

The Wayback Machine - <https://web.archive.org/web/20050306134025/http://www.leatherweb.com:80/dcarch...>

LeatherWeb



Washington, D.C.
Musings by Vern Stewart
ARCHIVES 2004

A WINNER IN NEW HAVEN

Mid Atlantic Leather 2004

Mid Atlantic Leather 2004 celebrated their 20th Anniversary. Despite the bitter cold weather, a record crowd was on hand to witness the sashing of James "Tug" Taylor, Mr. Connecticut Leather the new MAL 2004. Jerel Cooper, Mr. NJ. Leather 2003, grabbed the first runner up spot and Dennis McMahon, Mr. Cleveland Leather 2001, took second runner-up. Six contestants competed for the title. The other three were Michael Sessa, Michael Smith and David Phillips.

Contestant Mike Smith, won the Brotherhood Award. And from the heartland of America, Spanky was named Mid Atlantic Boot Black 2004

For the 2004 event a new location for the contest was presented. Alma's Temple is only two blocks from the host hotel, which was indeed a plus had it not been for the miserable weather. However shuttle buses were provided. The Centaur Motorcycle Club once again put on a fun filled weekend for all in attendance. Leather cocktails was indeed an elegant affair and the food was delicious. The most popular delicacy of course was the Shrimp tree. and the open bar for nearly three hours.

There were a lot of new attendees to MAL this year, and all that this reporter questioned felt they definitely received their money's worth which included a Sunday brunch and they would return next year.

A special added attraction was the appearance of 12 of the former MAL's which was a first. This was due to the hard work, time and effort of MAL 97 Mike Siemer.

As is the case in Chicago during IML, the most popular meeting, and cruising spot, was the lobby of the Host hotel. So much so, until the fire marshals insisted that there were too many people in the lobby. Therefore when 5 guest would leave the bldg., 5 would be allowed to enter. Which would normally would have been acceptable except in this case the temperature outside was hovering around the zero mark.

If the weather is similar next year the hotel definitely needs to come up with a better solution. We know that purchasing cocktails in a hotel are generally higher than in a regular bar establishment, However, when hotel management jacks the price up on the coat check concession to four dollars per item, it's no wonder guest staying in the hotel were letting friends store their belongings in their room. If you

went to a bar, and returned, and later went to dinner, and then returned to the hotel, you would have put out sixteen dollars in just checking your wrap! Outrageous I would say,

Many were not amused at that gouging. by the hotel management. As per usual parties were everywhere, and in several different hotels. All of course were well attended. The biggest and most popular cocktail party was hosted by the men of ONYX, the wonderful club from Chicago. This year they made a very wise move, and took over the large Diplomat room, after some urging from Mr. Marcus and yours truly after last years party. The move paid off, and the place was packed, and the men were hot and the music was great.

Anyone who has attended IML in the past, knows what a great dance party Onyx members put on during that weekend. A party not to be missed. this coming May at the Hyatt (the host hotel).

Mid-Atlantic Dish.....

The not too bright award, goes to the person who attended a cigar party during MAL weekend. Wouldn't you think that he would know poppers and a lit cigar don't mix? Poppers on the beard, and a lit cigar. Flaming is the word. The person was pushed to the ground to extinguish the fire. I could have been deadly...Cute, real cute! So much for that party. Oh yes it was cancelled. Now who is going to pay for the burns to the carpet? That's the hotel's burning question?

Miffed title holder dept.....The sign up sheet at the registration desk stated current title holders only. But did that happen? Of course not and every titleholder from 900 to present was up on stage. All those sashes were brought out of mothballs once again! Several former title holders were miffed when they discovered they were left out! It might have worked better if all the non-title holders had gone on stage and the rest remained in the audience!

Speaking of mothballs, the old Mr. Chicago Leather title is being dusted off and revived. The contest will be held at Touche' on April 2 -4. So for those who live in the Chicago area, here is your chance to go to IML as a contestant.

Should you be planning a trip to Berlin, you will be able to attend their Folsom Europe fair....September 4, 2004 I have not a clue as to what to expect. But it should be interesting.

Speaking of Chicago, Former American Leatherman Dean Ogren, made a surprise visit to DC last month to make a purchase. The purchase being that fur coat made famous by the late Ed Ryder when he strolled across the IML stage wearing it the year he entered. The coat's original owner, Jose Ucles, decided to sell it...My, my my if that coat could talk, there would be another whole story on it's origin. I can picture La Ogren mincing down Michigan Ave wearing his new purchase.

Amazing how true the saying---What goes around comes around. A boy who departed the East for the left coast suddenly appeared on the East coast again. Nothing new about that. Except he was (according to him) evicted from the residence where he lived. His parents house!! oops!! Guess they were over him as well!!! hmmmmm

Rumors are surfacing that a springtime wedding is in the making. A very grand southern wedding to take place in New Orleans. A former Intl. Drummer titleholder, and his latest squeeze! Better start dusting off those large picture hats!

The IML judges for 2004 have been announced. John Pental, IML 03, David Allen, Abbotsford, Australia, Andy Anderson, Toronto Canada, Mary Elizabeth Boyd, Arlington VA., George Hester, New Orleans, LA., Randie Smith, Baltimore, MD., Slawek Starosta, Warsaw, Poland, John Weis, NYC, and George Wong, Montebello, CA. The tally masters are Mel Austin, Chicago, IL., Dan Hughes, San Jose, CA.

Chicago will be the place to be February 13 - 15, Leather Fest, and the Mr. Cell Block Leather contest, and the Pantheon of Leather Awards all on the same weekend. The witch is coating the broom with glycol, to keep the ice from forming for the trip.

A reliable source from the city of brotherly love has alerted people to stay tune, for a musical comedy, based on a certain restaurant located I. Rehoboth Beach, DE. Casting for the Sir Lady Charles part has not began..Who knows, maybe she will play herself.

It has been confirmed that one of the DC Eagle's favorite manager/bartender (Ted) will be representing the bar and cheering on their contestant at IML this coming May. At least we know he will attend the contest!

It was noted during MAL that the Susan Lucci of Leather contests who resides in Richmond, VA has found a new calling. An adult video star, with a new video premiering this week...I will leave out his stage name!!

What could be more embarrassing than being a contestant in a major leather contest, and have your chaps nearly fall off you as your exiting the stage? Yep it happened but everyone agreed he has a nice derriere

THE WICKED WITCH

Photos by Vern Stewart



[Back to Top](#)

Washington, D.C.
Musings by Vern Stewart
ARCHIVES 2003

A WINNER IN NEW HAVEN

The Hartford Colts hosted their second Mr., CT. Leather contest in the Yale University City of New Haven. New Haven was indeed festive with all the college students celebrating Halloween.

The Colts kicked off the weekend with a Meet and Greet at the York ST. Cafe. Plenty of delicious food was provided, and the trays were replenished all night long until closing! There's a first!

The hospitality suite at the very nice New Haven Hotel was the scene of more cocktails and chit chat until the wee hours. Lots of smaller more intimate parties were being held in various rooms.

Saturday, the weather was very accommodating and the interview portion began around 1:30 PM. It was indeed a pleasure to join judges Bob Forbes, NE Leather Sir 2003, Dave Rhodes, publisher of the Leather Journal, William "Bam" Coleman, Intl. Deaf Leather 2002, Hilary Williams, Mr. Ebony Leather 2001. Michael Marino MAL 2001 was tally master. Judges boy was Andy Fischman, Northeast Leatherboy 2003.

Queen Cougar handled the emcee duties for the weekend. Of course she had several costume changes during the weekend. Three contestants were vying for the title. George Alvelo, Todd Fleming, and James Taylor.

