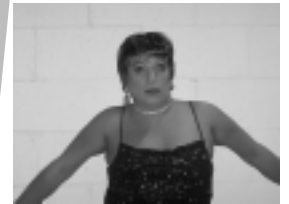


DURHAM ALLIANCE ASSOCIATION

717 Wilson Rd. S. Unit 7
Oshawa, ON
Tel: 905-434-GAYS or 905-434-4297
http://www.geocities.com/Club717_DAA



FEBRUARY 2004 NEWSLETTER

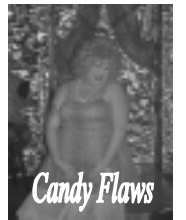


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Dolce

had a safe and happy New Year's.
Once again Club 717 had its annual New Year's Bash and it was a great success....Lots of Dancing and good eats had by all. I kicked off the New Year with a show Jan

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Most notable...
hen Queen...
hosted the...
hich was a



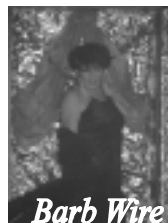
tremendous success, featuring some of the spouses performing for the first time. They were emulating their respective spouses...We saw Dolce as Ms. D. Meanor, Candy Flaws as Glenda Lewis DuBarry, Sierra

Sierra



as Savannah Davenport, Madge as Queen Edna herself, feathers and all, and finally we saw Barb Wire as Twiggy.

I am just preparing for the New Talent night which I hope will prove to be another exciting night.



Valentine's Day drag show & Valentine's Dance are also coming up this month. Hope to see you all the on Feb 13th for the Drag show featuring Queen Mother Edna, Glenda Lewis, Lauren Lovelace and myself.

Then on Feb 14th there will a special night of dancing, prizes and food for all.

There will be a \$5 cover charge for all non-members. Members will get in free....There is still time to get your membership renewed or purchase your membership for Club 717. See door person or any staff member for details.

Fees are \$40.00 for renewals and \$50.00 for new members.

Upcoming drag shows for the month of February are Mona Lott on Feb 6th; Valentine's Drag Show and Dance (Feb 13th-14th); followed by Miss Edna's 007 show on Feb 20th; and finally wrapping up the month will be myself Queen Jewels...

Make Club 717 your party destination for great music and dancing and weekly drag shows...

Remember this is your club and we are very interested in your feed back and concerns...

...Let's all be courteous and respect our club's policies...

...and most of all a safe place to hang out.....

Love

Jewels

FROM THE ENTERTAINMENT DIRECTOR/VICE-PRESIDENT

Queen Jewels is booking the drag shows and offering assistance where it is needed. The Queen will be forwarding her own commentary about club shows and events. And I must commend Jewels for doing such a fine job. It takes an awful lot of work to keep up with new music, new looks, new decorations and many new performers. There is so much preparation that goes into all the things that happen at the club, and I personally thank each and every one of you who participate, in any which way you can.

So you are probably wondering what I have to say. I have decided to be more informative into the happenings in the club and in this article I am going to talk about MARDI GRAS. The word CARNIVAL is Latin for 'Kiss your flesh goodbye'. And is the long season between Christmas and Lent. It is a Christian Roman Catholic tradition where food and drink are consumed somewhat excessively in preparation for the Easter Lenten. Sort of eat, drink, and be merry because tomorrow you fast. CARNIVAL goes from the Twelfth Night, January 6th until midnight of Fat Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday. (Pancake Tuesday) MARDI GRAS is the French for FAT TUESDAY. I have greatly condensed this information, but if you are truly interested in all the history, there is much more to research if you care to.

In the New Orleans parades, beads are thrown from the floats. Beads are given to people for hugs, kisses, flashing (but you may get arrested) and generally given for good looks, great costumes or because someone feels sorry for you. The MARDI GRAS colours are: PURPLE for JUSTICE
GREEN for FAITH
GOLD for POWER

MOST traditional MARDI GRAS costumes are handmade, including the beads and are of a satirical nature, political or built around current

events, like Bill Clinton and Monica a few years ago; Saddam Hussein in various goofy disguises – they are naughty to decent – elaborate fairies – floaties with wings – Lord of the Rings. The more eye catching and funny the better – like the Vampire Catholic Schoolgirl.

