

YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

Key West



Q MAGAZINE

Volume 19 Issue 4
April 2024



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YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

Key West



Q MAGAZINE

Volume 19 - Issue 4

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Welcome To Paradise!

Randy Roberts has been entertaining people for over 30 years with his celebrity impersonations and his popular lounge act.

Randy is the headline act at the world famous Crystal Room at La Te Da

Make sure you check out the show!

Enjoy!

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Published Monthly by:

Q Key West, Inc.

Key West, FL 33040-

Local Advertising

305-396-8227

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National Advertising

Rivendell Media 212-242-6863

sales@rivendellmedia.com

Visit us online at www.QKeyWest.com

Stephanie Wise

LEZ GO OUT



F

Fairy dust, fairy dust, fairy dust... Everyone has seen the iconic gay movie with Robin Williams and Nathan Lane and if you haven't, your gay card is officially revoked until you do. So, it is only fitting that Key West, a gay mecca, have its own Birdcage Cabaret in our fair hamlet! Iconic (like over 25 years) female impersonator, Christopher Peterson, had a grand change of venue back in January of this year and brought his spectacular vision and world-renowned talents to Aqua Nightclub! Now, we have talked about Aqua before, but this has tied together the phenomenal entertainment that Aqua is known for around the world, with the classy cabaret glamour of Christopher's historic shows creating a cabaret of your wildest dreams! Vegas-style finales, a talent feature showcasing each of the Aquanette's unique skills (yes, let your imagination run wild and you're pretty darn close) just to name a few bits to whet your whistle. In February there was a whole week dedicated to preview shows and the Husbutch and I attend THREE times. Each time someone would come to town we knew that they just HAD to see it. My MOTHER from the Midwest had absolutely THE BEST time.

The new owners of Aqua have given Christopher free reign to turn the former "Sidebar" into anything his heart desired. Ever grandiose and glamorous, Christopher and the owners Mike and Jon have now transformed the space with golden mirrors, popping champagne bottles, sparkling curtains, spotlights, video screens and the most stately antique-style wood bar the likes of which you find in old western movies and it WORKS!! So so well. You can even sit at this fabulous bar to watch the show, but the real treat is the VIP seating. Those seats are right smack dab up front and reservable for couple and groups, and you get every performer's attention as they saunter down the stage steps to work the

room all the way to the very back. There is bottle service with high end champagne and drinks inspired by each one of the Queens!! My personal favorite is the N/A version of Beatrix Dixie's cocktail proving that the shows are true theatre and one can enjoy sobriety and an evening out in Key West!!

Aqua has always been a favorite and this new addition promises to be nothing short of direction-changing for the venue. We lesbians have always had a home at Aqua with Laurie-T bartending in the Backbar on Sundays and slinging drinks and hotdogs for us. Our weekly gathering of lesbians is still VERY much welcome so if you're in town, make that a must-do stop starting at 2pm. And, two of our very own grace the stage in the Birdcage Cabaret now as well! The Broadway-famous, Terri White has been a feature of Christopher's grand opening and rumor has it that we will be listening to her bring down the house with her powerful vocals often as the show progresses. In true Broadway style, her songs will take you back and make you want to sing along. She often has the audience in tears with her emotional notes. Call the box office (305-294-0555) and ask when she is performing to get tickets for that night's show! Renee Breslin is also singing there. Our resident lesbian crooner, she entertains the audience with her sultry voice and will cuddle right up to you when she sings and works the crowd. She is there every Wednesday for happy hour starting at 5:30pm. It's low key and wonderfully entertaining to sit back and start your evening off with Renee's beautiful voice. I don't know about you, but I love to see talented lesbians featured wherever I travel, and this is no exception.

SO, whether you're in the mood for the reliable humor and entertainment of the Aquanettes in the main bar, the glamorous cabaret shows in the Birdcage or Renee's sultry crooner style, AquaPlex Key West has everything you're looking for in entertainment. Lez Go Out and see a show together. Break a leg, ladies!