The STARS M/C hosted a cocktail party Saturday afternoon. To say they out did themselves would be an understatement. Everything from caviar to seafood and all the cocktails to wash it down with. Amazing to see how they pulled it all together in a matter of an hour or so. Hilary and Ross Nadler, obviously are old hands at that. It was nearly impossible for some to continue from the cocktail party to dinner which followed shortly thereafter. Tons of delicious food prepared by Paula's Kitchen, left most in attendance too stuffed to move.

The contest was held at Indigo/Market, a new venue from last year. A pleasant place and quite suitable for the contest. Queen Cougar was entertaining, and the contest ran smoothly,

When all was said and done and the scores tallied, James Taylor, from Wallingford, CT. was selected Mr. Connecticut Leather 2004. James will compete at Mid Atlantic Leather in January.

Once again the Hartford Colts known as the next generation, have continued the long honored tradition of service to the community. This goes back to the original club which started in 1987. President Don Muscente, and all the club members did a fantastic job, of making everyone feel so very welcome. What a delight to come to Connecticut.

COLLEGE TOWN DISH.....

Nice to see that the tally master had not lost his touch. There were no rooms with a revolving door. One would have needed a calculator to keep count. And he brought school homework to study. Don't think it ever left his suitcase. Hmmmmm But, he has a much better understanding of construction workers, and little boys from Boston!

If your wondering why the out going Mr. Connecticut Leather 2003 was not mentioned? It's because he did not show up! I guess we know what he thinks of the Hartford Colts, his title and the Leather community in general! However, the weekend ran smoothly without him.

Two other judges did not show. One had a very valid reason for not being able to attend, and called well in advance to offer his regrets and apology But the other one waited until the last minute. Title holders like that should be crossed off future invitation lists. What ever became of common courtesy?

So very nice to see Jerel Cooper, Mr. New Jersey Leather 2004 in attendance. He certainly turned a few heads.

NE Leatherboy Andy Fischman was on his best behavior all weekend. He had better be, since he has been swept off his feet by a SFPD cop and former Intl. Leather title holder. Guess those frequent flyer miles will start to accumulate from both ends.

In the whatever happened to dept----

VA/MD resident Paul Bohli, former President of Brother Help Thyself is now living in the Buckeye State (Ohio) due to a job relocation. Good Luck Paul

Former Mr. Rocky Mountain Leather 99, TC Haskins dashed from Denver and is now residing in Tucson, AZ.

The Twilight Guard who you may remember seem to have a personal beef with the Hartford Colts, and voted against them becoming a member of AMCC were paid a visit from members of the STARS MC, The Defenders, and The Hartford Colts. As busy as the Hartford Colts were with their leather weekend event, they took the time to drop in at the Brook Cafe in Westport, CT during the Guards bar night. Of course none of the Twilight Guards were in attendance at the Hartford Colts event. Seems the olive branch is still being extended by the Colts. Will this petty bickering ever end?

Larry Barat, Mr., DC Eagle is in the final few weeks of his title year. The Eagle is expecting a large turnout for his stepping aside. The contest will be held Saturday evening November 22. Hard to believe that Larry is the 30th Mr. DC Eagle...Thanks Larry for a great year.---and no scandal or dish!

It has become increasingly distressing to observe and witness contestants entering leather contest without a clue as to what they are becoming involved with. Commitment is a word totally foreign to them. Another key word is LEATHER not spandex and tennis shoes. If you show up and fill out an application would you not think to perhaps wear some leather other than a cockring? There is no excuse for not knowing basic leather information. Websites are in great abundance with plenty of leather information these days. It is an insult to judges who have to side step basic questions in an interview because the contestant was too lazy and unconcerned to do any research. Body by Fisher, brain by Mattel does not quite get it anymore.

Why enter? If you don't own a stitch of leather, then wait until you do. White jock straps are not "in," especially in formal leather competition.

In a recent NYC leather competition, one contestant elected to wear a pair of black nylon men's dress hose with low cut boots and an athletic supporter. Perhaps it was a fashion statement? It was later discovered he had forgotten his socks. In a last minute frenzy, the Den Daddy took off his proper work socks and boots, lent them to said contestant in order to be properly attired.

Den Daddy stood bare foot on the cold concrete floor during that portion of the contest. Not wanting to be blamed for an improperly dressed contestant. Now that is above and beyond the call of duty. Wonder if that contestant ever said thank you to the Manager of the Baltimore Eagle for coming to his aid in a time of need?

In another east coast leather competition, one contestant was chided by a judge (after the contest) and told he had been scored down because he had worn a neoprene shirt in the formal leather category even though it was black. Oh well, he will have plenty of time to purchase one from a high cow leather store before he departs for IML in May! Yes, he won the contest in spite of the neoprene shirt.

Has anyone noticed the width of some bar, regional and Intl. title holder sashes? They are becoming wider and wider. Why not wear a sandwich board? Are sash designers attempting to compete with Judy Tallwing McCarthy, IMSL 87, who has the widest and longest sash known to man or woman? Or at least she used to. Two slings could have been made from that sash!

Since more and more producers and sponsors of contest are realizing how expensive sashes are to give out new every year, and are now passing the sash on to the new title holder each year, wouldn't it be nice to give the title holder a vest patch for the back of a vest?

How many times do you have the occasion to wear the sash? Perhaps when being presented to the Queen of England, Mr. Marcus and your stepping aside.

The WICKED WITCH

Mike Russell Wins Intl. Leather Sir 2003

St. Petersburg, FL. the site of the International Leather Sir/boy contest produced two new winners. Mike Russell of San Diego, CA (Mr. Southern CA. Leather Sir) was chosen Intl. Leather Sir 2003. Rick "Titusboy" Mansfield (Great Lakes Leather boy) from Franklin, OH. was selected as the New Intl. Leather boy 2003.

First runner-up for Leather Sir was Chris Reynolds, South West Leather Sir 2003, and Andy Fischman from NYC, Northeast Leather boy, was first runner-up for the boy competition.

The boy competitors were Roger Hunt, No CA., Larry Ryan, Northwest, Sebastian Fontaine, Canada, Cody Smith, Great Plains, boy Randy, Southern CA., Garry Lynch, Mid Atlantic, Duane Mantey, south west, Mark Hopkins, South Central, Michael Hayley, Florida, and Michael Waugh, Southeast.

The Sir contestants were Brian Williams, No, CA, Eric Bonesteel, Northwest, Mike Mitchell, Mid Atlantic, Norm Ashton, South Central, Paul Thranhardt, Florida, Bill Morse, Great Lakes, Bob Forbes, Northeast and Richard Gray, Southeast.

The golden whip award went to Rick Titusboy Mansfield,

For the first time DCI productions held a Boot Black contest. And the winner of the Boot Black competition was Gwen Hardy. She will compete at the IMSL boot black competition in Omaha, NE next summer.

Needless to say, there were plenty of terrific baskets that were auctioned off for the winner's travel fund. Some baskets contained over 5 and 6 thousand dollars worth of merchandise in them. The Sirs and boys and sponsors really worked very hard to have spectacular baskets. This also means that the owners of all the stores, clubs and organizations, were so generous in giving to their various region's contestants. The support, love and caring was very obvious during the weekend. They certainly deserve a special thank you.

The week was certainly filled with surprises. At one point during a sponsors meeting, it was announced by DCI President Mike Zuhl, that this year would be the last year that the contest and weekend would be held at the SunCoast Resort. and that a search was on for a new location. However the evening of the contest, SunCoast Resort owner Tom Kiple added to the confusion, by stating that it may--- or may not be held there next year. Of course this left everyone in total confusion.