MARDI GRAS drag is delirious diversity – spectacular drag, eye popping expanses of skin, fetishist fantasy garb and outrageous comic costume. Miss High Hair, Big Bo Peep, Pearl Bedecked Broadway Baby and absolutely anyone can be a star.

A couple of weeks ago I had a conversation with a friend in the club and he said that people from club 717 are not into fetishes, and that if he took a poll right now, he would doubt if 10% of the people would be supportive.

I started to disagree with him and changed my approach. I told him that MARDI GRAS WAS coming to Club 717 on March 20th, 2004, and that I was going to write something for the newsletter to help encourage people to bring their fetishes out of the closet for Mardi Gras. So get out you big hair, big shoes, leather, feathers, rubber pads, flowers and leaves, paper Mache, your cellophane, tin foil, rope, bungee cords, make up, jewelry, beads, corks, balloons, balls and bats and hats, furs, , cords, cotton swabs, diapers, baby blankets, corsets and jock straps, hard hats and straw, placemats and tablecloths, napkin rings and dental floss, cutlery and china, soap boxes and bubbles or whatever it is you hide there in the back of your closet, down the basement or buried in your back yard. Read your newspaper and put on some rubber duds and get busy with your own creations ----- Martha Stewart, Michael Jackson, Britney Spears, Elton John, Mick Jagger, Mel Lastman, Nancy Diamond, Saddam, Geisha Girl, Sumo Wrestler, a camel, a tiger, a lamb or a cat, a big baby, a drag queen, a monster green, a golden drag king, Golem, a wizard, a dragon, a stripper.

A fairy chasing Peter Pan, a Loch Ness monster, a banker, a blanket person, a hippie, Michelin man, cave man, surfer baby, Medusa,

Chrétien, Ford, a GM worker scantily clad, a bug, a bunny or Christ!!!! Just come on out and party because that is what MARDI GRAS festivities include. Party like there is no tomorrow. Be you, be your self or be you other self, but add a touch of humour, a touch of colour and some gaylike frillies to whatever it is you do.

SEE YOU THERE,

CHARLIE 

A MESSAGE FROM STAFFING

Hi. I'm Pat the staffing Director for Club 717. On behalf of the Board of Directors and myself, we would like to thank the staff and volunteers for a great job in December and January. I know that every person working at Club 717 deserves a big **Thank You**.

We are having staff meetings every two months to continuously improve the staff and procedures of the club. We just had a meeting on January 18th and the next meeting will be at the club on March 28th at 2:00pm. All staff please mark this date on your calendar. Sunday's are in jeopardy of closing, so please forward to the staff or me any ideas to get people out on Sundays.

I know everybody must be getting sick of me wanting volunteers to help work at the club but every person that gives their time it will keep the club going for another month. Everybody thinks the club is making all kinds of money. I don't want to break everyone's bubble, but we need a lot more help to get us back on our feet. Even raising the drink prices, adding a cover and coat charges is not bringing in enough money to keep this club going in the future. The expenses keep growing and we are trying everything possible to keep our doors open. But everybody needs to work towards this goal. So once again, if anybody would like to volunteer for March just give me a call at 905-644-4882 or come over chat and add your name to the volunteers list by

February 15th. Once again thanks to everybody for their help and if you see me at the club come over and say HI...

Pat the Staffing Director ✨

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is already the end of January, how time flies when we're having fun although we are in a deep freeze and snow keeps coming down. To let everybody know Shannon has decided to make a new career move. With regrets she has left the club. The DJ is in the capable hands of Danny and Donny. They have step up and filled Shannon shoes (not high heels).

I have recently seen a lot of new and familiar faces at the club. I believe the club is going in the right direction. Friday nights seem to be a popular night for our customers who enjoy the Drag shows and dancing. I would like to thank Charlie, Queen Mom Edna and Queen Jewels for organizing great shows. A special thank you to all the Drag Queens, Staff, volunteers and Board Members for helping to keep our club the best in Durham region. We are trying to get our finances back in order. With the help of volunteers and donations from the staff this is starting to get us back on track. Hopefully, we can continue this over the next few months. It would be appreciated if anybody would like to volunteer their time working. As president I would like for everyone to keep coming out and enjoying Club 717 and help keep the doors open. If you see me at the club come and say Hi.

