



“FOR THE BEST TIMES OF YOUR LIFE!”

President’s Message

Happy Valentine’s Day! Did you know that February 14 th is called Valentine’s Day because the Roman Catholic Church honors two saints named Valentine on that day? Both Saint Valentines were ancient Romans of the AD 200s who died for their Christian faith. Groups of young men and women once celebrated Valentine’s Day by picking up valentines from a box. Today, Valentine’s Day offers every individual the opportunity to express special feelings for his or her special someone. It is also an occasion for each one to show appreciation, gratitude and thankfulness for kindness or favor received from others. Just because we’re men, doesn’t mean we don’t enjoy getting a card, chocolate, flowers, or taking your loved one out for a romantic dinner.



As always, Matt has lined up some additional fun activities for us this month. There will be an Art Crawl on the Sarasota Trolley and two joint events with the Tampa Bay Prime Timers – a potluck in Gulfport and the Elder Day Strawberry Festival. For the Strawberry Festival, we will be providing our own van again for a modest \$20 fee per person. They sound like fun times. You’ll need to pay by CheddarUp for the Strawberry Festival van.

Our efforts for Care and Support continue going strong. Dale Moore checks on four single members daily for their safety. If you are interested in joining Dale, please contact him at demor-37@yahoo.com. I urgently ask every member to reach out to other members living alone, even if they are currently in good health, and arrange to text or call one another each day. If Dale doesn’t hear from his men by 11 A.M., he calls them. Please obtain a next of kin contact for each member that you are working with in the event you can’t reach your call (Prime) buddy. Think about this ... On February 18 th , I got out of bed and was in such extreme pain that I couldn’t move or walk. Fortunately, Dale was home and brought me our extra walker so I could get to the car and be driven to the hospital where I spent the next five days pretty much flat on my back from a severely herniated lumbar disc. What would I have done if Dale wasn’t there to help me or if I lived alone? What would YOU have done in the same situation? If you have Siri, Alexa, or Google, you could try telling them to call 911. But if that didn’t work or you couldn’t get to a phone, you could lie there for days before someone found you. This is why teaming up with other members is so important even if you have a partner.

You now have the opportunity to purchase your very own Prime Timers Sarasota name tag with two different colors you from which you can choose based on your relationship status. Amazon has raised their price, so the cost is now \$9.50. It will be shipped directly to your home. See you around!

Steve

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On This Page

Who are we...

Birthdays

Who we are...

Prime Timers Sarasota is a non-partisan social club for gay, bisexual, transgender or transitioning men over 21. In addition to our Fall Picnic and Holiday Party, each month we offer a potluck supper, two luncheons at area restaurants, a members' meeting with a speaker, home nights with games or movies, and day trips by bus or car pool to unique Florida Sun Coast attractions. Our social events are chosen to fit individual needs, priorities and affordability. Equally important is our commitment to Care and Support, where members assist one another with activities and needs of daily living. If a member is ill, injured or otherwise incapacitated, he can reach out for assistance to members nearby to help him with activities such as shopping, transportation, moral support, or help at home. To find out who is nearby contact any board member .

February Birthdays

Name _____ Date



New Members





.....from the Editor

Happy V.D. !

That's Valentine's Day, not the other V.D.



So where did Valentine's Day progress from? History is no too sure. As Steve has said there were multiple Valentines. The two were beheaded by Roman Emperor Claudius. There was Valentine who was imprisoned and he sent the first Valentine message to a young girl and signed it "from your Valentine." .

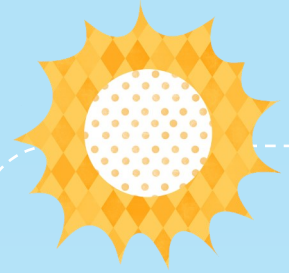
In the Victorian era, and into the 20th century, lovers exchanged elaborate lace-trimmed cards on Valentine's Day, expressing their undying love and devotion with sentiments and poems.

For those not on good terms, or who wanted to fend off an enemy or unwanted suitor, "*vinegar valentines*" offered a stinging alternative. .