At this point it is not known where the contest will be held. There was even speculation by many in attendance if there would even be a contest next year. The mystery hopefully will unfold in the not too distant future. The state of the economy is not that great, and it is costly to produce an event the size of Intl. Leather Sir/boy. Sponsors at this point have agreed to support DCI President Mike Zuhl, as well as the Board of Directors. It boils down to a wait and see at this point.

The Previous weekend before Intl. Leather Sir/boy, The NY Eagle hosted their 33rd Anniversary and Mr. New York Eagle Leather contest. The bar was packed to the rafters, with leathermen and women to witness the selection of Mr., NY Eagle Leather 2004. Four contestants were vying for the title. When all was said and done, The Wicked Witch announced the selection of Brian Kent as Mr. NY Eagle Leather 2004. Yves Fontain grabbed the first runner-up position. Both men hail from NYC. Brian will represent the NY Eagle at IML 2004 in Chicago next May.

Brian has an extensive background in community service in the NY Leather community, and has hosted and sponsored various events for charities and organizations in the New York area. He definitely has the support of the New York Leather community. Congratulations to the new Mr. NY Eagle. A special thanks goes to Mike Tully Mr. NY Eagle 2003, who seemed to be everywhere during his entire title year. You did the Eagle Proud.

October 31-Nov 2, The Hartford Colts, will be holding their Mr., CT Leather 2004 contest. This event takes place in New Haven, CT. Mark Whelan will be passing the sash to a new Leatherman. The Hartford Colts did a bang up job last year with their event, and this years event will be only better. I will bring you the results of that event. as I have been invited to sit on the judging panel this yearStay tuned!

During the month of November, the DC Eagle will be hosting their annual Mr., DC Eagle contest. This year the contest will be held the weekend before Thanksgiving... ..and the annual Mr. Leatherman Toronto contest will also be held in November.

Grab the broom and sweep up the DIRT.....

There once was an old saying that children should be seen and not heard. In Florida that particular statement should have applied to a former NE region titleholder boy. The boy insulted nearly everyone he spoke to every time he opened his mouth. People were fleeing when they saw him heading their direction including his sponsors! Let's see how long it takes for the LA boys of Leather to get over him now that he is living on the left coast. What an embarrassment to boys everywhere. A large roll of duct tape should be in his boy bag to tape his own mouth shut!

One regional sponsor of Leather Sir/boy was mulling over perhaps he should interview possible contestants before they even fill out their applications. Some contestants seem not quite clear on the concept, requirements and expectations. Yes, if you enter that particular contest you are required to have a fantasy prepared! And no, you do not change your mind AFTER you arrive in Florida!

The New England region has made it clear that they will have a contestant for next years Leather Sir event. Not to worry the Ramrod Bar in Boston will not keep the Brotherhood down and out such as they did this past year with their childish antics.

Can anyone in Boston now explain why a former Intl. Bootblack is now known as Wilma? Has there been a wardrobe change? Hmmmmm

Imagine how undone one Sir contestant was when it was discovered that some of his props for his fantasy had disappeared from his room; only to discover, that they had accidentally been dropped off at the Basket auction. I hope whoever bid on that basket enjoyed all those extra candles!

A great fantasy was presented by one region. Amazing how many interesting things were removed from that boy's posterior, including a fresh chicken! And he does not even walk funny!

Imagine waking up in the middle of the night and finding someone jerking off next to your bed because the door did not close completely! Yes, that was indeed a look of surprise on Mr. Marcus's face! That will teach you to leave your door open. (if left open by accident) ooops!

Since Graylin Thornton won the Intl. Drummer title in 1993, and now Mike Russell won in 2003, does that mean the next banner year for the black man will be 2013? once every 10 years? Hmmmmm.

The announcement of the judges for Intl. Mr. Leather will occur in January at a press conference during Mid Atlantic Leather weekend. Stay tuned.

Leather Sir/boy Judge Karen McGee, asked all the boy contestants if they would drop their pants for her if she asked them. All did so when asked----except for one, who informed her he was not that kind of boy! OOPS.

Let's hope that the New Intl. Leather Sir, remembers that there are people on the opposite coast that are looking forward to getting to meet him, and that we will see him all over the country! hello? Hint, hint.

It has been confirmed that there is a new owner/producer of the Mr. San Diego Leather contest. Tom Dickerson seems to be the big man at the helm these days. Congratulations, and now maybe San Diego will have some no nonsense and very together events.

Here we go again. Some idiot is back to doing the scam calls again. Asking for money under phony pretext. I would hope by now, none of you are falling for that crap anymore, and are not sending any money to anyone. Whoever that queen is, should get a life, and get a job.

Word to the wise dept..... For your safety and security, unless you have authorized any hotel that you have stayed in to keep your credit card number on file, for future use, make sure that you do not allow that to happen. Hotels should not keep your credit card on file for any reason.

In Oklahoma Keith Hunt was selected The New Mr. Oklahoma Leather. He will compete Next May at IML in Chicago. Many will remember Mr. Hunt From Drummer Days, when he reigned as Intl Mr. Drummer 1994. Others may recall "La Hunt" as a headliner in several Drag Queen revue's after his Intl. Drummer stint! OH, I SEE!

The WICKED WITCH

SUMMER DISAPPEARED IN A FLASH

The last holiday weekend which brings summer to a close officially has come and gone. Opera season is about to open. We all know how many leathermen just love opera. Not to note Halloween (another gay holiday we have taken over) is quickly approaching.

It is rather exciting to prepare for the fall activities. Finally those wearing white, can stuff those outfits in the hope chest for next year. It is after all past Labor Day! Of course on the left coast, they do not have storage closets. So they wear flip flops and white shorts all year long,

New York is preparing for the fall leather events. Mr. NY Eagle Leather contest and 33rd Anniversary is approaching. The applications are up on their website. Mr. NY Eagle (Mike Tully) will be stepping aside October 4. Jill Carter, IMSL 96, Walt Weiss, Mr. LURE 2002-03, Larry Barat, Mr. DC Eagle 2003, and Herb Kaylor, Mr. DC Eagle will make the selection of who will be Mr. NY Eagle 2004. The ever so important tally master duties will be handled by Michael Marino, MAL 2001. Sign Interpreter will be Susan Weinstein.

International Leather Sir and Leather boy is a mere 2 weeks away. The Sun Coast Resort in St. Petersburg, Florida will host that fun weekend. All the regional contests are over. The weekend begins October 10 and runs through October 12.

The Mr. Connecticut Leather contest will be held in New Haven, CT. October 31- November 2. The Hartford Colts are sponsoring . They put on a great weekend event. The Wicked Witch will even attend this one. In case you are not familiar with New Haven, CT... It just happens to be the home of YALE UNIVERSITY! Hello? Pay no mind to the evil queen from New Jersey, who was running around Las Vegas telling people there the contest had been canceled. It is going as scheduled.

October 3 - 5 the Mr. New Jersey Leather contest will take place. The contest will be held at the Paradise. Ross DeRose, Mr. NJ Leather 2002 will be stepping aside. The contest will be emceed by none other than Queen Cougar. The press release informs everyone that it will be a weekend not to be missed

On a more serious note your prayers and get well wishes are needed for Howard Fleming. Howard is one of the original Producers of American Brotherhood Weekend. Howard is battling the big "C" and is presently in the Canton-Potsdam Hospital, Potsdam, NY. Remember him in your prayers these coming weeks. We love you Howard.

