

INTERNATIONAL

July 2026

BLACK TIE CLUB

Celebrating the classic gentleman with fine food, superb wine, and fantastic fellowship

Coastal Convergence 2026

Sponsored by the Rehoboth Beach/Lewes Chapter



All the hot men!

All the beautiful homes!

All the great events!

Are all inside!

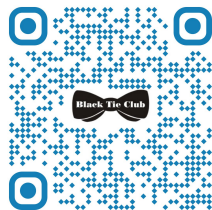


Black Tie Club

International

Vol. 32, No. 3: Convergence,
May 2026

Visit us online at
blacktieclubinternational.org
Or scan QR code



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Founding Editor Bob Gregson, RIP

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Atlanta, Dallas,
Ft. Lauderdale, Laguna Beach,
Los Angeles, New Mexico,
New Orleans/Gulf Coast
Palm Beach, Palm Springs,
Phoenix/Scottsdale,
Rehoboth Beach/Lewes,
Rochester/Finger Lakes, San Diego,
San Francisco, Toronto,
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Int'l President Emeritus Len Olds

Club Founder Bob Gregson, RIP

Int'l Treasurer Mike Gin

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Int'l Secretary Charles Priest (Acting)

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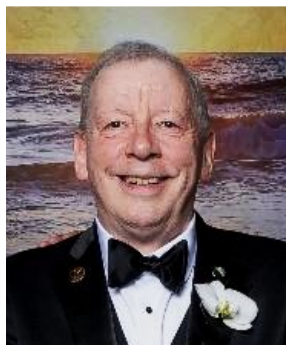
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Magazine Submissions Deadlines

Covering Jun-Sep 2026: 15 Sep 2026
Covering Oct-Dec 2026: 15 Dec 2026

Cover Image

Photos by Sam Markman Photography



MESSAGE FROM CONVERGENCE CHAIR

By Fran O'Brien
Rehoboth Beach / Lewes Chapter President

On behalf of the Rehoboth Beach / Lewes Chapter of Black Tie Club International, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us for Coastal Convergence 2026, held May 13–17 here in Delaware's beautiful coastal community known as **The Nation's Summer Capital**.

This year's Convergence was truly special. The event sold out with 154 Black Tie members from across the country gathering in Rehoboth Beach and Lewes for five days of camaraderie, celebration, and memorable experiences. It was wonderful to see such strong participation from across the Black Tie family.

Members traveled from thirteen different chapters. The largest number of visiting members came from the San Francisco chapter, while Dallas represented the largest percentage of out-of-town attendees relative to their chapter size. Your willingness to travel and celebrate with us made the event a tremendous success and a reminder of how strong and connected our organization continues to be.

I want to offer my sincere appreciation to the many individuals who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make this event possible. In particular, I want to recognize our outstanding local organizing committee co-chairs, **Duane Liscinsky** and **Don Wainwright**, whose leadership, dedication, and countless hours of work helped bring this event to life. Alongside them, our incredible volunteers, national leadership, and chapter representatives all played an important role in promoting and supporting the event. Thanks to your collective efforts, every detail came together beautifully and created a truly memorable experience for everyone involved.

We are also deeply grateful to the local venues and partners throughout Rehoboth Beach and Lewes who welcomed our members and helped showcase the hospitality and charm of our coastal community.

Most importantly, thank you to every member who attended. Your enthusiasm, friendship, and spirit are what make Black Tie Club International so special. Seeing members reconnect with longtime friends while welcoming new faces to the Convergence reminded us all why gatherings like this matter.

Over the next few pages, we will take a look back at the many highlights of the week—from our opening celebrations to the special excursions, dinners, and gatherings that made Coastal Convergence 2026 an event to remember.



Additional photographs can be found by clicking on the links below:

[Official Photos](#)

[Member Candid Photos](#)

JOB WELL DONE!

Fran,

We are home from such an amazing BTCI Convergence! We wanted to thank you and your Committee for a great week of events. We were at the early-bird reception at Freddie's Bar all the way to the final farewell at Andy and Patrick's home. Each event was perfectly coordinated with special touches everywhere we went. The opening party at Joe & Larry's was over the top! 'The Blue Moon' saw no one 'standing alone' as it was a bonding moment for everyone! Your 'Black & White Ball' on Saturday evening was particularly memorable. Even 'O Canada' sounded great!

Meghan Murphy, aka, 'Big Red' was terrific. Also, what a privilege to hear Rose Levine on Sunday, along with Seth Sikes. I asked Rose what Fire Island was like in 1955, when she made her debut. His answer was fascinating. He said: "There were only tents and cabanas, as well as no power, except for the theater which had generators for the lights." It's so hard to imagine Fire Island being so primitive, and look at it now!

Spending time with Gordon Tanner and Robert Patlan was also a highlight of our trip. It was so wonderful to spend time with them. We've known them both for around twenty-five years! Your chapter has so many excellent men, which explains why the Coastal Convergence was such a superior experience.

Dallas was also thrilled to win the award for the most attendees by percentage. We know you're going to celebrate your 25th anniversary as a BTCI chapter soon, and we wish you the very best on that milestone!

Please thank your entire Committee on our behalf. There might not be enough superlatives to describe your collective efforts, yet this note is a genuine attempt to simply say:

THANK YOU TO REHOBOTH BLACK TIE CLUB INTERNATIONAL

Wishing you and everyone who made Coastal Convergence so special, our warmest regards!

Gordon Markley

Former Dallas Chapter President

Excerpts from email from Gordon Markley to Fran O'Brien date May 21, 2026



Gordon Markley, second from left

Wednesday, May 13 – Arrival and Welcome



Convergence officially began as members arrived throughout the day in Rehoboth Beach. Friends reunited, new members were welcomed, and the excitement of the week ahead was immediately evident.



Wednesday Evening at Freddie's

The evening gathering, *Sip Happens: The Convergence Kickoff* at Freddie's Beach Bar & Restaurant, provided the perfect start to the event. The occasion was made even more special through the co-sponsorship of International President Gary Dougan, who hosted the celebration in honor of his husband and International First Gentleman Charlie Priest's 90th birthday. This special recognition added a heartfelt and celebratory tone to the evening, honoring both a remarkable milestone and a cherished member of the Black Tie family. Laughter, stories, and anticipation filled the room as attendees reconnected with longtime friends and met members from across chapters, setting the stage for a week defined by fellowship and camaraderie.





