



President's Message

By Steve Horowitz



January 2026

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Happy New Year! 2025 was a great year for Prime Timers Sarasota. I'm looking forward to an even better 2026 with new events, new members, and new expectations.

Don't forget that our first potluck is January 3rd. On Wednesday, January 14th, at 7 P.M. there will be a concert by folk artist Matt Pond at Fogartyville and, on Monday, January 19th, join All Around Charter Tours to see the Florida Botanical Gardens and Zoo in Sanford. The general membership meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25th, at 3 P.M. at Syster Hall, 1st Congregational Church. Are you confused about all the Medicare options, and which one is best for you? Lisa Taylor will speak on Medicare Options Explained. You won't want to miss it. There is an optional dinner afterwards at the Alpine Steak House.

According to many reliable sources, the incidence of anxiety and depression has risen. It's not surprising with everything going on in this country and throughout the world. So, I want to talk about optimism.

According to the Oxford Dictionary, *Optimism is hopefulness and confidence about the future or the successful outcome of something*. Prime Timers Sarasota strives to create optimism for its membership through its thoughtful events and social activities. I've noticed that many of our members no longer show up at events for a variety of reasons. In some cases, the pandemic has resulted in us getting used to staying in the comfort of our homes. Or it might be that you don't enjoy the type of activity or venue in which it takes place. Because of the current financial situation in this country, many of you are reluctant to spend any money on restaurants or events. But did you know that being optimistic about your life and the Chapter's future can improve your health and wellbeing? If you feel negative about Prime Timers, switch your thinking to optimism and tell yourself how much fun you will have participating and seeing your member friends. Because it takes time to change your thinking, you may need to *fake it until you make it!* For example, if you force yourself to smile rather than frowning, the curling up at the corners of your lips will result in *happy hormones* being produced in your brain. So, the next time you see that one of our events are being held, put a smile on your face and say to yourself, "This will be fun to do." In time, you will notice your mindset going from negative to optimistic. Give it a shot and see what happens!

Steve

Prime Timers Sarasota is a nonpartisan 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 carpool 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.

January 2026 Calendar of Events

Saturday January 3 @ 6:00 P.M. Potluck. Syster Hall, 1st Congregational Church, 1031 South Euclid Ave, Sarasota. 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. Don't forget to bring a serving utensil and the name of your dish.

Thursday, January 8 @ 1:00 P.M. Northside Lunch at the Stonewood Grill & Tavern located at 5415 University Parkway in Sarasota. RSVPs can be sent to Dan Warren at danmichaelwarren@gmail.com no later than 2 P.M. on Wednesday, January 7.

Sunday, January 11 @ 3:00 – 5:00 P.M. Prime Timers Second Sunday Social at the Purple Rhino at the corner of Beneva and Webber. Plan to stop by, have a drink, and catch up with friends. Delicious snacks are provided by Rick, our own friendly bartender. Good friends ... good conversation ... good comradery. And a good way to meet some of your fellow Prime Timers in a more intimate setting. See you there.

Wednesday, January 14 @ 7 P.M. Concert by folk artist Matt Pond at Fogartyville, 525 Kumquat Court, near downtown Sarasota. Cost \$30. For tickets, click on wslr.org/events.

Monday, January 19, Pickup times vary. All Around Charter Tours, Florida Botanical Gardens and Zoo, Sanford, Florida. Cost \$75. For tickets, click on All Around Tours or call 941-488-9393 ASAP as seats fill up quickly!

Tuesday, January 20 @ 10:30 A.M. Cover to Cover Book Club Meeting. Due to renovations at the Fruitville Library, the meeting will be held at the Oasis Center at the 1st Congregational Church of Sarasota, 1031 S. Euclid Avenue, Sarasota. We meet once a month and welcome any-and-all members. This month the discussion is on *Struggles* by Dale Moore. For additional information contact David Guyet (sandheim@msn.com).

Wednesday, January 21 @ 10:30 A.M. Board Meeting at Steve Hoffner's home, 4409 Longmeadow, Sarasota. Please e-mail (stevehor2004@yahoo.com) ahead of time if you'd like to attend. Any member is welcome. See your Board in action and share your ideas and concerns for the good of the club.