When Miss Hurricane Isabel greeted the East coast earlier in the week, she left many without power and telephone service. Hundreds of thousands, are still without utilities. Overheard at the DC Eagle, one leather person said, "My friend is staying with me, and I sure hope the power is restored at his place SOON." Now I know why we have been just friends! House guests are like smelly fish---after five days it's time to toss them out. ooops!

AND THE DISH DIVORCED THE SPOON.....

Yes, that was the Al Santora house hold carrying toys and religious artifacts to a parked moving van. Seems as though they have decided to relocate to Charm City (Baltimore for those not in the know) They might have received more house warming gifts had they expanded their invitation list one member of the community was heard to say.

In what is seeming more like fact than fiction, The Cell Block bar located in Chicago, has new owners. I gather that also means Cain Berlinger has a new landlord?

Much talk is surfacing with regard to a new award ceremony for the metropolitan DC area. Plans seem to be underway for the Bartender of the Year Award. Ballots will be cast in all the participating bars, for the paltry sum of one dollar each. The money will be collected and disbursed to several yet to be determined local charitable organizations.

Patrons will be able to vote for the following:

- Best Bartender
- Friendliest Bartender
- Hottest Bartender
- Best Hung Bartender
- Pig Bartender
- Tramp Bartender
- Bartender you would most like to sleep with

I don't suppose they will have a category for Worst Bartender, or the Bartender who pays Least attention to his customers?----Stay tuned.

The NY Eagle softball team is still talking about the great hospitality shown them when here for the World Series. Not only did the DC Eagle give them their beer bar for an evening, but also donated the kegs of beer and the schnapps as well. I am sure this is nothing new for the Eagle, but for the NY Eagle team, they made money for the team, and had such a great time that they may even buy some leather and return.

In the being raised proper department.....

A local leatherman extended hospitality to an out of town friend. The friend brought a trick du jour back to the house. The trick sent flowers and a thank you note to the host for allowing him to spend the night. Not one word heard from the friend, who should have been the one sending flowers wouldn't you think?

Congratulations to Patrick Grady DC's favorite hotel man and winner of the Mr. Double L Leather 2003-04 contest. The contest was held at the Double L bar in Rehoboth Beach, DE. The winner of that contest competes at Mid Atlantic Leather in January. However, the Centaur M/C have a club rule that no member of their club can enter their contest. Guess what? Patrick is the newest member and the baby Centaur. Hello ABW, there is a contestant waiting in the wings itching to strut his stuff.

In case anyone is wondering who is the new Mr. Harbor Room Leather located in Milwaukee? Well, don't ask Mr. Harbor Room 2002. He was not there for the sashing either! I believe it's called "artistic differences" between he and management of that bar. At least he still holds the title of MAL 2003.

The Wicked Witch

[Back to Top](#)

SUMMER TIME AND THE LIVING IS GREASY

How is it as you become older summer seems to past ever so much faster? Here we are midway through summer already. The fall leather season is quickly approaching. On the agenda, the Ms. World Leather contest was held in Dallas. As the press release states: A different kind of contest for a different kind of Woman. From all reports it was a smashing success. Ms. World for 2003 is Goddess Lakshimi, who hails from Detroit, MI. Well, Ms. World has joined the ranks of the other major contests with their first woman of color. Congratulations to the new Ms World, we all look forward to meeting you during your title year.

President of the organization (Jill Carter) has announced that she will be stepping down as leader of this fine organization. Ms. World Leather 2000 Annie Romano-Bias will assume this important position. Annie has the insight, patience and experience to carry this organization to even greater heights. Congratulations are in order.

The feeder and regional contests for Intl. Leather Sir/boy seem to be rolling right along. There are still several regional contests to be held. Northwest Leather Sir will be held August 22 - 24, in Seattle, WA.

However, the EGG ON THE FACE AWARD has to go to the Highwaymen TNT of Washington, DC. Last month the club sponsored the Mid-Atlantic Leather Sir/boy contest. After all was said and done, it was announced that Michael Mitchell, won the Leather Sir title, and Timothy Woody had grabbed the Mid-Atlantic Leather boy title.

Well, ooop's a slight mistake. It has now been ascertained that the scoring was incorrect in the leather boy category, and lo and behold, Gary Lynch is now the new Mid-Atlantic Leather boy, Brian "Grunt" Mottin, first runner up, and Tim Woody has become second runner-up.(don't even ask how that happened).

What is even more interesting is, what, who, or why the review of the scores was launched? Who complained? What a bittersweet and embarrassing outcome for all involved. One can only assume that Michael Mitchell is still the Mid-Atlantic Leather Sir 2003?

As embarrassing as it is, The Highwaymen stepped to the plate, and took responsibility for the situation, which is more than some may have done. It was not swept under the rug so to speak.

The sash was returned in time for the RE-SASHING which occurred this past weekend (Aug 9) at the Baltimore Eagle during their Mr. and Ms. Baltimore Eagle Contest. The Baltimore Eagle contest produced two new winners. Steve Buettner was selected Mr. Baltimore Eagle 2003. and Ms. Joansie won the Ms. Baltimore Eagle title. Emanuel Nixon was first runner-up for the men's

category, and Ms. Brooke grabbed runner-up spot for the women's title. Needless to say the tallying of the scores took forever. But in light of what took place with Mid-Atlantic Leather Sir/boy, can you blame them?

Mr. Louisiana Leather event will be Labor Day weekend in the "Big Easy" (New Orleans) Competing with Southern Decadence, the same weekend. Hundreds will be in attendance for that weekend.

September also brings us the annual Grand Daddy of Street Fairs. The Folsom Street Fair in the City by the Bay (SF) of course Folsom would not be complete without a leather contest. The Mr. SF Leather contest has been moved to that weekend. That should be a real action packed weekend.

The following weekend in the Big Apple, The, NY Eagle will be celebrating their 33rd anniversary. Saturday, October 4, the Mr., NY Eagle contest will be held. The Contestant Application is up on their website..Eaglebar@eagle-ny.com. Residents from CT and NJ are welcome to enter. Mr. NY Eagle Leather is a terrific title to have. First and foremost because the owners of that bar are three of the greatest supporters of the NY leather community, and they sure know how to treat their titleholder...The winner receives 110% support from that establishment.

As an example of the Eagle support, one of their bartenders Corey Jiannalone, relocated to California. The bar held two farewell parties for him.

The same evening of the Eagle contest, The Mr., NJ Leather contest will be happening in Asbury Park, NJ. at the very nice Paradise Bar. The turnpike should be busy that evening racing from one event to the other.

On the other coast, the Castro Street Fair will be the event to attend that same weekend. If all that does not wear you out stick around for the following weekend Oct 10 - 13 and dash down to St. Petersburg, FL and support the International Leather Sir/boy competition at the Sun Coast Resort. By that time your credit cards should be begging for mercy!

This columnist has learned that one of my favorite IML is departing the East coast, for the other coast. Scott Tucker, IML '86, is relocating with his significant other to Los Angeles. Due to a job relocation, Scott and Larry, will be residing in Venice, CA. Well we know what beach they will be spending their spare time at!

However, in a wise move, they have not put their Philadelphia digs on the market. However, in NYC Mr. LURE 2002-03 has put their fabulous home on the market. Who knows which coast they will finally wind up on! Their home is prominently featured on an NYC Realtor website, should you happen to have some spare change and want to live in Manhattan.