Thursday, May 14 – Exploring the Coast



Thursday gave visiting members their first full opportunity to enjoy the charm of Rehoboth Beach. Throughout the day, attendees explored the town at their own pace—walking the famous boardwalk, browsing the many boutiques and galleries, and taking advantage of Delaware’s well-known tax-free shopping. With the Atlantic Ocean just steps away and spring weather on our side, it was the perfect way for guests from across the country to experience the relaxed coastal atmosphere that makes Rehoboth Beach such a special destination.



That evening, Coastal Convergence 2026 officially began with our kickoff event,

Black Tie Beginnings: A Night of Sophisticated Greetings.

Members boarded buses from the Hotel Rehoboth for a memorable ride around scenic Silver Lake, where the route offered a beautiful view of the spectacular waterfront home of **Joe Filipek** and **Larry Richardson**, our gracious hosts for the evening.

Joe and Larry opened their stunning home to welcome members from across the country, setting the perfect tone for the days ahead. Adding to the elegance of the evening, Sophisticated Strings provided beautiful live musical entertainment, creating the perfect atmosphere for conversation, friendship, and celebration. Guests were welcomed with two fully hosted bars serving an array of cocktails and wines as they mingled throughout the beautifully appointed waterfront property.

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Elegant passed hors d'oeuvres circulated throughout the evening, while an impressive culinary display inside the dining room showcased a carefully curated selection of gourmet specialties. As the evening unfolded, guests drifted outdoors beneath the coastal night sky, where the celebration concluded with a relaxed cordial bar offering an inviting selection of after-dinner liqueurs. It was the perfect finale to a warm, sophisticated, and memorable opening night of Convergence 2026.

The evening embodied the spirit of Black Tie Club International—fellowship, hospitality, and the joy of bringing our community together in an extraordinary setting.















Friday, May 15 – Fellowship and Celebration



By Friday the Convergence was in full swing. Members had the opportunity to experience some of the region's most enjoyable attractions through a variety of organized excursions.

One group traveled by bus to Longwood Gardens for *A Botanical Adventure*. The scenic ride to Pennsylvania included a lively and informative guided tour along the way, led by Paul Lindsey and Richard Gamble, who shared history and insights about the region. Upon arrival at Longwood Gardens, members enjoyed a docent-led tour of the world-renowned botanical gardens before continuing to explore at their own pace during a self-guided visit. The excursion also included lunch, providing time to relax and enjoy the beautiful surroundings while spending time with fellow members.



Par-Tee

at Kings Creek Country Club



For those looking for a different kind of outing, another group chose to Par-Tee at Kings Creek Country Club. Members enjoyed a round of golf at the beautiful Kings Creek course, followed by lunch hosted at the nearby home of Scott Button and David Streit. The gathering provided a wonderful setting to relax after the morning on the course while enjoying the hospitality of Scott and David and the camaraderie of fellow golfers.





Moonlight Soirée

at Blue Moon

As evening arrived, the celebration continued with one of the week's signature events — the Moonlight Soirée at Blue Moon. A beloved Rehoboth Beach institution and staple of the community for decades, Blue Moon provided the perfect setting for an elegant and energetic gathering of Convergence attendees.



The room was filled to capacity as members enjoyed cocktails and appetizers. The lively atmosphere reflected both the excitement of the Convergence and the warm hospitality that Blue Moon has long been known for in the Rehoboth community.

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Adding to the evening's excitement, members were treated to a fantastic live performance by Meghan Murphy, widely known as **"Big Red."** A celebrated cabaret and stage performer, Murphy is renowned for her powerful voice, dynamic stage presence, and engaging connection with audiences. A longtime favorite in New York's cabaret and theater scene, she has appeared in numerous productions and performance venues across the country.

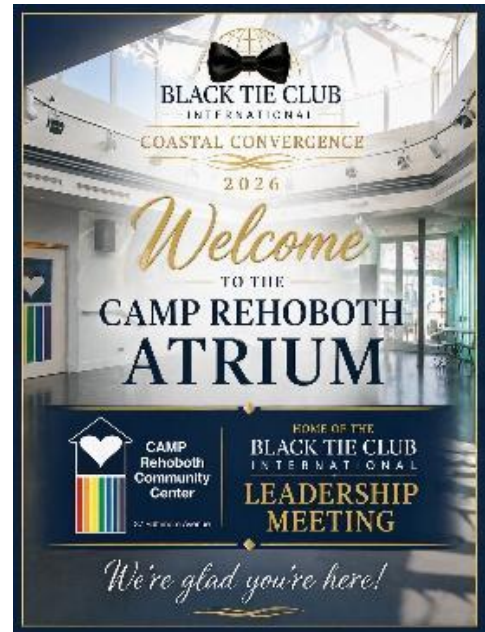
Her spirited and energetic performance had the room captivated and set the perfect tone for the evening, making the Moonlight Soirée at Blue Moon one of the standout moments of Coastal Convergence 2026.





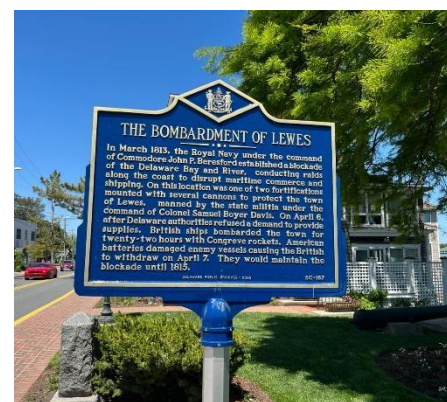
Saturday, May 16 – History, Leadership, and the Ball

Saturday began with the annual Black Tie Club International leadership meeting held at the CAMP Rehoboth Community Center. Leaders from across the organization participated both in person and virtually, discussing the future of BTCI and continuing the collaborative work that helps guide the organization forward. The meeting provided a valuable opportunity for leaders to connect, exchange ideas, and strengthen the vision for Black Tie Club International.



