

If you've been holed up since the sun set some three months ago, New Year's Eve is the perfect opportunity—and your last chance this year—to get out of the house and shake that cabin fever (as well as your bootie).

To help you out, we offer a selection of gay auld times to usher in your own new queer.

Snacks, hats and bears, oh my! Come out of hibernation and join the **Oregon Bears** from 9 p.m. to midnight at Gail's Dirty Duck Tavern, 429 N.W. Third Ave. Party favors, whistles, midnight champagne, and no cover. Growl questions at 503-240-2813 or visit the bear cave at www.oregonbears.org.

Dancing and karaoke are just the tip of the pyramid at the **Egyptian Club**, 3701 S.E. Division St. Doors open at 7 p.m., and this New Year's Eve bash includes prizes, midnight champagne, late-night buffet and after-hours continental breakfast until 4 a.m. All for \$10. Find the dyke bar at www.theegyptianclub.com.

Skip the midnight champagne in favor of the "bad beer flutes" during the **White Trash New Year's Eve Party** at Tennessee Red's, 2133 S.E. 11th Ave. Recently purchased by Egyptian Club owners who hope it will be a queer bar for everyone from rednecks to red hankies, they're offering prizes for best, worst and most creative costumes. After-hours breakfast until 5 a.m. No cover. Give them a holler at 503-231-1710.

Do you always drool over those gorgeous Laurelhurst homes? Sate both your curiosity and your hunger when Park Bailey and Richard Kroll play host to 24 lucky guests at the New Year's Eve installment of **Dinner at My House for Our House**, a fund-raiser series for Our House of Portland.

Beginning at 8 p.m., the evening includes cocktails, dinner and live music at the couple's Laurelhurst home for \$150. Dress is formal, of course. For other opportunities to dine for Our House, call 503-234-0175.

Ring in the new queer

A handful of delights to keep your hands full this New Year's Eve

BY TIMOTHY KRAUSE

The Oregon Bears have fuzzy fun at Gail's Dirty Duck



In its 35th year, **Merriment, Mayhem and Madness** (say that three times fast) returns to Darcelle XV at 208 N.W. Third Ave. Portland's downtown diva herself plays host to this lavish Las Vegas showgirl-style drag show at 9 p.m. For \$60, you get dinner at 6 p.m., preferred show seating, hats, noise-makers, midnight champagne and buffet breakfast at 12:30 a.m. For \$35, a show-only option seats at 8 p.m. and includes the buffet breakfast. Make reservations at 503-222-5338.

You make one resolution for 2003, make it a night at **Wilf's Restaurant and Piano Bar**, home of the gayest cabaret this side of Darcelle's. Three dinner seatings (5:30, 7:45 and 9:45 p.m.) offer popular menu items. The Stuart Wylene Trio performs at 8 p.m. followed by midnight champagne. Located within historic Union Station, 800 N.W. Sixth Ave. at Irving Street. Free parking; reservations required at 503-223-0070.

Dress fierce and direct your 21-or-older primal instincts to the **Wild Kingdom Rhumba V**, two floors of untamed fun beginning at 8 p.m. in the Tiffany Center, 1410 S.W. Morrison St. Upstairs in the Emerald Ballroom, turn your ear toward Pink Martini, Los Mex Pistols del Norte and Durango Park. Downstairs in the Crystal Room, learn how to salsa and cha-cha-cha before singing with a live band when Karaoke from Hell begins at 8:30 p.m. Soul Stew DJs Aquaman and Mr. Funky step in at 10. No-host food and cocktails, midnight champagne. General admission tickets are \$30 from Fastixx or sans service charge from Le Happy, 1011 N.W. 16th Ave.

