The Gay Tray s, & Sex MAY 2003 COMPLIMENTS **OF THIS STABLISHMENT**

Gay Travel, Entertainment, Politics & Sex

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Texas

Houston • Dallas • Austin • San Antonio

Houston

ot just the cradle (and grave) of Enron or the residence of former president George Bush, Houston supports a large, variegated gay community concentrated in the megalopolis's Montrose area.

Bar and clubs

South Beach (810 Pacific Street), a 10,000 square feet contemporary dance club with a South Beach flair is rapturous to behold. As you journey through you'll encounter a richly paneled lounge dominated by a 44 foot long bar actually topped with a sheet of ice. The second massive room contains an island bar as well as dance floor. Circuit DJs often work the acoustics to their best. The awe inspiring laser lighting is a treat unto itself as are the liquid nitrogen special effects ice jets that transform the entire dance floor. And the modern bathrooms are of course impeccable with individual video monitors gracing every urinal. Other bars part of the same umbrella organization include JR's Bar and Grill (804 Pacific) plus Santa Fe Bar and Patio (808 Pacific), boasting dual atmospheres in one big facility. These party bars tout the latest in videos music, karaoke, and comely strippers. Montrose Mining Company (805 Pacific), across the street, is for cowboys, leather-men, and their friends. The tropical patio with a full service bar is the life of the party.

There's nothing fancy about EJ's

(2715 Ralph Street, at Westheimer), but the place fills up with almost every pretty face in town, lending it a local endorsement. The four weekly strip shows, drink specials, slot machines, pool, a new outdoor patio and cocktail bar, friendly bartenders, and plenty of free parking explain the bar's continued popularity. On weekends, EJ's dance floor gets rowdy. Improvements at EJ's are an ongoing thing. Currently this is also a free wireless access hotspot (but you'd better buy a drink!) for those who want to surf the Internet with their laptops.

It's not a cipher, but O (710 Pacific Street). Also located in the gay Montrose area, it is the newest member of the Oz New Orleans family of clubs. O follows in the Oz, Icon (Baton Rouge), Emerald City (Pensacola, Florida) and Blu (Atlanta) tradition. Called Pacific Street in its previous incarnation, O offers a super patio à la French Quarter courtyards in New Orleans. Two decks overlooking the neighborhood; a warm, inviting upstairs bar; and a huge dance floor, plus seven plasma screen video monitors, barely scratch the surface of the offerings. Nightly specials, the O Boy Calendar Contest, and a Sunday Tea Dance are just some of the reasons to visit.

Ripcord (715 Fairview) is dark and mysterious and caters to leather, Levi, and uniform aficionados. After-hours on weekends are regular treats. A leather shop on premises is open till 2am, an added convenience.

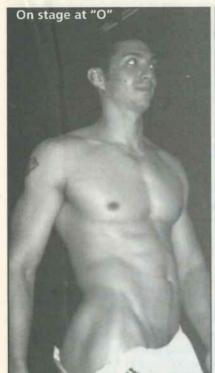
Mary's (1022 Westheimer) now

vaunts a new ownership and management. A seemingly cozy watering hole from the exterior belies a surprisingly large bar including a large patio and outdoors in the rear. This is apparently the oldest gay bar in Texas and the least expensive one to boot! Their sister bar The Outpost (1419 Richmond) is a country and western neighborhood bar that draws "older" professionals. Happy hour is from 11am through 8pm.

Guava Lamp (2159 Portsmouth) is a "sit back, relax" video bar /lounge with a 21-ish crowd every night. Wednesdays and Sundays nights are Karaoke nights, but there are nightly drink specials and daily happy hour until 7pm to bait the young 'uns. The pool tables are almost always manned.

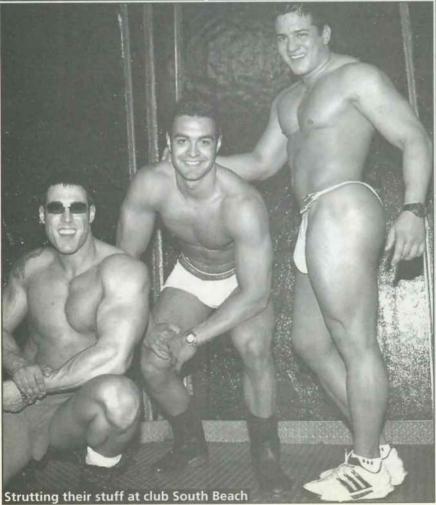
Meteor (2306 Genesse) is a chic, bar and video lounge. Comprising two distinct areas as well as an outdoor patio, this stylish, clean, and non-pretentious venue also boasts fetching staff that is decidedly friendly. Open daily as of 4pm (as of 3pm on Sundays), Thursdays translate into singles' night (which are good night to get one's ticket punched here). Happy hour is from 4pm thru 8pm with varying drink specials during the week.

Keys West (817 West Dallas) is a piano bar catering to a mature clientele. Large ceilings and hip interiors add to its swank appearance. Open daily as of 3pm, different entertainers regale by the piano Tuesdays through Saturdays, while on Sundays and Mondays it's Video Night and/or Showtime! It's located right next to a Best Western, just





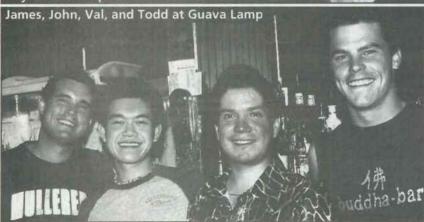














in case you can't make it back home after a fun night out.

Brazos River Bottom (2400 Brazos) is the home of cowboys and country dancing. With free dance lessons on Tuesdays and Thursdays, the place gets decidedly mobbed. There's even a pool tournament every Monday with cash prizes in store. Special drink prices everyday till 9 pm contribute to its ongoing success for over 25 years.

