

nightlife

1 BENT BAR

633 SE Powell Blvd. • 503-230-BENT

A new mixed joint serving lunch and dinner. It's a video bar during the week, with DJs and dancing on weekends.

2 BOXES/FISH GROTTO/RED CAP GARAGE

1035 SW Stark St. • 503-226-4171

Boxes/Red Cap Garage, the only two-in-one gay club in the city, is Portland's original gay dance club and has the most experienced DJ ensemble in the scene. Stark Street's only nonsmoking bar for the boys.

3 CASEY'S

610 NW Couch St. • 503-224-9062

New "all-inclusive" nightclub and lounge in Old Town from the owner of the Eagle.

4 C.C. SLAUGHTERS

219 NW Davis St. • 503-248-9135

C.C. Slaughters is a great hangout. Come feel like "Norm" or shake your booty all night long to the best sound, lights and laser shows in Portland.

5 CRUSH

1400 SE Morrison St. • 503-235-8150

Crush features specialty martinis and cocktails and serves a full food menu. Hip DJs spin throughout the week, with dancing on the weekends. Happy hour is all day Tuesday, 4:30-6 pm Wednesday-Friday and 3-7 pm Sunday. Crush is now open for brunch 9 am-3 pm Sunday.

6 DARCELLE XV SHOWPLACE

208 NW Third Ave. • 503-222-5338

World-famous female impersonators Darcelle XV & Company have been entertaining audiences from all walks of life for more than 37 years with Las Vegas-style cabaret revues of glitz, glamour and comedy. They have traveled the States presenting a show that you have to see to believe. Stop by when you are in Portland and you will be glad you did! Company parties are welcome. Showtimes are 8:30 pm Wednesday and Thursday and 8:30 and 10:30 pm Friday and Saturday. Admission is \$15. Reservations are not required but are highly recommended. Dinner seating is 5-7 pm by reservation. Male strippers at midnight Friday and Saturday.

7 THE EAGLE PDX

1300 W Burnside St. • 503-241-0105

Portland's original masculine men's bar.

8 EGYPTIAN CLUB

3701 SE Division St. • 503-236-8689

The 7,000-square-foot Egyptian Club, located in a former milk plant, features three different rooms. There's a dance floor in the Tomb; the Front Lounge offers pool tables and video games; and a third bar, the Room, features karaoke seven nights a week. The crowd is primarily lesbian.

Casey's Causes Ruckus

There has been a gentle buzz around Casey's since it opened a few months ago. With Silverado leaving its location, it seems clear that Portland's "gay mecca" no longer dwells on Stark Street. Now that Casey's has opened, the bar crowd is slowly moving north. I predict that the new queer pub crawl will start with a nice stiff drink at Shanghai Steakery, then move just a few doors down Broadway to Embers for a taste of Latino goodness, up Couch to shake your booty on Casey's enormous underground dance floor, then over to C.C. Slaughters for some serious cruising. If that's not enough, there's always Hobo's, Fox & Hounds and Gail's Dirty Duck for more drinking adventures. With a lineup like that, who the heck needs Stark Street anymore? And best of all, we will be closer to our drag mommy Darcelle XV, and what could be more gay than that?

Location is not the only reason to get excited about Casey's. The bar is coming up with new dance party concepts to help establish itself in the "gayborhood." On Wednesday nights Casey's presents Humpday Hoedown. According to manager and bartender Chad Stout, this free party reaches outside the greater metro area, pulling folks from places like Eastern Oregon. A country line dance theme is a surprising choice for Casey's, as it seem to be attracting a younger, more hip party crowd the rest of the week. The bar is still settling on a resident DJ for this night; until that happens, there is really not much of a party. Unfortunately, when I popped in about midnight on a recent Wednesday, it was just the bartender and a couple of guys drinking. There is indeed a gay country line dance crowd out there, but if they do live outside Portland, I don't know if Casey's can draw them out on a weeknight. I guess time will tell.

On a much more successful note, Casey's is throwing a dance party called Ruckus every Friday night and is seeing a great turnout. When I asked

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9 EMBERS AVENUE

110 NW Broadway • 503-222-3082

Gay bar in historic Old Town. Free Gay & Happy starring Jersey Scities 9:30 pm Tuesdays. The Dark Side of Pleasure starring Daddy Bear & Lesett 9:30 pm Wednesdays. The O Spot starring Johnny O 10 pm Thursdays. The Music & the Mirror starring Miss Honey Bea Hart 9:30 pm Fridays. Krystal Lynn Is the Nubian Princess 9:30 pm Saturdays.

