



As we begin 2019

Letter from the President

Hello to my fellow Rangers. Welcome to 2019. This is going to be a great year for the Rangers, especially since we're celebrating our 30th anniversary which is a real milestone. I'm really looking forward to all of the Ranger events and get-togethers that are scheduled for this year. Hopefully, this summer will be like last summer with all of the different social events and picnics that we had hosted. I am especially proud of the fact that our club exhibits so much brother and sisterhood and that all of our members have become extremely close to one another.

If there is anything you need or want to know, just let the us know. We are here for you!

Aazura Bowers



The Lost Supper



IN REVIEW

Second Half (WINTER?) 2018

Dawg Days at Freedom Valley

By James J.

This Dawg Days at Freedom Valley had me chasing my own tail this year. While it was a lot of fun, it was also very busy. Because there were so few Rangers at the event this year, some of us had to pull double duties. Half of the club was at Freedom Valley while the other half was at Akron Pride manning the leather club info table. I will admit, I like going to Freedom Valley for the chance to just kick back, relax and enjoy the company of the club members, but this year just didn't allow for much of that. There were shots to make, and tags to sell, and decorations to hang, etc. It doesn't seem like much when there's a lot of us, but the fewer numbers gave more responsibilities to the few that were there. Add to that the constant threat of rain. I was there Friday and Saturday for the event, and it rained for most of Friday. It also rained for the early part of the morning and afternoon on Saturday. The pool party was for the most part nonexistent because the weather wouldn't stop its on-and-off showers. I'm sure more people would have bought dog tags/licenses if they had been there, though we did have one guy buy at least \$100.00 worth just for himself. It was much better in the evening. It did threaten to rain that night but didn't, so it made for a very festive night that everyone enjoyed. For the first time since I've done this event, I actually got to do the job that I was assigned and spent pretty much the whole night being the lone dog catcher. People seemed to be really into it this year and didn't fight us off as much. We even managed to catch a few guys who had dog licenses; I'm not sure if they forgot they had them or were just too drunk to remember (there were LOTS of alcohol parties going on at the campsites), but it made things more fun for all of us. Considering there weren't that many Rangers there, we managed to make the best with what we had and did an amazing job. In all honesty, I'd rather have a night chasing my own tail than to have a night where I'm bored and just standing around, and that didn't happen this year. Despite the fact that I was working, I had a good time, and our patrons did as well. That's the way it should be.

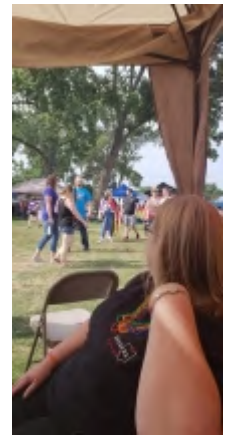


Akron Pride Parade and Festival

By Mikkall B.

Where do I start? First, we publically debuted the new Rangers' booth and banner at the festival in Hardesty Park, and our president Aazura, road captain Tink, Christopher, Mikkall and secretary Greg were all there to help spread our Rangers' information to all interested passers-by. We had parade marchers, (our poor V.P. Todd ran between Dawg Days and Pride), and we had people in the booth. Tink got ahold of beads and trinkets to pass out, and thanks to some notoriously comedic friends, we also had a box of anal lube packets to pass out. We had a mom with three kids visit the booth, and she mentioned that the lube also helps stops hinges from squeaking and took a couple packs with her. I need to try it out on a hinge just to see if she was kidding. Akron Pride 2018 was very well attended, and the weather for the most part was warm, but a breeze most of the day kept us comfortable.

The Rangers were well-received, and I believe we made many new friends for the club while we were there. The response we received was humbling in many ways, and it gave us all a tremendous feeling of pride. Personally, I'm going again next year.



Halloween at Circle JJ and the Tree Planting

By Christopher R.

On October 26, several Rangers met up at Circle JJ Campground. Upon our arrival, Sir Mikkall built a nice, roaring fire as we sat around experiencing wonderful fellowship with each other as Mikkall cooked up some awesome food. Later that night, several Rangers made their way to Club JJ for a performance by the remarkable Denise Russell.

The next morning, we had a breakfast that was better than Bob Evans. After we cleaned our plates, several Rangers helped plant a dogwood tree in honor of those we lost to suicide in the leather community. Later that night, several Rangers donned their costumes and headed to Club JJ for the Halloween party.



Leatherfest

By Rick C.

The Rangers were out in full force on November, 17, at Cocktails 2.0 in Akron for Leatherfest to benefit CANAPI's food pantry. We had a great turnout with enough cow to populate a ranch. It was a real celebration of leather. Many friends from Cleveland were in attendance along with title holders past and present and brothers from other clubs including the Unicorns and Iron Eagles.

The main event was the Mr. Leather Akron contest where a new title holder was chosen. There were Jello shots available and a basket raffle throughout the evening to add to the money raised. The Rangers thank all of the generous donors who contributed to the raffle.

It was great to mingle and meet with so many leather-minded friends, and everyone had a great time. Overall, the evening was a huge success, and the Rangers closed out their calendar year of charitable events with a nice donation to CANAPI. Thanks to everyone who attended for making Leatherfest such a success.



26th Annual Mr. Leather Akron Contest

By Gregg L.

