

Rangers

The logo features the word "Rangers" in a large, red, sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a white outline of a shield with a red five-pointed star inside. Below the shield and text are five red five-pointed stars arranged in a horizontal line.

RANGER REPORT
(The official Ranger newsletter)
January 1, 2014 through July 31, 2014
Edited by Jim Overholser

A message from the President
By Scot Baker

Rangers, Associates and Friends:

Another year has flown by and this is my third letter from the President. The first thing I'd like to say is happy 25th anniversary Rangers! I believe we are now the second oldest leather club in the Ohio area. I joined the club about eight years ago. When I joined, I felt like I had inherited the whole Ranger past. I really enjoyed hearing the older members talking about the Rangers at the beginning. So here I am a Ranger and proud of it.

I want to take some time to talk about the club. The Rangers are a close-knit group with practically no drama. We try to get together socially when we can. We all work well together and care about what each other thinks. The Rangers are always willing to help. We all have things to do that contribute to our events and make them so good. I hear people saying how they enjoy our events so much and it makes me feel good. We have had an increase in interest in the club lately with a significant increase in new members and other people that are curious. I'd like to attribute that to the fact that the Rangers always seem to have a good time at their events and are very welcoming to everyone.

Although all of the Rangers are worth praise, I would like to thank one in particular: Gregg, our Secretary, is one of the founding members and is still actively involved with the club. He keeps us Rangers on our toes about our duties and makes sure we are all informed. I consider him the backbone of the Rangers and don't know what the club would do without him.

The club itself is growing. We have many new full members and associates. Two of our newest full members are old friends from the leather community. We've also been getting more associates who are very helpful and want to have fun with us- I say, "the more the merrier!" We also have two titleholders in the club now, Jim and Steve. Both newer members who have really rolled up their sleeves and taken on a lot of responsibility. They have coordinated events and are working on the Northeastern Ohio campaign for Mr. Friendly. These are just a few of the things that have been happening with the Rangers.

This year we will not have the joint leather run with the Iron Eagles as we usually do in October. Unfortunately attendance had been so low it didn't make financial sense. We hope that we can have the run again next year in October. We always have so much fun doing a run!

I would like to see the Rangers do more social events so that we get more people together, talk, and just get to know each other better. Our events keep us so busy that we don't always have the time to socialize the way we would like to. So please, come to our social

events when you see them posted- they're an important part of what we're about! We would love to see you and talk with you. Here's to another great year!

Rangers' 25th Anniversary Dinner – 1/12/2014
By James Overholser

After the first Rangers monthly meeting of 2014, the Rangers full members, associates, partners, friends and family gathered for a celebratory meal. We gathered for a spectacular Italian meal at Bricco in downtown Akron, Ohio. Although the weather was cold we were warmed by the camaraderie of our club Brothers, Sisters, and loved ones. Initially it looked like turn out for the evening might be slim, but by the time everyone arrived we were all not able to sit at the same table- two very long tables ended up being needed. We were all very proud and excited to celebrate our 25th anniversary- and we are looking to another 25 years of active community involvement!

Hearts and Harnesses – 2/15/2014
By Gregg Lakota

The Rangers held their annual "Hearts & Harnesses" bar night at Cocktails-Akron. Full members Steve Bianchi and Jim Overholser were in charge of organizing the event and what a terrific job they did!

The upstairs bar was fully decorated for our Valentine's theme. I especially loved the heart-shaped, helium-filled balloons with such sayings printed on them like "Fuck Me," "Blow Me," "Eat Me," and so on. The stage was adorned with a huge glittery red heart wrapped in a leather harness against a backdrop of leather pride colors.

The event began promptly at 9 PM. A \$2.00 donation was taken at the door for the event's charity- CANAPI. At that time patrons could win door prizes of run t-shirts by selecting a red poker chip from a container filled with white ones. We were pleased to see representatives from CANAPI attending our event, including Rebecca, the new Executive Director.

By 11 PM the bar was packed. It was so nice to see the upstairs bar so crowded that it almost became difficult to maneuver around. The attendees were very supportive: by midnight just about all of Jeff Bixby's famous Jell-O shots were sold and sales of 50/50 raffle tickets were brisk.

Steve Bianchi and his friend Sir Phil L. from Mansfield did a great job with their flogging demos. Just too hot! At midnight the Mr. Hot Buns Akron contest was held. Six contestants shoved their firm, tight buns through holes in a tarp where they were used and abused with the winner to be determined by audience applause. David Kubik, president of the Youngstown Exiles, was named the winner.

