things matter most. Consider access times, local noise ordinances, and parking restrictions. Remember, if it's a winter wedding, it's Wisconsin! ... there's nothing like a snow storm to make a nightmare of travel for you and your guests.

We've all heard horror stories about bakers, florists, jewelers or other wedding services refusing to do business with LGBT people. The easiest solution is to find LGBT owned services. The Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce now numbers over 150 members. A visit to its website will help locate an appropriate service provider.

Here are some websites for wedding resources:

7 Rivers Igbt Resource Center, La Crosse:  
<http://7riverslgbtq.org>

Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.wislgbtchamber.com](http://www.wislgbtchamber.com)



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# MARRIAGE - Getting The Ring

by Adam Funk

So you've been with your partner for some time now, and things have progressed to the point where you are ready for the next step... Uh oh what do you do?! You are ready for a ring, but where on earth do you begin? Relax, Adam Funk from Diamonds & Gold is here to help. Since 1977 Diamonds & Gold has been helping all sorts of couples get engaged, and they look forward to helping you too. So here is Adam's crash course in buying an engagement ring.

**Step one: Find the right style.** - If you haven't already been inundated with countless pictures of rings or dragged into every jewelry store in town, your first goal is to find the right style. This isn't as hard as it seems, take a look at what your partner wears already. Do they like big and bold, or simple and elegant, modern or vintage, white or yellow? What are the shapes of the stones they like? Of course this is even easier if you have already bought some jewelry (you have, haven't you?). These are all important clues to personal style.

You will notice I have not said diamond yet, don't worry I will talk a lot about them, but I should mention not everyone wants a diamond as their center stone. Some like colored stones for various reasons such as birth stones or to represent some significance in their lives, so be aware of this. Before diamonds were the stone of engagement rings, around the turn of the century, it was customary to give a birthstone in a ring for an engagement.

**Step Two: Find a Jeweler.** - Since I am writing this I can tell you to skip this step and just come to Diamonds & Gold, but why? Sure you can go to your friend's cousin's neighbor, because he'll give you a great deal, he works at that kiosk in the mall that buys gold, but I wouldn't recommend that. You are looking for someone who will help you professionally and will also take care of you for years to come. Remember you have other jewelry to buy; wedding rings, attendant's gifts and a gift for your wedding day and birthdays and anniversary... whoa, I am getting ahead of myself. Find someone who will take care of you for the long haul, stand behind their pieces and offer maintenance when it's needed. Find an established jeweler with credentials. Look for a GIA Graduate Gemologist, and a store or individual who is certified by the American Gem Society. Ironically, I

happen to be both of those things (shameless plug for my store, Diamonds & Gold). This gives you the assurance you are not just talking to a clerk, but someone who knows what they are talking about and will keep your best interests in mind.

## Step three (if a diamond is your choice):

**The Diamond.** - This is the tough part, which is why you need someone you can trust. Buying a diamond is like buying a car. There is so much more to it than "ooh, I'll take that one, it's shiny!". It is a science, that's why people like Gemologists go to school and spend lots of money to learn about diamonds. How this helps you is they can sift through all of the "stuff" and translate it to you in a manner that will help you choose the diamond that is the best value. I am going to give you a quick crash course in the four C's of buying a diamond. Now, this is a very simplistic approach, but it will be a great guideline.

**Color**-To me this is the most important, color is the first thing you will see when you look at a diamond. It is a D-Z scale representing how much color is in a diamonds(excluding fancy colors) D is the top having no color at all and gradually there is more and more until you arrive at Z, which is the most color before it becomes a fancy grade. Stick with something H or above and you've got a nice diamond.

**Cut**-Cut is not the same as shape e.g.; princess, round, or emerald shape, but cut is how proportionate the diamond is, the better proportions of the diamond the larger it will look and the more it will sparkle.

**Clarity**-Is the size, quantity, location and relief of any inclusions in the diamond. No these are not called carbon; the entire diamond is all carbon! Inclusions can be other crystals, or interruptions in the growth structure of a diamond. Some can be pretty, and some are distracting. This is on a sliding scale like color; Flawless or Internally flawless are at the top, and I1 or 2 are at the bottom. Anything that is SI1 or better to your naked eye is free from inclusions and is a nice looking grade.

**Carat**-Is the actual weight of a diamond, and if cut correctly how large it looks face up. If someone shows you a one carat stone, but it looks small that means all of the weight is in the bottom, don't pay for a 1 carat that looks like a 3/4 carat. Carat weight is all about personal preference, what is important to you

and what fits in your budget without sacrificing the other grades.

Many of these will be listed on a certificate that accompanies larger diamonds, but be careful not to rely on a cert too much and ignore what your eye tells you. High color and clarity grade would lead you to believe that it is a gorgeous diamond, but there are other factors that can take away from the value and beauty of a diamond. Things such as fluorescence, poor polish and symmetry, fracture filling and poor cut can drastically change the look of a high grade stone. So, always look closely with your naked eye and with a microscope before you sign on the dotted line.

**Step Four: Buy it.** - Plan Ahead, if you have a romantic getaway and are planning to pop the question, you shouldn't be rushing in the week before you leave. Many engagement rings require the center stone to be set and possibly parts ordered, this will all take a jeweler some time to accomplish. Many of the anniversary style diamond bands, engraved bands, and men's wedding band and engagement rings are made to size and there for have to be ordered as well, and this can take up to 8 weeks depending on the style you choose.

Now, if your ambition is to create a custom ring, or a pair of matching rings then you should plan for even more time. Although custom is the most fun because you will get to design exactly what you want, it can be time consuming. Designing a ring, or rings from scratch and making sure that they are perfect is a big task.

Ignore all the rules about how much percentage of your salary you should spend or what the average size is. Buy what you like and what you can afford, there is no need to break the bank just to impress everyone. Buy a respectable ring that he or she will be proud to wear. No one will be impressed when your fiancé is wearing a 5 carat ring and you live in a homeless shelter and bike to work in order to pay for it.