A community-oriented management at Rich's (2401 San Jacinto) makes for a sterling temple of club cruise. This is Houston's largest entertainment club, open Thursday through Sunday. The well-thronged dance floor is gay-mobbed on Saturdays, with varying ratios of gay-to-straight-to-curious on the other nights.

Chowing down

Dining out on American cuisine is best at 1415 California (1415 California). Upscale yet casual, the restaurant is perched on the second floor of an elegant structure tucked on a discreet street within the gay Montrose area. Sunday afternoons tend to be popular here.

The Vietnamese restaurant Mo Mong (1201 Westheimer) is, for some reason, mobbed on Wednesdays by friends of Dorothy.

Barnaby's (604 Fairview and 1701 South Shepard) is a casual gay diner open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The fare is surprisingly good at prices unbelievably modest.

House Of Pies (3112 Kirby Drive) is a quite akin to the International House of Pancakes with a loyal gay following.

Shopping

At large Lobo Bookshop (3939 South Montrose) more than just books are vended. Shoppers can rent gay videos, get the latest greeting cards, and purchase gay accessories, back issues of gay mags, and autographs of famous gay personae. The cafe tucked within is happy meeting ground for several gay cliques and a great place to bring (or find) one's date. Increasingly well trafficked of late, the cafe has expanded and offers a pick of sandwiches, soups,

desserts, in addition to much eye candy.

Leather Forever (604 Westheimer) has a loyal following. Here, they carry gear for the serious leather player. An extensive range of BDSM equipment such as restraints, flogs, slings, plus an array of kink/fetish items and lubes are at hand.

Black Hawk Leather (711 Fairview) celebrates five years of serving the community. Located around the corner from The Ripcord (bar), it also has a branch within Ripcord as well. Custommade apparel such as chaps, pants, and shirts are available. Alterations of the same are but a breeze. They carry everything leather and rubber you can dream of, not to mention myriad adult novelty items.

Getting physical

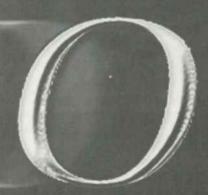
Club Houston (2205 Fannin Street) is a sterling facility with a 3,500 square foot gym that comprises tons of free weights, machines, as well as a personal trainer on premises. This non-stop pleasure palace, a 16,000 square foot facility, with sixty private dressing rooms,

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lockers, steam, dry sauna, whirlpool, outdoor pool, and tanning beds. A glass upper deck above the wet area (whirlpool/showers) offers a bird's eye view of men in their birthday suits.

Midtowne Spa (3100 Fannin) offers over eighty rooms at truly competitive prices. Everyone is welcome, so their cavern-like steam room is hot and spicy! A revitalized outdoor patio is at hand. The new steam room is modeled after a dark cave with numerous caverns to explore. After using their dry sauna,

jump into their large indoor pool. A workout facility is on premises as well. A private party room is also available for special group functions.

Lodgings

Crocker Street Inn (2609 Crocker Street; 877-6GAY INN) is pure luxury contained within three distinct rooms (especially the Cottage Suite with a pool view). This is a well-maintained gay home within skipping distance to the infamous Montrose bars, yet located on a quiet tree-lined residential street. All three rooms have their own private entrance and are fully equipped with worldly trappings that include TV/cable/VCR, phones, and refrigerators. Each room also has its own private bathroom! A heated swimming pool compounds the comforts. Corporate rates and extended stay rates may be availed.

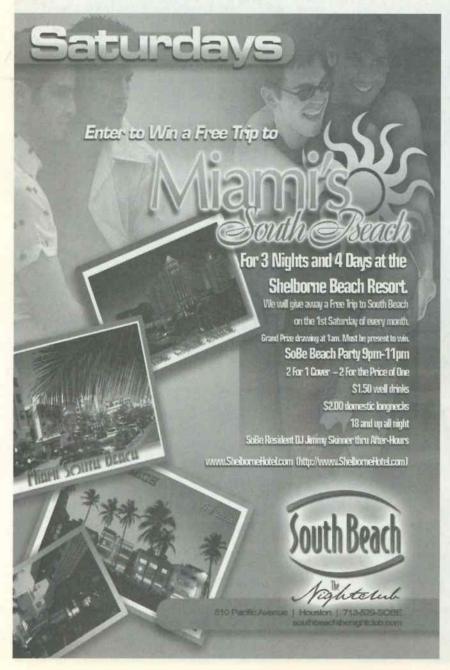
The Lovett Inn (501 Lovett: 800-779-5224) draws a mixed clientele to its beautifully restored mansion, located close to many gay attractions. A delightful library overlooks the outdoor Jacuzzi, pool, and small garden area. Free continental breakfast comes with the bed. Most rooms have their own bath, phone, and cable TV. Accommodations are available in the main inn as well as an increasing number of condo units on the side street that hugs Lovett Inn. Tom Fricke the proprietor has been extending Lovett Inn's reach with a geometrical progression. It is only a matter of time before the immediate area is monikered Frickeville!

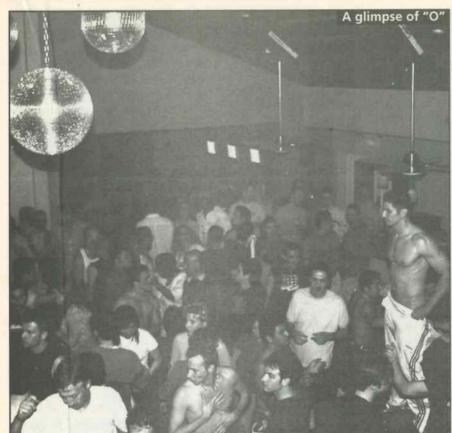
Dallas

The US's eighth largest city shines with an urban patina attributable largely to a thriving oil industry. The sheen is well reflected in Dallas's gay life, concentrated mainly in the Oak Lawn area. Bars and clubs catering to varied gay kinks, apparel and accessory stores, restaurants, and more permeate what locals call Boys town.

