

# PRIME TIMES



**A NEWSLETTER FOR MATURE GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN**

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**PRIME TIMERS WORLD-  
WIDE SINCE 1987**

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## WORKING TO BE A PRIME TIMERS CHAPTER: HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

**BY DAVE R. KWIT, HUNTSVILLE ALABAMA**



Saturday, March 10, guys from Huntsville, Alabama had their first meeting towards becoming a chapter of this great organization, Prime Timers Worldwide. Our group intends to support membership from the North Alabama and Southern Middle Tennessee region. We also look forward to sharing many events with other chapters in the surrounding area.

The meeting was a casual meet and greet with finger food, soft drinks and tea for the 29 guys attending. Carl L. of the Louisville, Kentucky Prime Timers, Curtiss J. of the Houston Prime Timers, as well as Ricky A., Rick T., and President Wayne Hartman of Chattanooga Prime Timers chapter members came in support of and to help explain the organization's goals and purpose to the eager Huntsville group. They did a great job of offering their support and of testimonials in effort to encourage this group on its journey. Their words

of personal and group experiences helped to convey the ethos of Prime Timers for Huntsville's entry into this organization.

Recurring monthly events currently stand as a second Saturday chapter meeting combined with a potluck dinner, and a monthly dine out at area restaurants to occur around the fourth Saturday of the month. Other ideas being discussed are for a regular movie theatre night and a game night, along with day trips to various places of interest in the Huntsville metropolitan area as well as surrounding areas in Alabama and Tennessee. Members from other chapters are always welcome.

Should you or anyone you know have interest in joining us for a visit or for membership, please contact us by phone or email:

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## CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT: EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN

BY GEORGE STAMM, PRESIDENT, PRIME TIMERS EAU CLAIRE

Ken Bowerman and I had discussed Prime Timers for several years. He had some contact with the Twin Cities (Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN) chapter and thought it might be a good thing for our area, about 100 mile east of there. After talking about it for a couple of years I finally said, "Let's do it".

We contacted the World Wide officers and asked for help to begin a new chapter. We also talked with the Twin Cities chapter about getting started. The response from both were immediate and enthusiastic. We were on our way.

Our initial meeting was held at the LGBTQ Community center in Eau Claire on Jan. 8, 2011 at 7:00 PM. I don't recall the exact number who showed up but it was approximately 15-20 men.

Our first gathering as a chapter occurred later in January at Jeff's house for food and card games. We had a good turnout, roughly 10-15 men. We currently have a list of 20 members though an average turnout for events is around six or seven. Even if the number is small, I always remembered Woody's comments about providing activities so that gay men don't have to sit home alone. If there are only two or three of us, that means that we have some compatible companionship.



Photo courtesy: George Stamm except for bottom picture this page (Lynn Retz)

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Over the last seven years, we have had gatherings at members homes. I host an annual summer picnic and Lynn has an annual Halloween party, costumes required. We also have an annual Valentine's Day party which is held at the local Episcopal church, Christ Church Cathedral, which, over the years, has proven to be quite gay friendly. They've hosted the original local LGBTQ Community Center for about ten years before the Center moved to another location.

We also participate in the local Gay Pride event. One year, we provided the food and did the cooking plus invited our friends from the Twin Cities chapter to join us. We also prepare lunch at the local gay bar, Scooters, on the Sunday of Pride Weekend.

Three times a year, usually May, July, and September, we have a designated stretch of highway that we clean up. For a couple of years, we attempted to have a presence at Coming Out Day activities on campus at U.W. Eau Claire. With the renewed interest in attracting younger men to the organization, we might try this approach again.

From time to time, other chapter members have had picnics or other sorts of events in their homes. We also ring bells during Christmas time for the Salvation Army.

Our regularly scheduled monthly events are First and Third Thursdays. For the first Thursday of the month, we gather at Christ Church Cathedral for coffee, drinks, snacks and conversation. This is always interesting as it provides a casual atmosphere where we can share some history and stories about the gay scene in the Eau Claire area. The Third Thursday event is a dinner at a local restaurant which is usually chosen by majority consent at the previous dinner.

If you are from some part of Wisconsin and would like to join us, you are more than welcome. Of course, people from any locale are welcome. However, I find it odd that there are no other Prime Timer chapters in the state. There are several areas around Wisconsin with large and active gay communities, yet we are the only Prime Timers chapter for the state. Our contacts:

**George Stamm:** 715-828-4633 - call or text  
**Lynn Retz:** 715-529-0145 - call or text  
 Also, find us and friend us on **Facebook**.



## WHAT DO WE TALK ABOUT?

BY JACK NIMMO, PRESIDENT, PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE



What do you do on the Worldwide Board? That is a frequent question posed as I'm explaining the makeup of the Prime Timers Worldwide Board to someone learning more about our organization. A short answer is, "you can read the minutes of our meetings on the Worldwide website." That would be factually correct but less helpful than providing a direct response to the question. The other short answer is "a lot!"

When Prime Timers was in its infancy, Woody Baldwin and others who would be the first "Board" established bylaws to provide structure and guidance to the newly forming chapters. A hallmark of the organization was to allow for local chapter autonomy within the Bylaws of the Prime Timer organization. Thus, our agenda of business at a Worldwide Board meeting focuses on the organization as a whole, with topics such as the formation and chartering of new chapters; managing the money entrusted to the Board through dues to the Worldwide organization; plans to promote Prime Timers in areas not currently served; our website and newsletter communication vehicles; common problems being experienced by chapters such as attendance, recruitment and retention of members; Worldwide Convention planning; Regional events; chapter visits; and on rare occasions about an issue in a specific chapter that reflects poorly on the organization as a whole. There's a lot to talk about!

When you calculate how much money we have to manage annually, it's easy to see that it is not much. With about 7,000 members Worldwide and dues of \$2 per members sent by chapters to Worldwide, the income is only around \$14,000. Certainly, that amount does not allow for lavish travel opportunities for chapter visits or Board meetings. We have telephone conference meetings approximately every six weeks with one face-to-face meeting annually required by Worldwide Bylaws. One of those face-to-face meetings is traditionally at the Worldwide Convention every other year. In 2019, it will be at San Antonio October 29-November 2. This year our face-to-face is at the Carolinas Prime regional event in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina October 25-28. Our telephone meetings are about two hours long and face-to-

face meetings can be multiple sessions of several hours. We do travel. However, travel is paid for by individual Board members except in some cases where a chapter supplements the cost of travel with a stipend or ticket purchase. We keep very close tabs on our spending and overall budget with the help of our current Treasurer, Jim O'Brien, who is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

A topic we are spending a lot of time on these days is "spamming efforts" being reported to us by our chapters and another recent effort to extort money from Worldwide. A typical effort for a scammer is to send a message to the Treasurer from the chapter President using a fake email address requesting a transfer of money. Some of these attempts are cleverly written using the first name of the President from the imposter to the Treasurer. However, they are not clever enough to use "Jim" when sending a message to a Treasurer whose formal name is "James" and advertised that way on a website where they probably see the name advertised. After a scam in 2016, we have established safeguard approvals of multiple Board members at Worldwide for anything not specifically budgeted or approved by Board vote and limits on the dollar amount that can be approved for a payment. Warnings were also sent to chapters about scams. Have you established procedures to protect your chapter's money? My newsletter article is one of several ways your Board is using to raise awareness again. This challenge by criminals on the web is something no chapter ever thought to plan for when they formed their chapters up to thirty years ago. Watch for an article by our Treasurer in the newsletter and a letter to your Chapter President and Liaison on this topic and in other ways the Board plans to warn you of this evolving menace!

