



Fort Lauderdale Prime Gentlemen

January 2026 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Henry Penas



A brand-new year is upon us — a time to look ahead with anticipation while reflecting on the memories we've made along the way.

December's Holiday/White Elephant Event marked our 22nd celebration, and what a gathering it was! The Embassy Suites on 17th Street Causeway proved to be a wonderful venue, and with more than eighty members in attendance, the room was filled with festive cheer. Holiday accessories, cheerful lanyards, and smiling faces set the mood, while a well-stocked gift table kept everyone guessing. At the end of the afternoon, we raffled off meals generously paid for by members who couldn't attend, along with three complimentary membership renewals. Laughter, conversation, and good spirits carried us through the event.

One especially encouraging highlight was seeing so many new members join us—it's always exciting to watch our community grow.

Now for something new! You may have noticed a fresh addition to our website: the [Prime Gentlemen Shop](#). This new merchandise store offers a wide selection of items proudly displaying our logo. I've already placed an order myself and am enjoying a sharp golf shirt and a matching cap. The shopping experience is as easy and convenient as buying from Amazon—simply click the link, add items to your cart, and check out. Your order is shipped directly to you, and if any issues arise, their customer service is quick to respond. Best of all, a portion of every purchase goes directly back to Prime Gentlemen—a win for you and for our organization.

We're also introducing another new initiative: paid advertising opportunities on our website, digital newsletter, Facebook Page and Weekly Bulletin. This program allows local businesses, friends, and members to show their support while gaining exposure to our audience. It's a great way to highlight what they offer while creating an additional revenue stream for us.

Both of these initiatives—the merchandise shop and paid advertising, are experimental for now. If they prove successful, we'll continue to promote them through our outreach channels. If not, we'll adjust accordingly. Our hope is that they gain popularity and become valuable resources that benefit everyone involved.

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

Visit **FtLPrimeGentlemen.org**
and click on: Join Us

SURFER

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FtLPrimeGentlemen.org

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Please submit all articles and updates to the editor
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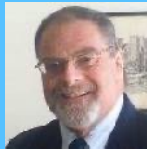
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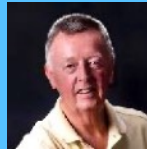
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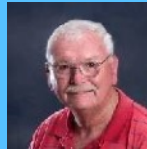


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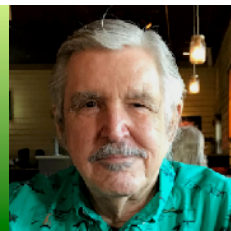
Special Advisor and
Board Member Emeritus
Richard Lefebvre



Treasurer Emeritus
Mike Trask

MOVIES

by Ed Slough



WICKED:FOR GOOD

Friday, January 16th @ 1:30 PM at the Pride Center

Free movie including popcorn and soda!

A SAGE and PRIME GENTLEMEN Event



Taking one last lap down the yellow brick road, “Wicked: For Good”’s darker tone and unhurried pacing sometimes get in the way, but this epic conclusion ultimately brings Elphaba and Glinda’s story home in rousing fashion. Now demonized as the Wicked Witch of the West, Elphaba lives in exile in the Ozian forest, while Glinda resides in the palace in Emerald City, reveling in the perks of fame and popularity. As an angry mob rises against the Wicked Witch, Elphaba will need to reunite with Glinda to transform herself — and all of Oz — for good. This is primarily Elphaba’s story, but also the evolution of Glinda.

The “Wicked” musical movies are meant to celebrate diversity and preach radical acceptance in the face of rising fascism. The witch Elphaba is consistently misjudged for her bright green skin.

How Glinda and Elphaba strive to salvage their friendship while also being pulled apart by society’s expectations provides the film’s tension and spine. Elphaba figures if everyone assumes she’s wicked, she may as well lean into that. In “For Good,” we know from the start that we’re in more serious territory as Ozian workers are shown building the Yellow Brick Road. This second film focuses on introducing beloved characters and familiar images from the original “Wizard of Oz,” including the Cowardly Lion, the Tin Man, and the Scarecrow. Even Dorothy makes a brief appearance. So if you’re into the lore of the original “Wizard of Oz,” there are goodies in store for you.

