



# ARMEINIUS NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION HANDBOOK



## Purpose

Armeinius was founded in 1969 to present a gay Mardi Gras Ball to invited guests. Armeinius' court consists of king, queen, past king and queen, ball captain, ball lieutenant and maids (krewe members in good standing). Responsibility for the presentation of the ball belongs to the captain. Armeinius' ball is held on the Saturday night before Mardi Gras. Membership in Armeinius is open to gay males who are eighteen years of age or older. The active membership is limited to fifty members.

## Dues

Members are required to pay \$360.00 in dues annually. Armeinius' fiscal year begins at the first meeting after the ball. At the first meeting, members are asked to submit their first payment of \$60.00. After that, individuals may pay \$30.00 per month through the January meeting at which time dues must be fully paid. Alternately, dues may be divided into any amount as long as a minimum monthly payment of \$30.00 is received. In order to remain a member in good standing, one must make the minimum monthly payments. New members should submit their first payment of \$60.00 with their application.



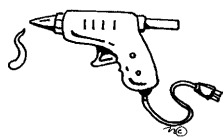
## Costumes

Armeinius is fortunate to have talented individuals with the various skill necessary to construct ball costumes. Because the krewe makes costumes in its den these skills are exchanged among members. Den nights are scheduled 5-8 some weekdays and on Sunday. Members with expertise in wirework, appliqué work, trimming, etc, are available to assist new members with the construction of their costume. Each member is responsible for the construction of his costume. To facilitate this the krewe provides basic supplies: glue, wire, solder, tape, structures, pre-used plumes, single slung sequins, electricity, studio space, and a sundry of various tools. All additional trims, plumes and fabrics needed to complete the costume are at the sole expense of the member. Krewe members are expected to assist the captain and the ball lieutenant with the loading and transportation of their costume to the ball.



## Den

The Armeinius Den is located at 435 S. Broad Street at the intersection of S. Broad and St. Louis Streets. The entrance is on St. Louis Street, the red door. Located on the second floor, the air-conditioned clubhouse allows members studio space for the construction of their costume. Storage, bathroom facilities and lighted on-street parking are available. Each member is equally responsible for keeping the workspace at the den clean, maintained and orderly. The krewe holds den nights at the discretion of the captain. Keyed access is available to members. Guests to the den need to be cleared with the Captain.



## Business Meetings

Business meetings are held on the first Sunday of the month. Meetings are usually held at the den or hosted at the home of a krewe member. Meetings are presided over by the president and are governed by the Armeinius' by-laws and Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised. If the president is not present, the captain will preside. A

business meeting may only be held if a quorum, one third (1/3) of the membership, is present. Meetings consist of a discussion relative to the business of the krewe.

## Officers

Officers are nominated and elected at the first meeting of the fiscal year. Officer's duties vary according to their office. The president oversees the day-to-day operation of the krewe and runs the business meeting. The captain is responsible for all things concerning the ball. The treasurer is responsible for the financial matters that relate to Armeinius. His duties include the collection of dues, collection of unused tickets, and the collection of monies from function. The secretary is responsible for a monthly newsletter and all club correspondence. It is the duty of the ball lieutenant to assist the captain with the ball. Function lieutenants (spring and fall) are responsible to see that tickets for the functions are printed, confirm that volunteers are available to assist at functions, and for setting up and tare-down of the function space. It is the duty of the historian, in conjunction with the secretarial documentation, to compile an accurate and objective yearly history of the krewe. The building committee is responsible for the physical maintenance of the den and tenant related issues.



## Club Functions

Armeinius holds several fundraising functions during the course of a year. The krewe relies on her membership to raise the funds necessary to pay the ball expenses. To accomplish this, tickets to functions are distributed among the membership for selling. It is not Armeinius' tradition, as it is in other gay Mardi Gras krewes, to assess member for tickets. Functions are coordinated and organized by the function lieutenant. Members are asked to volunteer at these functions. Volunteer positions include selling raffle tickets to function attendees, bartending, stage performances and collecting tickets. Traditionally, Armeinius functions have included casino breakfasts, theater events, and special krewe shows. It is the responsibility of the krewe member to sell the maximum number of tickets as possible and return the monies collected and any unsold tickets to the designated krewe officer.



## Armeinius Ball

The captain will utilize the manpower of the membership to assist him in staging the ball. This includes, but is not limited to, transporting costumes to and from the ball and taking directions from the captain and from the ball lieutenant. Detailed information about the ball and moving costumes is issued by the captain in the form of a ball schedule. Each member will receive a detailed itinerary prior to the ball. Each member is responsible for the decorations and refreshments for his table. Armeinius provides members with table coverings and table number. A dress rehearsal is held the morning of the ball. On the evening of the ball members are usually allowed to have one (1) person not associated with the krewe to assist them. This however is at the discretion of the captain.