AMCC which is a council of clubs located on the east coast, dropped a bombshell in July. The Hartford Colts, a long standing club in Connecticut, was sponsored by several clubs and was up for membership in the council. Well, the upstanding members of the council decided to NOT vote them in. You ask why? Allegedly, because they had not supported and attended some of the other clubs bar night! They needed 17 votes to be voted in, and only received 14. No, not all the clubs were even represented. A number of the clubs were not amused at this turn of events. So much for brotherhood, compassion and giving someone a chance. There was no comment from the Twilight Guard!

For those who are smokers, and even those who are not, The, NY Eagle has solved that problem. Their new roof top bar and deck is something to behold. Trees, planter boxes, and a top shelf bar, is the talk of the town with a line half way down the street waiting to get in. A view

of the Hudson River and the Empire State bldg. Make sure if you get a chance to stop by and check it out.

LOWER MANHATTAN DISH.....

According to participants and attendees, at the Great Plains Leather Sir/boy contest, the drama there was even too much for color TV. An Intl. title holder judge was removed from the judging panel, due to behavior unbecoming a judge. Also known as too many cocktails! Kind of hard to judge a contest when your laying on the floor!

According to one participant, it was the worst contest they had ever attended. By the way, if you have a brotherhood award, is that not supposed to be given to one of the contestants? Not the producer. If the producers of the event invite judges, etc., etc., Would you not think they would at least provide food and or drinks. What is up with that contest?

Imagine a contest where the one contestant has only been into leather for 30 days! Yes, they did go out and scrape up another contestant. Imagine a Leather Sir/boy contest and there was no Leather Sir to compete? Hmmmm, now what is wrong with that picture?

To that east coast title holder (boy) who shall be known as Helen Keller. I assure you that the Wicked Witch of the East bears no resemblance to Leather Journal Publisher Dave Rhodes! How the two could be confused is beyond me!!!!!! The witch has a broom, not a cane (at least not yet.)

Shocking as the revelation was over the Faux Pas of the Highwaymen scoring fiasco, It certainly is not the first time that has happened as some will remember a few years back in Seattle, WA, or Providence, RI. and even MAL experienced a snafu in 2001.

This serves as a reminder, that in most cases the Tally master is the most important person at a contest! In the future, it may be advisable that all tally people have ten fingers and ten toes, in the event a calculator is not available.

Questions have come up in the past months on the propriety of sponsors and producers of leather contest, serving as a judge at other feeder contests, in which their own winner will be competing against on the International level. It is questionable at least and perhaps hinges on a conflict of interest. One would think the focus of producers, and sponsors of events to be the support, grooming, mentoring, and advising of their own contestant. rather than judging a potential competitor.

What are producers thinking of when they even ask someone in that position to judge a contest? Why would someone in that position even consider accepting the invitation? What ever became of non-biased honest judging? Let it also be said, that every person who happened to win a title is not qualified to judge based solely on the fact they hold a title! How many times over the years have we seen that proven to be true?

On a positive note, west coast tally master guru Tim Wong will be introducing his next generation scoring system. The new system will be unveiled at Ms. World Leather. No more paper based score sheets. The judges will merely touch a palm pilot like keyboard to enter their scores. The scores will immediately be tallied to the main computer. No handwriting to figure out and no wrong scores. And most of all, NO MESS

Gee Gary Lynch, see what happens when you go to Mexico? Maryland Leatherboy on your departure, Mid-Atlantic Leatherboy on your return.

Well, now here is something unique. John Pental, IML 2003 has decided to not keep the Harley Davidson motorcycle prize he won at IML. He explained it would look great in front of his home in London until parts started disappearing from it, or "ticking" over as he tried to ride it through London traffic Jams. So, he has decided that two organizations close to his heart will benefit. The Leather Archives and Museum and the Spanner Trust in the UK. You can make a \$20 donation (split \$10 each) by going to the box office tickets website and give your donation and you will be automatically entered in the raffle for the brand new Harley Davidson XLH Sportster 883 =, 100th Anniversary motorcycle. Yes, boys and girls it is BLACK! and a real beauty. What a terrific thing John has done. The winning raffle ticket will be drawn at IML 2004.

People are still wondering why IMsL 2002 had her travel paid for by the Ms. WORLD organization to her own stepping aside in Omaha, Nebraska this year. Maybe someone can clear up that mystery?

Well, the witch is packing a bag, and hopping on a broom to fly to California. Why not? Everyone else in the world seems to be filing to run for Governor. Why not the Wicked Witch as a write in candidate? Broom transportation is much cheaper than having a Chauffeur drive you around. No pollution and no parking problems.

Nice to know that an east coast title holder has finally returned all the "borrowed" leather to it's rightful owner since he has won the title. It is indeed amazing how a leather person can enter a LEATHER contest wearing someone else's leather. What part of that picture does not add up? Of course that can be no worse than the once in business Boston leather store that advertised in their local gay rag, "WE RENT LEATHER FOR LEATHER CONTESTS." By the way Mr. Title holder, one piece is still missing from the "borrowed" list. The late Tony DeBlase once had a standard interview question. Do you own your own leather? Maybe that question should be revived?

A special note to the gracious Tim Woody, who did indeed attend the Baltimore Eagle event, and personally put the sash on his successor. You are tops in the minds of your supporters and friends. Best of luck in your new position at the Leather Rack in Washington, DC.

THE WICKED WITCH

Photos by Vern Stewart





Baltimore Eagle contestants L-R Mark Hunter,
Brooke
Emanuel Nixon, Joansie and Steve Buettner.



First Runner up Mr. Baltimore Eagle
contest 2003 -Emanuel Nixon



Tim Woody and Garry Lynch--The boys

[Back to Top](#)

THE GOLDEN STATE SWEEPS ABW

When all was said and done California grabbed all three golden rings at American Brotherhood Weekend. American Leatherman 2003 is Bill Mitchell, San Diego, American Leather Woman, Sheryl Dagong, San Diego and American Leatherboy Jeff Nowak, San Francisco.

First runner-up was Dean Vibby Bramlett, and second runner-up was Dawn "Shameless" for American Leather Woman, American Leatherboy first runner-up was Chuck Brackett who also won the Brotherhood award, and Keith Pollanen was second runner-up. American Leatherman first runner-up honors went to Shane Linden, and Bill Coover was second runner-up.

The winners travel fund amounted to \$7,630. Head judge Judy Tallwing McCarthy Dandelion Animal Shelter raised \$8,724 through auction items.

A volunteer award was established for the first time this year and that award went to Miss "A J" of Washington, DC.

ABW is under the guidance of new producers. I must admit, for the first year they did a bang up job. A few things may need to be added before next years event, but with an additional producer being added, (Ryan Goldner) those details will be taken care of. Now that Ryan has his own sewing room in his new digs----Look out !

The remembrance service for Bryan Mullikan, and Jeff Baxter during ABW left not a dry eye in the house. Two wonderful men who are sorely missed.

The event was sold out. If you are planning to attend next year get your reservations in early.

THE DC DISH.....

Love was in the air during ABW. MAL 03, Alvin York was grinning and smiling every time he saw the current Mr. SF Leather. But alas, too many miles between zip codes.

Guess who is going to run for Intl. Leatherboy again? Tim Woody, who held the title of VA. Drummer boy two years ago. This time he was appointed to compete for Mid Atlantic Leatherboy. Of course he

did not turn down that offer.

And from the other coast another Phoenix has risen from the ashes. This time it is Michael Myhand Who was International Bear in the early 90's. Michael competed this past week in the Triple R Leather contest held at the Russian River, and won. He will compete in the North Coast Leather contest 2003. I suppose if one waits long enough people will forget about the previous sash, and think this is a first time. So much for fresh "NEW" faces.

And to that former title holder who asked the question last week. How many titles does one have to have before they figure out it is time to REST? My answer is----Ask the ones who keep running!

