



Lisa & Teryl-Lynn present Bourbon Pride's Philip with GLBT Business of the Year



Rip & Marsha present Dusty DeBris with Marsha Delain Award of Excellence, The Drag Ambassador Award



Jasmine Essex accepts Transgender of the Year from Rip & Teryl-Lynn



GM Tommy Elias accepts Dance Club of the Year for Oz



Quatermaster The Nellie Deli's Misael & TJ accept Restaurant/Deli of the Year



Persana Shoulders accepts Cheridon Comedy Award in memory of Sonny C. Cleveland



Tim Pflueger accepts DJ of the Year



Misti Ates accepts Lesbian of the Year



Halloween's treasurer Trey Woodside accepts Circuit Party/Event of the Year for Halloween



Tubby's Golden Lantern's Andy & Lance accept Neighborhood Bar of the Year



Monica Synclaire-Kennedy accepts Fly Fashion Glamour Award in memory of Ms. Fly



Tommy Elias accepts Gay Man of the Year



Mr. Phoenix Leather Lance & Danny accept Leather Bar of the Year for the Phoenix



Toby Lefort accepts Buzzy Fanning AIDS Award



Mr. Phoenix Leather Lance & Danny accept Leather Person of the Year for Gary Vandeventer



Andy Ehlers accepts Bartender of the Year



Princesse Stephanie once again accepts Bitch of the Year



Next Fall's Bootsie DeVille accepts Donnie Jay Performing Arts Award



Capt. John & President Opal accept Gay Carnival Ball of the Year for the Krewe of Amon-Ra



Oz accepts Show Bar of the Year



Monique Michaels accepts Entertainer of the Year

25th GAA Gala Announces Gay Appreciation Award Winners @ Oz ~ New Orleans ~ Photos by Devin, DJ Myke, Tony Leggio

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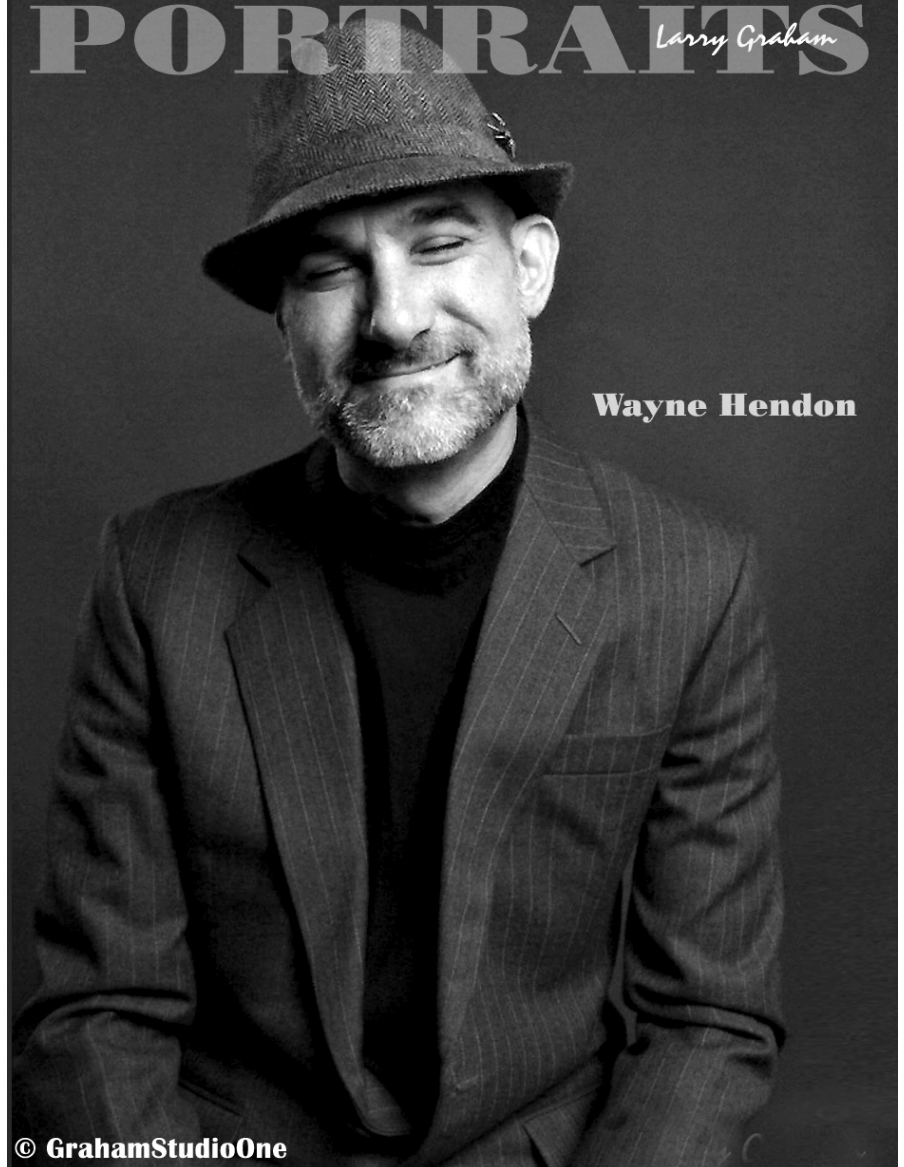
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PORTRAITS

