

# Prime Times

A NEWSLETTER FOR MATURE GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN



PRIME TIMERS WORLD WIDE

DECEMBER 2017

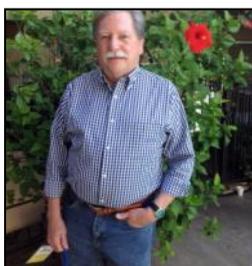
SINCE 1987

## Worldwide Convention 2017 CHICAGO

Articles and pictures on pages 2-7



Photo courtesy Gary Payne



### FINDING RELEVANCE

BY JACK NIMMO, PRESIDENT

It was thirty years ago that a professor from Boston, Woodrow “Woody” Baldwin, decided older men could have fun, too. It was 1987 and a different time than today. The gay men who rose up on June 28, 1969 in The Stonewall Riot on Christopher Street in New York City would have felt the gay community had made a good deal of progress in our march toward equality and normalization by 1987. But, there was something missing for the older men that laid the foundation for that progress!

The party Woody and his partner, Sean O’Neal threw for older men was an unexpected success that enabled

forty or so attendees to get out of their chairs in front of the television and socialize with others who didn’t find relevance in the gay scene dominated by the young in bars and clubs. Fast forward to today and we see that nucleus of men in Boston has grown to a Worldwide organization that is still providing social opportunities in almost eighty chapters of Prime Timers Worldwide throughout the USA, Canada, Australia and in Israel. However, relevance is a topic again. And, once again, it is a changed world with social media communication, legalized gay marriage, less emphasis on the “bar scene”, and more acceptance in socie-

*(continued on page 10)*

### MORE IN THIS ISSUE

Page 8

Reflections On What  
Has Become And What  
Will Be

Prime Timers Worldwide  
Wants You!

Page 9

Who Is The New Presi-  
dent?

Page 10

Finding Relevance  
(cont’d)

About This New News-  
letter Editor.....

Page 11

Phoenix Prime Timers  
Celebrate Fall

Page 12

Travel Opportunities  
Promoted by PTWW

### EDITORIAL NOTE

Starting 2018, Prime Times Worldwide will publish only one newsletter. “Outs and Ins” will no longer be published. “Prime Times” will continue to be published 6 times a year on every even-numbered month, starting with February.

**PTWW BOARD****Founder****Woody Baldwin  
(1920-2016)****President****Jack Nimmo  
president@  
primetimersww.com****Vice President****Gary Payne  
vicepresident@  
primetimersww.com****Chairman of  
Independent Chapter****Sam Powell  
independents@  
primetimersww.com****Secretary****Richard Tobiason  
secretary@  
primetimersww.com****Treasurer****Jim O'Brien  
treasurer@  
primetimersww.com****Directors-at-Large****Tom Hammond  
tom@  
primetimersww.com****Leonard Lujan  
leonard@  
primetimersww.com****Vinnie Primerano  
vinnie@  
primetimersww.com****Director Emeritus****Michael Stone  
director@  
primetimersww.com****Webmaster****Tom Hammond  
webmaster@  
primetimersww.com****Newsletter Editor****Adrian Liao  
newsletter@  
primetimersww.com**

# PUTTING IT TOGETHER

**BY HENRY MCMORRIS, CHICAGO PRIME TIMERS**

When the idea for putting together a Prime Timers Worldwide (PTWW) convention in Chicago began, we had already put together a successful regional Prime Timers conference back in 2014 with me as the conference organizer. Seeing that Chicago was not very involved in the Prime Timers Worldwide scene, I felt that we could put together a convention as well as what previous

host cities had done. I floated this idea to our chapter's board of directors who gave their stamp of approval. I then put together a committee consisting of Russell Bond, Joe Conklin, Ed Davis, Wayne Hall,

David Lazear, Marvin Levin, and Curtis Tom. I've been a member of Chicago Prime Timers for over 11 years so I know these people very well. Some of them have also been involved in the 2014 regional conference event so that was a bonus. We put together a budget with great help from Joe with his accounting experience, and then presented this to the PTWW Board of Directors.

As it turned out, Chicago was the only city to bid for hosting the 2017 convention so it was an easy victory. We began our plan in October 2015. It helps that for the Chicago convention, we adopted a similar structure to conventions held in previous cities, basically a 4-night stay and special dinner events planned for the final 3 nights between Monday and Wednesday.

