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#### **Order in the Court**

Submitted By Gregg Lakota

On Sunday, August 13, several Rangers enjoyed an outing to see the performance of "Judge" Jackie: Disorder in the Court" at the Weathervane Playhouse in Akron. The four who attended were the hard-core Weathervane Playhouse Rangers: Christopher, Aazura, Tink, and myself. Although other Rangers have attended performances at the Weathervane along with us, we're the avid theater patrons who may as well be referred to as the Weathervane Rangers. So far this year, we've seen productions of "A Boy Named Jake," and "Hairspray" and are planning to see "Young Frankenstein: the Musical" and "A Christmas Carol." Ranger Jeff Bixby is a mainstay at the Weathervane either as an actor, stage manager, or director. It's because of him that the Weathervane Rangers got hooked on theater, especially at the Weathervane.



This particular play was performed one night only to raise funds for CANAPI (Community AIDS Network/Akron Pride Initiative). This has been done every year for the past 16 years. In fact,

last year we saw "Secret of the Old Queen," another CANAPI fund raising performance.

As usual, the Weathervane Rangers started their evening at Pub Bricco, which is a hop, skip, and a jump from the theater. The four of us have one thing in common when it comes to Pub Bricco: our love of fried pickles. No one makes them better than this restaurant. Regardless of what is ordered, everyone makes sure that dinner starts with those scrumptious fried pickles, along with its out-of-this-world aioli dipping sauce. After a terrific meal and a few beers and cocktails, we headed to the theater.

"Judge Jackie: Disorder in the Court" proved to be one of the most hilarious plays any of us had ever seen. It began with the main character coming onto the stage and asking audience members if anyone would like to take a selfie with her. Although we knew that this play was a spoof of the Judge Judy television show, none of us were prepared for the strong resemblance between the actress and the real Judge Judy: stature, hair style, face, and even that New York dialect that is so characteristic of her. Aazura tried to coax me to take a selfie with Judge Jackie, but I chickened-out. After I returned the favor, Aaz reluctantly headed to the stage for the selfie. From that point on, we knew we were in for a good time.

Before the play began, one of the actors taught the audience the Judge Jackie theme song so that whenever she appeared on stage we were



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prompted to belt it out. Audience participation was a clever way of bolstering the audience's interest. From the moment it began, we laughed almost non-stop at the various trials, which were so ridiculous that they had us in stitches. The trials parodied the types of idiots who often appear in Judge Judy's courtroom and it soon became clear that they weren't so far-fetched after all. A subplot of the play dealt with Judge Jackie's love life (or lack thereof). After two and a half hours, the play ended with Judge Jackie finding the love of her life.

#### **Dawg Days**

Submitted by Chuck Skidmore, pics by Kel Hess

Freedom Valley has always been a fun and relaxing venue for Northern Ohio. And this summer was no exception, as the Rangers setup for our annual Dawg Days fundraiser event!



Swimming started late morning, with "adult beverages" poolside. Around 1pm we took a short break to meet Gregg at the bunkhouse to distribute flyers to advertise the big fundraiser that evening. Then back to the pool to cool off and hang out with the friendly campers and staff of Freedom Valley. About 6pm, everyone participated in a pot luck dinner in Gregg & Greg's yard, adjacent to their retro trailer.



All of us had a wonderful time and are looking forward to next year's CANAPI fund raising performance, whatever it may be.

The dawg pound was setup about 8:30pm in time for the event @ 9pm. Rangers would take turns as dawg catcher, rounding up bad puppies and "adopting" them out. Meanwhile, Joe Schaer made sure all puppies had their "shots" (jello shots, that is).



Preliminary proceeds were reported to be well over \$600 for our Pawsibilities fundraiser.

Congratulations to everyone for another successful and fun summer event!



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#### 2017 Akron Pride

Submitted by Aazura Bowers

On August 26 Tink and Aaz went to pride and represented the Rangers. We were very pleasantly surprised that since it was the first one that it was not only well-organized, but also very busy.



There was a nice-sized leather contingent that marched, as well as many others. The crowd was steady all day long, and the types of vendors there were varied. They had things like body piercing, Starbucks, jewelry, and bath products. There was also an extremely nice

show that pretty much went on all day long. The response to the Rangers was heartwarming because we have such a good name in the gay community.



I would recommend doing this at all the Prides (well, local anyway). We were there from 9 am till 6 pm, and the day seemed to fly by.

## **International Leatherboy**

Submitted by Gregg Lakota

Last September in Dallas TX, Ranger full member Troy Kaczorowski (aka. boy kaz) won the title of International Leatherboy. Over the years, members of the Rangers have won numerous titles, but this is the first time that a Ranger has won an international title.

CONGRATULATIONS TO boy kaz "INTERNATIONAL LEATHERBOY 2017-18!"





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## Leatherfest / Mr. Leather Akron

Submitted by Chuck Skidmore, pics by Kel Hess



Before the holiday season kicks in, the Rangers traditionally combine efforts with Gregg Lakota in holding the annual Leatherfest fundraiser with his Mr. Leather Akron contest.

Congratulations to full member Todd Zampa for winning the title of Mr. Leather Akron 2018!



Everyone gearing up for a good time as Leatherfest begins.



The evening was topped off with the annual Mr. Leather Akron contest. Many former Mr. Leather Akron titleholders were in attendance to support the event.





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## **Rangers' Christmas Party**

Submitted by Chuck Skidmore, pics by Kel Hess

Our annual party was held on December 2. This year, our treasurer Kel Hess graciously offered to host the Rangers' Christmas party at his home.



The evening was topped off with our traditional white elephant gift exchange.



Thanks again, Kel, for hosting a great party!

**Happy New Year!** 

# Rangers, Inc. wishes everyone a happy and prosperous New Year!



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### **Upcoming Area Events**

Apr 14 Unicorns' "Tax Man Cometh" – LSS @ 9pm Apr 21 Iron Eagles' "Project Runway" Cocktails 2.0 Apr 26-29 CLAW @ Westin Hotel, Cleveland May 05 Sisters' Bar Night – LSS @ 9pm

May 11-12 GLLA Ohio leather contests – LSS @ 9pm May 19 Iron Eagles' "Boy Bands" – Cocktails 2.0

Jun 10 Rangers' "Sash Bash" – LSS @ 4pm
Jun 17 Unicorns' "Daddy's Day" – LSS @ 4pm
Jul 15 Sisters' Bar Night – LSS @ 4pm
Jul 20 GMO "2018 Ride" – Freedom Valley
Jul 29 Iron Eagles' "Xmas in July" @ Cocktails 2.0

#### Published by:

Rangers Inc PO Box 2732 Akron OH 44309



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#### 2018 Slate of Officers

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Vice-president	Todd Zampa
Secretary	Gregg Lakota
Treasurer	Kel Hess
Road Captain	Julia Uunderwood

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Email us – add "@rangersinc.org" to the officer / chair title (e.g., president@rangersinc.org)

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