Bars and clubs

Under the aegis of Caven Enterprises, Village Station, Throckmorton Mining Co., JR's, and Sue Ellen's collectively draw the bulk of visitors both men and women to the area. JR's (3923 Cedar Springs Road), the most trafficked of them all, comprises three levels, 10 service wells, a balcony that dares any weather and affords a salivainducing view of Dallas' gay crossroads. Over 13,000 watts of sound feed 38 speakers around a video system with 61 monitors. Village Station (3911 Cedar Springs Road) is a dance club with a decidedly young thrust. Female impersonators rule at the Rose Room Show

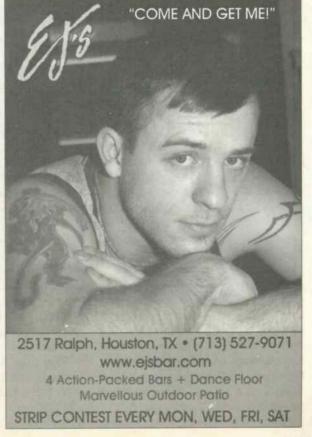






Miss Alabama of Brazos River Bottom







Bar tucked within. The bi-leveled Throckmorton Mining Co. (3014 Throckmorton), originally meant to attract those into leather/Levi, seems to draw people of all ilk. There's even a dance floor in its revamped incarnation. Sue Ellen's (3903 Cedar Springs Road) is geared for the distaff side of the family.

At Moby Dick (4011 Cedar Springs) there is a two-tiered video bar with a tropical flair. A management shuffle is in the works.

Brick Bar (4117 Maple Avenue) is best on Saturday nights through 4am. Comely men dance with their shirts off thanks to DJ Ric Herrington and other guest spinners. Intense cruising incites passion in the dim interiors.

Dallas Eagle (2515 Inwood #107) is a hard-core Levi-and-leather hangout busy after 11pm. The dark, dark main bar leads on to a back bar with a pool table. A balcony overlooking the main bar heightens cruise potential. Bears, big men, and their admirers feel much at home here. A Shades of Grey outlet on premises is an added attraction.

Round-up Saloon (3912 Cedar

Springs Road) is dubbed the home of "good times and good people." This huge establishment contains many bars tucked within. There's country dancing (free lessons Mondays through Thursdays), country cruising, not to mention music videos to regale visitors. A game room with pool tables, video games, pinball machines, and photo booths makes for much fun. Entertainment also includes lots of Karaoke Sunday through Thursdays. An ATM machine on premises makes things easier. Credit cards are accepted within the Saloon.

The cheery, chartreuse colored Lime has seen many management changes within its two years of business and is closed yet again but slated to reopen soon as Chic (4006 Cedar Springs).

Hideaway (4144 Buena Vista) is a piano bar heaven for mature men and their admirers.

The cozy After Dark on Cedar Springs (4026 Cedar Springs), a smoky piano bar in Oaklawn, is well received come sundown. Their sister bar called BJ's (3851 Cedar Springs Road) is yet another venue with lots of seating! It's more like a sit and model rather than stand and model sort of bar.

Neighborhood watering holes also include The Zone (3810 Congress Avenue #109) and Zippers (3333 North Fitzhugh), both rife with plenty of stripper action.

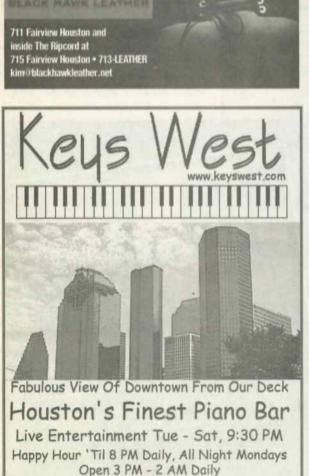
A mix of exotic Zen and decadent western Hedonism, Minc (813 Exposition) in the Deep Ellum, seems to rule Saturdays in Dallas, drawing both gay and hip straights.

Shopping

Remarkable piercing, wearable art, tattooing, branding, and scarring are at their best at **Obscurities** (4000B Cedar Springs Road), where safety is the prime concern. Body jewelry is vended here, and custom tattoos to suit any quirk have been etched for the gay community for over a decade. Owner Allen has featured on national television several times offering an insight into the "obscure" world of body art.

Crossroads Market (3930 Cedar Springs Road) touts literary treats and





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- 17) EJ's 2517 Ralph (713) 527-9071
- 7) 1415 California 1415 California (713) 522-7066
- 20) Guava Lamp 2159 Portsmouth (713) 524-3359
- 12) House of Pies 3112 Kirby Dr (713) 528-3816
- 808 Pacific (713) 521-2519
- 817 West Dallas (713) 571-7870
- Mary' 1022 Westheimer (713) 527-9669

- 13) Meteor 2306 Genesee (713) 521-0123
- 10) Montrose Mining Co. 805 Pacific (713) 529-7488
- 710 Pacific (713) 523-0213
- 5) Rich's 2401 San Jacinto (713) 759-9606
- 13) Ripcord 715 Fairview (713) 521-2792
- 15) South Beach 810 Pacific Avenue (713) 529-7623

ACCOMMODATIONS

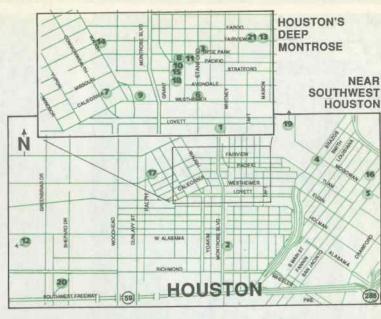
- 1) Lovett Inn 501 Lovett (800) 779-5224
- Crocker Street Inn 2609 Crocker Street (877) 642-9466 (713) 529-3277

OTHER

- 23) Black Hawk Leather 711 Fairview (713) 532-8437
- 16) Club Houston 2205 Fannin (713) 659-4998
- 6) Leather Forever 604 Westheimer (713) 526-6940
- 2) Lobo 3939 S. Montrose Blvd (713) 522-5156

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gay knickknacks, the latter also available at several other queer stores in the vicinity. A cruisy coffee shop tucked within makes for tasty drinks and merry moments renders it a focal meeting point in the Oaklawn area. This is a free wireless broadband access point, and in the cafe area encounters with blokes with laptops surfing away are not uncommon.