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*Source: IQVIA NPS Weekly, 04/19/2019 through 01/20/2023.

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This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY® and does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your condition and your treatment.

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- ▶ Those in the "Most Important Information About BIKTARVY" section.
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- ▶ **Kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys. If you develop new or worse kidney problems, they may tell you to stop taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ **Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- ▶ **Severe liver problems,** which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark "tea-colored" urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
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Your healthcare provider will need to do tests to monitor your health before and during treatment with BIKTARVY.

Continued on next page.



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- ▶ Have or have had any kidney or liver problems, including hepatitis infection.
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Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- ▶ Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, antacids, laxatives, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.

- ▶ BIKTARVY and other medicines may affect each other. Ask your healthcare provider and pharmacist about medicines that interact with BIKTARVY, and ask if it is safe to take BIKTARVY with all your other medicines.

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GET MORE INFORMATION

- ▶ This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more.
- ▶ Go to [BIKTARVY.com](https://www.gilead.com/BIKTARVY) or call 1-800-GILEAD-5.
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Please see Important Facts, including important warnings, above and at [BIKTARVY.com](https://www.gilead.com/BIKTARVY).



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- Voodoo Smash Burger with shaved onions, pickles, & voodoo sauce
- Inga Smash Classic Burger lettuce, tomato, mayo, & pickles option to add cheese/bacon/extra patty
- Hangover Smash Burger bacon, fried egg, cheese, & our secret burger sauce

Mac 'n Cheese Bowls

- Plain Jane
- Buffalo Chicken
- Hot Honey Chicken
- Crawfish
- Lobster

Jambalaya

plain or choose any combination of the following: chicken, sausage, & shrimp

Gumbo

made with smoked chicken & sausage

Fry Baskets

served with your choice of fries or tots

- Swamp Basket includes catfish, shrimp, gator, & okra
- Oysters
- Catfish & Shrimp
- Catfish
- Gator Tail
- Shrimp
- Chicken Fingers

Option to toss chicken fingers in: buffalo, hot honey, voodoo, or BBQ



PoBoy's

served on New Orleans poboy bread, with mayo, pickles, lettuce & tomato

- Fried Catfish or fried Shrimp
- Fried Gator Tail
- Fried Shrimp & Catfish
- Hot Sausage (Beef)
- Cheeseburger
- Ham, egg & cheese
- Sausage, egg & cheese
- Bacon, egg & cheese

Salads

- **Wedge**
iceberg, bacon, tomatoes & blue cheese
- **House**
iceberg, tomato, cucumber, onion with Italian or ranch dressing add a protein: chicken, shrimp, or catfish
- **Chef**
iceberg, tomato, cucumber, ham, bacon, smoked chicken, shredded cheddar jack & Gruyere cheese, boiled egg with blue cheese or ranch dressing

Sauces

- Hot Honey
- Honey Mustard
- Key Lime Cocktail
- Ranch
- Remoulade
- Voodoo Sauce
- La Diabla
- BBQ
- Bub Cheese
- Brown Gravy
- Buffalo
- Cheese
- Sauce
- Citrus Garlic Aioli
- Garlic Hot Honey



Chicken 'wiches

served with your choice of fries or tots

- Voodoo Chicken Sandwich crispy fried chicken breast tossed in voodoo sauce topped with pickles
- Buffalo Chicken Sandwich crispy fried chicken breast tossed in buffalo sauce, topped with ranch, pickles, lettuce, & tomato
- Big Daddy Smoked BBQ Chicken smoked pulled chicken topped with crispy fried onions on bun
- Justin Case Chicken Classic choice of grilled or blackened chicken breast topped with mayo, pickles, lettuce, & tomato

Appetizers

- Gator Tail
- Fried Mushrooms
- Fried Okra
- Fried Mozzarella
- Fried Pickles
- Corn Dog Bites
- Fried Italian Sausage Ravioli