Later in the morning, members traveled to nearby Lewes, Delaware, for First Town Footsteps: A Journey Through Lewes. Known as the First Town in the First State, Lewes provided a charming historic setting for the excursion. The experience combined docent-led tours with opportunities for self-guided exploration, allowing members to discover the town's rich history, colonial architecture, and picturesque waterfront at their own pace.

Following the tour, members gathered for lunch at The Wheelhouse, where they enjoyed great food and conversation while overlooking the Lewes harbor.



Black and White Ball

Coastal Elegance



Saturday evening brought the centerpiece event of Coastal Convergence 2026 — the

Black & White Ball: Coastal Elegance

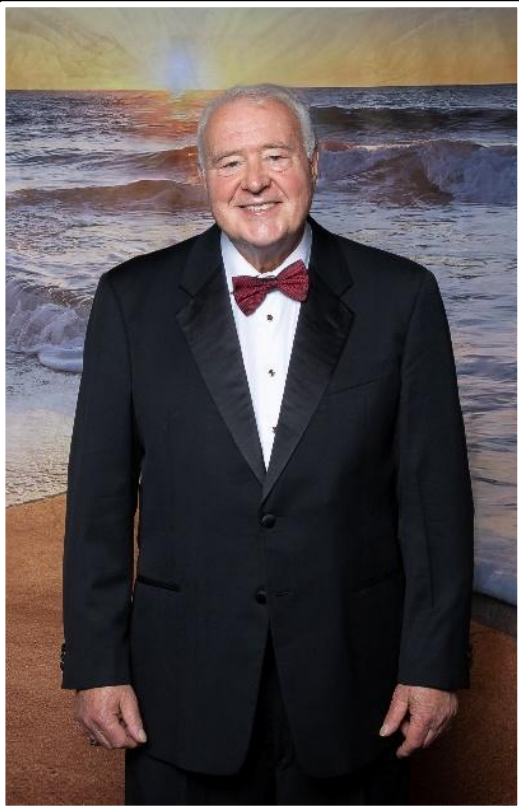
held at Kings Creek Country Club.

The evening began with a cocktail reception and appetizers in the Eagle's Nest, where members mingled and prepared for the elegant celebration ahead.



Guests also had the opportunity to have professional portraits taken by Sam and Diane Markman. Sam Markman, a Rehoboth Beach-based photographer, is known for capturing the natural beauty, coastal life, and vibrant community of Delaware's shore. His work highlights local landscapes, events, and everyday moments that reflect the character and charm of the Rehoboth Beach area.





[For more portraits, click here.](#)





[For more portraits, click here.](#)



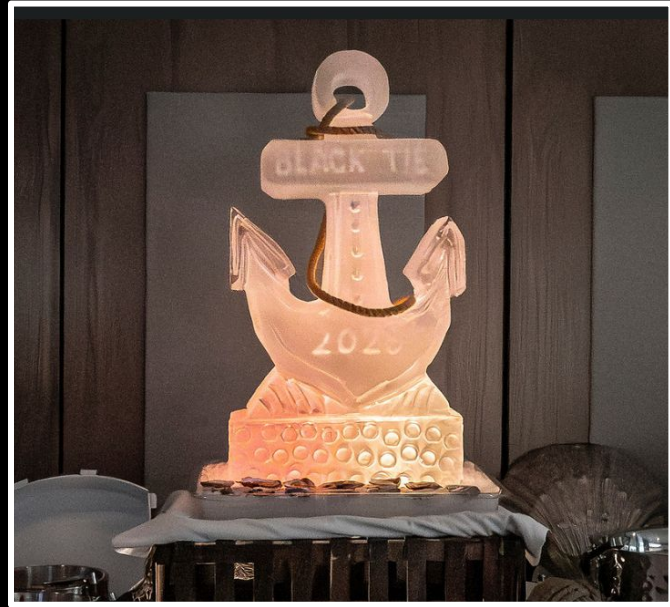
THE BALL AWAITS

**DOORS WILL OPEN
SOON**

**PATIENCE
THE BLACK TIE MAGIC
BEGINS SHORTLY**

As the evening continued, the doors opened to the Terrace Ballroom, revealing a spectacularly decorated room overlooking the scenic Kings Creek Golf Course. Members entered across a mirrored floor into the beautifully designed space, setting the stage for an unforgettable evening of elegance and celebration.

During dinner, guests were entertained by performers from Clear Space Theatre Company, whose lively performances added energy and theatrical flair to the evening. Members dined on a delicious coastal-themed menu prepared by Chef Phil Lamberta, a French-trained chef originally from Ireland who has worked internationally in Germany, Ireland, and Bermuda before bringing his culinary talents to Kings Creek Country Club.







...and now a word from our International President

Excerpts from speech given by Gary Dougan, Black Tie Club International President at the Black and White Ball, "Coastal Elegance."

Good Evening and Welcome to "Coastal Elegance: Black & White Ball"

After last night's soiree at Blue Moon, featuring the fantastically talented Meghan Murphy, we are here in our finery to enjoy this year's signature formal event, a terrific example of our Convergence Planners reinforcing our Black Tie International Motto...

"Celebrating the Classic Gentleman with Fine Food, Superb Wine and Fantastic Fellowship."