Larry Graham



Wayne Hendon

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William

Saturday

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Midnight Show!!

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4th Bleather Weekend Brings in the Crowds to Mobile

The 4th annual Bleather Weekend brought the crowds into Mobile for the weekend designed to bring men along the Gulf Coast and beyond, who are interested in the Bear/Levi/Leather community. You are urged to come as you are. The goal is to create a masculine environment for fun and camaraderie for a weekend each summer in Mobile, Alabama. The weekend is based on the concept of Houston's successful LUEY Weekend (Let Us Entertain You). Complimentary cocktail parties and brunches are held during the weekend, with leather and bear contests offered as focal points.

Mobile's gay bars have united behind the effort, as have Mobile's host clubs, the Gulf Coast Bears & Leather Association, and the Southern Renegades. Its brother clubs in New Orleans, such as the Lords of Leather, also play host.

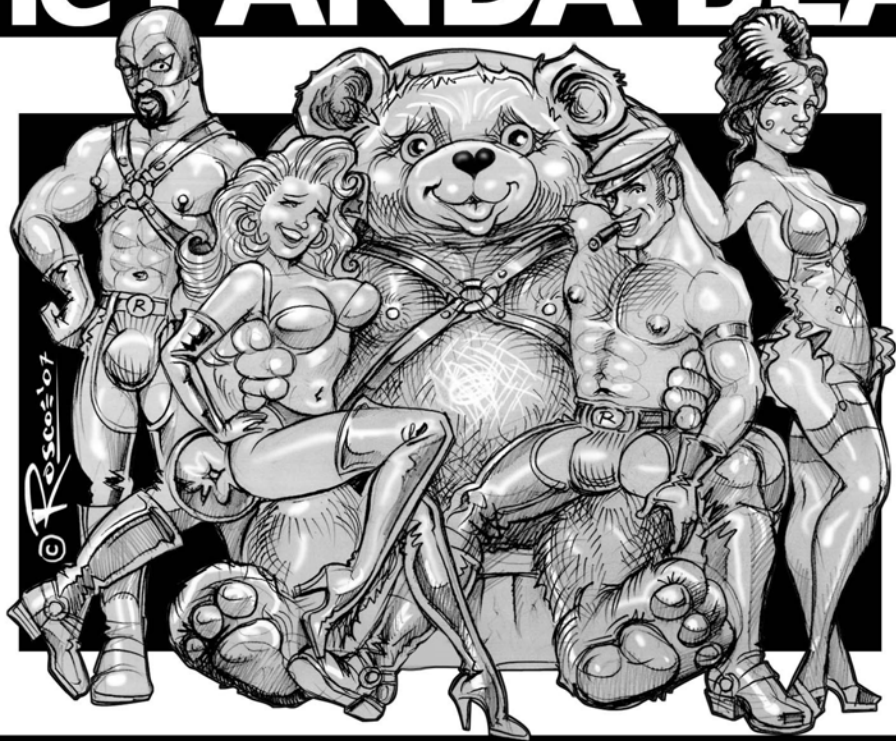
During Bleather Weekend, Darwin Singleton emceed the Southern Renegades Contest, while A.J. McKay of Louisville, Kentucky, emceed the Mr. Gulf Coast Bear Contest.

