

HAPPY NEW QUEERS!

Well, well, well. Look who made it to 2025 more or less intact.

The Christmas trees have gone up. The menorahs have been lit. The new year has been rung in. The auld langs have been syne'd. And we're hoping that you've enjoyed a festive season and are coming into the new year feeling rested, relaxed, and ready to get back to having a good time at our events.

As traditional, we've got the usual line up for January and February, laid out on page 2. We're still working to get some of the other newsletter features back online so keep an eye out on those spaces.

Not to be the Debbie downer, but <u>Covid is a-surging again</u>, alongside some other pesky little critters. To make sure you're up to date on your shots, we've got a list of resources you can check out:

- Mpox is still surging. You can find information on Page 5.
- There's an <u>updated Covid vaccine</u> that has just rolled out. You can also <u>order up to four free home tests</u> to keep around as well.
- Chicago is still running its Doxy-Prep program, which you can find more about here.

To get more info or just to chat and flirt with some particularly sexy men, find us on Discord to connect with other members and get updates on group events. Download the Discord app or go to discord.com and use this link to join the BNC group.



Looking forward to seeing all of you gentlemen in 2025. Gonna be a good year.

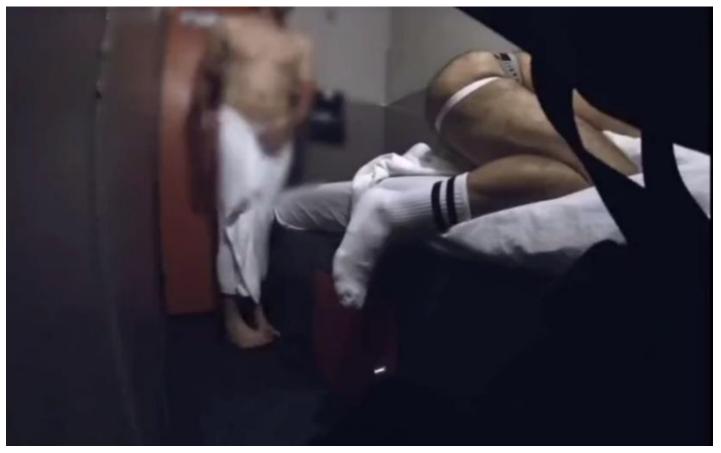
UPCOMING BNC EVENTS

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DAY	DATE	DOOR CHECK-IN	EVENT	LOCATION
SUN	JAN 5	3:00-4:00pm	Sunday Afternoon Play	Touché
\$15 Members, \$20 Guests, includes 2 wine, well liquor or domestic beer drink tickets + pizza				
DAY	DATE	DOOR CHECK-IN	EVENT	LOCATION
FRI	JAN 10	6:00-9:00PM	BEAR HUMP	Steamworks
REGULAR ADMISSION — LOOK OUT FOR BNC DISCOUNT COUPON EMAILED SEPERATELY				
DAY	DATE	DOOR CHECK-IN	EVENT	LOCATION
SAT	JAN 18	6:00 - 7:00	Saturday Night Party	Touché
\$15 Members, \$20 Guests, includes 2 wine, well liquor or domestic beer drink tickets + pizza				
DAY	DATE	DOOR CHECK-IN	EVENT	LOCATION
WED	JAN 22	7:30 – 8:30PM	Wednesday Evening Party	Touché
\$15 Members, \$20 Guests, includes 2 wine, well liquor or domestic beer drink tickets + pizza				
DAY	DATE	DOOR CHECK-IN	EVENT	LOCATION
SAT	JAN 25	1:00-6:00PM	BEARS, THE BATHS & BEYOND	Steamworks
REGULAR ADMISSION – LOOK OUT FOR BNC DISCOUNT COUPON EMAILED SEPERATELY				
DAY	DATE	DOOR CHECK-IN	EVENT	LOCATION
SUN	FEB 2	3:00-4:00pm	Sunday Afternoon Play	Touché
\$15 Members, \$20 Guests, includes 2 wine, well liquor or domestic beer drink tickets + pizza				
DAY	DATE	DOOR CHECK-IN	EVENT	LOCATION
FRI	FEB 14	6:00-9:00PM	BEAR HUMP	Steamworks
REGULAR ADMISSION – LOOK OUT FOR BNC DISCOUNT COUPON EMAILED SEPERATELY				
DAY	DATE	DOOR CHECK-IN	EVENT	LOCATION
SAT	FEB 15	6:00 – 7:00	Saturday Night Party	Touché
\$15 Members, \$20 Guests, includes 2 wine, well liquor or domestic beer drink tickets + pizza				
DAY	DATE	DOOR CHECK-IN	EVENT	LOCATION
SAT	FEB 22	1:00-6:00PM	BEARS, THE BATHS & BEYOND	
REGULAR ADMISSION — LOOK OUT FOR BNC DISCOUNT COUPON EMAILED SEPERATELY				
DAY	DATE	DOOR CHECK-IN	EVENT	LOCATION
WED	FEB 26	7:30 – 8:30PM	Wednesday Evening Party	Touché

Businesses may hold their own requirements for admission, including requiring proof of vaccination or mask wearing. Always check ahead before arriving to make sure you can get in.

