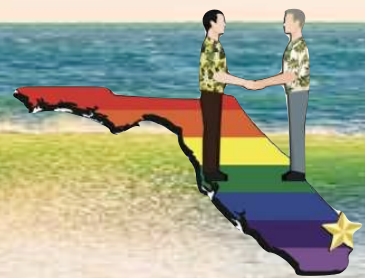


The Surfer

MARCH 2020



ACTIVITIES - OPERA & BALLET

- Tony Janik

About twenty years ago Dominic Bisignano started a group to enjoy videos of operas from around the world. Not just the popular favorites, but many less known operas as well. Operas from Baroque to Modern, and from high drama to laugh-out-loud comedy.

What was special, was that Dominic provided not just an explanation of the plots, but background information about the composer, performers, how the opera fit into history and fun trivia facts. All operas are shown with English subtitles so you can better understand the story as it unfolds.

While I attended one of his meetings I asked if he thought anyone might be interested in ballets. Without any

(see *ACTIVITIES*, page 3)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- Henry Penas

One of the agenda items at our monthly meeting is a guest speaker. One of the duties of the President is to find speakers. During my first term as president that task seemed daunting. Where would I find speakers??? I Googled speakers bureaus in the area. Nothing! Then to my surprise I started getting emails from all kinds of people who wanted to come to our meetings to speak to us. Who knew?

Those emails kept on coming and the task became easier. The only conditions were that they were limited to fifteen minutes with an additional five for questions and answers, and they were invited to not push a product or service.

Now and then there were dry periods

(see *PRESIDENT*, page 3)

4

FOOD & DRINK

When and where we'll be this month

5

GENTLEMAN OF MONTH

Get to know another great Prime Gentleman

7

MOVIE

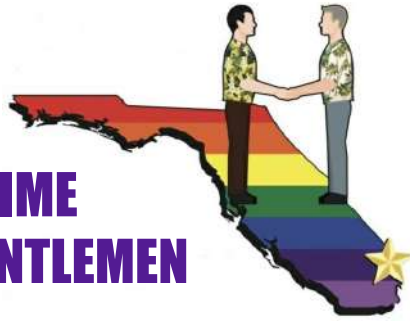
Mary Queen of Scots

11

CALENDAR

Join in on the fun and camaraderie!

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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Please submit all materials to the Editor by the 10th of the month before publication.

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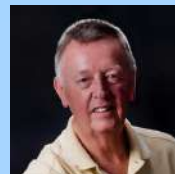
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TREASURER

EMERITUS

Mike Trask

(ACTIVITIES from page 1)

hesitation, he loved the idea and we worked out the details for scheduling meetings.

Following his example, I show ballets from all periods. Popular favorites like *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker* are mixed in with other 19th century classics as well as 20th and 21st century ballets.

Since ballet is telling stories without words, I explain the plots and how that is translated into movement. For example, how the balcony scene in *Romeo and Juliet* is transformed from those immortal words we know into a stunningly beautiful dance that is accompanied by some of the most beautiful music ever written.


The variety of opera and ballet is almost limitless and can range from tragic romance to make you fall-off-your-seat laughing. In opera it can be the drama of *Tosca* or the comic antics of Rossini's *Le Comte Ory (The Count Ory)*. In ballet, it can be the tragic finale of *Manon* or the high camp of *Les Ballets Trockadero*.

We watch and listen to video recordings of these wonderful works on the second floor of the Pride Center's Schubert Building. Naturally, we also enjoy each other's critiques and comments about them.

Both the Opera and Ballet groups are resuming after their recent hiatus.

On March 8, at 12:30, we will present John Cranko's ballet *Onegin*, based on Pushkin's *Eugene Onegin*, with music by Tchaikovsky and performed by the Stuttgart Ballet.

On March 22, at 12:30, the opera will be Lalo's exciting *Le Roi d'Ys (The King of Ys, a fictitious French city)*.

So come on. Take a chance. Join us! 

(PRESIDENT from page 1)


when no requests came our way. That's where we find ourselves now.

When the dry spells came I turned to our members. I was never disappointed. Consider the fact that we have all lived long and productive lives, and we have all seen stuff and know stuff!

Ed Witkowski, John Siegfried, Doug Kent, Gary Kempler and Lou Wangberg, among others, have been wonderful and fun speakers. In fact, Lou was the speaker at the February meeting. I wasn't there, but I'm sure he did a bang up job. He never disappoints.

