

INTERNATIONAL

BLACK TIE CLUB

Oct - Dec 2025

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





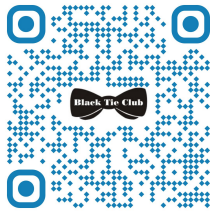
Black Tie Club

International

Vol. 32, No. 1: Oct - Dec 2025

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blacktieclubinternational.org

Or scan QR code



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lablacktieclub1@gmail.com

Founding Editor Bob Gregson, RIP

Chapters

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,

Washington DC

Int'l President Gary Dougan

Int'l President Emeritus Len Olds

Club Founder Bob Gregson, RIP

Int'l Treasurer Mike Gin

Communications Dave Green

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For Magazine Submissions

Please send feedback and digital content to

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Magazine Submissions

Deadlines

Winter/Spring covering Jan - May 2026:

15 May 2026

Convergence: 30 May 2026

Summer covering Jun-Sep 2026: 15 Sep 2026

Cover Image

Composed by Editor Greg Vaccaro



RESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Gary Dougan, International President

Happy New Year to All Black Tie Members!

I want to wish you a terrific holiday season, congratulate you on a terrific Black Tie year, and provide you with some updates as to what I believe we accomplished in 2025, and what to look forward to in 2026.

First, I want to congratulate you on your local chapter events. Many chapters have been trying new approaches to "celebrating the classic gentleman" and I applaud your efforts for the new events you are producing and have tried this past year.

Grand News: We have a *new chapter* called "**New Orleans / Gulf Coast.**" Cary Oswald who is from New Orleans and has lived there most of his life has assembled an amazing group of gentlemen who enjoy the dining and socialization that the Black Tie Club provides. I met several of the Founding Members in October, and their energy is through the roof! Their group had casual get-togethers in June, October, and December. Their **inaugural formal event will be April 4th, 2026. You are invited!** I encourage as many of you as possible to please attend and support this fledgling chapter (please let them know). You can RSVP on the Black Tie Club website calendar (blacktieclubinternational.org/calendar) or send Cary an "expression of interest" email at cary.oswald@gmail.com.

2026 Convergence (May 14-18, 2026) is a sellout six to seven months before the event - **unfathomable!** This is a tribute to the **Rehoboth Beach / Lewes** chapter team. They have created a high-end travel destination experience highlighting their local areas with fine food, superb wines, and fantastic fellowship, along with tremendous local hospitality. Although they are "at capacity," they are attempting to find a few slots to plug in a few more people on the waiting list. Members may still register and sign up for the waiting list in case they are able to accommodate a few more participants. Convergence registration website can be expressly reached at btci.online as well as the official BICI website: blacktieclubinternational.org/convergence.

IMPORTANT NEW OFFERING: Key West Adventure is our next Special Travel Series Event - November 18-23, 2026. It is being planned to be an extraordinary and exciting approach to a place that most of us have visited, partied, and relaxed over the years, but with a Black Tie twist. We will have an "edgy" Sunset White Party, progressive pool events, local sightseeing tours, an in-home reception, La Te Da Tea Dance (a Key West gay staple for decades), a Cuban cooking class, and so much more. We are negotiating a pre-trip to Cuba for 1-3 days as an optional add-on. We have negotiated a "buy-out" of the Alexander House, and will also offer alternative lodging for those that want a clothing-optional experience (day use will also be available). Check out the Key West flyer/announcement on the website. It is also highlighted on the December postcard mailing mentioned below. **Registration will open soon.** This event will continue the adventurous energy we have engendered in our past Special Travel Series offerings: San Juan, San Miguel de Allende, Danube, Paris, London, Luxembourg, Puerto Vallarta, Amsterdam, and now **KEY WEST**.

IMPORTANT DEADLINE APPROACHING - Dues & Membership Renewal: We are now near completion of the 2026 Dues Collection and Membership Renewal Season. By now, your chapter leaders have most likely reached out to you to collect updated member contact information, chapter dues, and International dues. I thank you for renewing your Black Tie membership before the end of 2025. You will be dropped from our roster if payment is not received.

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2025 PROUD ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- **San Francisco Convergence (May 2025)** was an "over the top" success with so many amazing features: museums, excursions, dancing, bar hopping, restauranting, and a formal night with entertainment. Chair Jim Boey and Chapter Presidents Markham and Rich should feel remarkably satisfied at this event -- continuing the legacy of impactful Convergences. Check out the special Convergence Edition of the Black Tie Magazine available on the [website](#).
- Our 2025 Special Travel Series, **Amsterdam Pride and Rhine Riverboat Cruise**, offering Six Days and Nights of Fine Dining and Amsterdam Pride followed by a Rhine River Cruise provided a full-on experience of Amsterdam during their Pride Month and a beautiful trip down the Rhine River from Amsterdam to Basel. The previous BTCI [magazine issue](#) has many photos from this trip.
- **Oversized Postcard** are a physical mailings to all members via the US Mail and Canada Post to remind our members that issues of the magazine are available online, as well as highlighting our [website](#), which is the "go to" center for all Black Tie Club "comings and goings." The latest postcard went out early December. It is a great tangible "save-the-date" vehicle for upcoming Black Tie events, so members don't miss out, and always know what's coming.