Outlines (4020 Cedar Springs and 3926 Cedar Springs Road) is a premier gay men's clothing store with two outlets. Club wear, casual wear, swim wear, jeans, athletic wear, shoes, as well as an array of raiment by gay designers from the world over are just a few dollars away. Their 3926 location is also known as **Tapelenders**, and tapes are available for rent and sale as well at this "most unusual video store in the world."

Union Jack (3920 Cedar Springs Road) is a prominent fixture in the Dallas community. Seasonal fashions and club-wear are vended in addition to brand shoes and underwear. Accessories for your eyes, neck, and wrist add to the unique selection Union Jack has to offer.

Shades of Grey (3930-A Cedar Springs Road), now in its 21st year, touts men's and women's fetish wear, leather/S&M books, rubber gear, and pride items (including t-shirts and the Tom of Finland gear). The eclectic selection of goodies also includes a huge inventory of thongs and bikinis. Custom leather apparel and off the rack items are part of the S of G spectrum. Rubber wear with labels such as Nasty Pig, Red Labels, XXY are here aplenty. Leather alterations are also executed here.

Leather By Boots-Dallas (2525 Wycliff #124) also carries a selection of men's erotic wear in Dallas. Whether it's jock straps, harnesses, or Carolina Combat Boots that tickle your fancy, you will find them here.

Chowing down

Hunky's (4000 Cedar Springs Road) is notable not just for their cheeseburgers but also for abundant two legged eye-candy. Other than Crossroads, this is the one place that affords great cruising potential in a virtually breeder-free gayborhood.

Across the street, **Buster's Burritos** (4001-A Cedar Springs Road) offers Texas style burritos and other mostly carnivore treats.

Attain pure gastronomic nirvana at Cosmic Cafe (2912 Oak Lawn Avenue). This vegetarian, inexpensive restaurant offers meals that will most assuredly transport you to the stars.

Accommodations

The Holiday Inn Select Love Field (3300 W. Mockingbird Lane) is a spacious, gay-friendly hotel offering 244 "over-sized" guest rooms, full-service restaurant, fitness center and pool. Every Monday thru Friday, 5-6pm, complementary beer, wine, and hors d'oeuvres are part of the service. Located close to Cedar Springs, a complimentary shuttle will take you to the bars and clubs. Whether on business or pleasure, the friendly staff will make sure your stay is enjoyable. This is rated the number one Holiday Inn Select in Dallas and winner of the Quality Excellence Award for 2000 and 2002.

Melrose Hotel (3015 Oak Lawn Avenue at Cedar Springs Road; 214-





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521-5151) is a ritzy hotel in the thick of it all. The luxury hotel also contains a restaurant and bar on premises.

Getting physical

Club Dallas (2616 Swiss) is a physical fitness center with a regular gym and trainer on premises, along with all the other amenities that vouchsafe physical joys. Weekly specials pull in pretty pleasure-seekers, and the Saturday and Sunday barbecues by the outdoor pool and sun deck make for much frolic during summer. Two VIP rooms are available for more exclusive liaisons. Recent renovations have varnished every aspect of the club for the better. It just screams newly remodeled.

Midtowne Spa (2509 Pacific) offers innumerable rooms and secret caches throughout the facility, which includes



LOVE FIELD

3300 W. Mockingbird Lane

Dallas, Texas 75235

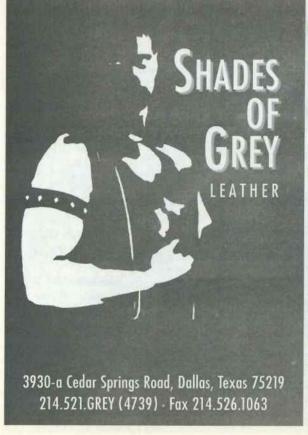
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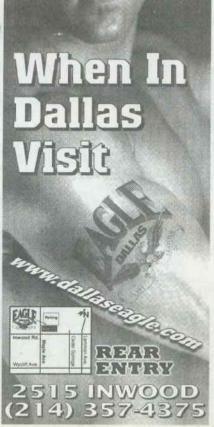
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weekend.

Austin

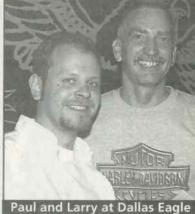
Thanks to the University of Texas, the atmosphere in this high-tech capital city is cultural, liberal, and youthfully vibrant to boot. The temperate weather and 12,000 acres of greenbelts invite outdoor recreation—(Continued page 32)

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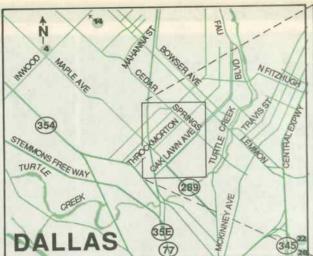
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Dallas

