

# PRIME TIMES



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

**FEBRUARY 2019**

**2019/Issue 1**

**PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE  
SINCE 1987**

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## **SAN ANTONIO WORLDWIDE CONVENTION**

**October 29-November 2, 2019**

An exciting, affordable convention in a beautiful city! Our hotel is right on San Antonio's famed "Riverwalk".

Registration has already begun; see [here](#) for updates and pages 14 & 15 for the registration form.

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The views expressed by individual contributors in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the Board of Directors of Prime Timers Worldwide.

### **CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT: TAMPA BAY**

**STEVE DEPENNING, NEWSLETTER EDITOR, PRIME TIMERS OF TAMPA BAY**

The Prime Timers of Tampa Bay serves the metropolitan areas of St. Petersburg, Clearwater and Tampa, home to almost 2.8 million people. A sunny climate, beautiful beaches and a reasonable cost of living have attracted many seniors to the area. St. Petersburg has a large gay population, centered in the Kenwood "gayborhood" which is home to a number of gay-owned businesses and bars. Tampa's Ybor City neighborhood is also a well-known gay hub. Most neighborhoods throughout metropolitan Tampa Bay are gay friendly and members live throughout the region.

The Tampa Bay provides extensive LGBT services, including Metro Wellness and community centers in St. Petersburg and Tampa that provide welcome centers, health and wellness services, discussion groups, and educational programs.

Both St. Petersburg and Tampa have large Pride Festivals – the St. Petersburg Pride parade and festival is reputed to be the largest in the south-east. These festivals provide opportunities for Prime Tim-



*(continued next page)*

ers to connect and celebrate with the larger gay community and also “spread the word” about Prime Timers locally and worldwide.

The Prime Timers of Tampa Bay was formed in the early 1990s by roughly 20 men who met at the King of Peace Metropolitan Community Church to form the new chapter. One of the group’s founding members, Brad Goldsmith, is still active on the board of directors. Since its founding, the Tampa Bay chapter has grown to about 120 active members, some of whom are “snow birds,” part-time residents who also may be members of other Prime Timers chapters in their alternate home cities.

Monthly events include weekly lunch or dinner dine-outs (Prime Timers love to eat!), a “mixer” at a local bar, a game night, bowling and a movie matinee. The chapter’s monthly meeting includes a covered dish picnic at one of the area’s beautiful

parks – always in a covered shelter located near a restroom! Other special events, such as day trips or harbor cruises are scheduled from time to time.

Some of the best aspects of belonging to Prime Timers are friendship, mutual encouragement and support, especially for those who may not have partners or family living nearby. Members often visit each other when hospitalized or ill, provide rides when needed, and use their individual skills and experiences to help their fellow Prime Timers. And occasionally, members find their true love at a Prime Timers of Tampa Bay event.

When you visit the Tampa Bay area, the Prime Timers would love to have you join the group for dinner or another event. You can contact us at [primetimetampabay@gmail.com](mailto:primetimetampabay@gmail.com).

Top picture courtesy of Glen Bishop. Bottom two pictures courtesy of Steve DePenning.



Holiday dinner



Oscars watch party



Prime Timers trolley at St. Pete’s Pride parade

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## WHY DO WE GATHER?

BY JACK NIMMO, PRESIDENT, PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE



Socializing is a keystone to being a successful Prime Timer organization. It is when we get together with other Prime Timers whom we've not met before that we have the most fun. That was the impetus for having our first World-

wide Convention in Provincetown, Massachusetts over 20 years ago.. As a result, Prime Timers from all the chapters and our Independents had the opportunity to know others within the organization, share ideas, enjoy a great location and in some cases meet the man of their dreams.

Worldwide Conventions have since followed every other year in: Vancouver, BC, Canada; Dallas, TX; Palm Springs, CA; Washington, DC, Houston, TX; Orlando, FL; Reno, NV; Toronto, ON, Canada; Columbus, OH; Las Vegas, NV; Chicago, IL, and we continue the tradition in 2019 in San Antonio, TX starting October 29th. Will your chapter be the next site? Over the years, individual chapters have supplemented these gatherings with Regional events like the long-standing Central Oklahoma Labor Day Getaway in Oklahoma City, the Western Regional in Las Vegas and the Carolinas Prime Event in Myrtle Beach. Cruises promoted by Worldwide and other chapters add more opportunities to gather. Lasting friendships are renewed at these gatherings along with making new friends and experiencing adventures with each new event.

