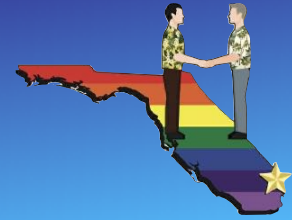




Surfer

FEBRUARY 2024



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Henry Penas



If you missed the January Membership Meeting, you missed all of the updates. Dick Huitema is out of the hospital and in the recovery unit at John Knox Village. He lives in John Knox Village, so he's almost home.

We have found someone to fill in for Dick Huitema while he's recovering. His name is John Dool, and he created this very Surfer. He hit the ground running and hasn't stopped yet. A warm hug of gratitude goes to John.

As you know, Dick also runs the audio/visual part of our Membership Meetings. You probably thought Andrew Langley was just a good piano player.

Oh no. He is also very tech savvy. He filled in for Dick and kept us plugged in for the entire meeting, while still being able to keep us entertained at the piano. What a guy!

We are still short of one volunteer. Someone offered to work with Clark Raby at the Membership Meeting to haul all the equipment and utensils he stores in his home to the meeting. That didn't work out and we are looking for someone else who is willing to take on this one day a month duty. Clark will stay on until he shows a volunteer the ins and outs of the job. Please think about offering your help.

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PRIME GENTLEMEN



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

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

Surfer

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

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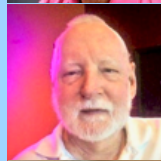
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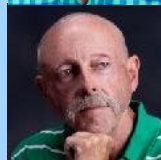
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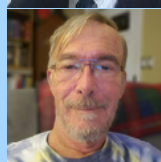
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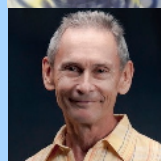
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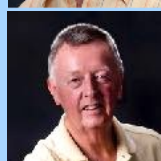
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 Richard Lefebvre



Treasurer Emeritus
 Mike Trask

PRESIDENT

from page 1

Our guest speaker was Mitch Zahn, Coordinator of the SAGE/USA Friendly Visitor Program. It involves pairing volunteers and participants who need company. The commitment for the volunteer is to visit the participant once a week for an hour or two to keep the participant company, play games, watch TV, take a walk etc. Anything to keep them engaged for a few hours. The volunteers also calls the participants to check in on how he is doing during the week. Feedback from the program shows that both parties find the program invigorating and meaningful. If you know anyone who could use a friendly visitor, or you would like to be one, call Mitch at 786-885-0101. Leave a message and he will get back to you. He is very dedicated and diligent.



JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND SPEAKER



MOVIES

By Ed Slough



This month's Prime Gentlemen/SAGE Free Movies will be "Good Grief" and "Louder Than Words." They will be shown on Friday, February 16th at 1:30 PM @ the Pride Center's Main Hall. Free popcorn and soda will be served.

Marc, is an artist living in London whose husband, Oliver, dies in a car accident. Marc tries to navigate the first year of life as a stunned widower with the help of his close friends. They're all creative people and all in their late 30s.



"Good Grief" focuses on the emotional dimensions of loss. When you've entwined your life with someone else's, what happens when they're gone? When love evaporates without warning, how can you keep living?

Nobody can tell you how to fix it, because it can't be fixed, only lived through. The pain that accompanies loss sticks around like a hollow spot in your chest, changing shape but never disappearing. In "Good Grief," resolution of grief is not the point. The idea is to keep on loving, to find new life.



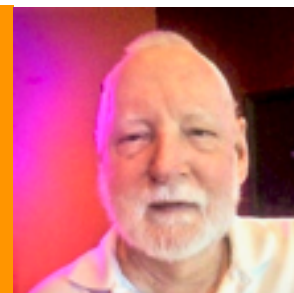
"Louder Than Words", is a short film that follows a young musician named Ansel and his unexpected encounter with Niall, an endearing, deaf dancer. The film explores the sheer struggle that gay people often face in a culture that is yet to fully foster accepting spaces for courtship and love. At its core, the story portrays how difficult it can be to communicate romantic interest as a gay person, and in this case, an added impediment of being hearing impaired.

NIGHT OUT AT TROPICS



February Hero

By Ken South



The Korean War began in 1950 when North Korea invaded South Korea. The countries were divided after World War II, the North becoming Communist and the South remaining Capitalist. And, President Harry Truman sent US military personnel to Vietnam to aid the French forces there.