10 ESCAPE

333 SW Park Ave. • 503-227-0830

Portland's only all-ages gay nightclub. The Greater Portland Intercollegiate Queer Society hosts College Night 10:30 pm Fridays featuring different music every week, \$3 off the cover with student identification and speed friend-making (like speed dating!) for the first hour.

11 FOX & HOUNDS

217 NW Second Ave. • 503-243-5530

According to BarFly, this "cheery, kicked-back pub draws a convivial, mostly mature crowd to its somewhat countrified environs." Fox & Hounds regularly hosts various charity events, and the first Sunday of each month is a fun-filled bingo fund-raiser. Sheltered sidewalk seating fits a handful of tables and affords some good people-watching. \$2 well drinks and \$2 select beers 4-8 pm daily. Full menu served until 8:30 pm Sunday-Thursday and until 10 pm Friday and Saturday, with bar menu served until closing time thereafter.

12 GAIL'S DIRTY DUCK

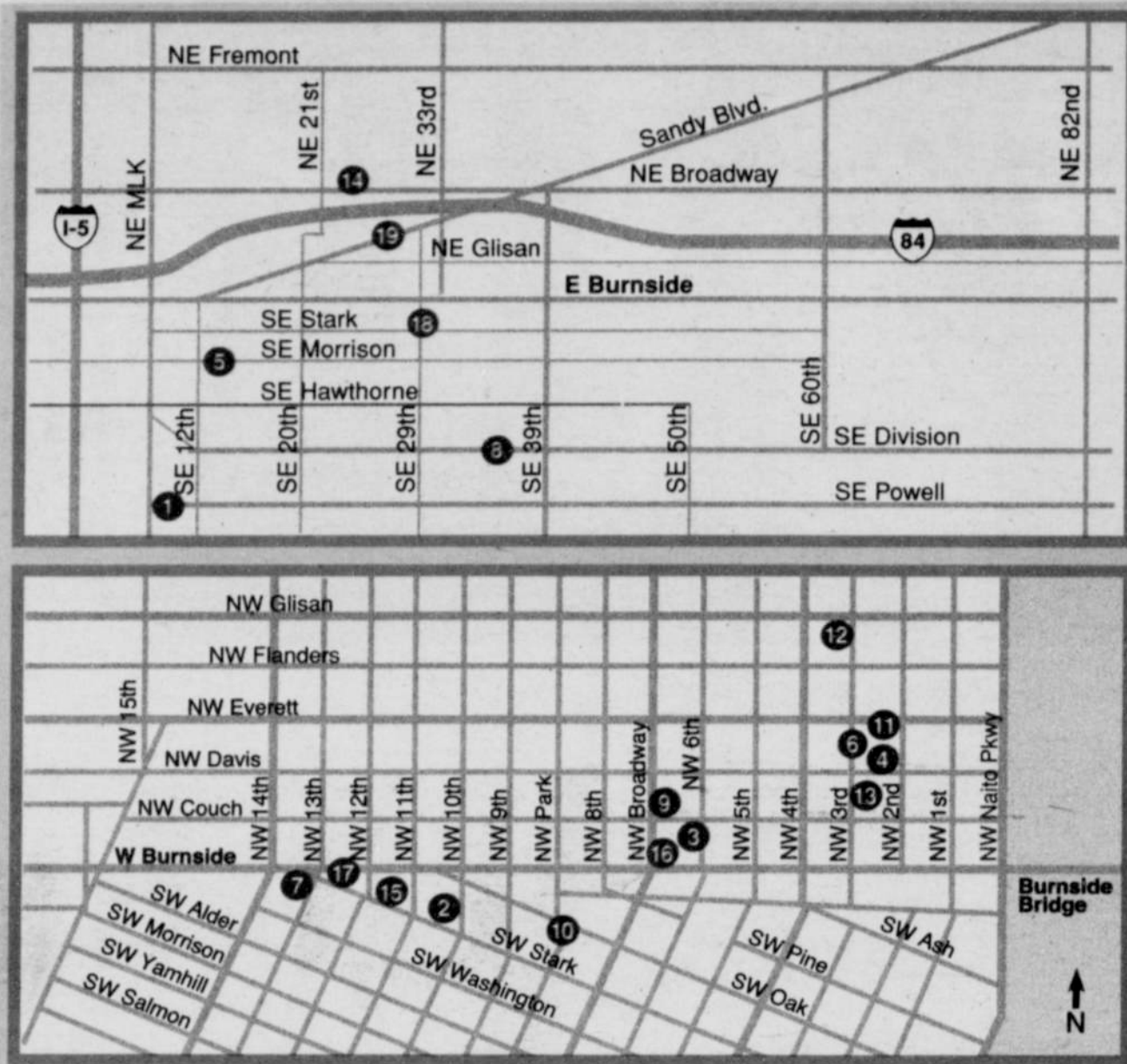
439 NW Third Ave. • 503-224-8446

BarFly describes the Dirty Duck as an "endearingly light-in-the-loafers longshoreman-type hole in the wall, named for Shakespeare's local. Said to be haunted by its formidable former owner, Marna Bernice! Home of the Oregon Bears." Featuring pool, pinball, MegaTouch and darts.

