



Surfer

JANUARY 2025



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Henry Penas



As we look ahead to the coming year, there are a few important changes we'll be implementing.

For many years, I've been asked by members why we don't have membership cards. The reason has always been that it seemed like a burdensome task for a single volunteer: creating individual cards with members' names and expiration dates, then mailing them out each month when someone's renewal date came up. However, as we've become more digitally savvy, we've found a more efficient solution.

Starting this year, we will distribute membership cards and lanyards. You'll be able to pick them up at the mixers or at our monthly meetings. Going forward, it will be

your responsibility to bring your membership badge and lanyard to all Prime Gentlemen events. Wearing your badge will help us stand out and attract new members, while also making it easier for everyone to recognize and connect with one another.

Another change concerns the cost of mailing hard copies of the Surfer newsletter. Printing and mailing each copy has become significantly more expensive than the fee we charge for it. Therefore, beginning in January, we will introduce a \$35 annual charge for those who receive the Surfer by mail. For members aged 85 and older, the new charge will be the same, but it will be due in January, as you no longer need to renew based on your birth month. Many of our members are already accustomed to accessing the Surfer digitally, which is always available online.

Turn to PRESIDENT, Page 3

BOARD MEMBERS & CONTRIBUTORS

2

MOVIES

4

JANUARY HERO

5

BOOK DISCUSSION

7

FOOD AND DRINK

8

BIRTHDAYS

10

CALENDAR

11



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

To join, go to: FtLPrimeGentlemen.org
and click on: *Join Us*

Surfer

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

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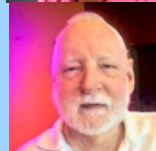
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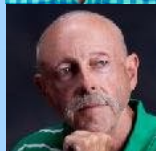


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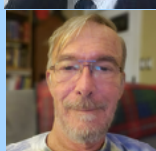
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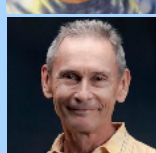
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**Special Advisor and
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Richard Lefebvre



Treasurer Emeritus
Mike Trask

PRESIDENT

from page 1

Finally, a reminder that the current Board of Directors' terms will end in June, and we'll be holding elections for new board members this year. The nomination cycle will start in February, with submissions closing in late February. Elections will be held in May. You have plenty of time to think about running for the board and can submit your candidacy when the time comes. I encourage you to consider contributing to the future of our organization.



December Holiday Table Decoration

Allan Behm

10/07/1939 – 9/29/2024



It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of fellow member Allan Behm, who left us peacefully on September 29, 2024, at Broward Health Hospital in Deerfield Beach,

Florida. Allan was born on October 7, 1939, in Reading, PA, and spent his final years at the Oasis Living Quarters Memory Center in Fort Lauderdale. He was an active member of Gamma Mu and the Fort Lauderdale Prime Gentlemen. His love for classical music was evident in his dedicated support of The Chopin Foundation of America, where he helped bring piano recitals to prestigious venues such as great halls, churches, and libraries. Allan's involvement with the Prime Timers was a source of great joy for him. In recognition of his commitment to our community, he generously bequeathed \$5,000 to the organization. This gift will be used to benefit our members, in keeping with his spirit of kindness and generosity.

Bill Barnard

9/18/1942 -- 12/13/2024



It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of our fellow member, Bill Barnard, who died on Friday, December 13, 2024, after a long illness. He was surrounded by love, at home, with his partner of 33 years by his side, listening to his favorite music. Bill was a distinguished University History Professor and Department Chair, as well as the head of the American Democratic Party in England. His intellect was matched only by his kindness, and he inspired admiration in everyone who knew him. Bill was a familiar and welcoming presence at our Tuesday mixers, often volunteering as a substitute name tagger. He also regularly attended our lunches, dinners, and monthly meetings, always contributing to the warmth and camaraderie of our group. Bill Barnard was the epitome of a true Southern gentleman, and his presence will be deeply missed by all of us.

MOVIES

By Ed Slough



FREE MOVIES

FRIDAY, January 17th 1:30 PM

at The Pride Center

FREE POPCORN AND SODA

A SAGE and Prime Gentlemen Event

Featured Movie - "BIRDER"



"Birder" is an erotic thriller with lots of full frontal nudity and dangerous sex. There's also plenty of dark comedy.

