

Prime Timers Sarasota

Enriching social lives of mature gay/bi men

President's Message

By Steve Horowitz



July 2026

IN THIS ISSUE

- President's Message-Page 1
- Events-Pages 2-3
- Birthdays-Page 4
- Savannah Trip- Page 5
- Chihuly Exhibit-Page 5
- July Cruise-Page 6
- Just Asking-Page 6
- 2nd Sunday Social-Page 7
- June Potluck-Page 8
- Name Tags-Page 9
- Transportation-Page 10
- Board; Committees-Page 11
- Newsletter Info-Page 12
- Classifieds-Page 13

Happy holiday! This month we celebrate Independence Day when the colonies won their freedom from Great Britain. Did you know that while Independence Day celebrates the birth of the United States, many of its most defining historical moments differ drastically from popular American tradition.

The Continental Congress actually voted to separate from Great Britain on July 2, 1776, not July 4th. John Hancock and Secretary Charles Thomson were the only two delegates who signed the original Declaration on July 4, 1776. The remaining 54 delegates did not sign the official parchment until nearly a month later, on August 2nd.

Signatures were initially kept secret. The names of the 56 signers were withheld from the public for over six months to protect them. If the revolution had failed, signing the document would have legally resulted in their execution for treason.

The 50-star American flag used today was designed in 1958 by 17-year-old Robert G. Heft as a high school history project. He originally received a "B-" from his teacher, but the grade was changed to an "A" after his design was selected by Congress.

But homosexuals didn't get their freedom until much later, and even then, we are still fighting for the same rights and freedoms as heterosexuals. How many of you are aware of the first gay liberation movements? Here are some facts for you. The push for LGBTQ+ rights evolved through several distinct phases:

The Homophile Movement (1950s–1960s): Before Stonewall, early groups like the Mattachine Society (founded in 1950) and the Daughters of Bilitis (founded in 1955) advocated for acceptance by emphasizing assimilation and *respectability politics* (dressing in conservative business attire).

The modern gay liberation movement is widely considered to have begun with the Stonewall Riots in New York City on June 28, 1969. This spontaneous uprising marked a shift from quiet advocacy to a more aggressive, public fight for equal rights and visibility. Fed up with frequent, violent police raids, the patrons of the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village, including drag queens, transgender women, and queer youth, fought back against the police. The clashes lasted over several days, galvanizing the local community.

Gay Liberation Front (GLF) & Militant Action (1969–1970s): Immediately following Stonewall, the GLF formed. This new era embraced militant, intersectional activism, linking gay rights to other movements like anti-racism and anti-war efforts.

It was because of these brave souls that we have the rights we currently do. And we continue to fight for our full liberation. See you around!

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.

July 2026 Calendar of Events

Friday, July 3 Bus trip to Lutz Whistle Depot and Tea Room. All Aboard Charters and Tours. Cost is \$96. The bus will pick you up at various locations such as Northport, Sarasota or Bradenton. Tea includes mini-sandwiches, quiche, desserts and scones. Afterwards, you can go shopping in the General Store, which features an array of artisanal goods. Call All Aboard Charters at 941-488-9393 to reserve your seat and find out what time you will be picked up. Don't wait -- they fill up fast!

Tuesday, July 7 @ 4:00 P.M. Taco Tuesday get together at the Enigma bar, 1110 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg. Drinks at Enigma then dinner at a nearby restaurant. Meet new Tampa Bay Prime Timers.

Thursday, July 9 @ 1:00 P.M. Northside Lunch at Mariscos Azteca Mexican Restaurant located at 1100 North Tuttle Avenue in Sarasota. RSVPs can be sent to Dan Warren at danmichaelwarren@gmail.com no later than 2 P.M. on Wednesday, July 8,

Saturday, July 11 @ 6:00 P.M. (***NOTE: SECOND SATURDAY***) Potluck. Syster Hall, 1st Congregational Church, 1031 South Euclid Ave, Sarasota. Lots of good food and friendship. Plan to come around 5:15 to enjoy visiting with other members and to 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.

Sunday, July 19 @ 3:00 – 5:00 P.M. Prime Timers combined Second Sunday Social and Singles and Solos. 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. Free raffle today!