Are you using the Prime Timers website for ideas to use and information on other chapters' events throughout the organization? Is your local newsletter being posted on the Worldwide website? For potential new members within your community or moving there, the website is a great recruiting tool. Our website is another topic our Board is discussing with our Newslet-



ter Committee and our Webmaster, Tom Hammond. 33 chapters currently use our website format. As more chapters are taking advantage of the "free to you" website development Tom provides, capacity is an issue we are addressing now and especially at our April 26th Board meeting. Within our limited budget, we are planning for current and future needs as we

provide this Worldwide service to the chapters.

So, "what do we talk about"? Our website at [primetimersww.com](http://primetimersww.com) has the minutes of each Board meeting in greater detail. And, something else we talk about are good things happening around the organization. We might be talking about your chapter. Check it out on the Worldwide website!

## FROM A MONDAY MORNING QUARTERBACK: CARING AND COMMITMENT

BY MICHAEL STONE, DIRECTOR EMERITUS, PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE



This year, I celebrate my 15th year on the Board of Prime Timers Worldwide. It is the first time in two years that I am *not* in the position of being one of the officers on the

board. I love it! I can now stretch and sit back and observe from a safe distance all there is to see. What I see is a clear picture of how we operate as an organization and what it is we still need to do to continue to grow.

Our first focus must always be our members and our interaction and work with them. We need to continually ask ourselves, "Are we providing them with what they came to get?" This focal point continues to change as society and the world around us continues to change. It is paramount that we change along with those external changes. We need to evolve together and move forward!

In recent months, I've worked with several boards (chapter and worldwide) and what I see distresses me. Although always knowing that all of us are volunteers, what level of commitment do we have? I hate the fact that I even need to question that. I see board members that take way too much in their stride. I say to you directly, "You wanted to serve your chapter (or worldwide) on their board! Put your commitment ahead of things and let go of petty, self-centered complaining. Do your best to attend the few required meetings and when you participate, ask yourself: is this in the best interest of Prime Timers?" We can all learn to live together.

There are so many talented men out there who have so much to offer. Put it out there and listen to and respect what others say and have to offer. Don't be so quick to judge nor too

quick to make snap decisions. What we need is a training ground, starting in each chapter and moving all the way up to the worldwide board. I love to be surprised when I see individuals surface because *what* each offers becomes a part of the whole and contributes to the future of the organization. Stand up and be counted!

I keep hearing that we need to recruit younger men as members. Yes and no! While it's true many of our old timers have passed on or are growing much older, we will always be an organization that started to support men in their senior years. We do the best we can to attract men of all ages. Our society has grown to be so much more accepting of who we are. As a result we're better able to mix in with other groups. However, there will always be that special need for the organization that we continue to be and the men we serve.. As I travel around, I'm always surprised to meet members in their twenties and thirties who are active members. There is a healthy balance of ages in our membership. I thank and salute all of you to continue to work and care about Prime Timers.'

Lastly, don't be afraid to step up and serve. I've had to step in on too many occasions to work with chapter boards who could not find men to fill board positions. I tell you this (to the best of my knowledge) that no one ever died from stepping out and going out on a limb to serve a position. Nothing lasts forever. There are times we find it exhausting to serve. My past two years presiding over our organization was exhausting. But I can step back and realize all the accomplishments we made and how we streamlined so many things that will serve us for years to come. So, I thank you not only for the work you've done but for the work you will be doing in the future of Prime Timers.

## ACQUIRING NEW MEMBERS

BY GARY PAYNE, VICE PRESIDENT, PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE



As we review the Chapter Surveys we received from your Chapter Advocate, it seems the most consistent problem the chapters have is acquiring new members, acquiring volunteers and increasing numbers at events. Today, I wish to address acquiring new members. We have a few ideas that have worked quite well and will share them with you.

One of the first things to do is to produce a flyer. This flyer should be colorful and describe what your chapter is part of and what events you do. If you need examples, please email me and I can send you some examples. The flyer should be posted at every gay bar in your area as well as your LGBT Center or any other gay-friendly or gay-owned establishment. The flyer should be in your local gay magazines. Here in Vegas, we have our flyer in the Night Beat, which is the most read gay publication in Las Vegas. We pay \$250.00 for the entire year. Our monthly events are posted each month in the Night Beat. The flyer can be handed out during the Gay Pride

Parade or Festival some cities have. We have found getting involved with our LGBT Center has brought in many new members. We have several Prime Timers that volunteer at the Center, most working at the front desk. This gives the volunteers an opportunity to meet everyone who comes in the door and provide them material about Prime Timers. Our LGBT Center has a Senior Drop In twice a week and several Prime Timers volunteer during those days. I would say over 90% of the people who come to the Senior Drop in have joined Prime Timers. Also, volunteering in several fundraising events for various gay organizations gives you the opportunity to meet mature men who may be looking for an organization like ours.

These are just a few examples. We have invited chapters to submit articles to our Prime Times WW newsletter on how you are acquiring new members. We will have articles on how to get volunteers in the coming issues. The senior population has doubled since 2014 so there should be plenty of future members out there.

## RELEVANCE COMMITTEE

BY VINNIE PRIMERANO, DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE, PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE



Some of you may know me already as your Chapter Advocate representing you on the Prime Timers Worldwide Board of Directors, others I have met at the Prime Timers Worldwide Convention in Chicago last October, but I now want to address to all the Chapters.

In taking the Chapter surveys, I find the same issues are consistently being brought up by many of the Chapters – the need to attract new members. The new Prime Timers Worldwide Board of Directors has responded to these issues and has established a **Relevance Committee**, which I volunteered to spearhead. The goal is to publicize our organization and make the Prime Timers relevant to a larger group of gay and bisexual men and thus recruit

new and younger members.

The first issue we have to tackle brought up by many Chapters is the use of the words "Prime" and "Mature." Everyone thinks, inside and outside of our organization, that those words mean old, seniors, and retirees. This is not true at all. It's quite the contrary.

