



Fort Lauderdale Prime Gentlemen

April 2026 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Henry Penas



Our main purpose as an organization is to provide interesting activities for older men so they can be socially active and engaged instead of just sitting at home. Even though we have five hundred members, I am sure there are more than five hundred older gay men in the area who would benefit from membership in Prime Gentlemen.

Over these many years I have observed something wonderful. If you stand back and watch and listen to a typical Prime Gentlemen get-together at lunch, at the mixer, at dinner, or at our monthly potluck meeting, you will hear lots of talking and lots of laughing. The same is true at tennis, bowling, the collectors' group, the book discussion group and our excursions.

Here's what I would like to propose: it would be great if you would look through your Rolodex. Oops! I'm showing my age. If you look through your contacts on your cell phone, I'm sure you will find the names of friends who would benefit from being part of our organization.

Here's your assignment if you choose to accept it: find the name of at least one friend and invite him to come with you to one of our activities this month.

No pressure. No arm twisting. Just have them come and experience the atmosphere that exists at Prime Gentlemen get-togethers, no matter what activity you choose. There is no better way to encourage non-members to join than having them experience firsthand the same enjoyment that you do. That we all do.

Why don't we call it the "Get Your Ass Out of the House" campaign?

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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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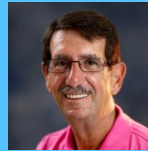
FtLPrimeGentlemen.org

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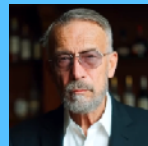
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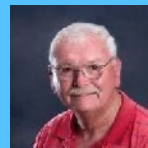
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MOVIES

by Ed Slough



PILLION

Friday, April 17 @ 1:30 PM at the Pride Center

Free movie including popcorn and soda!

A SAGE and PRIME GENTLEMEN Event



Pillion presents itself as an immersion into the world of male submission within a gay biker subculture. To prove there's nothing gentle about true love, Pillion is a story of romance, devotion and loss. A naive inexperienced young gay man living with his parents in an anonymous city falls for the ultimate dominant alpha male – an impossibly handsome, strong, emotionally impassive biker who casually demands complete domestic obedience in exchange for the privilege of being anally penetrated with athletic vigor and a thrilling lack of sensitivity.

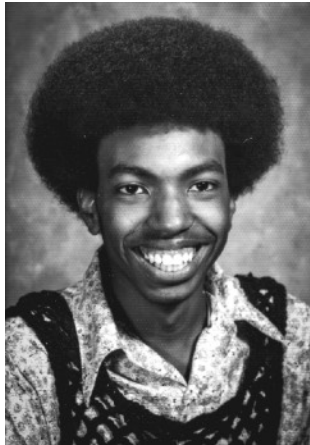
Pillion is a bold and daring film that pushes boundaries by portraying a BDSM relationship with honesty and nuance, never slipping into shock or cliché. It blends awkward, funny, sensual, and serious moments in a way that feels natural and grounded. The restrained direction and minimal dialogue allow the dynamic to unfold quietly, with glances and pauses carrying real weight. The power balance and attraction feel lived-in rather than exaggerated, making the story intimate and convincing. It may challenge some viewers due to the explicit BDSM sex scenes, but its confidence and authenticity make it stand out.



MAN OF THE MONTH

GARY

Interviewed by George H. Mihalakos



Early Years

Gary was born and raised in Washington, DC in a devout Seventh-day Adventist household — a faith known for discipline, reflection and an early appreciation for potlucks without cocktails. He is one of five brothers. Three are gay. Statistically impressive. Family gatherings must have been interesting and highly coordinated. His education

was a blend of public and parochial schools followed by the University of Maryland.

Professional Life

He has always existed at the elegant crossroads where technology meets “please fix this immediately!” In Washington, he prepared technical documents, organizational charts and client materials for federal agencies and major banks, which is to say he made complex things readable and bureaucracies slightly less terrifying. A move to San Francisco elevated his career into a supervisory role at a major law firm. There he managed word processing, desktop publishing, training and troubleshooting - back when “desktop publishing” was cutting-edge.

In 2005, Fort Lauderdale beckoned - as it does. He joined the Broward County Library's Creative Station, tutoring the community in digital tools, 3D printing and emerging technologies. It takes a special kind of patience to reassure them that the machine was not, in fact, broken. Eventually he found his professional home in Fort Lauderdale's Building Services Division handling property records, permits, front-desk reception and customer support - all essential civic duties, the unsung choreography of civic life.