IN OTHER NEWS:

- **2027 Convergence** will be produced by the **Palm Beach** chapter. We are planning an innovative approach to Convergence, so watch for news on this signature event. Timeframe being considered, March - May, 2027.
- **2028 Convergence** will be a **Palm Springs** chapter production and is just kicking off their planning. If their Convergence is anything like their main events, this will be a thriller!
- **New Mexico Chapter** will now be headed by Fred Winter (President), Michael Boykin (VP), David Virden (Secretary) and Tom Hall (Treasurer). We thank outgoing officers, Paul Garson, Jack Cox, Tim Presley and Ted Williams for their service and commitment over many years.
- **Dallas Chapter** will now be headed by Brian Foster, after a wonderful "send-off" event in Dallas this past September.
- **Palm Springs Chapter** Secretary, Jonathan Lanz, has stepped away from this position due to other life and business changes. We thank him for hosting an event at his home in 2025, and for all the guidance and support he has given to his own chapter and others.
- **Laguna Beach Chapter** will now be headed by Leonard Olds, former International President (and still the Emeritus in that role). We thank Alan Miller for so many years of service. They are the oldest chapter (except for Toronto as the founding chapter) and are known for their tremendous get-togethers.
- **Future Growth - Marketing Expertise needed:** Marketing to other cities to create new chapters continues to be of utmost importance. As your International President, I'm looking for a talented person to help create the future of the club's marketing and promotional activities. This position will require some expertise and will necessarily carry a stipend to pay for the creative hours involved in such related tasks. If you would like to get involved in our expansion efforts, please send ideas or referrals my way.

The BTCI website continues to be your best "go to" for all BTCI information: blacktieclubinternational.org

In closing, I offer you my most sincere wishes for a terrific and fantastic New Year with as many opportunities as possible to **"celebrate the classic gentleman with fine food, superb wine, and fantastic fellowship."**

In Fellowship,



btci prez@gmail.com





Fall Formal

The gentlemen of the Atlanta Chapter gathered at Bones Steakhouse on Sunday November 16th, hosted by co-presidents Paul Donahue and Lewis Jeffries. Drinks, food and fellowship were enjoyed by all.

Of course, we all enjoyed the singing of O Canada and God Bless America (we're actually getting pretty good). Announcements included the dates for the 2026 Spring Formal March 21st and the 2026 Fall Formal October 11th (in conjunction with Atlanta Gay Pride). We were also happy to welcome new member, Steve Parker.

We look forward to many fun activities in 2026!



Chris Hester, Rich Harris, Alan Akin



Rich Harris, Alan Akin, Robert Taylor



Greg Simms, Eric Wallens, Robert Wayne



Michael Dunkelberger, Joseph Stabile, Ken Anderson



Lewis Jeffries, Bob Herbert, Greg Simms



Steve Parker, Lynn Love



George Thompson, Michael Dunkelberger, Joseph Stabile



Michael Coughlan



DC Payne, Chuck Rice, George Thompson





Dallas

Dallas Chapter Embarks on a New Era

After eleven years of excellent leadership and guidance from former Chapter President Gordon Markley, the Dallas Chapter of BTCI begins 2026 with new president Brian Foster, who previously chaired Dallas' Convergence in 2023. Gordon and his husband, Russell Buescher, were featured in the last issue of the BTCI Magazine shortly after being celebrated at the Dallas Chapter's 25th Anniversary celebration in September of last year. Both Markley and Buescher were awarded the Bill Bryan Founders Award at the festivities.

The Chapter will hold its Spring event on April 10-11th this year, so stay tuned for registration information and an itinerary of fun and festive events. Further, the Chapter is planning multiple smaller get togethers through the year to mingle with new and potential members and pass along BTCI traditions and sensibilities to the next generation of all fine things aficionados.

Until next time, the Big D wishes you well. Come, and stay awhile!



Gordon and Russell with Bryan Buescher award.





Laguna Beach

Autumn Get Together

On Sunday, October 19th, the Laguna Beach Chapter of BTCI met for a fun-filled catered luncheon at the home of Len Olds and Hugh Rouse. It was both a happy time getting together and a sad note with the passing of the soon-to-be new President, Trent Hofferber. After a sudden illness, Trent passed away the week before he was to take office. Although this added an unhappy circumstance, the membership drank and ate a delicious meal, discussed our future, and Len Olds once again took over as Interim Chapter President. Plans were made for a new version of entertaining, one casual event and one formal event per year. All members said they would renew their membership in 2026 and toasted the 32 years of continued fellowship.

