

# nightlife

## 1 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.

## 2 CASEY'S

610 NW Couch St. • 503-224-9062  
New "all-inclusive" nightclub and lounge in Old Town from the owner of the Eagle.

## 3 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.

## 4 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 Saturday and Sunday.

## 5 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.

## 6 THE EAGLE PDX

1300 W Burnside St. • 503-241-0105  
Portland's original masculine men's bar.

## 7 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.

## 8 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 &

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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.

## 9 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.

## 10 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.

## 11 GAIL'S DIRTY DUCK

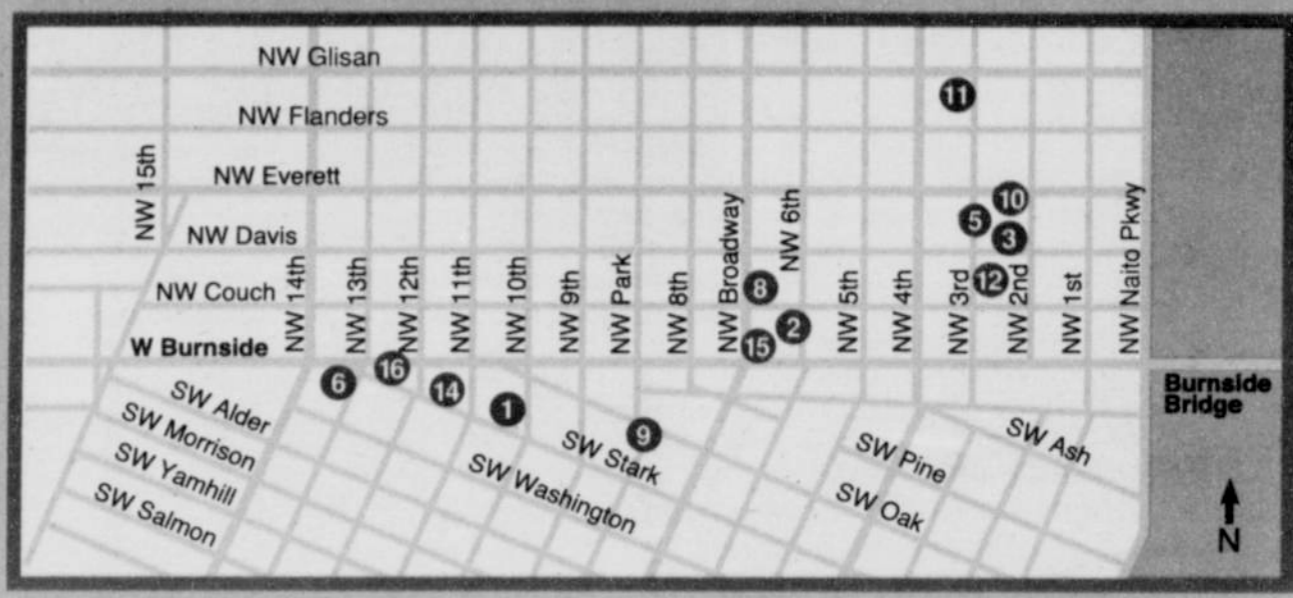
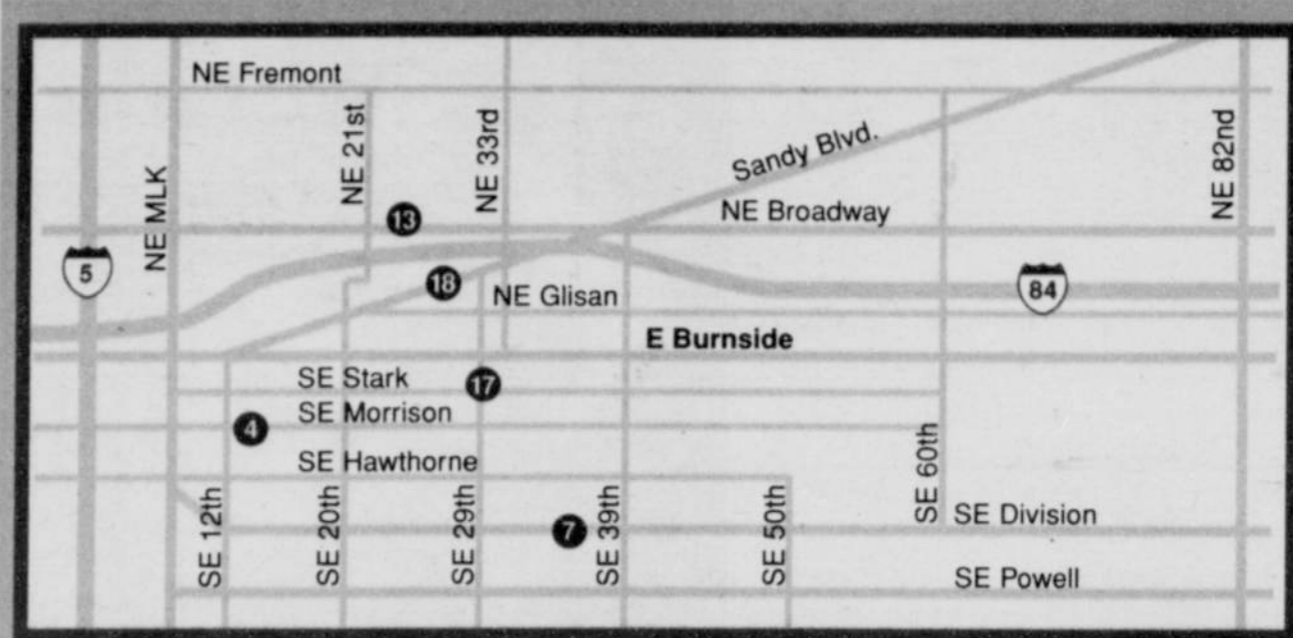
439 NW Third Ave. • 503-224-8446

