

nightlife

1 BOXES/FISH GROTTTO/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

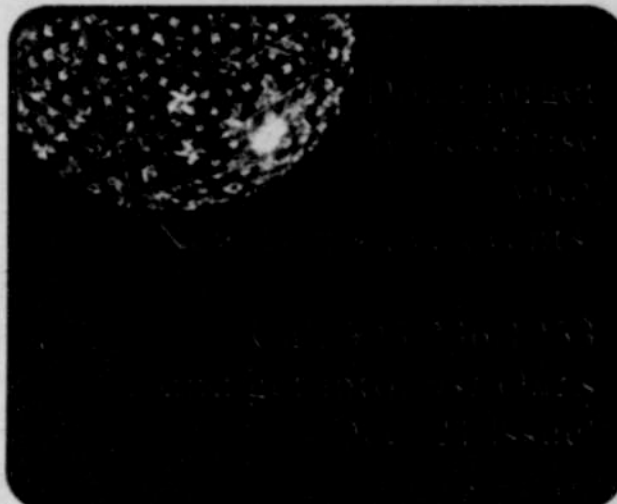
Portland's original masculine men's bar.

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 Scitjes 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.

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

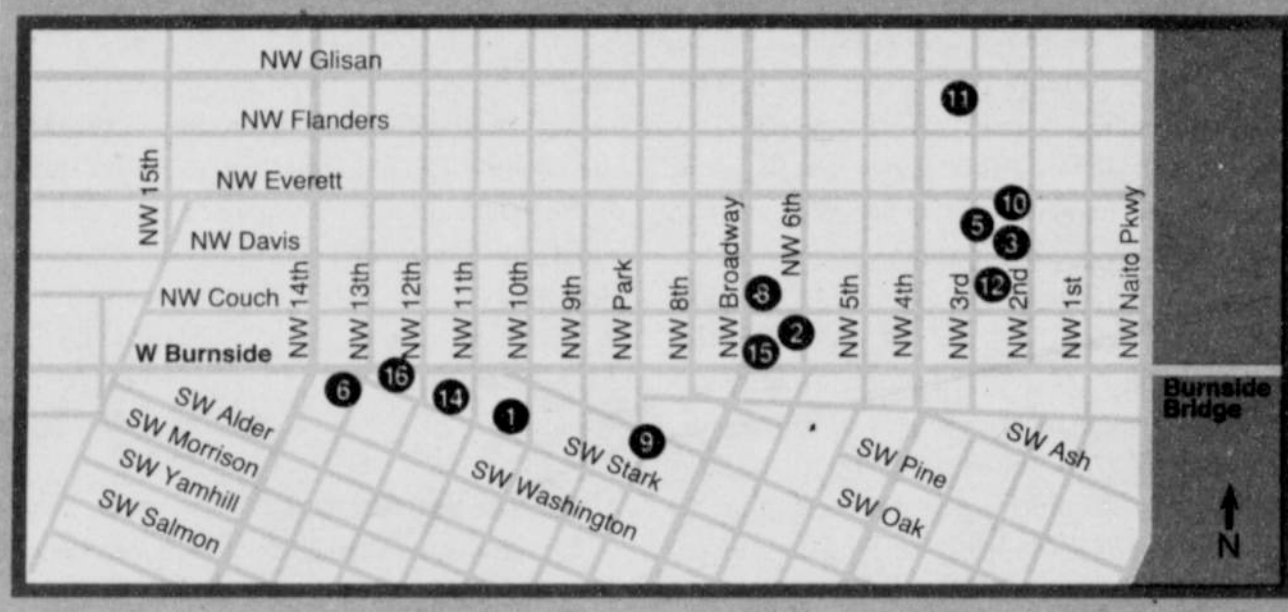