The caterer prepared a wonderful luncheon and the cocktails flowed throughout the afternoon. International President Gary Dougan and his partner, Charlie Priest, attended the event and Gary added his usual sparkle to the day.

We all look forward to many more years of Black Tie dinners and social events.

rest in peace



Trent Hofferber





Los Angeles

Holiday Formal

On Saturday, December 6th, 13 gentlemen sat down for a holiday formal celebration at the Catch Restaurant, a notable West Hollywood upscale seafood restaurant known for its lively atmosphere and celebrity sightings (although we were the only celebrities that night...). Passed plates of delicious vegetable sushi, grilled salmon, fillet medallions, and more were served. Wines were generously poured. It was a very festive feast for all.



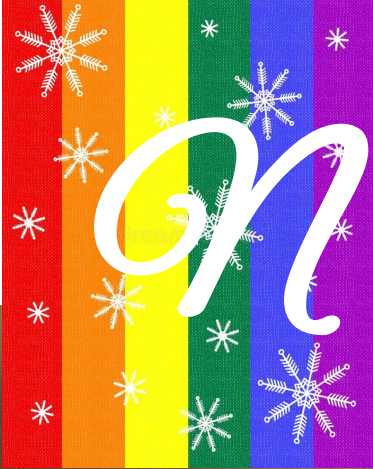
Above, clockwise starting with Charlie at 6 o'clock position: Charlie Priest, Christopher Moen, Gary Dougan, David Wagner, Kevin Kuettel, Ketch Anderson, Bryan Ruerup, Charles Souw, Greg Vaccaro, John Faubion, Warren Thomas, Christopher Thomas, Keith Tunison

Lower Right: Warren Thomas, Gary Dougan, Charlie Priest, Keith Tunison, Greg Vaccaro, John Faubion





Upper: Gary Dougan, David Wagner,
Kevin Kuettel, Ketch Andersen
Lower Left: David Wagner
Lower Right: Gary Dougan, David Wager



ew Mexico



Holiday Casual Get Together





New Orleans - Gulf Coast

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Mardi Gras!

We are in planning mode for our Spring Formal on April 4, 2026. Please see the most recent BTCI post-card with all the information or go to www.blacktienogfcst.com/events to see the details. It is Christmas time everywhere but in the Gulf South it's also Carnival time. Mardi Gras starts in early January culminating with Fat Tuesday on February 17, 2026. Many of our members participate in Gay Mardi Gras Krewes. So, we are spending this time finishing our costumes and getting ready for the formal tableau's in January and early February. Consequently, no BTC activity until March.

In March, we are planning a Shrimp Boil with a Twist. More details to follow and will be placed on the calendar of events.

The 23 members of BTC New Orleans Gulf Coast wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Mardi Gras!



October Casual Event

Submitted by Gary Dougan, International President

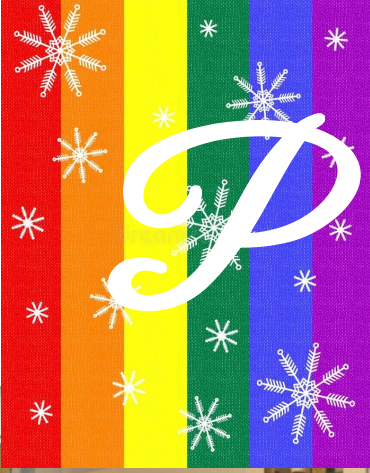




Desire







Palm Beach

A Casual Elegant Evening at Paradiso

On September 28th, the Palm Beach Black Tie Club enjoyed a casual yet elegant evening at Paradiso Italian Restaurant, known for its traditional yet modern cuisine. The gathering was graciously hosted by Harris Freedman and Dave Kurland, who treated guests to a selection of delicious hors d'oeuvres. The room was filled with Black Tie Club members and their guests engaged in lively conversation and shared laughter throughout the evening.