Tuesday, July 21 @ 10:30 A.M. Cover to Cover Book Club Meeting. The Oasis Center at the 1st Congregational Church of Sarasota, 1031 S. Euclid Avenue, Sarasota. This month's book is *The Secret Life of Alfred Entwhistle* by Matt Cain. For additional information contact David Guyet (sandheim@msn.com)

Wednesday, July 22 @ 10:30 A.M. Board Meeting at Steve Horowitz, American House, 4540 Bee Ridge Road, 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, July 23 @ 1:00 P.M. Southside Lunch at the Yummy House, 1737 S. Tamiami Trail in Sarasota. Please RSVP to Kurt Juedes, chorkymorky@gmail.com, no later than 2 P.M. on Wednesday July 22.

Friday, July 24 @12 noon. Florida Holocaust Museum, 55 Fifth Street South, St. Petersburg. Real Facts. Real History. Explore powerful facts that tell the stories of resilience, view authentic artifacts, and learn about the Holocaust in ways that inspire reflection. Whether it's your first visit or your fifth – experience the history that continues to shape our world today. No online reservation required.

Reminder: The FHM has a clear bag policy. No backpacks or large bags allowed. \$18 admission. Lunch afterwards at Engine 9.

Sunday, July 26 @ 3 P.M. General membership meeting at Syster Hall, 1st Congregational Church, 1031 South Euclid Ave, Sarasota. Presentation by Equality Florida who has fought for gay rights in Florida for 30 years. Find out what's new in anti-gay legislation that they are currently fighting. Here are some of their accomplishments: Secured marriage equality in Florida; Overturned Florida's gay and lesbian adoption ban; Challenged the "Don't Say Gay or Trans" law; and Defeated or blocked hundreds of anti-LGBTQ bills including 29 of 30 filed in Tallahassee in the last two years alone. Optional dinner after at the Yummy House.

Wednesday, July 29 @ 11 A.M. Summer Circus Spectacular, Asolo Theatre at Ringling Museum. The Ringling Circus Museum and Circus Arts Conservatory feature a rotating cast of world-class circus artists. Prepare for a captivating showcase of aerialists, acrobats, clowns, and skilled performers from around the globe. Tickets are \$20 and are available at ringling.org. Lunch afterwards at Captain Brian's.

UPCOMING

Saturday, August 1 @ 6:00 P.M. Potluck. Syster Hall, 1st Congregational Church, 1031 South Euclid Ave, Sarasota. Lots of good food and friendship. Plan to come around 5:15 to enjoy visiting with other members and to 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.

Saturday, August 8 @ 12:00 noon. (If 12 noon is sold out, choose 12:30). Banksy art exhibit at Straz Center, 1010 N. Macinness Place, Tampa. The Art of Banksy Graffiti has toured the world for 10 years and features 160 original and authenticated Banksy works. These include prints, canvases, screenprints, sculptures, hand-drawn sketches, limited-edition pieces, and more. Tickets cost \$34.99. Get tickets at www.banksyexhibit.com. Lunch after at the Barrymore Hotel.

Monday, November 9 to Friday November 13, 2026. Motorcoach tour to Savannah, Ga; Jekyll Island, and Beauford, SC. Leaves from Sarasota or Bradenton. \$847 per person (double occupancy; plus \$199 single supplement). Transportation, hotels, meals, and sightseeing tours included. Check out their website: diamondtours.com/Join-Tour/2229900. Call Ms. Sky Payne at 800-741-4390 to leave a \$75 deposit. Mention that you are joining the group with Matt Leona.

July Birthdays



Al Doty 7/26
Darren Ferrato 7/16
Ron Gibson 7/28
Ron Griffin 7/26
Roger Hazzard 7/30
Daniel Lewis 7/5
Robert Lilly 7/13
Davis Miedema 7/14
David Simpson 7/16
Richard Walker 7/15

Monday, November 9, to Friday, November 13, 2026.

FANTASY TRAVEL PRESENTS: Savannah, Jekyll Island & Beaufort, SC \$847* (*per person double occupancy; plus \$199 for a single supplement)

- ◆ Motorcoach transportation
 - ◆ 4 nights lodging in the Savannah area
 - ◆ 8 meals: 4 breakfasts and 4 dinners
 - ◆ GUIDED TROLLEY TOUR OF SAVANNAH, followed by Hop-On/Hop-Off Privileges
 - ◆ GUIDED TOUR OF GORGEOUS BEAUFORT, SC, “Queen of the Carolina Sea Islands”
 - ◆ a visit to Parris Island
- Plus ...

- ◆ Evening Show at FAMOUS SAVANNAH THEATRE
 - ◆ GUIDED TOUR OF ST. SIMONS ISLAND
 - ◆ GUIDED TRAM TOUR OF JEKYLL ISLAND
- and much more.