The first thing we did was find a venue. I know that the location had to be in downtown Chicago for out-of-towners to sight-see so I visited 6 hotels there and spoke with their managers. It all boiled down to price with DoubleTree by Hilton hotel offering the best deal. For that price package offered, we were given 1 conference room and access to their hospitality room and ballroom. For the

Henry McMorris at the registration table



Photo courtesy Gary Payne

events held at the hotel, the hotel would also be responsible for taking care of the food and drinks.

Once we knew the hotel costs, we tackled the price tags for other events we wanted to include, such as the dinner cruise along

Lake Michigan. We spoke with a couple of companies to secure the best deal for the dinner cruise. For the T-shirts, we had worked with a local shop previously to print T-shirts for Pride with good results so we worked with that shop again for this convention. For entertainment during the banquet, we hired a singer who had previously sung for us at one of our monthly Open Socials for Chicago Prime Timers.

With all the prices in place, we created a registration form for potential attendees to complete. David was good with IT so not only did he put together a registration form, he also created an online site for Prime Timers who were interested in finding out more about the convention. For promotion, I attended

*(continued next page)*

two 2016 regional conferences held in Vegas and Oklahoma City, and passed out registration forms to anyone interested in attending the convention. We gave out one free registration through a raffle draw for each of those regional conferences. We also contacted every chapter to ask them to inform their members of the upcoming national convention either by email or through their newsletters.

David created a PayPal account for those attendees who wanted to use that system of payment. As the months rolled on, Russell kept track of the number of Prime Timers signing up for the convention. We set deadlines so as to be able to inform all parties (hotel, cruise company, T-shirt shop) how many people were expected to turn out for the event.

The PTWW Board was responsible for putting together 2 workshops, one for their keynote speaker and the other by Director Emeritus Michael Stone. For the 3 workshops we put together, we asked around for volunteers who might be interested in presenting a topic of interest to all Prime Timers. We ended up with speakers whom we asked as well as those who

stepped forward offering their services. Two of them were from our Chicago chapter (Bill Meyers and Channa Amarasekera) while the third (Loren Olsen) came from the Iowa chapter. Audio and visual equipment for the workshops were very hands-on: I provided a screen for the projector, PTWW provided the projector, Chicago Prime Timers provided a microphone and speakers brought their own laptops.

For the most part, the months leading up to the convention went smoothly. We had a number of cancellations along the way but that was to be expected. We also asked for volunteers from our chapter to help with the minor details like helping attendees to register in when they arrived at the hotel.



Photo courtesy Gary Payne

The convention itself also went smoothly. The dinner cruise, masquerade ball, and banquet were well attended and the workshops even more so as we had to bring in extra chairs for those events. A minor hiccup was when a bus driver arrived late for one of the chartered buses that took the attendees from the hotel to the dinner cruise docking area. Altogether, 215 Prime Timers from 35 chapters attended the convention. While Chicago's notoriety as a crime-ridden city and its cool weather in late October may have dissuaded some potential attendees from attending, we felt that overall, the convention was a success.

I received positive feedback from some of the Prime Timers who attended the convention but I wished I had created evaluation forms for attendees to let us know what they thought of the convention and whether/how it can be improved. I want to thank my committee for helping me put together an excellent convention as well as all the speakers and volunteers who helped make it a success. Chicago looks forward to hosting another convention in the future.



Photo courtesy Gary Payne

# AN ELECTION AND A SELECTION

BY ADRIAN LIAU, NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Worldwide conventions are not just about social activities and making new friends. They include the important act of electing/certifying a new Board of Directors for the next two years, modifying Worldwide bylaws, listening to inspiring speakers, learning from other chapters in seminars to share problems and/or achievements, helping understand medical issues that are pertinent to men our age and selecting the site of the next convention.