Henry Spence, Mark O'Connor, Mike Ricca



Mark O'Connor, Billie Pantuso, Charles Contessa



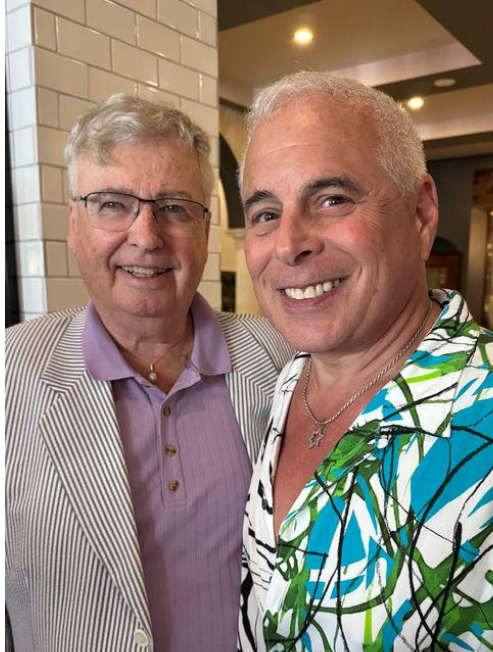
Hosts: Harris Freedman, Dave Kurlanda



John Fariello, Michael Judd, Richard Reed

Michael Kam, Mark Resnick, Ray Collins,
Carlos Cruz, Marty Davis





Paul Hickey, Mark Resnick



Peter Rogers, Jude Plum, Sid Lesowitz



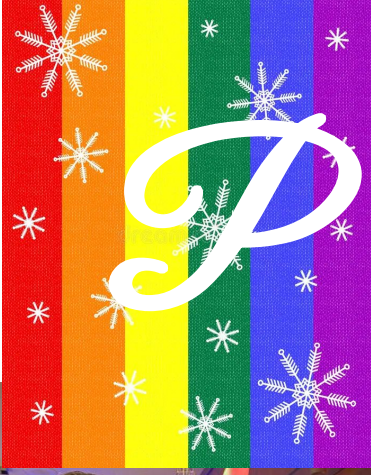
Rodrigo Gutierrez, Mark Goldstein, Harris Freedman



Rob Russo, Judd Siegel, Jose Torres



Shawn Cherry,
John Klingel,
Danny Cook,
Michael Judd,
Andy Langus



Palm Beach

La Cigale Casual Evening

On October 26th, the Palm Beach chapter enjoyed a casual evening at La Cigale Mediterranean Restaurant, featuring cuisine inspired by the French Riviera. Now in its eighth year as a favorite venue, La Cigale once again delivered an exceptional experience. The evening was graciously hosted by Ben Small and Michael Judd, with members and guests enjoying sumptuous hors d'oeuvres followed by a delicious three-course dinner. As always, the camaraderie and shared good times made for a memorable evening.



Bruce Conlin, Alen Medina



Dennis Perry, Dave Kurland, John Klingel



Hosts: Ben Small, Michael Judd



Donald Watren, Michael Judd, Jude Plum, Marc Glasberg



Gerry Fitzgerald, Jude Plum



Mark Resnick, Franz Bolognini, Billie Pantuso, Ken Weissenberg



Jimmy McNeill, Greg Tallo, Harris Freedman, Christopher Caneles, Dave Kurland



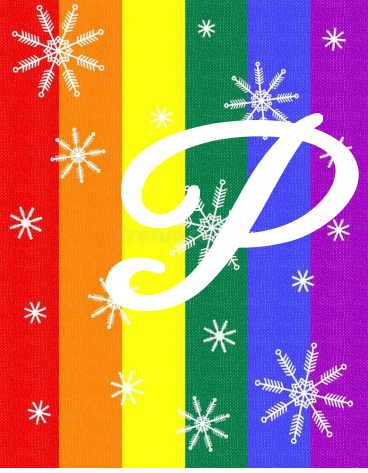
Xavier Codina, John Fariello, Ben Small, Mike Ricca, James Toomey



Sid Lesowitz. Tony Jaggi



Richard Esposito, Richard Driscoll



Palm Beach

Chapter Celebrates a Tropicana Christmas

On December 7th, the Palm Beach Black Tie Club celebrated a festive Tropicana Christmas at its holiday formal this year, transforming the room into a playful yet elegant setting. Pink flamingos adorned with Santa hats stood four feet tall above a beautiful holiday arrangement, setting the tone for a memorable evening. Members and guests enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres before sitting down to a delicious four-course dinner. The evening was graciously hosted by John Klingel, who also designed and created all of the imaginative decorations that brought the celebration to life.



Clockwise from upper left:
Ben Drain, Jerry Fitzgerald, Scott Wistner, Mark O'Connor
Ben Small, Richard Esposito, Richard Driscoll
David Seif, Dave Kurland, Douglas Wang
Charles Contessa, Dennis Fitzkee, Ben Drain

Note: All photos in this section were adjusted by chatgpt to improve image quality.



Donald Watren, Michael Judd, Jude Plum, Marc Glasberg



Hosts: Charles Contessa, John Klingel



James Toomey, Harvey Stoler, Mark Resnick, Paul Hickey



William Feldkamp, Ben Drain



Mike Ricca, Scott Wistner, Henry Spence, Mark O'Connor



Upper Left: Ritchie Katzenberg, Jeff Giesea, John Betz
Upper Right: John Klingel, Shawn Cherry
Lower: Ray Collins, Carlos Cruz, Harris Freedman, Sergey Kogan, Joseph Laudicina



Submitted by Al Castrucci
Chapter President

Palm Springs



Spectacular Pride Weekend Activities

The Black Tie Club of Palm Springs celebrated Pride Weekend with its traditional Cocktail Party and Black Tie Dinner. This year's festivities were truly spectacular.