Now comes the pitch. How would you like to be a speaker at one of our meetings? Is there some topic from your vast experience that you think our members would enjoy hearing about? Some of you might be thinking, "I know lots of interesting things, but I'm not crazy about public speaking". Let me put your mind at ease. You would be facing a crowd of people who are on your side. They are very receptive and kind.

Give it some thought. If you would like to do it or can recommend someone in the community who you think would be a good fit for us, let me know. I'll give you whatever help I can. Think of it as karaoke without the music.

You too can be a speaker! 

**I would like to go to Holland
some day. Wooden Shoe?**



FOOD & DRINK



GENERAL MEETING

March 1, 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

March 12, 1:00 pm

Flashback Diner, 220 South Federal Hwy, Hallandale Beach, 33009

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

UPSCALE LUNCH

March 26, 1:00 pm

Seasons 52 restaurant, 2428 East Sunrise Blvd, Ft Lauderdale, 33304

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

UPSCALE DINNER

March 19, 6:00 pm

Ambry German Restaurant, 3016 E Commercial Blvd, Ft Lauderdale, 33308

See page 8 for details and reservation form. Send it with payment.

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 DINNER

Every Monday, 7:00 pm

03/02 - Bona Italian Rest., 2486 Wilton Dr., Wilton Manors 33305

03/09 - Chuck's Steak House, 2824 E. Commercial Blvd., 33308

03/16 - Tee Jay Thai Sushi, 2254 Wilton Drive, 33305

03/23 - Tequila Sunrise, 4711 N Dixie Hwy, Oakland Park 33334

03/30 - Ferdos Grill, 4300 N. Federal Hwy, Ft Lauderdale, 33308

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



GENTLEMAN OF THE MONTH

• Ken South, interviewer

In 1932, the III Winter Olympic Games opened in Lake Placid, New York and Jack Benny debuted on radio. Al Capone entered the Atlanta Penitentiary, convicted of income tax evasion and on July 1st two important events happened. NY Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt was nominated for President and Mr. March was born at 11 p.m. in Melrose, MA., weighing a little over seven pounds. Albert Harold and Alice were the proud parents.

Mr. M was the eldest of four siblings, one brother and two sisters. As a youngster, he attended Green Street Baptist Church. He recalls his very first poem that he read at this church:

"When I was just a kid about so high, my mother use to take a stick and make me cry. Now that I am a great big boy, my mommy can't do it. But, my daddy takes his hand, and goes right to it!"

He received his high school diploma from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, went on to study at Harvard and worked at Brandeis University in Waltham, MA. In time, he became a department head, eventually retiring from the University in 1997.

He was married in 1973, for a brief of time, to Joyce Crowell, a childhood sweetheart.

Mr. M has a special affinity towards Native Americans. He would take his three nieces, Debbie, Carol and Tish, to Indian Pow Wows. He frequently gave donations to support the Indian culture, their dance, music, and hand craft. Pictures and artifacts of these indigenous people are hanging on the walls of his condo.

Blessed with many creative talents, he has a deep passion for singing. For many years, he was part of a quartet, singing as a tenor. The quartet performed at various night clubs in the Boston area. During the late 50s, he took acting classes at the Actors

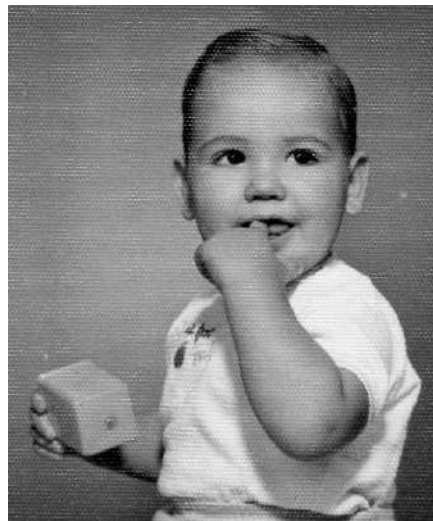
Workshop in Boston and became involved in community theater. He enjoyed attending the Christmas concert of the Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida.

Long before it was fashionable, Mr. M espoused living healthy with organic foods and special supplements. He now has a small garden

where he grows his own vegetables.

One of his favorite pastimes was visiting the beach, and he would often refer to himself as a "sun worshipper."