First off, many Chapters do embrace men of all ages. Remember that our Worldwide Constitution states (and all our Chapter Constitutions should reflect the same) that our organization is open to any gay or bisexual male over 21. Some chapters say they welcome men over 30 or 40. That is a step in the right direction. So, to this end, the **Relevance Committee** realized that we need to define and encourage the proper use of the words "mature" and "prime" without their negative connotations. Ac-

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cording to all the major dictionaries, "Mature" only means you are a full grown adult and on your life path. "Prime" suggests being in the "Prime of Your Life." That does not mean you are "retired" or "old." When a person is actually in the "Prime of their lives" or a "Prime Timer" could be looked at in different ways. You have settled down, you could be in a committed relationship, maybe having children, doing well in your life and career, enjoying your successes, and loving life. For some people that may be in their 30's, others their 40's or 50's and for some, their 60's and 70's can be the "Prime of their life". It could be any period when you are staring to coast, reaping the benefits of your success, be financially stable, the kids are grown or gone, you do more relaxing things, play golf, maybe enjoying your grandchildren, take cruises, travel, etc. It is a different period, but a good period when you can start enjoying life. Our social and fraternal mission has no upper or lower boundaries on age (other than 21). The older men have a lot to offer educationally as mentors to the younger men, and younger men can make the older men feel enviously young again. It is a win-win situation. Such is the meaning of our tag line: "The Prime Timers is a worldwide social and fraternal organization bringing together Mature Gay and Bisexual Men for friendship, activities, support, and personal growth, for the Best Times of our Lives". Those words describing our organization, Prime and Mature, is something that we should be proud of and used to recruit new and younger members to continue on in our tradition long after we are gone.

Along those lines, the new Prime Timers Worldwide Board of Directors recognizes that

our members are getting older and we are not sufficiently backfilling our memberships. That is not a good path to be on if we don't plan to be on the road to extinction. So the Relevance Committee is collecting from the Chapters what they are doing to recruit new and younger members. At the Convention in Chicago, Director Emeritus Michael Stone gave a workshop on this subject. Many of the Presidents and representatives shared so many of the great things that they were doing to attract new members and retain members. Foremost was letting their communities know that an organization like the Prime Timers exist by getting our name and mission out there. When we work Pride Fest in the Palm Beaches, we get many new members who always say to us, "We didn't know an organization like yours existed, sign us up."

I try to read the newsletters posted from as many chapters as possible. Many chapters are doing great and diverse events where they are exposing our fraternity to the world, consciously or unconsciously. Many times, people come to us and ask to join the fun. Maybe we can perform those events with the deliberate intent to attract new and younger members. I would love to hear from all the chapters on what they are doing to recruit new members, retain existing members, get members to come to meetings, get volunteers to host events, get members to serve on their board, and so on. Send me your ideas at [vinnie@primetimersww.com](mailto:vinnie@primetimersww.com). I plan to publish the ideas I receive in a monthly column in the Worldwide newsletter, and of course, giving credit to you and your chapter. Brag about your successes and share your ideas with your fellow chapters. Help grow the Prime Timers Worldwide.

Editor's note: We continue to profile 2 members of the Worldwide new Board of Directors to introduce themselves, with Sam and Gary next.

## INTRODUCING: SAM POWELL

BY SAM POWELL, CHAIRMAN OF INDEPENDENT CHAPTER, PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE

I am Sam Powell, the new Chairman of Independent Chapter and board member of Prime Timers Worldwide. When I met the members of this new PTWW Board, I was so impressed with the talent and experience in the group and I see that we are off and running to define some new direction for Prime Timers

Worldwide.

Our Independent Members are Prime Timers who do not live near an existing chapter. The Independent Members are offered many of the same benefits enjoyed by chapter members even though local events just can't happen due to ge-

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ography. The nucleus of future chapters can be our Independent members and we encourage and work with our Independent members to consider starting a new chapter when a nucleus is found in a geographic area {we even have a few who are members of a local chapter and the Independent Chapter as well.}

I have reached out to all past members of the Independent Chapter to introduce myself and to offer a line of communication from them to Prime Timers Worldwide. My goal is to grow the Independent Chapter and provide some level of mutual interests that will contribute to development of friendships among these geographically dispersed guys. The cost to be a member of the Independent Chapter is now reduced as a result of the PTWW decision to go fully electronic with our newsletters and other types of communication. Our Independent Chapter members are reaffirming their desire to be in the Chapter and I see a period of growth in the future.

As for me, I am a fully out gay man who grew up in Suffolk, VA, and I spent nine college years at Virginia Tech where I received bachelor and masters degrees in Industrial Engineering. During that time, I taught at VA Tech specializing in engineering economy courses and some drafting/design courses. After Virginia Tech, I worked in the hospital industrial engineering area for several years before beginning a 30+year career at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. During my time at the FED, I had oversight of two major building projects for banks in Baltimore, MD and Charlotte, NC. Each project spanned 9-10 years from conception through design, construction and occupancy. Once the Charlotte project was completed, I had management responsibility for a number of operations in the Charlotte facility.

In Prime Timers, I have been President of the Charlotte Chapter for two 2-year terms and was Vice President in between those terms. On December 31, 2017, I “retired” from President and now serve on the Board as a Director-at-Large. During the last five years, our Charlotte

chapter doubled in membership and continues as a very active chapter with many events each month. Building on the excellent growth of some of the chapters in North Carolina and South Carolina, in 2016, five chapters formed Carolinas PRIME, which had its first regional event in October 2016. Carolinas PRIME II {now with six NC and SC chapters} is having the second regional event from October 25-28, 2018, and it is **open to Prime Timers from any official chapter of PTWW** (including the Independent Chapter, of course). Hopefully, PRIME will continue on an every-other-year format for the years when there is not a PTWW convention. Check out the Carolinas PRIME in the upcoming events of this newsletter. Early registration is at a slightly reduced fee and you will love Myrtle Beach.



Photo courtesy Max Carroll

After retiring from the bank, I became a certified personal trainer and loved this “fun job” helping slightly older clients learn both proper exercise technique and dietary habits. This was nine years of really fun work with the benefit of doing it on my own schedule. A second open-heart operation convinced me to give up weight training for my personal workouts and I decided it really was time to finally retire.

Gay travel is a favorite thing and I have cruised on boats from 8 passengers to 2,200 passengers. Recently I chose a great cruise on a 212-passenger ship and found that type of cruise to be the best I have ever taken. Also, I love beach time and I look for any beach or resort where I can be in the sun.

I was married for a number of years and have two daughters and five grandkids. We have navigated the issues involved in my coming out late in life and I am thrilled that family relationships have been going quite well for several years now.

If you have friends who are not in an area served by a Prime Timer Chapter, please give them information about our Independent Chapter. Let’s offer the great things of Prime Timers to as many gay men as we can.