Sides

- Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
- Collard Greens with Bacon
- Daily veggie
- Fries or Cheese Fries
- Onion Rings
- Tots or Cheese Tots
- Cajun Poutine at your discretion

Sweets

- Pecan Praline & Peach Bread Pudding with caramel sauce
- Grilled Banana Nut Bread drizzled in dark & white chocolate
- Fried Oreos with dark & white chocolate drizzle Order as 1 dozen or 1/2 dozen

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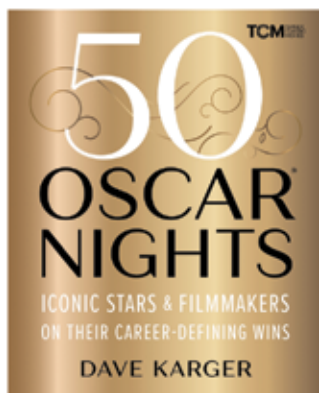
BEACH READS

LGBT Book Reviews by *Terri Schlichenmeyer*



"50 OSCAR NIGHTS: ICONIC STARS & FILMMAKERS ON THEIR CAREER-DEFINING WINS" BY DAVE KARGER

c.2024, Running Press | \$30.00 | 264 pages



Studies say that the average person prefers a taller man.

Height matters in many opinions and if a man's a nice dresser, that's even better. A pleasing comportment catches the eye, too. But if he's stoic, just over thirteen inches tall, and clad head-to-toe in gold, well, most women – and men – would do anything for him. Those who've met that guy never forget him, as you'll see in "50 Oscar Nights" by Dave Karger.

Imagine it: the lights are bright, you're sitting in the midst of glitter and glitterati, and suddenly, everyone's congratulating you and pushing you toward a stage and a golden statue. We cheer when our favorite stars live that dream, but what's it really like to receive an Oscar?

As an eleven-year-old boy, Dave Karger thought about that, and other Oscar-y things. His young "obsession with the Oscars" led to questions, some of which were never answered but some were: he grew up to meet and interview Oscar winners to talk about their big honors.

This book is the result.

Karger begins with Nicole Kidman, who first won the Award for her role in "The Hours" in 2003. She had just gotten divorced from Tom Cruise then; after the ceremony, she told Karger, she "went to bed alone; I was in bed before midnight."

As a child, Jennifer Hudson wanted Grammys and never dreamed of an Oscar. Jane Fonda struggled with how to leave activism out of an acceptance speech. Halle Berry gave a nod to Black women before her. Rita Moreno was so shocked to win, that she gave the briefest speech. Dustin Hoffman kept his Award in the closet for years. Lee Grant wore "somebody's old wedding dress" to accept her Oscar. Hilary Swank remembers how much her feet hurt. Michael Douglas wrote his name down, in case he forgot it. Larry Hagman left neighbor Joel Grey a special Award. And Octavia Spencer prayed not to fall down on her way to the stage.

Jaded fan, serious critic, or Two-Buck-Tuesday connoisseur, the facts remain that movies are special things and the Awards ceremony always promises to be watercooler-fodder. Reading "50 Oscar Nights" will make you feel extra-smart on the morning after.

Yes, if you're a movie fan, you've got shelves full of books like this one, but author Dave Karger adds an aura of intimacy to what you'll read here. Of course, there's a sense of breathlessness to each of the interviews, and some self-deprecation, but readers will also see a surprising wistfulness from some of the stars, as if the otherwise exciting presentation was eclipsed by heartache or regret. This lends a whole new aspect of the Awards show that you'll have to watch for now. New bets to lose. New gossip to collect.

Lush with color photos, delicious insight, and quality paper, "50 Oscar Nights" may make you binge-watch all the movies mentioned in here soon. Before you grab the popcorn and dim the lights, before the ceremony starts, get this book now. Don't leave yourself short.