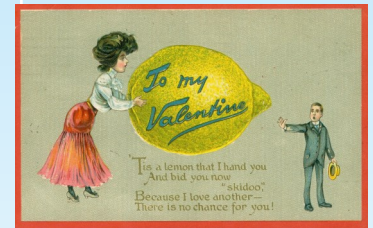
And so Valentine's Day has progressed to the passing of small tokens of Affection, Cards, Chocolates and flowers..

This year I hope your Valentines are all sweet and *not a touch of vinegar in them.*

Tom



Happy Valentine's Day to you !



Announcements



If you know of a member who lives alone, offer to call them daily as a check in. Be sure that they have your name and phone number and be sure to get an alternate contact person name and phone number, if you can't reach them.

Be sure to let Steve know if they have other needs, i.e. transportation.

stevehor2004@yahoo.com

Custom Name Badge

You will be asked how you wish your name to read on the badge. You may use just your first name or your full name on the badge -- whichever you prefer. As we've done in the past with the handwritten paper badges at our events, the badges are color coded. **Partnered members will receive burgundy badges while single members will receive blue badges.** "Prime Timers Sarasota" will appear on the badge below your name.

Note: Your name badge will be sent directly to the mailing address that we have on file for you as shown in the official Prime Timers Sarasota Member Roster.

I saw this in the Connecticut PrimeTimers newsletter and I wanted to share.



February Calendar of events



First Saturday, February 3rd, POTLUCK: 6:00 P.M., Syster Hall , 1st Congregational Church, 1031 S5uth Euclid Ave. If you have not been to a potluck lately... you have been missed and missing out on lots of good food and friendship. Plan to come a bit early to enjoy visiting with other members and help set up. (And please hang around a few minutes afterward to help clean up.) *MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!* Bring a dish to share (main, side dish, appetizer, dessert). Please send an RSVP to Michael Stone at mstonefl@gmail.com with the specifics of what you intend to bring, ex: "main dish -- chicken casserole". Email in your selection early and your chances of getting your selection are better. Label Dish with your name (so we can share recipes) and what your food item is.



Wednesday, February 7th at 1:00PM Bridge Club. Enjoy playing Bridge? Come join the group that plays every Wed. If you want to attend, or if you want more information, contact Bruce Burbage

bruceburbage@yahoo.com)



Second Thursday, February 8th, NORTH SIDE LUNCH: at 1:00 P.M. ,at Kacey's Seafood located at 7602 Ridge Road in Sarasota. Please RSVP to Dan Warren at danmichaelwarren@gmail.com or danwarren@earthlink.net or 941-359-2526 by 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, February 9th ,if you plan to attend.

12th.



Wednesday, February 9th at 5:00 PM, Art Crawl. Sarasota Trolley Tours. Located at 1826 4th Street in Sarasota. Only \$10 which includes a free wine, beer or soft drink. Call (941)260-9818 for reservation.



SECOND Wednesday, February 14th, @ 10:00 A.M., BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: at the home of Lee Linkus, located at 4601 Del Sol Blvd in Sarasota. .Please email Steve at steve-hor2004@yahoo.com now, if you plan to attend. Any member is welcome. See your Board in action and share your ideas and concerns for the good of the club.



Wednesday, February. 14th at 1:00PM Bridge Club. Enjoy playing Bridge? Come join the group that plays every Wed. If you want to attend, or if you want more information, contact Bruce Burbage

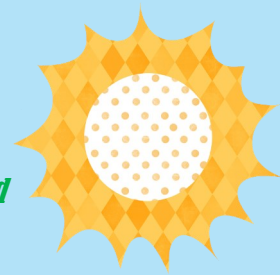
bruceburbage@yahoo.com)



Second SUNDAY SOCIAL at The Purple Rhino, February 11th, at 3:00 – 5:00 P.M. located at the corner of Beneva and Webber: **Sunday** , . Plan to stop by, have a drink, and catch up with friends. Attendance is limited to 30. Delicious snacks are provided by Rick, our own friendly bartender. Good friends...good chat-ter...good comradery (**Please feel free to leave a tip for Rick in a jar on a table by the entrance.**)



February Calendar of events *continued*



Sunday, February 18th t, PT SINGLES & SOLOS CLUB: from 3:00 to 5:00 P.M. at the Purple Rhino. While primarily for those who are single or solo, anyone is welcome to attend. Enjoy the snacks, a drink and possibly meet a new friend. For more information, please contact Matt at bongo44@aol.com.