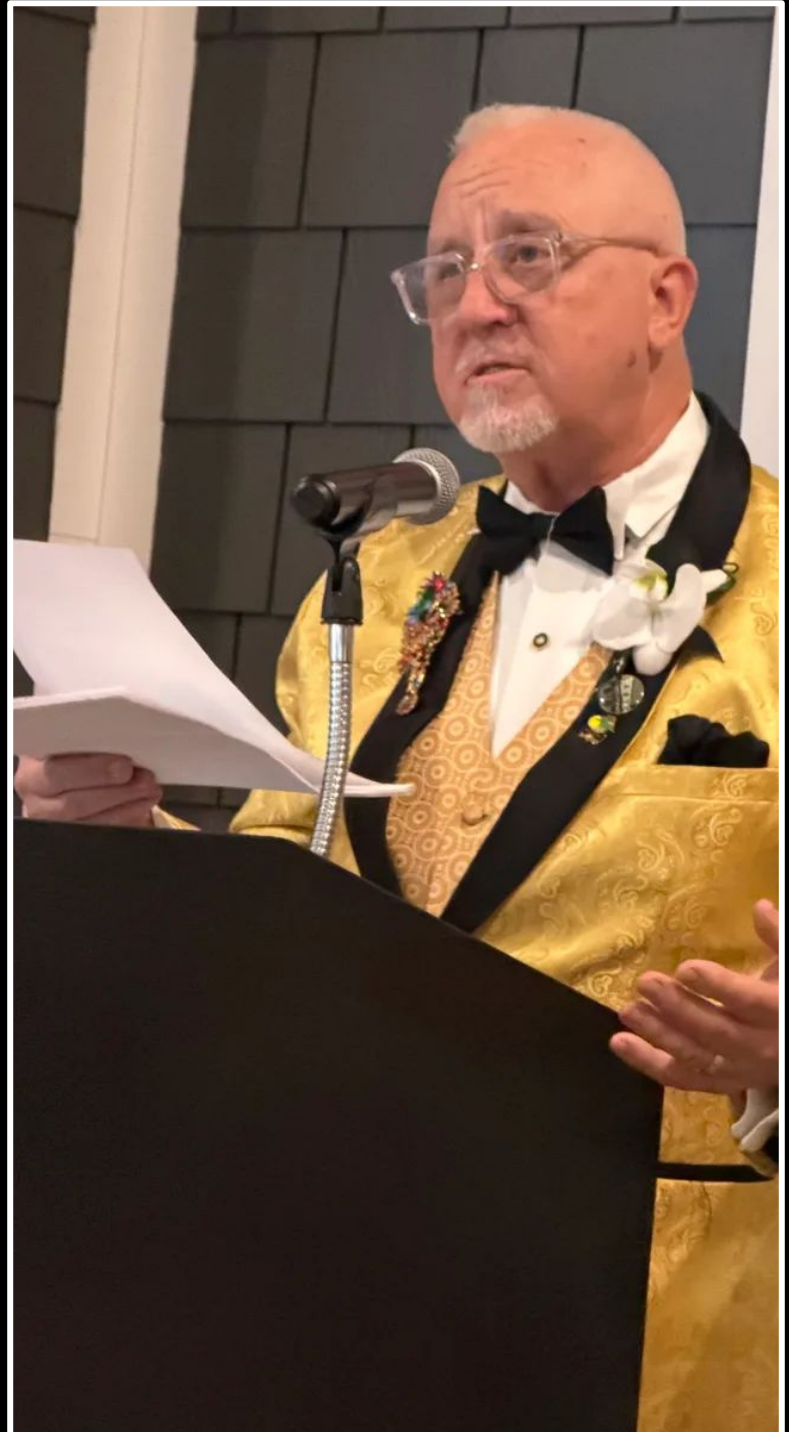
Thank you all for being here and enjoying the amazing activities conjured up for us by the Rehoboth Beach / Lewes chapter leaders and all their members who have helped carry off the hundreds of moving parts to get an event like this up and running. Let's hear it for Rehoboth Beach Members!

I'm sure most of you know me. I'm **Gary Dougan**, and I am so privileged to be your International President. In fact tonight is the last day of my 8th Year AS your International President. I will start my 9th year at tomorrow's brunch. Yes, years as International President are measured from Formal Night at Convergence to Formal Night at Convergence.

I'd like to introduce some important gentlemen who are here with us:

- My International Treasurer, **Mr. Mike Gin** – please stand up!
- The International First Gentleman, **Dr. Charlie Priest** – please stand up ! And yes, thank you ALL for helping him celebrate his 90th birthday... AGAIN (and again, and again...HA!)

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While we are celebrating accomplishments, please let's honor our event hosts.

- **Larry** and **Joe** for opening their home on Silver Lake,
- **Freddie** from Freddie's Beach Bar & Restaurant for the "Sip Happens" event on Wednesday.
- For the Convergence Team, President **Fran O'Brien, Don Wainwright, Bob Murray, Duane Liscinsky, Chris, Kent, Scott & David, Andy & Patrick**, and all the legions of members it took to put this on.

I bring you greetings directly and indirectly from the two prior International Presidents:

First, **Our Founder, Mr. Bob Gregson** formed Black Tie Club International to host events where members can have an elegant dining experience, have fun, and enjoy the company of like-minded men in a Black Tie setting. For those of you not aware, Black Tie Club was originally formed in Toronto, Ontario Canada in 1990, by Bob and a local group of Torontonians. In 1993, the Black Tie Club went "international" with the induction of a chapter in Minneapolis/Saint Paul. Since then, Black Tie has had growth with additional chapters, and some chapters that are no longer with us due to people moving away or life complications.

In 1996, Black Tie had its first Convergence, an annual gathering to which all chapter members are invited. The Convergence is a four-day event which celebrates Black Tie as well as celebrating the area in which the Convergence takes place, and includes local tours, side trips and adventures. The first Convergence took place in Puerto Rico, and Convergences have since also occurred in Mexico, Canada, and at all the chapter host cities over the year.

In recent years, travel has been added to Black Tie's options of events. We call this our "Special Travel Series" and have taken place in such destinations as London, Luxembourg, Puerto Vallarta, Puerto Rico, San Miguel de Allende, Amsterdam, Danube River and Rhine River. To quote our founder, Bob Gregson, "No matter what you look or feel like, when you put on a tuxedo, YOU LOOK FANTASTIC!" And we continue this legacy.

I also bring you greetings from our International President, Emeritus, **Mr. Leonard Olds**. He was honored with this title in appreciation for his 12 years as International President and his many years before that as the Laguna Beach chapter President. Leonard sent me this greeting this morning to share with all of you:

Message for Rehoboth Convergence:

"Greetings to all of you in this 36th year of Black Tie Club International. What a beautiful place to host our Convergence, Rehoboth Beach, and I know you are all enjoying its ambience, and the wonderful members, sights and sounds.