**Step Five: Ask already!** - Have a plan and do something unexpected and romantic, don't just hand it to her casually or leave it lay for him to find it; you're going to do this one time, so do it right. Don't forget to get down on one knee, remember this is the rest of your lives together, so make it count and have fun!

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# MARRIAGE - Getting Groomed

by Jason Mitchell



Jason Mitchell serves as the Wedding Planner for Shiraz Events in NYC. Previously he served as the Event and Banquets Manager at the members-only Soho House New York where he designed, planned, and ran everything from awards-show parties to fashion shows and their annual Halloween party. He was known as their in-house wedding expert.

In addition to his work in events Jason is an accomplished playwright. His most recent work, *THE BOYS UPSTAIRS*, is a comedy about sex, dating, relationships and all the blurry lines in between. *THE BOYS UPSTAIRS* premiered in the 2009 New York International Fringe Festival where it played an entirely sold-out run and received critical praise including: "Did Tina Fey lend a hand in the script? It's that clever." In 2011 the Fringe Festival, which produces 200 plays annually, invited *THE BOYS UPSTAIRS* to be part of its 15th Anniversary Series honoring the top 15 shows of 15 years. *THE BOYS UPSTAIRS* was recently presented as a workshop at the Celebration Theatre in Los Angeles.

## Examples of Jason's Tips for Gay Grooms

### Finances

Figuring out who pays for what at a male same-sex wedding is always tricky as there are no established etiquette rules to follow. Even if your parents knew you were gay since childhood, chances are they didn't think to save for your wedding day. My best suggestion is to talk to each set of parents, and see to what extent they can and want to be involved. If you think it's hard for you to figure out how to plan your own gay wedding, trust me your parents will be even more confused as to what their roles are and what you expect of them. Communication is key!

### Invitations

Wording your invitations is another common challenge for same-sex couples. Know that the only rule is that your invitation communicates exactly what you want to say to your guests. Is the wed-

ding being thrown by you, your parents, or a combination? Based on that balance you can figure out the name order, if you're including your parents' names at all. Does the whole Mr. & Mr. feel odd to you? Just using first names on invites is a wonderful way to go, and it speaks to your guests in a less formal way. Do you live in a state that recognizes same-sex marriage? If you're not you can call your event a commitment ceremony, or forgo naming it altogether. Always make it clear to guests what they should wear and what they should expect, such as dinner and dancing to follow, or cocktail and appetizers.

### Rings

To ring or not to ring? This iconic wedding tradition might be fitting for you. Some grooms get both engagement rings and wedding bands, while others don't have either. Don't want two rings? You can always select wedding bands and wear them on your right hand before your wedding. You can also celebrate your engaged status with matching watches, tattoos, or even a new piece of art for your home.

### Fashion

Deciding what to wear is tough, but one of the most fun challenges you'll have to face. I recommend using your wedding as an excuse to buy something new, and it should be a special treat. Start looking well in advance to avoid the shopping stress. The best news is it's something you can re-use unlike a wedding dress. Some grooms match from head to toe, while others go for looks that have individual personality but complement each other. If one of you wears black and the other white, be prepared for some jokes about being the bride. Your personalities should be represented in your wedding fashion, and if one of you is more bold or understated than the other let that flourish. Most importantly make sure you find something you feel wonderful in and can pull off. You want to look back at your wedding photos and say "We looked great!" rather than "What were we thinking?"

### Ceremony

Staging your ceremony processional is a typical challenge for gay grooms. Who goes last? If the

order of how you walk down the aisle doesn't feel obvious to you, there are other options. Some have the parents walk down first and the grooms walk in together. Others create a floor plan that allows for two aisles. There can also be more unique timelines to your event to solve this. You can begin your wedding with cocktails and appetizers, and then have an officiant gather everyone around the two of you, skip the aisle altogether, and conclude the ceremony with dinner.

### First dance

Does the idea of waltzing romantically in front of all your guests give you anxiety? You're not alone here. While this tradition is honored by many gay grooms who want this sentimental moment, others are opting for up-beat dance hits. This takes the pressure off everyone viewing your intimate moment, and allows all of your guests to join in and have fun with you.

### Menu

Eat and drink the wedding through your guests' taste buds. Pick a menu that is creative and unique but not too alienating. Cocktail hour is a great opportunity to go a bit more extreme with foods. You can serve mini versions of your favorite indulgences, dishes you shared on your first date, or items from your cultural heritage. Always feature one or two specialty cocktails. This helps prevent a huge line at the bar and tells your guests something about you. Make sure it's seasonally appropriate, and that it won't knock your guests out before dinner. If you don't have personal favorites you want to feature, opt for something refreshing and classic that will be a crowd pleaser such as the St-Germain cocktail – a lower proof mix of sparkling wine, club soda and the artisanal French liqueur – it's always a winner! Plus, the gorgeous belle époque St-Germain bottles never fail to enhance a room's décor.



**Dr. Kirsten Franke**

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Variation: Think of Sartre circa 1947. Be the lemon twist.



### **La Rosette**

½ part St-Germain

Top with Brut Rosé

Method: Serve in a flute glass and garnish with a strawberry.

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Steve Vargas had been a contributing photographer to Quest over the years especially during PrideFest. Therefore we were thrilled Steve Mathis-Vargas and his partner Nate Mathis-Vargas were gracious to allow Quest to use their recent wedding images for our cover and wedding feature.

Special thanks also to the photographer Stacy Kietzer.

**Are you planning a wedding soon?** Perhaps you have already had one. If you would like to share a few images with Quest readers from your wedding, make sure you have written permission of the wedding photographer and send permission and images to Quest. We can't reproduce all of them, but we will try to share as many as we can! Email: [editor@quest-online.com](mailto:editor@quest-online.com)





Loyal **Quest** readers are to be forgiven if they are under the assumption that Glenn rules the monthly cinema night with an iron fist. Naturally Glenn endeavors to screen only the best new DVD releases for his guests as well as for loyal **Quest** readers since these humble little get-togethers often prove fodder for Glenn's reviews.