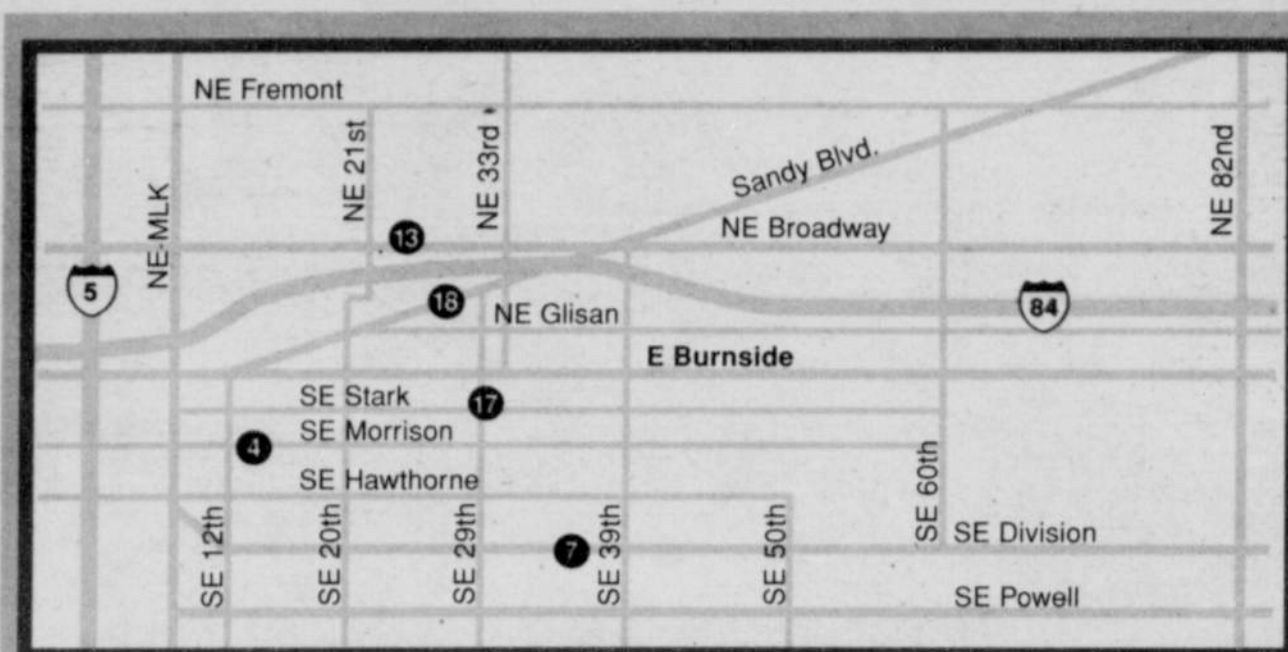
According to BarFly, this "cheery, kicked-back pub draws a convivial, mostly mature crowd to its somewhat countrified environs." Fox & Hounds regularly hosts various charity events, and the first Sunday of each month is a fun-filled bingo fund-raiser. Sheltered sidewalk seating fits a handful of tables 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.