BARS & RESTAURANTS

- 7) The Brick 4117 Maple Ave (214) 521-3154
- 4001-A Cedar Springs (214) 522-1212
- 4) Eagle Dallas 2515 Inwood (214) 357-4375
- 5) Hunky's 4000 Cedar Springs Rd (214) 522-1212
- 6) JR's Bar and Grill 3923 Cedar Springs (214) 559-0650
- 11) Moby Dick 4011 Cedar Springs (214) 520-MOBY
- 1) Round Up Saloon 3912 Cedar Springs (214) 522-9611
- Sue Ellen's 3903 Cedar Springs (214) 559-0650
- 3) Throckmorton Mining Company 3014 Throckmorton (214) 559-0650
- 8) Village Station/ Rose Room 3911 Cedar Springs (214) 559-0650





RETAIL

- 17) Crossroads Market 3930 Cedar Springs Rd (214) 521-8919
- 29) Obscurities 4000 B Cedar Springs (214) 559-3706
- 10) Outlines 1 4020 Cedar Springs (214) 528-1955
- 12) Outlines 2/Tapelenders 3926 Cedar Springs (214) 528-6366
- 15) Shades of Grey 3930A Cedar Springs (214) 521-GREY
- 18) Union Jack 3920 Cedar Springs (214) 528-9600

HEALTH & SAUNAS

- 22) Club Dallas 2616 Swiss Ave (214) 821-1990
- 20) Midtowne Spa 2509 Pacific Street (214) 821-8989

ACCOMMODATIONS

14) Holiday Inn Select Love Field 3300 Mockingbird Lane (214) 357-8500

Dallas starts here



For more than twenty years, every trip to gay and lesbian Dallas has begun at Crossroads Market. The Southwest's leading gay and lesbian bookstore also features magazines, newspapers, music, DVDs, gifts, greeting cards and more. And,

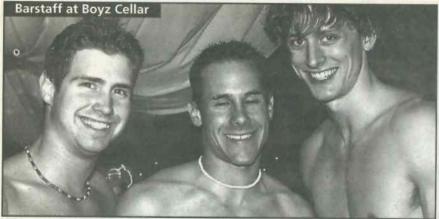
our award-winning cafe is the perfect spot for a leisurely break in the heart of Dallas' gay and lesbian business district.



Crossroads Market
Bookstore & Cafe

3930 Cedar Springs Road, Dallas, 214-521-8919









(Continued from page 28)

even the wilderness preservations in Austin boast wheelchair facilities! Though there is really no one gay section, many establishments catering to gay needs exist within sight of the capitol building's dome.

Splash Day is now a traditional sunfilled (clothing optional) lakeside party in this delightfully hip city, hosted on the first Sunday in May. Slated for May 4th this year, expect Lake Travis and its rocky shores of Hippie Hollow to be a pleasure realm. Most bars will host gala events through the weekend preceding Splash, and celebrated DJs will pulsate the circuits with renewed vim. Austinites also celebrate yet another Splash Day come Labor Day Weekend. Many swear that this second Splash (also called last Splash) is bigger and better than the first one.

Ben Parsley's Meltdown 2K3 is yet another reason to visit the weekend of May 23-25. More info about this event may be sought via www.partyaustin. com.

Hosted every third Friday in July

(18th July in 2003) Red Hot Party comes alive. This is a benefit bash for Project Transitions (AIDS hospice). Now in its 13th year it is invariably hosted at Oil Can Harry's (a rather well trammeled bar in town!) The party will be monikered Red Hot Purple this year in memory of Dale Wilson Jordan a.k.a. Momma of Momma's boys, a popular local figure. A silent auction at the bar is, followed by a buffet, and much partying thereafter.

www.chaosinaustin.com helps one in keeping abreast of what's what in town.

Night life

Oilcan Harry's (211 West 4th) is a must do in the gay scene. Upscale, this men's dance-bar showcases a large, square bar area, a well-trammeled dance floor, outdoor patio, and a side bar with pool tables and video machines. Current specials include Martini Mondays, as well as low price S.I.N. Tuesdays, Wednesdays Male Box, Tantalizing Dancers on Thursdays and Fridays are on the agenda. Kick-ass par-

ties, super after-hours, and the most personable bartenders in town have contributed to its ongoing success.

Next door, Boyz Cellar (213 West 4th) is boy heaven with an 18-plus clientele. A happy hour from 4pm keeps things well lubricated. Highlights include Hot Strip Down Mondays by amateurs, Cellar of Souls, a bi/curious party on Wednesdays, and an All Male Strip Contest on Thursdays. Boyz Cellar boasts Austin's biggest after-hours Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

Forum (408 Congress Avenue) offers 5000 square feet of chic bar bliss. The front island bar flows into a dance floor, a conduit to the Stardust game room in back. There's even a revamped rooftop bar affording splendid views of the trendy warehouse district. Summer time cookouts and live music performances on the roof are quite the thing.

Little City (916 Congress Avenue), a coffee shop not intended to be a gay hangout per se, draws hordes of men.

Rainbow Cattle Company (305 West 5th Street) is home to the Texas Gay Rodeo Association, Austin Baptist

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Pool Tournament -9pm

TUESDAYS

Dance Classes 8-11pm

WEDNESDAYS

Karaoke Night 9pm-?!!

THURSDAYS

50¢ Well + \$1 Long Necks 3pm-8pm

FRIDAYS

Hottest Male Dancers

Mon-Sat 3pm-2am · Sun 2pm-2am ☆ 512-472-5288 ☆ 305 W 5th Street, Austin Warehouse District, TX

EXPERIENCE SPLASH AUSTIN



MAY 2-4, 2003 FRIDAY TO SUNDAY AUSTIN, TEXAS

ALL NIGHT PARTIES FRIDAY & SATURDAY

JOIN US OUT AT LAKE TRAVIS DAILY AT HIPPIE HOLLOW - CLOTHING OPTIONAL GAY BEACH...

