

The Surfer

June 2019



VISITING COMMITTEE

• Jim Hance

Good Times & Bad Times

It really is a privilege to be on the visiting committee. I get to see you at your worst! The reward is seeing you as you progress, get better, and become your old self again. The visiting committee was founded by Eddie Levy. He was very thoughtful to start it and get it on its feet. Eddie is somewhat of a snowbird, so Dennis Camara, Dominic Bisignano and I now visit the members who are ill. Larry Leach has also volunteered and assists, as needed.

It is kind of interesting, for when we go to visit people, some of them we know, and some we don't know. It is a large diverse group. And honestly, we never know what to expect. We tell them we are from Prime Gentlemen, and introduce ourselves. That seems to put them at ease. We sometimes stay half an hour, and other times we stay

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CALENDAR

Join in on the fun and camaraderie!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

• Henry Penas

This is "the rest of the story" of the recent Board of Director's election

The terms of the current board members will end June 30. That leaves 9 vacancies on the board. We sent an email announcing that members who wished to run for the board should submit their names to the Nominating Committee Chairs – John Gillespie or Bill Sandrik.

By the time the March board meeting rolled around, only the nine current board members had thrown their names into the ring. The board proposed an amendment to affirm the election since there were nine candidates for the nine positions.

By voice vote at the May Membership Meeting the amendment was passed unanimously. The Bylaws have been updates and you can download them from our webpage ftlpimegentlemen.org.

(see **PRESIDENT**, page 3)

PRIME GENTLEMEN



A social club of mature men and those who enjoy their company

To join, go to: FtLPrimeGentlemen.org
and click on: Membership

The Surfer

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TREASURER EMERITUS
Mike Trask

(**ACTIVITIES** from page 1)

longer. It depends on how the person is, and their own needs. Obviously, no one enjoys being ill. We stay positive and reassure people, and wish them a speedy recovery.

Members have mentioned to me they believe that the visits from the committee really help the person in their desire to get better. I hope so. It is especially beneficial for those members that are single or experiencing any type of loss or grief. It lets you all know, that Prime Gentlemen is a caring club.

We really are!

If you would like to take part in the visiting committee, call Dennis Camara at (954) 681-9593, he coordinates the visits, and can always use additional volunteers.



(**PRESIDENT** from page 1)

The new two-year term for those nine elected members will begin on July 1, 2019 and run through June 30 of 2021.

I would like to stress what it means that all nine current board members wanted to remain on the board. Most organizations like ours have a hard time finding members who want to serve on the board. Being a board member involves a big commitment of time and energy. The only reward is the satisfaction one gets from playing an active role in making sure our organization meets the needs of our members.

I think we have done that in the past and are all willing to do so for the next two years.

The “new” BOD: Buddy Berardi, Jim Flora, Ron Grassullo, Eddie Green, Carl Hill, Richard Lefebvre, Henry Penas, Stew Pepper and Lou Wangberg.



How To Avoid Pitfalls

Our speaker at the May membership meeting was Lyle Davis. He spoke about “Avoiding the Pitfalls of Men who Prey on Older Gay Men.” As he promised, he sent us “three of the best and most pertinent resources I have found so far.” They are:

1. An excellent self-help guide from the *National Resource Center on LGBT Aging*, about “Preventing, Recognizing and Addressing [LGBT] Elder Abuse,” including financial or material exploitation:

https://www.lgbtagingcenter.org/resources/pdfs/SELF-HELP_elderAbuse_Guide.pdf

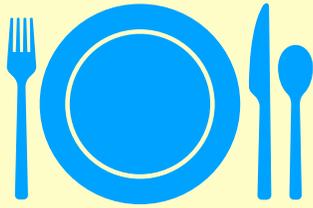
2. A brief guide also from from the *National Resource Center on LGBT Aging*, with tips on how to avoid the “Sweetheart Scam” targeting LGBT elders:

<https://www.lgbtagingcenter.org/resources/resource.cfm?r=784>

3. The *National Center for Elder Abuse* Research Brief on “Mistreatment of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Elders:”

<https://ncea.acl.gov/NCEA/media/Publication/Mistreatment-of-Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-and-Transgender-LGBT-Elders-2013.pdf>





FOOD & DRINK



GENERAL MEETING

June 2, 2:00 pm

Pride Center, 2040 N. Dixie Highway, 33305

Pot Luck Meal served after the meeting program.

