



Fort Lauderdale Prime Gentlemen

February 2026 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Henry Penas



On December 20, 2025 I turned 80!!! In the past, I had never given any thought to whatever decade I was entering. It was always one day after my last age, and I moved on.

This is different. Being an octogenarian is something you can't ignore. How could I be 80? I think of myself as being the same age as I was when I moved in with my husband John in 1970.

Coming to terms with this has made me do a lot of thinking, mostly about the past – something I have never done. I never could understand why people dwelled on the past – you can't change it. The same thing about the future – you can't predict it. I guess I live in the present, mostly.

There is a wonderful TV series called Living to 100 - The Blue Zone. There are communities in the world where a

larger than average number of people live to 100 and beyond. The series looks at these communities to try to determine what they have in common. They concluded that there were a handful of traits they all had.

They ate unprocessed food, which they grew themselves. They were physically active every day. They had a sense of community to participate in and relied on. And they had a reason to get up every morning – something to look forward to.

Even though I don't raise or grow my own food, I do exercise every day, my community is the Prime Gentlemen and it's also one reason to get up in the morning. So maybe I'll only reach 90 (because of that diet stuff).

Becoming an octogenarian gives me the confidence to dispense advice. The only thing I regret in my life (so far) is that I never recorded my late husband, John's, singing. He sang to me the first day we met and on an almost daily basis for the next 53 years. I encourage you to record the voices of those you love – you will want to hear them after they're gone.

And that's from someone who has 80 years behind him!

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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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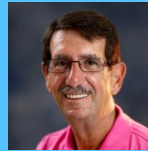
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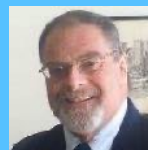
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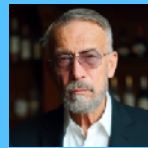
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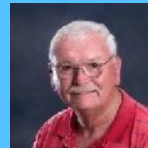
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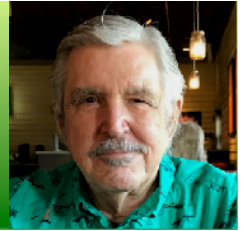
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Treasurer Emeritus

Mike Trask





PLAINCLOTHES

Friday, February 20 @ 1:30 PM at the Pride Center

Free movie including popcorn and soda!

A SAGE and PRIME GENTLEMEN Event



Plainclothes is a 2025 romantic thriller. Set in 1990s Syracuse, New York. A working-class undercover police officer is tasked with entrapping and apprehending homosexual males cruising for sex, only to find himself drawn to one of his targets. He defies professional orders when he falls in love. This tension-filled coming-out story, *Plainclothes*, showcases the perils of love and the effects of isolation. It is a heart-felt story that deals with internal conflict, family, and the complexities of sexual identity in the face of societal and personal expectations.

The story has echoes of human rights group OutRage protesting against the Metropolitan Police over their entrapment of gay men in the 1990s — a world before dating apps and legislation protecting gay rights. Last year, the Met Police finally admitted to failings of the past.

The protagonist of the film, Lucas's professional betrayal of other gay men reminds the viewer of the deep self-loathing gay men were still made to feel during the Clinton administration. This was the era of the Defense of Marriage Act and Don't Ask, Don't Tell, a policy that demanded LGBTQ+ people in the military keep their identities secret. *Plainclothes* saves its best scene for last, when a family dinner whirls off in an unexpected direction following the discovery of a letter. The fallout powerfully shows the consequences of such institutional repression.



MAN OF THE MONTH

Interviewed by Kenneth Sabanosh

Mr. F was born in the historic city center of Habana, Cuba, and came to the United States at the age of seven. Raised in the US, he grew up curious about the world around him—how things work, how ideas come together, and how creativity and technology intersect. As a young man, he enjoyed spending time with friends, visiting amusement parks, riding bikes, watching movies, and exploring innovation.

Mr. F arrived in South Florida through the Freedom Flights from Cuba, an experience that shaped his outlook on life and appreciation for opportunity. Over time, his curiosity evolved into a successful career in web development and design. Now retired, he spent his professional life turning creative concepts into functional, technically sound websites. He always enjoyed the challenge of transforming ideas into reality.