It was mentioned in a previous dish column why there always seems to be MESS regarding some contests. Add one more to the list. International Leather Sir/Leatherboy held their yearly travel fund basket auction in St. Petersburg last October. A loudmouth bidder trying to play Mr. Bigshot, bid on and won the top bid for one of the baskets, which was several thousand dollars. Guess what? The check BOUNCED from Florida all the way back to the rubber plantation from where it came! And to this date has not been made good! Will Judge Judy be handling this case?

According to reliable sources, Potomac M/C member Sir Lady Charles will be opening a new restaurant in Rehoboth, DE in the very near future.. His business partner John Meink of Baltimore will be folding napkins and washing the dishes, so I have heard. The restaurant was the former Yum Yum. I have no idea as to how that partnership evolved. But good luck on the new venture.

Many IML contestants, are still trying to figure out why the scoring was changed at the last moment. The scoring now gives the Physique category equal footing as the interview portion. I suppose a body by Fisher will be very important. Well, after all it is the 25th anniversary.

Perhaps one of the prizes should be a book on how to behave when representing a title in public. Makes no difference if the title is local, regional or international!

One IML contestant from Canada, even had his lovely long tresses cut at an ABW fundraiser, and raised quite a bit of money. We are not sure if IML was in the back of his mind prior to the cut. But he looks just as handsome as before. Good luck at IML Mr. Connors.

Cain Berlinger is expecting a large turn out for the Ebony Leather 2003 event. The event will be held at the host hotel this year on Friday night. Porn star Bobby Blake will do the emcee duties. That Should be fun. Wonder how many of the former Mr. Ebony's will be in attendance to support the new winner?

It has been confirmed that IML emcee, Frank Nowicki has spent a fortune in air fare alone dashing back and forth to Toronto for his fittings of his IML outfit. Not sure how many changes he will make! Allegedly this will be his final emcee job. His motto is, step aside when you are on top and leave them asking for more.

If the West coast is lucky, they may even see a glimpse of Intl. Leatherboy in their area before he steps aside in October. Rumor has it that he may grace them with his presence judging several events! Yes, Jose, there is life west of the Mississippi!

Should you consider traveling with the famed columnist Mr. Marcus, Well DON'T. His flights never seem to arrive on time. His flight was diverted to Denver. Due to a passenger up and dying on the flight. Once the body was removed (some 3 hours later) the plane refueled and took off. Only to be diverted again and returned to Denver. This time another passenger suffered a heart attack. Of course Mr. M was sitting in the exit row, and guess where both passengers were stretched out?

On a flight that started out at midnight, did not get him to DC until 9pm the following night!

In regard to that off handed comment made by same columnist upon arrival in DC-- The Wicked Witch and M the Merciless being seen together--No, one bullet would not wipe us out! That's why the witch always walks 4 or 5 steps behind, not side by side! Age before beauty dear.

THE WICKED WITCH

Photos by Vern Stewart

[Back to Top](#)

LEATHER TITLES AND MORE LEATHER TITLES

The Wicked Witch has been very busy relocating bed knobs and broomsticks for the past six weeks. A company relocation has returned the broom to the nations capital once again. Everyone knows what a pain moving can be.

However, that has not kept the broom broadcast network from receiving all the news and the DISH. Marriages and divorce are happening daily. Mr. Right turned out to be Mr. "right now" for many. In some cases the news of a pending divorce arrived before the news of the marriage!

On the leather scene as most know, a new Mr. San Francisco Leather was chosen last month but Troy Anicete reign will be a short one. In Sept. he will give up his title. Yes, you read correctly, Mr. SF Leather 2004 will be chosen in September 2003, as the contest date was moved, and will be held during Folsom Fair weekend. Why? Don't ask. Has something to do with the former (now defunct) Drummer contest having been relocated to Florida. God forbid, there should be a Folsom Fair without a leather pageant!

In New York's State capital (Albany) the Empire State Leather contest was held this past weekend. The winner of that contest was none other than Sal Perrone. Yes, the same Sal, who held the title of MUNY (Mr. Upstate NY Leather) in 1998. Have no idea of how many contestants there were or why he decided to run for the title. He will however compete at ABW next week here in Washington, DC. Speaking of ABW, there will be (at last count) at least 15 contestants vying for the three titles. American Leatherman, American Leatherboy, and American Leatherwoman. titles this year.

American Brotherhood Weekend will not quite seem the same this year with the passing of American Leatherboy 2001, Bryan "pup" Mullikin. His bubbling personality will be sorely missed. Bryan was such a delight to be around, and gave new meaning to the word effervescent. The producers of ABW have stated there will be a celebration of life for pup Saturday, April 26, at 12:30. at the Washington Plaza Hotel.

Many IML contenders will be attending ABW this year, and all will be attending the "Eagle Wings" Auction for Life, with proceeds going to several charities/ organizations..Wayne Nesbitt, Peter Lloyd, and Mr., DC Eagle 2003, Larry Barat, are the ones in charge of this event.

Seattle hosted the Washington State Leather contest last month. Here we go again. Another leather contest, with only one person competing. This time Mark Nunley ran unopposed. Mark was a former Northwest Drummer boy 2001. Just goes to show you, you can have your cake and eat it too and compete for two major titles Drummer and IML. The question is----does that preclude him from being involved with Intl. Leather Sir /boy now? Hmmmm

Two nights ago, the LURE in NYC held a "closing sale" billed as a charity event. I have no idea of what charity benefited from this event. However, reports were many things were very pricey. Fortunately my spy did grab me a T-shirt and another item for a reasonable price.

I guess this means Walt Weiss will be the last Mr. LURE for a while. No plans on opening another LURE anytime soon. Another leather bar bites the dust.

SPRING DISH....

HBO's immensely popular series SEX and the City will have someone in one of the scenes in an upcoming show that we know. Seems the producers were looking for some "leather folks" in a crowd scene, shot incidentally in front of LURE. MAL 2001, Michael Marino, just happen to be standing around and was asked. I can only hope the other leather people in the scene were wearing LEATHER, and slipped out of their tennis shoes and Gucci loafers, in case full view shots are taken!

For all the people who have asked about the new name of the auction to be held in DC next week during ABW weekend. Seems as though one of the founders of the original "Silent Bid for Life wanted to become more involved, i.e., controlling. Therefore, the volunteers involved for the past four or so years, said "fine" and announced a new name, and went on with the show. Silent Bid for Life will be held at a later date.

American Leather man Scott Reikofski and his partner former Intl. Drummer boy Ryan Goldner have become new home owners in New Jersey. Ryan is thrilled that the home has a room that he will turn into his very own sewing room. Thank goodness, he finally has a place to store all the drag costumes purchased from all those second hand stores. We will all hold our breath for the next Philadelphians event!

In Baltimore, seems as though that bar has yet gone through another bar manager. That bar has gone through more bar Managers than most people go through post-it notes. What's up with that?

The DuPont Circle bar MR. P's has changed hands after 27 years. One former patron is not amused that the valuable collector item posters on loan to them by that person, have suddenly disappeared. As the old saying goes---
See ya in Court!

The DC Eagle has upgraded the interior of that bar. New Counters, new sound system, and you can now purchase DC Eagle items like T-shirts, pins and caps right in the bar. Coming soon will be sandwiches/snacks prepared in their newly remodeled kitchen. For those who have not been to the Eagle in a while, make sure you have a valid ID with you or you will be turned away at the door.

It is indeed a sad state of affairs when a leather contest has but one contestant vying for the title. What is even worse, is when that contestant did not even garner enough points to win the title! Yes, that happened recently at a northeast contest. What does that say about the advisors and his mentors?

