

The Surfer

January 2024

Volume 21 Number 1

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

President's Message by Henry Penas

It's terrible to return from a lovely cruise and be sick! The good thing is that it wasn't Norovirus. I can't imagine having Norovirus on the last day of a cruise. Yuck!

I had all of my shots, so why wasn't I immune? Everybody claims that it could have been much worse if I hadn't had them. I suppose that's true. I guess we will have to live with Covid forever, just like the flu and the common cold. This is an awful message with which to begin the New Year. 2024!

I remember thinking, as a kid, that I would be 55 in 2000. That seemed so far away. Most of us lived through the polio epidemic and Dr. Jonas Salk developed a vaccine that kept people from getting it. Polio disappeared!

Is there an actual preventative against Covid on the horizon? I hope so. Until that happens, we must be positive and vigilant. Let's all make a New Year's resolution to get all our required shots and take good care of ourselves and each other.

Best wishes for a Happy New Year and all of 2024!

Book Discussion Group By Paul McNamara

The next meeting of the Book Discussion Group will be on Saturday, January 13 from 11:00 am to noon at Stonewall Library, 1300 E Sunrise Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, and simultaneously on Zoom via this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2751394844?pwd=bIZPRGo3OEcyVENrS3YvZVBMWTZVQT09>

The selection for the meeting is *In a Strange Room*, by South African author Damon Galgut.

A young man takes three journeys, through Greece, India and Africa. He travels lightly, simply. To those who travel with him and those whom he meets on the way - including a handsome, enigmatic stranger, a group of careless backpackers and a woman on the edge - he is the Follower, the Lover and the Guardian. Yet, despite the man's best intentions, each journey ends in disaster. Together, these three journeys will change his whole life. A novel of longing and thwarted desire, rage and compassion,

In a Strange Room is the hauntingly beautiful evocation of one man's search for love, and a place to call home.

Mr. January 2024

by Ken South

1946 was the start of the Baby boomer years, (1946-1964). The War Crimes Tribunal was held in Nuremberg, Germany.

Twenty-two Nazi leaders, including Joachim von Ribbentrop and Hermann Goering, were found guilty of war crimes and sentenced to death. The United Nations' first meeting was held in London, England and then moved to the United States. Tupperware sold department stores for the first time and Dr. Benjamin Spock's "*Baby and Child Care*" influenced millions of new parents throughout the US. People listened to the top songs that year, *Tenderly*, *Come Rain Come Shine*, and Disney's, *Zip-a-dee-doo-dah*.



In Kokomo, Indiana, on September 28th, Mr. January became the second child in the family after his older sister. He spent his grade school and high school years in Kokomo, graduating from HS in 1964. Following one year at Purdue University, he enlisted in the Air Force and was stationed in Okinawa Island, Japan, and also one year of service in Vietnam. He attained the rank of Sargent and was discharged in 1969.

Following his military service, Mr. J returned to Kokomo and worked at the General Motors Kokomo Components plant, which built automotive components for over 86 years. He was employed there for the next 32 years! During this time, Mr. J returned to college and attended Vincennes University in Vincennes, Indiana for a degree in electronics. Also, during this part of his life, he decided to get married in 1974. He and his wife were together for 13 years, getting a divorce in 1987. They raised their three children, 2 boys and a girl and now also enjoy their six grandchildren!

Following his divorce, Mr. J started to explore the gay side of his life. In a gay bar in Indianapolis, he met his partner to be, Charles Keefe. They met in 1995 and became domestic partners, as legal marriage for gays was not available. They enjoyed a rich, full life together for 24 years until Charles' sudden passing in 2019. The couple bought a condo in Oakland Park in 2010 and became "snow birds" until Mr. J moved here fulltime following Charles' passing.

Mr. J is an avid Ham Radio enthusiast; his handle is: NI9J. He is also a Board Member at Congregation Etz Chaim in Wilton Manors. He can be found on most Tuesdays at the Prime Gentlemen Social at Tropics.

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

Surfer

January 2024 Volume 21, Issue 1

Published by

Fort Lauderdale Prime Gentlemen, Inc.

PO Box 100666

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310

FtLPrimeGentlemen@gmail.com

[web FtLPrimeGentlemen.org](http://web.FtLPrimeGentlemen.org)

STAFF

Editor

Dick Huitema (773) 782-1608

DHuitema@mac.com

Contributors

Doug Kent: Lunches and Events

Jim Richardson: Birthdays & Anniversaries

Ken South: Formal Dinner &

Gentleman of the Month

Henry Penas: Obituaries

Mike Trask: Photographs

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

Distributors

Auggie Azzarello: Paper

Henry Penas: Digital

© 2023 by Fort Lauderdale Prime Gentlemen, Inc.