And yet sometimes Glenn's ever excellent suggestions are tossed right out of the window, baby, bath water... well, surely you get the idea.

Such is the case with the curious selection of **Oy Vey! My Son Is Gay!!**

General consensus had that **Oy Vey! My Son Is Gay!!** would most likely be gloriously awful and yet hilarious; who, after all didn't love Fran Drescher's wacky family on **The Nanny**?

Who, indeed!

In fact, director Evgeny Afineevsky's screenplay, shamefully, owes its very narrative existence to **Norman... is that You?** (1976), a big screen vehicle for then popular sit-com star Redd Foxx (**Sanford and Son**). The cast also included Pearl Bailey, gorgeous pre-**Hill Street Blues** Michael Warren and the fabulous Wayland Flowers (and Madame).

After his wife leaves him and skedaddles down to Mexico with his brother in tow, Ben Chambers (Foxx) boards the bus in Tucson and heads out to visit his son. Arriving at the ungodly time of 7:30am, he wakes up/surprises Norman (Warren) and Norman's flamboyant boyfriend Garson (Dennis Dugan). Norman insists Garson vacate the premises pronto until he can find a way to tell his father he's gay, something that he clearly doesn't want to do.

The secret gets out soon enough; don't they always?

Much hand-wringing ensues before Ben hits upon the obvious solution: a hooker. Enter Audrey (Tamara Dobson, **Cleopatra**

## NEW ON DVD **Oy Vey! My Son Is Gay!!** By Glenn Bishop



**Jones**), not perhaps standard issue but still a whore with a heart of gold.

Curiously, **Norman... is that You?** originated on Broadway in 1970, albeit boasting a mere 12 performances, but featuring a nice Jewish family.

Sometime between the cocktails and the serving of the canapés, Glenn and his cinematic circle must have actually fallen headfirst into some bizarre time warp. Despite the 30-plus years since **Norman... is that You?**, every imaginable gay stereotype since the dawn of pop culture and then some have been dusted off and brought front and center for **Oy Vey! My Son Is Gay!!**.

How thirty-something gay couple Nelson (John Lloyd Young) and Angelo (Jai Rodriguez) have managed to keep their relationship and their living arrangements a secret from Nelson's mother Shirley (Lainie Kazan) is anybody's guess. Even then the cat is nearly out of the bag when Shirley pays her son a surprise visit; happily she confuses boyfriend Angelo as the decorator and gal pal Sybil (Carmen Electra) as Nelson's girlfriend.

Nelson just wants to keep his and Angelo's relationship a secret until he can find a way to tell his father mother he's gay, something that he clearly doesn't want to do.

When Nelson finally comes out, parents

### Watch it, DVR it, or forget it...

At best, Glenn hoped that **Oy Vey! My Son Is Gay!!** might have been patterned after an episode of **The Nanny**, the 1990s sit-com on which Lainie Kazan occasionally guest starred. Perhaps, for instance, Benjamin Salisbury's Brighton might have come home after college with his cute Jewish boyfriend in tow; Renee Taylor's delightful Sylvia and of course Ann Morgan Guilbert's incomparable Grandma Yetta would, of course, be on hand. Alas not.

Writer/director Evgeny Afineevsky surely envisioned creating another **My Big Fat Greek Wedding** or at the very least another **Mambo Italiano** or the equally worthy **A Touch of Pink**. Few if any involved will should consider **Oy Vey! My Son Is Gay!!** amongst their finer efforts.

Full disclosure: Although Glenn would put **Oy Vey! My Son Is Gay!!** squarely under "forget it," members of Glenn's cinematic circle were, for the most part, far more generous in their appraisal.

You, loyal **Quest** readers are encouraged to decide for yourselves.

### Just the facts...

**Oy Vey! My Son Is Gay!!** clocks in at 91 minutes  
**Oy Vey! My Son Is Gay!!** is available on DVD,  
SRP: \$24.99

Plenty of DVD extras including Outtakes, Audience Responses and Montreal World Premiere Footage  
All about **Oy Vey! My Son Is Gay!!** @  
<http://oyveymysonisgay.com/>

Shirley and Martin (Saul Rubinek) react horribly. Sent on something of a reconnaissance mission to the local gay bar, Martin barely has a drink in his hand before a parade of the most hackneyed gay stereotypes proceed to hit on him, one right after another.

Once there, he spies Uncle Max (Bruce Vilanch) who no one in the family suspects is gay. Ridiculous.

Much hand-wringing ensues before Ben Martin hits upon the obvious solution: a hooker, Nelson's gorgeous neighbor. Enter Audrey Sybil, not perhaps standard issue but still a whore gal with a heart of gold. Failing to convince Sybil to try to make a man out of his son, Martin proceeds to launch himself on her, a seduction scene that must seemed far funnier the page than it proved on the screen.

For her part, Shirley has an "Oy Vey!" always at the ready.

Sadly, laughs are few.

## MILWAUKEE'S BOULEVARD THEATRE PRESENTS CONCERT STAGING OF RODGERS & HART'S MUSICAL COMEDY "PAL JOEY"

On September 26, 27 and 28 (Friday @ 7:30, Saturday @ 7:30, & Sunday @ 2:30 pm, respectively), Richard Rodgers & Lorenz Hart's Broadway classic PAL JOEY will be presented in conjunction with the South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center (located at 901 15th Avenue in South Milwaukee). A concert staging (performers holding scripts, but acting and singing "full out") of this "show business musical" cleverly utilizes this elegantly appointed yet underused South Milwaukee facility's backstage area, re-visioning Boulevard's patented intimacy with verve and delight.



Directed by noted local director and performer David Flores, the production will also enjoy the talents of music director Donna Kummer. This impressive cast features Milwaukee's favorite leading man Marty McNamee in the title role of romantic cad "Joey" and showcases Skylight Music Theatre singer and performer Diane Lane as the sensually carnal "Vera."