13 HOB0'S

120 NW Third Ave. • 503-224-3285

Hobo's has been an integral part of Portland's dining and lounge experience for more than 25 years. Located in the heart of Old



Town, it provides a friendly atmosphere of casual elegance and serves outstanding cuisine from both its complete dinner menu and its lounge menu. It also offers premium cocktails, an extensive wine list and bottled and draft beers. Enjoy live music Wednesday through Sunday, with pool and lottery in the game room. Courtyard dining when weather permits.

Because Old Town is an energetic and vibrant part of Portland's nightlife and on-street parking is sometimes limited, Hobo's offers validated parking at its neighborhood Smart Park located on the corner of NW Davis and Front streets.

14 JOQ'S

2512 NE Broadway • 503-287-4210

Featuring the best 9-Ball Tournament 8 pm Saturdays. Possibly the best \$6 ribeye dinner anywhere. Joq's also serves up the lowest drink prices in the city. Join one of its softball, pool or

bowling teams. Enjoy a good time and make a new friend at this entertaining neighborhood bar!

NORTHBANK

106 W Sixth St., Vancouver • 360-695-3862

Southwest Washington's first and only gay bar. Now smoke-free! Take \$1 off any item that costs more than \$2 on Buck-Off Monday. \$5 pasta dinners (spaghetti or fettuccine alfredo) are served with \$2 well drinks 5-9 pm Tuesdays. Licious Karaoke is Wednesday and Friday. Thursday is Girlz Night with \$3 Smirnoff and \$5.50 pitchers of Bud and Bud Lite. Saturday is a special event or DJ. Sunday is happy hour all day with free pool.

15 SCANDALS

1125 SW Stark St. • 503-227-5887

Scandals is one of the city's oldest gay men's bars and has been continually providing a comfortable setting, great cocktails and a "more than friendly" bar staff to men from Portland and from out of town for 30 years. Recently relocated only a block away from its previous location, Scandals provided a new, modern, clean space for its clientele. It features a pool table, darts, video lottery and music videos and is one of the anchor bars for the Portland Pride street festival. Portland's only "Tea Dance" on Sunday afternoons. Blues on Tuesdays. Live DJs on Friday and Saturday.

16 SHANGHAI STEAKERY

16 NW Broadway • 503-228-9325

A locally owned gay bar known for good music, great drinks, the best prices in town and lottery. Happy hour 7 am-8 pm. Join the IT Club DJ boys on the first Friday of every month. Shanghai Steakery also holds other events; it's best to check with the bar for upcoming events.

17 SILVERADO

1217 SW Stark St. • 503-224-4493

Claims to be Portland's only gay-owned and -operated gay nightclub, Portland's favorite gay bar and Portland's "original" premier gay nightclub. "Where the men are hot and the party never ends...we lead the crowd, not just follow." The Ministry of Mylar (Not Your Mother's Church) Sundays. Karaoke with Rocky Rhodes 8 pm-1 am Mondays. Wednesday is Latino Night with Meesha Peru.

SOUTHSIDE SPEAKEASY

3529 Fairview Industrial Drive SE, Salem • 503-362-1139

Southside Speakeasy is the place in Salem and the central Willamette Valley for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community to meet and hang out.

Free pool all day Sunday with *Desperate Housewives* at 9 pm. 50-cent tacos are served 5-9 pm Mondays with bingo at 6:30 and karaoke at 9. Top sirloin steak dinner is served 5:30-10 pm Tuesdays for \$8.95. Win points and prizes with free Texas Hold 'Em poker 7:30 pm Wednesdays and 6:30 pm Saturdays. Dance party with DJ Rosi 9 pm Thursdays. Dance party with DJ Lori 9 pm Fridays and Saturdays; cover is \$3.

