



# IN REVIEW

**Second Half, July 2019 Through December 2019**

## Puppy Daze

The Rangers held their 1st annual Puppy Daze (formally known as Dawg Daze) at Circle JJ campground in July. What a fun time we had hanging around the campfire talking, laughing, and getting to know each other. Time at the pool was a riot. I will never look at pool noodles the same way again. Our fellow campers seemed to really enjoy the puppy jail by having their friends arrested. No one seemed to mind jail since there were frozen margaritas and snack foods for inmates only (provided by Circle JJ). Thanks to all for joining us and making our weekend such a success.





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## Akron Pride A Tribute to Stonewall: Celebrating 50 Years

The Rangers hosted a booth at Hardesty Park in Akron for this very wonderful pride parade and festival. Circle JJ Ranch was also on hand to pitch in and demonstrate the unity within our community.

We opened our booth at 8:30 AM, and the fun started not long after. We had a steady stream of people in and out of our booth all day. Everyone was extremely friendly.

Around 11:30 AM, we briefly left our booth and watched the parade as it marched into the park. There was a wonderful turn-out for the parade this year, as well as for the festival. The diversity of the crowd was wonderful. It was a learning experience for all who attended.

I was proud that the Rangers were a part of this wonderful day.





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## **Mr. Leather Akron Contest**

During this year's Leatherfest, the Mr. Leather Akron contest celebrated its 27th year, making it the oldest leather contest in the State of Ohio. This year's contest was one of the most difficult for the three judges: Ranger Todd Zampa (Mr. Leather Akron 2018), Carleton Nash (Mr. Ohio Leather 2020), and James Orosz (Mr. Cleveland Leather 2020). Each judge was charged with evaluating four strong contestants: Noble LaPier, Don Childs, James Dixon, and Mitch Ludwick. The categories were private interview, leather image, speech, and personality. Although the contestants ranged in age from their late 20's through mid-50's, each one proved to be a "quality" contestant. Gregg Lakota, who owns and produces this contest, was the emcee of the evening and noted how even he was unable to determine who the winner of the contest would be. After Keith Green (Mr. Leather Akron 2019) gave his step-aside speech, the winner was announced. The scores ranged from 89% to 86%. The first runner-up was Ranger James Dixon with a score of 89.4%, just .2% behind the winner who had a score of 89.6%. Congratulations go to this year's Mr. Leather Akron 2020, Don Childs.



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## Halloween Extra at JJ

James, David, Tink, Aaz, Mik and Christopher attended Halloween weekend at Circle JJ and had a great time. There was much fellowship between the Rangers and the rest of the campers which made for a wonderful and relaxing time. Dan and the group didn't disappoint. Not only were the decorations amazing, but the party itself was awesome. There were many unique costumes. It always amazes me the creativity people have. Even though it was cold, we all had a blast.





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## Leatherfest

Leatherfest 2019 was a huge success. It was an awesome night, meeting new friends, seeing old friends, and watching the hotties compete for Mr. Akron Leather. Cocktails Akron was packed which made the night even more fantastic. Our designated charity was Summa Health Pride Clinic at Chapel Hill. Its spokesperson was Dr. Scott Hamler, head doctor on-site. His presentation to the crowd was well-received, especially since few were aware of the newly-formed clinic.



(The above photo was taken at the Summa Health Pride Clinic at Chapel Hill.)



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## **Ranger Christmas Party**

Though this Rangers' Christmas party came a little early this December, it would be a party none of us would ever forget. David and I actually arrived before all the other guests, so we got to spend a little time with Kel to just sit and talk for a while. It was nice having that one-on-one time with the host of this event before the other guests started filtering in. As other people came, we moved from Kel's basement to the kitchen and living room upstairs. The kitchen soon became abundant with all kinds of food. Most of it was fine as is, but some needed to be reheated, so the oven and stove were fired up for usage.

We began the evening with a brief Ranger meeting. Halfway through the meeting, we suddenly heard what sounded like an explosion or a shotgun blast from Kel's kitchen. Upon investigation, the floor was covered with little glass shards from where Todd's glass casserole dish had exploded. We all got a lesson in kitchen physics that night; glass casserole dishes work best in the oven, NOT on top of the stove. The name PYREX does not mean you can use them on open flame either. That's too bad. Todd's rice casserole looked like it would have been good, but at least Kel's kitchen floor got a nice overdue cleaning.

After the meeting, we had a wonderful meal, which was then followed by the part of the evening that everyone looks forward to, the White Elephant gift exchange. I've often wondered how often you can re-gift the same item before people learn to recognize and avoid getting it. There were a few familiar items, and plenty of new ones. Of all the gifts, I certainly won't forget the one I ended up with. I opened a Walmart bag to find a big black dildo, at least 10 inches long and THICK. "It's Chocolate Goodness," David piped in, making everyone laugh hysterically. (If you are a fan of American Housewives of Dallas like David is, you'll know where that reference comes from). I look forward to a lot of my White Elephant gifts--- this was NOT one of them. Thankfully, I wasn't stuck with it for long, as Kel happily took it off my hands. I forget what I traded it for, but I was just happy to be rid of it. If nothing else, you can always count on any Ranger party for a good laugh and a jovial time. I can't wait to see what Christmas of 2020 holds for us.

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## **Yule Party**

The Yule party this year was nice with great food and even better company. There were a lot of people there and even a few children. Kel did a magic show ( the abbreviated version). It was fantastic as always.

Guests included those from R&J leather, the Unicorns, and, of course, the Rangers. It was truly a night to bond and just enjoy each other's company. I am already looking forward to the next one.



# 2020: People, Events, & More

## 2020 RANGER OFFICERS

President- Aazura Bowers  
Vice President- Scott Hutka  
Secretary- Gregg Lakota  
Treasurer- Kel Hess  
Road Captain- Julia (Tink) Underwood

## 2020 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Archives/Galleries- Christopher Reed  
Membership- Gregg Lakota/Tink Underwood  
Editor- Mik Bowers  
Social- Jeff Bixby  
Webmaster/Publicity- Kel Hess  
MidAmerica Conference of Clubs (MACC)- Scott Hutka  
Leather Archives & Museum (LA&M)- Tink Underwood  
Postmaster- James Jones  
Basket- Tink Underwood

## 2020 SANCTIONED RANGER EVENTS

February 8	Hearts & Harnesses	Cocktails Akron	8:00 PM to Midnight
March 15	31 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary Bar Nite	Leather Stallion	4:00 PM to 9:00 PM
June 14	TBD	Leather Stallion	4:00 PM to 9:00 PM
June 26-28	All-club Weekend/Cookout	Circle JJ Ranch	
July 24-26	Puppy Daze	Circle JJ Ranch	
November 21	Leatherfest, featuring Mr. Leather Akron contest	Cocktails Akron	8:00 PM to Midnight

## RECOMMENDED MAJOR EVENTS

March 27-30	Conductors' run/MACC conference	Whispering Oaks campground, TN
April 23-26	CLAW	Westin Hotel, downtown Cleveland
May 22-25	IML	Chicago
June 6	Cleveland Pride	
June 20	Columbus Pride	
August 22	Akron Pride	
October 9-11	Iron Eagles' run/MACC conference	Cocktails Akron

## CURRENT RANGER MEMBERSHIP

Full- 20 members  
Pledge- 1 member  
Alumni- 11 members  
Honorary- 12 members  
Associate- 24 members  
Total membership- 68 members