Thursday, January 22 @ 1:00 P.M. Southside Lunch at The Toasted Yolk, 3750 S, Tamiami Trail in Sarasota. Please RSVP to Kurt Juedes, chorkymorky@gmail.com, no later than 2 P.M. on Wednesday January 21

Wednesday, January 28 @ 6:00 P.M. Prime Timers Hamburger Night at the Purple Rhino, 2920 S. Beneva (Corner of Webber). You must eat dinner, so why not eat with some of your Prime Timer buddies? Hamburgers, grilled chicken and vegetarian burgers are available. Choose sides from onion rings, French fries, and potato salad. All for \$8.50. Hint: Get there by 5:30 P.M. to get served sooner.

Sunday, January 25 @ 3 P.M. General membership meeting at Syster Hall, 1st Congregational Church, 1031 South Euclid Ave, Sarasota. Are you confused about all the Medicare options and which one is best for you? Lisa Taylor will speak on Medicare Options Explained. Optional dinner afterwards at Alpine Steak House, 4529 South Tamiami Trail.

UPCOMING

Saturday February 7 @ 6:00 P.M. Potluck. Syster Hall, 1st Congregational Church, 1031 South Euclid Ave, Sarasota. 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. Don't forget to bring a serving utensil and the name of your dish.

Friday, April 10 @ 7:30 P.M. Outdoor Pops by the Sarasota Orchestra Ed Smith Stadium, 2700 12th Street, Sarasota. Tickets, including fees, are \$28.25. Try to sit in Section 225, so we can sit together. Tickets will go very fast so don't wait! Click on this link: [Get Tickets](#).

January Birthdays

1/3	Enciso	Al
1/6	Constantine	John
1/6	Jacobs	Matt
1/8	Ellison	James
1/8	Muglia	Arthur
1/12	Traghella	Thomas
1/18	Perryman	Gary
1/20	Neubert	John
1/21	Torres Jr.	Ariel
1/24	Fingerut	Mel
1/27	Good	Dennis
1/28	Yap	Jesse
1/30	Bellerose	Peter



Event of the Month



Monday, January 19th. Pickup times vary. Florida Botanical Gardens and Zoo, Sanford, Florida. All Around Charter Tours, Cost \$75. Pickup locations include Northport, Venice, Sarasota, and Bradenton. For tickets, click on [Get Tickets](#) or call 941-488-9393. Seats fill up quickly, so register NOW.



It's that time again! As of November 1st, you can renew your Membership Dues for 2026. Please click on the link below to complete the transaction by credit or by debit card:

[Pay 2026 Prime Timers Dues](#)

OR

We now offer ZELLE payments which are supported by almost all banks. To pay with ZELLE, simply login to your own bank's website or app and select the Pay with ZELLE option. Then use the PAY button which brings up a form asking for payment

information. The dues amount is \$30 per person. The payee information is primetimerssarasota@gmail.com. In the memo field, please write: **PAYMENT FOR 2026 DUES FOR THE FOLLOWING PERSONS:** (Your name and, if applicable, your partner's name).

OR

By check, payable to *Prime Timers Sarasota* to:
Prime Timers Sarasota, P.O. Box 1003, Tallevast, FL 34270

Holiday Dinner Dance





New Members

Tim VanMeter
Raymond McNary
Kurt Owens
Jason Montgomery



Just Asking ...

Now you can ask other members for assistance or invite other members to join you for a movie, meal, or a Prime Timers event following this introduction. For example: Does anyone know of a good handyman? Be sure to include your name/email/phone number.

SAMPLE FORMAT:

*Does anyone want to join me for lunch on Thursday at The Breakfast House?
Steve Horowitz/stevehor2004@yahoo.com/941-993-3561.



**Now you can order your very own
Prime Timers Sarasota Name
Badge for just \$9.50.**

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 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.

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

Cover to Cover Book Club



The club met at our new venue for 2026 and enjoyed some holiday frivolity before Matt L led a terrific discussion of *Giovanni's Room* by James Baldwin. Next month, the January selection is *Struggles*, a new book still in draft form by Club member, Dale M. Jack H will lead that discussion. The February selection is *Florence Foster Jenkins* by Nicolas Martin.