One of his most meaningful projects involved developing an immersive, interactive attraction for his church. The experience combined live actors with synchronized on-screen performances, creating a multimedia adventure that was both engaging and inspiring. This project reflected his talent for blending storytelling, technology, and human connection—work that left a lasting impression on those who experienced it.

Family has always been important to him. His sister lives in the Midwest, and throughout his life, close friendships have often become his chosen family. Wanting deeper, more genuine connections is what ultimately led him to Prime Gentlemen. After meeting members of the group and feeling an immediate sense of belonging, Mr. F decided to join and quickly became an active part of the community.

Mr. F enjoys staying mentally and physically engaged. His interests include reading, entertainment, video, and technology, and he remains endlessly curious about how things work. He spends time at the gym, enjoys happy hours, and appreciates relaxed social gatherings. Sports, however, are not his passion—he openly admits he finds them boring and prefers not to watch them.

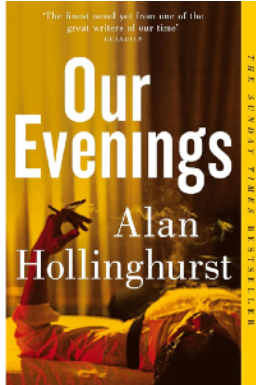
Creativity and fun motivate him, and Halloween is one of his favorite times of year. He loves the freedom of expression it offers and is known for enjoying imaginative costumes. At the same time, Mr. F is grounded in tradition and faith, believing in God and living by strong personal values.

His advice to others is thoughtful and practical: don't be too flamboyant in professional settings, don't party too much, and always put your creativity to work. Above all, he believes in being a good person and not being selfish—principles he has lived by throughout his life. We are pleased to recognize Mr. F as our Man of the Month, celebrating his creativity, integrity, and the warmth he brings to our Prime Gentlemen community. Can you guess who our February "Man of the Month" is? Turn to page 7 to find out!



BOOK DISCUSSION

by Paul McNamara



FEBRUARY SELECTION:

Our Evenings

by Alan Hollinghurst

MARCH SELECTION:

Nightwork

by Joseph Hansen



This month's selection for discussion is *"Our Evenings"* by Alan Hollinghurst.

Dave Win is thirteen years old when he first goes to stay with the Hadlows, the sponsors of his scholarship at a local boarding school where their son, Giles, is his contemporary. For Dave, this weekend, with its games and challenges and surprising encounters, will open up heady new possibilities, even as it exposes him to Giles's envy and violence. As *Our Evenings* unfolds over half a century, the two boys' careers diverge dramatically: Dave, a gifted actor struggling with convention and discrimination; Giles, an increasingly powerful and dangerous politician.

Our Evenings is Dave Win's own account of his life as a schoolboy and student, his first love affairs in London, and on the road with an experimental theatre company, and of a late-life affair that transforms his sixties with a new sense of happiness and a perilous security; but it is also, very movingly, the story of his hard-working widowed mother, whose own life takes an unexpected new turn after her son leaves home.

Both dark and luminous, poignant and wickedly funny, Alan Hollinghurst's new novel gives us a portrait of modern England through the lens of one man's acutely observed and often unnerving experience. It is a story of race and class, theatre and sexuality, love and the cruel shock of violence, from the finest writer of our age.

"Our Evenings" will be discussed at the next meeting of the Book Discussion Group, to be held on Saturday, February 28 from 11:00 AM to noon at the Stonewall Library, 1300 E Sunrise Blvd, Fort Lauderdale, and simultaneously on Zoom. (Meeting ID: 275139 4844 and Passcode: 076609)



\$64

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

The reservation & cancellation cutoff time is at 3 PM on February 11, 2026.

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



IN MEMORIAM

Richard Lefebvre

May 11, 1942 – December 20, 2025



Our beloved Prime Gentlemen member, Richard Lefebvre, passed away on December 20 in Wilton Manors, with his husband, Sean, by his side. Richard had been ill for many years and was in Sean's loving care.

