



ACTIVITIES
COLLECTORS
• Ed Witkowski

The Collectors group had been meeting for over five years when COVID-19 stopped them. Ron Grassulo and I moderate the meetings and are very excited to restart them via Zoom! We look forward to their further success.

The meetings' "show and tell" format has been very successful, and the sharing of information about collectible items has been very satisfying. We looked forward to socializing with each other every other week.

Doug Kent recently agreed to organize Zoom meetings for our group so we can get back together. Our first Zoom session was held on August 20. The only disadvantage we found is that we are not be able to pass around and examine each item. The advantages are that we
(see **ACTIVITIES** on page 3)



PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE
• Henry Penas

Doesn't it seem like every day is Thursday? Every day is pretty much like every other day. Where are our friends? Where are our meetings, mixers, lunches and dinners? Some of these things are still functioning but most of them have taken a new form on Zoom.

I'd like to devote this column to thanking all the people who are still working very hard to keep our organization going.

Everything is running smoothly because Jim Flora is still checking our mail and processing your checks. Stew Pepper is still updating the database as your renewals come in. John Velasco and Dick Huitema are still editing the *Surfer* and Eddie Green is still picking them up from the printer and mailing them out to all who pay the extra \$10. Ken South is still
(see **PRESIDENT** on page 3)

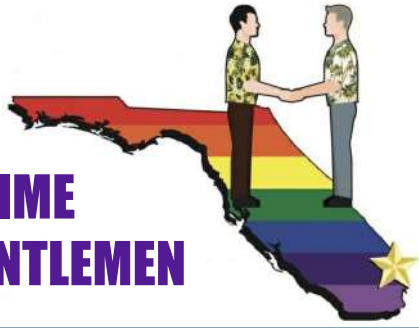
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PRIME GENTLEMEN



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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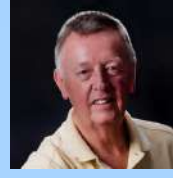
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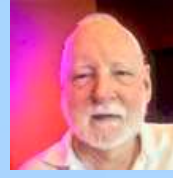
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TREASURER EMERITUS
 Mike Trask

(ACTIVITIES from page 1)

can socialize again and show items in our homes that we were not able to bring to our face-to-face meetings at the Pride Center.

Our Zoom meetings will be held on the first and third Thursday of each month at 2 PM. Although Ron reminds members on our list when these meetings will take place, everyone is invited to join in!

Just click on the link for each session in the email message Henry Penas sends frequently. You don't need to have a "collectable" to participate. Just join our Zoom meetings and enjoy! 🏄

(PRESIDENT from page 1)

interviewing the Man of the Month and writing his column. John Dowd is still sending out birthday, anniversary and get well cards.

Some of our meetings are now on Zoom.

Lou Wangberg is continuing his highly entertaining and educational History Group lessons and discussions. Gene Majka is still leading the SAGE/Prime Gentlemen Roundtable discussions. Clark Powers hosts a weekly Prime Gentlemen Mixer every Monday. Andrew Langley and Tom Daniel host a new Trivial Pursuit Group every Tuesday afternoon. There's also Lunch with Doug Kent and Phil Prentice once a month and the Collectors' Group hosted by Ron Grassullo and Ed Witkowski. And of course the weekly Koffee Klatch hosted by Tomcat.

I strongly encourage you to join our Zoom meetings. All the information you need is in the Weekly Email. Just click on the link and follow the instructions on the screen. If you don't feel confident about it, just contact me the day before and I will walk you through it. There's no reason you should miss out on these fun get-togethers.

Then every day won't be Thursday any more. One day there will be a mixer, another will be trivia, or a group luncheon or a history or roundtable discussion and so on.

Thank you all for adjusting to the new world order and providing much needed continuity and some new ways to see familiar faces and catch up with each other.

Even though we can't meet face-to-face, we can see each other on Zoom. I look forward to seeing you there. 🏄



zoom ACTIVITIES

Watch your email inbox for links to this month's sessions from Henry Penas:

COLLECTORS

Thursday, September 3, 2:00 PM

Thursday, September 17, 2:00 PM

It's "show and tell" time! Join the group with or without your own collectable item. (There's more about this fun activity on page 1.)

"DINER LUNCH"

Thursday, September 10, 1:00 PM

Set your favorite lunch meal in front of you, then join Doug Kent and others as you all enjoy your repast and some good old fashioned chin-wagging.