Fox & Hounds Under New Ownership

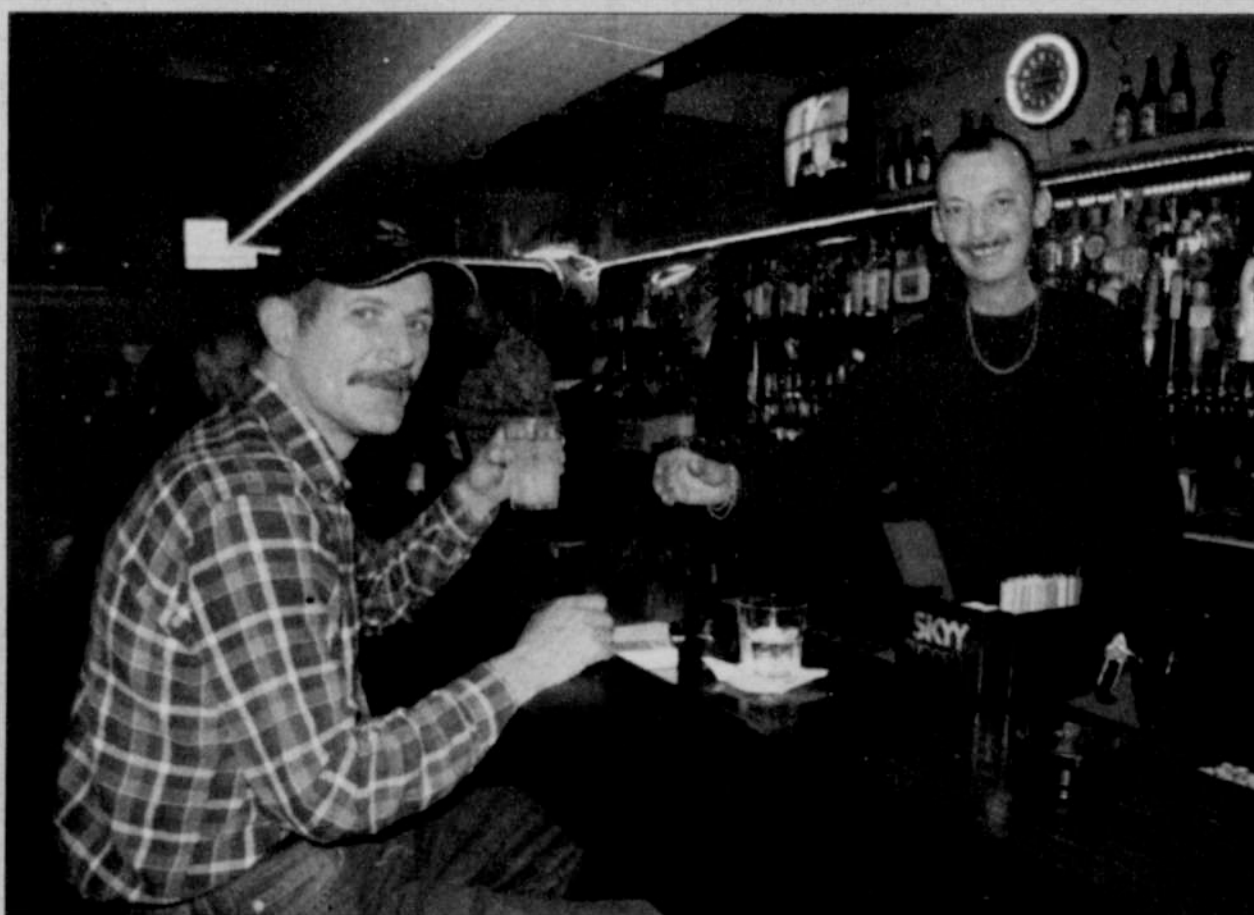
I've never been one to sling adages. Sure, boys will be boys, time does seem to fly when you're having fun, and absence may indeed make the heart grow fonder. But that doesn't mean I need to go around telling people these things all the time. Everyone already assumes this stuff. We get it. We know. But with a new owner and not a lot of discernible differences in operation, the new ol' Fox & Hounds has proven at least one adage useful and appropriate: The more things change, honey, the more they sure do stay the same.

Philip Olsen bought the Fox & Hounds in November and has been busy "freshening up" the look and feel of the place since. He hopes to restore the popularity the bar enjoyed when he first started patronizing the establishment years ago.

"We're going to update it a little bit, paint the place and put in new lighting, probably adjust the menu a little bit, and continue to give good service," Olsen says. "Hopefully we'll bring back all the wonderful customers that used to be there."

The Fox & Hounds still boasts a bursting-at-the-seams brunch, lunch and dinner menu, a variety of daily dinner specials (Dungeness crab omelet? Yum!) and a none-too-shabby happy hour. Sunday afternoons still bring out the bingo crowd, wielding their daubers for various charity organizations. And yes, the art on the walls still looks like a Courier & Ives greeting card exhibit. The bartenders are hit-and-miss in the friendliness department (the case, at least, for a nonregular like myself), but they all pour a mean \$2 happy hour cocktail. And if you happen to wander in during a particularly nasty storm, the Spanish coffee is a must-have. No questions. Just drink it.

Olsen is excited about being a gay business owner operating a gay establishment.



Barkeep Eric Botts has been serving regular customers like Jimmy for more than 15 years at this Old Town nightspot.

"My partner and I actually met [at the Fox & Hounds], so we're excited," he says. "It's kind of like going home."

So while the Fox & Hounds hasn't undergone any dramatic changes since Olsen took the helm, that's OK. This is the type of bar that doesn't need to rely on flashy gimmicks or a parade of trendy dance nights to stay alive. Good food, stiff drinks and a dark, cozy atmosphere keep the regulars coming back, while word-of-mouth efforts ensure at least a handful of new patrons trickle in each day. You can't teach an old dog new tricks, it's true, but when your dogs are doing fine with their old tricks, new ones really aren't necessary.

—Ben Nystrom