The fun of Prime Timer Conventions is not limited to the attendees. Those who have the honor of hosting a Worldwide or Regional event have fun planning and making the event special. When could you ever imagine hosting a party with several hundred like-minded men primed for a good time? That's the anticipation that the San Antonio Prime Timers have as

they plan what they hope will be the best Worldwide Convention ever. Will you be there? The beautiful San Antonio River with its famed Riverwalk will be just outside your hotel's door with floating taxis, beautiful foliage and strolling Texas cowboys adding to the atmosphere. The hotel will be totally occupied by our convention so it



will be easy to be a Prime Timer throughout the hotel. Our hospitality room will offer completely free refreshments in a huge room right on the lobby level. Three food events will be held in the ballroom with two of them as buffet lunch or dinner events. Several educational seminars will add to your opportunity to learn more about ourselves and our health. Officer elections and the Business Meeting will kick off the business of the Convention on

Wednesday, October 30th at 9:00am. A jam-packed calendar of events is being planned to fill the week with city tours, game tournaments, hospitality, pool parties (yes, San Antonio will still be warm enough), and socialization.

The hotel is El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel on Lexington Avenue in the heart of San Antonio. Room rates include a breakfast buffet for each registered guest. The hotel hosts multiple LGBT events annually and even has a manager that's a San Antonio Prime Timer. They are ready with 275 rooms awaiting your reservation. Be sure to mention the Prime Timer Convention beginning October 29th. Convention rates extend three days before and after the final night on November 1st. That's why you should plan to gather with us in San Antonio this year!

And, to all you potential next hosts, we invite you to begin talking about becoming the site of the 2021 Convention. Cities vying to be the next host will compete in San Antonio to be the next gathering place.

Check [here](#) for more details and also pages 14 and 15 of this newsletter for the registration form.

## THEY ARE OUT THERE (FINDING PRIME TIMERS WHO ARE SEARCHING...)

BY MICHAEL STONE, DIRECTOR EMERITUS, PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE



Having just returned from another Prime Timers Courtyard Travel Cruise I am reminded, as I always am, of all the potential Prime Timers who are out there, without the official affiliation. During the week sailing the Eastern Caribbean, I was approached by a number of men who inquired about our organization.

The first thing I ask is where they are from, in the hope that I can direct them to a nearby chapter. A number of the men happened to be from the Ft. Lauderdale area. I advised them to contact me by email so I can get in touch with them sometime in April or May. I let them know that we've compiled a list of interested men to kick off 'The New Ft. Lauderdale Prime Timers' chapter. In April or early May, I will contact everyone on the list and meet, along with Palm Beaches Prime Timers President, Vinnie Primerano, to get the ball rolling.

If any of these men are from more rural areas I advise them to join our Independent Chapter; they will then have access to events in chapters they may be visiting, travel opportunities, regional events and conventions.

I feel privileged to have witnessed the growth of our organization. We have more chapters in more places all the time. Chapter membership continues to grow. I talked with a couple of fellows who have visited newer chapters and learned how well they are doing.

Getting new members will always be a priority. Finding those members is always a challenge. They are out there, all around us. Getting the word out is always a tough one. I continue to find so many men who have never heard of our organization. It is up to each and every one of us to be the force that gets the word out. Together we can continue to get it done! This is my challenge to each and every one of us for 2019!

## CHAPTERS' EVENTS

### ANNIVERSARIES: OTTAWA'S 20TH

BY JOE BRABANT, NEWSLETTER EDITOR, PRIME TIMERS OF OTTAWA-OUTAOUAIS

Prime Timers Ottawa-Outaouais, Canada's Capital Chapter, recently celebrated its 20th Anniversary. Most of the guys in the photo were present at the founding meeting and shared stories of the "good old days" with chapter newbies during the festivities.



Photo courtesy of Joe Brabant

## AWARDS: CHATTANOOGA'S VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR FOR 2019

BY WAYNE HARTMAN, PRESIDENT, CHATTANOOGA PRIME TIMERS

Chattanooga Prime Timers awarded its first Volunteer of The Year for 2019 to Glenn Beavers. It was presented by Vice President Jim Samples and President Wayne Hartman. Glenn volunteers at every function to coordinate the food and then the cleanup afterwards. This is a big job and takes someone with good organization skills. Glenn also volunteers at Welcome Hospice Care which we support materially and financially. Glenn was instrumental in Chattanooga PT becoming a partner with Welcome Home.