“Wicked: For Good” is just as spellbinding as its predecessor, from the enchanted sets and costumes to the wonderful musical numbers and the entertaining supporting cast. Cynthia Erivo is mesmerizing, while Ariana Grande delivers a performance that elevates her character to new heights.

MAN OF THE MONTH

Interviewed by George Mihalakos

A Boston native, Mr. N attended Boston College (BA) as an undergraduate and Indiana University (MLS, CAS) for graduate school, where he began a multi-city career spanning the east coast (New York), the west coast (Stanford University), and numerous cities in between (Philadelphia, Toronto, Kansas City, Minneapolis). Before moving to Fort Lauderdale, he lived in Chicago but decided to escape the cold weather in favor of this welcoming community.

Mr. N is a seasoned medical professional with extensive expertise in medical publishing. His career highlights include significant roles with prestigious organizations such as International Thomson Publishing (now Thomson Reuters); the American Medical Association (AMA), where his positions included Vice President of Business Development; the American College of Chest Physicians; and Stanford University.

Early Inspiration

His father, a college professor who taught seven languages at four different universities, served as a lifelong source of inspiration for hard work, dedication, and intellectual curiosity. Mr. N spent his life trying to live up to his father's accomplishments, but he always felt he fell just short. His father earned a Ph.D., while Mr. N achieved a master's degree. His dad reached the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Army Reserve, while Mr. N was only a Major.

Recognizing the challenges of constant comparison, Mr. N eventually pursued his own unique interests, primarily through hobbies. He became a lifeguard and then an avid SCUBA diver, frequently diving in all seasons in the chilly waters of New England.

In contrast to his father, who enjoyed flying only as a passenger, Mr. N trained as a pilot (though a four-seat, single-engine propeller plane remained his limit). Over years of work-related travel, he has logged more than 13 million lifetime passenger miles across the American, Delta, and United Airlines frequent-flyer programs. Now he's set his sights on a new goal: earning two-million-miler status on United. Flights are his usual excuse for missing Prime Gentlemen events!

Unusual Bucket List Challenge

While most people cite "travel" as a key item on their bucket list, Mr. N takes it a step further. His quest is to fly all wing-mounted, four-engine commercial passenger jets (quad-jets). His accomplishments toward that goal have included flights on historic, rare, and iconic aircraft that only a tiny fraction of travelers have ever experienced, including:

- more than a dozen flights on British Airways' Concorde fleet—including their legendary G-BOAC (tail number), considered the flagship of the BA Concorde fleet and reported to have carried Princess Diana and Queen Elizabeth II. And Mr. N!
- American Airlines' ultra-rare 747SP (originally built for the Shah of Iran).

Next on his list is the Airbus A340-600, one of whose most distinctive features in the Lufthansa configuration is a stairway to five lavatories on the lower deck. Only a true aviation enthusiast would note that detail!

Mr. N is currently dedicated to giving back by volunteering at Holy Cross Hospital, reflecting his commitment to both professional excellence and community service.

As a comical aside, Mr. N and the author of this column were both altar boys and commiserated that neither was hit upon. Can you guess who our January "Man of the Month" is? Turn to page 6 to find out!



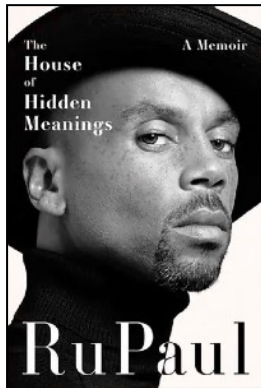
Mr. N down on his knees from an early age.

BOOK DISCUSSION

by Paul McNamara



Please note: Effective January 24, 2026, meetings will be held on the fourth Saturday of each month.