## INTRODUCING: GARY PAYNE

BY GARY PAYNE, VICE PRESIDENT, PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE

I am Vice President of Prime Timers Worldwide and this is my bio.

First of all, I am not one to toot my own horn, so I will not be listing all my accomplishments, awards or citations I have received in my lifetime. I am a 67-year-old man. I was born in Houston, Texas and was raised in both Houston and for several years in England. My mother was originally from England.

As a child, I felt something was wrong with me as I was attracted to men. I never told anyone and fought those feelings. I married a woman when I was 19. I was also drafted into the Army during that time, making me a Vietnam veteran. There, I was a medic and finished nursing school while in the military. I met a gay man in school and he showed me that I was not the only person attracted to men and he took me out to bars, etc. After divorcing my wife, I moved in with him for a short time. Some time after that, I met my future husband and we are still together after 40 years with 4 of those years being legally married. March 23 begins our 41st year together.

I retired from nursing in 2006 and was looking for something to do. I found Prime Timers Las Vegas on the website, and learned all about Woody Baldwin and his dream. I became involved with the Chapter and was on the

Board several years. I served as Member-at-Large, Vice President, and President. I became a Prime Timer Worldwide Board member and am currently in my 3rd term. I spent one term as Director-at-Large and after that, was elected Vice President twice. I truly believe in Prime Timers and think we are a lifeline for senior gay and bi men. We are more than a social club, we are a family.

I also volunteer 2 days a week at the Las Vegas LGBT Center. I helped start a Senior Drop In at the Center. We meet on Mondays and Thursdays. Mondays is games day and on Thursdays, we have a speaker and free lunch.

We have many seniors who come into the Center looking for senior programs. They are directed to me or our Program Manager and we introduce him to our Drop In Center. After they have been to our group for a week or two, I tell them about Prime Timers. About 97% of our walk-ins have joined Prime Timers and many Las Vegas Prime Timers come to the Center every Monday and Thursday. It is a great way to bring our seniors together.

I have always been a caretaker and in many ways I still am. This is who I am and I am proud of it. I hope I can continue to bring in new chapters and promote Prime Timers everywhere I go.

Thank you for having confidence in me and for voting for me the past 3 terms.



## HERE AND THERE

COMPLIED BY JIM OLIN, SAN ANTONIO PRIME TIMERS

**TALLAHASSEE:** The club celebrated St Patrick's day with a party on March 17. Members were asked to wear everything green they can find. The March newsletter has its share of green with a couple of cartoons and jokes. There was an old Irish saying, "When you slide down the bannister of life, may splinters never point in the wrong direction". The membership will participate in April Pride Fest and will have a booth set up.

**DENVER:** The chapter had a St Patrick's Day potluck and a newsletter article about St. Patrick. President Dick was musing about if a pill was invented to stop the aging process, what would be the best age to take it.

**NANAIMO BC:** Nanaimo Prime Timers are discussing pride events, up and down Vancouver Island, that they may participate in. It may be difficult getting a Prime Timer group large enough to march or ride at Nanaimo Pride. Several members have commitments to participate in other groups. The club had a successful Mardi Gras party with Cajun food. A possible garage sale is in the works. The club is also starting their own web page working with Tom Hammond.

**AUSTIN:** Austin chapter is keeping up its social schedule with weekly lunch, Koffee Klatch, bridge and bowling. There are also less frequent events, such as book group, walking group, monthly dine out, game night, cinema and others. In the March monthly meeting, the membership chose four members to serve on the chapter Board. Board members serve two year terms with half the board elected every other year, giving continuity after the election.

**TAMPA BAY:** Their March newsletter carried the following text: Tampa Bay Prime Timers, Where Diversity is Embraced and Celebrated. There was a lot of green in the newsletter and one nice feature provided is a hot-link to Prime Timers Worldwide. The club went on an excursion by coach, sponsored by Sunken Gardens. University of South Florida Botanical Gardens and the very large Webster Flea Market were on the itinerary.

**TRI-STATE CINCINNATI:** President Ted wrote an opening message in their March newsletter. He mentions different ways people bond together through their lives and how many people bond around St Patrick's Day. He relates to the use of the green color in Victorian England as a sign of homosexuality. Ted talks about the purple and pink identifying colors during the lifetime of many of us. He mentions wearing green at the March social event as a sign of our community and a reminder of gay and bisexual men's surviving challenges.

**SARASOTA:** President Carl assumed duties as president due to illness of the prior president. The board decided to emphasize having fun and social activities instead of having so many committee reports. Worldwide President, Jack Nimmo, addressed the membership on his recent visit.

**BOSTON:** The chapter runs a newsletter feature where individual members tell their story. Harry accepts member stories by email or over the phone. Recently, Jim, a founding member, wrote his story of going to his first Prime Timers meeting. It was a hot August day and a walk up to the second floor room. 42 others were there as was Woody Baldwin. The chapter's name "Boston Prime Timers" was chosen and Jim was on his way as a member. Another member, Norm, found Prime Timers some time after his partner passed away. He went to the seventh anniversary party and started meeting people and working on hospitality. He says he can't imagine life without Prime Timers. The board election is held in April. Absentee ballots are allowed for members who want one.

**RENO:** The High Sierra Prime Timers March newsletter has an Irish theme for Irish American Heritage Month. There are green headlines, Shamrocks and Leprechauns here and there. They ran a story of an Irish American family that sent six brothers to World War II. All of them came home. The front page had an article about a new tax refund scam. The club is also thinking about its participation in Northern Nevada Pride coming up in July.

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**MELBOURNE VIC, AUSTRALIA:** The Vintage Men promoted the Melbourne Queer Film Festival which ran for twelve days. Movie events regularly occur on their event calendar. In March they saw the English film "This Beautiful Fantastic" a romantic drama. A second film event in March was a showing of "Holy Air", a Middle East comedy about an Arab Christian and his Arab wife living in Nazareth.

**RHODE ISLAND:** Recently, there was a discussion if the chapter would physically participate in upcoming pride events. Some thought it would not benefit the chapter. An alternate plan was discussed where the chapter would support the printed booklet for pride. Member Chuck wrote a short story titled "Immigration" that has been published in their chapter's newsletter. He was inspired by a small item he saw at a thrift shop. Also in the newsletter is an upbeat article about prostate cancer.

**SEATTLE:** President Dan recalls his training in diplomatic school for an assignment years ago. He related diplomacy to everyday life situations. He reminds us to just be good to each other and to remember we are all Ambassadors. The steering committee decided that all members were sent a Valentine's Day card "in the spirit of outreach". The March newsletter has many pictures, including one of a deliciously iced birthday cake that says 215 Years of Happiness: Juan, Robert, and Dan.

**TULSA AREA:** Membership chair John is asking that everyone bring in a new member for the 25th year of TAPT. He suggested that members work Prime Timers into their conversations and that most people like a personal invite for them to say yes to TAPT membership. Member Steven has been updating the TAPT website for the group.