Please bring a dish to share!

DINER LUNCH

June 13, 1:00 pm

Metro Diner, 5714 North University Dr., Tamarac, FL 33321

Since their humble beginnings in 1938 and revival in 1992, it has been the favorite place for breakfast for nearly 25 years.

See full description on page 6.

To reserve a place, please text, call or email Doug Kent at dutchwood@att.net or (305) 495-2978. You'll pay your server.

MONTHLY DINNER

June 20, 6:00 pm,

16th Anniversary Dinner

Tropical Acres, 2500 Griffin Rd., Ft. Lauderdale 33312

See page 9 for details and reservation form. Send it with payment.

UPSCALE LUNCH

June 27, 1:00 pm

Bahama Breeze, 3339 N Federal Hwy., Ft. Lauderdale 33306

To reserve a place, please text, call or email Ric Lenzi, at (754) 303-7600 or richard.Lenzi@gmail.com. Pay your server in cash.

MIXERS

Every Monday, 5:30 pm

Matty's Bar, & Grill, 2100 Wilton Dr, 33305

Drinks followed by free hot food

No reservations; just pay for your drink(s).

INFORMAL DINNERS

Every Monday, 7:00 pm

06/03 - Miller's Ale House, 2861 North Federal Hwy., 33306

06/10 - Chuck's Steak House, 2824 E. Commercial Blvd., 33308

06/17 - Tee Jay Thai Sushi, 2254 Wilton Drive, 33305

06/24 - California Pizza Kitchen, 2301 N. Federal Hwy., 33305

No reservation needed. Just show up, eat and pay!



GENTLEMAN OF THE MONTH

• Ken South, interviewer

On May 23, 1945, the Allies arrested Admiral Karl Donitz, formally dissolving Nazi Germany, and in Trenton, NJ, our Prime Gentleman of the month was born the "baby" of the family, joining two older brothers and a sister.

Mr. June's family soon moved across the Delaware River to Morrisville, PA, where he attended Catholic grade school thru high school. He remembers well his years on the high school gymnastics team, especially when his team went to Annapolis, Maryland to compete against the Naval Academy plebes.

In 1963, immediately following high school graduation, Mr. June enlisted in the US Navy and served for the next four years, mostly in Southeast Asia. His ship patrolled along the coastline of Vietnam. He was based in places like Subic Bay, Philippines, and Hong Kong. There are many stories of Mr. June and his young American shipmates hitting the bars after forty days at sea! Just recently he was delighted to be contacted by one of those buddies from 56 years ago!

Returning to the States, Mr. June searched about for meaningful employment. He worked for the Ritter Finance Company as a successful collections agent, until the time he was greeted by a shotgun when trying to collect on a loan! He also sold car tires in

Newburgh, NY at a BF Goodrich store for three years. Then he engaged in buying and selling used heavy construction equipment, traveling all around New England.

He landed in Boston, at what he describes



as a low point in his life, when he resorted to driving a cab. It was during this time that he came to grips with problems of alcohol in his life: he sought

professional help as well as the fellowship of AA. He was hired as a salesman for an imprint company (commercial logos on all kinds of promotional gifts, like pens etc). One of his best customers was the Roxbury Bank.

The CEO of the bank really liked Mr. June and at first, gave him a part time janitorial job. Using what Mr. June calls a "fake it till you make it" approach, he was later named a director at the same bank!

(see MAN, page 6)

(MAN, from previous page)

His ideas and enthusiasm added to the profits so much so, that for three years he was elected the banks' chairman.