Tuesday, February 20th @10:30 AM Cover to Cover Book Club Meeting , will meet at the Fruitville Library. We will be meeting once a month and welcome any and all members. This month the discussion will be about *Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown. For additional information contact David Guyet (sandheim@msn.com). You are welcome to join into the lively discussion whether you've read the book for this month or not.



Wednesday, February 21st at 1:00 1 PM Bridge Club. Enjoy playing Bridge? Come join the group that plays every Wed. If you want to attend, or if you want more information, contact Bruce Burbage



Thursday, February 22nd at 1:00 PM . SOUTH SIDE LUNCH: at Yummy House China Bistro located at 1737 S. Tamiami Trail in Sarasota . Please RSVP to Dan Warren at danmichaelwarren@gmail.com or 941-359-2526 by 2:00 PM on Wednesday, February 21st.



Saturday, February 24th at 11:00 AM. Collaborative Event with Prime Timers of Tampa-St. Pete.
A potluck at home of Larry Lucas located at 6250 13th Avenue South, in Gulfport.

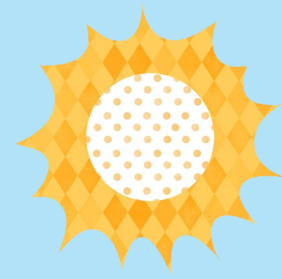


GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: FOURTH Sunday, February 25th, at 3:00 P.M. in , Syster Hall , at 1st Congregational Church at 1031 South Euclid Avenue, Sarasota. This is where we hold our pot-lucks **Game Time** . Bring your favorite games to play. Food will be provided. You are invited to join other members for dinner afterwards.



FOURTH Wednesday, February 28th, at 6:00 P.M., HAMBURGER NIGHT: at the Purple Rhino, 2920 S. Beneva, (Corner of Webber) You have to eat dinner, why not with some of your Prime Timer buddies? Hint: Get there by 5:30 pm to get served sooner.





March Calendar of events



POTLUCK: FIRST Saturday, March 2nd, 6:00 P.M., Syster Hall, 1st Congregational Church, 1031 S5uth Euclid Ave. If you have not been to a potluck lately... you have been missed and missing out on lots of good food and friendship. Plan to come a bit early to enjoy visiting with other members and help set up. (And please hang around a few minutes afterward to help clean up.) *MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!* Bring a dish to share (main, side dish, appetizer, dessert). Please send an RSVP to Michael Stone at mstonefl@gmail.com with the specifics of what you intend to bring, ex: "main dish -- chicken casserole". Email in your selection early and your chances of getting your selection are better. Label Dish with your name (so we can share recipes) and what your food item is



Wednesday, March 6th at 1:00 1 PM Bridge Club. Enjoy playing Bridge? Come join the group that plays every Wed. If you want to attend, or if you want more information, contact Bruce Burbage

bruceburbage@yahoo.com)

Upcoming Events



Sunday, March 17th, St. Patrick's Day Social from 3 :00- 7 :00 PM at the home of Jerry Unland and Rob Gibson located at 6003 45th Street West in Bradenton. Let Jerry know at ronjerr2@gmail.com if you plan on attending.





ALL FAITHS FOOD BANK

The very dedicated Chief Executive Officer of All Faiths Food Bank, Sandra Frank, is retiring as we enter the new year. You might find some of her recent comments inspiring.

“With the holidays approaching, I want to take a moment to share my thanks for your generous support. Without your help, thousands of community members would not be able to put food on the table. Your partnership is especially appreciated at times like these, when the cost of living keeps so many of our neighbors from enjoying the holiday season.