**VANCOUVER BC:** P.T. "FRIENDS" gives the opportunity for a member to linkup with other nearby prime timers. A brief phone call is made daily at an agreed time. Social contact is encouraged. At the March membership meeting, a "Possible Treasures" event was tried when members brought in an unwanted item that someone else might enjoy. Bicycling begins in April starting with easy rides which will gradually lengthen. Rides occur in good weather only and include refreshment stops.

**PRIME TIMERS OF THE DESERT:** The Palm Springs chapter newsletter starts out with a short history of Woody Baldwins' founding of Prime Timers. Ralph Sheplow founded the PTOD chapter and started growing the chapter to what it has become today. Acting president Ron Williams also shared his first Prime Timers experience. The chapter is having a four-day trip to Laughlin Nevada with an optional excursion to Lake Mead with a boat cruise.

**COLUMBUS OH:** Several Prime Timers are participating in the April AIDS Walk Central Ohio. The club has an active list of monthly events including twice weekly Koffee Klutch, weekly Boys Night Out and at least once a month Movie Night, Euchre Night and Sunday Brunch.

**DES MOINES IA:** The newsletter emphasizes good photography. In the event pictures there are large pictures of members with smiling faces and people engaging in conversation. The club's monthly activities include Dine Outs, Breakfast Out, Dominoes, Evening Coffee, Morning Walk and Talk followed by Coffee.

**LAS VEGAS:** President Ray Plummer put out the suggestion that small home events are possible. Some suggestions are a Book Group, Progressive Dinners, and Game Night, with more listed in their newsletter. The host could limit the size of a group before reservations are taken. In late March, the club made its annual trip to Laughlin. It was a four-day event with room rates under \$32 per night plus tax. The club had a hospitality suite and listed more than a dozen possible activities in which members could participate.

**CENTRAL FLORIDA:** Ken opened his President's Message by mentioning the 17 people killed in south Florida and called for a need to end these killings. Member Andrew presented his Marionette Show "My Friend Gus". The club was then provided a catered lunch after the show. At the General Meeting, guest Michael Beckwith spoke to the members. He is a Hydrologist with the US Geological Survey. He watches the water quality and water flows in the area.

**CHICAGO:** A couple of Chicago-related articles in the March newsletter: A member reminisces his experiences with the John Hancock Building, now renamed 875 N Michigan Avenue, while another mentions the city's public transportation options for those who don't drive.



## PRIME TIMERS OF PHOENIX AT SAGUARO LAKE

BY HUCK FITTERER, PRIME TIMERS OF PHOENIX

Photo courtesy Peter Urbaniak



On March 10, 2018, members of the Prime Timers of Phoenix hopped on board the Desert Belle, a restored sightseeing vessel at Saguaro Lake for a 90-minute cruise. Saguaro Lake is the fourth Arizona reservoir on the Salt River formed by the Stewart Mountain Dam. The lake is located about 40 miles from downtown Phoenix and its named for the Saguaro Cactus that stand majestically in the surrounding desert landscape.

## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

BY ADRIAN LIAU, NEWSLETTER EDITOR, PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE

We are starting another new feature with this newsletter's issue: Chapter Spotlight, as you have seen it on pages 2 and 3. Here, we showcase one Prime Timers chapter with a focus on those that are smaller and may or may not have their own newsletter. If you like to be featured in the next newsletter, let us know.

Also, are you by chance, still working, or have worked in the health field, either as a clinician or



a researcher? Or maybe even have an interest in wellness issues? We are thinking of starting a new series on health and lifestyle issues that would be relevant for all mature men, and are looking for such potential writers.

As always, we still want your contributions in any shape or form. Just remember, the more you contribute, the "fatter" this newsletter will be! Email us: [newsletter@primetimersww.com](mailto:newsletter@primetimersww.com)

# WHY SHOULD I BOOK EARLY WHEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN

BY ROBERT ROSENTHAL, PALM BEACH PRIME TIMERS

Who can tell the future? Who knows what's going to happen? Will I be healthy enough to make plans a year away? Why should I even think of that?

Making plans for a trip can be daunting. Everybody is urging you to book early and there are no assurances. What about a penalty if you can't go?

What if.....what if.....?



# !STOP!

When you book with cruises arranged by Courtyard Travel, hosted by Michael and Robert, and benefitting Prime Timers Worldwide, you can rely on No Penalty if you cancel 90 days before the cruise. Yes — Full payment and no questions.

What?????? You don't have to be sick and get a doctor's note and wait for months for the company to decide. That's right. Just a call to Courtyard Travel telling them you are cancelling.

## That's great but why book early, sometimes a year or more in advance?

We get cabins as soon as they are available and the ship discounts them. We never know when they increase the fares. We recently had a \$500 increase in fares for a cruise. If you wanted to go on that cruise and had not booked right away you would pay more. Cabins go up in price the closer we get to sailing.

Here is the answer to what to do if you are thinking about one of Courtyard Travel cruises, hosted by Michael and Robert, and benefitting Prime Timers Worldwide. BOOK NOW and you can cancel 90 before sailing without penalty. That's having your CAKE AND EATING IT TOO.

Check out the next 2 cruises in the next couple of pages.





PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE, MICHAEL & ROBERT WITH  
COURTYARD TRAVEL  
PRESENTS

**NCL JADE'S 16 Night Transatlantic Cruise**  
**September 29, 2018 to October 15 2018**



September 29 - Sail from Southampton England  
30 - At Sea  
October 1 - Lerwick, Shetland Islands, Scotland  
2 - At Sea  
3 - Reykjavik, Iceland  
4 - Reykjavik, Iceland  
5 - At Sea  
6 - At Sea  
7 - St John's, NL, Canada  
8 - At sea  
9 - Halifax, NS, Canada  
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11 - At Sea  
12 - New York, Manhattan  
13 - At Sea  
14 - At Sea

**PERKS**

- Beverage Pkg.for 2  
(\$257) taxes and gratuities
- 250 minutes Internet Access
- \$50 per cabin ship's shore excursion  
credit per port except London &  
Miami
- Dining Pkg. For 2 includes 4 meals  
of selected Restaurants (\$15.60 tax)

**PRICES FROM**

Inside	\$1,564.00	choose 1 perk
Picture Window	\$1,894.00	choose 2 perks
Balcony	\$2,234.00	choose 2 perks
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All Rates are Per Person based on Double Occupancy

**Additional charges**

Port charge \$335 Govt. Tax \$179.76  
Deposit \$250 per person at time of booking  
Final Payment due 7/1/18