In 2008 he moved to Ft. Lauderdale, attended a Jr. College and earned a personal training certificate. He was hired by Bally's Gym in Sunrise. He now trains personal trainers and teaches a Silver Sneakers class twice a week. In addition, he provides professional massage therapy treatments as well.

Mr. June's gay life got started in the early 70s while living in Boston. On a trip to Provincetown, he had his first encounter with another man. Over the next few years he lived with two different lovers, both of

whom turned out to be seriously problematic. While living in Quincy, MA, Mr. June met his current partner, (Mr. February, 2019) in 2000. They lived together there and made several trips to Ft. Lauderdale as snow birds until they moved here in 2008.

They found out about Prime Timers from a dear friend who also moved here from Boston.

Mr. June and his partner credit Prime Gentleman for the source of so many very cherished friends, you can say hello to them almost any Monday night at Matty's.

Have you guessed the identity of Mr. June? Find it out by turning to page 10!



DINER LUNCH AT METRO DINER

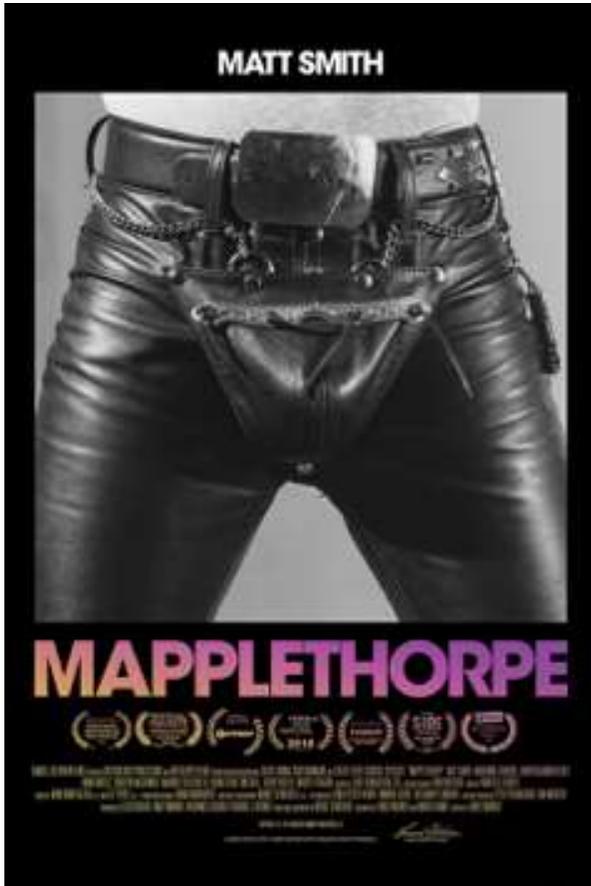
• Doug Kent

Since their humble beginnings in 1938 and revival in 1992, Metro Diner, 5714 North University Dr., Tamarac, FL 33321 has been the favorite place for breakfast for nearly 25 years. In 2000, master chef Mark Davoli and family took over and elevated the menu to include innovative new dishes created from local ingredients. Along with culinary creativity, the Davoli family brought more than 80 years of combined restaurant experience to Metro Diner. Known for warm, welcoming service, familiar faces and award-winning food, Metro Diner is a go-to eatery for locals, visitors and those just passing through town. Stop in for lunch with your Prime Gentleman friends on Thursday, June 13 for an outstanding Luncheon experience. Call or text Doug Kent at 305-495-2978 or e-mail him at dutchwood@att.net to join the crowd.



MONTHLY MOVIE

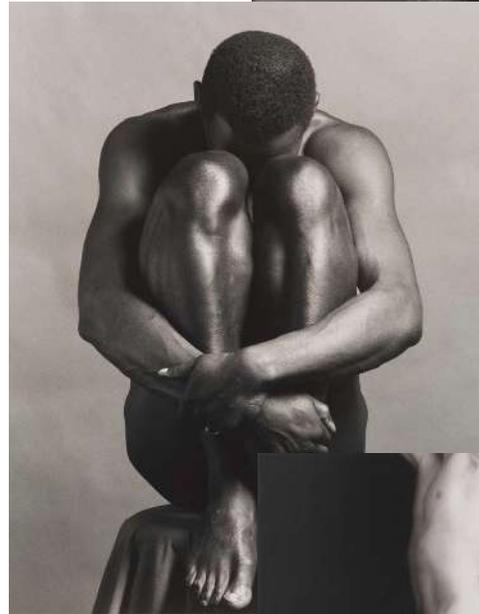
The SAGE/Prime Gentlemen movie for May is "MAPPLETHORPE!"