Photo courtesy of Edward Harding

## GATHERING: MYRTLE BEACH'S HOLIDAY PARTY

BY DONALD BAKER, PRESIDENT, PRIME TIMERS OF MYRTLE BEACH

Each year, Prime Timers of Myrtle Beach have a holiday celebration on a Sunday afternoon. Members bring "finger food", either appetizers or desserts, and a wrapped gift if they wish to participate in the "Dirty Santa" gift exchange. Each participant draws a number which determines the order in which he selects a gift. Subsequent participants may choose an unwrapped gift or steal a gift from among those already chosen. Some gifts get stolen multiple times. The value of each gift is \$20 or less. Wine, candy, and candles are popular choices. However, there is one recurring booby prize, a particularly ugly table lamp. It is literally a "booby" prize because it's in the shape of a bustier. The recipient from the previous party sneaks an innocuous-looking package under the tree. When opened, there is a note informing a new Prime Timer that he is the lucky owner of THE lamp. It is now in the hands of Danny G., its fifth owner. We look forward to seeing who the sixth will be in 2019.



Both photos courtesy of Roy Hardison

## GATHERING: PHOENIX'S HOLIDAY PARTY

BY HUCK FITTERER, NEWSLETTER EDITOR, PRIME TIMERS OF PHOENIX



The Prime Timers of Phoenix held their annual Holiday Party on December 15, 2018 at the Palmbrook Country Club. The party started off with drinks, music, and hors d'oeuvres of hot spinach dip with crostinis, meatballs, and pot stickers with a sesame ginger dipping sauce. The dinner consisted of a garden salad, a dual plate of sliced beef tenderloin with mushroom sauce and sliced chicken cordon bleu, oven roasted potatoes, a bouquet of vegetables, and dinner rolls. For dessert there was cheese cake with chocolate, strawberry, carmel, and blueberry sauces. After dinner, Jack and BJ Strucel provided us with entertainment, and they had us up on our feet dancing. In addition, there were door prizes, the singing of Happy Birthday to Richard Smith who turned 80 years old on December 15th, a visit from Santa Claus, and a surprise marriage proposal. After 49 years of being together, Dennis Hill proposed to his partner, Jimmy Kerr. The PTOP Board of Directors wants to thank Pete Urbaniak, PTOP Vice President, for an outstanding job coordinating and hosting the party; Tom Carlson and Jack Allison for creating the beautiful, rustic centerpieces; Dan Kaczmarek, PTOP Treasurer, for being Santa Claus; and Pat Strayer for taking pictures at the party.



Both pictures  
courtesy of Pat  
Strayer

## GIVING BACK: WICHITA'S HOMELESS

BY STEVE GRAGERT, PRESIDENT, WICHITA PRIME TIMERS

I recently went to the Post Office to pick up mail for the Wichita Kansas Prime Timers. As I went in, I noticed a homeless person in the lobby warming herself from the cool morning air. As I began to leave, she approached me and asked me if I had a couple of dollars. I could see in her aged face the hard times she had endured. After giving her a bit from my billfold, I left and later felt guilty for not giving her more. I thought to my self, "What circum-



Cooking

stances had brought this poor soul to this point in life?"

involved in helping these folks, please get involved. Find a soup kitchen and volunteer some time. Or help at a food pantry and see how thankful these people are for help. We can do more. It may be they are here because they are LGBT and their family does not want to deal with them. But these are just guesses; the important thing to do is to help.

Our group has done this project for the past 15 years.

All photos courtesy of Norm Gentry



Servers



Filling plates

stances had brought this poor soul to this point in life?"

This month the Prime Timers met at Table of Hope Church and cooked, transported and served chicken and noodle dinners to the homeless. These men, probably in their 60s, all have come to the same condition. Why? Do we blame ourselves for making poor decisions? Do we blame society for not helping more to prevent this blight. How do we as a society change these conditions? Last year, I met a homeless man on the street. He said, "Wichita is one of the best cities when it comes to feeding and clothing the homeless." Many of these people are a product of broken homes and quite possibly illnesses that brought them here. I would hope that we not judge these folks but simply do something to make their lot a little bit better. If you are not in-

## GIVING BACK: TAMPA BAY'S TOY DRIVE

BY STEVE DEPENNING, NEWSLETTER EDITOR, PRIME TIMERS OF TAMPA BAY

The Prime Timers of Tampa Bay conducted a toy drive, collecting items at its events in November and early December. The Tampa chapter of SAGE also participated in the drive.