**NO CANCELLATION PENALTIES UNTIL 7/1/18**

**THREE OPTIONAL PACKAGES**

**1 - Three night London Novotel central  
hotel, 1/2 day sightseeing, & Transfer to  
Ship**

**\$680.00**

**2 - Reykjavik - 8 hour tour with some of  
the best known natural phenomena**

**\$64.25**

**3 - Reykjavik - Northern Lights - We will  
search for Aurora Borealis with private  
bus and guide. Leaves at 8:00.**

**\$48.67**

For Information and Reservations contact:

**COURTYARD TRAVEL**

**1010 NORTHERN BLVD. Suite 228  
GREAT NECK N.Y. 11021**

**BOBETTE AT COURTYARD**

**1-800-437-9685**

**Michael Stone 941-359-8212**

**Robert Rosenthal 561-969-6958**



## **HOLLAND AMERICA OOSTERDAM**

### **January 12 - 19, 2019**

### **7 DAY EASTERN CARIBBEAN**

**Michael & Robert Friends and Family,  
Courtyard Travel  
Presents Winter Cruise 2019**

Sat. Jan 12 - Ft. Lauderdale

Sun Jan 13 - At Sea

Mon Jan 14 - Amber Cove, Dominican Republic. Arr. 10AM Depart 6PM

Tues. Jan 15- San Juan, Puerto Rico

Arr. 1Pm. Depart 11PM

Wed. Jan 16- St. Thomas U.S.V.I.

Arr. 8Am Depart 5PM

Thurs. Jan 17- At Sea

Fri. Jan 18- Half Moon Bay, Bahamas

Arr. 8AM. Depart 3PM

Sat. Jan 19- Ft. Lauderdale

For information and Reservations

**COURTYARD TRAVEL**  
1010 Northern Blvd. Set 228  
Great Neck, NY 11021

**Bobette at Courtyard**  
**1-800-437-9685**

**Michael Stone**  
**941-359-8212**

**Robert Rosenthal**  
**561-969-6958**

Donations made to Primetimers WW

**PRICES FROM**  
Inside \$549.00  
Outside \$669.00  
Balcony \$829.00  
Suite \$1,679.00

Govt. Tax \$170  
Ports \$150

Required Deposit \$350 per person when booking

Prices per person based on double Occupancy  
RATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE  
Final Payment due Oct 12, 2019  
NO CANCELLATION PENALTIES until Oct. 12, 2019  
Book NOW to ensure prices.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**CENTRAL OKLAHOMA PRIME TIMERS**  
**LABOR DAY GET-A-WAY 2018**  
**AUGUST 29 - SEPTEMBER 3, 2018**

We are pleased to invite you to the 2018 Prime Timers Labor Day Weekend. The five day event held at the Southwest's premier gay resort – the Habana Inn in Oklahoma City – begins **Wednesday afternoon August 29, and continues through noon Monday, September 3, 2018.**

**NOTE: \*\*the Habana is taking room reservations now. You can call them at 1-405-528-2221 or 1-800-988-2221 toll-free to book a room.** Tell them you are with Prime Timers, you do not have to be a Prime Timer to attend and no code needed. If you want to reserve more than one room, you will need the name of the person who will occupy that room.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Your hotel accommodations are not included in the registration fee for the event. You can check out the Habana Inn's website The Habana will try to accommodate your choice of room, but as with any hotel, it does not guarantee your choice. COPT has no control over hotel registration or room selection. If you need a first floor room, please make that your priority when you call. If you have a special need related to your hotel room, you need to let your hotel know. We do not assign hotel rooms.

Every year, 175 Prime Timers and their friends from around the US and Canada converge on the Habana Inn for a weekend of fun in the sun. The Habana features two swimming pools, three bars, a restaurant and an adult gift shop, plus shows on Thursday and Sunday nights. It has free wireless internet. It is located in the heart of Oklahoma City's gay bar district. **The weekend begins Wednesday afternoon early registration. The Labor Day Gathering** is an opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones.

Most attendees find their own diversions, but if you want to venture out, Oklahoma City offers lots of things to do. We have plenty of museums, entertainment and dining districts, and the Oklahoma City National Memorial. If antiques are your thing, there are hundreds of stores available for your shopping pleasure. The Habana Inn is at the heart of the gay entertainment district, which features even more bars. As always, we will have local tours, and we hope to have a Bridge Tournament.



The Habana Inn is at the heart of the gay entertainment district, which features even more bars. As always, we will have local tours, and we hope to have a Bridge Tournament.

**The schedule for the weekend:** Scheduled events include a Happy Hour every day (Thursday through Sunday), a Welcome Party on Thursday, dinners with entertainment on Saturday, poolside continental

*(continued next page)*



breakfast five days (Thursday through Monday), a poolside box lunch on Friday and Saturday, Friday BBQ dinner and a brunch on Sunday and Monday.

### **The Cost**

The Labor Day Weekend is a great entertainment value. You can select the **FULL PACKAGE** for \$180 before **April 15**. This includes your registration and all the events, including the five paid meals. Taking the package deal before May 31 saves you \$10. If you register for the package deal after May 31, the price is \$200. If you register for the package deal after July 10, the price is \$220. After August 11 and at the door, the price is \$250 (No Shirt & Credit Cards only).

**If you would like a 2018 Labor Day pocket polo shirt, we must receive your registration by July 10, 2018.**

You can select the **BASIC PACKAGE** for \$120 before **April 15**. If you register for this package deal after April 15, the price is \$130. If you register for the package deal after May 31, the price is \$140. If you register for the package deal after July 10, the price is \$160. After August 11 and at the door, the price is \$190. This package includes your registration and all the events with the exception of Saturday night dinner, Sunday and Monday Bunch.

Both the full and basic packages give you access to the event, all happy hours, all continental breakfasts, the hospitality room and any other included events we introduce. We have always allowed guests to register when they arrive, but based on last year's attendance, we could easily run out of capacity at some of the meals, so it helps to register early. For more information or extra forms you may visit Prime Timers Worldwide Website at [www.primetimersww.com](http://www.primetimersww.com) or please feel free to contact me at [COPT.LaborDay@gmail.com](mailto:COPT.LaborDay@gmail.com).



All photos courtesy  
of Jim Houk &  
Steven Dubois



## WESTERN REGIONAL GATHERING

Las Vegas Prime Timers will hold their 10th annual Western Regional Gathering September 23-26, 2018. This event we be at the Stratosphere Casino, Hotel & Tower, 2000 South Las Vegas Boulevard expects to attract men from all over the country. The Western Regional Gathering includes both scheduled events and free time.

### HOST HOTEL WITH CASINO & DINING

Hotel rooms are available at the Stratosphere Casino, Hotel & Tower at discounted \$46/night rates plus tax and \$29.95/night resort fee. To reserve your room, use online code "Las Vegas Prime Timers 2018" and/or Group Code C-LVPT18 by calling (800) 998-6937. Attendees do NOT have to be a member of the Prime Timers. All adult male men are welcome to register.