"Have a wonderful Black Tie dinner tonight and know you represent all of the membership of our wonderful organization. We are all with you in the spirit of the night and hope to see you at our dinners and events over the coming years. Warmly, Leonard Olds"

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New Chapter: Many of you are aware that we have a new chapter up and running. Please welcome our newest Black Tie brothers, from New Orleans / Gulf Coast chapter, led by Founding President, **Cary Oswald**.

It's never too early to think about visiting "The Big Easy" for one of their future events.

I'm happy to report that we had our annual Leadership Breakfast, and I look forward to sharing with you some fun and exciting news from that meeting when we meet again tomorrow for our "Mimosas and Memories Brunch." (*Editor's note: see the current magazine, Vol. 32 No. 2, for a summary of the annual Leadership Breakfast report in the President's Message column.*)

In Memoriam: On a more somber note, I'd like to honor two of our outstanding members who have passed on and are no longer with us. First, our International Communicator, **Mr. Dave Green**, originally from the New York / New Jersey chapter passed away in January. He had been helping for the last several years as the International Communicator making sure chapter leaders and members get news of upcoming events. We will miss him very much.

Second and before we have our dinner, I'd like to bring up **Mr. Joe Taylor** for a word about **Mr. Bill Bryan** who passed away in March. Bill was the founding member of the Dallas chapter.

Again, thank you all for being here. We will have more information for you at tomorrow's Brunch. In the meantime, Let's **CELEBRATE THE CLASSIC GENTLEMAN WITH FINE FOOD, SUPERB WINE AND FANTASTIC FELLOWSHIP** – once again.





BLACK TIE CLUB
INTERNATIONAL

Chapter Group Photos

Atlanta	8:45 PM
Dallas	8:50 PM
Palm Springs	8:55 PM
San Francisco	9:00 PM
Washington, DC	9:05 PM
Rehoboth Beach-Lewes	9:10 PM

Please Be On Time!

Chapter Group Photos







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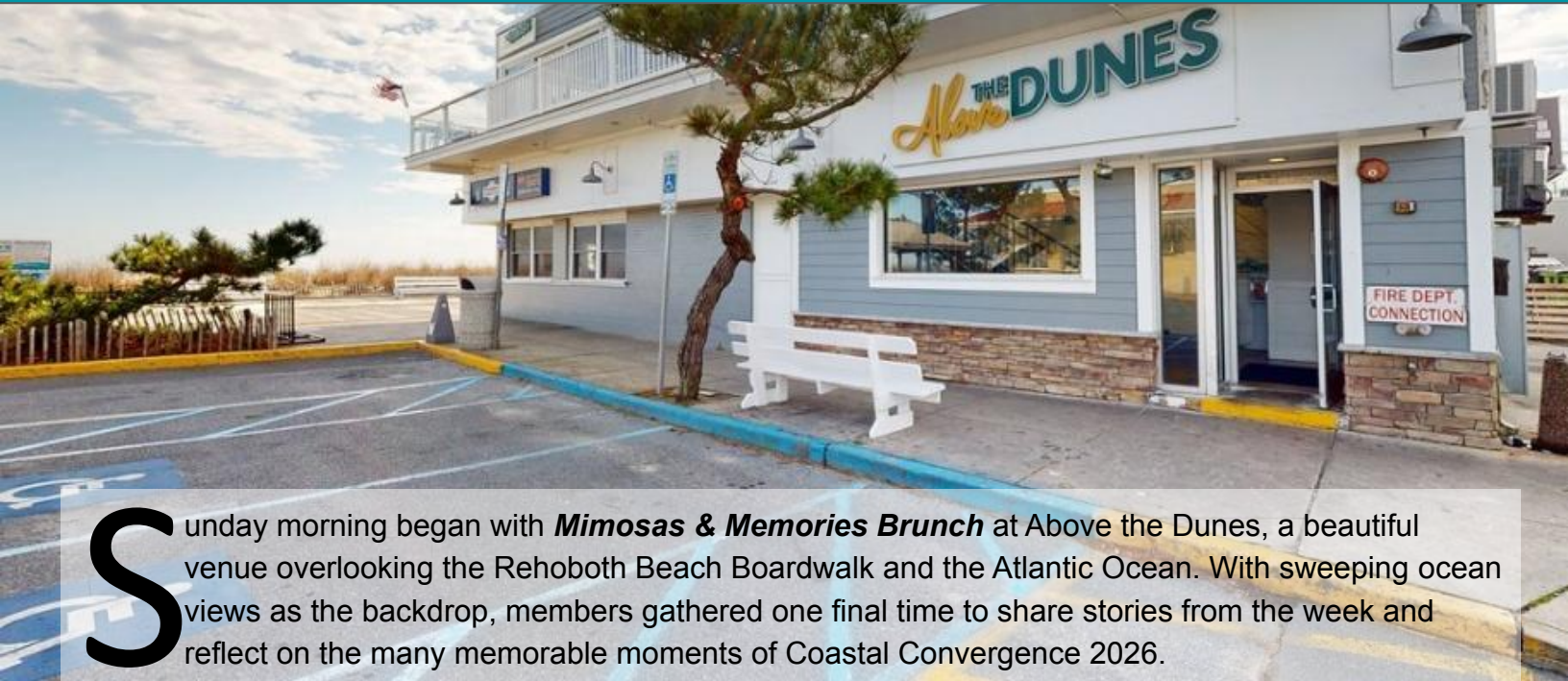
ollowing dinner, guests returned to the Eagle's Nest, where an impressive array of coastal-inspired desserts awaited them.

The celebration continued late into the evening as members danced the night away to the music of DJ Sharon, while those seeking a quieter atmosphere enjoyed conversation and fine spirits at the cordial bar.

The Black & White Ball perfectly captured the elegance, camaraderie, and celebratory spirit that define a Black Tie Convergence.