We selected *The Naked Civil Servant* by Quintin Crisp for the March selection. It was published in 1997 by Penguin Books. ISBN 978-0141180533. Matt L will moderate that discussion. Our next meeting at the Oasis Center is January 20, 2026, at 10:30 A.M. The book discussion of *Struggles* by Dale M will be led by Jack H. We are always looking for new members. Contact David G. at sandheim@msn.com if you have any questions.

Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium





***MEMBERS WHO ARE WILLING TO
PROVIDE OCCASIONAL LOCAL
TRANSPORTATION IF NEEDED***

Milland, Marcus	772-631-4287	Venice	34286	airtrk1@gmail.com	
Winer, Jon	401-477-2560	Bradenton	34210	jaydub6743@gmail.com	
Carrier, Mark	386-788-1423	Bradenton	34203	kramreirrac@aol.com	
Leona, Matt	941-750-6457	Bradenton	34208	bongo44@aol.com	
Coyne, Rick	309-824-7524	Bradenton	34209	rickcoyne507@yahoo.com	
Pierson, Terry	530-902-1349	Sarasota	34231	sierra95618@yahoo.com	Gulf Gate Estates
Moore, Dale	941-993-0128	Sarasota	34232	demor37@yahoo.com	
Krauledis, Irv	562-243-9067	Sarasota	34234	ilhairdesign@aol.com	North Sarasota
Officer, Wayne	941-321-0195	Sarasota	34234	woff405813@hotmail.com	North Sarasota
Doty, Al	941-377-3789	Sarasota	34235	aldoty@comcast.net	Meadows
Fox, Michael	517-706-7929	Sarasota	34235	dickensofatale@gmail.com	Meadows
Bramson, Ron	301-980-3056	Sarasota	34237	ronbramson@comcast.net	University Park
Stone, Michael	941-359-8212	Sarasota	34243	mstonefl@gmail.com	University Park
Semmer, Dean	224-381-2309	Sarasota	34243	dfs3935@gmail.com	Cedar Creek
Juedes, Kurt	785-633-7929	Sarasota	34238	chorkymorky@gmail.com	





Phone: 941-993-3561
E-mail: primetimerssarasota@gmail.com
Website: www.sarasotaprimetimers.org

Scan
Me



2026 BOARD of DIRECTORS

Steve Horowitz
Lee Linkous
Steve Hoffner
Bill Thomas

Members at Large: Jerry Travis, Matt Leona, Rick Coyne, Tom Peterson

COMMITTEES

EVENTS

Events Coordinator: Matt Leona
North Lunch: Dan Warren
South Lunch: Kurt Juedes
Potluck: Michael Stone
Book Club: David Guyet
Bridge Club: Volunteer Needed
Singles and Solos: Matt Leona
Theatre Group: Matt Leona
All Faiths Food Bank: Steve Hoffner
Hospital Team: Tom Peterson & Eddie Davis

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Roster: Steve Horowitz
New Member E-Mail Package: Steve Horowitz
Paper Name Tags: Michael Sloan

HOSPITALITY

Membership Meeting Speakers: Matt Leona
Potluck Supplies: Board of Directors

COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletter Editor: Stephen Stanley
Newsletter Proofreader: Steve Horowitz
Google Lists: Steve Horowitz
Web Master: Michael Sloan
Facebook: Ron Robuck

CARE AND SUPPORT

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


Official Newsletter Information
Stephen Stanley, Newsletter Editor
onemainewriter@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 Stephen Stanley 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 Cheddar Up. If you don't pay by credit or with a debit card, don't forget to send your check, payable to *Prime Timers Sarasota to*:

Prime Timers 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/>



Classifieds

Purple Rhino Lodge

2920 Beneva Road
Sarasota, FL 34232

PurpleRhinoLodge1@gmail.com
ThePurpleRhino.org



PurpleRhino
The Fun & Charity of Sarasota's Gay Community

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your communication with God or your Higher
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