



Billy Lane
Leather Archives & Museum
6418 N Greenview Ave
Chicago, IL 60626

Dear Billy,

On behalf of Arizona Men of Leather (AML), and everyone involved in all the events surrounding the Mr. Anvil Phoenix 2026 Title Contest held during the weekend of April 9 – 12, 2026 in Phoenix, Arizona, I want to thank you again for taking the time to come visit us and be a central pivot point for our community. You graciously served as honoree for the An Evening With Billy Lane dinner, allowing many of our community members a chance to catch up with you or to meet for the first time, providing wisdom, assurance and guidance especially for our younger community members. The weekend kept you busy and involved! Thank you for your central role on Saturday with judging our contestants and playing a crucial part in determining who would be awarded the title. I'm thrilled that two of our other long-enduring Leather clubs—Arizona Leather Bears and Cubs (ALBAC) and Arizona Women of Leather (AWOL) were able to present you their club patches for the Museum's permanent collection, along with our outgoing Mr. Anvil Phoenix 2025 Ben Calderon's first copy of his Arizona State Leather Pride flag. I'm fairly certain that Colorado's State Leather Pride flag is the first such, with Arizona's the second. My hope is that the design and inspiration takes off with other groups in the other states one day creating their own homage to Tony DeBlase's iconic representational design. I'm most thrilled that your involvement in the contest led to the selection of Bloo (Wayne Kuwanhyoima II) as our new standard bearer as Mr. Anvil Phoenix 2026. I can't wait to see what he accomplishes over the year and beyond. I'm also glad we all could spend some last time all together on Sunday over at Nu Towne Saloon, Phoenix's longest continuously running gay bar. But Nick, myself and all the men of AML are most proud of the donation we were able to present you for the Leather Archives & Museum!

We thought it would be fun to share a glimpse with you of all the work that went into gathering up those three thousand, five hundred dollars! Here is a break down of the events we held beginning in January of this year:



The \$1000 Cash Raffle – raffle ticket sales by Event

Mar 6 — Nu Towne Cigar Night: \$85
Mar 13 — Anvil Kilt Contest: \$84
Mar 14 — Bunkhouse Underwear Auction: \$53
Mar 14 — Anvil Leather St. Patrick's: \$190
Mar 21 — Nu Towne Chili Cook-Off: \$49
Mar 22 — Tailgate Party: \$273
Mar 24 — Anvil Ticket Sales: \$95
Apr 4 — AWOL Drag Bingo: \$66
Apr 9 — Nu Towne Ticket Sales: \$83
Apr 9 — Billy Lane Dinner / Bondage Karaoke: \$339
Apr 10 — Judges Reception at Anvil: \$267
Apr 11 — Mr. Anvil Contest: \$395

Total Cash Raffle Sales: \$1,979
Less Prizes: (\$1,000)
Net Cash Raffle Proceeds: \$979

Additional Fundraising Events – weekend of April 9 – 12, 2026

Basket Raffle (Contest Night): \$394
Cigars (Contest Night): \$90
Billy Lane Dinner (30 tickets @ \$25): \$750
VIP Seating (21 seats @ \$25): \$525
Nu Towne 50/50 (Titleholders Brunch): \$62
Donations: \$147

In Partnership with Imperial Court of Arizona Event – January 30, 2026

Drag/Leather Spelling Bee (Jan 30): \$553

Total Funds Raised: \$3,500



These events showcase the wide support of the Leather Archives and Museum from a broad spectrum of individuals here in the Phoenix area. From our contest committee who designed and implemented these events, to our club brothers and community partners who volunteered to setup and staff them, to the Leather Folks and other who purchased tickets to the dinner and VIP seating knowing their \$25 was a direct contribution to the Museum and the Archive's mission and all the wonderful people who came to partake in the spectacle of the contest and parking lot party.

I would say I hope you had a great time, but I know firsthand that you did! Instead let me say that my hope is that all the camaraderie and goodwill engendered this weekend compounds in the weeks and months and years ahead, building new and lasting relationships, curiosity and intrigue in others to come experience our community and solid, strong Leather footprints here and everywhere our kind inhabit.

Nick, myself, Ben and everyone heading out to IML so look forward to seeing you again this May.

With Love and Respect,

Mike Sanchez
President
Arizona Men of Leather