Kristian is an itinerant birdwatcher living in the wild forests of New Hampshire. On the shores

of a remote lake, he comes across a nude gay campground, where its guests pitch tents, relax naked on the shore and alternate between hookups with each other. Kristian strips off and joins the group, but as he engages in their sexual recreation, they fulfill his need too; the need to kill. One by one the anonymous campers start to disappear.

The film feels light and humorous, with its characters bantering through wisecrack campery. It's all gossip and sass, oblivious to the psycho living in their midst.

It's an unnerving, smiley performance that frequently takes one by surprise, with an ironic twist in the final act that gives the audience some earthy satisfaction.

Movie Short - "THE LETTERMEN"

Based on a large collection of gay love letters written during World War II, this drama tells the true story of two gay men who were in love, but torn apart by circumstances beyond their control. Exchanged between 1938 and 1941, the letters were uncovered in 2017 and represent the largest known collection LGBTQ love letters from that time period.



Using text from the actual letters, The Letter Men follows the two men as they fight to keep their love alive in the face of war and loss.

Free Movies Nov 15th



45
Moviegoers

January Hero

By Ken South



On August 24th, Mr. January came into this world in Honolulu, Hawaii, his dad in the military and joined 3 older sisters. His dad tried to get him interested in typical “guy” things like sports, but Mr. J had

no interest, while his mom got him enrolled in a theatrical summer camp, where he thrived. By 10 yrs.’ old the family had moved to Jacksonville, FL where he went to elementary and a high school of the arts, graduating in 1989. By his 19th birthday he was enrolled in the University of Tampa, majoring in Psychology.

At an early age, Mr. J was already very comfortable as a gay youngster, but was surprised to find out in Tampa that he was not accepted. He was so threatened, that he kept a baseball bat in his school backpack and was blunt when people asked him why. This started his very public college activism. His newly formed Gay Rights student group lobbied the university into adding Sexual Orientation to its non-discrimination policies.

Mr. J then enrolled in ROTC classes to highlight where the university was in violation of its new policies. He started wearing pro-gay message tee shirts to ROTC classes which, at one point, got him

physically removed from the building. The incident was reported on the TV news and in the local paper.

He became active with the Human Rights Campaign and Lambda Legal Defense. In 1992 he attended the Republican National Convention in Houston on behalf of ACT UP to protest and was arrested in a demonstration.

He transferred to the University of South Florida, also in Tampa, majored in Political Science and graduated in 1994. During this period, a friend of the family was unable to care for her 13yo son, so he became the teens foster father. He began working for Blue Cross Blue Shield and stayed with them for the next 8 years. He also worked for United Health Care and for an Emergency Department Management company.

Mr. J went on to adopt four boys from foster care and was a foster parent for 10 other children, one of whom was a transgender girl. After a certain President was elected, he and his two younger sons moved to Costa Rica for two years. During this time Mr. J became a grandad! He now has three grandchildren.

Mr. J has been active with SAGE of South Florida for the past decade and is now a Board Member. Mr. J joined Prime Gentlemen in 2020.



PRIME GENTLEMEN EXCURSION

By Ed Slough



ZOO MIAMI EXCURSION
SATURDAY, January 25th at 10:30 am
12400 SW 152nd St, Miami, FL 33177
(305) 251-0400

Zoo Miami is the largest zoo in Florida and the fifth largest in the United States. As the only subtropical zoo in the continental U.S., the unique climate in South Florida allows us to care for a wide variety of animals from Asia, Australia, Africa, and the Americas representing a broad mix of species that is unlike any other zoo in the country.

Notify Ed Slough if you wish to attend:

wildhybrid@aol.com

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP - 480
WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Robert Bastien	George Longobardi
Don Cooke	Richard Padilla
Robert Dewey	Daniel Roy
Alejandro Frades	Robert Shaw
Rene Franco	Steven Silverman
William Garneau	

November 28
Thanksgiving Day Dinner
Checker's Old Munchen
50 Attended



JANUARY BIRTHDAY BOYS



Book Discussion Group

By Paul McNamara



In this month's selection, "***On Earth We're***

Briefly Gorgeous" by Ocean Vuong, a young man writes a letter to his illiterate mother in an attempt to make sense of his traumatic beginnings.