### MEET and GREET

A Registration Room and Hospitality Suite will be available for information and socializing throughout the event. Guests are invited to drop in, obtain information on activities, and network with other men. Special activities will also be available. This will be a chance for the attendees to meet members of the Las Vegas chapter, as well as get to know each other. The Hospitality Suite will be open various hours with open bar and snacks. The Suite may close if it exceeds the number of people that Fire Code allows or if it so loud that guests on the floor complain.

### FULL WEEK

Full Registration fee includes Meet N Greet, Hospitality Suite with Full Open Bar, Free Daily Continental Breakfast, Daily Seminars, Dinner Buffet with free tower rides afterwards, a Welcome bag and gifts.

**Complete information is available on the Las Vegas Prime Timers website:**  
**[www.LasVegasPrimeTimers.com](http://www.LasVegasPrimeTimers.com)**

Las Vegas Prime Timers  
P.O. Box 42424  
Las Vegas NV 89116

Contact: Ray Plummer

Phone: 702-629-9733

Email: [president@lasvegasprimetimers.com](mailto:president@lasvegasprimetimers.com)

Web: [www.LasVegasPrimeTimers.com](http://www.LasVegasPrimeTimers.com)





## OCTOBER 25 – 28, 2018 REGIONAL EVENT NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, SC

*Carolinan PRIME* is created to foster the goals of Prime Timers and to offer a way for chapter members from all Prime Timer chapters to meet and work together for both social and other activities. This event is open to all Prime Timers in any chapter of Prime Timers Worldwide. One reservation fee covers all hospitality and banquet events {hotel not included}.

Friday, October 26, will be the day to see all that Myrtle Beach and North Myrtle Beach have to offer. Saturday, October 27, will feature an optional breakfast gathering, four speakers in the AM and two optional, afternoon breakout sessions. Each evening, Thursday through Saturday, will offer a hospitality suite with themed gatherings on Friday and Saturday nights. Our PRIME banquet will be on Saturday night at the host resort. We close with an optional breakfast on Sunday morning. See full listing in the online program.

### Host Resort:

### **BEACH COVE RESORT**

**4800 South Ocean Blvd  
 North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582**



The Beach Cove Resort is an oceanfront, all condominium, host. Your reservation is made direct by calling **800-331-6533** or **843-918-9000**, select Option 2, then Option 1, and use "Carolinan PRIME" as the group name. {Free parking & free Wi-Fi; Pets are not allowed at this resort.}

Oceanfront executive suite\* for

**\$80 + resort fee + tax = \$103.04 per night.**

\*~600 sq. ft., 2 queen beds, living room with queen sleeper sofa, kitchenette, 1 bath and private balcony.

Oceanfront 2 bedroom condos\*\* for:

**\$130 + resort fee + tax = \$159.04 per night.**

\*\*~1100 sq. ft., 2 BR, one with king bed, one with 2 queen beds, living room with queen sleeper sofa, full kitchen, 2 baths and private balcony.

**Hotel information, event registration and program are online at:**

**[www.primetimersww.com/carolinanprime](http://www.primetimersww.com/carolinanprime)**

**Carolinan PRIME**

**Sponsored For All By: PRIME Guys from Chapters in  
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# Prime Timers Worldwide Convention

## San Antonio, Texas

### October 29 to November 2, 2019



*"An affordable convention in a beautiful city!"*

## Mark Your Calendar!

- Registrations Begins October 25, 2018
- \$175 early registration includes
  - Completely free hospitality room with drinks and food
  - Huge hospitality room at lobby level
  - Large pool with extended hours
  - Banquet luncheon
  - Banquet dinner with entertainment
  - Daily breakfast buffet for registered hotel guests
  - Embroidered polo shirt
  - River Barge day pass
- Convention hotel exclusively occupied by Prime Timers
  - Beautiful El Tropicano Hotel Riverwalk
  - On the famed Riverwalk
  - Room rates begin in the mid-\$120s + tax
  - Convenient by barge or stroll to Alamo and other sites

*A Convention You Won't Forget!*



Editor's note: Here's this issue's legal column. Please remember that the information provided is intended only for educational purposes; consult with a local attorney for specific answers to your own situation.

## POWERS OF ATTORNEY AND LIVING WILL

BY JIM SCHWARTZ, JD, CHICAGO PRIME TIMERS



### About the author:

Jim grew up in Philadelphia. After graduating from Penn State with a B.A. in history, Jim went to Villanova University School of Law where he graduated with a J.D. After graduation, Jim first went to work for the City of Philadelphia and then became employed by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. In private practice, Jim's areas of concentration have been securities, commodity futures, real estate, tax, wills and trusts.

In the last issue, I wrote about two important Estate Planning Documents ... a Will and a Living Trust. In this issue, I will discuss some other valuable and needed documents each of you should have. They are a Living Will, a Health Care Power of Attorney (or Advance Medical Directive) and a Property Power of Attorney.

First, it should be noted that these documents, while often prepared as part of your "estate plan" are actually documents which become operative during your life and cease to be operative upon your death. So, while they can be (and often are) executed at times different from when you execute your Will or Living Trust, my experience has generally been that when a client comes in for a "Will Package", it often means some testamentary document (Will or Trust) and also both Powers of Attorney and a Living Will.

In summary, these are documents which direct others to do things for you when you cannot do them for yourself. Again, none of them survive your death except for one issue which I will discuss in the description of the Medical Power of Attorney. Thus, upon your death, your appointed agent to make Health Care decisions for you can no longer make health care decisions for you (perhaps that is obvious anyway) and your Power of Attorney for Property also ends upon your death and the executor of your Will or Trust takes over.

So, let's chat about each of them.

### 1. Living Will

Broadly stated, a Living Will is a document you use to state your medical wishes in the event you are either incapacitated or otherwise unable to give informed consent as to the types of medical treatment you wish.

Some examples which may be included in a Living Will are: if you are terminal, do you want IV food and/or hydration given to you; do you want pain medication; do you want to be on a ventilator? These and many other questions may be asked of you by your attorney. State laws vary in their answer to many of these questions so it is best to consult an attorney in the state where you live to determine how your state deals with these issues. For example, in Illinois, where I reside, there is a split among the courts as to whether and under what circumstances it is possible to withhold hydration from a person, even when they request it. Another example is: what are your wishes as to when you want to be resuscitated? Do your wishes change (as to what medical care you receive) if you have an incurable disease such as cancer and have been deemed terminal? Or, assume you have been in a car accident and the medical staff advises that you have no brain function, do you want to be on a ventilator?

*(continued next page)*

## POWERS OF ATTORNEY AND LIVING WILL

### (CONT'D)

Factors to consider are your family's financial situation since medical expenses can become quite costly and may not be totally covered by insurance. Other factors could be the emotional stress on your family by keeping you on a ventilator. Another consideration are your own wishes of what you want in the event your medical staff states "there is little hope" or words to that effect.