New York magazine said, "After the rousing but sanitized-for-PG-13 Freddie Mercury biopic *Bohemian Rhapsody*, get ready for a PG-13-at-heart portrait of the aggressively transgressive gay photographer Robert Mapplethorpe.... The plethora of large penises (both in the film and in Mapplethorpe's original photos, displayed in all their glory) puts it squarely in the no-one-under-17-admitted camp."

It will be shown at the Pride Center on Friday, May 17th at 1:30 P.M. Free popcorn and sodas will be served during the movie.

An optional lunch before the movie will be at *Galanga's Thai Restaurant*, 2389 Wilton Drive (corner of NE 9th Avenue) at Noon. It offers a 2 for 1 lunch menu with around 20 items priced between \$10 and \$13 (i.e., \$5-\$6.50 per person + beverage). 🌈



Obituary

Alvin "Al" Dana was born and raised in Avella, PA and attended Wittenberg University in Springfield, OH where he graduated with a degree in education and was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

He met his wife in college and after spending his military years processing recruits in Beckley, WV, they moved to Sarasota in 1960 and raised three successful sons. His working years were spent at the University of Florida at Gainesville and Lake City Community College. They divorced in 1981 and Al moved to Orlando, where he worked in the travel business, until relocating to Ft. Lauderdale in 2003.

He is survived by his ex-wife, two remaining sons, partner Anthony Koval, and many friends. Al was always smiling and friendly to everyone he met and will always be remembered for his jovial nature and pleasant disposition. He passed away from complications of Crohn's disease in Holy Cross Catholic hospice.

As per his wishes, no memorial service will be held, his body will be donated to medical research at University of Miami, and his ashes scattered at sea.



Alvin Herk Dana

9/30/1935 – 4/15/2019



Bob Blount

8/4/1948 – 4/21/2019

Bob was born in Providence, Rhode Island. He was a teacher for a brief time, and then pursued his true passion – farming - in Maine. It is there where he raised his children. He owned and ran a farm for many years that is still in the family.

Upon retiring from farming, Bob became an employee of a milk company called Dairy One. While at Dairy One his job was to visit farms and test their cows and milk. So, Bob had his cake and got to eat it too! Which he did a lot!

After retiring, Bob moved to Oakland Park, Florida. Bob became very involved in everything he could find, whether it was activities at the Pride Center, a grandparents group, Prime Gentlemen, volunteering at his church, singing in the Gay Men's Chorus, attending one of the many local theatre productions, or finding every free meal in town, and more. Bob joined our group in July 2014.

His wonderful uplifting, giving, positive and optimistic personality brightened the room wherever he went. Despite his illness, he never gave up on his zest for life. In addition to his many, loving friends, Bob is survived by one sister, three brothers, four daughters, sixteen grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Bob will be sorely missed by many. A Celebration of Life will be held at a time and date to be announced.

The family asks that if you wish to honor Bob's memory to please do so with a donation to either the Church of Christ in Fort Lauderdale, FL, uccftl.org, or the Pride Center Florida in Wilton Manors, FL, pridecenterflorida.org.