America's beloved musical team of Rodgers & Hart created classic touchstones of Broadway shows such as THE BOYS FROM SYRACUSE and crafted eternal classic songs like MY FUNNY VALENTINE. With PAL JOEY, their talents reached a pinnacle of skill.

This naughty tale tells of a romantic cad ("Joey," winningly played by Marty McNamee) who woos both an earnest young woman who believes in him ("Linda," portrayed with charm by Alexandra Bonesho) and also pursues a very married and very wealthy matron (the frank and frolicsome "Vera," brought to rollicking life by Diane Lane).

Other talented performers in this veritable "armada of artistry" include: Liz Norton, Ben George, Liz Mistele, David Ferrie, Amanda Garry Aliperta and Jon Stewart. This "sure-to-succeed" production will be stage managed by Erin Eggers.

FMI about the production's dates, times and ticket prices and availability visit the SMPAC website at: [www.southmilwaukee.org](http://www.southmilwaukee.org) or call their box office at 414.766.5049. The SMPAC may also be reached by faxing 414.766.5005 or by emailing the SMPAC @ [pacboxoffice@sds.mil.wi](mailto:pacboxoffice@sds.mil.wi).

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# LGBT SPORTS THRIVE IN MILWAUKEE

by Paul Masterson

Founded in 2011 Milwaukee Gay Sports Network (MGSN) serves as an umbrella organization for Milwaukee's LGBT athletics. According to its current director Peter Nys, MGSN's mission is three-fold: it provides a hub for the various Milwaukee sports leagues and organizations, supports the development of new sports groups, and raises funds for its member organizations that need financial help. MGSN maintains a website and a Facebook page. For a \$50 annual fee members can use MGSN website and social media to recruit players, post schedules, announce special events, and update team information. "Our website is available to everyone searching for sports connections in Milwaukee. Even if you have never played a sport, our teams welcome everyone and offer the opportunity to learn. Bowling got 8 new players through the site. Facebook keeps up to date with information and other postings," Nys said.

Currently, there are a dozen groups in MGSN. These include Basketball, Bowling, Darts (summer and winter), Volleyball, Softball, Soccer, Tennis, GAMMA, Milmaids charity bowling tournament, and the Holiday International Tournament (HIT). MGSN also provides consulting and guidance to anyone interested in establishing new sports leagues. "We offer advice by experienced people as well as the outreach resource of the website and social media to help find players. Our all-volunteer board is made up

of representatives from the various sports so they are well versed in the mechanics of running an athletic club. They can also help a new group find a venue and otherwise assist in getting them up and running. Right now there's interest in swimming and diving, kickball, and football," Nys explained.

Fund raising is also an integral part of the mission. "Throughout the year we hold 3 or 4 events to raise money. All are opened to the public. We just had a very successful Brewers outing with over 40 participants. We're planning a trip to see the Brew City Bruisers in October and, in January 2015, we have a Ham-Bingo fund raiser at Hamburger Mary's. The Big Gay 5K Run raises money for ARCW's AIDS Walk. The others events' proceeds stay within organization. This year we gave a check to Saturday Softball Beer League to help defer the cost of trophies awarded at its end of season party."

"LGBT athletics are thriving in Milwaukee. The MGSN's idea is to give the community a healthy alternative, either by playing or attending games, to meet like minded people. The best thing about our members is the diversity of the participants. We have mixed teams that span the spectrum of skill level, sexual orientation, gender, age and ethnicity. All someone has to do is join in, and most of all, have fun"

For more information visit  
<http://milwaukeegeaysports.com>

## MILWAUKEE GAY ARTS CENTER ANNOUNCES AUDITIONS FOR THE SEANCE PROJECT, IN HONOR OF WORLD AIDS DAY Conceived & directed by Peter Mortensen

Auditions: 6 – 9pm,  
Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2014 and  
6 – 9pm, Thursday, Sept. 18, 2014

Callbacks: 6pm, Thursday, Sept. 18, 2014

Audition Location: Montage (upstairs from La Cage, 801 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Milwaukee)

Performances: Final Weekend in November

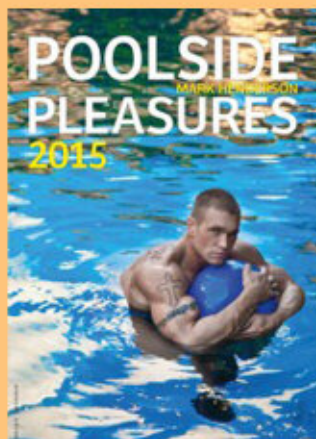
The Séance Project is a conceived as a collage of spoken word, music and theatre drawn from the works of gay artists lost to the AIDS epidemic. Ensemble will consist of 5 to 8 men roughly 25 to 55 years of age, and one woman between 45 and 60. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the texts under consideration, as well as a vocal audition.

Please provide a resume and headshot if you have one. If you do not have a head shot, a digital photo will be taken of you before you sign in. Be prepared to list any conflicts you might have during the rehearsal and performance period at the auditions.

For additional information and to schedule an audition, please contact the Séance Project at: [seanceproject@gmail.com](mailto:seanceproject@gmail.com) or by telephone: (414) 301-3123.

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# MILWAUKEE LGBT FILM FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 16-26, 2014



## — OPENING NIGHT! —

**Thursday, October 16, 7:30pm**

Oriental Theatre

### **BLACKBIRD**

Patrik-Ian Polk's lively and moving coming-of-age story of one high school student's coming out in the evangelical, American South.



## — CLOSING NIGHT! —

**Sunday, October 26, 7pm**

UWM Union Theatre

### **52 TUESDAYS**

The compelling drama of a year – 52 Tuesdays in fact – in the life of a parent and teenage daughter as the mother starts to transition from female to male, and daughter gains her footing as an adult.