The Chicago Convention from October 29 to November 2, 2017 achieved all of these objectives. The Board of Directors established our officers as:

- President: Jack Nimmo (new)
- Vice-President: Gary Payne (re-elected)
- Chairman of Independent Chapter: Samuel (Sam) W Powell, Jr (new)
- Secretary: Richard Tobiason (re-elected)
- Treasurer: James (Jim) O'Brien (new)
- Director-at-Large: Tom Hammond (new)
- Director-at-Large: Vincent (Vinnie) Primerano (new)
- Director-at-Large: Leonard Lujan (new by ap-

pointment of the Board)

- Director Emeritus: Michael Stone
- Webmaster: Tom Hammond (continued appointment)
- Newsletter Editor: Adrian Liau (new appointment)

After a presentation by the San Antonio Prime Timers, the Board selected San Antonio as the site for the 2019 Prime Timers Worldwide Convention from October 29 to November 2, 2019 at the El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel in beautiful downtown San Antonio. Highlights of their presentation included a display of their convention logo, polo shirt gifts, registration costs, hotel accommodations with extremely favorable rates, daily breakfast buffets for all registered guests, two buffet dinners including a dinner theater setting, complimentary river barge pass and an all free hospitality room with food and drinks.

Recognition awards were presented by retiring President Michael Stone to the Board members who were leaving the Board, Terry Kyweriga, Gary Copeland, David Luby and A.J. Ratliff. The presenta-



Photo courtesy Gary Payne

**Meet the new board of directors:**

**From left to right: Jack Nimmo, Sam Powell (above), Vinnie Primerano (below), Jim O'Brien, Richard Tobiason, Leonard Lujan (above), Michael Stone (below), Gary Payne, Tom Hammond**



The San Antonio Prime Timers chapter would like to thank World Wide for selecting us to host the 2019 Worldwide Convention.

tion of the awards was made at the Board meeting and the awards were mailed to those unable to attend the convention.

A highlight of the opening day of the convention was the appearance of Linda Ketner as the keynote speaker. Ms. Ketner kept the gathering of men entertained with quips about her growing up as a lipstick lesbian and the challenges being gay offered to her/our generation. Linda ran for and almost won a seat in the South Carolina House of Representatives. Her speech and follow-up question and answer session resulted in a standing ovation.

Five workshops were presented. They included such wide-ranging topics as Chicago's architecture, event planning strategies, survival and growth enrichment for established chapters, prostate cancer, and sexual function among older men.

Chicago's organizers offered a beautiful dinner cruise that circled on Lake Michigan far enough offshore to provide a beautiful nighttime skyline view of the city. A dance floor and DJ had Prime Timers up and dancing after a delicious dinner buffet. The following night was the Halloween Masquerade Ball that allowed the men to show off their best costumes. For the final night, there was a closing gala banquet.

If you have not attended a Worldwide convention, you should do it. They are fun and informative!

Linda Ketner



Photo courtesy Gary Payne

**THE WORLDWIDE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WOULD LIKE TO THANK CHICAGO FOR HOSTING THE 2017 CONVENTION**

## PICTURES FROM THE CONVENTION



Photo courtesy Chris Harris

More pictures from the convention in the next couple of pages

# MORE PICTURES FROM THE CONVENTION



Photo courtesy Chris Harris



Photo courtesy Chris Harris

## Masquerade Ball



Photo courtesy Larry Lesperance



Photo courtesy Gary Payne



Photo courtesy Gary Payne



Photo courtesy Chris Harris



Photo courtesy Chris Harris



*Dinner  
Cruise*

Photo courtesy Chris Harris



Photo courtesy Chris Harris



Photo courtesy Gary Payne

*Closing Gala  
Banquet*



Photo courtesy Gary Payne

*Last but not  
least.....*

The convention even educated us on some of the inconvenient truths about male sexual health. The list on the right taken from the workshop on male sexual function across the life span, informs us of what we experience collectively as we mature.

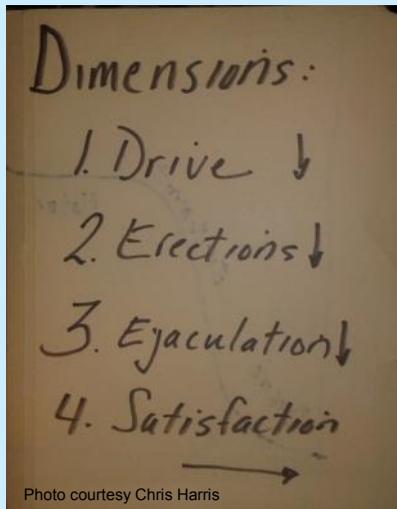


Photo courtesy Chris Harris



Photo courtesy Gary Payne



Photo courtesy Gary Payne

# REFLECTIONS ON WHAT HAS BECOME AND WHAT WILL BE

BY MICHAEL STONE, DIRECTOR EMERITUS



I celebrate with all of us for the gift we have been given: our new Board of Directors. I watched the new board 'mesh' in their first meetings in Chicago in October. I listened on the recent board conference call meeting. This new board is

fired up and full of energy, ideas and the ability to make things happen. These are all "my boys" and I am so proud of them. They are what is happening!

