



Krewe's News

November—December 2007

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Meeting Schedule

Krewe of Aquarius meetings are scheduled for **December 6 and 20**. Meetings are held at the KC Hall (1912 Winnie) and begin promptly at 7:30 p.m. The Krewe usually meets once in December; however, with the early Mardi Gras, it was decided to schedule an additional December meeting. We will have our last meeting before Mardi Gras on **January 10**. Please try to attend these meetings to keep informed of last minutes details about our 2008 Mardi Gras celebrations.

Ball & Pageant

Krewe of Aquarius royalty had photographs taken on Sunday, November 18, and we are planning our annual Mardi Gras feature in the local newspaper the week between Christmas and New Year's. The ball will be held on Saturday, January 12, at the Galveston Convention Center Ballroom (5600 Seawall Boulevard). A costumed procession before the introduction and coronation of the King and Queen is once again planned.

Poster Contest

Krewe members selected the 2008 Mardi Gras poster celebrating the Renaissance at its November 15 meeting. Thank you to Stephaine Blasé for chairing the contest. Plans are to submit an article with a photograph of the artist to the local newspaper.

From the Krewe President...*Johnny Lidstone*

As always, everything is coming into place and at a quicker pace than before because of our early Mardi Gras. I cannot remember Mardi Gras being this early, but it must have been because over the past 24 years, I remember some mighty cold parades both weekends.

My hat is off to float captains and riders who have put their best foot forward and really gone to work on the floats.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the chairpersons and volunteers who have worked so hard on our fundraisers this year. The fundraising part of the year is winding down, and our efforts have really paid off as each one was a success. The Brisket Sale, Garage Sale, Pub Krawl, USO Variety Show, parties and social events have made money for our Krewe and our upcoming Mardi Gras events. Many thanks, again, to all, and Happy Holidays.

Mardi Gras Parade Update



Plans for our 2008 Mardi Gras Seawall parade (January 26) are in final stages, and if we had the parade now, it would be quite big. By January, we expect it to be one of our biggest! Stella Bennett and Johnny Lidstone have been working for months lining up marching bands, drill teams, and float entries. Plans are also underway for a big Fat Tuesday parade. Related to parades — **Beads & Throws & Costumes...**

Mardi Gras beads and throws are a popular tradition and an important keepsake to every reveler and Krewe member. Krewe members are always in search of new and different throws, but there are several things to keep in mind when selecting your throws. Make sure they are not too light (will blow backwards or under the floats), not too heavy (could hurt the crowd or break apart), or not too elaborate (small, detailed beads get tangled). If you toss conservatively, you will need a minimum of 10 gross for the Big Parade (Saturday) and Fat Tuesday Parade. Then there are other events during the year that you need beads for such as the Barn Bash, the KOA Mardi Gras party (2nd MG weekend), 4th of July Parade and the Trolley Party—to name a few. Buy enough for the entire year. KOA requires that all beads be a minimum of 33" long. Beads can be ordered online or by telephone from several suppliers in the Baton Rouge/New Orleans area. Online searches for "Mardi Gras beads" will give several company and suppliers in the area, and you can always ask a Krewe member for their favorite supplier. If you decide to travel to the suppliers to purchase the beads since shipping is costly, be sure to check store hours. Krewe tradition is that members ride in costume for the Saturday Seawall Parade. Costumes, in keeping with the Krewe and float theme, may be purchased online or at local party shops or hand made. Also remember, smoking is not permitted on the floats and alcoholic beverages should be put in other containers (no bottles or cans).



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We're on the web: www.Krewe-of-Aquarius.org



Countdown to Mardi Gras 2008

- Krewe Meetings—Dec Dec 6 & 20
- Krewe Meeting—Jan Jan 10
- KOA 2008 Ball & Pageant Jan 12
- KOA Barn Bash Jan 25
- KOA Seawall Parade Jan 26
- Fat Tuesday Parade Feb 5

2008 Barn Bash

Terrie Kahla reports plans are underway for our biggest party of the year, "The Barn Bash". The bash will be held on Friday, January 25, from 7:00-11:00 p.m. at the Float Barn (31st Street near Avenue N-1/2). More details to follow including information on ticket sales.

Hotel Rooms for January 25-26

If you would like to reserve hotel rooms at La Quinta (14th and Seawall) for the weekend of our Seawall parade and Barn Bash, please contact Solita Walker, (409) 993-9953 or solita10@sbcglobal.net. Solita has obtained at special rate for Krewe members, however, you must book no later than December 6 with her (minimum of 2 nights).

Thank You's to... Pub Krawl, Garage Sale, USO Show

USO Show. The big show has come and gone. This year's production was a great success for the Krewe and good to our bank account. Many thanks to the performers and volunteers. Our raffle winners were: Beverly Powell, Frances Lidstone, Brad Shaffer, Hope Cooke, and Dottie Rutledge.

Pub Krawl. Our first ever "Pub Krawl" was a huge success. If you did not attend, you missed a great time and we hope to see you next year. Thank you to Pat Saenz for her time and hard work putting it together. Word is the downtown night spots cannot wait until next year's.

Garage Sale. The Krewe's annual garage sale was held on Saturday, October 20, and Betty Dyda and John Gonzales, reported an income of \$665. Thanks to those who helped, and to Ronnie, Merle, and Pat for their time and expertise in tagging the merchandise.

Thank you to **Krewe Members** who continue to support our fundraisers and our sponsors. Now is time to let the good times roll.

**WELCOME NEW
MEMBERS**



**Henry Bierman
Randy Price
Lori Stewart**