The Festival is presented by the UWM Peck School of the Arts Film Department and made possible thanks to Festival Sponsor Joseph R. Pabst.

Complete schedule and tickets  
information can be found at  
[arts.uwm.edu/lgbtfilm](http://arts.uwm.edu/lgbtfilm)

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# BOUND MAGAZINE

Volume 13 #9 September 2014



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# Welcome to Ruthie's Bitchin' Kitchen



I love September, and not because it's time for all of those little pool-hogging, mall-walk-ing, sidewalk-stealing kids to go to back to school. Okay... I lied. That is why I love Sep-tember, but I also love it because there are so many great pre-fall things to do. And by that I mean Packers to back, sweatshirts to wear and casseroles to eat.

Between cheering on my favorite tight ends, partying my brains out and filling my pie hole with casseroles, chili and more, my social calendar is loaded with autumn antics. For in-stance, get your groove on with a tea dance and salute to the seventies at the September 7th BestD Clinic 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party. I'll be shaking my groove thing at the High Hat Garage with a 5:00 disco and a kick-ass drag show at 9:00, featuring me, Karen Valentine, Shawna Love and others.

Similarly, you don't want to miss the Bay View Bash on September 13. The popular street party features beer tents, live music, food, vendors and more. Don't miss me and my gal-pals as The Girls of Hamburger Mary's strut their stuff at two shows at 6:00 and 7:00 pm.

Speaking of Bay View and Hamburger Mary's, the burger haven brings Halloween to Wis-consin early with the Zombie Apocalypse Charity Pub Crawl on September 27! Join me as we storm the bars along Kinnicknic Avenue with proceeds going to AIDS Walk Wisconsin and Ruthie's Kennel Club. The crazy night ends with the Monsters Ball at The Backyard bar.

Last year about 200 zombies hit the streets on the walking pub crawl, so don't miss the fun this year! Registration begins at Hamburger Mary's at 3:30, but swing by the restaurant now and get your tickets at a discount.

I can't wait! I also can't wait to start chowing down all of those comforting fall favorites I've been dreaming about all year. That said, let's head into the bitchin' kitchen and try some recipes just perfect for September. Cook some up, strap on a bib and then eat good and shut up!

## COWBOY BEANS 'N' BALLS

*Who doesn't love a cowboy?! Show your love for cowpokes with a slow-cooked favorite with a twist. This feeds a lot, so it's great for bring-a-dish parties hosted by a-holes too cheap to treat everyone to food. Enjoy!*

- 14 frozen fully-cooked meatballs, thawed (from 24-oz package)
- 2 (28 oz) cans baked beans
- 2 (16 oz) cans kidney beans, rinsed
- 2 (15 oz) cans pinto beans, rinsed
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 (4 oz) can mushroom stems & pieces, drained
- 1 cup barbecue sauce
- 1/2 cup spicy brown mustard
- 1/4 cup steak sauce

Spritz a 6-qt. slow cooker with nonstick cooking spray. Add meat-balls to slow cooker. (Freeze other meatballs for future use.) Top with beans, onion and mushrooms.

In a bowl, combine the remaining ingredients. Pour into slow cooker. Cover and cook on low for 8 hours or until heated through.

*Ruthie tested this recipe with A1 Steak Sauce.*

## Ruthie's Culinary Clues

Feel free to get creative with this recipe, but note that your slow cooker will be full. If you add ingredients, you may have to cut back on something else. This makes a lot, but leftovers freeze well for last minute parties, dinners and tailgates.

## BITCHIN' SPINACH PASTA BAKE

*You've got to try this dish to believe it! That's it. That's all I'm saying. It's that friggin' good!*

- 3 cups uncooked rigatoni
- 1 pound bulk Italian sausage
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 (4.5 oz) jar sliced mushrooms, drained
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 (14-1/2 oz) can Italian diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 (10 oz) package frozen creamed spinach, thawed
- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 2 cups shredded six-cheese Italian cheese blend
- Grated Parmesan cheese



# 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Turnabout Show

The night where ICON staff & guests  
strap on their high-heels to  
raise money for Holton Street Clinic  
& AIDS WALK Wisconsin!

## CLUB Icon



### Saturday October 4th

Event begins  
with a meet & greet  
at 9:00 pm

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Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cook the pasta as directed on the package. Meanwhile, use a large, deep skillet to brown the sausage with the garlic, mushrooms and onion until sausage is no longer pink. Drain. In the same skillet, stir in tomatoes, spinach, cream cheese and 1 cup Italian cheese blend. Drain pasta; add to sausage mixture. Transfer to an 11x7-inch baking dish, spritzed with nonstick cooking spray. Cover dish and bake for 40 minutes. Uncover and top with remaining cup of Italian cheese. Bake 10 minutes longer or until cheese is melted. Sprinkle with grated Parmesan cheese before serving.

#### Ruthie's Culinary Clues

I like using rigatoni for this dish, but you really could use any tube pasta you have on hand. I wouldn't recommend spaghetti or shells, however. Swap out the plain cream cheese with the garden-flavored variety if you'd like.

#### MAC & CHEESE & PIZZA

*How the hell can you go wrong with a bubbly casserole made of macaroni and cheese...and pizza fixings? You can't! This casserole comes together easily and is sized-right for smaller households.*

1 (14 ounce) package deluxe macaroni and cheese dinner mix  
1/4 cup sour cream  
1 (14-1/2 ounce) can petite diced tomatoes, drained  
1 (8 ounce) can pizza sauce  
1 (4 ounce) can mushroom pieces and stems, drained  
Pepperoni slices (from a 7 ounce package)  
1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese  
Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cook macaroni and cheese dinner according to the box's directions. Drain; return to the pot. Stir in the contents of the cheese packet and the sour cream. Pour into a 9x9-inch baking dish spritzed with nonstick cooking spray. Combine the tomatoes and pizza sauce in a bowl; spread over macaroni mixture. Layer with mushrooms and pepperoni. (Refrigerate remaining pepperoni for another use.) Top with cheese. Bake, uncovered, for 30 minutes or until bubbly. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese before serving.