PTTB member Larry Lucas headed the project which amassed over 200 toys valued at approximately \$1500.

The toys were donated to the Children's Home Network which has cared for needy Tampa Bay children since 1892. CHN currently provides housing and services to more than 200 at-risk children through foster homes and campus living.

The Tampa Bay chapter also plans a spring yard sale to raise funds for donations to local AIDS Hospice and PFLAG organizations.



Photo courtesy of Steve DePenning

## GATHERING: INDIANAPOLIS' ANNUAL DINNER

BY EDMOND TALUCCI, PRESIDENT, INDIANAPOLIS PRIME TIMERS



Photo courtesy of Edmond Talucci

Indianapolis Prime Timers gather for their annual dinner at Bravo Italian Restaurant on Saturday, January 26, 2019. The group is quite active with over 40 members. Visit Prime Timers on Facebook or email Edmond Talucci at [edmond.talucci@gmail.com](mailto:edmond.talucci@gmail.com) for more information.

## OUTING: DC's CHAPTER

BY CHUCK ALMQUIST, MEMBER-AT-LARGE & DAY TRIP COORDINATOR,  
PRIME TIMERS OF WASHINGTON DC



Photo courtesy of Chuck Almquist

Eight Prime Timers ventured by MARC train and one more drove to Baltimore to visit the John Waters retrospect at the Baltimore Museum of Art. Travel to Baltimore by train took about one hour. We then caught the free circulator bus directly to the museum. The exhibit is titled "Indecent Exposure". We found that, to a large extent, it lived up to its title. We often laughed out loud at Waters' warped sense of humor. In addition many were subjects related to the various phases of life and acceptability that we

gay men have lived through. Most of us remember the tawdry famous drag queen creation "Divine", who was a close friend of John's and was featured in many of his films.

After viewing the exhibit we lunched at the museum's elegant Gertrude's restaurant, and were entertained by a young female waitress with nose piercing and bleached platinum white hair. After lunch, we took time to view some of the more staid museum exhibits. We all came back much happier for having made the trip.

**JOHN  
WATERS**  
INDECENT EXPOSURE

## OUTINGS: HUNTSVILLE'S CHAPTER

BY DAVE R KWIT, PRESIDENT, HUNTSVILLE PRIME TIMERS

Members of the Huntsville Prime Timers chapter, serving members of North Alabama, enjoyed a trip to the Huntsville museum of Art to view the Driehaus Collection of Tiffany. We got to see various works of Louis Comfort Tiffany which spanned 30 years of his career starting in the last 19th century. The collection includes his work in glass, ceramic, metalwork, jewelry, and painting. We then strolled through Tinsel Trail, located in Big Spring Park next door to view a large collection of decorated Christmas trees which were created by various companies and organizations in the Huntsville area. Our final destination was for an evening meal and conversation at a local Irish Pub in the downtown area.

All photos courtesy of Dave R Kwit



Our second outing was a New Year's Eve dinner at one of our locally-owned restaurants. We had great conversation in which we got more acquainted with each other, talked about the past year of our chapter, and thoughts and plans for the coming year. It has been a good year as we have started out with Prime Timers. Members of this chapter are excited with things we plan to do as a group in 2019,



## HERE AND THERE

COMPLIED BY JIM OLIN, SAN ANTONIO PRIME TIMERS

### U.S. WEST

**LAS VEGAS:** The newsletter honored Jeff and Bobby and their 31 years together, including a collage of their pictures. The chapter is progressing with the Las Vegas Western Regional Gathering which is scheduled for April 28 to May 2nd at the Plaza Hotel, Downtown Las Vegas.

**PALM SPRINGS:** Prime Timers of the Desert has a list of merchants in the newsletter who offer discounts when members show a current membership card. Members can participate in a February cruise to the Mexican Riviera. Included is transportation from the Desert to the port. Planned January theater events included Guys and Dolls in Palm Springs and Titanic The Musical, out of town.