Our Prime Gentlemen "16th Anniversary Dinner"

Will be held at

Tropical Acres

2500 Griffin Rd, FTL 33312

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Cash Bar @ 6:00 PM - Dinner served at 7:00 PM

A Cash Bar will be conveniently available in the same room at regular prices

We have reserved a middle room for this dinner & you must use the front entrance only

**** Caesar Salad ****

1. Stuffed Breast of Chicken \$25 Member/\$33 Guest
2. Prime Rib \$30 Member/\$38 Guest
3. Norwegian Salmon Fillets \$30 Member/\$38 Guest
4. Fillet Mignon \$35 Member/\$43 Guest

Main courses will include fresh California vegetable Medley & Baked Potatoes

*** Desert Will be NY Style Cheese Cake / Cherries ***

Coffee, Hot & Iced Tea, (bottomless) Included

Member Name _____ Entrée _____

Member Name _____ Entrée _____

Guest Name _____ Entrée _____

Please complete the above information & send the bottom half with your payment for "Anniversary Dinner" to Fort Lauderdale Prime Gentlemen - P. O. Box #100666, Fort Lauderdale 33310 or go to our web page (ftlprimegentlemen.org) and click on the **Reservations Link** to pay with a credit card.

If you have to cancel, notify Richard Lefebvre (401-474-9242) no later than 5 PM the day before the event or you will not get a refund. All dinners will be served at the time listed above. Please try to **arrive at least 20 minutes** before dinner is scheduled to be served so the meal order can be placed properly.

Anniversary Dinner

Cut Off date for reservations is June 15

No Nursing Home for me

With the average cost for a nursing home care costing \$188.00 per day, there is a better way when we get old and too feeble. Make reservations at the Holiday Inn. For a combined long term stay discount and senior discount, it's \$59.23 per night. Breakfast is included, and some have happy hours in the afternoon. That leaves \$128.77 a day for lunch and dinner in any restaurant we want, or room service, laundry, gratuities and special TV movies.

- o Plus, they provide a spa, swimming pool, a workout room, a lounge and washer-dryer, etc.
- o Most have free toothpaste and razors, and all have free shampoo and soap.
- o \$5.00 worth of tips a day and you'll have the entire staff scrambling to help you. They treat you like a customer, not a patient.
- o There's a city bus stop out front, and seniors ride free. The handicap bus will also pick you up (if you fake a decent limp).
- o To meet other nice people, call a church bus on Sundays.
- o For a change of scenery, take the airport shuttle bus and eat at one of the nice restaurants there.
- o While you're at the airport, fly somewhere. Otherwise, the cash keeps building up.
- o It takes months to get into decent nursing homes. Holiday Inn will take your reservation today .
- o And you're not stuck in one place forever -- you can move from Inn to Inn, or even from city to city.
- o Want to see Hawaii ? They have a Holiday Inn there too.
- o TV broken? Light bulbs need changing? Need a mattress replaced? No problem. They fix everything, and apologize for the inconvenience.
- o The Inn has a night security person and daily room service. The maid checks to see if you are OK. If not, they'll call an ambulance . . . Or the undertaker.
- o If you fall and break a hip, Medicare will pay for the hip, and Holiday Inn will upgrade you to a suite for the rest of your life.

What more could one ask for?