Sunday, May 17 – Farewell and Until We Meet Again



Sunday morning began with **Mimosas & Memories Brunch** at Above the Dunes, a beautiful venue overlooking the Rehoboth Beach Boardwalk and the Atlantic Ocean. With sweeping ocean views as the backdrop, members gathered one final time to share stories from the week and reflect on the many memorable moments of Coastal Convergence 2026.

During the brunch, leadership from the Palm Beach and Palm Springs chapters shared their visions for upcoming Convergence gatherings, offering a preview of “Convergence on the High Seas” 2027 in Palm Beach and Convergence 2028 in Palm Springs. Their remarks gave attendees an exciting glimpse of what lies ahead for the Black Tie family in the years to come.





Coastal Convergence 2026 concluded later that afternoon with

Finale Fête: The Grand Afterglow,

graciously hosted at the beautiful home of **Andy Staton** and **Patrick Saparito**. Their stunning residence, situated along the shoreline of Rehoboth Bay, provided the perfect setting for a final celebration. Expansive glass doors opened onto breathtaking views of the surrounding canals, creating a relaxed and elegant atmosphere for the gathering.



Guests enjoyed signature cocktails and wonderful conversation while taking in the scenic waterfront setting. Adding a special touch to the afternoon was a captivating cabaret performance by Seth Sikes, a New York–based singer celebrated for his powerful interpretations of the Great American Songbook and acclaimed tributes to legendary performers such as Judy Garland and Liza Minnelli. His performance provided a fitting and memorable finale to an extraordinary week. Seth was accompanied by Mark Hartman. We were also treated to a surprise visit by Rose Levine, a legendary Fire Island icon whose glamorous cabaret performances, wit, and larger-than-life personality have entertained generations in Cherry Grove since 1955.







While departures are always bittersweet, the spirit of Convergence lives on through the friendships strengthened during the week. Members left Rehoboth Beach with wonderful memories, new connections, and excitement for the next opportunity to gather again.

Additional photographs can be found by clicking on the links below:
[Official Photos](#) [Member Candid Photos](#)

With Gratitude



Coastal Convergence 2026 would not have been possible without the extraordinary efforts of many individuals who generously gave their time, talent, and hospitality to make the week such a memorable success.

I would like to extend special appreciation to our Convergence Co-Chairs, **Duane Liscinsky** and **Don Wainwright**, whose leadership, dedication, and countless hours of work helped bring this event to life. Their vision and commitment were instrumental in shaping the planning and execution of Coastal Convergence 2026, and our chapter is deeply grateful for their efforts.

I also want to thank the members of the Rehoboth Beach–Lewes Chapter planning committee and volunteers, whose months of preparation ensured that every detail of the Convergence came together seamlessly. Your dedication, creativity, and hard work made this event truly special for members visiting from across the country.

We are especially grateful to those who opened their homes and hosted gatherings during the week, including **Joe Filipek** and **Larry Richardson**, who welcomed us for the elegant opening evening at their beautiful Silver Lake home, and **Andy Staton** and **Patrick Saporito**, whose stunning Rehoboth Bay residence provided the perfect setting for our closing celebration.

Our sincere thanks also go to **Scott Button** and **David Streit** for hosting members following the Kings Creek golf outing, as well as to the many individuals who helped organize excursions, tours, and activities throughout the week.

We would also like to express our appreciation to our event sponsors, whose generous support helped make Coastal Convergence 2026 possible: **Diego's Bar and Night Club**, **Second Block Hospitality**, **Financial 360**, **Freddie's Beach Bar**, and **Goolee's Grille**. Their partnership and support are deeply valued by our chapter.

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A special thank you also goes to **Shawn Barron** for his outstanding work in creating the Convergence brochure, which beautifully captured the spirit and excitement of the week and served as a wonderful guide for our members throughout the event.

We are deeply appreciative of the local venues and partners that helped bring the Convergence to life, including **Freddie's Beach Bar, Blue Moon, Kings Creek Country Club, Above the Dunes, The Wheelhouse**, and the **CAMP Rehoboth Community Center**. Each played an important role in showcasing the warmth, hospitality, and beauty of our coastal community.

Finally, thank you to **every member** who traveled to Rehoboth Beach and Lewes to be part of Coastal Convergence 2026. Your participation, enthusiasm, and friendship are what make gatherings like this so meaningful. It was truly an honor for our chapter to host you.

We look forward to seeing many of you again as the Black Tie family continues the tradition of Convergence in Palm Beach in 2027 and Palm Springs in 2028.

In Fellowship,

Fran

Fran O'Brien
Rehoboth Beach / Lewes Chapter President



Rehoboth Beach / Lewes

UPCOMING EVENTS 2026

For up-to-date information on chapter events, please consult the website at
blacktieclubinternational.org/calendar

The Last Wednesday of Every Month Rehoboth Beach/Lewes Boys Night Out Contact: Fran O'Brien info@btc-rehoboth-lewes.com	September 13 Laguna Beach Fall Formal Contact: Len Olds ldsrouse@aol.com	October 11 Atlanta Fall Formal Along with Gay Pride Contact: Paul Donahue donahupb@aol.com	November 18 - 22 Special Travel Series Key West Adventure Contact: Patrick Rylee 415.686.3520 (See ad on next page)
The Third Thursday of Every Month Dallas Rotating Bar Locations Contact: Brian Foster bfoster@sundevsolutions.com	September 25 - 26 San Francisco Fall Formal at the University Club Contact: Rich Martini martinistraightup@comcast.net	October 24 Washington, DC New Directions Casual Contact: Armando Rascon blacktiepresdc@gmail.com	December TBD Palm Beach Holiday Formal Contact: Charles Contessa cvcwpb@aol.com
July 11 New Orleans/Gulf Coast Pool Party Contact: Cary Oswald blacktieclubnogfcst@yahoo.com	October TBD Phoenix/Scottsdale Fall Formal at the Biltmore Contact: Eric Fox eric_p_fox@cox.net	November 6 - 8 Palm Springs Pride Weekend Fall Formal Contact: Al Castrucci bocagrove7123@gmail.com	December TBD Toronto Holiday Formal Contact: Tim Leonard tleonard342@gmail.com
July 23 - 26 San Francisco Bear Valley Music Festival in the Sierra Nevada Contact: Rich Martini martinistraightup@comcast.net	October TBD Toronto Cocktail Party hosted by Bonte Minnema Contact: Tim Leonard tleonard342@gmail.com	November 7 Rehoboth Beach/Lewes Fall Formal Contact: Fran O'Brien info@btc-rehoboth-lewes.com	December 12 Phoenix/Scottsdale Holiday Dinner Hosted by Jack and Evan eric_p_fox@cox.net
August 8 Phoenix/Scottsdale Poolside Potluck Hosted by Brad and Aaron Contact: Eric Fox eric_p_fox@cox.net	October/November TBD Rochester/Finger Lakes In Development Contact: Tom Wahl wahljr@aol.com	November 14 Phoenix/Scottsdale Wine Tasting at Carlson Creek Wine Tasting Room Contact: Eric Fox eric_p_fox@cox.net	December 31 - January 1 New Orleans/Gulf Coast New Year's Eve Party Contact: Cary Oswald blacktieclubnogfcst@yahoo.com
August 16 Los Angeles El Bufé Español Contact: Christopher Thomas chris91411@icloud.com	October 9 - 10 Dallas Fall Formal Contact: Brian Foster bfoster@sundevsolutions.com	November 15 Fort Lauderdale Fall Formal Contact: Scott Powell filblacktie@gmail.com	March 26 - 28, 2027 New Orleans/Gulf Coast Easter Parade & Spring Formal Contact: Cary Oswald blacktieclubnogfcst@yahoo.com