The Chicago Convention followed in the footsteps of other successful conventions. They showed us how to host a convention and make it work. The workshops were all successful and very well attended (standing room only). Both dinners were terrific; no one went away hungry. I was not aware of what the entertainment would be at the last night's banquet. What a wonderful surprise; it was one of the best convention entertainment shows I've ever seen and I didn't want it to end. At the end of each convention, there are usually a few people who would "grumble" about something they didn't like. I've heard only positive comments on this convention.

Now for the real work: the future for the new board. Their plans for the upcoming San Antonio Convention for 2019 is well under way with a kick off starting in Chicago. The hotel they've chosen is centrally located and right on River Walk. The room prices are wonderfully low (especially when we think of "2019 dollars"). The registration rates are great! Having seen and gone over their contract with the

hotel, I can tell you what a great time you will have and that we'll each be getting great value for our dollars spent.

We're entering into a new era as an organization. We are starting off with the loss of two chapters: New York and Fort Lauderdale. This means we have some organizational work to do to fire up people to work with forming new chapters in this area; the sooner the better. We have some new chapters to support to ensure their success and we have several chapters being formed.

In the coming year, you will see many changes to the look and "feel" of our website, as our webmaster, Tom Hammond, continues to refine, enhance and simplify our wonderful website. Our new newsletter editor, Adrian Liau, will be lending his expertise to our newsletter, *Prime Times*, and you'll see that starting with this issue but definitely with the next issue. As the year progresses, the newsletter will go fully electronic and its delivery streamlined. Through increased contact, chapters will get to know board members and interact with them directly.

Change is good! It is the time of year when chapters are seeking new members for nomination to their boards. Do it! Give it a try! Make yourself part of the direction and future of your chapter. Recently I encouraged a friend to run for the board not out of the vacancy on the board but, rather, what the participation would do for him, personally, and how he would get to know members better. Lastly, honor your members for their participation in hosting events throughout the year. There's nothing like a warm and gentle pat on the back.



## PRIME TIMES WORLDWIDE WANTS YOU!

Well, to be more accurate, we want your submissions. While we will continue to have the regular features like articles from our President and Director Emeritus and news from different chapters around the world, we want whatever you feel like publicizing (well, almost anything). Do you have a creative flair for short fiction or poetry? Do you like writing music or TV or movie or book reviews? Do you want to tell us something interesting or fantastic that has recently happened to you? Do you enjoy traveling and showing off your vacation photos from the center of Antarctica? Do you want to show us a picture of your dog dragging a dead rabbit in its mouth?.....Okay, scratch that one. But you get the idea. We'll love to hear from you and even your feedback about how we're doing or what you'll like to see improved. Just email us at: [newsletter@primetimersww.com](mailto:newsletter@primetimersww.com)

Editor's note: Beginning with this issue and every issue thereafter, we will profile 1 to 2 members of the World Wide new Board of Directors to introduce themselves, starting with the President on down.

## WHO IS THIS NEW PRESIDENT?

BY JACK NIMMO, PRESIDENT

I am Jack Nimmo, a 73-year old gay man, who has the honor of following in the footsteps of Woody Baldwin and other presidents that have led Prime Timers Worldwide through the thirty years of our existence and growth. Recently in Chicago, this little-known Prime Timer became your newest leader. Where did Jack come from?

During WWII, I was born at Ft. Bragg in North Carolina to an Army Air Corp Captain and his young bride who grew up in the flat Texas panhandle. Dad was from Omaha. Two brothers followed my birth and we were a happy, healthy family that knew tight economic times as well as

financial success. I grew up in Ada, Oklahoma, a small town of about 12,000 people so feeling isolated in my thoughts was probably familiar to many of our Prime Timers. Fate arrived in the mail one day. Life magazine published an article in the early 1960s describing "gay life" in major cities in the United States. It was that article that helped me realize that I was not alone in my feelings about being attracted to men versus women and where to find it

Through my early college years, I remained in my hometown and joined a fraternity, dated girls, won election to the Student Senate, performed in plays, emceed the college variety shows and behaved as others in my community do. However, my eyes were always on Houston where Life magazine told me I could find gay life. I transferred to the University of Houston and ultimately found Westheimer Street and the like-minded men that populated that gay district. I was 21.