During the entire evening, alumni member Piglet (former Great Lakes Boot Black titleholder) was on hand to spruce up those winter-weary boots. To sum it up- the bar night was a huge success.

Rangers' 25th Anniversary Bar Night – 3/18/2014

By Gregg Lakota

We held our 25th anniversary bar night at the Leather Stallion Saloon in Cleveland. It was a special night for us since this was our silver anniversary. The full members were dressed in their official Ranger club uniforms. I have to admit that our uniforms are hot-looking and garnered quite a few compliments.

We had sent out invitations via Facebook and received quite a good response. By 10 PM the bar was packed. We were also pleased to see club members from the local area come out to help us celebrate: The Unicorns M.C., N.A.I.L., The Iron Eagles, The Ohio Boys of Leather, Arktos Bears, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, & CLAW. We had attendees from as far away as Minnesota!

At about 10:30 PM we brought out our 25th anniversary cake. Honorary member Tom Bell had baked this HUGE chocolate cake with raspberry filling and frosted with an eye-catching design. Everyone was invited to enjoy a slice (or two) and the response was excellent.

It was a fun night of conversation and partying, and there was a true atmosphere of leather brotherhood and camaraderie. Thanks go to full members Steve Bianchi and Jim Overholser for organizing the event, to president Scot Baker for being willing to stand in a corner all night offering free buzz cuts, to Tom Bell for baking the delicious cake, to the full members who worked the door, to all of the clubs who came out to support us, to the LSS for hosting the party, and to the bar patrons for making this a memorable event.

Spring 2014 MACC Meeting and Conductors Run - 3/28/2014

By Chuck Skidmore

This year, the MACC meeting for spring 2014 was held in conjunction with the run for Conductors of Nashville during the weekend of March 28. Anyone attending a run is well familiar with how the success of a run depends not only on the host club, but also the run participants. This weekend was no exception.

Both the drive down and back were accompanied by warm sunny weather. Aside from a little rain, I was starting to wonder if I should have taken the motorcycle. But that's nothing new - I'm always looking for an excuse to ride. It was especially true now - I recently sold my old 2008 Vulcan 900 Custom, and bought a 2012 Harley Super Glide Custom. Woohoo!

Scot B, Rangers President, and myself as MACC delegate for GMO and Rangers Inc., decided to drive down together to show support from our club. Upon arrival, we were happy to see our good friends from Iron Eagles - Bert H, Steve B, Dan B, and George B - along with Steve F from the Gryphons. Ohio was well represented.

Scot and I arrived a bit late for the Iron Eagles cocktail party Friday night. Considering the MACC meeting the next morning, combined with some last minute cleanup for my day job, I decided to stay in rather than join Scot on the bar crawls.

The meeting started promptly at 10am Saturday morning, and I paid our \$30 dues. Club business included nominations for President (incumbent Sam .vs. Brad from the Argonauts) and Treasurer (Ray L to replace Steve F). There was also a wrap-up discussion of MACC 40th anniversary pins (10 pins per club to be distributed at the next meeting), and a commemorative flag that should be finished shortly.

Once again, promotion of the conference amongst other clubs was a big topic. Member clubs have reached out one-on-one to other organizations. But other efforts need to be stepped up. Specifically, support of the conference calendar has been sparse. The committee of me, Steve B, and Ray L needs to re-convene to finalize a proposal on how to build a mailing list, as well as update the MACC promotional brochure. On a positive note, Castaways presented a request to be re-admitted to the conference, which was presented for a vote and accepted - congratulations Castaways!

MACC meetings going forward - the Fall 2014 meeting will be hosted by Argonauts of Wisconsin as part of their 40th anniversary run - the Spring 2015 meeting will be hosted by KC Pioneers as part of their 40th anniversary run - the Fall 2015 meeting will be hosted by Gateway MC of St Louis.