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MY BIG GAY LIFE

Brad Loekle



MARY POPPERS

I was recently at a 4-day gay wedding. I'm calling it a gay wedding and not just a wedding because the grooms were married on top of a giant disco ball and, aside from an open bar, they had a WIG BAR. The Wig Bar was an entire room where 4 professional drag queens had 12 different wig styles (each with a lady's name) for the guests to choose from! It was fabulous and just so utterly gaaaaay. Fun fact, most of the gay men barely touched the wig bar, but you know who stampeded to the wig bar? Straight men and all the children. It was really lovely and more than a bit hilarious to see straight men finally feel "free" once they had a "Tabitha" or a "Simone" on their head.

One of the boy children was already presenting as a fierce queen. I could see a lot of the 9-year-old gay I was in him as he lived his best life all weekend. His mom was a doll and the three of us got to know each other over the course of the weekend. At one point she said, "Can you talk to him about bullying? He'll listen to you." I leapt into action.

"Are the little bastards at his school being horrible to him?! Do I need to go to playground and kick a 5th grader?! I will do it, Cathy!"

Cathy said, "No, you don't understand. He's the one who can be a bully. He's just too smart and will verbally destroy kids when they get into normal kid arguments."

I said, "Are you sure he's not actually MY kid, Cathy?"

So, I sat down with him and explained I was just like him when I was his age, and still am. "You can't just hurt someone's feelings because you disagree with them. Strength and cruelty aren't the same thing.", I

said. Feeling like a sassy Mary Poppins teaching the children right from wrong.

“Well, I called Steven stupid because he was being stupid.”, said my little Mini Me.

Thinking I was being smart by making my case from a different angle, I said, “See that’s not even an interesting or creative insult. Anybody can be basic-mean. And you don’t want to be basic, do you?!”

“Oh God, no!”, he said. Problem solved. Or, so I thought.

At the reception, Cathy comes over and says, “I don’t know what you told him but now he’s just getting meaner to kids who piss him off. Can you talk to him again?”

I grab him by the back of the wig (his 3rd of the evening) and said, “Hey, dickhead, why is that other kid over there crying because of something you said? What happened?!”

“Well, he told me my wig looked terrible. So, I told him he was a failed abortion.

And before I could even reply he said, “You have to admit that’s far from basic. It’s pretty good.”

I couldn’t deny that! I love that child. I also can never see that child again until he’s 21 or in prison.

Brad Loekle’s latest comedy special & album, “Brash Boys Club” is available on Amazon, AppleTV, iTunes, and other platforms. He was a semi-finalist on NBC’s “Last Comic Standing”. He can be seen every week on TruTV’s “World’s Dumbest”, has written for Joan Rivers on E! “Fashion Police” & tours internationally. His book, “My Big Gay Life” is available on Amazon. For all this and more, check out: www.bradloekle.com



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in touch with you

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(305) 294-1995



CARDS GIFTS FINE ART MERMEN TEE SHIRTS PRIDE

THE PETRONIA ST. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

DRAG RACES!



**SATURDAY,
APRIL 20
2:30 - 5PM**

700 BLOCK OF DUVAL STREET



1. TEST RUN 2. QUALIFYING RACES 3. FINALS

Participants will get to test run the course, then compete one on one. The two fastest queens will compete in the finals for the trophy!

**ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BE IN HEELS & LOOK SOMEWHAT LIKE A WOMAN...
PRETTY OR UGLY! ANYONE CAN ENTER! REGISTRATION IS FREE!**

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12-5PM
SATURDAYS

SEXY
SHOT BOYS from
1:30 - 4:30



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DRAG DIVAS
performing
from 2-4



LIVE DJ's from 1-4



Leather
MASTER
Key West

graffitti
Key West

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Bourbon St. Pub

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YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