Check out the website: diamondtours.com/Join-Tour/2229900. Call Ms. Sky Payne at 800-741-4390 to leave a \$75 deposit. Mention you are joining Matt Leona’s group.

Chihuly Glass Collection Museum



July Cruise



Join us on the new *Norwegian Luna* cruise ship sailing July 11th to July 18th from Miami.

Ports include:

- ✚ Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic
- ✚ St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands
- ✚ Tortola, British Virgin Islands
- ✚ Great Stirrup Cay, Bahamas

★ Free drink package and special dining options. Call our NCL gay representative, Diego Castro, at 954-233-6345 and mention *Prime Timers and Kurt Juedes* (Jewdes) to get special consideration.

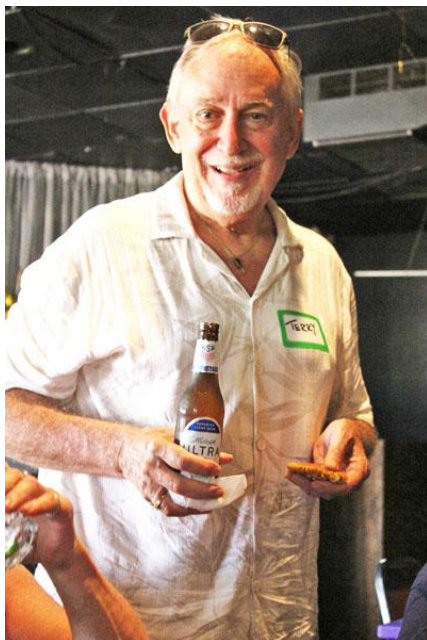
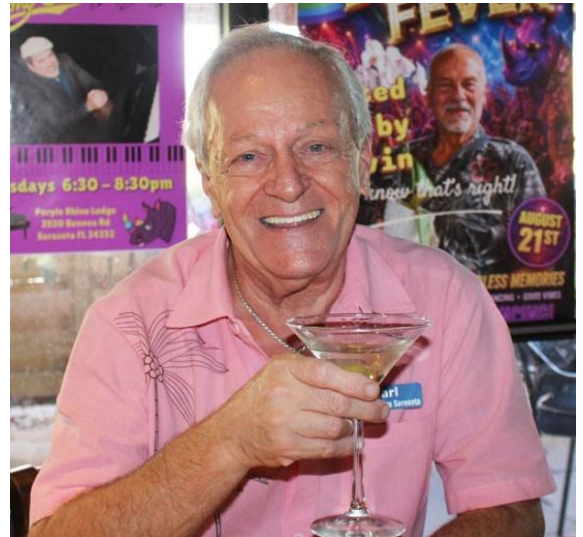
➔ Then sign up for Cruise Connection for bus transportation from Sarasota, Bradenton or North Port to the ship and back for only \$100. Click on [Checkmybus](#).



Just Asking ...

Now you can ask other members for assistance or invite other members to join you for a movie, dinner, or a Prime Timers event. For example: does anyone know of a good handyman? Does anyone want to join me for lunch on Thursday at The Breakfast House? Send your email (Include your name/email/phone number) to stevehor2004@yahoo.com and he will send out an Eblast.

Second Sunday Social



June Potluck





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/>



MEMBERS WHO ARE WILLING TO PROVIDE OCCASIONAL TRANSPORTATION IF NEEDED



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
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

President: Steve Horowitz
Vice President: Lee Linkous
Secretary: Tom Peterson
Treasurer: Bill Thomas
Members at Large: Jerry Travis, Matt Leona, Rick Coyne, Steve Hoffner

COMMITTEES

EVENTS

Events Coordinator: Matt Leona
Membership Meeting Speakers: Dale Moore
North Lunch: Dan Warren
South Lunch: Kurt Juedes
Book Club: David Guyet
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

Potluck Supplies: Board of Directors

COMMUNICATIONS

Publicist: Bob Hernandez
Newsletter Editor: Stephen Stanley
Newsletter Proofreader: Steve Horowitz
Google Lists: Steve Horowitz
Web Master: Michael Sloan
Facebook: Bob Hernandez

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:

(Public) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ptsarasota>

(Private – only Prime Timers Sarasota):

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/733768755573398>

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



Classifieds

Purple Rhino Lodge

2920 Beneva Road
Sarasota, FL 34232

PurpleRhinoLodge1@gmail.com
ThePurpleRhino.org



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