The festivities began at the home of Daniel Kohm and Joey Chaplow. One hundred and forty guests attended our first wood-fired pizza cocktail party. Noble Yeast brought their wood-fired pizza oven to the home and prepared, catered, and served pizza right out of the oven. Everyone was delighted with the fare and our two bartenders made sure that alcoholic libation flowed freely. Thanks to Jeff Smith for providing the evening with a jazz trio that entertained with a variety of musical eras.

The following Saturday evening, one hundred and twenty guests arrived in all of their Black Tie finery and enjoyed cocktails and a splendid dinner at Spencer's Bougainvillea ballroom. We were all serenaded by fine piano music and one of our very own members, Phillip Moore, joined in with some sweet melodic tunes.

We were delighted that many out-of-area club members joined us in this celebration.

Al Castrucci, Club President, took the opportunity to share upcoming plans for informal events planned for 2026 and to inform the club members that Palm Springs will be the host site for Convergence in 2028, which was received with great excitement.

Overall, our Pride Weekend Celebration was a gathering for great food, fine drinks and lasting friendships.



Phoenix ~ Scottsdale

Formal Weekend at the Camby Hotel in the Bees Knees Speakeasy

The Phoenix - Scottsdale Black Tie Chapter held their formal weekend on October 17th and 18th. The Host Committee was comprised of Bruce Steiger, Rick Karl, Patrick Gillihan, and Raymond Hebert. They planned the entire weekend for our members.

On Friday evening, we went to the beautiful home of Patrick Gillihan in Scottsdale Mountain for a cocktail party with wonderful food and drink (and bartender!).

On Saturday evening, our formal venue was the Bees Knees Speakeasy at the Camby Hotel (former Ritz Carlton) in the Biltmore area of Phoenix. Dinner was preceded by cocktails at the speakeasy bar. After drinks, we adjourned to dinner choices of herb crusted stuffed chicken breast, herb salmon, and Chimichurri Flat Iron steak. Dessert was vanilla bean cheesecake and coffee. Everyone had a wonderful time.





Raymond, Evan



Dan, Doug, Ed, Daryl





Above: Rick, Bruce
Upper Right: Gary arriving in style
Lower Right: Evan and Jack at cocktail party before formal dinner

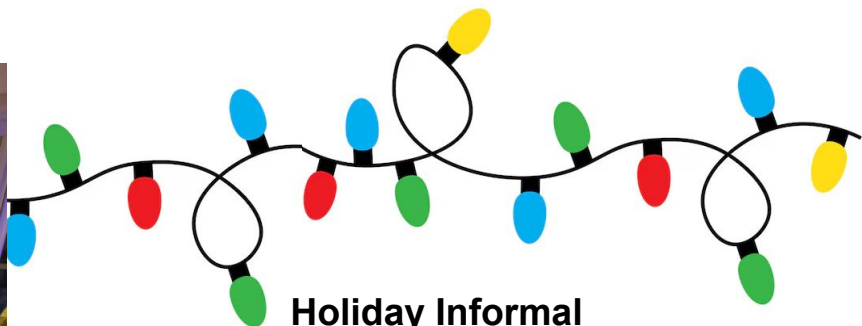


*Friday evening
cocktail party at
the home of
Patrick Gillihan*





Phoenix ~ Scottsdale



Holiday Informal

A total of 14 Phoenix - Scottsdale Black Tie members gathered at Alexi's Grill in central Phoenix on Dec 20. This was our last informal of 2025. A wonderful time was had by all!





Rehoboth Beach ~ Lewes

Elegant Fall Formal Weekend

The Rehoboth Beach - Lewes Chapter of the Black Tie Club celebrated its Fall Formal on October 3rd and 4th, with a weekend of style, camaraderie, and Hollywood-inspired glamour. The festivities were graciously hosted by Keith McDonald, Michael Summerlin, William Roeder, John Overton, Gordon Tanner, and Robert Patlan.



Rehoboth Beach/Lewes Fall Formal Hosts

The weekend began Friday evening with a private reception at the Rehoboth Beach Museum, where members enjoyed cocktails and appetizers surrounded by exhibits showcasing the town's transformation from a 19th-century religious camp meeting site to a beloved beach resort and thriving LGBTQ+ community. Displays of vintage bathing suits, postcards, maps, and photographs offered guests a unique lens into the city's seaside history. Members and guests were greeted by the host committee serving champagne.