**RENO:** President Larry mentions in the December newsletter that the club is looking for Day Trip requests for 2019. He thanked High Sierra Prime Timers board and membership for a successful fall. He spoke of the work of the board and the members working to make the organization even stronger in the future.

**SEATTLE:** Outgoing chairman Dennis says he has enjoyed his position in 2018. He thanks all Prime Timers. The Steering committee noted that there are 22 dine outs every year. A new coffee and conversation group is added to the list of club activities.

### U.S. SOUTH

**TAMPA BAY:** Eight members wrote remembrances of the year end holidays. Most were about Christmas or New Years and all are worth reading. The club is starting an annual award for outstanding service to the Prime Timers and LGBT community.

**SARASOTA:** Member Mike is organizing a photo roster to link faces to names. Only members will have access to the roster. The club is planning events for 2019 including events in Tampa, Ybor City (Tampa), St. Petersburg and Bradenton. The chapter had to relocate the fall picnic at the last minute. It was moved from a beach location to an inland site due to the Red Tide.

There was record participation by members.

**CENTRAL FLORIDA:** The Orlando chapter newsletter started out the new year with a month by month summary of important chapter events in 2018. The chapter held their Christmas Party on a riverboat with 55 members and guests on board. The three-hour trip included lunch. Back on shore, there was a gift raffle. President Ken thanked everyone at the recent monthly meeting for the Good Deeds project donations. Recipients included seniors, children and others.

**ATLANTA:** In December, the new board members met with the old members for a transitional meeting. It is required by the chapter constitution and by-laws. The 2018 Holiday Party had 67 people attend. Negotiations are starting for the 2019 Party.

**TALLAHASSEE:** The club reminds members that the holiday season is difficult for those who have lost loved ones, are alone or not well. The club urges reaching out to those in need and notes that sometimes a visit or kind words are all that are needed. Many in the club are willing to help but are not aware of a member who currently has a need.

**SAN ANTONIO:** Murray, who has been newsletter editor for a number of years, now has turned over the task to Gustavo. At the same time, there is a new look for the newsletter. The club has attended the February first weekend Barbecue, Hot Rod and Hatters Car Show in Lockhart Texas, for a number of years now. This year it has moved to Gonzalez which also is known for being the site where the first shot was fired in the battle for Texas' independence from Mexico. The city has a small museum that houses the cannon involved. Also in February will be the annual Chili Cook Off, pot luck and western ware contest. Chili pots are numbered and judged by a panel of members. Hungry onlookers mill around until word is given that a decision has been made. People eat, awards are made and members leave. The long wait for next year's Chili Cook Off begins.

### U.S. MIDWEST

**CINCINNATI:** President Ted talks about the board  
(continued next page)

revamping the by-laws. The project is expected to take about a year to complete. Restructuring the Board of Directors will be part of that process. In December, the club added 12 people, bringing membership up to 146.

**COLUMBUS:** President John wishes members a great new year. He describes the Christmas party as "FANTASTIC". He thanked Michael and Ron for making the arrangements. Members are looking forward to the February Caribbean cruise.

**CENTRAL IOWA:** The Des Moines based chapter took a tour of the John Deere Factory. Members enjoyed it and look forward to similar activities. This year's Winter Party was held in a State Park lodge. Included was food, a warming fireplace, white elephant gift exchange and board elections. There is some talk about holding a spring party this year.

**WICHITA:** President Steve mentions the Valentine's Day Pot Luck. Plans are in the works to have it held in the Hillcrest Sky Room which overlooks the city lights. Chapter member Martin writes a newsletter feature mentioning the chapter's prior monthly events. He gives the location, attendance and a general review of what people enjoyed about the event.

**MINNEAPOLIS ST PAUL:** On the Friday between Christmas and New Year's, the club was scheduled for three events at the Minneapolis Institute of Art. First was a private guided tour with a program titled "Love Sex and Scandal". Prime Timers could stay for Egypt's Sunken Cities. Then there was a film playing hourly titled "Swallowed by the sea: Ancient Egypt's Greatest Lost City". The chapter started off the new year in asking members to complete a 25-question anonymous survey. Results will be used to plan events for 2019. Respondents will be eligible to win a \$50 grocery gift certificate. The last time the club did a similar survey was in 2011. The chapter will have an online merchandise store. Goods sold will have the Minneapolis St Paul Prime Timers logo on them.

