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Subject: Fwd: MAX TGIF Friday, DTLA, 54 Mint and More – MAX Weekly Newsletter Part 1/2

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Weekly Newsletter Part 1/2 - February 26, 2019

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EVENTS THIS WEEK

March TGIF Friday, March 1st at 6:00 pm.



Join us this Friday, March 1st, from 6:00 to 8:30 pm for our monthly signature event, TGIF at the Eclipse Bar in the Hyatt Regency San Francisco (Atrium Lobby Level, 5 Embarcadero Center). The Eclipse Bar is one of our favorite places to meet and celebrate the first Friday of the month.

This TGIF promises to be a great way to visit with old friends, make new friends, and unwind at the end of the week.

There is no admission fee and a no-host bar.

MAX TGIFs attract anywhere from 100 to 200 men. With attendees running the gamut in age and interests, it's definitely a diverse group. We always go out of our way to make everyone, especially newcomers, feel welcome, so if you've never joined us before, this is the perfect opportunity to be introduced to some new people.

To RSVP on Meetup, please click [here](#). If you prefer to register through MAX's website, please click [here](#).

For MAX events that feature alcohol, we strongly encourage you to take public transportation, a cab/Uber/Lyft, walk, or have a designated driver.

UPDATE! One Night Only Benefit Cabaret with the Cast of *Hello Dolly!* Sunday, March 3rd at 8:00 p.m.

THE RICHMOND/ERMET AID FOUNDATION PRESENTS

One Night Only
BENEFIT CABARET
The touring cast of the
Tony-Award winning musical
HELLO DOLLY!

UPDATE! – A Discount Code is Now Available for MAX that provides a \$10 discount. When purchasing tickets, use promotional code: MAXdiscount

This Sunday, join our partner organization, the Richmond/Ermet Aid Foundation (REAF), for an evening of music, dance and comedy.

Enjoy a lively evening featuring members of the Broadway touring cast of the Tony-Award winning musical, *Hello Dolly!*

The 8:00 pm performance will be held at Brava Theater, 2781 24th Street (at York) in San Francisco. Proceeds from the event will benefit Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS and The Richmond/Ermet Aid Foundation of SF.

Ticket prices (including the \$10 discount and excluding fees) are \$25, \$40 and \$65*

*\$65 tickets include the after party with the cast following the show.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please click [here](#).

NEW THIS WEEK

DTLA (Downtown Los Angeles) March 29th - March 31st



This spring join MAX in exploring the revitalized and transformed downtown Los Angeles (DTLA). Over the last twenty years, downtown LA has transitioned to be a vibrant cultural destination with the city's most exciting restaurants, a slew of new indie shops, and a vibrant Art District.

On the last weekend of March, join event champion and travel leader Phil Carberry in exploring this dynamic neighborhood.

The weekend will be centered at the elegant historic [Millennium Biltmore](#) hotel, set in the heart of LA's vibrant cultural district. All planned group events will be within walking distance of this hotel.

Friday evening meet with your fellow travelers for drinks and dinner. If you can arrive by mid-afternoon on Friday, start the weekend with a visit to [The Broad](#), LA's most in-demand contemporary art museum. Be sure to reserve an admission ticket (click [here](#) for available times and reserve a ticket and visit [here](#) for tips to make the most of your visit).

On Saturday join your fellow travelers and take a [walking tour](#) of downtown LA. See Angels Flight, the shortest railway in the world, the architectural landmark Bradbury Building, and many other cultural and historic landmarks. Join the group again on Saturday evening for drinks and to hear about everyone's day and their exciting finds.

Join the group for Sunday brunch before you head back home or head out to explore more of Los Angeles.

Phil Carberry will be heading to Palm Springs on Sunday March 24th and encourages fellow travelers who are interested, to join him in Palm Springs before the trip to DTLA. Contact Phil for information on an available discounted hotel rate in Palm Springs.