On November 24th of that year, in Dallas, Texas, Mr. February came into the world followed 13 months later by a sister. The family moved to Denver, CO, where Mr. F graduated from Alameda, HS. He married right after HS and soon became a father. Needing to provide for his family, he worked during the day and attended Metropolitan State University of Denver evenings for ten years, graduating with a BA in Business Administration in 1982. He was married for 13 years and raised sons Matthew and Sean.

Following his divorce, he was transferred by his company back to Dallas where he became a regional manager, promoting records and tapes to numerous venues around the West. His 10 years within this type of work provided him with access to many well-known musical artists. Backstage passes to the biggest rock and roll bands of the time was common place. He toured with Journey, Emerson Lake and Palmer, had dinner with Alice Cooper.



NEW YEAR'S DAY AT TEQUILA SUNRISE



Continued Next Page

Continued from Previous Page

Mr. F also embraced a new gay world. While on vacation in Houston, he met his first partner Bill, with whom he enjoyed seven and a half years together until Bill's passing. He treasured his one-year relationship with Connecticut native, David, living in NYC and Connecticut and now in Barcelona. They are still friends, and Mr. F visits Barcelona often.

While living in NYC, Mr. F met Joe A. Partners for about 11 years, they enjoyed events like the first Gay March on Washington and Gay Pride marches in NYC, LA, SF and Dallas. Canadian Mack was his last partner, they were a team for a year and a half and experienced Mr. F's first trip to Europe. But not his last!

He took a position with AMC Movie Theaters and managed film distribution to their chains of theaters. Experience at The Embassy Suites gave him the experience for PBX systems and included managing the installation of a new telephone system for the Sheraton Corporation.

Next was 10 years at the Sheraton Corporation where he took charge of the installation of PBX's and voice mail systems all over the US. Then on to New York City where, for the next 5 years, he directed all the hotel's electronic systems for their growing number of properties.

Unfortunately, he was laid off from this post and returned to Dallas. He used this time to "catch his breath" and took off for the next two years.

Next was a position with the Countrywide Mortgage Company managing their communications systems in several locations in Los Angeles. At 59, Mr. F found that he was dealing with high blood pressure resulting in an early retirement and a new life in Palm Springs.

His first trip to South Florida was in 2001 where he stayed for three years and then returned to Palm Springs to help staff the International Film Festival, where he met numerous celebrities.

In 2021, while living in England, Mr. F was asked to help out his friend Paul back in Ft.

Lauderdale. who needed assistance on a daily basis. Mr. F became his caregiver for a year and half until he arranged for Paul to move to an Assisted Living facility. Delightful life tidbits: Mr. F was on three episodes of "Dallas", friends with Linda Gray. He is writing a book about Tarot Card reading. He was friends with Jerry Corbetta (Green-Eyed Lady) and Frankie Valli of The Four Seasons, spent time with Jane Fonda and James Caan on the movie set of Comes a Horseman and at a "9 to 5" movie premiere party, met Dolly Parton!



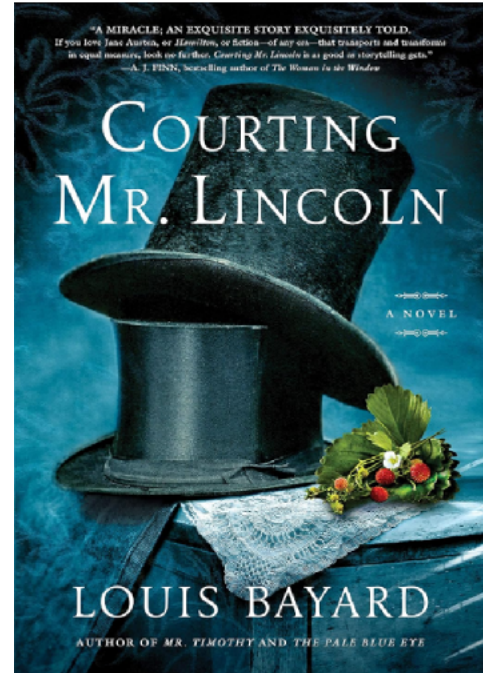
Book Discussion Group

By Paul McNamara



Courting Mr. Lincoln: A Novel is the page-turning and surprising story of a young Abraham Lincoln and the two people who loved him best: a sparky, marriageable Mary Todd and Lincoln's best friend, Joshua Speed.

