The Gay Appreciation Awards Board of Directors presented the 19th Lifetime Achievement Award to Michael "Fish" Hickerson for his outstanding service to the community at the 19th GAA Gala hosted at the Marigny Theatre behind Cowpokes in New Orleans. The event raised $3,517 for Buzzy’s Boys and Girls through the generosity of VIP table sales, $100 donations, door donations and stage performance tips. Photo: Rip & Marsha Naquin-Delain, SDGM XXXIII Lisa Beaumann, Michael "Fish" Hickerson and Teryl-Lynn Fox.

For the first time in the 19 year history of the Gay Appreciation Awards, there was a tie for Entertainer of the Year. Both New Orleans’ Donnie Jay and Austin Baptist Women’s Widow Modine Murphy, Betty Bea Blessing, O’Feelya Faith and Deacon Dave took home the 2006 award presented at the 19th GAA Gala hosted at the Marigny Theatre in New Orleans.

The Mystic Krewe of Satyricon hosted the 96th birthday bash for the legendary Miss Dixie at the Friendly Bar Annex with a succulent buffet. Friends traveled far and wide for this annual event honoring one of the pillars of New Orleans gay society.

NO/AIDS Task Force is bringing healthcare services into the community with its 37-foot “CareVan,” donated by Dame Elizabeth Taylor and Macy’s department stores to help provide vital care to the HIV/AIDS community in the Gulf Coast following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. NO/AIDS Task Force executive director Noel Twilbeck was presented a check for $40,000 from Elizabeth Taylor and the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation, by Project Inform’s Martin Delaney. Twilbeck, said the donation goes a long way toward providing the necessary care and testing to the community. The 37-foot CareVan features two examination tables, an X-ray machine and flat screen TVs. "This is a phenomenal gift that Elizabeth Taylor wanted to make available to people with HIV/AIDS. We’re incredibly grateful that she has reached out with such a valuable piece of equipment that truly fills a need in New Orleans," Twilbeck said. "Her donation has opened other doors and opportunities for our organization to provide better healthcare to the New Orleans community.”

Dakota Springs joins birthday girl and Southern Decadence Grand Marshal XXXIII Regina Adams for her fab birthday blowout at her new home bar, Starlight By The Park in New Orleans. The club just celebrated their 3rd anniversary over 4th of July Weekend.

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David Boyd & Mike Andrews accept Carnival Ball of the Year for Lords of Leather

Rhonda Rogel (right) accepts Bitch of the Year for daughter-in-law Bianca Del Rio-Rogel from Southern Decadence Grand Marshal XXXIII Lisa Beaumann

Steve Mettner accepts Restaurant/Deli of the Year for Quartermaster: The Nellie Deli

Michael “Fish” Hickerson accepts the Buzzy Fanning AIDS Award

Mina Hernandez accepts Leather Person of the Year

Tittle Toulouse & Electra City accept GLBT Business of the Year for Queen Fashions

Bobby Connell & Tim Miller accept Leather Bar of the Year for the Phoenix

GAA's Lisa Beaumann presents Robin Malta with Hair Salon of the Year

Bartenders Rusty Downing & Marty Curtin accept Neighborhood of the Year for the Friendly Bar

Showgirls’ Lisa Beaumann, Vivica Deveraux, Coca & Persana Shoulders join bartender Randi Holmes accepting Dance Bar of the Year for Oz

Madam Adam accepts the Fly Fashion Victim Award in memory of the late Ms. Fly for Starlight By The Park's Jaded Jade

GAA's Lisa Beaumann presents Bourbon Pub/Parade showgirl Savanna DeLorean with the Fly Fashion Glamour Award in memory of the late Ms. Fly

Bobby Connell accepts Man of the Year for Todd Cole, Lords of Leather President

Showgirl Lisa Beaumann, GM Ted McCrory, showgirl's Persana Shoulders, Coca & Vivica Deveraux accept Show Bar of the Year from GAA's Teryl-Lynn Foxx

Barry Bareass accepts the Cheridon Comedy Award in memory of the late Sonny Cleveland

Younger's Lisa Beaumann presents Robin Malta with Hair Salon of the Year

Bartenders Rusty Downing & Marty Curtin accept Neighborhood of the Year for the Friendly Bar

Cowpokes Lance Pippin accepts Bartender of the Year

Mina Hernandez accepts Lesbian of the Year

David Boyd accepts Man of the Year for Todd Cole, Lords of Leather President
Gay Appreciation Awards Gala emcees
Teryl-Lynn Foxx & Lisa Beaumann

Rikki Redd & Madam Adam represent Top 5 Show Bar of the Year Finalist Starlight By The Park

The men of Cowpokes represent Top 5 Show Bar of the Year Finalist Cowpokes

Princess Stephanie, Starr Daniels, Electra City, Tami Tarmac & Tittle Toulouse represent Top 5 Show Bar of the Year Finalist Cowpokes

Donnie Jay & Klorocks Bleachman represent Top 5 Show Bar of the Year Finalist Golden Lantern

The Corner Pocket Boys join Electra City, Lisa Beaumann, Barry Bareass & Tittle Toulouse representing Top 5 Show Bar of the Year Finalist Corner Pocket

Gay Appreciation Awards Founder
Marcy Marcell

Miss Gay Pride Elizabeth & partner
Steven

Gay Appreciation Awards Gala emcees
Teryl-Lynn Foxx & Lisa Beaumann

Vivica Deveraux & Lisa Beaumann represent Top 5 Show Bar of the Year Finalist Oz

Top 5 Lesbian of the Year Finalist
Red Velour from Phoenix

Top 5 Bartender of the Year Finalist
Alesha Bryant from Lafitte’s

Top 5 Entertainer of the Year Finalists:
ABW’s O’feelya Faith, Princess Stephanie & ABW’s Widow Modine Murphy & Betty Bea Blessings

Electra City, Star Daniels, Tami Tarmac & Tittle Toulouse

Top 5 Fly Fashion Glamour Award Finalist Tyriq Davenport Kennedy

The whole family: Nan, Momma Mina & both Leather Person & Lesbian of the Year Mina Hernandez herself

Sandy Phillips & Starlight By The Park baron CW Stambaugh

Oz Gay Appreciation Awards Founder
Marcy Marcell

Donnie Jay & Klorocks Bleachman represent Top 5 Show Bar of the Year Finalist Golden Lantern

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19th Gay Appreciation Award Gala/Marigny Theatre raised $3,517 for Buzzy’s Boys & Girls ~ New Orleans

photos: Paul Davis, Starr Daniels, Donnie Jay, Chris Schmahltier