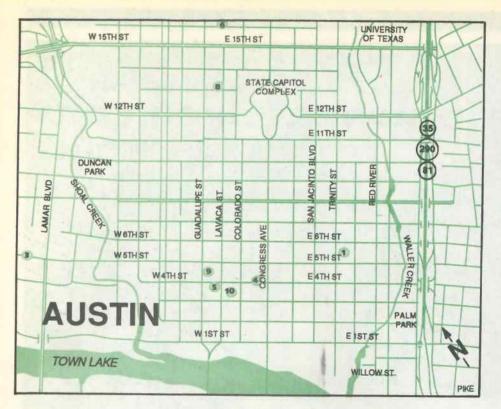
www.SplashAustin.com



BOYZ CELLAR

213 W 4TH ST · 479.8482 · WWW.BOYZCELLAR.COM IN THE HEART OF THE WAREHOUSE DISTRICT · OPEN DAILY SPM · 18SIZE DOES MATTER
AUSTIN'S BIGGEST AFTERHOURS

WEDNESDAYS THRU SATURDAYS WE DON'T GO HOME TILL YOU DO!



Austin

5) Boyz Cellar

213 West 4th St, (512) 476-2900

2) Chain Drive

504 Willow, (512) 480-9017

8) Charlies / Austin

1301 Lavaca, (512) 474-6481

4) The Forum

408 Congress, (512) 476-2900

1) Forbidden Fruit

512 Neches, (512) 478-8358

6) Lobo Austin

3204 Guadalupe

(512) 454-5406

10) Oilcan Harry's

211 W. 4th St. (512) 320-8823

9) Rainbow Cattle Company

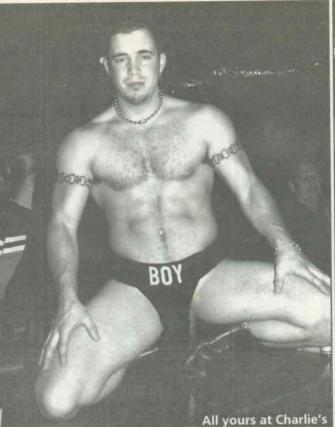
305 W. 5th St (512) 472-5288

3) Tapelenders

1114 W 5th St, (512) 472-0844









Women, and United Court of Austin. This is Austin's only "country cruisin" bar. Come Tuesdays, free dance lessons are the rule at 8pm. Karaoke is slated for Wednesdays and Level II Dance Lessons are the thrust on Sundays.

Charlie's Austin (1301 Lavaca) is also a premier party bar located within a few blocks of the state capitol. A big dance floor, pool tables, video games, and open-air patio facilitate entertainment. The progressive house music is compelling, and weekly specials such as their \$5 Steak Tuesdays are well received. Sister bar 'Bout Time (9601 Interstate 35 North) is a neighborhood watering hole with campy drag shows on Saturdays. Volleyball enthusiasts flock here.

Chain Drive (504 Willow) is the only leather-and-Levi hangout with a smoke-free main bar. Happy hour is from 4-9pm Monday through Sundays. The cookout on the bar's patio, a frequent event especially during the summer heightens local camaraderie.

Shopping

Close to Central Market, Lobo Austin (3204-A Guadalupe) stocks videos, books, a huge card collection, clothing, and a wide spectrum of rainbow goodies.

Forbidden Fruit (512 Neches Street) provides "useful items for a diverse world." The items traded include jewelry, fresh flowers, erotic literature, and myriad intimate accessories.

Tape Lenders Video (1114 West 5th Street) carries gay videos, plus some gifts, cards, magazines, swimwear, and underwear.

Lodgings

You can't beat the location and convenience of Extended Stay America (600 Guadalupe Street; 800-EXT-STAY). This hotel is part of a growing chain of value conscious lodgings by the night or week.

Summit House (1204 Summit Street; 512-445-5304), a gay owned and operated bed and breakfast located on an Indian campground, has three rooms available. A nude sunbathing area rein-

forces the country ambiance. Bears and big men are especially welcome here.

Getting physical

Midtowne Spa (5815 Airport Boulevard), located next to the Highland Mall, is a premier facility oozing with pelvic tourism. All the recreational facilities that are common to the chain of Midtowne Spas may be availed here including complete workout facilities.

Gold's Gym (115 East 6th Street) is the gym to work muscles other than in the immediate groin area. Straight owned and operated, this gym is highly gay trafficked and close to many gay establishments.

San Antonio

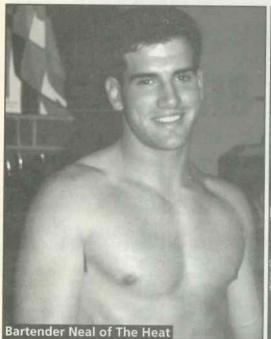
With its boat taxis and scenic promenades, San Antonio encourages romance. Though a tourist retreat all year long, San Antonio's draw includes Fiesta in the earlier part of April, every year.

The Saint (1430 North Main) continues. Boasting a serious dance floor, it is usually chocker on Saturdays through

4am. Female impersonators account for a lot of the devilish revelry here, and drag shows are oh so regular here. The Amateur Drag Talent Night on Tuesdays is well trafficked.

Temperatures rise at The Heat (1500 North Main), an ever expanding club now its second year. Open Wednesday through Sunday, as of 9pm, this is a club with three distinct areas:

the video bar, the quiet lounge, and a men's dance bar. An outdoor patio is unfolding as we scribe this with a Sunday T-Dance slated every afternoon. Go-go dancers strut their stuff through











the week here. Modern and upscale, this venue has injected pizzazz to San Antonio's gay party scene.

The Annex (330 San Pedro Avenue), a cruise bar, is supremely well received, especially during the day. Drink prices are low at this "hot stop, cruisin' river city connection."

There's nary a cover at Silver Dollar (1418 North Main), a country-western bar with a large patio. Daily drink specials and gyrating strippers draw gay men of all leanings.