Everyone can rest, there is no truth to the rumor that the Jill Carter family is pulling up stakes and moving to Dallas. No, they have not lost their mind! At least not yet.

What's with SOME of the current Intl. Title holders since winning their titles hardly having traveled outside of their own ZIPCODES? Why run for an Intl. title and win, then never promote the title? HELLO? Now what is that all about? The sash get's very little visibility when it hangs in a DC or Palm Springs closet!!! Perhaps the judges should place more emphasis on things other than looks when selecting a leather representative. Like maybe commitment!

Some people in the DC leather community are wondering if a former Intl. Drummer will ever see any reimbursement monies for travel during his title year? Another mystery.

Has the feuding and fighting ended over who owns the title of Pennsylvania Leather? It seems that fight has gone on long enough. Someone needs to get over that and move on.

Of the nearly thirty-thousand dollars raised last year for the 3 ABW title holders, will there be any seed money for this years winners? Will the new winners have to start from scratch?

Since the Knight Hawks of Virginia, have elected not to sponsor a VA Leather Sir Leather boy contest, does that mean there will not be a representative from that area at the Mid-Atlantic Leather Sir Leather boy event to be held in July? Let's see how the Highwaymen TNT handle this one.

You wonder why it is so difficult to find contestants for these leather events? The aforementioned gives good reason. No one in their right mind wants to deal with mess! and that's mess spelled with a capital "M"

THE WICKED WITCH

Photos by Vern Stewart



[Back to Top](#)

FEBRUARY FOLLIES

With half the United States dealing with miserable weather, nothing stopped major leather events from happening. St. Louis held their Mr. Missouri Leather contest. In Chicago, the Mr. Cell Block Leather contest was held. The same weekend in the Windy City the Pantheon of Leather Awards took place. It must be noted that the end of January, leather faithful made a trek to Anchorage to witness the selection of the new Mr. Alaska Leather 2003. In Cleveland, leather heavyweights attended CLAW. CLAW is the big annual fundraiser held in that city. The city of Brotherly love selected a new Mr. and Ms. Philadelphia Leather. Baltimore held their Maryland Leather contest as well.

Wind rain, snow sleet or hail, did not keep the leather community at home. although it did delay some from arriving at their event. Tom Stice departed Florida for Chicago during the midst of the worst blizzard in decades wound up in Philadelphia, only to arrive in Chicago three hours before his flight was to depart back to Florida! Hello?

In the big apple, the NY Eagle is packing them in on weekends. The prissy leather queens, who declared that bar is not "leather enough" are now drinking with the tennis shoe set! My how times change, or attitudes.

The New York leather community, is finally making a name for itself. Several of the new title holders have charities that are benefiting big time from all their hard work.

On February 21 and 28, Brian Kent, NY Eagle first runner up is starring in a one man show---entitled A Native New Yorker at the Duplex Cabaret Theatre. All the proceeds will benefit the anti-violence project, Teens Prepared. Reservations required, \$15 cover & 2 drink minimum. It should be a fun filled evening.

Washington, DC, was the site of the annual Scarlet Bake sale. This year the sale was held in a different location than usual. Titan bar hosted the event. The new MAL, Alvin York, was in attendance for that one. Along with Mr., DC Eagle, Larry Barat, the two of them auctioned off their skivvies and increased the amount raised by a few thousand dollars. That event brought in nearly 12,000.00.

The baked goods which were baked by many of the clubs and organizations, brought in big bucks at this fun event. Plaques were give out in several categories, for the best, the most original, etc., etc. There were several auctioneers. The pace slowed somewhat, but the bottom line was, the leather community dug deep in their pockets and came through once again.

Well, well, New Jersey now has their first women's leather club. NJ Andromeda is the name. Friday, February 21, they will be hosting their first leather social. Entertainment will be a special performance by "SISTA'S, NJ very own ladies of rock. There will be a ladies lockup, where you will have the chance to lock up your tops and bottoms for a small fee. They will be holding a raffle to several NYC theatrical events and goodies from a new leather store that has opened in Red Bank, NJ

Drop by the Paradise, in Asbury Park, NJ for a great event. Doors open at 7 PM.

Be my Valentine Dish.....

Just when I thought Dorothy and Toto, and the good witch all originally came from Kansas, little did I know that was not exactly the case. Thanks to Jim Cobb of Utica, NY, I discovered my "relatives" really originated in a village by the name of Chittenango located in NY State. That is the home of Frank L. Baum author of the Wizard of OZ. Yes, they have a "Oz" festival every summer complete with yellow painted streets. I have discovered a new repair shop there for my broom! The care package I received has some tasteful new spring wear. I will be making a trip to that village soon thanks to Jim and Colin.

According to very good sources, the Scarlet Bake sale could possibly be held at Titans again next year, rather than returning to the DC Eagle. HEY---don't even ask!

Former Potomac Pres, Peter Lloyd, has wanted one of those red heart most original cake award plaques for so long that he could taste it. Well, Mr. Lloyd, how does it taste?

When the current MAL 2003, was down to his undies being auctioned off, the bidding became hot and heavy. Especially when the highest bidder was given the opportunity to remove them from his body. According to the emcee, in this case it is true what they say!!!!

One question that kept popping up during the bake sale was, Where was IML 02? He is a resident of the nations capital! And resides one block away from the event. I am sure there was a good explanation. Most likely the cake he was baking--fell!! Hmmm

And as a word to the wise, if there are contestants for IML thinking about, or planning on preparing a resume for the judges. It would be a suggestion that you simply forget going that route. Resumes, portfolios and photos of yourself do not sit well with some judges.

Remember you are attending IML, not a costume convention! So some of you may want to consider bringing some LEATHER! As strange as that may seem. The mumbling and grumbling was at a fevered pitch two weeks ago in the nations capital. Quite a few wondering why the current MAL 2003 was only given a photo space 5 or 6 pages back into a national leather paper when he won the title as opposed to the front page. As I have said to most that have inquired, why not ask the publisher of that publication. I am sure he will be able to answer your question.

And how was your Valentine Day?

The Wicked Witch

Photos by Vern Stewart



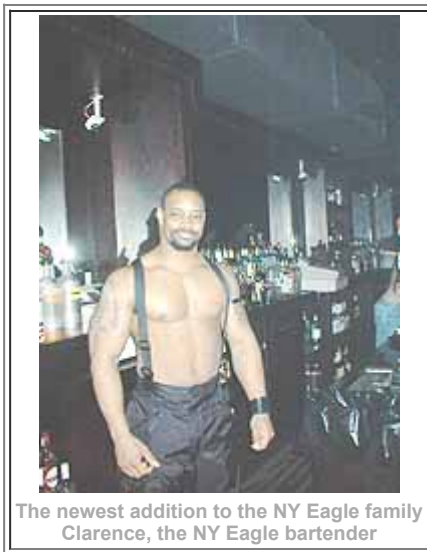
Mr Missouri Leather 2003
L-R Don Schroer 2nd R U, Mark Bozif, winner
Tim Griffith 1st R U
Photo by Michael



Mr and Ms Philadelphia Leather 2003
L-R Jennifer "baby girl", Ms Philadelphia
Leather
Jim Kiley-Zufelt Mr Philadelphia Leather



Mr Cell Block Leather Contest
L-R Ed Negron 2nd R U, Adrian Williams, winner
Don Grosso, 1st R U
Photo by Marcus



The newest addition to the NY Eagle family
Clarence, the NY Eagle bartender



Scarlet Bake sale board member
Michael Evans (right) and
two attendees



The winning Cake At Scarlet Bake Sale
by the Potomac M/C

[Back to Top](#)

[D.C.](#) [2003](#) [2002](#) [2001](#) [2000](#) ['99](#) ['98](#)
[CALENDAR ARCHIVES](#) [ARCHIVES](#) [ARCHIVES](#) [ARCHIVES](#) [ARCHIVES](#) [ARCHIVES](#) [from](#)
[D.C.](#)



ALVIN YORK CAPTURES MAL TITLE

The state of Wisconsin, and the city of Milwaukee now has the newest leather title holder. Thirty-four year old Alvin York walked away with the Mid-Atlantic Leather title January 19, in Washington, DC., When the selection was announced a thunderous roar of approval was heard.

