



# Surfer

MARCH 2025



## ACTIVITIES

### COMPUTER CLASSES

By Eric Runyan



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Henry Penas



Gaining a better understanding of how our computers, smartphones, smart TVs work can greatly enhance your experience in today's digital world.

That's why I'm offering Prime Gentlemen a free series of classes at two community centers in Broward County, including the Pride Center at Equality Park. The series, called "Technology for Beginners," covers a variety of topics such as Windows and Mac operating systems, Chromebooks, Android phones, iPhones, social media, email, and general computer literacy. No prior experience is required.

The Pride Center classes are held on the second Thursday of each month from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. They're completely free for my

I'm excited to share some great updates: We now have over 500 members, and our monthly Membership Meetings regularly attract more than 110 attendees, including guests. Our Tuesday Mixers are thriving, with between 70 and 85 people joining each week. We're also seeing growing participation in our lunches, dinners, movie nights, excursions, and group activities. While some of this growth can be attributed to the post-Covid rebound, most of it is thanks to the dedication of our committee chairs and volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes.

A wise person once said, "You should always leave your audience wanting more so they'll come back."

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

**To join, go to:** [FtLPrimeGentlemen.org](http://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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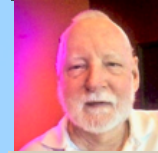
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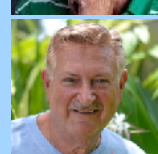
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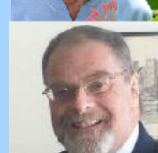
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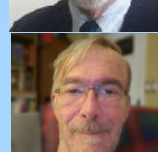
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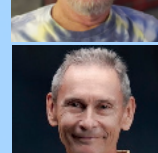
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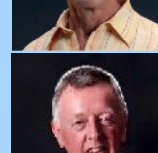
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**Treasurer Emeritus**  
Mike Trask

## PRESIDENT

from page 1

We've taken this to heart by continuously offering fresh experiences — and our members keep coming back.

Every event I've attended has had an upbeat, welcoming vibe, especially the mixers at Tropics. It's clear that we're creating an environment where people want to be.

Even those who aren't initially part of our group sometimes wander over to our mixers, curious about the crowd at the middle and patio bars. Some ask our members questions, while others come to me directly. I'm always happy to share one of our postcards with our website details.

With the addition of our new lanyards and name cards, we'll stand out even more in the community, increasing our visibility. This is just one more way we're working to get our name out there. As someone once remarked, "We're the best-kept secret in Fort Lauderdale." Well, we're ready to change that.

When you look around at the strong sense of community and camaraderie at our events, it's easy to see how many of our members are grateful they found us. Now, it's our responsibility to spread the word so even more people can experience what we have to offer.

Our goal is to create a vibrant, engaging environment for older gay men and those who enjoy their company. There are many more men in our community who would benefit from being part of this. They just need to find us. ♦

## ACTIVITIES

from page 1

Fellow Prime Gentlemen members.

If the Pride Center location doesn't work for you, I also offer classes at the Skolnick Center in Pompano Beach. To view the class schedule and register, visit [HelpMeEric.com](http://HelpMeEric.com). While you're there, you can also explore a range of computer repair, installation, troubleshooting, and training services, with a \$5/hour discount for Prime Gentlemen members. ♦

## MARCH BIRTHDAY BOYS



# MOVIES

By Ed Slough



## Movie Short - "COUNTRY PEOPLE"

A gay writer finds pride and mystery in a small town. Based on award winning story by writer Richard Hall. 'Country People' is a love letter to LGBT history and literature. What would you do for a second chance? 'Country People' short film won awards for the best gay short, best ensemble cast, best original song, and best screenplay at various festivals. ♦



FREE MOVIES  
FRIDAY, March 21st  
1:30 PM  
at The Pride Center  
FREE POPCORN  
AND SODA  
A SAGE and PRIME  
GENTLEMEN Event

## Featured Movie - "QUEER"

Daniel Craig is a true sensation in this movie. He shows much vulnerability whilst being self-destructive and guarded. Drew Starkey stars in what should be a breakout role for him. His character has depth, and obstacles he must overcome in his life. Lesley Manville plays a fantastically exaggerated medical research doctor, and she is completely unrecognizable, completely disappearing into the makeup and character.

The symbolism in the movie, especially in the final act, feels very out there, but it's also quite effective. The film's score was captivating. It's melodic, operatic and accompanies the story telling perfectly. Finally, the cinematography is a beautiful canvas on display. One is pulled into the frame with the characters in the moment, Such beauty comes from a true visionary.



# March Hero

By Ken South



President Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947 into law, creating the Central Intelligence Agency, the Department of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the National Security Council. His adviser, Bernard Baruch described the post–World War II tensions between the Soviet Union and the United States as a “Cold War”. *Voice of America* started transmitting radio broadcasts into Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Secretary of State George Marshall outlined the “Marshall Plan” for relief aid to Europe.



Jackie Robinson signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers, and became the first African American Major League Baseball player since the 1880s. The World Series was broadcast that year on television for the first time where the New York Yankees defeated the Brooklyn Dodgers.