While serving on the Board of Directors, Richard brought us into the modern era by guiding the organization to become incorporated, a not-for-profit, and fully insured, ensuring we were financially protected. He became the "Daddy" figure on the board because he knew a lot about a lot.

He will be remembered for his warmth, integrity, generosity, and quiet strength. His legacy lives on through the love he shared, the communities he supported, and the many lives he touched along the way.

Richard was Man of the Month and his article can be read by clicking [here](#).

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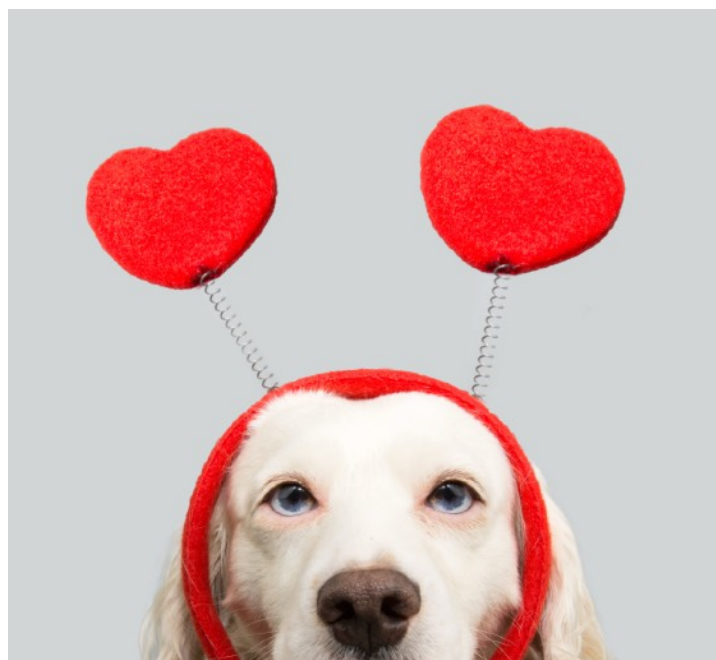


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PRIME GENTLEMEN EXCURSION

by Ed Slough



SOUTH FLORIDA PBS

Saturday, February 28 at 10:30 AM
3401 S Congress Ave, Boynton Beach, FL 33426
Admission ticket is \$28 each

Step back in time and rediscover the Egypt of the pharaohs through the masterpieces of this mythical civilization that spans three millennia and fascinates every generation. ***Egyptian Pharaohs: From Cheops to Ramses II*** is a breathtaking immersive experience created in collaboration with leading Egyptologists and brought to life with stunning 3D reconstructions by Ubisoft.

As the winds stir and the desert awakens, the forgotten wonders of a legendary civilization emerge before your eyes! From the divine origins of the gods to the lush banks of the Nile, through bustling daily life and the awe-inspiring construction of the pyramids, this immersive experience surrounds you in sound, light, and story. Watch the tombs of kings rise stone by stone and stand face-to-face with the eternal gaze of the Sphinx. This is more than an exhibition—it's a voyage into a world that captivates the imagination and stirs the soul.

There will be carpools for those wanting a ride. We will meet at the entrance at 10:30 AM. We may grab a bite to eat at a nearby restaurant. For more info of the exhibit, click [here](#). Notify Ed Slough if you wish to attend: wildhybrid@aol.com



MAN OF THE MONTH

Alejandro Frades





FOOD & DRINKS



EARLY BIRD DINNER

Wednesday, February 11, 5:00 PM

Ambry Restaurant

3016 E Commercial Blvd, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308

Enjoy their "[Early Bird Menu](#)," featuring three-course meals including soup or salad, an entree, dessert, and coffee or tea. To reserve, contact Ed Slough at wildhybrid@aol.com

DINER RUN

Thursday, February 12, 1:00 PM

Bayview Diner

2712 E Oakland Park Blvd, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306

This classic diner has been around forever and you will surely enjoy it. 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, February 14, 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!