Lesbians of Central Oregon, a social and networking group for lesbian, bi and trans women, play host to a New Year's Eve dance in downtown Bend beginning at 9 p.m. A sug-

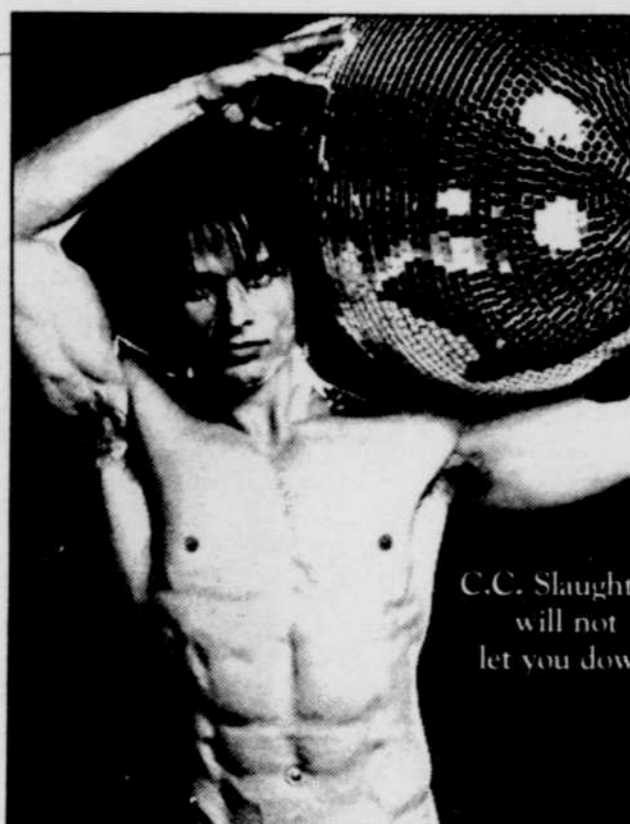
gested donation of \$5 includes DJ music and refreshments. Get details and directions from 541-317-8457.

Sample a little of everything at gay bar fave **C.C. Slaughters**, 219 N.W. Davis St. Beginning at 9 p.m., a \$10 cover includes your very own bottle of champagne, some drag performances, a lot of go-go dancing and more midnight celebrations. Leer at half-naked boys at www.cc-slaughters.com.

Girls with groove might want to check out **Give Peace a Dance**, brought to you by the Lesbian Community Project and Portland Lesbian Choir. The smoke-free, all-ages party begins 8 p.m. at Shenanigan's on the Willamette, 4575 N. Channel Ave., and features light buffet, no-host bar, silent auction, raffle and dancing to DJ Lauren. Partial proceeds go to local peace organizing. Tickets at the door are \$30, but you can get 'em in advance for \$25 from It's My Pleasure, Music Millennium, In Other Words and Gentle Strength Books in Vancouver, Wash. Tables of 10 can be reserved in advance for \$250 at 503-227-0605.

Merry little wine bar **Crush**, 1412 S.E. Morrison St., dangerously mixes alcohol with drag racing during its always-entertaining New Year's Eve bash. Random marymakers race to don makeup, dresses, wigs and pumps—all to spend two minutes in the spotlight. The audience picks the winner and, for \$15, enjoys champagne tasting, buffet, balloon drop and midnight toast. Visit the ultra-cute boys at www.crushbar.com.

When **Three Sisters Tavern**, 1125 S.W. Stark St., says "Latin New Year's Eve Party," be prepared for something



C.C. Slaughters will not let you down

spicy in addition to the usual boys, toys and midnight toast. Strip away your inhibitions for one night, why don't you? Make obscene phone calls to 503-228-0486.

If you're not a party animal and you've had your share of dates with Dick (Clark, that is), join the hets at **Pioneer Square**, 701 S.W. Sixth Ave.

A disco cover band, light shows and climactic midnight ball-dropping make a tame alternative to the traditional gay guzzle-and-nuzzle. (But, hey, there's no accounting for taste.) Gates open at 7 p.m., music starts at 9, and it's free. []



We ask you, who would not want to go to Crush for New Year's Eve?

360° of Waterfront Dining



Join us as the Willamette River lights up for the holiday season. View a parade of beautifully illuminated ships from your own personal table. Bring your family and friends and create a Christmas memory they'll always remember.

Upcoming
Cruise Events:

Book now for Christmas Ship Cruises
Special Cruises ~ Christmas Eve/Day & New Year's Eve



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