This will be a book-your own trip in which you book your own travel, hotel, and tours. That allows you to decide whether to stay at the Millennium Biltmore or at one of the many hip boutique hotels in the area. You can join the group for as many or few of the activities as you would like. Afternoon cocktails provides an opportunity to catch-up with your fellow MAX travelers and hear what everyone did that day.

Currently, if you register on the Millennium Biltmore hotel [website](#), a two night stay, March 29th - 31st, with the pre-paid non-refundable Spring Away this Winter rate, costs \$390, \$195 per night.

The fee to MAX for Phil's efforts to arrange and lead this trip is \$25 for dues-paying members and \$40 for non-members.

Contact Phil Carberry at philcarb166@gmail.com for more information and for details on the planned itinerary. Phil can also provide information on travel options to downtown Los Angeles and information on alternative hotel options.

To reserve your space with this travel group (**limited to ten individuals**), contact Phil Carberry at philcarb166@gmail.com and pay the fee to MAX [here](#).

Contact Phil Carberry, reserve your space, and book your travel NOW, as the size of this travel group is limited, and travel prices are likely to go up.

My Favorite Place: 54 Mint Ristorante Italiano Thursday, March 28th at 5:30 p.m.



Join MAX SF Board Member Nick Wade for our March installment of our new monthly dinner series, *My Favorite Place*. Join Nick at one of his favorite restaurants, 54 Mint.

Mint 54 is a wonderful Roman Trattoria. Mint 54 provides a true Italian experience from the very attentive (and exceptional) Italian staff, to the truly original magnificent Roman cuisine. The fresh pasta and deserts are made daily. View the Mint 54 menu [here](#).

Enjoy an evening of delicious Italian dining with other men from the MAX community and find out why Nick loves 54 Mint. *According to another MAX SF Board member, the feeling is mutual; 54 Mint absolutely adores Nick.*

To reserve your space, a \$25 non-refundable deposit towards the cost of your meal is required. Click [here](#) to pay the deposit and reserve your space.

Space is limited to 10 people, please reserve your spot TODAY.

Once registered, If you find you are unable to attend, please let Nick know so that he can adjust the reservation.

Reservations close Tuesday March 26th.

54 Mint Ristorante Italiano
16 Mint Plaza, San Francisco

SFGMC: The Brits Are Coming Friday, March 22nd at 8:00 p.m.



Join MAX SF Community Partner, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus (SFGMC) for a salute to our British friends and the extraordinary music and artists they have shared with us.

Accompanied by a five-piece band, SFGMC will take audiences on a vibrant and varied journey into British music legacies from **Handel** and Sir William Walton to **The Beatles** and **Adele** to **Sir Elton John** and, of course, **Queen!**

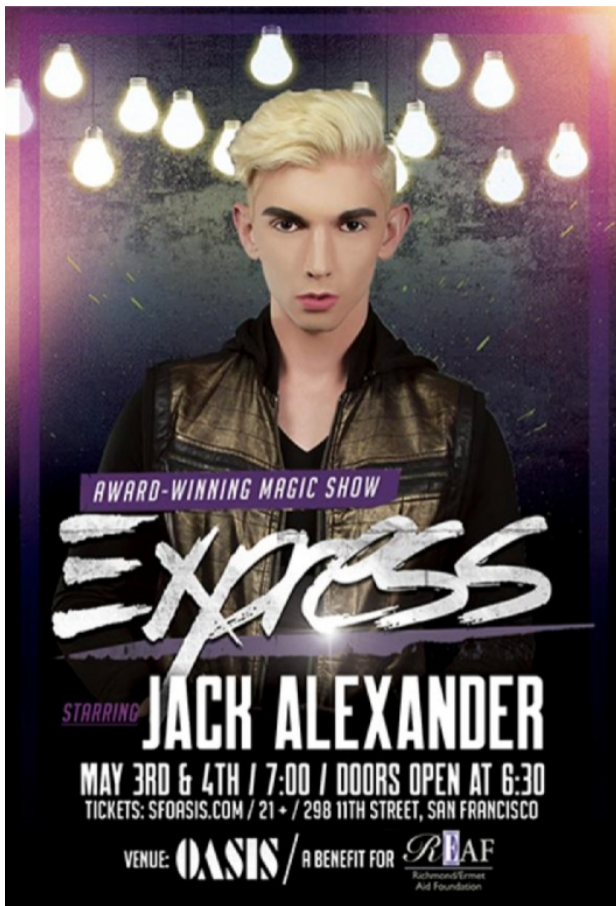
Grab your mates for a smashing evening of memorable music, cheeky humor, and the posh stylings of 300 queens (minus Elizabeth).

