



## THE HOST: NATHAN ABBOTT

Thirty-five-year-old Nathan Abbott is the total package: He's smart, funny and the guy knows how to throw a party. His parties are so good, he actually figured out how to make a living hosting them. After getting laid off when the dot com bubble burst, he launched the Wednesday Night Drinking Club, a networking group that gets its members together monthly at bars across town. (He calls WNDC "a shadowy, multi-national organization dedicated to providing quality drinking occasions at a reasonable price.") Regardless, WNDC now has more than 15,000 members—between 800 and 1,000 generally show each month, and his larger parties attract thousands. So at any given time Abbott's brewing up some sort of event (a Halloween festival this month and an SEC Championship party in December), and now he's expanding WDNC's reach to Nashville, Charlotte and Tampa. And even though he parties for his job, he prefers chilling with friends. "I'm fast becoming a fan of cookouts, given that my liver takes a beating so I can earn a living!" —Sarah Gleim



NATHAN ABBOTT: OUTSIDE CELEBRATION GALLERY



## AMAZING GRACELAND

ABBOTT DABBLES A BIT AT PLAYING THE PIANO AND GUITAR, SO IT'S NO SURPRISE HE'S A FAN OF LIVE MUSIC. BUT THE AVANT-GARDE LINEUPS AT THE STAR BAR (437 MORELAND AVE., 404.681.9018), THE LATE-NIGHT MAINSTAY IN LITTLE FIVE POINTS, AREN'T THE ONLY THINGS THAT KEEP HIM GOING BACK. "THEY HAVE AN ELVIS SHRINE," HE SAYS. "THAT'S ALL YOU REALLY NEED."

## GET ABBOTT'S GAME ON

Most nights Abbott's chained to his laptop, but on the occasional 2 a.m. outing, he heads to Bazaar (654 Peachtree St., 404.885.7505) because owner Bill Kaelin is a "rock star. He's gay but every girl in the city has a crush on him," Abbott says. "That makes the odds at Bazaar pretty good for a single straight guy with minimal game."

*Abbott feels at home in the "dirty, dilapidated, smoky dive" better known as Northside Tavern (1058 Howell Mill Road, 404.874.8745), where he loves to "go see Mudcat lay down some greasy blues. They'll own your soul by midnight." But he's equally happy with cocktails at more refined establishments, like Park 75 at the Four Seasons (75 14th St., 404.881.9898).*

## FAT EQUALS FLAVOR

*So where exactly does Abbott, who admits he's on "a strict liquid diet of Guinness and Anheuser-Busch products," go when he's hungry for solid food? Bones (3130 Piedmont Road, 404.237.2663) in Buckhead—for the beef, of course. "Old age isn't worth it if you have to eat bean sprouts and tofu to get there."*



## MUY LOCO!

Abbott admits he's not much of a nightclub guy. "Dancing isn't a good look for me," he says, "and the DJ's bass is always the exact same frequency as my voice, so it looks like I'm just moving my lips but not talking." But even that doesn't keep him from one of his faves, Loca Luna (836 Juniper St., 404.875.4494), where the salsa dancing and funky décor is legendary. "It looks like they hired Vincent Van Gogh, Fidel Castro and Abby Hoffman for their interior design," he says. "And if the devil made tapas, they would taste like Loca Luna's."