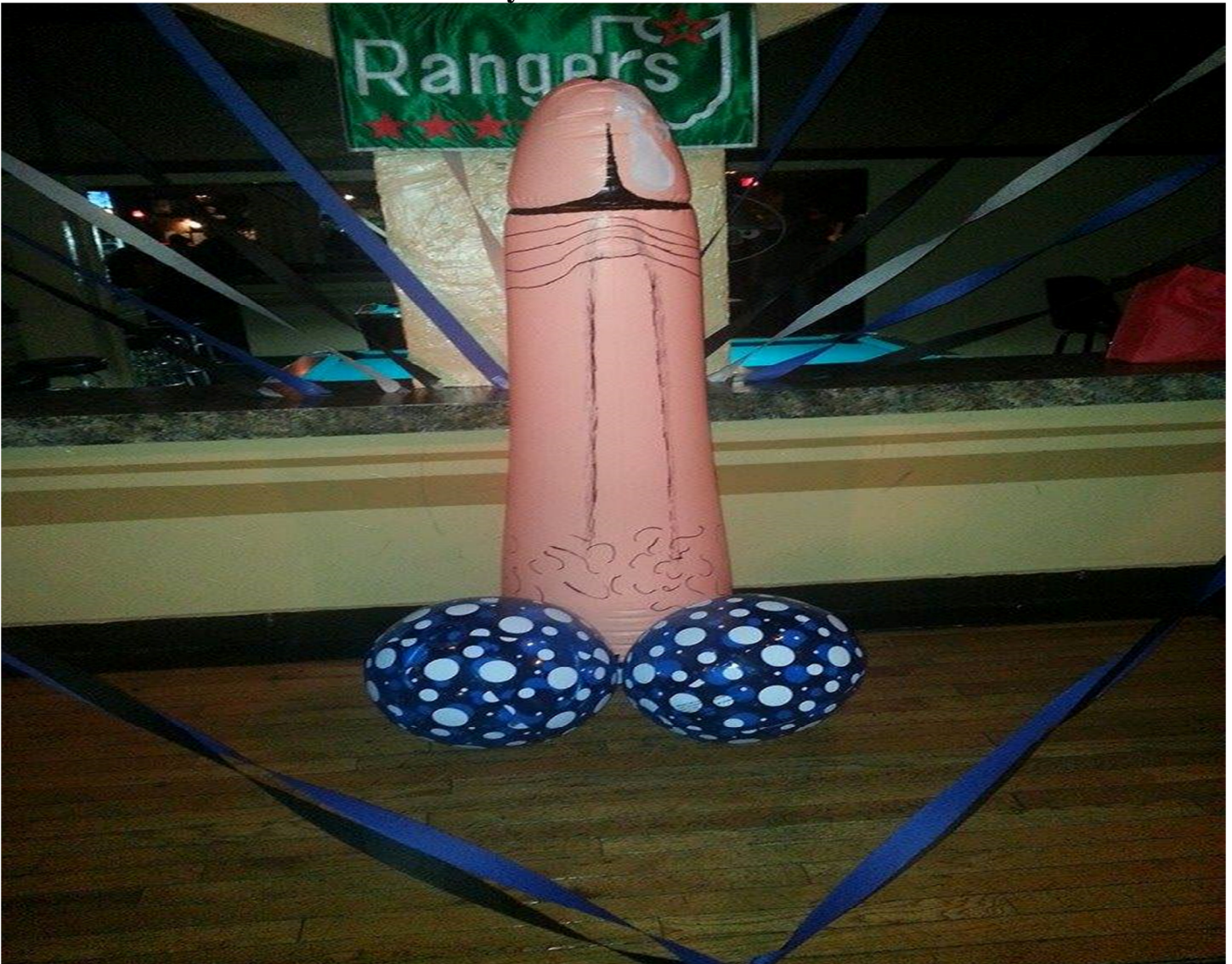
After the meeting adjourned, we were shuttled to Canvas Lounge on Church St for lunch and people games. As the Conductors juggled this with the run show preparations, the Iron Eagles stepped up to help out with the transition by assisting with the people games. The show was a huge success, raising well over \$1000 for their charities! And although Ron B and James B were not in the show itself, they helped out as emcees, getting the audience involved. Anyone who knows the Conductors also knows that they are good friends of the Iron Eagles and Rangers, and there is a healthy sense of competition between the clubs for best run show. With the upbeat musical numbers combining rock and pop music, I think the Conductors definitely pulled ahead this weekend!

I took advantage of free time to catch up with a little work and rest a bit. As I was getting ready for the Parade of Colors and formal dinner, I checked the run book to confirm the upcoming schedule. The main cocktail party is courtesy of Rangers Inc. At first I thought this was a typo, and joined Scot for the Parade of Colors - Scot carrying the Rangers colors, and myself with the GMO colors. As we joined the Iron Eagles for dinner, Steve B informed us that

Rangers appeared on the cocktail party schedule as far back as December! But once again, the Iron Eagles stepped up to help us out. With booze from their cocktail party the previous evening, combined with a quick shopping trip, they came through at the last minute with the main cocktail party! The Rangers definitely appreciate their assistance in helping us pull this off- it was certainly a dual-club effort. Scot B gave a very nice speech during "Mic time" in recognition of how all clubs, host and participants, come together to make every run a success.