Partying in the downtown Riverwalk area is at the Bonham Exchange (411 Bonham), locally alluded to as "bottom exchange." A large multi-leveled club, it is open daily except Tuesdays and Sundays.

Pegasus (1402 North Main), a cruise bar, gets going after 9pm. Expect major changes here.

Centrally located, 2015 Place (2015 San Pedro) is a neighborhood bar with a daily happy hour from 4pm-8pm.

Dining Candle Light Coffeehouse (3011 North St. Mary's), located minutes by foot from Blue Moon, offers "a cup of kindness" besides the cultured cruising that is hallmark of most queer coffee places. The manicured outdoor patio here is heaven, especially during the warm summer months.

Mad Hatter's Tea (320 Beauregard) has a delightfully camp ambiance. Besides tea, there's reasonably priced breakfast, lunch and dinner for every Alice that frequents this funky, gay friendly wonderland.

Shopping

The gay owned and operated Encore Video 1031 NE Loop 410) is a video-smith that also offers daily and weekly rentals of camcorders and VCRs. Their other establishment, ZEBRAZ.com (608 North Main Avenue), carries a large assortment of gayoriented merchandise. Goodies range from funky club wear to CDs, flavored lubes, and everything in between. Contact them for their mail-order catalog. The also offer private male boxes for \$10 and up.

Lodgings

The Painted Lady Guesthouse (620 Broadway; 210-220-1092) is probably the best run bed and breakfast in the US, and even the New York Times is impressed. It's located close to the Alamo and offers impeccable, luxurious suites replete with all known amenities. At this truly sybaritic retreat, complimentary breakfast is delivered to one's room. There's a rooftop spa, videos to rent, and the affable innkeepers are a wealth of information. Free off-street parking is available.

Rodeway Inn Downtown-San Antonio (900 North Main Avenue, 210-223-2951) is located between the 1400 Main Street bars and the Alamo, with parking to spare.

Steamy diversions

Alternative Club Inc. better known as ACI (827 East Elmira), is the place to get one's ticket punched, indoors. Outdoor frolic extends to their swimming pool as well. ▼

HEAT

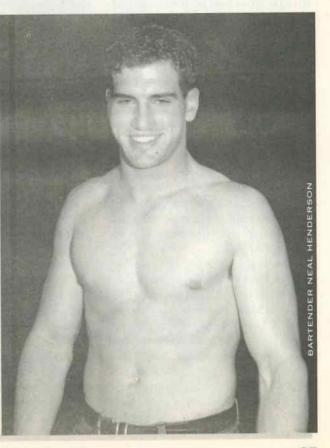
SAN ANTONIO'S NUMBER ONE DANCE / VIDEO BAR

SOON OPEN @4PM EVERY DAY

WEDNESDAY
3 X 3 NIGHT:
75¢ DRINKS AND 3 MALE DANCERS!

T-DANCE ON THE PATIO!

SAN ANTONIO - TEXAS 210-227-2600



TRAVEL CLASSIFIEDS

Silverado, 1217 SW Stark, (503) 224-4493. Located in the middle of downtown Portland's gay strip. Features hot male strippers Tuesday thru Sunday. Cruisy bar with "Adult Educational Videos." Disco, food, fun. Daytime wide variety easy listening, for the more laid back crowd. Happy Hour from 9am to 8pm daily. Monday night Karaoke 8pm; www.silveradopdx.com

Sullivan's Gulch B & B, 1744 NE Clackamas Street, Portland, Oregon 97232; (503) 331-1104; www.sullivansgulch.com. A gay-owned bed and breakfast, in residential neighborhood. Comfortable, clean, private rooms, some with private baths and porch. Minutes from downtown, shops, restaurants, bars. Pets welcome! TV/phone/fax. Not Laura Ashley! More like Frank Lloyd Wright meets Buffalo Bill.

PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA

Uncles Upstairs Inn, Philadelphia's only gay-owned and operated B and B. Uncles has enjoyed a 15 year run as one of Philly's most popular bars. Now, this historic building has been transformed to include a gay B and B. Rooms include private baths, queen size beds, TV. 1220 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Call 215-546-6660, fax 215-546-1653. Major credit cards.

PITTSBURGH

Inn on Mexican War Streets, Experience the adventure and convenience of inner city living just minutes from downlown shopping, nightlife and attractions in the heart of what used to be the city of Allegheny. Join us at the Inn in the gentrified Victorian-era row houses on Pittsburgh's historic Northside. 604 West North Avenue; 412-231-6544 ext. 10; http://hometown.aol.com/innwarst/collect/index.htm.

PUERTO RICO

SAN JUAN

L'Habitation Beach Guesthouse, 1957 Calle Italia, Ocean Park, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00911; (787) 727-2499; fax (787) 727-2599; email: habitationbeach@msn.com; www.habitationbeach.com. Bed and breakfast right on San Juan's gay beach. All rooms have A/C, private bath, cable TV. Snack bar/patio. Pets welcome. Come to meet new friends!

TEXAS

AUSTIN

Charlies-Austin, 1301 Lavaca; toll free 1-(877) 224-2754; www.charliesaustin.com. Open 2pm-2am, 7/7, 365. Male dancers, shows, outdoor patio, dancing, pool, video, college and up crowd, 21-plus. 'Bout Time, 9601 Interstate 35N, (512) 832-5339. Neighborhood bar, college and up crowd, 21-plus, shows, pool, video, volleyball court, open 2pm-2am, 7/7, 365.

DALLAS

Holiday Inn Select Love Field, 3300 W. Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, 800-HOLIDAY, www.holiday-inn/lovefield-hisl. Spacious, gay-friendly hotel offering 244 over-sized guest rooms, restaurant, fitness-center, pool. Complementary beer, wine, hors

d'oeuvres 5-6pm Monday thru Friday, Close to Cedar Springs with complimentary shuttle to bars/clubs. Business or pleasure, our friendly staff will ensure an enjoyable stav!