On September 17 the “Fort Lauderdale Hurricane” caused widespread damage and killed 51 people. *Meet the Press* made its debut on NBC-TV on November 6, becoming the longest-running program on US television. The Tennessee Williams play, *A Streetcar Named Desire* opened on Broadway and Edwin Land demonstrated the first “instant camera”, his Polaroid Land Camera. Can you guess who the March Hero is? See Page 9 for the answer. ♦



*Walking Group and Palm Airians on the Celebrity Apex Post Thanksgiving cruise*

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Daniel Bohan  
Austin Bohan  
Richard DeVries  
Michael Eiland  
Victor Garcia  
Bruce Gorbel  
Gamal Khedr  
Michael Lascala  
Ray Legall  
Joseph Mehring  
Thomas Moran  
Jorge Moreno  
John Moriarty  
Tomas Rosales  
Herb Silver  
Stuart Silver

# PRIME GENTLEMEN EXCURSION

By Ed Slough



Stone House at Deering Estate

DEERING ESTATE  
BOTANIC GARDENS EXCURSION  
SATURDAY, March 29th at 10:30 am

16701 SW 72nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33157

**We will be meeting at the entrance @ 10:30 AM and joining a scheduled tour of the estate @ 11:30 AM. Admission is \$16 for Seniors 62 and over, and \$18 for adults.**

Nestled along the southwestern edge of Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve, the Deering Estate is Miami's premier landmark that showcases the best of South Florida's historic architecture and natural environment.

The Deering Estate has some of the highest quality and most diverse natural resources remaining in Miami-Dade County. The Deering Estate stewards 120 acres of pine rocklands, a globally imperiled habitat and one of the richest sources of the earth's biodiversity.

Contact Ed Slough [wildhybrid.by.ed@gmail.com](mailto:wildhybrid.by.ed@gmail.com) if you wish to attend. Ed will also endeavor to arrange carpools and transportation for those who need transportation. ♦



# Book Discussion Group

By Paul McNamara

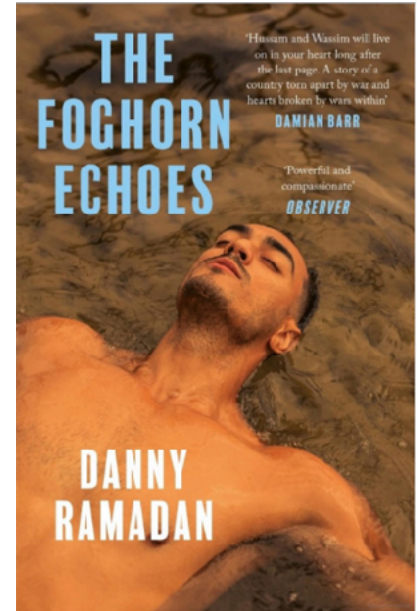


***The Foghorn Echoes***, by Danny Ramadan is a deeply moving novel about a forbidden love between two boys in war-torn Syria and the fallout that ripples through their adult lives.

Hussam and Wassim are teenage boys living in Syria during America's 2003 invasion of Iraq. When a surprise discovery of their romantic relationship results in tragedy, their lives, and those of their families, are shattered. Wassim promises Hussam his protection, but ten years into the future, he has failed to keep his promise. Wassim is on the streets, seeking shelter from both the city and the civil war storming his country. Meanwhile, Hussam, now on the other side of the world, remains haunted by his own ghosts, doing his utmost to drown them out with every vice imaginable.

Split between Vancouver and war-torn Damascus, "*The Foghorn Echoes*" is a tragic love story about coping with shared traumatic experiences and devastating separation. As Hussam and Wassim come to terms with the past, they begin to realize the secret that haunts them is not the only secret that formed them.

"*The Foghorn Echoes*" will be discussed at the next meeting of the Book Discussion Group, to be held on Saturday, March 8 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) ♦



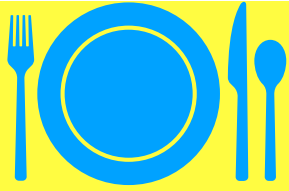
## UPCOMING:



**APRIL MEETING:**  
The selection for the April 12, 2025 discussion is "***The Naked Civil Servant***" by Quentin Crisp

Congratulations to the  
February 50-50  
Winner





# FOOD & DRINK



## MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Sunday, March 2, 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, March 12, @ 5:00 PM**  
**Tequila Sunrise**  
**4711 North Dixie Highway Ste. C, Oakland Park, FL 33334**  
If you're going, contact Ed Slough at [wildhybrid.by.ed@gmail.com](mailto:wildhybrid.by.ed@gmail.com) so he can tell the restaurant how many to expect.

## DINER RUN

**Thursday, March 13, 1:00 pm**  
**Bayview Diner**  
**2712 East Oakland Park Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306**  
Call or text Doug Kent at 305-495-2978 or email him at [dutchwood@att.net](mailto:dutchwood@att.net) to make sure you have a seat for this enjoyable afternoon.