Ralph

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadian Leather Alliance? L'Alliance canadienne du cuir (CLA-ACC) Announces National Leather Contest Chief Judge

OTTAWA? The Canadian Leather Alliance? L'Alliance canadienne du cuir (CLA-ACC) announced today that International Mr. Leather 1979 David Kloss has accepted the role of Chief Judge for the very first National Leather Contest for Canada.

"As the very first International Mr. Leather, Mr. Kloss brings with him many years of experience," stated President of the CLA-ACC Andy Anderson. "We are very pleased to have him assist us with this new contest."

Over the past twenty-five years, Mr. Kloss, who has recently relocated to Toronto, Ontario, has gained exceptional experience judging all levels of Leather Contests. Some of his more recent assignments include the 2003 edition of the Mr. Leatherman Toronto contest and Mr. Leather Ottawa-Outaouais 2004.

The inaugural edition of the National Leather Contest is scheduled to take place in Ottawa, Ontario from July 8-11 at the Ottawa Sheraton

Hotel and will coincide with Ottawa-Gatineau Pride festivities.

- 30 -

Media Inquiries:
Douglas Connors
Secretary, CLA-ACC
Telephone: 613.236.3610
E-mail : calmecam@netrover.com

VOLUNTEERS

I would like to thank the following people for volunteering their time to the club in January. Their time and donations are helping keep Club 717 doors open for all patrons. These volunteers are Stephen Barker, Ralph Chiasson, Larry Chapman, Matthew Clarke, Pat Cronin, Roy Miles, Steve O'Conner and Charlie Samms. These people save the club \$930.00 from January's wages.

Once again thank you from the Board of Directors of Club 717.

MR./MS. LEATHER COMPETITION CLUB 717 2004 – 2005

Below is the information that you might need if you wish to enter the competition.

The competition is Saturday, April 24, 2004 at 9:30 p.m.

COMPETITOR RULES:

1. Must be a member of Club 717 in good standing.
2. Must promote Club 717 in a professional manner.
3. Must participate in Gay Pride Parade.
4. Must help organize and host the next Leather Contest for 2005/2006.
5. Must help the Queen & Entertainment Director with any Leather Events that receive Board approval.

PRESENTATION

1. Minimal or Sexy Leather

Each contestant will present themselves before the judges and audience and will then take the stage to answer the following question:

For our Club members and audience to better understand this event, what is it about leather that turns you on and makes you unique?

50 marks for dress attire

50 marks for your answer to the question

2. Formal Leather Attire

Each contestant may do the runway walk for judges and audience, then stand on the stage to answer the following question!

Should you become the Leather Person of Club 717, what events would you like to organize for the entertainment of Club 717 members?

50 Marks for dress attire

50 Marks for your answer to the question

The winner/winners of the competition will be presented with a leather hat with an engraved badge "Club 717 2004-2005".

Please fill out an application and return to Charlie Samms, Entertainment Director by Saturday, April 17, 2004.

JUDGES:

All Club 717 Members attending on April 24th will be handed a ticket and a draw will take place to select 4 judges plus 1 Board Member to sit on the judging panel.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Feb. 6th → Mona Lott & Isaac Cox
with Special Guests

Feb 13th → The Valentine's Show
hosted by Queen Jewels

Feb 20th → Edna's 007 Show with
Special Agents

Feb 27th → Queen Jewels &
Friends

Upcoming Events;

Fri-Mar 19th ♪ Mardi Gras Show

Sat-Mar 20th ♪ Mardi Gras Party
*(This is a special event so there will
be \$5. cover charge for non-
members.)*

Fri-Apr 23rd ♪ Leather
Competition

Sat-Apr 24th ♪ Leather Party

Fri-June 25th ♪ Pride Show

Sat-June 26th ♪ Pride Party

Sun- June 27th ♪ Toronto Pride
Parade

To be on our Email List, please
send an email to
Club_717_newsletter@sympatico.
ca

*Don't forget to send us a change
of address for Postal mailings or
for our email list.*

Visit us at

http://www.geocities.com/club717_daa