

10-11-08
KREWE OF DIVAS 11PM

10-18-08
ROCKY WHORE 11 PM

HAPPY HOUR - Mon. - Fri. 3pm-8pm • Sat. 5pm-8pm

TUESDAYS - Karaoke • 10pm

WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS - Cat's Ass Karaoke w/Cody King • 11pm

FRIDAYS - HOT Male Dancers

HOURS - Mon-Fri. 3pm-2am • Sat. 5pm-2am

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hot tails of red stick ...from EX-20

Kiley could hardly wait to get off stage.

I have to mention another great costume that Kiley created. Do you remember the singer in "The Fifth Element?" That blue outfit came to life on the Apollo stage, and the costume was on display at Hibiscus Bookstore for a while. It was built to perfection as only Kiley could do it.

Now you know why he is qualified to be a new employee of ILM. Someone has finally recognized the talent that I saw long ago. I am so very proud of Kiley. I know you all will join me in wishing him much success in the bright lights of future Hollywood endeavors. And to top it off, he gets to live in San Francisco, one of my favorite cities. Can I come visit you in December when I come out to see the Christmas lights? I'll treat you to an excellent dinner at the Tibetan restaurant on Lombard, right near your office complex and then we can go up to the top of Twin Peaks which overlooks the Castro and view the entire city by the bay. Let me know, sweetie. Maybe I can talk a very talented Lance (an excellent illustrative and technical artist) into coming with me.

Odds and Ends

It was one of the classiest dinners I've been to in quite some time. Little John did his best to produce a fine evening of Italian dining at his townhouse apartment. With a little help from significant other Phil, we enjoyed a wonderful evening together. It only ended when it did because they had to watch "Heroes," and I had to get home for "CSI: Miami."

I noted in talking with Karen and Lance that they also like "CSI: Miami." We all agreed that it was a great loss when they killed off Tim Speedle (played by Rory Cochran). Rory went on to star in one of the best TV movies I've ever seen, called "The Company," which also saw the best acting of his career from Chris O'Donnell. It was a great one. Check it out if you get the chance. I made sure I got a copy on DVD. It looks great on my big screen in my home theater.

On October 10th, you need to be at Splash for the big fundraiser to benefit the Greg T. Bell A.I.D.S. Foundation. You can see your favorite bartenders in drag as Turn-A-Bout V goes into Sordid Drag Lives. It's all for a good cause. I loved Greg. He was a friend and always had a smile on his face. I still miss him.

I stopped by for a drink with Miss Jeannie last week, but I missed her. I was a little too early and had to get on to another assignment, but I plan to get back with her at Hound Dogs soon. I need to check in with Joy too to see what she has up her skirt - oops - what she has planned for her next party.

Luther keeps me smiling with his presence at our dinners. Of course, Gerry has a way of revving up the excitement at these gatherings. We usually go Italian, but Luther was hungry for steak, and we made it to Outback with Matt from Houston. At least, I found out how he likes his meat - steak, of course. Recently, Gerry kept forking Luther, and then there was the nipple episode.

Goodness, Luther! You have great nipples! And the forking was something else!

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**ACADIANA
PAPARAZZI**



Khory & Patrick at Sound Factory



Brant & Anthony at Sound Factory



Lindsey & Teddy partying at Sound Factory



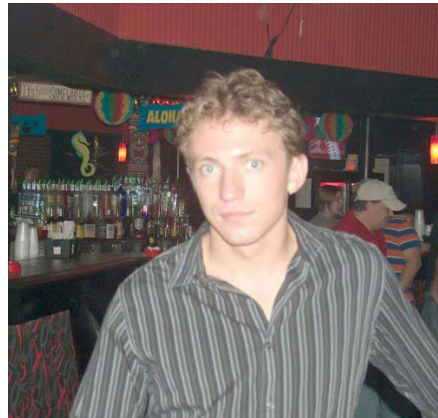
Jamie having a cocktail at Sound Factory