UPCOMING CONVERGENCES

For the latest Convergence updates visit blacktieclubinternational.org/convergence



Black Tie
INTERNATIONAL

2027 Annual Black Tie International Convergence
Hosted by the Palm Beach Chapter of Black Tie

Round trip from Ft. Lauderdale
Sailing Date: April 5, 2027
Return Date: April 9, 2027
Length of Cruise: 4 Nights
Ship: *Celebrity Reflection*
Itinerary: 4 Night Key West & Bahamas Cruise

Convergence on the High Seas 2027

The Palm Beach Chapter is excited to offer this amazing 4-night Key West/Bahamas cruise on the *Celebrity Reflection*!

Itinerary

- Monday, April 5th - Depart Fort Lauderdale at 4 PM
- Tuesday - Key West
- Wednesday - At Sea
- Thursday - Nassau, Bahamas
- Friday, April 9th- Arrive in Fort Lauderdale at 7 AM

For more information and to reserve a spot on board,
Click: [Convergence 2027](https://blacktieclubinternational.org/convergence)

**Coming in 2028
SAVE THE DATES**



Palm Springs
Black Tie Club

CONVERGENCE
03/30-04/02 **2028**

PALMSprings
CALIFORNIA

Escape to Paradise with the Black Tie Club!



BLACK TIE CLUB
PRESENTS
KEY WEST ADVENTURE
NOV 18 - 22, 2026

LESS THAN 20 SPOTS AVAILABLE!

ONLY 60 GUESTS MAXIMUM!

A BOUTIQUE KEY WEST EXPERIENCE DESIGNED FOR CONNECTION, FRIENDSHIP, AND UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES.

5 Days. 1 Island. Countless Memories.

WEDNESDAY NOV 18	THURSDAY NOV 19	FRIDAY NOV 20	SATURDAY NOV 21	SUNDAY NOV 22
 ✓ REGISTRATION & CHECK-IN ✓ WELCOME PARTY at Bob Major's Historic Key West Victorian Home	 ✓ CONCH TRAIN TOUR of Key West ✓ CUBAN COOKING CLASS, LUNCH & RUM TASTING	 ✓ HISTORIC KEY WEST TOURS ✓ ELEGANT COCKTAIL PARTY & SUNSET CRUISE on the ARGO NAVIS	 ✓ HISTORIC KEY WEST TOURS ✓ BLACK TIE CLUB TROPICAL ALL-WHITE FORMAL on the Famous SUNSET PIER	 ✓ FAREWELL BRUNCH at LA TE DA ✓ FOLLOWED BY THE WORLD FAMOUS LA TE DA TEA DANCE

DAILY THEMED POOL PARTIES

FOR REGISTRATION AND UP TO DATE INFORMATION VISIT
BLACKTIECLUBINTERNATIONAL.ORG/TRAVEL

★ EVENTS, VENUES, AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. ★

[Click here for registration and up-to-date information](https://blacktieclubinternational.org/travel)

Key West Adventure

Coming November 18-23, 2026

This November, join us in sunny Key West for five unforgettable days of friendship, adventure, and tropical fun. Limited to just 60 guests, this boutique getaway is designed for men who enjoy travel, great company, and unique experiences.

With beautiful weather, incredible food, a vibrant LGBT history, and a walkable island vibe, it's the perfect setting for connection, fun, and shared experiences.

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Key West Adventure

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Your itinerary includes a welcome party at Bob Major's historic Victorian home, a Conch Train tour, Cuban cooking class with lunch and rum tasting, an elegant sunset cruise aboard the Argo Navis, the Black Tie Club Tropical All-White Formal at Sunset Pier, daily themed pool parties, and a farewell brunch at La Te Da followed by the world-famous Tea Dance.

Whether you're traveling solo or with friends, you'll discover why Key West remains one of America's most beloved destinations—filled with stunning sunsets, rich history, outstanding food, and a warm, welcoming atmosphere.