About to turn 21 when she arrives in Springfield in 1839, Mary, who teeters on the brink of old-maidhood becomes intrigued by Lincoln, a rising politician who finds a woman with brains and savvy enticing rather than off-putting. She doesn't yet realize how destabilizing their budding romance is for Lincoln and Speed. By the time Mary appears, Lincoln and Speed, each profoundly lonely for his own reasons, share an unusually intense bond apparent to all.



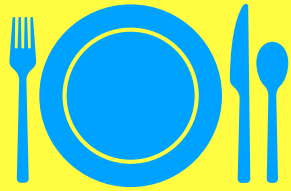
Told in the alternating voices of Mary Todd and Joshua Speed, and rich with historical detail, *Courting Mr. Lincoln* creates a sympathetic and complex portrait of Mary unlike any that has come before; a moving portrayal of the deep and very real connection between the two men; and most of all, an evocation of the unformed man who would grow into one of the nation's most beloved presidents.

Courting Mr. Lincoln will be discussed at the next meeting of the Book Discussion Group, to be held on Saturday, February 10 from 11:00 am to noon at Stonewall Library, 1300 E Sunrise Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, and simultaneously on Zoom via the SAGE dedicated link: [Book Discussion Group](#) (Meeting ID: 275139 4844 and Pass code: 076609)

UPCOMING:

The March 9 meeting selection is
Bad Gays: A Homosexual History,
by Huw Lemme and Ben Miller





FOOD & DRINK



MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Sunday, February 4, 2:00 pm
Pride Center at Equality Park, Main Hall
2040 N. Dixie Highway, Wilton Manors
Bring a dish to share for our potluck meal

DINER LUNCH

Thursday, February 8, 1:00 pm
Egg & You
2621 N. Federal Hwy., Fort Lauderdale, FL
Join us as we enjoy its classic diner menu! Call or text Doug Kent at 305-495-2978 or e-mail him at dutchwood@att.net to hold your seat.

EARLY BIRD DINNER

Wednesday, February 14, 4:45 pm
Las Vegas Cuban Cuisine
2807 E Oakland Park Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306
If you're going, contact Ed Slough at wildhybrid@aol.com so he can tell the restaurant how many to expect.

DINNER PARTY

Wednesday, February 21, 5:00 pm
Black Rock Bar & Grill
6200 N Federal Hwy, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308
Details are on the next page.

NIGHT OUT DINNER

Wednesday, February 28, Happy Hour Drinks: 5:00 pm, Dinner: 5:30 pm
Tropics Grille Restaurant & Bar
2000 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors
Contact Ed Slough at wildhybrid@aol.com to take advantage of this half-price Prime Gentlemen/SAGE deal! Bring a guest!

REGULAR LUNCH

Thursday, February 29, 1:00 pm
Padrino's Restaurant
1135 Federal Hwy, Fort Lauderdale, FL
This outstanding Cuban restaurant is very popular and well know to local residents Remember to call or text Doug Kent at 305-495-2978 or e-mail him at dutchwood@att.net to reserve your place at the table!

MIXER

Every Tuesday, 5:00
Tropics Grille Restaurant & Bar
2000 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors
[No reservations; just pay for your drink\(s\) and enjoy the buffet!](#)

FEBRUARY
DINNER PARTY

Wednesday,
February 21
5:00 pm

Black Rock
Bar & Grill
6200 N Federal
Hwy, Fort
Lauderdale, FL
33308

1. Make Reservation below
2. Order from menu
3. Receive \$10 stipend
4. Pay check
(Cash is fastest)

BRING
A
GUEST!

To make your reservation:

1. You must contact Ed Slough at wildhybrid@aol.com by February 18th.
2. A reservation is needed in order to qualify for the \$10 stipend.
3. Notify Ed Slough at wildhybrid@aol.com for cancellations by 5:00 pm the day before the dinner.
4. Please try to arrive by 6:00 pm so meals can be ordered properly.

BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|-------------------|------|
| Marvin Fishberg | 2/1 | James Hopkins | 2/18 |
| Wresch Dawidjan | 2/3 | John Lloyd | 2/18 |
| Seymour Cassorla | 2/3 | Mark Barron | 2/20 |
| Robert Giarratana | 2/3 | Richard Buchanan | 2/20 |
| Lewis Ray Gambrell | 2/5 | Peter Kaufman | 2/21 |
| Matthew Gill | 2/5 | Stuart Geller | 2/21 |
| Dirk Van Nieuwenhuys | 2/7 | Ron Serpien | 2/21 |
| Victor Liu | 2/7 | William Daniel | 2/21 |
| Gary Lawson | 2/10 | Salvatore Masotto | 2/22 |
| Edward Slough | 2/11 | Arthur Donley | 2/22 |
| Robert Connell | 2/12 | Ralph Ferrara | 2/22 |
| Richard Rooney | 2/12 | Scott Hawes | 2/23 |
| Rob Chambers | 2/12 | Thomas Calcutta | 2/24 |
| David Messina | 2/14 | Thomas Sylvia | 2/25 |
| Ron Samad | 2/14 | John Fredricksen | 2/25 |
| Joel Tandler | 2/15 | William White | 2/26 |
| Michael Odell | 2/15 | Steve Dobberstein | 2/27 |
| Kenneth Bailey | 2/17 | Donn Rubin | 2/28 |
| Harry Manadjian | 2/17 | Lawrence Leach | 2/28 |
| Arthur Lorch | 2/17 | | |

ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. February
Don Rice

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Luis Granada & Carlos Gonzalez | 2/22/1977 | 47 years |
| Don Perkins & Wil Niebles | 2/15/2005 | 19 years |
| JB Bolinger & Jim Richardson | 2/20/2007 | 17 years |
| Danny Olinger & Lou Heidel | 2/13/2019 | 5 years |



February 2024 PRIME GENTLEMEN CALENDAR

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------------------------------|--|---|---|----------------------------------|--|
| | | | | 1 7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Collectors PC 3:00 PM Co-ed Dropln ZM# 7:00 PM Walking SC | 2 | 3 |
| 4 7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM General Meeting PC | 5 6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM# | 6 7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR | 7 11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Bowling AL 1:00 PM Men's Dropln ZM# | 8 7:30 AM Tennis BP 1:00 PM Diner Lunch p7 2:00 PM Computer PC 3:00 PM Co-ed Dropln ZM# 7:00 PM Walking SC | 9 2:00 PM History ZM | 10 11:00 AM Book Discussion Group Stonewall Library, 1300 E Sunrise Blvd. and simultaneously on Zoom# p 7 |
| 11 7:30 AM Tennis BP | 12 6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM# | 13 7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR | 14 11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Bowling AL 1:00 PM Men's Dropln ZM# 5:00 PM Early Bird Dinner p8 | 15 7:30 AM Tennis BP 12:30 PM Board ZM 2:00 PM Collectors PC 3:00 PM Co-ed 7:00 PM Walking SC | 16 1:30 PM Free Movies PC# p4 | 17 |
| 18 7:30 AM Tennis BP | 19 6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM# | 20 7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR | 21 11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Bowling AL 1:00 PM Men's Dropln ZM # 5:00 Monthly Dinner p9 | 22 7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Collectors PC 3:00 PM Co-ed 7:00 PM Walking SC | 23 2:00 PM History ZM | 24 |
| 25 7:30 AM Tennis BP 12:00 PM Haulover HA | 26 6:00 PM Online Mixer ZM# | 27 7:30 AM Tennis BP 2:00 PM Trivial Pursuit ZM# 5:00 PM Mixer TR | 28 11:00 AM Bowling ML 1:00 PM Bowling AL 1:00 PM Men's Dropln ZM# 5:00 PM Night Out Dinner p8 | 29 7:30 AM Tennis BP 1:00 PM Regular Lunch p7 3:00 PM Co-ed Dropln ZM# 7:00 PM Walking SC | | |

Eastern Time Zone

Indicates a joint Prime Gentlemen/SAGE event

LOCATION CODES

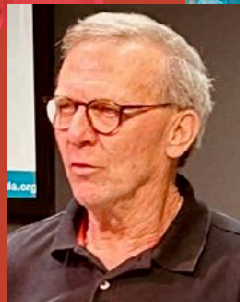
AL = AMF Margate, 2020 N. State Rd 7 33063 **BP** = Brummer Park, 3500 W Palm Aire Dr 33069 **HA** = Haulover Beach, 10800 Collins Ave 33154 **ML** = Manor Lanes, 1517 NE 26th Street, 33305 **PC** = Pride Ctr, 2040 N. Dixie Hwy 33305 **SC** = Skolnick Ctr, 800 SW 36th Ave 33069 **SL** = Stonewall Lib, 1300 Sunrise Blvd 33311 **TR** = Tropics Bar & Grill, 2000 Wilton Dr 33305 **ZM** = See weekly email Bulletin for link.



NIGHT OUT AT TROPICS



JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING SPEAKERS



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY BOYS



50/50 WINNER