Travis relaxing at Sound Factory



Troy, John & John all decked out at Sound Factory



Tyler from New Orleans at Sound Factory



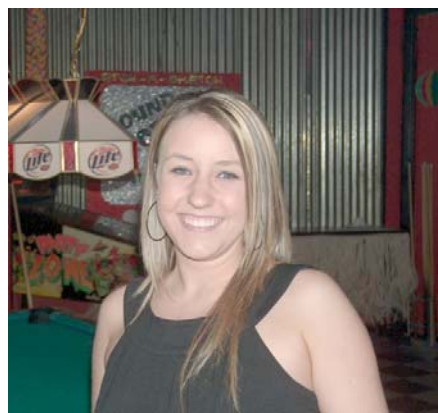
Karl trying to stay focused at Back Side



Chad from Kickass Karaoke at Sound Factory



Thomas having a beer at Sound Factory



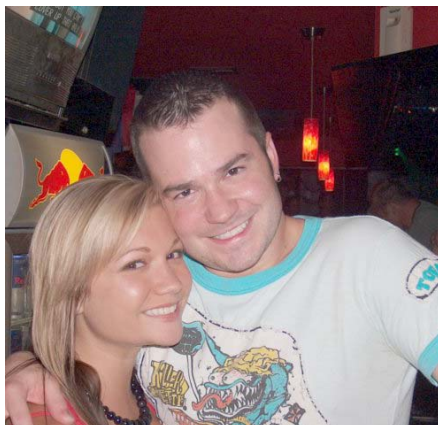
Holly is all smiles at Sound Factory



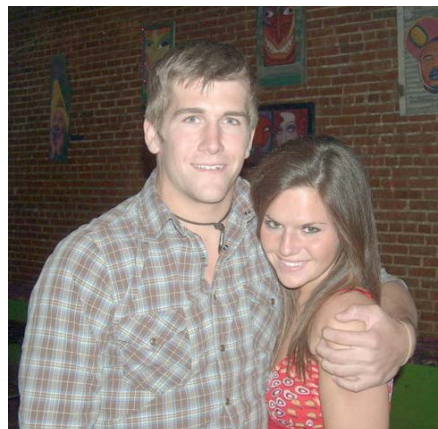
Christian dropping by Sound Factory



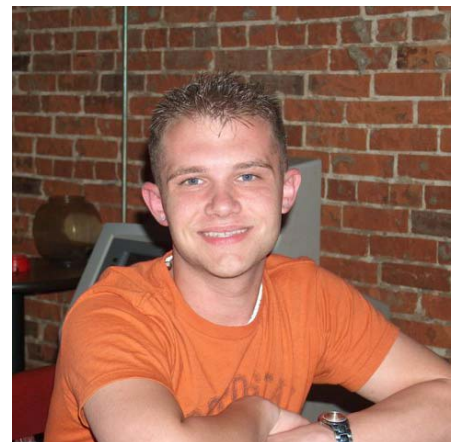
Andy & Eddie getting better acquainted at Sound Factory



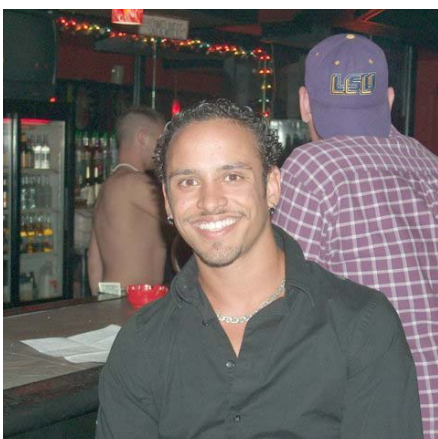
Brooke & Macky at Sound Factory



Trey & Kennedy all hugged up at Sound Factory



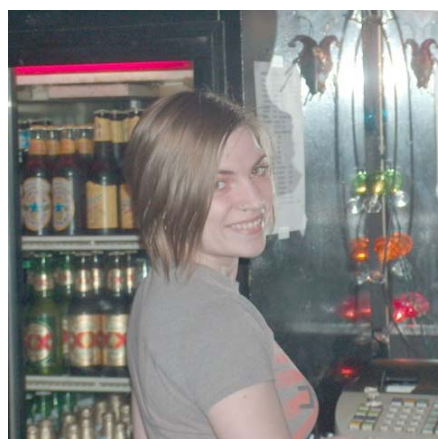
Chris taking a break at Back Side



Josh out and about at Sound Factory



Jeff & Natalie at Sound Factory



Erin bartending at Sound Factory



Kelly & Rachelle getting close at Sound Factory

Cocktails, Karaoke ~ Lafayette, Louisiana ~ Photos by Patrick Clinton

GAY HISTORY MONTH

Elton John Interview

Exclusive to *Ambush Mag*
by Mark Segal, Gay History Project

Editor's Note: Mark Segal is Publisher of the Philadelphia Gay News and in 2005 produced Philadelphia's Official July 4th concert which starred Sir Elton John, Pattie LaBelle and Bryan Adams and raised \$1,000,000 for the EJAF and \$100,000 for local HIV/AIDS organizations.