(see *MAN*, page 6)



(*MAN*, from previous page)

He was also a founding member of Prime Timers, Boston in 1987. He was recently honored by the group and given a special citation that he proudly displays on his living room wall. When living part-time in Florida, he, along with a number of others, formed the Fort Lauderdale Prime Timers, now known as Fort Lauderdale Prime Gentlemen. The first meeting was called on June 23, 2003.

Mr. M eventually sold his home in MA and

moved full-time to Wilton Manors in November of 2014. Several weeks later, he suffered a serious stroke. After months of physical and occupation therapies, he was again actively enjoying a basic quality of life. He continues to enjoy the companionship of his many friends. He regularly attends the Fort Lauderdale Prime Gentleman's monthly meetings and may even be seen enjoying an evening with others at local establishments like Scandals. 🏄



SPECIAL EVENT - ICE CREAM SOCIAL

• Doug Kent

Be prepared for our Special Event at 2:00 pm, Wednesday, March 25, 2020. It will be our first **ICE CREAM SOCIAL!** This is how it will work.

We will all meet at *Jaxson's Ice Cream Parlor*, located at 128 S Federal Hwy, Dania Beach., FL 33004. We will all be seated and then will order whatever ice cream treat we want. Several people can go together and order the iconic "Kitchen Sink" and split the cost and calories. It should be a very exciting and fun afternoon.

After enjoying our ice cream treats, we will all drive over to *Jimmy's Chocolate*, located at 148 N Federal Hwy, Dania Beach, just a few blocks North of *Jaxson's*. At *Jimmy's*, we will be ordering our coffee outside at *Jimmie's Café 47* and checking out all the speciality chocolate goodies in the Chocolate Shop. After all this sugar and caffeine, we should all be ready for our trips home.

This may become an annual event, so be sure not to miss the First Annual **ICE CREAM SOCIAL**.

You and your dentist will enjoy this afternoon in Dania.

For planning purposes, let Doug Kent know if you will be attending by calling or texting him at 305-495-2978 or e-mail him at dutchwood@att.net. 🏄

MONTHLY MOVIE

• Ed Slough

The SAGE/Prime Gentlemen FREE movie for March is "Mary Queen of Scots" on Friday, March 20th @ 1:30 P.M @ the Pride Center. It runs 2 hours and 4 minutes and has an IMDB rating of 6.3 of 10. There will be free popcorn and sodas served during the movie.



Queen of France at 16 and widowed at 18, Mary Stuart defies pressure to remarry. Instead, she returns to her native Scotland to reclaim her rightful throne. However, Scotland and England fall under the rule of the compelling Elizabeth I. Each young Queen beholds her sister in fear and fascination. Rivals in power and in love, and female regents in a masculine world, the two must decide how to play the game of marriage versus independence.

Determined to rule as much more than a figurehead, Mary asserts her claim to the English throne, threatening Elizabeth's sovereignty. Betrayal, rebellion, and conspiracies within each court imperil

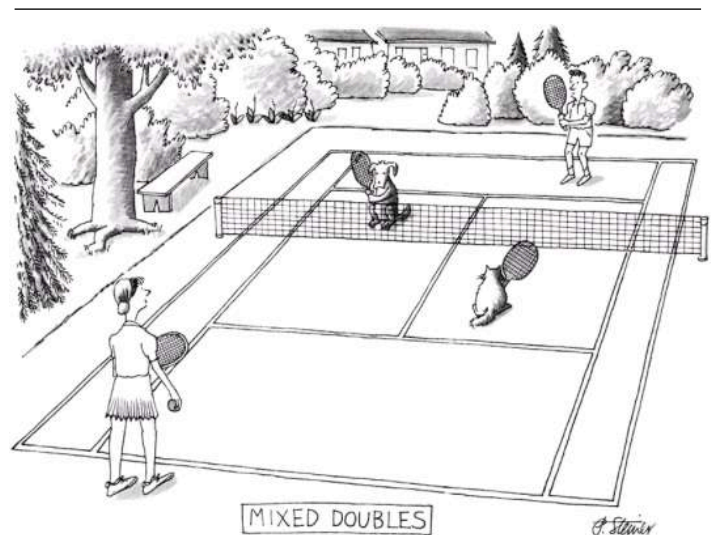
both thrones - and change the course of history.



Mary believed that her monarchy would only be secured if she married and produced heirs. She had to beat her husband, Lord Darnley, in order for him to get a hard-on so she could become pregnant and produce a successor to the throne.