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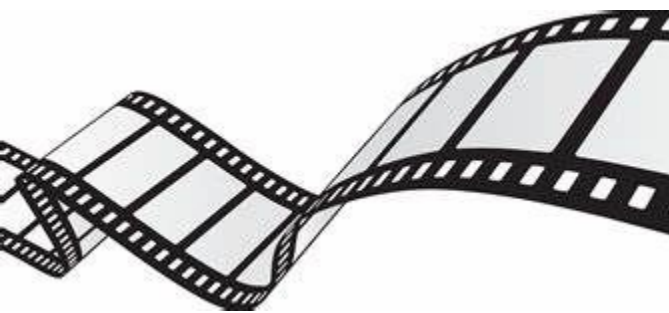
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On Saturday, the celebration shifted to a new venue for the chapter, the Cambria Hotel, for a formal-themed “A Black and White Affair: Where Black Tie Meets the Silver Screen.” Guests arrived in true Hollywood style, greeted by a gleaming 1935 Ford V8, affectionately known as “Neal,” parked prominently at the entrance.

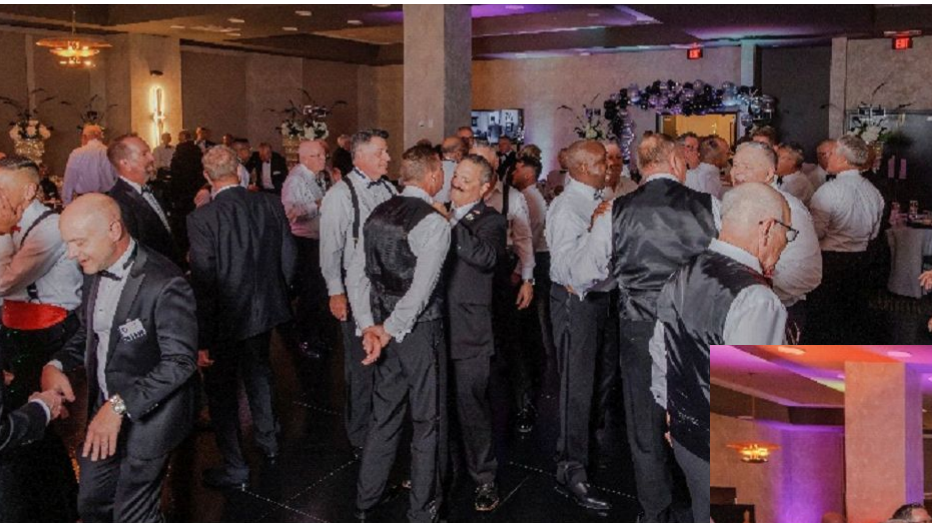
Walking the red carpet under a balloon arch of black and white balloons, attendees entered a ballroom transformed into a cinematic dreamscape. A near full-size replica of the Hollywood sign set the scene, while crystal chandeliers atop each table added an elegant sparkle. Large monitors highlighted classic scenes from fifteen golden-age films, including *Sunset Boulevard*, *12 Angry Men*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Psycho*.

The evening began with tradition as Colin Armstrong led the singing of O Canada and God Bless America. Chapter President Fran O’Brien welcomed the 128 members and guests, a record attendance for a formal event in the chapter’s history. A new Member Anniversary Program was introduced, honoring milestones at 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 years of membership.

Dinner was accompanied by a playlist curated by DJ Sharon, echoing the Silver Screen era. Later, the music shifted to dance favorites that kept the floor lively well into the night.







“Later, the music shifted to dance favorites that kept the floor lively well into the night.”



The Rehoboth Beach–Lewes Chapter extends its gratitude to all who attended and helped make the weekend a success. With the Fall Formal now a cherished memory, anticipation is already building for the next grand occasion: **Coastal Convergence 2026**, which the chapter is honored to host.



See more information about Coastal Convergence later in the magazine.



San Diego



Formal Dinner at Tidal Restaurant

On October 19th, San Diego Black Tie members went to the Paradise Point Resort for an exceptional three-course dinner at the Tidal restaurant. First, they were treated with tray-passed hors d'oeuvres as members strolled outside for views of the San Diego Bay. At dinnertime, guests were serenaded by Leo Soares, singing as they came in to find their seats. We were graced by the presence of International President, Gary Dougan and First Gentleman, Charlie Priest. Ted Callam, Host Committee Chair, gave everyone a very warm welcome and he introduced his great committee, Paul and Leo Linden and Bill Fisher.





Andre Paisley, Bradley McCart,
Chuck Kaminski, Mark Dubas



Paul Potter, Gary Dougan



Arturo Morales, Robert Graham,
Bryan Polk, Jim Wilson



Andre Paisley, Paul Potter,
Ted Callam, Ken Aylsworth, Mark Earl



Chuck Kaminski, Ted Callam



Chuck Kaminski, Leo Linden,
Ted Callam, Paul Linden



In front: Jim Wilson, Rob Coli



Host Committee; Paul and Leo Linden,
Ted McCallam, Chuck Kaminski

Leo Linden, singing as we entered





Mark Earl, Leo Linden, Rodel Asuncion, Rod Zasp, Dan Barilea, Lee Galloway



Ted Callam
Host Committee Chair



Andre Paisley, Mark Earl, Lee Galloway (Chapter President), Dan Barilea, Rod Zaspas, Fred Paisley