Motivation

Gary is a firm believer that one must live life to the fullest. That means you, and only you, must take control

of your life because no one else will volunteer. He recognizes that pleasing everyone is inefficient and mathematically improbable. The loss of friends to HIV, COVID, violence and congenital illness gave him a practical understanding that time is limited. Being born Black and gay in America provided additional perspective - and a well-developed ability to read the room.

Love and Partnership

He met his future husband in 1994 - first online, then at a Starbucks in San Francisco. They bonded over early computer technology which at the time required patience and several boot attempts. Gary and his husband discovered early on that they had apparently been living in the same social universe with a talent for just barely missing each other. Every time he proudly announced, “I can't wait for you to meet my friend —,” his partner would interrupt with, “Oh, you mean that friend? We've known each other for years.” Cue his stunned reaction. Again and again they learned they had already been “vetted” and were two ships passing at night, docking at all the same ports. They remained partners for decades and formalized their bond in 2018 at a ceremony in Fort Lauderdale, proving that some software updates are worth the wait.

Activism

Gary and his husband served as board members and co- chairmen of Men of All Colors Together (San

Francisco Bay Area) - a multiracial and multicultural LGBTQ organization committed to confronting discrimination through educational, cultural and political efforts.



BOOK DISCUSSION

by Paul McNamara



APRIL SELECTION:

***Somewhere
Beyond the Sea***

by TJ Klune

The selection for the April discussion is ***“Somewhere Beyond the Sea”*** by TJ Klune.

A magical house. A secret past. A summons that could change everything.

Arthur Parnassus lives a good life built on the ashes of a bad one. He’s the headmaster of a strange orphanage on a distant and peculiar island, and he hopes to soon be the adoptive father of six dangerous and magical children who live there.

Arthur works hard and loves with his whole heart, so none of the children ever feel the neglect and pain that he once felt as an orphan on that very same island so long ago. He is not alone: joining him is the love of his life, Linus Baker, a former caseworker in the Department in Charge of Magical Youth. And there’s the island’s sprite, Zoe Chapelwhite, and her girlfriend, Mayor Helen Webb. Together, they will do anything to protect the children.

But when Arthur is summoned to make a public statement about his dark past, he finds himself at the helm of a fight for the future that his family and all magical people deserve. And when a new magical child hopes to join them on their island home—one who finds power in calling himself a monster, a name that Arthur worked so hard to protect his children from—Arthur knows they’re



MAY SELECTION:

One Love

by Matt Cain

at a breaking point: their family will either grow stronger than ever or fall apart.

Welcome back to Marsyas Island. This is Arthur’s story.

Somewhere Beyond the Sea will be discussed at the next meeting of the Book Discussion Group, to be held on Saturday, April 25 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)



FEATURED ACTIVITY

TENNIS GROUP



Back when we were the Fort Lauderdale Prime Timers, Clark Raby and I, Henry Penas, started the tennis group. We scoped out the neighborhood for free tennis courts, sent out a notice, and everyone who was interested convened.

The tennis courts were city courts on the street. There were two of them, they were pretty well maintained and hardly ever used by anybody else. Since Clark had been a tennis pro, he was in charge. He organized the tennis doubles teams and gave lessons and drills to the others while the rest played. Then we switched.

Many of the players who showed up had never played tennis before but were willing to learn. Some of them fell because they were out of shape, but they got up and continued playing. Others fell and decided tennis wasn't for them.

A number of years passed before tennis courts were built in Palm Aire. There were six very well-maintained courts, and that's where we moved our operation. We have had as many as 16 players and as few as four. We play on cold days in the winter and the hottest days of summer. The only thing that keeps us from playing is rain. We've even played after it stops, we've had to squeegee and mop the courts so we could play.



Players have come and gone but we've managed to keep going for over 15 years. Any member is welcome to join us. It doesn't matter what their skill level is. Beginners are welcome, but if you're too good, you probably won't want to play with us.

We play every **Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday at 8:00 AM.** We do it for fun

and always have a good time. All you have to do is show up and bring a tennis racket. If you don't have one, we will lend you one. We usually play until 10:00 or 10:30 AM. Think about coming. Play with us or just come and watch to see if this is something you think you would like to do.





