



Krewe's News

March 2013

Meeting Schedule

March meetings are scheduled for **Thursday, March 14, and Thursday, March 28**. Meetings are held at the KC Hall (1912 Winnie) and begin promptly at 7:30 p.m. The first Thursday will be our pot luck supper after the meeting. Everyone should plan to bring their favorite dish or dessert.

Don't forget— **Officer and Board Elections** will be held at our March 28 meeting.

Krewe Dues & Membership - Time to Join ...

Krewe membership opens on April 1. Dues are \$175/person. To remain a member in good standing, you must pay at least one half of your dues by April 1 with the balance paid by July 1. Current members who do not pay at least half their dues by April 1 will need to pay dues in full (\$175). One of our goals this year is to give membership our attention, and bring in new members. Plans are to hold a membership drive party in April. Please be thinking about prospective members to invite. If you have any questions about membership, contact Mary Kees, membership chair.

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From the Krewe President...*Johnny Lidstone*

Krewe Members and Friends,

Remembering Mardi Gras 2013— Every Mardi Gras is great, but there are some that are better than others, and 2013 was our best in many years. The Krewe has landed on it's feet after three years of playing catch up from the financial effects of Hurricane Ike and a slow economy.



Our new and successful "Pardi Gras" was a great event that Krewe members and guests really enjoyed. On top of that, it made a very handsome profit. The famous "Barn Bash" seems to have returned to it's past glory with a whopping turn out that was good to our bank account. We had two Krewe parties during the season that were big hits and well attended — the Momus Day Party at Fuddruckers and the Fat Tuesday party at Murphy's. Although these parties were not fundraising events, they both paid for themselves and made a profit.

Our parades this year were surpassed many others. Weather complimented and cooperated, giving us a beautiful afternoon and evening for our parades. These parade's ran smooth and without incident. Crowds seemed to be bursting at the seams along the parade route begging for beads and more beads. My day was made at the Seawall parade when Steve reported that a police officer asked how many more units since our parade was already 29 blocks long! All my hard work had indeed paid off.

We had a banner year in fundraisers that were all successful. Our new Turkey Fry and Christmas Cookie Sale were both winners. Our old standby, the USO show, was a resounding success. The spirit basket was another financial success. Thanks to Hope and Mari who organized the event, and to all Krewe members who donated and bought/sold tickets. Our social events like the Luau and Trolley party were well attended. We were invited to participate in the new Seawall July 4th parade. We have been asked to return with more floats for a bigger event in 2013.

I will not mention names because there are so many, but thank you to our Krewe members for a very successful 2013 Mardi Gras. This has definitely been a turn around year for Aquarius, and we have so much to be thankful. We need to stay on top of things and see that our success and progress continues. I look forward to another banner year for Aquarius. My dad, Merle, and I thank you all of you.



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Fundraising

The Krewe has two fundraiser opportunities coming in April and May. In April, there is the Ironman 70.3 at Moody Gardens. The Krewe has been asked to work the bike course again. In May, there is the new women's 5K obstacle event also at Moody Gardens. Both events need a minimum of 30 volunteers; the women's event could use even more people. The Krewe will receive \$250 per ten volunteers at both events. Johnny Lidstone will have sign-up sheets at Thursday meetings, and we hope many members will participate.

Upcoming Events & Activities

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|---------------------------|----------|
| • KOA Meeting | March 14 |
| • KOA Meeting & Elections | March 28 |
| • KOA Membership Opens | April 1 |
| • Ironman 70.3 Event | April |
| • Women's 5K Event | May |

Officer and Board Elections

It's election time for the Krewe, and members will be electing officers and board members for the 2013/14 year at the March 28 meeting. A nominating committee has been appointed by the Krewe President, and will take nominations from the floor at the March 14 meeting. A slate of nominations will be prepared that includes incumbents who wish to run for re-election, then the ballot finalized with floor nominations. No nominations will be taken from the floor at the election meeting (3/28). Members wishing to run for a position must be at the meeting to accept the nomination in person to be placed on the ballot. To run for a position, you must be a Krewe member in good standing for 12 months as of nomination night. Voting will be held at the March 28 meeting, and elected officers and board members will take office on April 1 (beginning of the Krewe's fiscal year).