Special guests from the African-American Shakespeare Company join in the fun with their twist on a rousing scene from the classic comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

To purchase tickets, please click [here](#).

Davies Music Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

Jack Alexander Magic Show *Express* Friday, May 3rd and Saturday, May 4th at 7:00 p.m.



Join MAX SF Community Partner Richmond/Ermet Aid Foundation (REAF) for a benefit show featuring award-winning and hottest upcoming magician, Jack Alexander. From the Las Vegas Strip and performances across the country, Jack Alexander is thrilled to be bringing his edgy brand of large-scale original illusions to the Bay Area.

Known for his charming personality and innovative shows, Jack brings humor and interaction with his audiences that make his performances entertaining and riveting from beginning to end.

With the large-scale original illusions, cast of four dancers, and Jack's charming personality, *Express* is a performance you will not want to miss!

Learn more about Jack Alexander and his show *Express* by clicking [here](#).

This show benefits REAF, a non-profit organization providing aid for HIV services, hunger programs, and support for homeless and disenfranchised youth.

General Admission: \$25; VIP Table Seating: \$45

To purchase tickets, please visit the OASIS May calendar by clicking [here](#).

Oasis

298 Eleventh St., San Francisco

MAX STORIES

From the MAX Hill Gazette: Sake Tasting

MAX's version of the Nob Hill Gazette



By Joel Barish
MAX Society Editor

They were dripping in jewels and furs as they exited their chauffeured limousines, to attend the highlight of this year's social calendar. Indeed, the A Plus members of the San Francisco social hierarchy were there (the "A" list was excluded from this hoity-toity event.) The fete actually sold out within 48 hours of being announced.

As they were escorted by their butlers and maids into the haut-cultured and magnificently located Joel Barish loft (of course, in the best neighborhood), their eyes were popping out at the interior design; one of the only Bay Area properties designed by the great Mr. Stephen of Telegraph Hill. He attended as well, having just returned from cruising (no ship involved). And Joel was attired in a new design, tres chic, by the number one haut French couturier, Pepe Le Pew, of Paris.



The sake tasting party was hosted by Mr. Jerry Tusan, who brought only the very best from Japan. He gave wonderful explanations to this sophisticated group of wine connoisseurs about each sake that they tasted.

There was more to drink than even this thirsty group could consume.



Between tastes, this erudite group of gourmands sampled various authentic Japanese treats, such as difuku, manju, and other mochi-covered morsels. As they luxuriated in opulence, there were plenty of savory snacks from Japan to eat. And during those intervals, the group heard much about Japanese art. Nothing was spared to be sure that this group of San Francisco's finest epicures would have a good time and be able to impress their "friends" by their attendance. Indeed, gossip is the lubricant of high society.

In attendance, having just returned from his homes in Ibiza, Monte Carlo, Brunei and Strawberry Mansion, was Richard of Banque Lambert de Paris. He was wearing his famous and revered unique Patek Philippe montre, and some designer latex, just in case.

Everyone had a wonderful time and were so glad to be members of the A Plus list. There were rumors of a white wine party in the fall and all present were excited about that possibility. Joel provided a driver for their return to their homes, who was seated in the front car of the N train.