Realistically, a living will cannot cover each and every possible contingency. Therefore, it is probably best to use some concise, broad language which would cover several situations. As with other documents of this kind, it is best to think about them, have them prepared and then executed when you are of sound mind and understand it.

An often asked question is what is the difference between a Living Will and a Last Will and Testament. As stated above, a living will is the document which expresses your health care wishes when you are unable to do it - a Last Will and Testament (which I discussed in the last issue) states how you want your assets divided and who is going to do all of it.

Because the laws of each state vary as to how these issues are decided, it is best to speak with an attorney in your state who can help you prepare the document and help you state your wishes.

### 2. Medical Power of Attorney

Much like a Living Will, a Medical Power of Attorney is a document which describes the type of health care you wish and appoints someone to make those decisions. Oftentimes, the form allows for an alternate if your first choice is not available or is unable to serve. Many states have codified this document so you or your attorney can complete it by stating what type of care you want, any additional duties you wish to give your agent, any limitations, the name and address of the agent as well as the name and address of the contingent agent. Some states also ask that you initial one of 2

boxes and state if you either (a) want your agent to have total authority to make decisions beginning on the date of execution of the document regardless of your current physical health, or (b) state that you do not want your agent to make decisions for you unless you are unable to make them for yourself which will be determined by your physician.

Other states do not have a codified state form but rather rely on a General Power of Attorney. Some of those states say they are durable, basically meaning the document becomes active when you are unable to make your own decisions.

Again, I strongly recommend this document be prepared by your attorney so your wishes are stated as completely as possible. I always recommend that copies of the Medical Power of Attorney be provided to your physician, to be included in your chart as well as to any hospital where you have been admitted. I also strongly recommend that if you make any changes to this document that you notify your physician immediately and provide him or her with a copy of the updated document.

### 3. Property Power of Attorney

Like a Medical Power of Attorney, the purpose of this Power of Attorney is to give the person you designate (your agent) broad powers to handle your property. The extent of that authority and the financial matters it covers, can either be limited by you or expanded by you. So, for example, you can allow your agent the power to sign checks for you, buy or sell real or personal property or many of the other categories listed in the document. Unless you limit the duration, the Power will be in force for the duration of your lifetime, including after you are disabled.

This is another document to discuss carefully with your attorney and make sure he or she prepares it in accordance with your wishes.

If your state does not have a specific form then, like the Medical Power of Attorney, a Durable Power of Attorney is normally acceptable.

## THE BACK FOOLS' PAGES

Editor's note: The back pages is a place where you can show off your creative talents or want to share something light-hearted, like a joke (please, only clean humor!). It can be a place where trivia or even useless information is shared. It can be as personal or as silly as you want it to be. Contributions are always welcome!



BY THE FOOLISH PRIME TIMER

It has become customary to prank people during the first day of April, yet no one knows the origins of April Fools' Day. Several possible legends have floated over the decades:

1. When the Gregorian calendar was adopted in the 16th century, those who celebrated the old New Year's Day which fell on April 1 using the Julian calendar, were teased as April fools.
2. According to the Encyclopedia of Religion and Encyclopedia of Britannica, the timing of the pranks coincides with the arrival of spring, a time when the fickle weather "fools" with humans.
3. The Greco-Roman festival called Hilaria, which was celebrated on March 25, honored Cybele, an ancient Greek Mother of Gods. Its celebrations included parades, masquerades and jokes to celebrate the first day after the vernal equinox.

This is also the time when the media flexes their creativity muscles to prank their listeners. Here are some of the better known hoaxes (thanks to Time magazine for supplying the details; the year indicates when the hoax occurred):

1. The Madison Capital-Times' April Fools' edition included a doctored photo of the Wisconsin state capital in ruins. (1933)
2. BBC Radio 2 astronomer Sir Patrick Moore told listeners that at 9:47 a.m., Pluto and Jupiter would align in such a way as to temporarily reduce Earth's gravity. (1976)
3. NPR's Talk of the Nation program announced that Richard Nixon will run for presidency again. (1992)
4. Google informed its viewers that YouTube will shut down. (2013)

There is no end to the creativity of pranking every time this year. In a world that gets more complicated and messier by the day, it's nice to smile and take things light-hearted, even if only for a day.



# THE BACK FOOLS' PAGES

BY THE FOOLISH PRIME TIMER

How much of a “fool” are you? Take this pop quiz and see how well you can name the title of the song or movie.

## MUSIC

1. The Queen of Soul had to be shackled.
2. Ozzie's and Harriet's little boy couldn't stay away.
3. The second Caddyshack movie from the Soundtrack King of the 80s.
4. The Fab Four didn't conquer this hill; it took a Brazilian musician to do so instead.
5. Lounge-sounding song from a gay Greek-British singer.
6. “It's My Party” girl was hoping for a #1 but it only reached number 3 on the charts.
7. Why do birds sing so gay? (Hint: lyric line)
8. The King made this country song bigger.
9. Just about everybody takes a chance on love.
10. The Chairman of the Board wants you!

## MOVIES

1. A stubborn man past his prime reflects on his life of strict independence and seeks more out of himself. Top star: Paul Newman
2. A physician is employed by an attorney who formerly prosecuted her on charges of euthanasia to watch over his mentally ill wife. Top star: Susan Hayward
3. A mother-in-law succeeds in breaking up the marriage between her daughter and her son-in-law. However, when the estranged couple each attend a masquerade ball, they find themselves unwittingly drawn to one another. Top star: Lucille Ball
4. A fading Hollywood star looks back at the days of his youth as he returns home from his best friend's funeral. Top star: Daniel Craig
5. A new clue to the whereabouts of a lost treasure rekindles a married couple's sense of adventure.-- and their estranged romance. Top star: Matthew McConaughey



## ANSWERS



## MUSIC

1. Chain Of Fools by Aretha Franklin (1968)
2. Poor Little Fool by Ricky Nelson (1958)
3. Nobody's Fool by Kenny Loggins (1988)
4. The Fool On The Hill by Sergio Mendes and Brasil '66 (1968)
5. Kissing A Fool by George Michael (1988)
6. Fool #1 by Brenda Lee (1963)
7. Why Do Fools Fall In Love by Frankie Lymon & the Teenagers (1956) and Diana Ross (1981)
8. (Now And Then) There's A Fool Such As I by

Elvis Presley (1959)

9. Everybody Plays The Fool by Main Ingredient (1972) and Aaron Neville (1989)
10. I'm A Fool To Want You by Frank Sinatra (1951 and 1954)

## MOVIES

1. Nobody's Fool (1994)
2. I Thank A Fool (1962)
3. You Can't Fool Your Wife (1940)
4. Flashbacks Of A Fool (2008)
5. Fool's Gold (2008)