April 19, 2026 @2PM in Wilton Manors
To **RSVP**, email admin@ftlprimegentlemen.org



DINNER PARTY

APR 15

Join us at **Salimar Ceviche Bar**
199 E Oakland Park Blvd, Oakland Park, FL 33334



**Reserve
your
Spot now**

The cuisine of **SALIMAR**
Peruvian Fusion is based on the
evolution of Peruvian cuisine,
on the millenary fusion that
makes up each dish.

6 PM

Share your favorite moments with #FTLPG

Master Your Windows Computer

Basic Computer Use

Thursday, April 9th
2 - 4 PM in Room 205

- Right-Click? Double-Click? Tame your mouse
- Save Files and Pictures and Find them afterwards
- Connect to the Internet and Find what you want.
- Find, Install and Play Games online
- Keep your computer virus free and fast



Scan to Register

Separate Classes available for Apple Computers

Technology for Beginners

Affordable Computer & Phone Workshops

2nd Thursdays, Monthly from 2 to 4PM

THE PRIDE CENTER

2040 N Dixie Hwy, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33305

Presented by



HelpMeEric.com



Fort Lauderdale
Prime Gentlemen

Information/Reservations

Call (954) 903-4383 or visit HelpMeEric.com

Classes are complementary for Prime Gentlemen & SAGE.
Bring your device to class. Some "loaner" computers available.
FREE GIFT for first-time attendees.

Another computer session: April 8, 2026
2:00 PM at Herb Skolnick Center



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PRIME GENTLEMEN EXCURSION

by Ed Slough



FLAMINGO GARDENS

Saturday, April 25 at 10:30 AM

3750 S Flamingo Rd, Davie, FL 33330

Admission ticket is \$20 each

Established in 1927, Flamingo Gardens is one of the oldest botanical gardens and attractions in South Florida. Originally founded by Floyd L. and Jane Wray as an orange grove, the nonprofit botanical garden is now home to 15 "Champion" trees—the largest of their species in Florida. The gardens feature specialized collections, including some of the largest displays of naturalized orchids, cycads, heliconias, and gingers in the contiguous United States, along with more than 3,000 species of rare and exotic tropical, subtropical, and native plants. The site sits on Long Key, a natural oak hammock once surrounded by the Everglades, and preserves one of the last remaining natural hardwood forests in South Florida, much as it existed when the ancient Tequesta people inhabited the region.



In addition to its botanical collections, Flamingo Gardens operates the Everglades Wildlife Sanctuary which provides a permanent home for injured or non-releasable Florida native wildlife. Residents include alligators, bobcats, otters, hawks, flamingos, and even a Florida panther. The sanctuary also protects threatened or endangered species such as the American alligator, bald eagle, wood stork, and Florida burrowing owl, which now serve as animal ambassadors helping educate visitors about the importance of the Everglades ecosystem.

Visitors can also explore the historic Wray Home Museum, built in 1933 by the Wrays as a weekend residence and now recognized as a cultural landmark. Restored to reflect life in South Florida during the 1930s, the home displays artifacts connected to the early days of Flamingo Groves and the region's history. Guests can further experience the gardens through daily wildlife encounter shows, a narrated tram tour through 42 acres of natural habitat, and walking paths such as the Wetlands Walkway and Pioneer Walkway, where native plants, wildlife, and historic landscapes offer a glimpse into Florida's natural and cultural past. There will be carpools for those wanting a ride. Notify Ed Slough if you wish to attend: wildhybrid@aol.com





FOOD & DRINKS



EARLY BIRD DINNER

Wednesday, April 8, 5:00 PM

Hong Kong City BBQ

5301 FL-7, Tamarac, FL 33319

Enjoy their early bird menu, including soup, appetizer, fried rice and an entree. To **RSVP**, contact Ed Slough at wildhybrid@aol.com

DINER RUN

Thursday, April 9, 1:00 PM

Country Ham N' Eggs Bar & Grill

2671 E Oakland Park Blvd, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306

This sophisticated diner is sure to please even the most discerning patron. To **RSVP**, visit our website & click on the Events tab or text Doug Kent at [305-495-2978](tel:305-495-2978)

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Saturday, April 11, 2:00 PM

The 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!

DINNER PARTY

Wednesday, April 15, 6:00 PM

Salimar Ceviche Bar

199 E Oakland Park Blvd, Oakland Park, FL 33334

Salimar is known for its Peruvian Fusion cuisine, inspired by the rich evolution of Peruvian culinary traditions and the millenary fusion that makes every dish unique. To **RSVP**, visit our website & click on the Events tab.