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, Mama Bernice! Home of the Oregon Bears." Featuring pool, pinball, MegaTouch and darts.

## 12 HOBOS

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.

## 13 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.

## 14 SCANDALS

1125 SW Stark St. • 503-227-5887

Scandals, one of Portland's most established gay men's bars, has been a fixture on the ever-changing Stark Street for going on 30 years. It provides a cruisy streetside setting with a seasonal sidewalk cafe, great drinks and a "more than friendly" bar staff. It also features all forms of lottery, a pool table, darts and videos. DJ Duane spins classic dance music Friday and Saturday nights. Welcome to Scandals, where men meet.

## 15 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.

## 16 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.

## 17 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.

## 18 STEAM

2885 NE Sandy Blvd. • 503-736-9999

Portland's hottest all-male experience.

## Ride the Pony

Now I ain't saying that it's bad to have an overabundance of queer-themed dance nights. That ain't what I'm saying. Jack. Pink. How Rude. Queer Bait. Juicy. Gaycation. D'fused. Ruckus. Golden. Money Shot. Pop Tart. All good events. But even the most discerning discophile might have a hard time keeping up with so many ass-shaking, hip-grinding, sex-heavy spinnastics happening around town. As luck would have it, though, one such dance night brings together a lil' bit of everything, shakes it up in a Mason jar and pours it all over your face: Blow Pony.

Blow Pony, another rowdy Saturday night at the Eagle PDX, bills itself as a homo revolution for "bears, barbies, bro-ponies, pigs, hawks, cocks, cougars, dykes, femmes, daggers, chubs, trannies, chickens, fags and their hags." That inclusiveness isn't just talk, either. The latest Blow Pony was the most mixed crowd of alterna-queers I'd seen since the heydays of Booty. Full beards and leather pants mixed surprisingly well with collared shirts and corsets, and DJs Airick Heater, Kinetic and Olek kept the cozy dance floor packed full of hot bodies with a blend of funky dance pop and electro-rock. Even the hardcore threesome bear porn playing on the TVs around the room was nicely balanced by the original film version of Hairspray on the big screen above the bar. It was a tits-out, balls-to-the-wall joyride with an '80s twist, as if the dirty queer clique at your high school had been in charge of putting on the winter formal.

"I wanted a party that would be open to everybody, the whole lot," Heater says. "We've pushed the envelope in making everyone welcome."

Traditionally, the Eagle PDX has been mostly reserved for leather men and bear types, but Heater says owner Karl Wilgus was "100 percent receptive" to the Blow Pony concept. "He approached me to do a party, and I told him that



DJs Airick Heater (left) and Kinetic draw queers of all stripes to the monthly dance night Blow Pony.

the only way I would do it was if everyone was welcome. He's been supportive from the get-go."

Since its inception in March, Blow Pony has consistently "been a great turnout," according to Heater, and he is excited about what the future has in store. "We have a nice surprise for December," he says, hinting at gifts, prizes and a turntable battle with Team Illegal Substances.

Blow Pony's success hasn't gone unnoticed by its founders, either.

"Big thanks to the entire queer family and everyone that's supported us," Heater says. "Honestly, big, big thanks."

Blow Pony saddles up every second Saturday of the month, with the next roundup happening Dec. 8. Three bucks gets you a ride.

—Ben Nystrom