The inept power maneuver set into motion an ugly sequence of succession-related events involving murder, scandal, abdication, imprisonment, and execution.

It's interesting to note that one of Mary's "ladies in waiting" was a gay man who liked wearing drag. 🌈





MARCH UPSCALE DINNER
Ambry German Restaurant
 3016 E Commercial Blvd, Fort Lauderdale, 33308
Thursday, March 19
Cash Bar: 6:00 PM - Dinner Served: 7:00 PM

FIRST COURSE:

Garlic Soup OR Goulash Soup

SECOND COURSE:

Salad Bar

MAIN COURSE: *Choose one on stub, below, or online (see stub)*

1. 12 oz Prime Rib with Baked Potato
2. Wiener Schnitzel with Home Fries OR Spaetzle
3. Chicken Française with Rice
4. Schmankerl Platter (bratwurst, Knackwurst and roast pork) with Sauerkraut and Home Fries
5. Grouper with Rice

DESSERT:

German Chocolate Cake OR Orange Cream OR Pudding

BEVERAGE:

Ice Water Upon Request
 Coffee, Ice Tea and/or Soda
 Alcohol paid for as you consume it

COST: \$36.00 per member, \$41 per nonmember

..... Cut Here

Either complete the fields below and send this stub with your check to:

Fort Lauderdale Prime Gentlemen, PO Box 100666, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310

OR go to FtLPrimeGentlemen.org and click on *Reservations* to reserve and pay with a credit card



Member Name _____ Main Course # _____

Member Name _____ Main Course # _____

Nonmember Name _____ Main Course # _____

Notes: If you must cancel, to get a refund call Henry Penas (954-971-6514) before 5 PM on March 18. Please try to arrive by 6:40 PM so our meals can be ordered properly.

Ambry German Restaurant

Cutoff date for reservations is March 16



Buddy Berardi, 01/21/1945 – 01/24/2020 We are all saddened to learn of the passing of fellow member Buddy Berardi on January 24. He passed away in the hospice unit of *Holy Cross Hospital*. His partner, Scott Jensen was at his side.

Buddy moved to Florida with his late partner, Ken Majersky in 2010 and they joined our club that November. Ken passed in 2015 and Buddy met Scott shortly afterwards.

During his many years as a board member, Buddy served as Vice President and editor of the *Surfer*. He also gave us our name badges at our monthly meetings and greeted everyone with a big smile at weekly mixers. He was Man of the Month in the February 2014 *Surfer*. (To see the article, click [here](#).)

Everyone who knew him, knows about his love of pasta and dessert. Hopefully, he is in a place where there is an abundance of both. He will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him and loved him.

He is survived by two cousins, John and Bill, and their families and of course his beloved partner, Scott.



John Colavecchio, 11/18/1940 – 01/29/2020 Sadly, fellow member John Colavecchio passed away at Broward Hospital on January 29 due to complications arising from a routine carotid artery procedure.

John joined our group in September, 2009 and was involved in many aspects of our organization. He left the area briefly and rejoined last October.

He was always an active man. He was featured in an article in the October 2009 *Surfer*, recounting his many wins in swimming competitions. In 2009 he signed up to compete in the Copenhagen World Out Games. Even though he was in his sixties and in not the best of health he persevered and ended up winning bronze medals in 5 competitions and a gold in the 200 meter relay.

John was a larger than life character. He met all that life sent him with passion and humor. He was a devoted poker player and was often seen at the table in the various bars around town.

He will be missed by those who knew and loved him.



Tom Moore 09/25/1927 – 01/31/2020 Member Tom Moore passed away on the morning of January 31 in the hospital. He will be remembered for his cheerful disposition and his beaming smile.

Tom and his beloved partner, Al Natali, had been partners since 1988 and members of our group since June 2003. They attended our monthly meetings, mixers and dinners. Tom was Man of the Month in the March 2013 *Surfer*. (To see the article, click [here](#).)

They also had many naturist parties at their former home and at their condo in Palm Aire.

We extend our condolences to his family and friends. Our hearts go out especially to Al Natali in this time of sorrow.