When Little Dog is a child growing up in Hartford, he is asked to make a family tree. Where other children draw full green branches full of relatives, Little Dog's branches are bare, with just five names. Born in Vietnam, Little Dog now lives with his abusive—and abused—mother and his schizophrenic grandmother. The Vietnam War casts a long shadow on his life: his mother is the child of an anonymous American soldier—his grandmother survived as a sex worker during the conflict.

Without siblings, without a father, Little Dog's loneliness is exacerbated by his otherness: he is small, poor, Asian, and queer.

Much of the novel recounts his first love affair as a teen, with a "redneck" from the white part of town, as he confesses to his mother how this doomed relationship is akin to his violent childhood. In telling the stories of those who exist in the margins, Little Dog says, "I never wanted to build a 'body of work,' but to preserve these, our bodies, breathing and unaccounted for, inside the work."

With stunning urgency and grace, Ocean Vuong writes of people caught between disparate worlds, and asks how we heal and rescue one another without forsaking who we are. The question of how to survive, and how to make of it a kind of joy, powers the most important debut novel in many years.

"*On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*" will be discussed at the next meeting of the Book Discussion Group, to be held on Saturday, January 11 from 11:00 AM to noon at the Stonewall Library, 1300 E Sunrise Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, and simultaneously on Zoom via this link: [Book Discussion Group](#) (Meeting ID: 275139 4844 and Pass code: 076609)

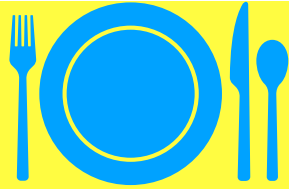
Congratulations to the
December 50-50
Winner



UPCOMING:

FEBRUARY MEETING:

The selection for the
February 8, 2025
discussion is
**"*The Foghorn
Echoes*"** by Danny
Ramadan



FOOD & DRINK



NEW YEAR'S DAY LUNCH

Wednesday, January 1st 2025 @ 1:00 PM

6200 N. Federal Hwy Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308

If you're going, contact Ed Slough at wildhybrid@aol.com so he can tell the restaurant how many to expect.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Sunday, January 5, 2:00 pm

Pride Center at Equality Park, Main Hall

2040 N. Dixie Highway, Wilton Manors, FL 33305

Bring a dish to share for our potluck meal

EARLY BIRD DINNER

Wednesday, January 8, 5:00 pm

Ambry

3016 E Commercial Blvd, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308

If you're going, contact Ed Slough at wildhybrid@aol.com so he can tell the restaurant how many to expect.

DINER RUN

Thursday, January 9, Meet at 1:00 pm

Country Ham & Eggs Diner

2671 E. Oakland Park Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306

Call or text Doug Kent at 305-495-2978 or email him at dutchwood@att.net to make sure you have a seat for this enjoyable afternoon.

NIGHT OUT DINNER

Wednesday, January 22, 5:00 pm

Tropics Grille in Wilton Manors

2000 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors, FL 33305

LUNCHEON

Thursday, January 30, Meet at 1:00 pm

Padrino's Cuban Restaurant

1135 North Federal Hwy, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

Mark your calendar now and remember to call or text Doug Kent at 305-495-2978 or e-mail him at dutchwood@att.net to reserve your spot.

MIXER

Every Tuesday, 5:00 pm

Tropics Grille Restaurant & Bar

2000 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors 33305

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

Early Bird Dinner



Wednesday,
January 8, 2025 @ 5:00 PM
3016 E Commercial Blvd.
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308

Ambry has an extensive "early bird menu" with three course meals including soup or salad, entree, dessert and coffee or tea. And their classic French onion soup is one of the available choices. View the Early Bird' menu at <https://ambryrestaurant.net/early-bird-menu>

Please let Ed Slough know if you plan on attending: wildhybrid@aol.com



NEW YEAR'S DAY LUNCH BLACK ROCK BAR and GRILL

Wednesday, January 1st 2025 @ 1:00 PM
6200 N. Federal Hwy Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308