Picture These Trip Highlights

Land Portion Cost is \$1250, not including lodging and transport

Wednesday – Arrival & Welcome

- ★ Flamingo Pink Opening Reception (food & drinks) at a private conch home owned by a BTC member. Conch is a “Key Westerner.”
- ★ Evening gay bar crawl

Thursday – Explore & Relax

- ★ Conch Train Tour of Key West
- ★ Key West Cooking School with Lunch and Rum Tasting
- ★ “Black Tie & Bathing Suits” Pool Party at Alexander’s Guesthouse
- ★ Champagne Gallery
- ★ Sunset at legendary Mallory Square – a trip you’ll remember forever

[Click here for registration and up-to-date information](#)

Friday – Island Adventure

- ★ Optional tours (Hemingway House, Truman Little White House, Rum Tour, etc.)
- ★ Key Lime Pie Social at Alexander’s Guesthouse
- ★ Argo Navis Catamaran Sunset Cruise (7-course appetizers, beer, premium wine & cocktails)

Saturday – Signature Celebration

- ★ Afternoon Pool Party
- ★ Signature Event: All-White Sunset Pier Party (food & drinks) - No Formal; just wear all white

Sunday – Grand Finale

- ★ Tropical Brunch
- ★ Cocktail Party & World-Famous Tea Dance at La Te Da
- ★ Farewell Party at Alexander’s Guesthouse

Monday – Departure or Extend

- ★ Extend your trip to the Dry Tortugas National Park/Fort Jefferson, a small island west of Key West which was a military post, and then was the site of an historic prison facility for pirates and more.

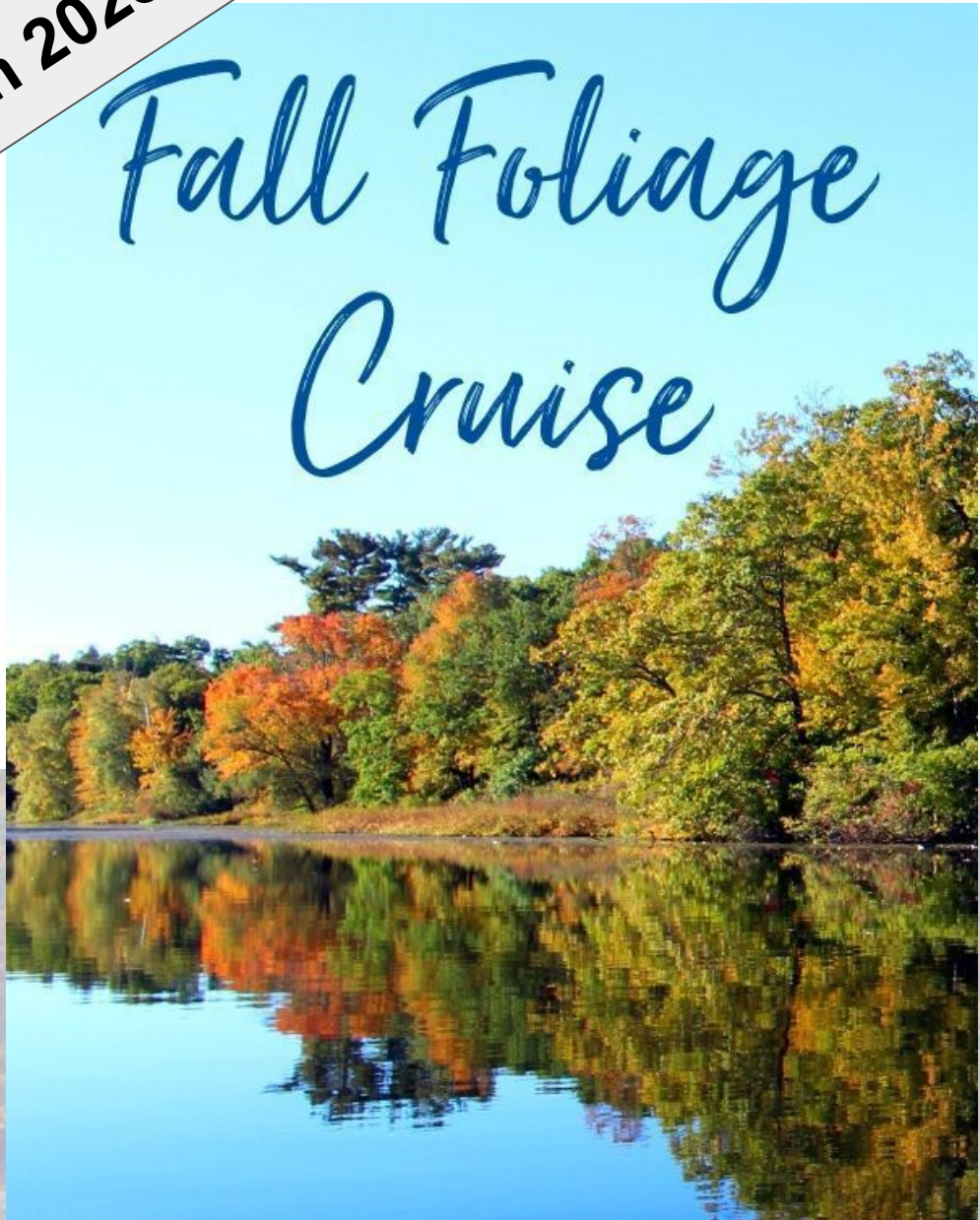
Hotels: We have 3 host hotels.

This trip is limited to 60 people and Alexander’s Guest house is sold out, so don’t delay on this!



COMING in 2028!

Fall Foliage Cruise



We are working on a Fall Foliage Cruise from Montreal up the St. Lawrence, with various stops in places like Nova Scotia, Quebec City, and culminating in New York or Boston. We would have an option for a theater extension in NYC, and a pre-trip extension in Montreal. Montreal – known for its lap-dances, bars and restaurants... New York known for, well, what New York is known for – so many things!

We'd be happy to hear any feedback you have on this, as we have not finalized our cruise line yet, or the length of the trip. It could be 7 days, 11-12 days, or 14 days. Contact Gary Dougan at btci prez@gmail.com about your preferences.

Did you receive a postcard?



BTCI sends out postcards two or three times per year to give you printed notifications of events going on around the club and to remind you to check out our website for the latest events going on.

You should have received a postcard (like the one shown on the left) from BTCI through the US or Canadian Postal Services in March 2026. If you did not, we do not have your address (or the address we do have is incorrect or incomplete). Please inform your chapter president that BTCI does not have your proper address and have him update the master roster.

Bookmark our Webpage!

And don't forget to check out our webpage for:

- ★ The most current up-to-date calendar for Convergences and Chapter events
- ★ The latest as well as past magazines
- ★ Special Travel Series
- ★ Club history and all things Black Tie