JANUARY SELECTION:
The House of Hidden Meanings: A Memoir
by RuPaul



FEBRUARY SELECTION:
Our Evenings
by Alan Hollinghurst

With *The House of Hidden Meanings*, international drag superstar and pop culture icon RuPaul delivers his most revealing and personal work to date--a deeply intimate memoir of discovery, found family, and self-acceptance. It is a self-portrait of the legendary icon on the road to global fame and changing the way the world thinks about drag. Central to RuPaul's success has been his chameleonic adaptability. From drag icon to powerhouse producer of one of the world's largest television franchises, RuPaul's ever-shifting nature has always been part of his brand as both supermodel and super mogul. Yet that adaptability has made him enigmatic to the public. In this memoir, his most intimate and detailed book yet, RuPaul makes himself truly known. Here in RuPaul's singular and extraordinary story is a manual for living—a personal philosophy that testifies to the value of chosen family, the importance of harnessing what makes you different, and the transformational power of facing yourself fearlessly.

The House of Hidden Meanings will be discussed at the next meeting of the Book Discussion Group, to be held on Saturday, January 24 from 11:00 AM to noon at the Stonewall Library, 1300 E Sunrise Blvd. Fort Lauderdale and simultaneously on Zoom. (Meeting ID: 275 139 4844 and Passcode: 076609)



\$64 (inclusive of the show, brunch, unlimited Champagne, Mimosas, Bloody Marys, tips and tax)

To reserve and for more details, click [here](#).

PRIME GENTLEMEN EXCURSION

by Ed Slough



NORTON MUSEUM OF ART

Saturday, January 31st at 2:00 PM

1450 South Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Admission is \$12 for Seniors; Veterans are admitted free

There will be carpools for those wanting a ride. We will meet at the entrance at 2 PM and the tour will start at 2:30 PM. We may grab a bite to eat at a nearby restaurant.

For the first time in the United States, 17 Rembrandts are on display in the Norton Museum's new show, **"Art and Life in Rembrandt's Time: Masterpieces from The Leiden Collection."** The exhibition stands among the most valuable exhibits the Norton has ever presented. Each of the 17 paintings is valued in the tens of millions of dollars. These paintings make up the world's largest collection of Rembrandts in private hands.

The Rembrandts are the center of gravity in this survey of 75 paintings by 27 Dutch Golden Age artists, all contemporaries and disciples of the famed painter, etcher, printmaker, and drafter. Taken together, The Leiden Collection traces daily life in 17th-century Amsterdam, from portraits of merchant sitters and the Roman deity Minerva to humble family meals in messy Dutch homes. The fact that this is the U.S. debut of "Art & Life" makes viewing the collection an even rarer experience.

For more info of the exhibit, click [here](#). Notify Ed Slough if you wish to attend: wildhybrid@aol.com

MAN OF THE MONTH Richard Newman





FOOD & DRINKS



NEW YEAR'S DAY LUNCHEON

Thursday, January 1, 1:00 PM

Tequila Sunrise Mexican Grill

4711 North Dixie Hwy, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33334

(more details on [page 8](#))

DINER RUN

Thursday, January 8, 1:00 PM

Lester's Diner

1924 E Atlantic Blvd, Pompano Beach, FL 33060

This classic diner will be sure to please, please note the location. To reserve your seat, visit our website & click on the Events tab or text Doug Kent at [305-495-2978](tel:305-495-2978)

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Saturday, January 10, 2:00 PM

Pride Center at Equality Park, Main Hall

2040 N Dixie Highway, Wilton Manors, FL 33305

No reservations required; just bring a dish to share for our potluck meal!

EARLY BIRD DINNER

Wednesday, January 14, 5:30 pm

Candela Spanish Restaurant

2909 NE 6th Ave, Wilton Manors, FL 33334

To reserve your spot, contact Ed Slough at wildhybrid@aol.com

DINNER PARTY

Wednesday, January 21, seatings at 5:00 PM or 7:00 PM

Ferdos Grill

4300 N Federal Hwy, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308

[RSVP is required](#). To reserve your seat, visit our website & click on the Events tab.