Black Rock has extended their 'Early Bird' menu for our group on New Year's day providing us with many thrifty options. Contact Ed Slough if you would like to join our New Year's Day holiday dinner group wildhybrid@aol.com

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

John Pouliot	1/1
Paul Gladue	1/1
Jeffrey Piekarsky	1/2
Kenneth Crush	1/3
David Orsino	1/3
Bill Boguski	1/5
George McLaughlin	1/5
Ricardo Otero	1/6
Luther Parker	1/7
McBee Charles	1/7
Terry Byrd	1/8
Robert Baker	1/8
Charles Lockyer	1/9
Andres Henriquez	1/9
Ernest Londa	1/10
Eric Weiner	1/10
Paul Fruehling	1/11
Joel Kaufman	1/11
Al Natali	1/11
Robert Smith	1/11
Douglas Kent	1/11
Al Remer	1/12

Robert Logan	1/13
David Rutter	1/14
Ira Thompson	1/15
Tony Palazolo	1/15
Jefy Gaines	1/18
Robert Dewey	1/19
Walt Rogal	1/21
Dale Dawursk	1/22
William Garneau	1/22
Steven Silverman	1/22
Steven Florio	1/24
Robert MacDonald	1/25
James Bowling	1/25
William Woodward	1/26
Jim Gunter	1/26
Efrain Campomenosi	1/29
Gary Snyder	1/29
Anthony Tsagris	1/30
Carlos Cifuentes	1/31

Ron Grassullo & Ed Witkowski	1/19/1993	32 years
Tom Daniel & Andrew Langley	1/26/2003	22 years
Jim Restrict & Roman Cisneros	1/13/2005	20 years
Robbie Simoes & Luiz Ramos	1/27/2006	19 years
Fonsi Bujosa & Jack Faraci	1/1/2008	17 years

January Hero
Michael Gagne



Join us Wednesday, January 22
Night Out at Tropics"

Tropics Grille in Wilton Manors, FL located at 2000 Wilton Drive

- Drinks/cocktails from 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm at 'Happy Hour' prices
- Dinner at 5:30 pm
- SAGE/Prime Gentlemen members are welcome, including all our friends
- You can check out their menu here: <https://tropicsgrillefl.com/menu/>
- **Please email Ed to let him know if you plan to attend.**
Ed Slough: wildhybrid@aol.com

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

Surfer 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:00 AM Tennis BP 12:00 PM Haulover HA	30 6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM#	31 7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR, p8	1 11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Men's Dropln ZM# 1:00 PM New Years Day Lunch	2 7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Collectors PC 3:00 PM Co-ed Dropln ZM# 7:00 PM Walking SC	3	4
5 8:00 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM General Meeting PC, P8	6 6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM#	7 7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR, p8	8 11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Men's Dropln ZM# 5:00 PM Early Bird Dinner, p8	9 7:30 AM Tennis BP 1:00 PM Diner Run, P8 2:00 PM Computer PC 3:00 PM Co-ed Dropln ZM# 7:00 PM Walking SC	10 2:00 PM History Group ZM	11 11:00 AM Book Discussion Group
12 8:00 AM Tennis BP	13 6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM#	14 7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR, p8	15 11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Men's Dropln ZM#	16 7:30 AM Tennis BP 12:30 PM Board ZM 2:00 PM Collectors Group 3:00 PM Co-ed Dropln ZM# 7:00 PM Walking SC	17 1:30 PM Free Movies PC, P4	18
19 8:00 AM Tennis BP	20 6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM#	21 7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR, p8	22 11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Men's Dropln ZM# 5:00 PM Tropics Grille Night Out, p8	23 7:30 AM Tennis BP 3:00 PM Co-ed Dropln ZM# 7:00 PM Walking SC	24 2:00 PM History Group ZM	25 10:30 AM Zoo Miami Excursion
26 8:00 AM Tennis BP	27 6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM#	28 7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR, p8	29 11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Men's Dropln ZM#	30 7:30 AM Tennis BP 1:00 PM Luncheon, p8 3:00 PM Co-ed Dropln ZM# 7:00 PM Walking SC	31	1

Eastern Time Time Zone

Page 1/1

LOCATION CODES

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.



December General Meeting HOLIDAYS Celebration