This year marked the 26th annual Mr. Leather Akron contest, making it the oldest leather contest in Ohio. Although it is owned and produced by Ranger Gregg Lakota, the Rangers have been gracious to allow the contest to be a part of their annual Leatherfest, which is always held the Saturday before Thanksgiving. During the past year, Ranger Todd Zampa had held the title of Mr. Leather Akron 2018. He had done a terrific job representing Akron and the surrounding area which includes Canton, Warren, and Youngstown.

This year there was only one contestant running for the title. Although it may seem like a sole contestant would be a “shoe-in,” it must be remembered that he must still score at least 70% in order to be awarded the title. In other words, the contestant is basically competing against himself. This year’s contestant was Keith Greene, a resident from the Youngstown area.

Keith competed in four categories, each worth 100 points. The first category was private interview during which time he answered the judges’ questions for 20 minutes. The second category was leather image in which he wore his best leather and was asked questions from his entry form by emcee Gregg Lakota. Afterwards, he gave a three-minute speech on the topic: “If you win the title, how can you make a difference in the leather community?” The final category was personality in which he wore his sexiest leather gear and was asked three questions of a creative nature, such as “Tell us about your BDSM experience with Donald Trump.” Get the picture?

This year’s judges were Carleton Nash (Mr. Leather Akron 2017), Cody Feucht (Ohio Leatherboy 2018), and James Foster (Great Lakes Leather Sir 2019). The three judges used their experience and expertise judging each of the four categories.

At the end of the contest, Todd Zampa bestowed Keith Green with the Mr. Leather Akron title sash while Gregg Lakota gave him his title back-patch. Keith’s overall score was 88.2%, which was well above the minimum needed.

Congratulations to Keith Green, Mr. Leather Akron 2019!



Yule Party

By Aazura B.

The annual Yule party at Aazura's house started at 6:00 PM. By 7:00 PM, most of the Rangers and others had arrived. There was plenty of food, such as crepes filled with either curried chicken, BBQ pulled pork, or a Greek dish called Spanakopita. There was also turkey, baked pineapple, rumaki, and, of course, snack-type foods. Also, there were plenty of desserts, such as a Yule cake, cookies, a black forest cake, a Windsor cake, and even for the diet-conscious, a chocolate, sugar-free cake.

There was a lot of conversation and a lot of brother and sister hood. The whole group found out that Tink can sound just like a macaque. Gregg even made a small contest out of it.

Christopher learned the fine art of babysitting thanks to the four-year-old grandchild of Mik and Aaz. He ended up rocking and caring for this small doll. It was so cute to watch. Even Rocky learned the fine art of rocking a baby without much instruction.

Some of the Unicorns were in attendance this year along with Ric Sardino, co-owner of R & J Productions. In my opinion, the party seems to be growing every year, which makes it a great deal of fun.

By the end of the evening, everyone was filled with good cheer and satisfied bellies.



Rangers' Annual Christmas Party

By Christopher R.

On December 8, Kel, our treasurer, hosted the Rangers' annual Christmas party and white elephant gift exchange. The evening started out with everyone enjoying each other's fellowship. We laughed about Kel's antics during his recent trip to Australia as we ate the remarkable food brought by each Ranger. Then came the highlight of the evening: the white elephant gift exchange. After each Ranger selected a present from under the tree, the real fun began. Using dice, if a Ranger rolled a seven, eleven, or doubles, he/she could swap his/her gift with another. Everyone seemed to be after Ranger Gregg's gift: a mini-case of Jameson Irish whiskey. That particular item certainly made its rounds, but in the end, Gregg was able to steal it back. boy Greg ended up with a six-pack of Bud Lite and a case of Great Lakes Brewing Company's beer sampler. Those two hit the jackpot, and their trunk was filled with booze when they drove home. Some of the other gifts were quite nice while other gifts would most likely end up in Rangers' personal trash cans. No matter what the gifts were, all members were required to take them home. Kel made it very clear that he did not want to find unwanted gifts hidden throughout his house. With great food and terrific camaraderie, this was probably one of the Rangers' best Christmas parties.



2019 Officers, Committee Chairs, & Events

Officers

President- Aazura Bowers
Vice President- Todd Zampa
Secretary- Gregg Lakota
Treasurer- Kel Hess
Road Captain- Julia Underwood

Committee Chairs

Galleries/Archives- Christopher Reed
Membership- Morgan Jeffrey
Editor- Mik Bowers
Social- Gregg Lakota
Webmaster/Publicity- Kel Hess
Leather Archives & Museum- Julia Underwood
Mid-America Conference of Clubs- Todd Zampa
Postmaster- James Jones

Calendar

February 9	Hearts & Harnesses	Cocktails Akron, Akron
March 2	30 th Anniversary Bar Night	Leather Stallion Saloon,
Cleveland		
June 9	Sash Bash	Leather Stallion Saloon, Cleve-
land		
June 21-22	All-club Weekend	Circle JJ Ranch,Scio
July 19-20	Puppy Days	Circle JJ Ranch, Scio
August 24	Akron Pride	Hardesty Park, Akron
October 26	Halloween Party (tentative)	Circle JJ Ranch, Scio
November 23	Leatherfest & Mr. Leather	Cocktails Akron, Akron
	Akron contest	