Mark Segal (MS): Oscar Wilde wrote "Anybody can make history. Only a great man can write it." Your new musical Billy Elliott certainly fits that realm, and at the same time takes on homophobia. Was that one of the issues that brought you to this project.

Elton John (EJ): The main attraction to me for Billy Elliott was the deep connection I felt with the film. Billy's artistic and social journey had parallels with my own life and wanting to be a musician. Having said that, I find Billy's friendship with his gay friend Michael to be genuinely touching so that was a focus for me as well.

MS: Part of your history is the Elton John AIDS Foundation. Each year you tour a country where EJAF has program. What are your most memorable thoughts from

those trips?

EJ: For the past few years, my partner David Furnish and I, along with friends and colleagues from the Elton John AIDS Foundation have gone to South Africa every January. And, as you say we make a point to visit projects and organizations that are supported by EJAF. These annual trips have become not only an activity to which I look forward, but in fact give me much energy at the beginning of each year. I am always overwhelmed by the hopeful spirit that surrounds all the people with whom we come in contact – and these are people whose lives have been ravaged on so many levels by HIV/AIDS. They are children whose parents have died from AIDS. They are heads of households at 10. They are wives whose husbands have died. The stories go on and on and yet they carry on with such hope and dignity. It is a true inspiration and is something that helps focus my energy to continue to raise money for the Elton John AIDS Foundation to support such work all around the world.

Last year, I also traveled to the Ukraine where EJAF supports a number of projects. In fact, during the summer of 2007 I played an outdoor concert in Kiev to

raise money and awareness for our work and HIV/AIDS in general. It was so gratifying and energizing to play before such enormous and enthusiastic crowds. Earlier this year, David traveled to India with EJAF staff and other Board members to view projects we support there. David and I are very proud of the work that we are supporting in that country. This year, we look forward to traveling to Cambodia to visit projects in that country.

MS: Are there any new projects in the pipeline for EJAF?

EJ: Well, I am happy to report that since 2005 EJAF has met with ever greater fund-raising success and has increased its grant making here in the U.S. by 140%. We have expanded not only the amount of money given but also strategically targeted key regions and populations that are poorly served by current prevention efforts and most at risk of infection including: critically under-funded communities of the Southern United States, the Caribbean, and Latin America; highly marginalized populations such as injection drug users, men who have sex with men, and incarcerated individuals; and underserved populations such as African Americans and young people.

To use a specific example, many of the grants that EJAF has made over the last couple of years reinforce and enhance our commitment to HIV/AIDS awareness-raising, prevention, and treatment access programs in the Caribbean, the second-most HIV/AIDS affected region in the world after sub-Saharan Africa. In 2007 alone, 17,000 people in the Caribbean were newly infected with the virus, and as many as 230,000 Caribbean residents are currently living with HIV. It is also a region where there is tremendous stigma around HIV/AIDS.

In 2007, EJAF invested more than \$1.6 million in grants to this region and nearly \$1.4 million so far in 2008, addressing the specific challenges of the HIV/AIDS epidemic on a variety of levels. To ameliorate prejudices and reduce stigma faced by people with HIV/AIDS, EJAF partnered with the Kaiser Family Foundation and the Ford Foundation to help establish the Caribbean Broadcast Media Partnership on HIV/AIDS (CBMP). Since its launch in May 2006, the CBMP has grown to include more than 80 leading broadcasters from 25 Caribbean countries and territories across the region, in an unprecedented collaboration to develop a coordinated media response to AIDS. CBMP broadcast members have made HIV/AIDS a business priority, and they air HIV content across all programming genres, delivering important messages about tolerance and HIV prevention to an estimated audience of some 40 million people. With the new grant just awarded in early September, the CBMP will be expanding its efforts into Haiti, the country most affected by HIV/AIDS in the Western Hemisphere.

So, I am very pleased that EJAF can not only maintain its commitments to funding projects at the front lines here in the U.S., but can also expand to areas in

desperate need such as the Caribbean region.