This season is also special because it brings us the opportunity to recognize the sacrifices our veterans have made, and to provide extra support to the veteran community. Twice a month, All Faiths Food Bank dedicates a special pantry to former armed service members.”

With Sandra’s thoughts in mind I’m happy to report to you that during 2023 our club gave \$2,121.00. New last year we also provided Christmas gifts for the children of the Boys and Girls club connected with the Food Bank outreach efforts. That amount totaled \$254.00! Blessings to all of you for your generosity!

To continue our good deeds into 2024 you can send your gift to All Faiths Food Bank 8171 Blaikie Ct Sarasota, FL 34240-9886. Be sure to note on you check Prime Timers Sarasota.

Thanks so much, Mike Moran

This Month in Gay History

February 25, 1982 Wisconsin becomes the first state in the nation to make it unlawful for private businesses to discriminate based on sexual orientation in employment and housing. Gay activist Leon Rouse is a lead in getting the legislation passed.

February 6, 2020– Virginia became the first state in the American South to offer legal protections in employment, housing and public accommodations to LGBT citizens.

February 23, 2011—President Obama states his administration will no longer defend the Defense of Marriage Act, which bans the recognition of same-sex marriage.



ALL AROUND CHARTERS & TOURS

Click above and it will take you to their webpage

Address: 10 E. Colonia Lane, Nokomis, FL 34275; Phone: (941) 488-9393

e-mail: Tours@AllAroundBus.com; Website:



A Day In Dunedin / Feb 1, 2024 / \$45.00 p/p



Always Olivia: A Tribute To Olivia Newton-John at Ruth Eckerd Hall (Matinée Performance), Clearwater / Feb 4, 2024 / \$90.00 p/p



Naples Princess Yacht Lunch Cruise, Naples / Feb 6, 2024 / \$107.00 p/p



Murder Mystery Dinner Train, Ft. Meyers / Feb 8, 2024 / \$165.00 p/p



Zoo Tampa at Lowry Park / Feb 14, 2024 / \$79.00 p/p



Ethnic Food Shopping ~ Florida History Tour / Feb 15, 2024 / \$85.00 p/p



ALL AROUND CHARTERS & TOURS

Click above and it will take you to their webpage

Address: 10 E. Colonia Lane, Nokomis, FL 34275; Phone: (941) 488-9393

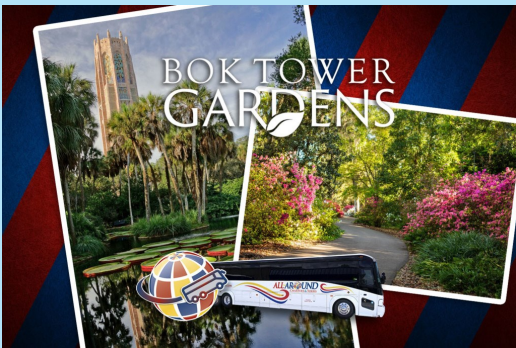
e-mail: Tours@AllAroundBus.com; Website:



Lakeridge Winery, Mission Inn, German Bakery & Chocolates, Clermont / Feb 20, 2024 / \$79.00 p/p



Mystery Tour of Southwest Florida ~ Florida History Tour / Feb 21, 2024 / \$95.00 p/p



Bok Tower Garden, Lake Wales / Feb 22, 2024 / \$77.00 p/p,



St. John's River Cruise, Sanford / Feb 21, 2024 / \$111.00 p/p



Staying Alive at Ruth Eckerd Hall (Matinée Performance), Clearwater / February 25, 2024 / \$90.00 p/p



Beautiful/Carol King ~ Dinner Theatre (Matinée Performance), Fort Meyers / Feb 27, 2024 / \$110.00 p/p

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Sapphire Yacht Dinner Cruise, St Petersburg / Feb 29, 2024 / \$105.00 p/p