MAX Indian Part III: Agra and the Taj Mahal



After spending 3 days in Delhi, our MAX travel group headed by train to Agra, home of the Taj Mahal.

The Delhi train station is everything you would imagine! People climbing onto trains, porters carrying bags up and down stairs, throngs of people, vendors fixing zippers on suitcases, holy men, and people with their hands out.

After a train ride of a few hours, we arrived at the Doubletree Agra. What a magnificent refuge! The hotel had a welcoming gin and tonic, captivating Rajasthani puppet show in the evening, and beautiful rooms overlooking Agra.

Agra is the home of the Taj Mahal. The Taj Mahal was built as a memorial from a ruler to his queen. There are no words to describe the powerful impression made when you first set eyes on it. All I could think was, "It is truly the most beautiful building in the world!" Naturally, we headed to the bench where Princess Diana had sat in order to recreate that iconic photo. (Luckily, our guide knew exactly which bench on which Princess Diana had been photographed.)

After leaving the Taj and making our way through a throng of people offering to sell us things, we headed for much sought cold Indian beers and spicy roast chicken at Pinch of Spice Restaurant--an absolutely highlight of our trip. The restaurant was clearly a hit as it was filled with locals and not tourists.

The photos in this [slideshow](#) will bring Agra to life for you. For most Westerners, the Taj Mahal is their highest "must see" item in India. Trust me, it will not let you down. It exceeded everything I had ever imagined and ranks with Machu Picchu as one of the 2 greatest sights I have ever seen.

We still have room on our MAX Trip to India from March 28 through April 13, 2019. Price: \$1,644 including air and hotels. Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, Neemrana, and Udaipur. We will also meet India's 2 top gay rights leaders: Aman Nath and Prince Manvendra Singh. For information: phil@askphilwalker.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March Second Sunday Sunday, March 10th at 3:00 p.m.



Join us at Finn Town for our March **Second Sunday!** Enjoy conversation, cocktails, and snacks thanks to the wonderful team at one of our favorite Castro hotspots. MAX Board member Jerry Tusan will be hosting the event and we'll have our own private space at the back of the restaurant.

The fun starts at 3 pm (ending at 5 pm). There is no cover charge.

RSVP on Meetup [here](#) for a fun afternoon! Or if you prefer, RSVP on our [website](#).

You'll no doubt walk away with a new friend or two!

Wooftop Wednesdays with Nick Wade: Charmaine's Wednesday, March 13th at 5:30 p.m.



**New Monthly Event: Wooftop Wednesdays with Nick Wade
Launches with March 13th visit to Charmaine's**

MAX Board member Nick Wade is hosting a new monthly event series we're calling "Wooftop Wednesdays with Nick Wade". On the second Wednesday of each month, join Nick in exploring the rooftop bars of San Francisco! Nick will choose a different rooftop lounge each month.

This new monthly event kicks off with a visit to [Charmaine's](#) at the top of Proper Hotel. When elevator doors open 120 feet above Market Street, you've entered the rooftop bar and lounge San Francisco has been waiting for. Here, the energetic chic of a European terrace meets the laidback vibes of "California cool." In addition to bar snacks, cocktails by BVHospitality (Bon Vivants, Trick Dog) feature the vibrant flavors, original combinations, and unique bitters and syrups for which the duo is known.

There is no admission fee and a no-host bar.

Stop by between 5:30-8:00pm and have a drink with Nick and other members of the MAX community and enjoy an amazing view of the city.

Please RSVP on Meetup [here](#) to let Nick know you'll be joining him. If you prefer, register on the MAX website [here](#).

Charmaine's (at San Francisco Proper Hotel)
1100 Market Street. San Francisco
Valet parking available at McAllister Street entrance

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-- Paul Munro, Programs and Events Chair, MAX SF

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