Bob Becker, Bob Dillingham, Arturo Morales, Robert Graham, Jim Wilson, Bryan Polk



Bradley McCartt, Mark Dubas, Sean McCormick, Gary Dougan (International President), Charlie Priest (1st Gentleman), John McCoy



Rodel Asuncion, Key Aylsworth, Paul Potter, Jack Varga



Ted Callam, Leo Linden, Paul Linden, Rob Coli (LA Member), Oliver Yang, Chuck Kaminski



Table and view



Paul Linden, Ted Callam, Lee Galloway



Rod Zaspas, Leo Linden, Dan Barilea





San Francisco

Impromptu Casual Gathering

On November 28th, the San Francisco chapter hosted an impromptu casual gathering at Sam's Cable Car Lounge on Powell Street at Union Square.





Washington DC

Fall Weekend

The Metropolitan Washington Black Tie Club's amazing Fall 2025 gathering "Elegance Aboard the Capital Elite" prevailed against the nameless nor'easter that threatened to shut down the Potomac on Sunday October 12th. The weather report had warned of 3-foot waves and gales of up to 30 mph winds. However, instead, we struck gold. Call it timing, luck, serendipity, or kismet ... at 10:00 pm the night prior, the Coast Guard called in a green light, and we were granted full system's go with our event.

And what an event. With thanks to the guardian goddess, forty gentlemen boarded the Capital Elite and were entertained on a scenic cruise of the Potomac worthy of a short film. The soundtrack delivered by DJ Scott of Slatesound Ltd set the pace for an enjoyable and memorable nautical experience many of us had not previously enjoyed.

Abundant thanks go out to our Host Committee who outdid themselves with the planning of this New Direction event — fourth in a series of non-tuxedo events taken up by successive planning committees in the past four years. The six handsome gentlemen delivered on their challenge to once more re-invent an elegant form of extravagant men's social engagement. The below group shot is one short as the sixth committee member Randall was unable to attend due to health concerns.

As a measure of creative license, the committee strayed from traditionalist haberdashery in favor of something different, akin to 'the sky's the limit' fun cruise attire. Gladly, most of us were able to abide to their fashion call as is evidenced by the photos — one could call it the DCBTC 2025 Fall Collection — a fashion statement that speaks to the affection that we hold for dashing out our best foot forward when embarking on Elegance. Give us a stage and we will follow! Ha!

Once we had enjoyed the fabulous cruise of the Potomac and luncheon we disembarked the Elite and hit the After-Party at the Pembury penthouse bar with a 365 view of beautiful District of Columbia. Just beautiful! Loving the naval looks and cruise attire. Well done gents!













Washington DC

Casual Get Together at Federico's

On October 30th.





Washington DC

Holiday Party

The Washington Black Tie Club advanced onto Sagittarius with a pre-Thanksgiving Holiday Party in the VIP Starlight Lounge of the Crush Dance Bar on Thursday, November 20th. The libations were flowing!!! Bartender Joe more than defended his title of the Crush Dance Bar mixologist-in-chief, he also earned high praise from all the Black Tie Club gentlemen assembled to kick off the 2025 holiday season in high style!







Washington DC

In Memoriam

We are saddened to report the death on October 15th of **Jordan Morgenstern**, husband of Robert Jamroz (President of the Metropolitan Washington Black Tie Club from 2010 through 2022).

Jordan was born in Chicago (his parents had a large four-story townhouse within the unit block off the lake's northern end). His father, Morris, moved the family (wife Ida, sons David and Jordan, and daughter Bari) to Bloomington, Illinois where he owned and operated several men's clothing stores geared primarily to the college students of the two universities in Bloomington. After completing high school, Jordan entered the University of Illinois and graduated with a BA in Business. At the suggestion of a nationally well-connected men's clothing store owner in Bloomington, Jordan moved to Washington, DC, and joined the staff of the Menswear Retailers of America where he worked his way up to lead the annual clothing convention.

Jordan then progressed professionally to head the convention activities of the National Spa and Pool Institute and the National Organization of Entrepreneurs. After answering a blind ad in The Washington Post in 1992, Jordan was chosen from among fifteen-hundred applicants to spearhead the new DC office of the largest national organization representing the burgeoning plastics industry. Assisting the move of the organization from New York City to DC, Jordan assumed the role of directing and managing what would become in 1995 the world's largest industry organization's triennial convention occupying all seven exhibition halls of Chicago's Merchant area using over 100,000 square feet of exhibit space and occupying more than 95,000 hotel rooms.

After retiring in 2004, Jordan, along with his partner Robert, played active roles in the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, the DC and Toronto Black Tie Club chapters, the FAIRY Dining Club, as well as other local gay-oriented groups. Spending a month or so each year in Europe, Jordan and Robert enjoyed visiting European friends as well as exploring various "ghettos" in Venice, Rome, Prague, Kiev, and Vilnius.