NIGHT OUT DINNER

Wednesday, April 22, 5:00 PM

Tropics Grille

2000 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors, FL 33305

Join us for happy hour and a half-price menu, hosted by SAGE. To **RSVP**, contact Ed Slough at wildhybrid@aol.com

LUNCHEON

Thursday, April 30, 1:00 PM

Rendez-Vous Bakery & Bistro

1576 E Oakland Park Blvd, Oakland Park, FL 33334

Great food, with great desserts, await those who attend this luncheon. To **RSVP**, visit our website & click on the Events tab or text Doug Kent at [305-495-2978](tel:305-495-2978)

BREAKFAST

Every Monday, 9:30 AM

Pub on the Drive

2283 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors, FL 33305

No reservations required; just pay for your coffee and food!

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!

CELEBRATIONS & NEW FACES

ANNIVERSARIES

4/21/2025	Doug Trigl & Michael Bee - 1 yr	4/15/2018	Charles Egan & Efrain Campomenosi - 8 yrs
4/20/2022	Jeffrey Cronin & Michael Nelson - 4 yrs	4/18/2016	David Heikkila & Jim Gunter - 10 yrs
4/2/2022	James Amon & Sal Orlando - 4 yrs	4/1/1995	John Dool & Richard Buchanan - 31 yrs
4/15/2018	Don Klein & Giacomo Castagna - 8 yrs	4/30/1983	Henry Smith & William Sandrik - 43 yrs
		4/17/1977	Frank Corbett and Frank Struck - 49 yrs

BIRTHDAYS

4/2	Ronald Seidle	4/16	Robert Bragg
4/2	Rick Hurd	4/17	MD Hussain
4/2	Chris Gonzales	4/17	Jose Solernou
4/3	Joseph Nesbitt	4/20	Robert Walsh
4/4	Danny Olinger	4/21	Norman Okroy
4/4	Michael Nelson	4/21	Michael Keller
4/5	Stanley Lou	4/22	Christopher Burt
4/5	Paul Craffey	4/23	James Restrict
4/7	Thomas Moran	4/23	Tom Pence
4/7	Gary Miller	4/24	Frank Mahoney
4/8	Roger Allee	4/26	Kaleed Mohammed
4/9	Michael Travers	4/27	Michael Cochran
4/12	John Sanders	4/28	Bruce Ribbink
4/13	Harold Schmitt	4/29	George Sauvigne
4/13	James Beier	4/29	Gary Peters
4/13	Harvey Stoler	4/30	Mark Goldstein
4/13	John Gambino		
4/13	Alberto Armas		
4/14	Paul Kelly		
4/16	Derry Woodhouse		
4/16	Mark Patrick		

NEW MEMBERS

Larry Rosenblatt
Gil Perez
Ralph Cascone
Claude Brent

Bebop Heister
Wayne Spiehler
Gregg Warren
Benjamin Herman

GALLERY

March Monthly Meeting



Congratulations to our 50/50 Winner!



GALLERY

March Monthly Meeting



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR APRIL BOYS!



GALLERY

March Monthly Meeting



GALLERY

Early Bird Dinner at Zuckerello's



Night Out Dinner at Tropics



GALLERY

Night Out Dinner at Tropics



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
			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 2 PM Collectors PC 3 PM Co-ed Drop-in ZM 7 PM Walking SC		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8 AM Tennis BP	9:30 AM Breakfast PD 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 2 PM Computer SC 5 PM Early Bird Dinner	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
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8 AM Tennis BP	9:30 AM Breakfast PD 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 6 PM Dinner Party	8 AM Tennis BP 2 PM Collectors PC 3 PM Co-ed Drop-in ZM 7 PM Walking SC	1:30 PM Movies PC	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8 AM Tennis BP 2 PM Pool Party Haulover Beach	9:30 AM Breakfast PD 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 Nigh Out Dinner	8 AM Tennis BP 1 PM Luncheon 3 PM Co-ed Drop-in ZM 7 PM Walking SC		10:30 AM Excursion @ Flamingo Gardens 11 AM Book Discussion Group
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
8 AM Tennis BP	9:30 AM Breakfast PD 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	8 AM Tennis BP 3 PM Co-ed Drop-in ZM 7 PM Walking SC		

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
PD =	Pub on the Drive, 2283 Wilton Dr, 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