Herrmann's Royal Lipizzaner Stallions, Myakka City / Feb 29, 2024 / \$68.00 p/p



Potluck

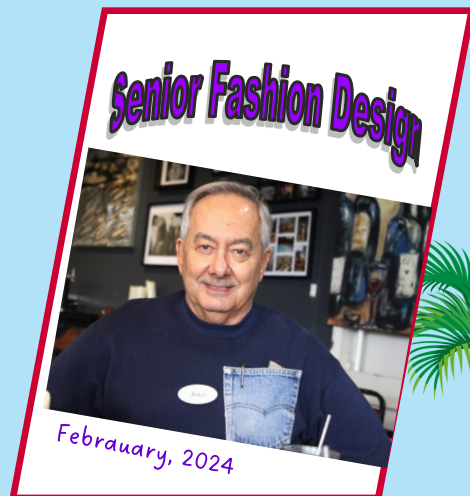




Second Sunday Social



Welcome





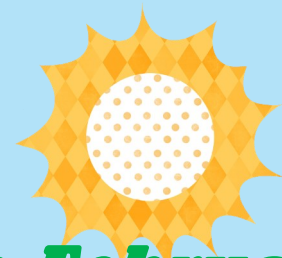
Martin Reichgut of Senior Friendship Center. Our TaiChi presenter

Membership Meeting



...and the winner of the Membership Drawing is....





Flying Through January Into February

Michael Stone, Director Emeritus,
Prime Timers World Wide

Somewhere it is said that as you get older time passes more quickly. So it is. It seems that each five years things get speeded up. Then in the next five years momentum is increased. I started to write this article a week ago and here it is time for the meeting and I'm still just starting it.

So much is going on and the changes are happening so fast. Last night a friend and I went out to dinner downtown. I hadn't been there for three months. The restaurant prices had tripled and a simple cup of tea was four dollars. I end up spending \$90 in the grocery store for very little. I have to ask? Why does my retirement income not go up?

I've been reading the other chapter newsletters. We are very fortunate with our dues structure. I see many of the chapters charge double and triple what we do for yearly membership. I understand that worldwide dues per member are going to increase also. We are so fortunate to have so many activities each month and dedicated hard working volunteers to work to make it happen.

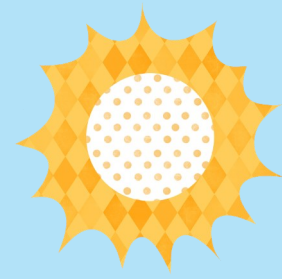
I've been trying to get out more and stop my self imposed stay at home ways. .Oh that's not true. I am out for two physical therapy sessions a week and 3 to 4 gym workouts. I'm still working on my balance. That's kind of a joke. Some days it's pretty good but to make sure I carry the cane for the times that it is not. Heading out seems to be the key and doing something you enjoy. Each time when the time comes to dress and leave the house I don't want to go. This is new for me and I don't like it. I keep asking myself it's is it more trouble than it's worth?

And then I go and then I get into it and then I have a good time but I'm always glad to see my house at the end of my outing. The same with Cooking. I get excited shopping for items and then I come home and realize I have to fix them in order to eat them. Thank goodness for the new Trader Joe's nearby. I got four nights meals out there. Wonderful, Italian meatloaf made with turkey.

I miss travel. My travel partner, Robert, is dealing with health issued and so am I. It is my sincerest wish that will resume group travel later this year. We miss the camaraderie and good times. We don't want to give in to old age because time moves by much too quickly.



by Steve Horowitz



Custom Name Badge

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Click on this link to order your badge/badges: <https://custom-name-badge.cheddarup.com/>





Gay Group Happy Hour (G2H2) takes place the first Thursday of every month at a new location throughout Sarasota and provides the community with a different atmosphere to meet, network, and hang out! G2H2 Sarasota's goal is to spotlight businesses that are LGBT-friendly and welcoming to our community.

FEBRUARY LOCATION

Site not yet announced. Go to Sarasota.out.com/Events



Seniors Blue Book- A Complete Resource Guide

The seniors Blue Book is an excellent resource for older adults like most of us in Prime Timers. We will have copies available at potlucks and member meetings, but you can also order one online at SeniorsBlueBook.com. Check it out!