Congratulations to the attending clubs on a great run weekend, as well as Conductors for hosting a strong Mid America Conference of Clubs!

SIRs & boys Night – 5/10/2014
By Jim Overholser



The Rangers held a “SIRs and boys” bar night at Cocktails Cleveland on May 10th. All proceeds for the event went to support the re-establishment of the Ohio LeatherSIR/boy, Ohio Community Bootblack, and Ohio Master/slave competitions.

The bar night was highlighted by a 50/50 raffle, Jell-O shots, and “festive” decorations (as you can see on the previous page ☺.) The event began at 9 P.M., and by 10 the bar was becoming quite crowded with our friends and supporters. Everyone that attended really got into the spirit of the event, and the vast majority of the people at Cocktails were in leather or fetish attire.

Bondage demonstrations were given by our President Scot, while Jim, Steve, and Warren provided impromptu flogging demonstrations. Both the bondage and the flogging demonstrations had many interested parties watching and learning.

At Midnight, Veranda L’ni took the stage- as usual she provided a spectacular performance! Veranda was also very generous to the Rangers by donating her tips to help support us in our endeavors. The Rangers would like to thank Veranda for her support! The event was very well attended and raffle ticket sales were very strong. At the end of the evening two winners were selected for the 50/50 raffle. Both of whom donated their winnings back to the Rangers. We would also like to thank James and Paul for their support of our club! We took some really very great pictures of this event, most of which are posted on our Facebook page. If you haven’t liked our page yet, keep reading and we’ll give you instructions on how to link up to it later in the newsletter.

**Gregg Lakota Resurrects Ohio ILSb-ICBB;
Jim Overholser Wins State Title
5/30-6/1**

After a six year hiatus, Ms. Kendra, owner of Great Lakes Leather Alliance, asked Gregg Lakota if he would be interested in resurrecting the Ohio contests which feed into the Great Lakes Regional contests. After some deliberation, Gregg agreed to do so. Although Gregg produces Mr. Cleveland Leather and owns Mr. Leather Akron, he had never produced an event which would hold several contests simultaneously: Ohio LeatherSIR, Ohio Leatherboy, Ohio Master & Ohio slave, and Ohio Bootblack. The winners of each category would compete alongside the winners from six other states in the Great Lakes Region. Those winning the Great Lakes titles would compete at International LeatherSIR & Leatherboy, International Community Bootblack, & International Master & slave.

From January through May, Gregg feverishly worked on organizing the three-day event, along with the assistance of Ric Scardino, owner of R & J Productions. All of the contests were held at Cocktails-Cleveland during May 30-31 with the Victory Party being held on June 1 at Highland Square Tavern. Gregg was able to procure five prestigious judges: Jeffrey Payne (owner of the International level & International Mr. Leather 2009), Sir Merrill Squires (producer of the MI contests & Michigan LeatherSIR 2009), Ms. Tammy Evanow (Great Lakes

Master 2004), Devon Miller (Ohio Valley Regional Bootblack 2008), and Johnny Birsdsell (American Leatherboy 2009).

On Friday evening the competition for Ohio Master & Ohio slave was held along with the first portion of the competition for Ohio Bootblack. On Saturday evening the competition for Ohio LeatherSIR and the second portion of the Ohio Bootblack competition was held. Unfortunately there were no contestants for Ohio Leatherboy, but that didn't dampen the spirit of the event. Along with the competitions, Sir Ben Feathers (Mr. Cleveland Leather 2014) and his Northeast Ohio pups manned the grill on the patio. Ric Scardino sold tickets for the Chinese raffle for items donated by the contestants and Miss Susan Locke & her partner Michael Locke from Columbus. Friday evening was well-attended, but Saturday was unbelievable! People from as far away as Buffalo, Indianapolis, Detroit, Chicago, Louisville, and even Dallas came to Saturday's event. A few patrons complained about having to park as far as five blocks from the bar, but in the end felt it was worth it. A major surprise was the appearance of International Master 2014 Michael on Saturday night.