**MR. JUNE
DAVID SINGEL**



JUNE 2019 CALENDAR

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| These Prime Gentlemen activities will not meet this month: Bocce, Collectors and History. They will start again in September. | | | | |  | 1 9:00 Tennis @ BP* |
| 2 Noon Cards @ PC* 2:00 General Meeting @PC* | 3 5:30 Mixer @ MT* 7:00 Informal Dinner, see p 4 | 4 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 11:30 Cards @ PC* | 5 11:00 Bowling @ ML* | 6 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 10:45 Bowling @ AL* 7:00 Walking @ SC* | 7 10:00 | 8 9:00 Tennis @ BP* |
| 9 Noon Cards @ PC* 12:30 Ballet @ PC* 5:00 "Slap and Tickle" @ Empire Stage | 10 2:30 Roundtable @ PC* 5:30 Mixer @ MT* 7:00 Informal Dinner, see p 4 | 11 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 11:30 Cards @ PC* | 12 11:00 Bowling @ ML* | 13 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 10:45 Bowling @ AL* 1:00 Diner Lunch, p4 7:00 Walking @ SC* | 14 10:00 2:00 | 15 9:00 Tennis @ BP* |
| 16 Noon Cards @ PC* | 17 5:30 Mixer @ MT* 7:00 Informal Dinner, see p 4 | 18 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 11:30 Cards @ PC* 4:00 Board Mtg @ PC* | 19 11:00 Bowling @ ML* | 20 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 10:45 Bowling @ AL* 5:00 Monthly Dinner, p 9 7:00 Walking @ SC* | 21 10:00 1:30 Movie @PC* p7 | 22 9:00 Tennis @ BP* |
| 23 Noon Cards @ PC* 12:30 Opera @ PC* | 24 2:30 Roundtable @ PC* 5:30 Mixer @ MT* 7:00 Informal Dinner, see p 4 | 25 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 11:30 Cards @ PC* | 26 11:00 Bowling @ ML* | 27 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 10:45 Bowling @ AL* 1:00 Upscale Lunch, p4 7:00 Walking @ SC* | 28 10:00 2:00 | 29 9:00 Tennis @ BP* |
| 30 10:00 Beach @HB* Noon Cards @ PC* | *LOCATIONS AL = AMF Margate, 2020 N. State Rd 7 33063 BP = Brummer Park, 3500 W Palm Aire Dr 33069 HB = Haulover Beach, 10800 Collins Ave 33154 ML = Manor Lanes, 1517 NE 26th St. 33305 | | | MT = Matty's, 2100 Wilton Dr 33305 PC = Pride Center, 2040 N. Dixie Hwy 33305 SC = Skolnick Center, 800 SW 36th Ave 33069 SL = Stonewall Lib, 1300 Sunrise Blvd 33311 | | |

Please send updates by the 10th of the month to: DHuitema@comcast.net

Here's What You May Have Missed...

If you did, see this month's activities on page 11 and go this month!!



**"New" Board of Directors
2019-2021**



June's birthday Prime Gentlemen



There was a great crowd at the showing of "Bohemian Rhapsody", our monthly movie, a joint venture between Prime Gentlemen and SAGE



Our May guest Speaker was Lyle Davis, who led a discussion on "Avoiding the Pitfalls of Men who Prey on Older Gay Men"

If you don't see your picture go to the galleries at ftlprimegentlemen.org

Birthdays, Anniversaries & New Members

Birthdays

Donald Harris 6/3
Andrew Young 6/4
Herbert Souza 6/4
Leroy Sathre 6/4
Richard Babik 6/5
Ronald Grassullo 6/5
John Pawlowski 6/6
David Ratcliffe 6/7
Edmund Witkowski 6/7
Normand Leclair 6/8
Dennis Camara 6/8
Don Squire 6/9
Dan Driscoll 6/10
Bernard Donohue 6/14
Thomas Cooke 6/14
Mike Trask 6/14
Allan Neff 6/15
Allen Bozek 6/16
Larry Rowe 6/19
John Buckle 6/20
Herbert Slomowitz 6/20
Richard Winter 6/21
Martin Haberland 6/21
Charles Bell 6/21
Henry Bernstein 6/22
Clinton Finn 6/22
Barry Moore 6/22
Alain Lecusay 6/23
Barry Thomas 6/23
Jerry Heaton 6/23
Glenn Carroll 6/24
Jerry Coffey 6/24
Robert Boutwell 6/25
William Niebles 6/25
Edward Schumacher 6/26
Edward Moskowitz 6/26
Tom Gifford 6/28
Jim Onessimo 6/29
William Tadros 6/30
Peter Gavigan 6/30
Ronald Goodale 6/30

New Members

Anthony Janik
John Laakso

Anniversaries

John Fredricksen & Ralph Tanzi 6/5/1979 40 years
Art Donley & Clint Finn 6/22/1996 23 years
Barry Bates & Mel Harkin 6/1/2004 15 years
Bear Kane & Walt Rogal 6/19/2006 13 years
Lee Sathre & Stanley Lou 6/1/2015 4 years
James Deemer & Ed Viana 6/17/2015 4 years