#### Ruthie's Culinary Clues

Jazz up this comforting bake with your favorite pizza toppings. Replace the pepperoni with cooked sausage or substitute the mushrooms with chopped onions. Toss in a handful of black olives, chopped green peppers or whatever floats your boat on pizza night!



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Created by 21mg of Cheese

Have a recipe you'd like to share with Ruthie? Email her at [DearMsRuthie@yahoo.com](mailto:DearMsRuthie@yahoo.com). If she publishes your recipe, you'll get a free Bitchin' Kitchen T-shirt. Don't miss Ruthie's cooking show at [www.RuthiesBitchinKitchen.com](http://www.RuthiesBitchinKitchen.com).



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## Cordially Yours by Michael Johnston

Why does "See You In September" not only remind me of a 1960's Pop tune, but always sound so far off? Whether we like it or not, September is once again here and it's time for my "September Song"! Summer is waning, fall will soon be here! I don't know about you but the passage of time seems so fast and out of control...

I owe all of you, my gentle Readers, a huge Thank You and Happy Anniversary! We've just completed our 15<sup>th</sup> year of being "Cordially yours," and entering Season 16, our Sweet Sixteenth! My gratitude to you for reading and allowing me to share your story!

Fashion Maven Timothy Westbrook and his Studio are presenting "Unis", the Origin of the Unicorn at The Charles Allis Art Museum 1801 North Prospect Avenue [www.cavtmuseums.org](http://www.cavtmuseums.org) (414-278-0335) Wednesdays - Sundays 1 - 5 pm through Sunday, September 28. The celebration of unicorns, fashions and the grandeur of the Charles Allis are all worth a visit. Congratulations to Timothy Westbrook for an impressive Opening Night bacchanal which naturally included a Fashion Show! Everyone was at the Opening - including Shelby Keefe, Trixie Mattel, Alexis Rose, Michael Keiley and Timothy's mother Susan who flew in from upstate New York. The whirlwind weekend included a Surprise Birthday Party for the mother of the creative dynamo! Timothy has also landed a position with The Milwaukee Ballet, where his vision can be appreciated by an even larger audience!

Labor Day Weekend - - Sunday, August 31 The Dairyland Classic will be taking place here in old BrewTown. We will have softball players from all over playing ball and playing in our city. Make them feel welcome and take part in the finale including an awards presentation and entertainment at La Cage. This year Brian Reinkober has been inducted into the NAGAA (North America Gay Amateur Athlete Alliance) auspicious Hall of Fame. Bravo! Brian has secured the talents of acclaimed cabaret star Jimmy James, impersonator/singer of "Fashion-ista" to entertain. While this party is celebrating the successful summer season of softball - all our welcome and it's opened to the public. I can't think of a better way to say ta-ta to the summer...

What a ball I've had this summer with Brian doing Sunday Fun Day Show Tunes at Club Charlies! It was wonderful to hear the American songbook and have a few giggles in before the return to the rat race of Mondays. Our host, Craig & Dawn, promise that we'll return after the invasion of Green and Gold, known as The Green Bay Packers...

Stewart Dempsey's Samara Garden & Home Presents: The Urban Ecology Center Photography Club's Exhibition at their Galleries located at: 5211 West North Avenue Milwaukee 53208 Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup> 5 - 9 p with Live Music by: Daniel Petry

and Patricia Monroe. The Show runs through Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.

"Finally Friday" is my new gig at The Red Star Cocktail Club - second floor of The Trocadero. Every Friday 5 - 8:30 p (except for September 5 and October 31) I'll be once again behind the bar, as opposed to under the bar, with Show Tunes and frivolity to welcome the weekend together! Lance Lanigan is teaching me the ropes and recipes for those delicious hand-crafted concoctions allowing us to gather and all sigh in unison "Finally Friday"! Currently Lance is pulling together a road trip to "Out In The Park - Six Flags, Great America"! Saturday, September 13 7 p - Midnight - A Private LGBT Charity Event - Benefitting in part ARCW (AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin). Lance/Red Star will provide the "Party" to the Party - for \$30 you will have a seat on a coach bus - including central air conditioning and a bathroom as well as complimentary libations with partial proceeds also benefitting ARCW. Why bother with driving, construction, parking... Let Lance do the driving! To get on up on the bus please contact Lance at The Red Star Cocktail Club or e-mail him [llanigan@lowlandsgroup.com](mailto:llanigan@lowlandsgroup.com). Park entrance will be \$39 to enjoy the festivities, including: Live Music by DJ of Scarlet, Lady Bunny, Trannika Rex and Traver Rains. Sounds like an amusing evening at an amusing amusement park. Make your reservations now, bus will launch and de-launch at Red Star Cocktail Club - and know there will be a post-Party upon our return.

Sunday, September 7 Hi Hat Garage off Brady Street will be the place to commemorate BESTd Clinic's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! 5 - 10 pm - \$40 per person, one dollar for each year the Clinic has served our Community! In return for your contribution to the Clinic, you will enjoy Food, Cash Bar, Silent Auction, Raffles and a Show - Starring the incredible Dear Ruthie, the mesmerizing Shawna Love - you adore these talented showgirls from Hamburger Mary's. The magnificent Monroe, Inc. will be adding their considerable magic to the festivities and, oh yeah, the spectacular Karen Valentine will be on stage as well! At this point in time, other performers are being inked, so you won't want to miss this one! This extraordinary event is sponsored in part by ARCW Pharmacy.

The Milwaukee Rep is launching their 2014/2015 Season with "The Doyle & Debbie Show" side-splitting and rollicking - the perfect blend of comedy and Country music September 5 - November 2 at The Stackner Cabaret. "The Color Purple" - a magnificent Grammy-nominated musical saga plays the Quadracci Powerhouse September 23 - November 2. If "Purple" is as good as "Rag Time" was last year, don't hesitate in buying your tickets or you may be left out!