BRUNCH & DRAG SHOW

Sunday, February 15, 11:30 AM

Aquaplex Fort Lauderdale Show Palace, Restaurant & Bar

1421 E Oakland Park Blvd, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33334

A Prime Gentlemen and SAGE event. To reserve and for more details, click [here](#).

DINNER PARTY

Wednesday, February 18, seatings at 5:00 PM or 7:00 PM

Hong Kong BBQ

5301 FL-7, Tamarac, FL 33319

With the Lunar New Year just around the corner, this festive evening is the perfect opportunity to enjoy classic Chinese dishes, good fortune, and great company. [RSVP is required](#). To reserve your seat, visit our website & click on the Events tab.

NIGHT OUT DINNER

Wednesday, February 25, 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, February 26, 1:00 PM

Padrino's Cuban Restaurant

1135 N Federal Hwy, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

This outstanding restaurant is very popular and well known to local residents. 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!

CELEBRATIONS & NEW FACES

BIRTHDAYS

2/1	Marvin Fishberg	2/17	Harry Manadjian
2/2	Gamal Khedr	2/18	Michael Eiland
2/2	Clint Allen	2/18	John Lloyd
2/3	Wresch Dawidjan	2/19	Alan Dupre
2/3	Seymour Cassorla	2/20	George Mihalakos
2/3	Douglas White	2/20	Richard Buchanan
2/3	Robert Giarratana	2/21	Charles Pack
2/5	Kurt Faudel	2/21	Austin Bohan
2/5	Matthew Gill	2/21	Peter Kaufman
2/6	Michael Stanley	2/21	William Daniel
2/7	Dirk Van Nieuwenhuyse	2/21	Stuart Geller
2/8	Richard Rumrill	2/22	Arthur Donley
2/10	Gary Lawson	2/22	Salvatore Masotto
2/11	Edward Slough	2/22	Ralph Ferrara
2/12	Rob Chambers	2/23	Scott Hawes
2/13	Karl Lahring	2/23	Michael Vignali
2/14	David Messina	2/24	Thomas Calcutta
2/15	Michael Odell	2/25	John Fredricksen
2/15	Joel Tendler	2/25	James Amon
2/15	Aron Pollock	2/26	William White
2/15	Lewis Ray Gambrell	2/27	Robert Greene
2/17	Kenneth Bailey	2/27	Steve Dobberstein
2/17	Arthur Lorch	2/28	Lawrence Leach
		2/28	R Bruce Goodchild
		2/28	Donn Rubin

ANNIVERSARIES

2/13/2019	Danny Olinger & Louis Heidel — 7 yrs	2/20/2007	Jim Richardson and John Bolinger — 19 yrs
2/14/2017	Bill Boguski & Tony Palazolo — 9 yrs	2/15/2005	Ruso Perkins and William Niebles — 21 yrs
2/13/2009	Steven Pavone & William Collins — 17 yrs	2/13/1990	Tim Shaffer and Tony Widdoss — 36 yrs
		2/7/1975	David Esbin and Jacob Cohen — 51 yrs

NEW MEMBERS

Stephan Wales	Jim Powell
Victor De Los Santos Flores	WT Wrege
Bobby Weiss	Paul Kelly
Wylie Allen	JR Pascall



GALLERY

January Monthly Meeting



Congratulations to our 50/50 Winner!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR FEBRUARY BOYS!

GALLERY

January Monthly Meeting



Christmas Day Dinner at Zuckerello's



GALLERY

Christmas Day Dinner at Zuckerello's



GALLERY

New Year's Day Luncheon at Tequila Sunrise Mexican Grill





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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 2 PM Collectors PC 3 PM Co-ed Drop-in ZM 7 PM Walking SC		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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 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
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8 AM Tennis BP 11:30 AM Brunch and Drag Show at Aquaplex	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 2 PM Collectors PC 3 PM Co-ed Drop-in ZM 7 PM Walking SC	1:30 PM Movies PC	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
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 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 at South Florida PBS 11 AM Book Discussion Group

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