NIGHT OUT DINNER

Wednesday, January 28, 5:00 PM

Tropics Grille in Wilton Manors

2000 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors, FL 33305

To reserve your spot, contact Ed Slough at wildhybrid@aol.com

LUNCHEON

Thursday, January 29, 1:00 PM

Sicilian Oven

2761 E Oakland Park Blvd, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306

Start off the new year with a wonderful lunch with friends at this popular restaurant. To reserve your seat, visit our website & click on the Events tab or text Doug Kent at [305-495-2978](tel:305-495-2978)

MIXER

Every Tuesday, 5:00 PM

Tropics Grille Restaurant & Bar

2000 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors, FL 33305

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



NEW YEAR'S DAY LUNCHEON

Tequila Sunrise Mexican Grill

4711 North Dixie Hwy, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33334

January 1, 2026 @ 1:00PM

Ed Slough has planned New Year's Day lunch for the three years before the COVID-19 lockdown, and for the four years after, so that everyone will have the opportunity to celebrate with friends. No one needs to stay at home alone for this holiday. His criteria for selecting a restaurant include modest prices and the ability of the restaurant to accommodate a large group. This year, he has selected Tequila Sunrise. This event is intended for members of SAGE, Prime Gentlemen, and their friends, which means you need not be a member of either group to join us!

Even though it is a holiday, Tequila Sunrise has offered us their Thursday Special: free shots and queso! And fishbowl margaritas for \$5.99. Their Happy Hour prices are the best in town. Wine, sangria, and draft beer are \$4.99!

Notify Ed if you'd like to attend at wildhybrid@aol.com





DINNER PARTY

JAN 21

See you at **Ferdos Grill Middle Eastern restaurant**
4300 N Federal Hwy, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308



**Reserve
your
place**

*Ferdos Grill is a locally owned
and operated restaurant
serving a wide array of
delicious dishes in a
comfortable and welcoming
atmosphere.*

**5 PM
7 PM**

Come enjoy an evening of delicious cuisine,
friendly faces, and relaxed conversation in
a comfortable, welcoming setting!

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JANUARY MONTHLY MEMBERS GATHERING



Saturday, January 10th
2:00 PM



Pride Center – Main Hall
2040 N Dixie Highway, Wilton Manors

POTLUCK SPIRITS
Bring a dish to share!

Friendship • Laughter • Good Energy



A brand new year, a fresh start, and the perfect
moment to reconnect with friends. Join us for our
first Monthly Members Gathering of 2026 – warm
conversations, delicious dishes, and the joy of
community. There's no better way to begin the year
than surrounded by the Prime Gentlemen
community. We look forward to seeing you there!



INTRODUCING SINGLE MEN'S MIXER



**FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
4:00 – 7:00 PM**

• 50% OFF MEALS EVERY WEDNESDAY • DISCOUNTED DRINKS

701 Bayshore Dr, Fort Lauderdale 33304

CELEBRATIONS & NEW FACES

BIRTHDAYS

1/2	Ray Legall	1/14	David Rutter
1/2	Jeffrey Piekarsky	1/15	Tony Palazolo
1/2	Robert Castoro	1/15	Godfrey Thompson
1/3	Kenneth Crush	1/16	Rick Meares
1/3	Manabendra Ray	1/18	Jeffrey Gaines
1/5	Bill Boguski	1/19	Gary Brown
1/5	George McLaughlin	1/19	Robert Dewey
1/6	Ricardo Otero	1/19	Barry Bates
1/7	Charles McBee	1/21	Walt Rogal
1/7	Bill Wiley	1/22	Dale Dawursk
1/7	Luther Parker	1/22	Steven Silverman
1/8	Terry Byrd	1/22	William Garneau
1/8	Robert Baker	1/24	Steven Florio
1/9	Charles Lockyer	1/25	James Bowling
1/9	Andres Henriquez	1/26	William Woodward
1/11	Robert Smith	1/26	Jim Gunter
1/11	Al Natali	1/27	Robert Barnett
1/11	Joel Kaufman	1/28	Kenneth Joseph
1/11	Douglas Kent	1/29	Efrain Campomenosi
1/12	Al Remer	1/29	Gary Snyder
1/13	Robert Logan	1/30	Carl Korynas
		1/30	Tony Tsagris