Sunset Playhouse - now in their 55<sup>th</sup> Season -

says Let Us Entertain You by bringing Agatha Christie's "The Mouse Trap" to the stage September 11 - 28 - This is the world's longest running stage play - more than 25,000 performances in London's West End! Now come see it at Milwaukee West End - Elm Grove! I had the pleasure of seeing "Gypsy" starring Tamara Martinsek as Mama Rose. What a great night of theatre. I love the score and had seen Tamara earlier this summer as Carlotta in "Follies". She has been fortunate with two great Broadway roles this season. The Sunset offers Side Notes Cabaret Series - Thursdays - 7:30 p, Fridays 8 p, and Saturdays 3 & 8 p "Red Hot Mama! A Tribute to Sophie Tucker" starring Becky Spice is running next month October 9 - 11. Just think "Some of these Days" we can still enjoy the sensation that was Soph!

After all life is a "Cabaret" and the Kander & Ebb classic "Cabaret" takes over the Off the Wall Theatre's new fall season - it's 1933 all over again September 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and then 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28. Ms. Laura Monagle will reinvent Miss Sally Bowles. It must be Laura's year of Sally - she was another troubled Sally in "Follies" in the before mentioned summer sensation I was fortunate enough to catch. Jeremy C. Welter, returning from Vegas, will welcome us erotically as the Emcee. Marilyn White, the First Lady of Off The Wall, is featured as Fraulein Schneider to bring you all to tears. Lawrence J. Lukasavage as Herr Schultz and James Strange (who will fascinate you as only he can) will round out the cast.

Even though The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center has lost their Executive Director, Colleen Carpenter, the Center continues with great activities this month - - Thursday, September 18 HamBINGO at Hamburger Mary's 8 pm starring Dear Ruthie! Cost is \$10, for 10 games and the LGBT Community Center is the beneficiary. Friday, September 19 Glass Blowing Class - The Milwaukee LGBT Center SAGE (Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders) offers a demonstration on this art form. By taking this class, you'll get a crash course in glass blowing and an ornament you make to take home. Saturday, October 11 5:30 pm is The Milwaukee LGBT "Big Night Out Cabaret - City of Lights" at the Expo Center Potawatomi in celebration of National Coming Out Day! Dinner, cash bar, a silent auction, and entertaining cabaret of comedy, song, dance, drama and more... A great way to see, enjoy and celebrate Coming Out at Potawatomi Hotel Casino.

The Milwaukee Chamber Theatre commemorating 40 fabulous seasons - brings something new with "The Good Father" by Christian O'Reilly September 17 - October 12 Broadway Theatre Center's Studio Theatre, Directed by C. Michael Wright, featuring Laura Gray and Jonathan Wainwright.

Next Act Theatre starts the fall with "Welcome Home, Jenny Sutter" September 18 - October 12 a Milwaukee Premiere!

We are fortunate to have a new exciting show like the above, as well as Tennessee Williams' iconic "The Glass Menagerie" September 25 - Oc-

tober 19 an In – Tandem Theatre production. The classic Angela Iannone stars as the classic Amanda Wingfield. Angela just completed a tour de force as the Diva of all Divas – Madame Maria Callas at Milwaukee Chamber Theatre's "Master Class". She's back in town and we're so fortunate she is reclaiming the stage where she belongs.

Mark Bucher's The Boulevard Theatre offers up Richard Rodgers' and Lorenz Hart's "Pal Joey". It's directed by David Flores, with musical director Donna Kummer and starring Diane Ladd as Vera, Marty McNamee as Joey and Miss Liz Norton. September 26 – 28 at The South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center (SMPAC) 414-766-5049 [www.southmilwaukee.org](http://www.southmilwaukee.org), arguably the best Broadway score, featuring Rodgers' & Hart's classics – "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered", "Small Hotel" and "Blue Moon" to name a few. Rarely done, see it for yourself and enjoy a true chestnut and perhaps the first Cougar, Vera, of musical theatre.

Saturday, September 27 I get the thrill of hosting the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Mr. Harbor Room Contest in celebration of 14 successful years of The Harbor Room. Come on down, vie for the title and sash and have a whole weekend of party-ing at The H.R. The biggest party where Greenfield Avenue and First Street meets will be a three day drink-a-thon! Congratz to Gregg & Eddie on 12 years of pure relationship bliss! You can also find a Milwaukee's favorite, Huck, formerly of The Boot Camp Saloon and Boom now serving up your favorite beverages with his usual flare.

Sunday, September 28, you'll all want to pop in at Taylor's for "Art Pop" the tres popular annual fund raiser. Every year to honor the memory of Sandy Kleebe, owner Dan Taylor hosts a fund raiser for AIDS Walk Wisconsin. Where-in local artist, patrons of Taylor's, People's Park, Oscar's Custard and family, friends and fans of Dan's take a block of wood and repurpose it into a piece of art. There is a \$20 fee at the door that entitles you to a beverage of your choice and a bid on a block of art. The fun pursues when the guests start out-bidding each other for their coveted "Art Pop". All proceeds go to ARCW (AIDS Walk Wisconsin). It's a great opportunity to acquire a fine piece of art, socialize and help a worthwhile, life-saving

agency.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual AIDS Walk Wisconsin and 5 K Run is Sunday, October 12 at Milwaukee's Lakefront, with this year's Honorary Chair Tim Gunn of Television's "Project Runway". Register today by visiting: [Aidswalkwis.org](http://Aidswalkwis.org) or calling – 1-800-348-WALK.

The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival is running October 16 – 26 – the city's long-running film festival returns for 11 consecutive days! For a schedule of Carl Bogner's masterpieces, made Milwaukee, ready please visit: [arts.uwm.edu/lgbtfilm](http://arts.uwm.edu/lgbtfilm).