**TULSA:** President John thanked the membership for attending the fall's 25th anniversary party. He mused about a 50th anniversary celebration with a mostly different membership but still a Prime Timers group. He thanked the charter member's vision and drive to create the TAPT.

## U.S. EAST

**BOSTON:** President Harry greets the new year with an initiative to grow membership by using new outreach campaigns. The club is looking for new activities and events, some with other New England chapters. An early January event was a Chinese New Year's Party/Yankee Swap. Looking forward to March is the St Patrick's Day Dinner. Member Swift offers computer help to seniors twice a week. Questions about software are answered but no repairs are made. The newsletter has a list of Community Meals available. All listed are LGBT-friendly and some specifically reach out to seniors.

**RHODE ISLAND:** Newsletter editor Stan thanks Chuck for being a contributor to the newsletter and Peter who is Stan's proofreader. Chuck writes about how members gather together to chat before eating at a dinner event. He states that dinners are important in binding members together in community. Chuck writes "Prime Timers gives us all a safe place to be valued, to value others, to be loved."

## CANADA

**NANAIMO:** President Wiley submitted a well prepared year-end report to the members. He noted that membership was up 40% for the year. It is noted that the most Prime Timer Chapters are in urban areas and the Nanaimo chapter serves an area running north-south 300 km (186 miles) along the east coast of Vancouver island. The chapter is looking at issues related to serving members over a large geographic area.

**VANCOUVER:** P.T. Buddies Who Care focus on members with medical issues or hospitalizations. P.T. Phone Buddies provides a daily call to a member needing it. For some events, such as lunch-out, shopping or other meetings can be organized. The chapter heard guest speaker Ron Dutton, BC Gay and Lesbian Archivist, speak at a recent membership meeting. Ron spoke of the material available on very early settlers, loggers and cowboys. There is evidence of romantic involvements in the bunkhouses, at the logging camps and on the trails. The chapter published an end-of-year membership census. Since the club was founded in 1990, there have been 728 men involved in the club. Of the current 112 members, the ages range from 29 to 95.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**CENTRAL OKLAHOMA PRIME TIMERS**  
**LABOR DAY GET-A-WAY 2019**  
**AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2019**



The Labor Day Planning Committee is hard at work and is proud to announce the 23rd Annual Prime Timers Labor Day weekend. The five-day event held at the Southwest's Premier Gay Resort - Hotel Habana in Oklahoma City - begins with early registration on Wednesday, August 28, 2019 through Labor Day on Monday, September 2, 2019.

**Hotel Habana will begin taking room reservations Monday, March 4th at 8:00 AM CTS, call (405) 528-2221 or (800) 988-2221. There are more lines on the 405 number, thus increasing your chances of getting through quicker instead of the 800 number.**

You do not have to be a Prime Timer to attend. We will have the registration forms in the mail by early February and on the PTWW Website & PTWW Facebook page. Central Oklahoma Prime Timers looks forward to welcoming old & new friends to Hotel Habana. For more information contact us at [COPT.LaborDay@gmail.com](mailto:COPT.LaborDay@gmail.com), or call (405) 603-8997.



Photo and letterhead courtesy of  
Steven Dubois

## WorldWide Prime Timers Convention

### October 29 – November 2, 2019 San Antonio, Texas

**Event Registration:** Please fill in all the information. **Only ONE person per form.**  
*If you register as a guest without a Chapter affiliation it will cost more. \$215*

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. #: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State (country if not US): \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name you want on tag: \_\_\_\_\_

Handicap accessible or other special needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Prime Timers Chapter or Independent Member, or Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Shirt Size:** Small Medium Large XLarge 2XLarge 3XLarge

*Note: Only available with registrations postmarked before Sept 30, 2019*

**Banquet Food Selection: Circle your choice:**

Chicken Breast Prime Rib Vegetarian. Any food allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

**HOTEL:** You must make your own hotel reservation. Your hotel room is not included in event price. To receive the special room rate of \$124 (1 or 2 per room) \$132 (3 or 4 per room) plus tax per night you MUST ask for the "Worldwide Prime Timer Event" Rooms can be reserved at the convention price for 3 days before and 3 days after the convention. Rooms are LIMITED. There is an extra charge of \$16 plus tax per day for parking with in and out privileges.

