



Krewe's News

January - February 2012

From the Krewe President... Johnny Lidstone

Dear Krewe Members,

I will not attempt to name all who have worked so hard to make this 2012 Mardi Gras a reality. You know who you are. I have thanked you personally, and want to thank you again. I wish to thank those who chaired events this past year. We had much success and fun along the way. Our fundraisers help keep this old boat afloat.

This will be our 25th annual parade, and my Dad and I are very pleased to be here to see it roll for the 25th time. It is through the hard work and determination of our Krewe members that this parade remains a big part of Mardi Gras Galveston. We have come a long way since the early days of the "Truck Parade". Our early parades included several flat beds and more pick-ups than you could count. Some of the trucks had a DJ or small band in the back of the truck. It took about three years for us to become a bona fide 6-block parade with floats and three marching bands.

I look forward to seeing our Royal Court members as they once again dazzle us with their beautiful costumes and trains on Saturday evening. Congratulations to Andy and Danette Kerstens on their upcoming reign, and thanks to Mike McKinney and Linda Davidson, our outgoing royal couple.

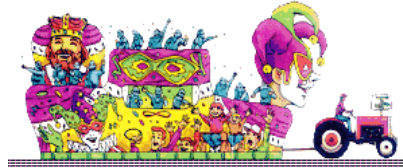
See you at the Mardi Gras.



Meeting Schedule

The Krewe will one last meeting before Mardi Gras. It will be held on Thursday, **January 26**, at 7:30 p.m. at the KC Hall (1912 Winnie). All members should plan to attend.

The Krewe Celebrates "Aquarius Takes a Resort Vacation"



2012 Ball and Pageant. The annual Mystic Krewe of Aquarius Ball and Pageant will be held on Saturday, January 28, at the San Luis Hotel Grand Ballroom. There will be a

happy hour from 7 to 8 p.m. followed by the pageant and coronation at 8 p.m. "Ezra Charles and The Works" will play dance music from 9 p.m. until midnight. A cash bar will be available all evening, and the Krewe will serve a breakfast buffet at 11 p.m. Krewe member tickets are included in their annual dues; however, guest tickets are \$65 and may be reserved by contacting Pat Collier or purchased at the door.

Mardi Gras Parades. The Mystic Krewe of Aquarius will kick off the 2012 Mardi Gras season with its **Annual Seawall Parade** at noon on Saturday, February 11. This is our 25th parade, and this milestone should not be missed. The parade will begin at noon and feature marching bands, drill teams, and lots of floats including our Krewe floats. TV Personality and KPRC weatherman, Frank Billingsley, will serve as Grand Marshal. Some parade reminders... Members are responsible for purchasing their own throws, so please do not expect others on the float to supply you with beads. Please do not bring any cardboard boxes to the float. And, if you plan to ride the float to the parade staging area on Saturday, please be at the barn by 7 a.m. Otherwise, you may meet us at 14th and Sewall after 9 a.m. Our **Fat Tuesday Parade** will roll at 6:30 p.m. on February 21. So far we have five Krewes ready to parade and six marching bands. Staging for the Fat Tuesday parade is at Santa Fe Place near 25th Street. On Fat Tuesday, we will depart the barn at 5 p.m. so please arrive no later than 4 p.m. **Have a friend that wants to ride?** We are selling spaces on floats for both parades: \$100 a space for the Seawall event and \$50 for Fat Tuesday. Call Johnny Lidstone at (409) 789-4101. Must bring own beads for parades, and if riding in the Saturday parade, must be in costume.

Parties. The **Momus Day Party** will be held at Jack's Pub on Post Office again this year. Jack's is free of charge and only wants the bar proceeds. We will be in the patio area and subject to the elements. Let's hope for a beautiful day. This is a potluck party so please bring food to last all day and patronize the bar. Our **Fat Tuesday Party** will be held at Crow's on the Strand. Denise Schaper is organizing the event that will begin at 8:30 p.m. The buffet will be open only to Krewe members and will not begin until everyone arrives. The Blues Brothers Band will provide music, and Krewe members will get wrist bands for Happy Hour drink prices all evening long.



Mystic Krewe of Aquarius
1311 Winnie
Galveston, TX 77550

Upcoming Krewe Events and 2012 Mardi Gras

Krewe Meetings	January 26, 7:30 p.m.
Krewe Pageant and Ball	Saturday, January 28, 7 pm
Barn Bash	Friday, February 10, 7-11 pm
Seawall Parade	Saturday, February 11, 12 noon
Momus Day Party	Saturday, February 18
Fat Tuesday Parade	Tuesday, February 21, 6:30 pm
Fat Tuesday Party	Tuesday, February 21, 8:30 p.m.

Krewe Spirit Basket

Hope Cooke and Mari Berend are organizing and taking donations for a Krewe spirit (liquor) basket to be given away on Fat Tuesday, February 21. Tickets, to buy or sell, are available so please contact Mari. Tickets are \$1 or 6 for \$5. This is a great fundraising opportunity with the upcoming Barn Bash, Momus Day Party and Fat Tuesday events. Please take some tickets to buy and sell and spread the word.

Krewe Floats

We have contracted once again with Yaga's for rental of three of our floats to be showcased in four parades in the Strand District. Yaga's will move the floats on Sunday morning after our Seawall parade and return them the following weekend. They are paying our Krewe \$1,500 in addition to each Krewe member enjoying a free gate pass to the Strand Entertainment district on Momus Day, February 18.



Krewe Barn Bash

Galveston's biggest Mardi Gras party, our **Krewe's Barn Bash**, will be held on Friday, February 10, at the float barn (31st and Avenue N-1/2) from 7 to 11 p.m. The party is for people 21 or older. Advance tickets for Krewe members are \$10 and must be purchased from Pat Collier before the event. Tickets at the door are \$20.

We are still in need of Krewe members to help with the beer booth and food line. It seems that each year the same people work the entire night with no relief workers. Please call Pat Muldowney to volunteer.

"98 in the Shade" will be this year's band. So put on your dancing shoes, and don't miss our annual get-together. Miller Lite Beer is a major sponsor of this event.