New Orleans' own Bill Naquin, landed the title of Mr. Southern Renegade during the kickoff event. Naquin, a 45 year old Gloucester, Virginia native, just became interested in the leather community during the past year, and has become an avid supporter of New Orleans' Lords of Leather Mardi Gras krewe.

"The Mr. Southern Renegade competition was a real thrill," said Naquin, "and I was amazed by the enthusiastic response I received. This was the first time I've participated in a Leather event, and I learned

The PANDA BEAR

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a lot from it.

Naquin actually lives across the river from the French Quarter, in Gretna, Louisiana. Naquin praised his fellow contestants after the very close competition at B-Bob's in Downtown Mobile.

"The men who competed with me, Joe and Patton, were fun to work with," he said. "We kept each other laughing all the way through."

First Runner-up was rodeo enthusiast Joe Veileux, repre-

senting the Roundup in Pensacola, with Patton Williams of Grove Hill, Alabama serving as second runner-up. Naquin is now looking forward to his next on stage adventure.

"I'm extremely proud to have brought this home for the Lords of Leather, a terrific bunch of guys, and I'm looking forward eagerly to competing in the Mr. Louisiana Leather Contest in the fall, and returning to Mobile in the near future. I can't thank the Southern Renegades enough for their hospitality and effort in putting together the event!"

Randall Bozeman of Pensacola captured the title of Mr. Gulf Coast Bear before a packed house at B-Bob's in Mobile! Bozeman is originally from Montgomery, Alabama, but now calls Pensacola, Florida, home. He won the judges over during this year's "Lum-Bear-Jacked" themed contest.

First Runner-up was Bobby Grantham of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, while Michael Rabalais of New Orleans was chosen 2nd runner-up.

Bozeman walked away with a trophy, \$150, and lots of... bear hugs.

For more on the weekend, visit MobileBleatherWeekend.COM.

destination; isn't it grand. Anyway, I digress, my week started again with two theatrical openings back to back for gay carnival krewes. On Wednesday, I went to the opening night of *Anything Goes* at Tulane Summer Lyric for the Krewe of Armeinius. Once again Tulane goes beyond little theatre to give a production that is polished, professional and entertaining. Following that on Thursday, Satyricon showed the opening night of *Standing on Cer-*

[continued on 22]

under the gaydar



by Tony Leggio
Email: tonymgp@hotmail.com
Photo by: Larry Graham,
GrahamStudioOne.COM

Bartender of the Month

My bartender for the month of August is someone I met recently during my travels to Baton Rouge for the Krewe of Divas Bal Masque. This young man made my visit to Splash nightclub an enjoyable experience. Chris Godal has worked for Splash for four years and according to many is one of the more popular servers. Originally from Huntington Beach, California, Chris is well respected with his customers and co-workers alike. And he will be adding something new to his resume when he starts Paul Mitchell School in August.

I was only at Splash for an evening, but in that short time, I could tell that Chris was a force behind the bar. His quirky charm and witty repartee made the entire New Orleans group immediately feel welcome. He is also a master mixologist making some mighty tasty cocktails. The bar was very crowded that evening, but Chris managed his area effortlessly never missing a beat. And his physical attributes just enhance his already engaging personal-



Bartender of the Month
Chris Godal, Splash, Baton Rouge

ity. When he flashes his great smile, hospitality radiates from him. I truly believe that the bartender sets the tone of how your evening will go at their place.

Splash is a popular nightclub and on weekend nights can get very crowded. It is easy to talk to patrons when it is slow, but when the pace picks up, it can be hard to connect with people. Chris was able to overcome this and give great customer service even when it is busy. He truly made our evening in Baton Rouge and particularly at Splash a festive occasion. He is definitely one of the bar's stars and it is a well-deserved recognition. So when you are in Baton Rouge, check out Chris at Splash located at 2183 Highland Road.

Fiddle Away!

The Krewe of Armeinius is hosting another opening night premier at Tulane Summer Lyric on Wednesday, August 1 at 8pm. The Broadway musical *Fiddler on the Roof* is being presented. Tickets are \$35 and the theatre is located at Dixon Hall on Tulane's Campus. For information or to buy tickets, go to www.kreweofarmeinius.org.

Party Down

It has been another great week of good times in the Crescent City. Even though it is summertime, the throngs of people visiting our city are incredible. Gotta love our tourists! Without them many of us would not have dates, oh life in a tourist