Jordan and Robert moved to Greenspring in October 2023 and celebrated their 48th year of partnership and 13th year of legal marriage in March 2025. Jordan will be missed by many of his friends here at Greenspring. May his memory be for a blessing.



Top Left: Bob Jamroz, Jordan Morgenstern, and Jack Carver at the Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque during the New Mexico Black Tie Club sponsored five-day gathering in Albuquerque and Santa Fe in 2005.

Top Middle: Bob and Jordan at the 2019 Annual Black Tie Convergence in Palm Springs

Top Right: DC Black Tie Club Chapter Secretary Rich Cardinale enjoying First Thursday with Jordan at Freddie's Beach Bar, Crystal City, 2022.



Bottom Left: Tom Yatsco, Jordan, and Armando Rascon at the 2019 Washington DC Black Tie Club Fall Formal at The Tower Club, Vienna, Virginia.

Bottom Right: Armando, Jordan, and Bob at DC Black Tie First Thursday at Freddie's, March 20, 2022.



UPCOMING EVENTS

*For up-to-date information on chapter events,
please consult the website at*

<https://www.blacktieclubinternational.org/calendar>

2026

January 17
Phoenix/Scottsdale
Wine Tasting Potluck
Contact: Eric Fox
eric_p_fox@cox.net

February 8
Laguna Beach
Casual Event at Mozambique
Restaurant
Contact: Len Olds
oldsrouse@aol.com

February 21
Phoenix/Scottsdale
Potluck
Contact: Eric Fox
eric_p_fox@cox.net

March 21
Atlanta
Spring Formal
At the Swan House
Contact: Paul Donahue
donahupb@aol.com

March 28
San Francisco
At the Presidio Golf and
Concordia Club
Contact: Rich Martini
martinistraightup@comcast.net

April 3 - 5
New Orleans/Gulf Coast
Easter in NOLA
Including Inaugural Spring Formal
Contact: Cary Oswald
blacktieclubnognfcst@yahoo.com

April 10 - 11
Dallas
Spring Weekend
Contact: Brian Foster
bfoster@sundevsolutions.com

April 18
New Mexico
Spring Formal
At Artichoke Cafe
Contact: Fred Winter
fred@newmex.com

April 18
Washington DC
Tuxedo Moon
Contact: Armando Rason
blacktiepresdc@gmail.com

May 14 - 17
Rehoboth Beach/Lewes
COASTAL CONVERGENCE
International Convergence 2026
For more information:
blacktieclubinternational.org/convergence
See next page for more info

Sold Out!





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PCOMING CONVERGENCES

For the latest Convergence updates visit blacktieclubinternational.org/convergence

Coastal Convergence 2026

Rehoboth Beach ♦ Lewes

May 14 - 17

Sold Out! But Sign-up to be Waitlisted!



Guest Hotel

The guest hotel is Hotel Rehoboth, an independent hotel located on Rehoboth Avenue. From the moment you enter the hotel's spacious lobby with a baby grand piano, central staircase, and fireplace sitting area, you are welcomed with genuine Rehoboth Beach hospitality.

Schedule of Events

Thursday

Black Tie Beginnings: A Night of Sophisticated Greetings
At the home of Joe Filipek and Larry Richardson.

Friday

"Par-Tee" at Kings Creek Country Club (Add-on Cost)
Enjoy exclusive access to one of the premier 18-hole golf courses on the Delmarva Peninsula.

Excursion to Longwood Gardens (Add-on Cost)
Tour one of the world's finest horticultural displays.

Moonlight Soirée at The Blue Moon
Appetizers and Entertainment with access to downtown gay bars.

Saturday

First Town Footsteps: A Journey through Lewes
Tour Lewes, the site of the first European settlement in Delaware.

Black & White Ball: Coastal Elegance
Formal Dinner at the Kings Creek County Country Club.

Sunday

Mimosas & Memories Brunch
At Above the Dunes Restaurant, the number one spot in Rehoboth to dine with an ocean view.

Finale Fête: The Grand Afterglow
Business casual reception at the home of Andy Staton and Patrick Saparito.



Coastal Convergence 2026
Rehoboth Beach, DE
May 14-17, 2026

Register at <https://btci.online>

Space is limited!



Note: Each individual must complete a registration! (If you are a couple, you must complete TWO registrations.)

Online Information at
btci.online

Future Convergences

★
Convergence 2027
Palm Beach

★
Convergence 2028
Palm Springs

Black Tie Club International

Special Travel Series

PRESENTS

Five Days of Southern Charm
and Florida Sunshine

KEY WEST ADVENTURE 2026

November 18 - 23

[CLICK HERE
FOR MORE INFO](#)



Bookmark our Webpage!

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

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

<https://www.blacktieclubinternational.org/>