#### **El Tropicano River Walk San Antonio**

Address: 110 Lexington Avenue, San Antonio, TX 78205

Phone 210 277 4043 Reservations or 210 277 4039 Admin Staff 8-5 PM Mon- Fri

E-mail for reservations is [reservations@eltropicano.com](mailto:reservations@eltropicano.com)

Code for reservations is PTWW

#### **TRANSPORTATION:**

Bus schedules, routes, fares and discounts plus other information on public transportation are available at <http://www.viainfo.net/bus-schedules/>

The city also operates Viva Centro with routes in the downtown area to get visitors to museums, missions and points of interest. Information on routes, times and discounts are available at: <http://www.viainfo.net/viva-routes/>

**REGISTRATION INCLUDES:** All scheduled general meetings on the hotel property. A first floor hospitality suite will be available daily with snacks, drinks and alcoholic beverages. Daily breakfast, lunch on October 30th, a special polo shirt, Halloween Masquerade Ball on October 31<sup>st</sup> with entertainment and a Banquet with entertainment on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**OPTIONAL CUSTOM TOUR of 4 SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS: Through San Antonio De-tours.....\$50 Call (210) 632 7839 to book**

Find out what makes San Antonio an important part of American history while taking in San Antonio's Spanish influences! Explore the grounds at Mission San José, Concepción, San Juan, and San Francisco de Espada. See original frescos at Mission Concepcion- the oldest un-restored stone church in the nation. Explore Mission San Jose, the Queen of the Missions. Enjoy mission silhouettes with Spanish and Moorish influenced architecture against the South Texas Sky and see one of the finest examples of baroque architecture.

**Registration is \$175.**

**Non Prime Timer Registration:** If you are not a member of a Prime Timers Chapter the cost to register will be \$215 while the \$175 rate for members is in place. Non member rate will go up as will the member rate as time passes.

**Cancellation requests must be received at least 30 days prior to the event (September 30, 2019) \$50 cancellation fee. Exceptions for death or major illness will be made on a case-by-case basis.**

**Mail your check and this application to:**

**San Antonio Prime Timers  
P.O. Box 6421  
San Antonio, 78209**

**Keep a copy for yourself**

**QUESTIONS:** Contact SAPT Worldwide Event Committee  
Email: [saptnews@yahoo.com](mailto:saptnews@yahoo.com)

**2019 PRIME TIMERS CONVENTION SAN ANTONIO**  
**GENE POOLE, VICE PRESIDENT, SAN ANTONIO PRIME TIMERS**



During the Prime Timers Worldwide Convention, attendees will have an opportunity to take a nighttime walking tour. At least one evening during the convention, I will escort a group of attendees to San Antonio's main plaza to see the 24-minute light show by French artist Xavier De Richemont. It is projected on the front of San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio's main plaza. The show tells the story of San Antonio from beginning to end. The early segments feature buffalo moving across the cathedral in a collage of colors. As the show progresses, it displays the railroad and San Antonio heroes and heroines and chronological history of the city. Even the San Antonio River plays a prominent role. The whole thing is set to music that ranges from classical to folk and conjunto. Still photos don't do the

show justice because it is constantly in motion. This is a [link](#) for a preview of the light show on YouTube. This video is much better if expanded to full screen. It is spectacular to see in person.

If you can't make the escorted tour, you can check for times you may be able to attend at the Main Plaza [website](#). The light show is just one of many marvelous things to do in San Antonio.

For a speedy response to questions about the convention, San Antonio Prime Timers has a new procedure on our [web page](#). Go to the contact page to contact a specific board member by clicking on the name. It will bring up a form. Fill out the form and respond to the request at the bottom to prove you are not a robot. Then click submit. This will get the information to an inbox that will be responded more quickly instead of a previous generic mailbox. It may take a few days for the instructions on our website to change, but this procedure works now.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** We are excited to launch a new series on lifestyles that will be relevant to the needs of older men. While Rick Stacy will be a major contributor to the series, we hope that anyone who has ideas will be willing to share their knowledge as well.

## FIVE SMARTPHONE APPS TO TRY IN 2019

BY RICK STACY, SECRETARY & TREASURER, PITTSBURGH PRIME TIMERS

We've embarked on a brand new year, and my resolution, whenever possible, is to let my smartphone do the heavy lifting.