\$15 Members, \$20 Guests, includes 2 wine, well liquor or domestic beer drink tickets + pizza

GET SWEATY WITH US AT STEAMWORKS



Steamworks is a private membership gym/sauna/bathhouse exclusively for men 18 years and older. Located at 3246 N. Halsted Street in Boystown, between Belmont and Aldine, Steamworks offers BNC members **discount coupons** to attend their "Bears, the Baths, and Beyond" events on the fourth Saturday of each month, along with "Bear Hump" on the second Wednesday of each month. Steamworks is open every day with all areas open, including the hot tub and steam room. **Read Steamworks' full list of rules for entry here**.

CAN WE SEE YOUR PICS?

Quit holding out on us! We want to see what you're working with. If you feel up to sharing with the rest of the group, <u>reach out to us here</u> and we'll get in touch. You can remain as anonymous as you like or you can bear it all. We want to see it either way.

www.bearnaked.club



SERVICE US – AND EARN BEAR BUCKS!

We currently are in need of the following:

- Someone willing to learn our procedures and serve as a backup for executing them
- Someone competent/knowledgeable with Word Press

VOLUNTEER WITH BNC EVENTS – AND EARN BEAR BUCKS!

BNC is always seeking volunteers for our events. Volunteers get free entry to the event worked and they can also earn "Bear Bucks" that can be redeemed to pay annual membership dues or event entry fees. Want to help out? Use the contact form at www.bearnaked.club and let us know how and when you would be able to volunteer

ABOUT BNC EVENTS

All **MEN** (age 21 and up) are welcome to attend our regularly scheduled events. Sponsorship is NOT required for guests to attend any BNC event, so don't be shy ... come on out! BNC parties are held at **Touché** (6412 N. Clark Street) next to Leather 64Ten in the Rogers Park neighborhood, just northwest of the Clark/Devon intersection. The bar is located on CTA bus routes 22, 36, 151, and 155, all of which stop at this intersection. Admission to BNC parties includes pizza and two drink tickets (cash bar after the two tickets are redeemed) in addition to all the fun you can handle!

ALL THINGS MPOX

Chicago clinics are using the JYNNEOSTM vaccine, which is licensed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to prevent smallpox and monkeypox in adults who are at risk for infection of Mpox, formerly known as Monkeypox. **Any sexually active bisexual, gay, and other same-gender loving men or sexually active transgender individual is now eligible to get the vaccine in Illinois**. It is a two-dose vaccine given under the skin 28 days apart.

VACCINATION LOCATIONS

MPV VACCINE ELIGIBILITY UPDATE

THE MPV JYNNEOS VACCINE IS AVAILABLE TO ANYONE LIVING IN ILLINOIS WHO:

- Had skin-to-skin or intimate contact (e.g., household members with close physical contact or intimate partners) with someone diagnosed with MPV.
- Exchanges goods or services for sex.
- Lives with HIV, especially persons not in HIV care or not regularly taking their HIV medications.
- * Is eligible for or is currently taking PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) to help prevent infection with HIV.

UK:

Is a sexually active bisexual, gay and other same gender-loving men, or sexually active transgender individuals.

OR:

 Sexual partners of those included above or individuals who anticipate meeting criteria above in the future.

Especially consider getting vaccinated if you:

- * Met recent partners online, or at clubs, raves, sex parties, saunas.
- ★ Were diagnosed with sexually transmitted infection(s) in past 6 months.



FOR MORE INFO, AND HOW YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF AFTER VACCINATION, VISIT **CHICAGO.GOV/MPV**

The **Center on Halstead** is hosting vaccine clinics at various times and days at two clinic locations for those who want services:

Southside Chicago/Woodlawn Community Center on Cottage Grove ● 6323 S. Cottage Grove

Northside Chicago Center on Halsted • 3656 N. Halsted

<u>Check here</u> to see their up-to-date list and schedule an appointment.

The Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) is offering vaccinations at their Lakeview, Austin, and Roseland clinics. Go here to schedule an appointment.

You can **schedule an appointment** for a Mpox vaccine at Howard Brown by calling 872-269-3600. <u>Go here for more information about appointments and treatment through Howard Brown</u>.

Want to get a copy of your Mpox vaccination record? You can do it online. Here's how:

- 1. Go to https://idphportal.illinois.gov/s/
- 2. Create an account
- 3. View your vaccination records. Mpox shots will show up here as well as any other vaccinations you've gotten recently that are reported to the state.

www.bearnaked.club