ANNIVERSARIES

1/16/2017 — Lamar Stockman & Mark Ramirez — 8 yrs	1/27/2006 — Luiz Ramos & Robsonney Simoes — 19 yrs
1/23/2015 — Marc Turner & Ricardo Otero — 10 yrs	1/13/2005 — James Restrict & Roman Cisneros — 20 yrs
1/31/2013 — Francisco Vargas & Gustavo Prato — 12 yrs	11/26/2003 — Andrew Langley & Tom Daniel — 22 yrs
1/1/2008 — Jack Faraci & Juan Bujosa — 17 yrs	1/19/1993 — Edmund Witkowski & Ronald Grassullo — 32 yrs

NEW MEMBERS

Jim Amon	Steven Weaver
Sal Orlando	Juice Travers
Mike Downs	David Martin
Robery Lee	Oscar Padilla
Michael Nelson	

GALLERY

December Monthly Meeting



Congratulations to our 50/50 Winner!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR JANUARY BOYS!

GALLERY

December Monthly Meeting



GALLERY

2025 Holiday Luncheon



GALLERY

2025 Holiday Luncheon



GALLERY

2025 Holiday Luncheon



GALLERY

2025 Holiday Luncheon



GALLERY

2025 Holiday Luncheon



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
				8 AM Tennis BP 1 PM New Year's Day Luncheon 3 PM Co-ed Drop-in ZM 7 PM Walking SC		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8 AM Tennis BP	11 AM SOB/A VC 6 PM Online Mixer ZM	8 AM Tennis BP 2 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM 5 PM Mixer TR	11 AM Bowling ML 1 PM Bowling MA 1 PM Men's drop-in ZM 4 PM Single Men's Mixer	8 AM Tennis BP 12 PM Board Meeting ZM 1 PM Diner Run 2 PM Computer PC 3 PM Co-ed Drop-in ZM 7 PM Walking SC	2 PM History Group ZM	2 PM Membership Meeting PC
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8 AM Tennis BP	11 AM SOB/A VC 6 PM Online Mixer ZM	8 AM Tennis BP 2 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM 5 PM Mixer TR	11 AM Bowling ML 1 PM Bowling MA 1 PM Men's Drop-in ZM 5:30 PM Early Bird Dinner	8 AM Tennis BP 2 PM Collectors PC 3 PM Co-ed Drop-in ZM 7 PM Walking SC	1:30 PM Movies PC	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8 AM Tennis BP	11 AM SOB/A VC 6 PM Online Mixer ZM	8 AM Tennis BP 2 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM 5 PM Mixer TR	11 AM Bowling ML 1 PM Bowling MA 1 PM Men's Drop-in ZM 5 PM / 7 PM Dinner Party	8 AM Tennis BP 3 PM Co-ed Drop-in ZM 7 PM Walking SC		11 AM Book Group
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
8 AM Tennis BP Haulover Beach	11 AM SOB/A VC 6 PM Online Mixer ZM	8 AM Tennis BP 2 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM 5 PM Mixer TR	11 AM Bowling ML 1 PM Bowling MA 1 PM Men's Drop-in ZM 5 PM Night Out Dinner	8 AM Tennis BP 1 PM Luncheon 3 PM Co-ed Drop-in ZM 7 PM Walking SC		2 PM Excursion at Norton Museum of Art

LOCATION CODES

BP =	Brummer Park, 3500 W Palm Aire Dr, Pompano Beach 33069
HA =	Haulover Beach, 10800 Collins Ave, Miami Beach 33154
MA =	Margate Lanes, 2020 N State Rd 7, Margate 33063
ML =	Manor Lanes, 1517 NE 26th Street, Fort Lauderdale 33305
PC =	Pride Center, 2040 N Dixie Hwy, Wilton Manors 33305
SC =	Skolnick Center, 800 SW 36th Ave, Pompano Beach 33069
SL =	Stonewall Library, 1300 E Sunrise Blvd, Fort Lauderdale 33311
TR =	Tropics Bar and Grille, 2000 Wilton Dr, Wilton Manors 33305
VC =	Volen Center, 1515 W Palmetto Park Rd, Boca Raton 33486
ZM =	Zoom, see weekly e-mail bulletin for link