18 STARKY'S

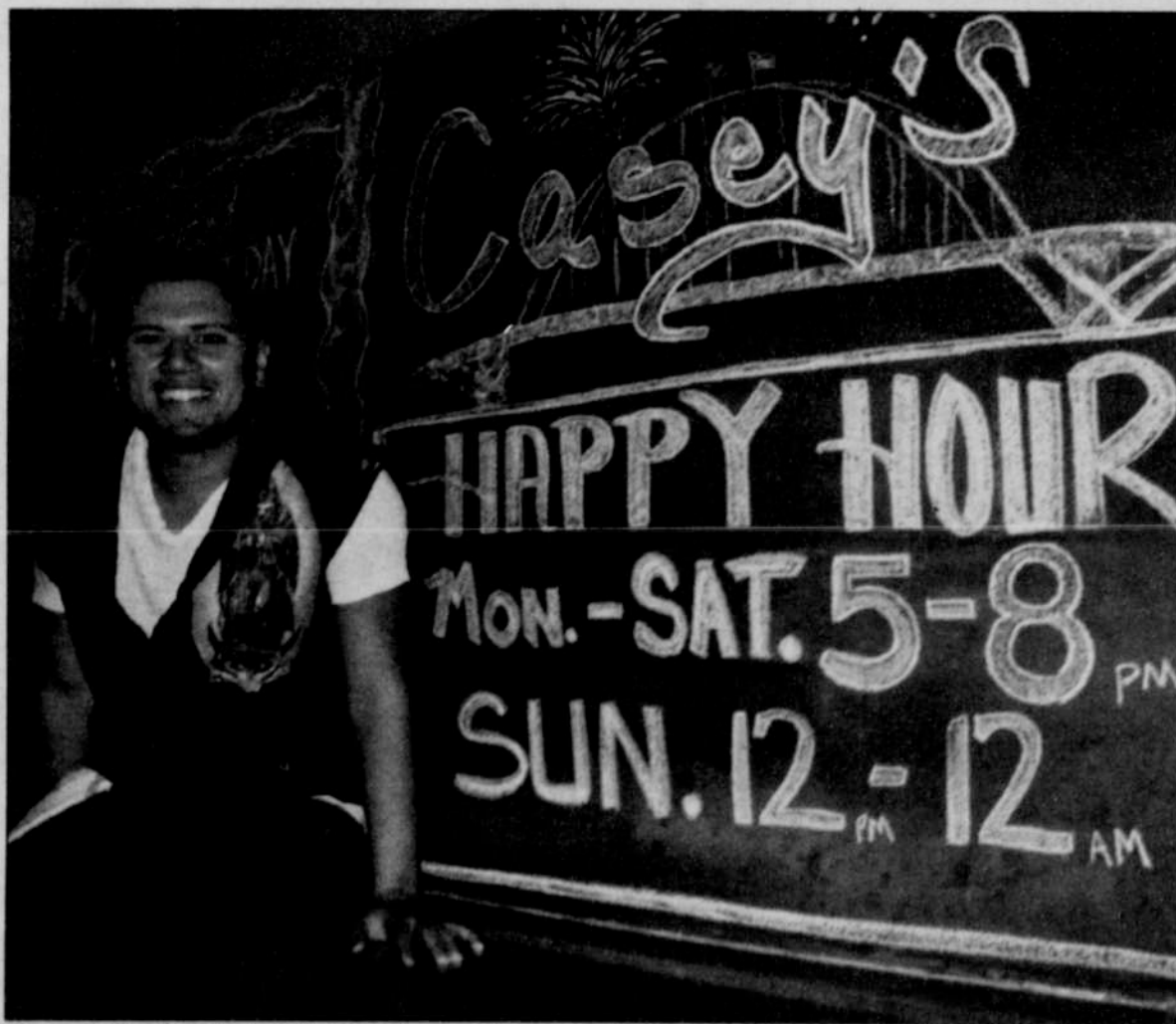
2913 SE Stark St. • 503-230-7980

"Everyday people" video bar with great martinis, two large patios, Oregon Lottery games, WiFi and private parties. Monday and Tuesday are Burger Nights, Wednesday is Mexican Night, Thursday is Homemade Meatloaf Night, Friday is Prime Rib Night, Saturday features chef's specials, and brunch is served 9 am-2 pm every weekend.

19 STEAM

2885 NE Sandy Blvd. • 503-736-9999

Portland's hottest all-male experience.



Casey's bartender Eddie Pineda promises a naughty good time at Ruckus every Friday.

bartender Eddie Pineda what he thought of Ruckus, he said, "It's a naughty, retarded dance party," then he laughed and added, "You know, good retarded."

Ruckus' promoter is DJ Megadeath, who calls it "queer electro madness!" This is exactly the kind of party that belongs at such a big dance venue. Stout explains that Ruckus features an "edgier sound for the more alternative queers." Cover is \$3.

—Mark "Zebra" Thomas