HISTORY

Friday, September 11, 2:00 PM

Friday, September 25, 2:00 PM

Lou Wangberg will continue History discussions on Zoom. He picks each topic shortly before each session in order to make it timely, so as we "go to press" we don't know what they will be, but they are always interesting!

MIXER

Every Monday, 6:00 PM

Settle down for "cocktail hour" conversation with fellow members. Clark Powers will be your host.

ROUNDTABLE

Monday, September 14, 2:30 PM

Paul McNamara will discuss Windsurfing

(also known as sailboarding). It's a sport that combines elements of both surfing and sailing. For over 25 years Paul was an avid windsurfer who traveled to exotic sailing destinations seeking the winds necessary to fulfill this obsessive passion. He'll describe some of the technical aspects of windsurfing and share stories from some of the world's best windsurfing locations. Tales of the adventures of other former (or current) sailors will be encouraged!

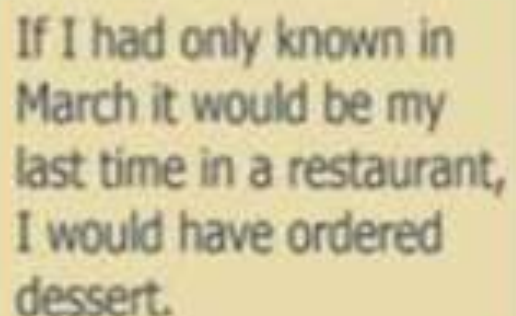
Monday, September 28, 2:30 PM

Michael Vita will examine "To mask or not to mask?" That is the question! Whether 'tis nobler to mask and be considerate of thy neighbor (and thyself), or not to mask and say, 'It is what it is'?

TRIVIAL PURSUIT

Every Tuesday, 2:00 PM

All you need is a pencil and a piece of paper. You don't even have to be on time or stick around to the end to hear the answers. Andrew Langley and Tom Daniel will ask a question, pick the first of us to raise his hand with an answer and then give the answer so you don't need to be on time or stick around to the end. Join the fun ..and maybe learn something!



If I had only known in
March it would be my
last time in a restaurant,
I would have ordered
dessert.



GENTLEMAN OF THE MONTH

• Ken South, interviewer

In 1948, Harry S. Truman was President, the average cost of a new home was \$7,700, while the average annual wage was only \$2,950. A gallon of gas was 16¢ and a movie ticket was 60¢. In India, Mahatma Gandhi was murdered by a Hindu extremist. The first Polaroid camera was put on sale and The World Health Organization (WHO) was established. NASCAR held its first race for modified stock cars at Daytona Beach, and the first post-war, summer Olympics were held in London, England.

Then, on March 28th of that year, Mr. September was born in Brooklyn, NY, later joined by a sister and then a brother.



After a few years, the family moved to Long Island, to a town along the southern

branch of the Long Island Railroad called Merrick. While there, he finished elementary and junior high and graduated from Calhoun High School in 1965. Also, while there, at 13 years old, he met his future wife!

College years were spent at the University of Wisconsin where he majored in history, and included a glorious memory of meeting Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.! Graduation was in 1969 followed by a law degree (J.D.) from the George Washington University law school in Washington, DC in 1972.

Mr. S started his work life as a department store manager.

In 1973 he married his Jr. High School sweetheart and they became the proud parents of two girls. During this time, he worked for his father-in-law in the fabric business until he and his wife were divorced in 1984.

For the next decade his life was in a state of flux and emotional pain. By 1994 he found himself as the international sales director of a wholesale fabric company based in Long Island. He looks back on those years as some of the best in his life, as his work took him to over 90 countries around the world! He retired in 2016.

(see **MAN**, next page)

(**MAN**, from previous page)

In 1990 he met Jeff, his first lover. After a year's relationship, struggling with acceptance of his sexual orientation, Jeff took his own life. In 2010 he met Marc, a Persian man living in Paris. Given Mr. S's abundance of travel miles, they were able to see each other on a regular basis, until they parted ways in 2018, but they remain close friends.

Mr. S has lived for over 30 years in the town of Hauppauge, located in Suffolk

County, LI, about one hour's drive from NYC. However, since his mother, daughter and grandsons all live in south Florida, he is a very frequent visitor to Ft. Lauderdale.

He has been active in Prime Gentlemen activities including the Mixers at Matty's and even participated in two PG sponsored cruises. He also participates in weekly Zoom events. He was introduced to PG by an old friend, Michael.