Key West



Q MAGAZINE

- **801** - 801 Duval St
- **A&B** - 700 Front St
- **Alexander's Guest House** - 1118 Fleming St
- **Alonzo's** - 700 Front St
- **Aqua** - 711 Duval St
- **Back Bar** - 711 Duval St
- **Belmare** - 700 Front St
- **Big Cheezes** - 404 Southard St
- **Birdcage Cabaret** - 504 Angela St
- **Bourbon** - 724 Duval St
- **Equator Resort** - 822 Fleming St
- **Graffiti** - 721 Duval St
- **In Touch With You** - 706A Duval St
- **Island House** - 1129 Fleming St
- **KW Gay & Lesbian Visitor Center** - 808 Duval St
- **La Te Da** - 1125 Duval St
- **Mangia Mangia** - 900 Southard St
- **Marc Ulanowski Realtor** - 420 Fleming St
- **Red Barn Theater** - 319 Duval St (Rear)
- **Red Shoe Island Bistro** - 411 Petronia St
- **Saloon 1** - 504 Petronia St
- **The Green House** - 532 Duval St
431 Front St
- **211A Duval St**
- **Waterfront Playhouse** - 407 Wall St
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EVERY FRIDAY
STARTING AT MIDNIGHT**

**DONALD'S DIRTY DISCO
SATURDAYS 9PM - 4AM**

**GEAR PARTY
SATURDAY APRIL 20TH
9PM - 4AM**

504 PETRONIA ST.



**BARTENDER
OF THE MONTH**

DONALD

**SPECIALTY COCKTAIL:
GRAPEFRUIT MANIKAZE**



**BARTENDER
OF THE MONTH**

ALVIN

**SPECIALTY COCKTAIL:
KEY LIME MARTINI**

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**SATURDAY, APRIL 6TH
GLOW PARTY
10PM - 4AM**

**TUESDAY APRIL 23RD
FULL MOON AFTER PARTY
10PM - 4AM**

**SUNDAY APRIL 28TH
CUP CLUB APPRECIATION
4PM - 6PM**

FOLLOW US



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FRIDAYS AT MIDNIGHT

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QUEENS QUEENS QUEENS

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7PM and 11PM
SATURDAY MATINEE
5PM

RESERVATIONS



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WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

*Aqua Idol at 6 PM
Drag Show at 9 PM*

Back Bar

Monday Night Football at 8 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Pub Style Trivia at 6 PM

Bourbon

*Bria singing live at 8 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

La Te Da

3Sum at 8:30 PM

TUESDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

*Dueling Bartenders at 4 PM
Drag Show at 9 PM*

Birdcage Cabaret

Cabaret Show at 8 PM

Bourbon

*Bria singing live at 8 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

La Te Da

*Tiger and River playing at 8.30
Randy Roberts Live at 9 PM*

WEDNESDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

*Live Singer at 1 PM
Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM*

Birdcage Cabaret

*René Breslin singing live at 5:30 PM
Western Wednesdays at 9 PM*

Bourbon

*Bria singing live at 8 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

Island House

Hot Naked Pool Party starting at 5 PM

La Te Da

Tiger and River playing at 8.30



.....
THURSDAY
.....

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Live Singer at 1 PM

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM

Karaoke at 11 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Cabaret Show at 8 PM

Throwback Thursdays at 10 PM

Bourbon

Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM

Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

La Te Da

3Sum at 8:30 PM

Randy Roberts Live at 9 PM

.....
FRIDAY
.....

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Live Singer at 1 PM

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM

Karaoke at 11 PM

Back Bar

RuPaul Viewing Party at 8 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Cabaret Show at 8 PM

Late Night Dance Party at 11 PM

Bourbon

Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM

Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Boys Night Out starting at 10 PM

La Te Da

3Sum at 8:30 PM

Randy Roberts Live at 9 PM

Saloon 1

Cock Shock contest at Midnight

.....
SATURDAY
.....

801

Drag Shows at 5, 9, & 11 PM

Aqua

Live Singer at 1 PM

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM

Karaoke at 11 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Cabaret Show at 8 PM

Dance Party at 10 PM

Bourbon

Naked Pool Party at Noon

Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM

Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

La Te Da

3Sum at 8:30 PM

.....
SUNDAY
.....