MILEPOSTS

BIRTHDAYS

Robsonney Simoes	3/2	H Johnson	3/17
Richard Hosford	3/2	Harold Prasse	3/19
Richard Frazer	3/4	Paul Rock	3/19
Mark Medore	3/4	Charles Sochat	3/20
Tom Tocalis	3/5	Stanton Kilpatrick	3/20
David Archer	3/6	Thomas Rice	3/21
Ottis Gore	3/6	Marqus Ristau	3/21
Marciano Oraa	3/6	Eric Runyan	3/21
Rupert Blearie	3/7	Scott Brown	3/22
John Hughes	3/8	Clark Raby	3/24
Benjamin Singerline	3/8	Pepe Capcha	3/25
Richard Rardon	3/8	James Hartman	3/26
Kenneth Kugler	3/10	Norm Strauss	3/26
Raymond Taratoot	3/11	William Verderosa	3/26
William Sawyer	3/11	Lou Wangberg	3/27
Julio Cabal	3/11	Henry Tartaglia	3/28
John Booth	3/11	Thomas Moran	3/28
Donald Sobieski	3/11	Joel Rothstein	3/28
John Bolinger	3/12	David Carbaugh	3/29
Robert Strickler	3/14	Anton Scherrer	3/29
Gregory Hernandez	3/14	Norman Peters	3/29
Hal Chaikin	3/15	Grant Leonard	3/30
Chris Cook	3/15	Charles Egan	3/30
Arnold Joseph	3/16	Edward Levy	3/31
James Duke	3/17	Bert Mittler	3/31

ANNIVERSARIES



Jerry Ganz & Bill Hirsch	3/4/1967	53 years
Joel Rubin & Mark Barron	3/2/1993	27 years
Jeff Miller & Gene Avrett	3/15/2015	5 years
Phil Walker & Bassel Souki	3/30/2019	1 year

MR. MARCH BILL KELLOWAY



Very Happy
Birthdays
to all!!



MARCH 2020 CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 Noon Cards @ PC* 2:00 General Meeting @ PC*	2 5:30 Mixer @ MT* 7:00 Informal Dinner, see p 4	3 10:00 Tennis @ BP* 11:30 Cards @ PC*	4 11:00 Bowling @ ML*	5 10:00 Tennis @ BP* 11:00 Bowling @ AL* Collector*s @ SL 7:00 Walking @ SC*	6	7 10:00 Tennis @ BP*
8 Noon Cards @ PC* 12:30 Ballet @ PC*	9 2:30 Roundtable @ PC* 5:30 Mixer @ MT* 7:00 Informal Dinner, see p 4	10 10:00 Tennis @ BP* 11:30 Cards @ PC*	11 11:00 Bowling @ ML*	12 10:00 Tennis @ BP* 11:00 Bowling @ AL* 1:00 Diner Lunch, p 6 7:00 Walking @ SC*	13 2:00 History @ PC*	14 10:00 Tennis @ BP*
15 Noon Cards @ PC*	16 5:30 Mixer @ MT* 7:00 Informal Dinner, see p 4	17 10:00 Tennis @ BP* 11:30 Cards @ PC* 4:00 Board Mtg @ PC*	18 11:00 Bowling @ ML*	19 10:00 Tennis @ BP* 11:00 Bowling @ AL* Collectors @ SL* 5:00 Upscale Dinner, p9 7:00 Walking @ SC*	20 1:30 Movie @ PC* p7	21 10:00 Tennis @ BP*
22 Noon Cards @ PC* 12:30 Opera @ PC*	23 2:30 Roundtable @ PC* 5:30 Mixer @ MT* 7:00 Informal Dinner, see p 4	24 10:00 Tennis @ BP* 11:30 Cards @ PC*	25 11:00 Bowling @ ML*	26 10:00 Tennis @ BP* 11:00 Bowling @ AL* 1:00 Formal Lunch, p6 7:00 Walking @ SC*	27 2:00 History @ PC*	28 10:00 Tennis @ BP*
29 10:00 Beach @ HB* Noon Cards @ PC*	30 2:30 Roundtable @ PC* 5:30 Mixer @ MT* 7:00 Informal Dinner, see p 4	31 10:00 Tennis @ BP* 11:30 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 Ctr, 2040 N. Dixie Hwy 33305 SC = Skolnick Center, 800 SW 36th Ave 33069 SL = Stonewall Lib, 1300 Sunrise Blvd 33311 Noon			

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!!



March Birthday Boys



Lou Wangberg spoke at General Meeting on Feb 2 (and showed us sign language for "I Love You")



Carl Hill presided on Feb 2, with PG logo he created



Jeffy Gaines with his proud 50/50 winnings



Our Tuesday Card Players

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