Ranger Jim Overholser competed for Ohio LeatherSIR and many came out to show their support for him. Although he was the only contestant for this category, he was required to score at least 70% or better in order to win the title. In essence, he was competing against himself, which added even more pressure and stress. First of all, Jim was being judged by five extremely qualified & experienced judges. Being judged by the owner of the International level had to be especially nerve-wracking. In one evening, Jim went through a 20 minute intense private interview, made a speech on-stage, performed a fantasy, underwent a community forum during which time he was asked questions from the audience, and had to appear on-stage wearing as little as possible while answering questions posed by the judges. Most people would crack under the pressure, but not Jim. When all was said and done, Jim attained a total score of 92%, which was extremely impressive.

Jim Overholser is now Ohio LeatherSIR 2014, and will be representing the State of Ohio at the Great Lakes Regional level during August 21-24 in Indianapolis. Gregg Lakota will also be attending the regional competition to give his support to not only Jim, but also Ms. Brenda (Ohio Master 2014), arcane (Ohio slave 2014), & Zach Bellman (Ohio Bootblack 2014).

The Rangers are extremely proud of Jim and wish him the very best at Great Lakes. As a side note, Jim and his partner Steve Bianchi (Mr. Ohio Leather 2014) marched in the Columbus Pride Parade in front of more than 300,000 people. They also attended World Pride in Toronto which was attended by more than 2.5 million people

Sash Bash – 6/8/2014

By Gregg Lakota



On Sunday, June 8, the Rangers hosted their annual “Sash Bash” at the Leather Stallion Saloon. At Sash Bash, the theme is “everyone is a titleholder.” As the event began at 5 PM, patrons were greeted by the Rangers who led them into the pool table room. Strung across the room was a multitude of black sashes with various titles written across them in white lettering. Bar patrons were given the opportunity to select any sash of their choosing with titles such as “Miss Behaved,” “Miss Understood,” “Miss Carriage,” “Miss Shapen,” “Miss Begotten,” “Miss Creant,” and so on. Once a sash had been selected, a Ranger immediately placed it diagonally across the patron’s chest and stapled the ends together. The patron was then free to head to the patio to display his new title with pride. Throughout the course of the evening, bar patrons were proudly displaying their sashes, which, of course, were the topic of conversation. iPhones & Smartphones were clicking away all night long.

After the majority of the bar patrons had been sashed, a contest was held to determine who would be “Miss Sash Bash 2014.” Five brave souls headed toward the patio stage to compete for this most coveted honor. Steve Bianchi, Mr. Ohio Leather 2014; Gregg Lakota, Mr. Ohio Leather 2008; and Jim Overholser, Ohio LeatherSIR 2014 served as the event’s emcees. The only requirement of the contestants was to give a brief speech explaining why he deserved to be Miss Sash Bash 2014. Audience applause would determine the winner.

Each of the contestants gave a brief speech, but the winning speech came from Ron, who is Scot Baker’s partner. Even though Scot is the Ranger president, his relationship with Ron had

nothing to do with the audiences' decision. Who could vote for anyone but Ron with his award-winning speech: "I don't give a fuck who wins this contest. Give it to someone else." He brought down the house. Congratulations to Ron, Miss Sash Bash 2014!

Also present at Sash Bash were Mr. Friendly Northeast Ohio headed by Steve Bianchi and Jim Overholser who were helping to spread a friendly message in order to help end the stigma of HIV. Also in attendance were representative from Project SAFE who provided free and anonymous HIV testing throughout the course of the evening.

Pictures from the Sash Bash, as well as every other Rangers event can be found on our Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/RangersInc> . Please take a few moments to have a look at them and to "like" our page while you are there. All of our events are announced and planned using this page, and by "liking" it, you can always make sure that you are up to date with our events, meetings, and get-togethers.

2014 Ranger Officers Addendum

Due to his new work schedule, the office of Road Captain has been passed from David Richmond to Jim Overholser after a vote of all full members. The Rangers would like to thank David for his service!

2014 Ranger Calendar

The remaining Rangers events are listed below. We invite each and every one of you to attend and support our events.

- Saturday, August 16: Dog Days at Freedom Valley noon to midnight
- Saturday, November 22: Leatherfest, featuring the Mr. Leather Akron contest
Cocktails-Akron 9 pm

Congratulations!

The Rangers would like to congratulate Aazura Bowers, Warren Stauffer, and Don Williams for being accepted as full members to the club. We are all proud to call them our leather sister and brother.