Click Link below to watch Video

[Seniors Blue Book Intro Video](#)



Classifieds

Purple Rhino Lodge

2920 Beneva Road
Sarasota, FL 34232

PurpleRhinoLodge1@gmail.com
ThePurpleRhino.org



PurpleRhino
The Fun & Charity of Sarasota's Gay Community

Wayne Rogers

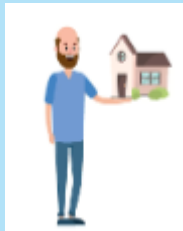
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WayneRogers
@michaelsaunders.com

8660 S. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, FL 34238

KroppandRogersTeam.com



Retired Senior looking for home to share.

Preferably w/Gay or Bi male. Clean, quiet,
no drugs, not a partner. Smoking outside only.
Have car and some furniture. Budget is \$500
a month. Can meet for coffee/chat.

Call/Text 941-321-0195.

Keith Kropp

BROKER ASSOCIATE, GRI, EPRO, AHWD

C 941.587.8376
O 941.966.8000
F 941.918.9392

KeithKropp
@michaelsaunders.com

8660 S. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, FL 34238

KroppandRogersTeam.com

Prime Timers Sarasota

Enriching social lives of mature gay/bi men

Phone: 941-993-3561

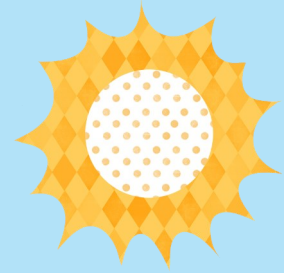
E-mail: primetimerssarasota@gmail.com

Website: www.sarasotaprimetimers.org

Scan



Me



2023 BOARD of DIRECTORS

President: Steve Horowitz

Vice President: Michael Sloan

Secretary: Lee Linkous

Treasurer: Bill Thomas

Members at Large: Jerry Travis, Mike Moran, Steve Hoffner

COMMITTEES

EVENTS

Events Coordinator: Matt Leona

North Lunch: Dan Warren

South Lunch: Dan Warren

Potluck: Michael Stone

Book Club: David Guyet

Singles and Solos: Matt Leona

Theatre Group: Matt Leona

Food Bank: Mike Moran

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Roster: Steve Horowitz

New Member E-Mail Package: Steve Horowitz

Greeting and Name Tags: Mike Moran and Michael Sloan.

HOSPITALITY

Membership Meeting Refreshments: Dale Moore

Membership Meeting Speakers: Matt Leona

Potluck Supplies: Board of Directors

COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletter Editor: Tom Peterson

Newsletter Proofreaders: John Mickelbank, Ron Gibson, Michael Sloan, Steve Horowitz

Google Lists: Steve Horowitz

Web Master: Michael Sloan

Facebook: *Volunteer Needed*

CARE AND SUPPORT

Steve Horowitz, Dale Moore, Tom Peterson and All Prime Timers Members*



Prime Timers Sarasota

Enriching social lives of mature gay/bi men

Official Newsletter Information



Tom Peterson, Newsletter Editor
tominparadise22@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE: We will be using your personal contact information to send you our newsletters, event information, and chapter notices.

Articles and letters to the editor are **due no later than the 20th of each month** and should be emailed to **Tom Peterson** rather than to primetimerssarasota@gmail.com.

PRIME TIMERS SARASOTA
941-993-3561; primetimerssarasota@gmail.com

Be sure to visit our website at: <http://sarasotaprimetimers.org/>

➡ **Interested in joining?** Click on the website link above. Click on *Membership*. Complete an application for each new member. Below the application is the payment method through CedarUp. If you don't pay by credit or debit card, don't forget to send your check, payable to Prime Timers Sarasota, to **Prime Timer Sarasota, P.O. Box 1003, Tallevast, FL, 34270.**

Visit us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/PTsarasota

Prime Timers Worldwide Web Site at <https://theprimetimersww.com/>