Photo by

Dick Johnson

It was indeed wonderful to see MAL 2002, David Baldwin in attendance. Illness had nearly prevented him from attending. Thanks David for representing the Mid-Atlantic Region so well during you year. We all wish you a speedy recovery.

First runner-up honors went to Mike Mitchell, Mr. Double L 2002. The second runner up was David Phillips, Alexandria, VA. Mr. Connecticut Leather, Mark Whelan was awarded the Brotherhood award. Ten contestants were vying for the top honor. Leather weekend 2003 played to a packed crowd the entire weekend. The Centaur M/C, host of the event once again pulled off a flawless event. It is safe to say that a good time was had by all in attendance. Contestants were, Mark Whelan, Michael Sessa,

Steven Hines, Alvin York, Ross DeRose, Michael Mitchell, David Phillips, Tony Hess, Bill Dana and Greg Kubeja.

Three contestants were running for the MAL Bootblack title. Alan Turnstall, Steven Hagen and Cristo Webb. That title went to Cristo Webb who hails from Indianapolis. The winner will compete in May at IML in Chicago for the Intl. Bootblack title.

Several new things were added to the weekend. For the first time a tent was erected around the pool at the host hotel. The idea was great, unfortunately the heaters did not work on Friday night, which forced many in attendance to head for the warmth of the hotel lobby, considering the temperature in the nations capital never rose above freezing the entire weekend. Fortunately the problem was resolved by Saturday afternoon. Also this year, a non-smoking bar was added on the second floor of the hotel. Cigar smokers were encouraged to smoke their stogies in the tent. which very few were inclined to do.

So many sponsors and organizations were hosting parties and benefits that one was hard pressed to try and attend all of them. Masters and slaves, DC boys of Leather, The Women's party, Chicago Hellfire, The American Leather Family's Adopt a boy night which raised around \$ 4500.00 for charity, and the annual ever popular **Onyx** party. just to name a few.

The Vendor Market was very busy all weekend and cash registers were humming a tune. All in all Leather Weekend was a smashing success, and the Centaur M/C once again pulled off another great event. Can you believe it has been 10 years since emcee Frank Nowicki strutted his stuff across the MAL stage? My how the years fly by. Yes, he did wear a custom made tenth anniversary outfit! And not a hair out of place----as usual! But what would you expect from the DIVA!

IML Producer Bill Stadt, and David Rosenberg held a press conference Saturday afternoon during MAL weekend to announce the judges for the 25 anniversary of IML. The selections consist of: Peter Fiske, San Francisco, Joe Harnett, Sallinis, Ireland, Chris Holmgren, Toronto, Canada, Michael Horowitz, Forest Hills, NY. Bob Maddox, Chicago, IL. Andy Mangels, Portland OR. Larry Manion, St Louis, MO. Judy Tallwing McCarthy, Forks, WA. and Stephen Weber, IML 2002. Tally Masters: Phyllis Darcy, Thornton, CO. American Leather Woman 2001, and Brian "pup" Mullikin, Chicago, IL American Leather boy 2001.

For the first time since 1987, the prize package will include a brand new black HARLEY DAVIDSON. It is to be a 100th Anniversary XLH Sportster 883 Motorcycle **FREEZING DC DISH**---- One of the most amusing items this year was the MAL poster. A take-off on Washington crossing the Delaware. Indeed it was funny to see who was in the boat. At least times have changed, Among the crew members in that boat was Wayne Nesbitt, and he was sitting in the front of the boat! Poor George just rolled over in his grave.

Lots of boys showing off their new Daddies. Kei Fenton oiled up that new hip and made his appearance with the very handsome Darryl Smith. Yes, this is another one of those long distance romances. From NH, to the Bronx. Amtrak thanks you both for the business.

If you were wondering why you did not see Jo, and Annie Romano-Blas attending MAL, Well it's because they were still thawing out from their visit to Willow Grove, PA, the previous week to attend the annual Jill Carter and family 12th night party! My my my, the things that went on at that party! But the food was fabulous as was the hospitality.

What ugliness has surfaced in San Diego, with a want to be title holder. A boy with as nasty a mouth. Racial slurs, and bad mouthing some of those in that leather community, He should really kiss his chances at ABW GOOD-BYE! and stick to what he knows best, being a tired drag queen!!! That one SHOULD NOT BE SEEN OR HEARD FROM ----EVER!

The rumors that were circulating last year concerning the closing of the LURE seem to have validity to them. April seems to be the date that the bar will close it's doors at the current location in the meat district of the Lower West Side of Manhattan. It has been established that a new spot has been found on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Stay tuned.

Just when Mr. Ebony Leather 2002 was about to snatch the VANISHING CREAM AWARD, suddenly he was upstaged by a dark horse contender...Tino, of Tino's Leather vanished into thin air. His Eighth Ave store is dark and empty. It's anyone's guess where he disappeared to. Rumors are abounding, However, the Windy City may know the answer to that one!

Washington, DC already has enough problems with the ABC attempting to close down establishments and Organizations like Black Rose and Sigma. Both have had to move their events to other private locations, yet there are idiots, like two in particular, attending MAL who just had to create a scene in the lobby of the host hotel with all their S/M activities and flogging, was that not the reason there were play parties, and hotel rooms for all that. Pity Security had to be called.

After years and years of the Scarlet Bake sale being held at the DC Eagle, this Year the board decided to hold the event at Hamburger Mary's. I would not even venture to guess Why. Hmmm

What a surprise to see Paul Zinzer, former Mr. Lure, and runner-up to IML Kevin Cwyana attending MAL...Ah yes, the romance has developed between he and MAL 2000. I guess it is true, Title holders date title holders and fall in love.....SIGH----

Imagine Intl. Leather Sir Leather boy President being sued. Well, he have been. Served with papers on Christmas Eve, by none other than the Academy of Motion Pictures.Arts and Sciences; Yeah that one in Hollywood. Why? Because their logo, looks too much like OSCAR! I never knew Oscar wore a biker cap! Stay tuned

When Michael Marino announced last week that he was returning to college, One observer commented, Good, 'bout time for you to get off the streets so others can have a chance to grab a trick or two.

THE WICKED WITCH

Photos by Vern Stewart





L to R David Phillips, Mark Whelan
Alvin York, David Baldwin
Mike Mitchell



Emcee Frank Nowicki
photo by Dick Johnson



Canadian LeatherMen
Douglas Connors (L) Ottawa
Paul Ciantar (R) Toronto



Cristo Webb
MAL Bootblack '03
photo by Dick Johnson

[Back to Top](#)

['02Archives](#)

['01Archives](#)

['00Archives](#)

['99 Archives](#)

['98 Archives](#)

Back to [The Wicked Witch](#)

Back to [REGIONAL REPORTS](#)

Back to [LeatherWeb Gay News](#)

Return to [Calendar](#)

Go to [The Global Leather Village](#)