BOARD MEMBERS



PRESIDENT

Henry Penas
(954) 971-6514
HPenas@gmail.com



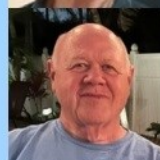
VICE PRESIDENT

Ken South
(301) 461-4516
southy2222@gmail.com



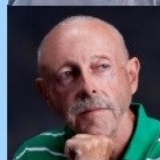
TREASURER

Paul McNamara
(561) 254-9622
polmac@aol.com



SECRETARY

Tom Daniel
(404) 414-7551
wtdaniel@gmail.com



Jim Flora
(646) 208-8092
JamesFlora@aol.com



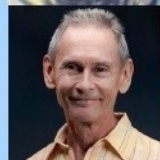
Ron Grassullo
(516) 670-7799
ronsullo@aol.com



Stew Pepper
(954) 532-5451
flot@comcast.net



Jim Richardson
(303) 638-5690
jimedrich@gmail.com

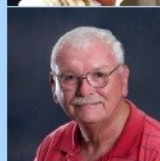


Dick Huitema
(773) 782-1608
DHuitema@mac.com



Special Advisor and Board Member Emeritus

Richard Lefebvre



Treasurer Emeritus

Mike Trask

Food and Drinks

MEMBERSHIP MEETING Sunday, January 7, 2:00 pm

Pride Center at Equality Park, Main Hall 2040 N. Dixie Highway, Wilton Manors

Bring a dish to share for our potluck meal.

EARLY BIRD DINNER

Wednesday, January 10, 5:30 pm

Smokey Bones

6500 North Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

DINER LUNCH

Thursday, January 11, 1:00 pm

New York Diner

925 NE 62nd St, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33334

This classic diner will be sure to please. Reserve your spot by calling or texting Doug Kent at 305-495-2978, or email at dutchwood@att.net

“NIGHT OUT” AT TROPICS

Wednesday, January 24, at 5:30pm

Tropics Grille Restaurant & Bar

2000 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors

Contact Ed Slough at wildhybrid@aol.com to take advantage of this half-price Prime Gentlemen/SAGE dinner deal! Bring a guest!

REGULAR LUNCH

Thursday, January 25, 1:00 pm

P. F. Chang's Galleria Mall 2418 E. Sunrise Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale

Known for outstanding Chinese cuisine this will be our last luncheon for 2023. Remember to call or text Doug Kent at 305-495- 2978 or e-mail him at dutchwood@att.net to reserve your place at the table.

MIXER Every Tuesday, 5:00

Tropics Grille Restaurant & Bar

2000 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors

[No reservations; just pay for your drink\(s\) and enjoy the buffet!](#)

Down Low

The next SAGE/Prime Gentlemen Monthly Movie will take place in the Main Hall of the Pride Center on Friday, January 19 at 1:30 pm.
Free popcorn and soda will be available!!



Down Low chronicles an unlikely friendship between a closeted middle-aged gay man and a hip young gay masseur. It is an outrageous comedy about one wild night, a deeply repressed man, the twink who gives him a happy ending, and all the lives they ruin along the way. *Down Low* is as dark as a comedy can get without going off the rails. The two leads are flawless in their

roles.

The movie is an ambitious coming-of-age story wrapped in a pseudo morality play wrapped in a screwball comedy. This unapologetic dark comedy is a refreshing change of routine for gay coming-out experiences. The parts of the movie that work are hilarious. Your reaction to this boundary-pushing film noir will depend on your individual tolerance for progressive humor and unorthodox storytelling. If you set aside the story that plays out in the undercurrents of *Down Low*, and focus on the outlandish, brash, and delightful hijinks, you will certainly have a blast with this one.

Thirteen or so Minutes

In this award winning short film, the plot centers on Lawrence and Hugh, who have just met. They both have girlfriends, and they are both straight. They just have had sex spontaneously, even though neither of them has been attracted to men before. Thirteen and a half minutes later however, something has happened and something has changed. They talk about why the each felt a strong desire to be so intimate with the other.



Please Note: The omicron Covid variant is extremely contagious. You may be exposed if you choose to attend. If you are not fully vaccinated and boosted, you should carefully consider the risks.

Birhtdays and Anniversaries

Birthday Boys

Robert Caputo	1/1
Jeffrey Piekarsky	1/2
Ray Manabendra	1/3
John Actman	1/3
Kenneth Crush	1/3
Ricardo Otero	1/6
Robert Baker	1/8
Terry Byrd	1/8
Charles Lockyer	1/9
Andres Henriquez	1/9
Ernest Londa	1/10
Eric Weiner	1/10
Al Natali	1/11
Douglas Kent	1/11
Joel Kaufman	1/11
Robert Smith	1/11
Robert Logan	1/13
Larry Rosenblatt	1/13
Frank Vescuso	1/15
Rick Meares	1/16
Larry Haines	1/16
Richard Durant	1/17
Jefy Gaines	1/18
John Siegfried	1/18
Barry Bates	1/19
Wilson Saba	1/21
Walt Rogal	1/21
Dale Dawursk	1/22
Richard Werner	1/23
Steven Florio	1/24
Michael Rogers	1/25
William Woodward	1/26
Jim Gunter	1/26
Daniel Byrne	1/27
Efrain Campomenosi	1/29
Anthony Tsagris	1/30

Happy Anniversary

Ron Grassullo & Ed Witkowski
1/19/1993 31 years

Tom Daniel & Andrew Langley
1/26/2003 21 years

Jim Restrict & Roman Cisneros
1/13/2005 19 years

Robbie Simoes & Luiz Ramos
1/27/2006 18 years

Fonsi Bujosa & Jack Faraci
1/1/2008 16 years

Mr. January
Larry Ousley



Calendar

*******CLICK ON THE CALENDAR BELOW!*******

An Adobe PDF version will open and you can also print and save the calendar once you open it.

JANUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 12pm Haulover Beach	1 New Year's Day 6pm Zoom Mixer #	2	3 11am Bowling ML 1pm Bowling AL 1pm Drop In ZM #	4 7:30am Tennis BP 2pm Collectors # 3pm Drop In ZM # 7pm Walking @ SC	5	6
7 7:30am Tennis BP 2:00 Membership Meeting @PC	8 6pm ZM Mixer	9 7:30am Tennis BP 2pm Trivial Pursuit ZM # 5-7 Tropics Mixer	10 11am Bowling ML 1pm Bowling AL 1pm Drop In ZM # 5:30pm Early Bird Dinner	11 7:30am Tennis BP 1:00pm Diner Lunch 3pm Drop In ZM # 7pm Walking @ SC	12	13
14	15	16 7:30am Tennis BP 2pm Trivial Pursuit ZM # 5-7 Tropics Mixer	17 11am Bowling ML 1pm Bowling AL 1pm Drop In ZM #	18 7:30am Tennis BP 12:30pm Bd. Mtg ZM 2pm Collectors # 3pm Drop In ZM # 7pm Walking @ SC	19 1:30pm Movie #	20
21	22	23 7:30am Tennis BP 2pm Trivial Pursuit ZM # 5-7 Tropics Mixer	24 11am Bowling ML 1pm Bowling AL 1pm Drop In ZM # 5:30pm "Night Out" Dinner TR	25 7:30am Tennis BP 1:00pm Regular Lunch 3pm Drop In ZM # 7pm Walking @ SC	26 2pm History Group #	27
28	29	30 7:30am Tennis BP 2pm Trivial Pursuit ZM # 5-7 Tropics Mixer	31 11am Bowling ML 1pm Bowling AL 1pm Drop In ZM #			

LOCATION CODES

AL = AMF Margate, 2020 N. State Rd 7 33063
BP = Brummer Park, 3500 W Palm Aire Dr 33069
HA = Haulover Beach, 10800 Collins Ave 33154
ML = Manor Lanes, 1517 NE 26th Street, 33305
PC = Pride Ctr, 2040 N. Dixie Hwy 33305
SC = Skolnick Ctr, 800 SW 36th Ave 33069
SL = Stonewall Lib, 1300 Sunrise Blvd 33311
TR = Tropics Bar & Grill, 2000 Wilton Dr 33305
ZM = See weekly email Bulletin for link. BP = Brummer Park
SC = Scholnick Center

The photo above requires Adobe Reader to be installed. If you are having difficulties viewing the calendar, [click here](#) for the most recent download of the

Photos



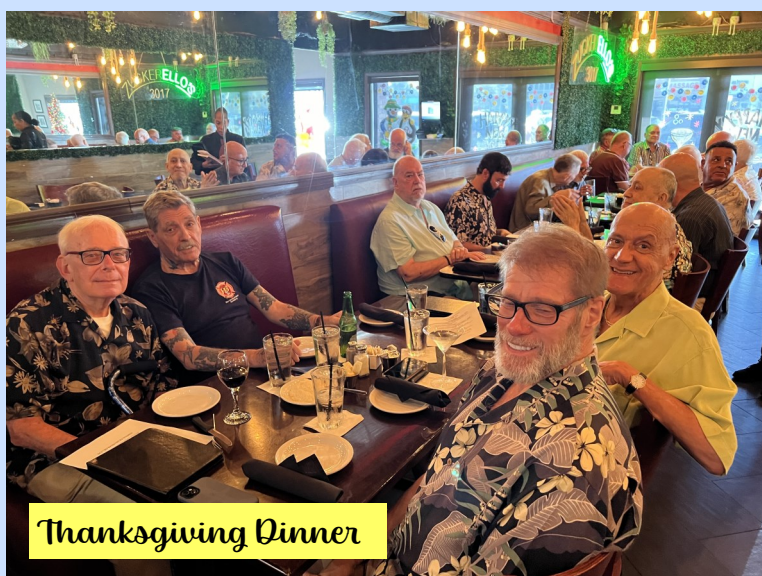
Holiday Dinner



Two Real Gentlemen



Trivia Get-together



Thanksgiving Dinner



January Birthday Boys

[Don't see your photo? Go to the Galleries on ftlprimegentlemen.org](http://ftlprimegentlemen.org)