Shout out to a Hero – let's hear it for Jack Eigel— he took part this summer in the Houston Heat – Transplant Games of America. It's a bi-annual event, encouraging transplant recipients to have another Olympic moment. Jack won two Bronze medals in Swimming and four Gold medals in Ball Room and Latin Dancing. His dazzling dance partner, Janet Ramsey – a Ginger Rogers of a lady if ever there was. Not only is Ms. Ramsey Jack's favorite cha-cha partner, she is also the mother of the organ donor that saved Jack's life. Team Wisconsin shined due to the dynamic duo of Jack & Janet! Talk about Dancing with the REAL Stars!

Roy, the popular Fluid bartender, commemorated his Birthday in Drag, after all at this point in one's career, birthdays can be a drag! The return of Phaedra Free and oh what a show! Lizzie Bordeaux hosted, with the marvelous Maple Veneer, crowd favorite Shannon Dupree dashing across town from her Saturday night gig at Hamburger Mary's to offer her luster, Angela Philips and La Cage's very own Lauren Philips rounded out the stunning cast. Proceeds from the birthday extravaganza and the following day, a special edition of Drag Queen BINGO with Sister Mary Joshua – netted over \$1,000 for Special Olympics. How sweet is that? Speaking of sweets Joe Divine made divine cupcakes that complimented the fabu cocktails Justin and Puddy prepared. The flawless Bill Wardlow was on hand to welcome all and to conduct the music. It warms the heart to do such a "Roy thing" like a special, Special Olympics fund raiser to help out all those striving athletes!

The high point of the summer had to be the

Cream City Foundation's My Best Friend is Straight and Will Radler's Annual Garden Party. The Radler Rosarium was the scene and in spite of the weather -- it was the place to be! Instead of "Singing in the Rain", I was Sinking in the Rain! All in all everyone smiled through the clouds and a good time was had by all. Tip toeing through the tulips and avoiding rain drops were Paul Milakovich, Kate Venne, Tony Heller, Charlie & Todd, Jim Moore & his Beau of over nine years, Deborah Unger, Roger Ram Jet, Jeff Gosseck, Marty Hintz & Pam Percy, Bunny Raasch-Hooten, Dan Sawall, Jose Milan, Dr. Beto & D.J. Tim Grair, Jim Schleif, Jack Balzer & Greg Gowdy, Scott Gunkel, Juan Carrasquilla, Renee Kimberger, Chuck Grosz, Jerry Janis & John Heidemann, Stewart Dempsey & Gerry Coon, Tim Clark, Mike Gifford, Will Janisch and forgive me if your name was omitted, I didn't have my steno pad handy. Always a great summer party – this year even ros-ier pun intended due to the locale.

Sad farewells two great dames, Take a Bow, – Elaine Stritch a lady I had the honor of seeing in-person twice. When she was "At Liberty" in Chicago with Rona, Charlotte Lorraine, ChiChi and Baby Jane Hudson and when Ms. Stritch made a final Milwaukee pilgrimage to The Oriental promoting a documentary on her life. Thank God there are tapes of her! The other lady that has left us, only physically, her memory will linger always "Applause" to "The Woman of the Year" Lauren Bacall. Betty, her given name, and the name all her friends called her, taught the world to whistle, starting with the love of her life Bogie when she told him, "if you need me, whistle - you do know how to whistle, put your lips together and blow".

Food Time – looking for a great brunch stop -- how about supporting the Community and enjoying a bite at The Hybrid Lounge? They do Brunch ever Sunday and I've had the pleasure to sample and am thoroughly satisfied. Friday Fish Fry and great Pub Faire – burgers, sandwiches, salads and the alike rounds out their menu and enhances any visit to Bill and Nate's Brady Street bistro!

That's it for this time, again Happy Anniversary, please keep reading and remember, it's the glamor, not the grammar as I remain Still Cordially yours,.



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Hey hey, we are back in print for two months in a row! With my editor this feels like a record lol. I hope you got everything out of summer you wanted because with Labor Day here and gone it seems that summer 2014 is coming to an end. So time to put those white pants away and start pulling out the jackets. Course this summer it feels like I the jackets never got put away in the first place!

Before we get rolling I just want to send out a huge thank you to all the volunteers of the dairy-land classic, if you didn't know they (SSBL) puts on a huge softball tournament over the Labor Day weekend. Putting on any sort of event is always a challenge but once again they have pulled off a great event, so congrats event organizers and volunteers thanks for all your hard work!

So let's get to the real reason your here now....tattoos and piercings! Last month we talked about tattoos and how to pick an artists who can provide you with life long art vs. ones that won't due to a number of factors. This month lets get back to our roots and talk about

some piercings! And the piercing we are going to talk about this time around is a new popular one. The "triple forward helix"

The TFH, is in reality just three piercing in the forward most part of the helix, outside curve, of your ear. They are usually performed with studs of some kind with a jewel facing forward, although rings can also be used to provide an easier cleaning experience. The difference between studs and rings is minimal. Rings are easier to clean but tend to get irritated more due to their larger size, studs tend to get irritated less but are harder to clean as the sit closer to the skin. Basically, as long as you take care of them it won't matter which style you choose.

Of note is that the TFH, cannot be done on all people. Some people can only do one or two of the piercings. As with any project, anatomy is key and since every person is different you should really have your piercer take a look and see how many piercings you can effectively place for both looks and for healing and aftercare maintenance.

Speaking of aftercare, I recommend using an

antibacterial soap for after of this piercing. Wash it at the end of your shower at least once per day. And avoid sleeping on your fresh new piercing as well as any irritation can cause the piercing to take much longer than the usual 2-3 months.

Well that's about it! If you have any other questions about the Triple Forward Helix piercing don't hesitate to fire me and email at

[management@avant-garde-piercing.com](mailto:management@avant-garde-piercing.com).

Have a great September, and enjoy the beautiful fall to come, hopefully it doesn't come soon tho!



**A typical Triple Forward Helix piercing.**

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# Madison Pride

Photos by Tony Ritschard





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