Vietnam was raging and young men on college deferments were allowed to stay in school. I focused on "coming out" rather than grades and ultimately dropped out of college and joined the Air Force. It

turned out to be a great decision as it provided the basis for a career I never would have thought to pursue – Air Traffic Control. I spent a total of 37 years in air traffic control for the Air Force and Federal Aviation Administration. Through my initial years in this occupation, I had a series of "lovers" but kept that closeted and moved up through the ranks of management in FAA to become a leader in the organization. After several failed relationships, I left gay life and married a wonderful woman who knew I was gay when we met. I do not regret that twenty years of marriage because it included a successful career and two wonderful

children. In 2002, our marriage ended in an acrimonious divorce that included "outing" me to FAA. To my surprise, the FAA fully embraced me and my career moved forward as did I.

It was in 2002 that I came back out and have found happiness in a different gay experience. After retirement, I took on another challenge for the Chickasaw Nation as manager of a large contract with the Army Dental Command. While in San Antonio, I met my partner of ten years, Tim Butler, and found churches that affirm me as one of God's creatures and the fun society called Prime Timers. I've worked in charitable causes like food pantries and The Food Bank before concentrating on Prime Timers. I quickly moved into a San Antonio Board position where I've served four years. In 2015, I was elected as a Director-at-Large on the Prime Timers Worldwide Board and moved to the vacant Chairman of the Independent Chapter position. On October 30th I was elected as president of Prime Timers Worldwide in Chicago. That in a large nutshell is the life history of the Society's newest president.

Photo courtesy Gary Payne



## FINDING RELEVANCE.....CONT'D

(continued from front cover)

ty. Over the past two years of observing Prime Timers as a whole rather than just my chapter, I have seen chapters struggle to remain relevant while others have thrived. There are chapters that are growing rapidly with calendars filled with varied events that appeal to a wide variety of members of all ages. Unfortunately, there are chapters of men who have enjoyed each other's company for many years and meet only occasionally for lunch or dinner. Finding persons willing to serve as officers in those chapters becomes more difficult as age and energy levels diminish. Younger members are less likely to find relevance to their more active lives in those chapters. Ultimately, a chapter might just go away. Albuquerque disbanded to our great sorrow and so did others.

Your Board has talked about a lot of topics during the Chicago convention where we held many hours of discussion. Another Board meeting by telephone on November 28<sup>th</sup> continued the discussion as will an upcoming Board meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup>. What are the goals of this new term in office with your new Board? I call it "***Finding relevance for the next 30 years***":

To find relevance we must:

1. Establish pipelines of new Prime Timers to
  - Embrace men in their 40s and 50s as potential members.
  - Seek out older/younger partnerships as potential Prime Timers.
  - Expand the number of chapters to reach underserved members.
  - Invigorate the Independent Chapter of Prime Timers.
2. Establish activities that appeal to all age levels of our members.
  - Your Board has established a committee to

study this task and find example of success.

3. Communicate from the Worldwide level using better methods by
  - Updating and simplifying the Worldwide web site.
  - Publishing the *Prime Times* bi-monthly.
  - Exploring direct methods of communicating with members from the Board level.
  - Rearranging liaison duties from the Worldwide Board to the chapters.
4. Manage the Worldwide budget by
  - Establishing tighter accounting principles.
  - Reducing the cost of publications, i.e., *Prime Times*, *Outs and Ins*.
  - Moving to an all-electronic format for communication.

These activities of the new Board are just a beginning of our effort to become more relevant to current members, chapters, and the gay community. In a separate article, the Board chose me to "go first" to tell you about myself. I think it is important for you to know a bit about those of us who have volunteered to represent you in Prime Timers leadership. Each issue of our upcoming *Prime Times* will feature one or two of our Board members. I'm claiming executive privilege by assigning our next introductions to our new Treasurer, Jim O'Brien, from the Central Virginia Chapter and Vinnie Primerano, Director-at-Large, from the Palm Beaches Chapter. These are two dynamic new members of the Board that will bring new ideas and energy to us. In this issue, joining me in an introduction is our new Newsletter Editor, Adrian Liau.

