Captain’s Report

I would first like to thank you all (i think) for electing me captain 38. As most of you may know, I was captain 14, 21 and 26.

I am excited about the coming year as I have thought about the possibility of being your captain again for a long time, so get ready for a great year of re-instituting our traditions and continuing our rise to the premier Mardi Gras Krewe in Baton Rouge. I will be in town on the 23rd of this month for a planning meeting and we will be set to start year 38. Lieutenants have been chosen, we have a theme and are well on the way to choosing venues for the coming year. We will have sketches for the costume ideas so I would like everyone to be patient as the ideas and who I have in mind for each will be presented at a later date.

CAPTAIN 38
NATHAN WRIGHT
CAPTAIN 14, 21 AND 26 AND KING APOLLO 18

Dues! Dues! Dues!

It’s a new year with a new board! Get a jump start on your dues by paying online or through our treasurer, Tyson!

Plans are being made!

Stay in the know! Be on the look out for meeting updates and our monthly newsletter. If you’re not receiving the newsletter, make sure to sign up on the website!

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WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE?

This month we celebrate Valentine’s Day, or as some say – “Singles Awareness Day”! No matter your relationship status, you already have a Valentine to celebrate, our wonderful brotherhood. If you love the Mystic Krewe of Apollo Baton Rouge as I do, then you can relate to what I am saying. This Krewe has been a love of mine long before I even moved to Baton Rouge and joined. Sure, for 37 years we have done a tremendous and outrageous job at staging some of the most memorable tableaus that guests would recall as the “Best of the Best! Though our work with the Krewe of Apollo AIDS/Crisis Fund and the loving support of the community we have been able to help countless people and their families during some of their darkest and trying days. All of these are all superb reasons to fall in love with an organization and join it, but still not my reason. I knew immediately that I wanted to be a part of this family because of the love and respect I saw firsthand with the brothers and how every brother welcomed me as if I had grown up with them since Pre-K. I know that our family is no different than a “normal” family and sometime we will not always see eye to eye, but at the end of the day we are all brother and connected for life because of the love we all share for Apollo. It is my hopes that this next year we can continue to show this love to one another and have others witness it firsthand. I encourage each of you to invite some of your friends, neighbors, co-workers to attend one of our meetings and join us. Reach out and connect with some of our brothers that are no longer active and tell them that you miss them and would love to have them rejoin us and become our Valentine!

With gratitude, I am
Sincerely yours,

Jonathan A. Rushing
President, Mystic Krewe of Apollo Baton Rouge

Help the Mystic Krewe of Apollo AIDS/Crisis Fund every time you shop! Visit the Apollo Baton rouge website and click the image

Have you linked your Amazon account to the Krewe?
Treasurer’s Report

Dear Brother,

It’s my pleasure to introduce you to Apollo’s new electronic invoicing system. By this time, you should have received an email containing an invoice for your membership to the Krewe for the coming year. To streamline the Krewe’s finances and to save time and postage, we will begin accepting all payments through Intuit’s Quickbooks invoicing service.

I’ve sent invoices out VERY early this year, so that you’ll have some time to review your invoice and plan your payments well in advance (the first of which is due before the first Krewe meeting sometime in March. This is why I’ve set the Invoices as “due on April 1st, 2018”). Once you’re ready to make your first payment, please refer to the email (or monthly reminder emails) you’ve already received. I strongly encourage you to use the ACH (or payment by checking account) option that is offered in the email as it saves the Krewe processing fees that are associated with credit card transactions. If you have a checking account, this literally takes moments to complete a payment! You do not have to pay the entire balance! Just enter the amount you’d like to pay toward your dues at that particular time and the system will update you on the next invoice as to the remaining balance on your account. If you’re still inclined or need to pay by credit card, feel free to. Again, you may make partial or full payments, and remember: you can always make a check, or pay me in cash, as a last resort. I have learned that cash and check payments given to me in bars and at parties prove infinitely harder to track, so please limit these to Krewe meetings and the PO Box where I will be able to enter them immediately!

Later this month, at the first board meeting, I will issue a mailed letter to each member with this same information. Please note that unless you specifically request continued paper invoices, this will be the only paper correspondence you receive from me this year. I’m truly sorry if this is an inconvenience to you and will be happy to continue mailing you invoices; however, since I assumed this role it has become painfully apparent that I MUST streamline the management of invoicing and receiving payments for the Krewe so that this task becomes bearable on a volunteer basis for treasurers of the future.

According to Section II - Membership, Part - F of The Mystic Krewe of Apollo Baton Rouge’s Articles of Incorporation,

“Returning members may renew their membership for the new fiscal year by paying one third (1/3) of the annual dues by the first Krewe meeting, the second installment is due by July 1, and the balance due on or before October 1. If a member’s first installment is not received before the second installment becomes due, his place will be declared vacant and will be filled with a new member.”

Please feel free to email, call or text me at anytime with questions as we make this transition to digital billing and I will be happy to help in any way possible to make this painless for you. If you have not received any emails from me or the Krewe’s Quickbooks billing application, then I must have an incorrect or outdated email address for you and will need to get it updated. Happy Mardi Gras!

Sincerely,

Tyson O’Brien
Treasurer
Mobile: (806)236-1696
Email: treasurer@apollobatonrouge.com