Can you guess who this world traveler is? If not, see the answer on the next page. 🇺🇸



Hurray! We have scheduled our third Upscale Luncheon since the pandemic began. Mark your calendar for Thursday, September 24, at 1:00 PM. *Cafe Vico*, 1125 North Federal Hwy, Fort Lauderdale 33304 will be our destination. As usual everyone will order from the menu and pay for their own lunch. *Cafe Vico* has a complete bar and an extensive wine list, as well as an outstanding lunch menu. Here is what will be different. The restaurant will require face coverings to enter and they will take temperatures upon arrival. We will have our own private room with tables spaced appropriately. Call/text Doug Kent at 305-495-2978 or simply e-mail him at dutchwood@att.net by Tuesday September 22nd to reserve your spot.

MILEPOSTS

BIRTHDAYS

John Dool	9/1	James Fahy	9/19
David Gripp	9/1	David Parker	9/19
Salvatore Vetro	9/2	Samuel Chalfant	9/20
James Flora	9/4	Thomas McGraw	9/20
Roger O'Shea	9/4	Tony Serratore	9/20
Steven Palmer	9/6	David Bisbey	9/21
V. Gremillion	9/6	Ruso Perkins	9/21
Bill Guzzy	9/8	Joe Savage	9/21
John Suter	9/8	Charles Winey	9/21
Jack Almeleh	9/9	Nicholas Caputo	9/22
Dan Krocza	9/9	John Martin	9/22
Mike Freeman	9/10	Daniel Weigleb	9/24
Michael Aronson	9/12	Mike Webb	9/25
Francis DeStefano	9/13	Morris Lallo	9/25
Peter Gallagher	9/13	Jerry Jensen	9/27
Peter Roukis	9/14	H John Velasco	9/27
Rene Franco	9/15	Charles Walthall	9/27
Gerhard Depken	9/16	Michael Barcham	9/27
Robert Morrow	9/16	Brian McCarthy	9/28
William Barnard	9/16	Larry Ousley	9/28
Clayton Raney	9/18	Allen Koppang	9/30
Patrick Fischer	9/18	Joseph Guidetti	9/30
Jack Rosing	9/18	Frank Bilancia	9/30
Gary Luedtke	9/19	Jim Gaffney	9/30

ANNIVERSARIES

John Suter & Bill Clements	9/17/1968	52 years
Jim Beauter & Anthony Kulp	9/7/1998	0 22 years
Ken Bailey & Mike Fischer	9/18/2008	12 years
Brian McCarthy & Ron Bass	9/19/2009	11 years
Eddie Green & Jim Hartman	9/8/2013	0 7 years
Andy Horvath & Raymond Patterson	9/1/2018	0 2 years

MR SEPTEMBER

JOEL ROTHSTEIN



SEPTEMBER 2020 CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 2:00 Collectors @ Zoom 7:00 Walking @ SC*	4	5 9:00 Tennis (and/or Sun.) @ BP*
6	7 6:00 Mixer @ Zoom*	8 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 2:00 Trivial Pursuit @ Zoom*	9	10 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 1:00 Lunch @ Zoom 7:00 Walking @ SC*	11 2:00 History @ Zoom*	12 9:00 Tennis (and/or Sun.) @ BP*
13	14 2:30 Roundtable @ Zoom* 6:00 Mixer @ Zoom*	15 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 2:00 Trivial Pursuit @ Zoom*	16	17 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 2:00 Collectors @ Zoom 7:00 Walking @ SC*	18	19 9:00 Tennis (and/or Sun.) @ BP*
20	21 6:00 Mixer @ Zoom*	22 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 2:00 Trivial Pursuit @ Zoom* 4:00 Board Mtg @ Zoom*	23	24 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 1:00 Upscale Lunch (p 3) 7:00 Walking @ SC*	25 2:00 History @ Zoom*	26 9:00 Tennis (and/or Sun.) @ BP*
27	28 2:30 Roundtable @ Zoom* 6:00 Mixer @ Zoom*	29 9:00 Tennis @ BP* 2:00 Trivial Pursuit @ Zoom*	30	<p>*LOCATIONS</p> <p>BP = Brummer Park, 3500 W Palm Aire Dr 33069</p> <p>SC = Skolnick Center, 800 SW 36th Ave 33069</p> <p>Zoom = Online meeting at zoom.us. See Henry Penas' email messages for links to sessions you want to join.</p>		

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