We are looking forward to a relevant term that leads to the next election at the San Antonio Worldwide Convention on October 29, 2019!

### ABOUT THIS NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR.....



BY ADRIAN LIAU, WHO  
HAPPENS TO BE THE NEW NEWS-  
LETTER EDITOR

I was born and raised in Singapore. You know, that strange place where you are not allowed to chew gum. Well, I never liked chewing gum anyway so that rule never bothered me, and I suspect didn't bother a lot of Singaporeans either.

My childhood was unremarkable. I didn't like or dislike school. I didn't excel academically but I wasn't failing either. I was never bullied nor was I popular. For the most part, people left me alone. Since I have albinism, people never quite figured out how to

(continued next page)

deal with me anyway, which suited me fine. I've learned early on how to enjoy my own company.

When I was growing up, I always thought myself to be attracted to both men and women, with a stronger leaning toward men. It was very hard to disentangle my sexual feelings when I found both Olivia Newton-John and Ryan O'Neal attractive. I didn't have any romantic feelings for anyone although I did have a crush on a male classmate during 8th grade. And of course, no one talked about homosexuality there and then. The education experience in Singapore was very intense so I spent much of my time focused on my studies.

When I attended graduate school in the US, I found another of my male classmates attractive. The problem was that I couldn't figure out why I started having jealous feelings toward the woman he was dating then. It was only after a lot of introspection and confronting my own feelings that I finally had to accept that I was actually gay.

After graduate school and having parted ways with the classmate I was attracted to, I decided to focus on my career as a researcher. By then, I

was already out to my family and friends. I did date a number of men but the relationships were mostly disappointments.

A job opportunity in 2012 brought me to the Chicago area, where a year later, I met my current partner, Gary. We now live together with our dog, Jessie.

I have heard of Prime Timers before but never thought about joining until recently. So new am I to this group that this past August issue of Prime Times was the first I received and read, which I also found out about this newsletter editor position as well. Well, here I am. If I succeed at nothing else, I will at least try to entertain you as you read through what I will be putting together in the coming months!

So what appealed me to volunteer my time in this new venture? For one, I was always interested in news and information. I read a lot as a kid and was always curious. I also like putting things together. My father used to work as a producer for the local nightly television news and I had an opportunity once to see he and his team at work. And finally, I get to do something that doesn't require me to get out of the house!

## PHOENIX PRIME TIMERS CELEBRATE FALL

BY HUCK FITTERER, PRIME TIMERS OF PHOENIX



Photo courtesy Huck Fitterer

With temperatures finally cooling down, the Prime Timers of Phoenix had their first annual Fall Picnic on Sunday, October 22, 2017, at Rio Vista Park in Peoria, AZ. Over 70 members attended the picnic enjoying the cooler weather, the company of fellow brothers, and food catered by Dillion's Kansas City Style BBQ.

# Prime Timers Cruise

Courtyard Travel, Michael & Robert's Friends & Family  
Present

**NO CANCELLATION  
PENALTIES UNTIL  
July 1, 2018**



**FULL REFUND 90 DAYS BEFORE SAILING**

## **Cruise Choices**

A 16 nights Transatlantic Cruise from  
London to Miami.

Sept. 29th 2018 to Oct. 16, 2018

London, Lerwick in Shetland Islands

Scotland, Reykjavik Iceland overnight,

St John, NL Canada, Halifax NS Canada,

Portland Maine, New York and Miami

Inside from \$1,564.00 (Choose 1 Perk)

Oceanview from \$1,894.00 (Choose 2 Perks)

Balcony from \$2,234.00 (Choose 2 Perks)

Mini Suite from \$2,999.00 (Choose 2 Perks)

Port tax \$335 and Govt. Tax 179.76

Deposit \$250 at time of booking

Beverage Package for 2 (Service Charge Not Included)

Dining Package for 2 (4 Meals At Selected Restaurants,  
Service Charge Not Included)

250 minutes of Internet Access

\$50 per cabin shore excursion credit per port.

Proceeds benefit Prime Timers World Wide  
Optional Package - 3 days London, Hotel,  
1/2 day tour and Transfer to Southampton



For Information & Reservations Contact  
Courtyard Travel  
1010 Northern Blvd. Set 228  
Great Neck, N.Y. 11021  
# (1) 800-437-9685

Bobette At Courtyard at 800-437-9685  
Michael Stone 941-359-8212