## NIGHT OUT DINNER

**Wednesday, March 26th, 5:00 pm**  
**Tropics Grille in Wilton Manors**  
**2000 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors, FL 33305**  
If you are going, contact Ed Slough at [wildhybrid.by.ed@gmail.com](mailto:wildhybrid.by.ed@gmail.com) so he can tell the restaurant how many to expect.

## LUNCHEON

**Thursday, March 27, 1:00 pm**  
**Bahama Breeze Restaurant**  
**3339 North Federal Hwy., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306**  
Mark your calendar now and remember to call or text Doug Kent at 305-495-2978 or e-mail him at [dutchwood@att.net](mailto: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  
at Tequila Sunrise  
Mexican Grill*

Wednesday, March 12th @ 5:00 PM  
4711 North Dixie Highway Ste. C,  
Oakland Park, FL 33334



There are four dinners for \$9.99 on Wednesdays with the purchase of a drink: chicken palomina, giant burrito loco, Sonora chicken burrito, and fish taco dinner. Iced tea is \$3.25 and house margaritas, beer and wine are \$4.99.

Please let Ed Slough know if you plan on attending: [wildhybrid.by.ed@gmail.com](mailto:wildhybrid.by.ed@gmail.com)



March Hero  
Ed Vallecorsa



FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING



# BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Carl Kuehling	3/1	Taiji Saito	3/20
Gregory Stock	3/1	Donald Harman	3/22
Robsonney Simoes	3/2	Scott Brown	3/22
Michael Goodnight	3/2	Clark Raby	3/24
Ken DiGenova	3/3	Brian Douglas	3/24
Franco Bartella	3/6	Jose Capcha	3/25
Rupert Blearie	3/7	James Hartman	3/26
John Hughes	3/8	Kenneth Terpstra	3/26
Gustavo Marchini	3/11	Lou Wangberg	3/27
John Booth	3/11	Larry Kam	3/27
William Sawyer	3/11	Joel Rothstein	3/28
John Bolinger	3/12	Henry Tartaglia	3/28
Robert Strickler	3/14	Anton Scherrer	3/29
Chris Cook	3/15	Norman Peters	3/29
H Johnson	3/17	Charles Egan	3/30
James Duke	3/17	Bert Mittler	3/31
Harold Prasse	3/19		
Kenneth Bandstra	3/20		

Jerry Ganz & Bill McDaris	3/4/1967	58 years
Joel Rubin & Mark Barron	3/2/1991	34 years
Kenny Terpstra & Ken Bandstra	3/13/1999	26 years



Join us Wednesday, March 26th  
Night Out at Tropics"

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

- Drinks/cocktails from 5:00 to 5:30 PM with 'Happy Hour' prices, and dinner at 5:30 PM.
- Tropics has offered all dinners at half-price on Wednesday for SAGE and our guests only.
- You need not be a SAGE member to attend. All are welcome, including all our friends from Prime Gentlemen.
- **Please email Ed to let him know if you plan to attend.**  
**Ed Slough:** [wildhybrid.by.ed@gmail.com](mailto:wildhybrid.by.ed@gmail.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.

## PRIME GENTLEMEN CALENDAR

Surfer 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:00 AM Tennis BP 23	6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM# 24	7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR, p8 25	11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Men's DropIn ZM# 5:00 PM Tropics Grille Night Out, p8 26	7:30 AM Tennis BP 1:00 PM Luncheon, p8 3:00 PM Co-ed DropIn ZM# 7:00 PM Walking SC 27	2:00 PM History Group ZM 28	
8:00 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM General Meeting PC, P8 2	6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM# 3	7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR, p8 4	11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Men's DropIn ZM# 5	7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Collectors PC 3:00 PM Co-ed DropIn ZM# 7:00 PM Walking SC 6		11:00 AM Book Discussion Group, p7 8
8:00 AM Tennis BP 9	6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM# 10	7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR, p8 11	11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Men's DropIn ZM# 5:00 PM Early Bird Dinner, p8 12	7:30 AM Tennis BP 1:00 PM Diner Run, P8 2:00 PM Computer PC 3:00 PM Co-ed 7:00 PM Walking SC 13	2:00 PM History Group ZM 14	
8:00 AM Tennis BP 16	6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM# 17	7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR, p8 18	11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Men's DropIn ZM# 19	7:30 AM Tennis BP 12:30 PM Board ZM 2:00 PM Collectors Group 3:00 PM Co-ed 7:00 PM Walking SC 20	1:30 PM Free Movies PC, P4 21	
8:00 AM Tennis BP 23	6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM# 24	7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR, p8 25	11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Men's DropIn ZM# 5:00 PM Tropics Grille Night Out, p8 26	7:30 AM Tennis BP 1:00 PM Luncheon, p8 3:00 PM Co-ed DropIn ZM# 7:00 PM Walking SC 27	2:00 PM History Group ZM 28	10:30 AM Deering Estate Botanical Gardens Excursion 29
8:00 AM Tennis BP 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 DropIn ZM# 2	7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Collectors PC 3:00 PM Co-ed DropIn ZM# 7:00 PM Walking SC 3		

Eastern Time Time Zone

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### 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.



# FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