801

Karaoke starting at 4 PM

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM

Back Bar

Hot Dog Church at 3 PM

Sunday Night Football at 8 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

After Tea Dance at 7 PM

Bourbon

After Tea 7 PM - 10 PM

Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM

Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Island House

Hot Naked Pool Party starting at Noon

La Te Da

Tea Dance at 4 PM

3Sum at 8:30 PM

.....
LOCATIONS
.....

801 - 801 Duval Street

Aqua - 711 Duval Street

Back Bar - 711 Duval Street

Birdcage - 504 Angela St

Bourbon - 724 Duval Street

Island House - 1129 Fleming St

La Te Da - 1125 Duval St

Saloon 1 - 504 Petronia St

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ASK NANA

E-mail your questions to
nana@keywestgayrag.com



Dear Nana,

How young is too young if you're in your early 60s? Lately I've had younger guys hitting on me and I'm very flattered but I don't know if actually dating someone 20 or 30 years younger than me would work. What do you think? Can May-December relationships work?

Well, Pop Pop, lets get into it! First of all, lets assume that by "early 60s" you mean 67. Now that we've gotten that out of the way, let's get down to brass tacks. Or in your case, brass cock rings... which you'll need if you're going to keep up with these youngsters. Can a May-December relationship work? Sure. Any relationship CAN work. But many don't and that can be from any number of factors. I think you might be worried you might not have enough shared cultural experiences together to be compatible long term. But if that was the key factor in ALL happy couples then everyone would marry someone they grew up with or die alone. Sure, his first concert was probably Madonna and yours was probably Beethoven's newest symphony, but that doesn't mean it won't work. Don't write off any relationship before it's started. Life is too short... especially for you and me at this point. And sex with younger people can be a lot of fun! A lot of them still have that "new car smell" when you get them naked. Plus, there's usually some tricks we can teach them, both in and out of the sack, that can make the relationship really lovely for both of you. They can learn life lessons from you, while you suck the life force out of them like one of the Sanderson Sisters. It's a win-win! But I'd still talk to your healthcare provider before taking on any new and strenuous activities... like sling sex or reverse cowboy.

Dear Nana,

What are your thoughts on pets on planes?



I'm against twinks being allowed in the airplane cabin. But if you want to fly them in the cargo hold, I don't have a problem with that.

DO YOU HAVE PROBLEMS? OF COURSE YOU DO! WHY NOT LET NANA HELP YOU?!

Send your questions to: nana@keywestgayrag.com



IsLAND HouSe

HOT NAKED POOL PARTIES



HOT NAKED
WEDNESDAYS

5 - 8PM

(2-4-1 EXTENDED HAPPY HOURS)

HOT NAKED
SUNDAYS

12 - 4PM



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WHORE--SCOPES

AQUARIUS JAN 20 - FEB 18

I guess you're not that upset about your breakup. You got over one man by getting under another!

PISCES FEB 19 - MAR 20

So we hear you're going vegan. NO!! What will all the cows eat??

ARIES MAR 21 - APR 19

You're attitude really sucks. Are you going through Man-O-Pause??

TAURUS APR 20 - MAY 20

It's starting to get warm again. Please change from that earthy crunchy stuff to real deodorant

GEMINI MAY 21 - JUN 20

They say every action has an equal and opposite reaction. Well your weight is going up and your man boobs are going down!

CANCER JUN 21 - JUL 22

You've spread so many STDs that your name is now the medical billing code for antibiotics.

LEO JUL 23 - AUG 22

I finally met someone with an IQ lower than you. It was at the zoo, but still, maybe a win!

VIRGO AUG 23 - SEP 22

Self driving cars will be a game changer for you. Now people driving by can flip you off with BOTH hands!!

LIBRA SEP 23 - OCT 22

It's time to start dieting when you're not let on the bus because you'll overload it!

SCORPIO OCT 23 - NOV 21

Oh dear Scorpio, no one has felt your stinger for many years.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 22 - DEC 21

How can you be so fat? You're clearly constantly running from good taste!

CAPRICORN DEC 22 - JAN 19

Everyone at karaoke would like to invite you to different bar.

blu Q

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