MS: If I'd ask someone from the U.S. about gay history they most likely would mention the Stonewall riots in 1969. Many in Britain might think of Oscar Wilde's trials in 1895. When I say gay history what comes to your mind?

EJ: For me, I would have to say that when I think of gay history I immediately think of my own civil partnership with my partner David. When civil partnerships became possible in the United Kingdom, it was very important for David and I to be able to do this on the first day it was possible. I really felt part of something genuinely progressive and groundbreaking and we were also so totally overwhelmed and heartened by the positive support we received across the board from the press, my fans, the people of Great Britain and literally the world over!

MS: Ray Charles, The Beatles and Sir Elton John are all musical history. Charles will be known mostly by his music. The Beatles will be remembered for their musical invasion of the U.S. How would you want history to remember you?

EJ: I would like to be remembered very simply as a good person.

MS: Over the last few years you've been outspoken on a number of issues and causes: AIDS and HIV of course, gay marriage and even sexism. Can your own history in the gay community teach us anything?

EJ: We can certainly continue to make tremendous strides by positively pulling together as a community and directing our energy toward the issues that really matter. I always say that life is about building bridges not walls.

MS: Part of our struggle is the right for equality. You stood up for equality when you and David married in Windsor. Any advice for those battling in California for that right?

EJ: I would say that ultimately we should not be deterred by those who do not want us to gain equal footing in society. The path to that day of victory will not be easy and there will be those individuals who will try and stand in the way of progress. But, I feel that over time the ideals of equality for gay men and women – in this case to marry – will prevail. So, don't lose sight of what is right.

MS: On a light note, how does it feel to be a married man?

EJ: Wonderful! As I said, David and I deliberately chose to have our civil partnership on the very first day that this became legal and possible in Great Britain; however, after all the excitement died down, we both felt incredibly content and secure in the knowledge that mainstream British society now supported our relationship.



ALLONS ACADIANA

by Patrick Clinton
Email: BlondAtULL@aol.com

Fall Break was last week and I know all you college students used it to catch up on some much needed sleep. Now that we're back at school, the party season really gets underway. From here until the new year, it seems like there is always something wild and festive going on. In just a few weeks the season kicks off with my favorite holiday, Halloween, and I hear that this year's celebrations will be wilder than ever.

The Sound Factory and Back Side are already gearing up for their annual Halloween Extravaganza. And since it falls on a weekend for the first time in quite a few years, it should be more memorable than ever. So start working on your costumes now, because Halloween in Downtown Lafayette is like nowhere else. And don't forget about Sound Factory's Costume Contest. If you're creative enough, the night might just turn out profitable, as well as wild.

While you're getting ready for the big Halloween Celebration, don't forget about Sound Factory and Back Sides' brand new weekly line-up. Every Monday you can compete in the weekly Pool Tournament at Back Side. If you're good with a stick, come by and show off your talent. Whether you win or lose, it's always a great time.

Tuesdays are Karaoke Night at Sound Factory, hosted by the ever popular Chad Evans.

Back by popular demand, Wednesday nights will host Lube Wrestling, and while it may yet to be an Olympic sport, it

is definitely one of the sexiest events of the week. And of course, you're always welcome to participate. If you can wrestle, or just like to get all lubed up, come by early and sign up. If you win, there's always fabulous prizes.

Thursday is Lady's Night at Sound Factory, but if you're a guy, don't worry, the Back Side will always have some specials for you too.

Friday Nights are the ever popular Dance Party where you can get out on the floor and go wild to some of the best music around. Then on Saturday you can be entertained by their ever popular Show Night. Each week there'll be special entertainment to liven up the Lafayette nightlife.

And who could forget Sundays with its twelve hours of fun and festivities? It begins at noon on Back Side with their Sunday Lunch Buffet and continues that night with the infamous Drag Races at Sound Factory. By midnight you're ready for a good night sleep since it all starts over again the next day.

All in all, Sound Factory and Back Side make sure that no matter what night of the week you hit the Downtown, there's always something festive going on. Time is ticking away until the big Halloween celebration, so you better get to work on your outfits. And remember, it's the one night of the year when anything goes, so get wild and crazy, show us just how creative you can be.

Until next time, have fun and be safe. I'll see you around the Downtown.