EL PASO

Old Plantation, 301 S. Ochoa, El Paso, TX, (915) 533-6055. Enjoy male dancers on Thursdays and Fridays and the best in female impersonation on Sundays. View the massive high-powered dance floor from the balcony or mingle in the lounge. Open Thursday thru Sunday with after house on Friday and Saturday. Also visit the San Antonio, El Paso, (915) 533-9516, make new friends with the locals, play pool and video games and party hardy. Open every day.

HOUSTON

Lovett Inn. 501 Lovett Boulevard, Houston, TX 77006. (800) 779-5224. Affordable luxury in the heart of Montrose. All rooms have direct dial phones, private bath, breakfast, and color TVs. Also available VCR, fax, Jacuzzi suites, pool and spa. Walk to clubs, restaurants, shopping and public transportation. www.lovettinn.com

SAN ANTONIO

Painted Lady Inn, 620 Broadway, San Antonio TX 78215; 210-220-1092. Hotel-style bed and breakfast near Riverwalk, downtown clubs. Guest rooms, large suites with Jacuzzis, fireplaces, include plush robes, gourmet coffee, spring-water, full roomservice breakfast. Rooftop hot-tub, sunning-deck with skyline views. Popular with men and women. Rates \$109-219. Corporate, weekly discounts available. in fo@thepaintedladyinn.com;

ZEBRAZ.com, the world's largest Gay and Lesbian Department Store By Mail has it all! Sex toys; dildos; vibrators; pumps; chrome, rubber and plastic cock rings; all types of clothing; general and soft core videos and DVDs; music CDs; books, including photo books and travel guides; house wares; jewelry; stickers; cards; gift items; candles; wigs; boa's; and, soon, shoes. Retail locations also carry hard-core adult videos, magazines, and DVDs.

UTAH

SALT LAKE CITY

Parrish Place B & B, 720 East Ashton Avenue (2340S.), Salt Lake City, Utah, 84106; 801-832-0970 toll-free 888-832-0869; www.parrishplace.com; info@parrishpl.com. Salt Lake City's premier gay-owned accommodations. Circa 1890 National Historic Landmark Victorian Bed and Breakfast. Elegant rooms, friendly service, private baths, jetted tubs, TV/VCR, cable, robes, conservatory, hot tub, off-street parking, breakfast included, convenient location, gay-owned. Come and spend some time in beautiful Salt Lake City, the gay-life may surprise you. Minutes from downtown, nightlife, shopping, major ski resorts.

VERMONT

Vermont Gay Travel and Civil Unions, gay and lesbian travel guide to gay/all welcome accommodations, skiing, dining, shopping, things to do, weather, and more. Plan your Civil Union or honeymoon in the only state which legally recognizes Civil Unions for same sex couples. www.vermontgaytravel.com.

RUTLAND

ABV Sales, 156 West Street, Rutland, VT 802-773-8990. Adult book and video store. Gay friendly. Videos, magazines, novelties at discount prices, wholesale/retail. Large selection of top videos. Individual private viewing booths (cruisy). Hours: Monday-Friday 10am-9pm, Saturday 10am-5pm. (Traveling visitors receive discount when mentioning this ad.)

VIRGIN ISLANDS

ST. CROIX

Is it peace and tranquillity that you are seeking? Visit Sand Castle on the Beach gay owned and operated tropical accommodations in St. Croix, USVII Afford yourself the opportunity to relax on a magnificent stretch of beach! Enjoy the freedom to be yourself! Swim, snorkel, scuba-dive in the turquoise emerald sea or freshwater pools. www.sandcastleonthebeach.com.

WASHINGTON

SEATTLE

BLU, 722 E. Pike Street; 206-568-4BLU; www.bluvideobar.com. West Coast's largest, most hi-tech video bar. "Seattle's Best" - Out Magazine. Outdoor roof deck. Piano lounge live entertainment Wednesday-Saturday, 6-9pm. Happy Hour Monday-Saturday 4-9pm, all day Sunday. Monday, video showtunes; Tuesdays, "U-spin" open turntables; Wednesday, MTV-style video karoake; Thursday-Sunday dance or R&B music.

The Cuff Complex, www.TheCuff.com;1533 13th Avenue (13th and E. Pine, Capitol Hill), (206) 323-1525. Seattle's most popular men's cruise/dance/party bar. Friendly, helpful staff. "A must-see for visitors" say Guide Magazine and Spartacus. Four bars! Original Cuff, open nightly. Others open Thursday thru Sunday: leather backbar, Seattle's hottest dance club, and patio bar.

Neighbours, 1509 Broadway; (206) 324-5358. Seattle's big gay dance club with seven nights of hot music from DJs Dana Dub, Trent Von, and Randy Schlager. Sunday! Noche Latina and Yo Quiero Mama; Monday! Babylon Dance; Tuesday!90s Retrovenge; Wednesday! Mama's House with Mark "Mom" Finley; Thursday!Rock Lobster with Vesta Buhle; Friday-Saturday! power mix, dance till 4am! www.neighboursonline.com

R Place, 619 E. Pine; 206-322-8828; www.rplaceseattle.com. Centrally located, comfortable neighborhood bar on three levels, serving beer, cocktails and fabulous food, including Sunday brunch buffet. Features: pool, darts, videos, and sports; Sunday and Tuesday night karaoke; Happy Hours Sundays noon-7pm, Tuesdays 8pm-1am; live DJs Thursday-Saturday; and dancing Friday/Saturday nights.

Timberline Spirits, www.timberlinespirits.com. Gay Seattle's largest dance floor. Built in 1903, a tradition for 18 years. Sunday "Church" disco T-dance has \$1 draft beers. Saturday "Atlas" features circuit music, lasers and hot men.