If you have a smartphone, you undoubtedly use it for calling and texting, but did you know there are some very helpful apps that can be especially useful for older adults? Here is just a sampling of some apps that can make everyday life easier.

### 1. EyeReader/Magnifying Glass

A few weeks ago I found myself at a restaurant where the lighting was so low I had a hard time reading the menu. If only I'd had this magnifier/flashlight app (for iPhone [here](#) and for Android [here](#)), I could have put down the candle! These apps are handy to read the fine print on a pill bottle, too, or to take to the store when you need to read package ingredients.

### 2. Red Panic Button

This is the smartphone version of "I've fallen and can't get up". If you have a medical or other emergency, just press the red button on your phone once you've installed this app. It will transmit a text message to a list of people you have previously set, and will also include your location on Google Maps. [iPhone](#) & [Android](#).

### 3. Blood Pressure Monitor

It's a good idea to keep track of your blood pressure, especially if you're an older adult. While they can't actually take your blood pressure, these apps for [iPhone](#) and for [Android](#) allow you to track your blood pressure, weight and other measurements.

### 4. Medicine Reminder

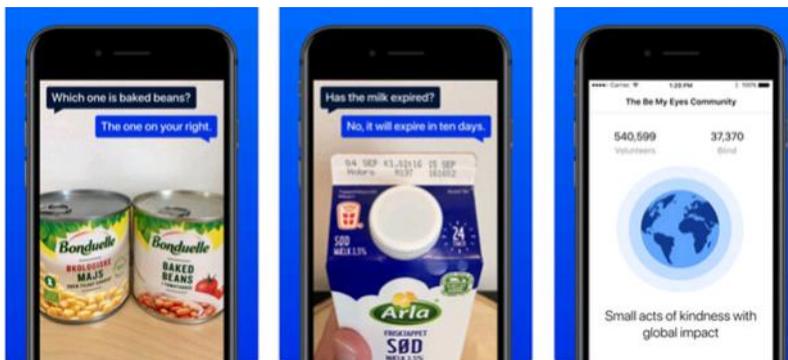
If you take prescription medications, it's important that you take them when you're supposed to. Pillboxie (for [iPhone](#)) and My Therapy (for [Android](#)) allow

you to set reminders so you're always sure to take the right medicine at the right time.



### 5. Be My Eyes

If you're visually impaired, this amazing app is for you. A network of sighted volunteers stands by to respond to your request for help. The volunteer sets up an audio-visual connection and proceeds to help you see. If you're a sighted person with a few minutes to help, consider volunteering! [iPhone](#) & [Android](#).



I hope that 2019 is off to a good start for you, and that these apps will make 2019 just a little easier!

Rick Stacy can be reached at [stacyrp31@gmail.com](mailto:stacyrp31@gmail.com)

## OPINION OF BROWN STRIPE IN PRIDE FLAG

BY JOE ROTELLO, COLORADO PRIME TIMERS

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** As a preview of understanding the context for the opinion piece below, please refer to [here](#) which started the issue of adding stripes to the rainbow flag.



The rainbow flag has never represented “Peoples” of any color but it is representative of the refracted sunlight in the rainbow which includes all colors.

Rainbow flags have a long history and have represented various historical ideas and movements. In that train of history, a Rainbow Flag only recently became a banner of the LGBT. When the Gay Community adopted the Rainbow Flag, its original intention was to express pride and unity in diversity. The following three paragraphs are excerpts taken from the internet:

Originally devised by San Francisco artist Gilbert Baker, the design has undergone several revisions since its debut in 1978, first to remove colors then restore them based on availability of fabrics. The most common variant consists of six stripes: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet. The flag is typically flown horizontally, with the red stripe on top, as it would be in a natural rainbow.

He (Baker) pointed out that the “rainbow” symbolized unity in diversity and the power of light, enlightenment and progress. The first co-op rainbow flag was completed in 1924 and was adopted as an official symbol of the international cooperative movement of 1925.

The rainbow flag, commonly known as the gay pride flag or LGBT pride flag, is a symbol of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) pride and LGBT social

movements. Other older uses of rainbow flags include a symbol of peace. The colors reflect the diversity of the LGBT community, as the flag is often used as a symbol of gay pride during LGBT rights marches. While the use of the rainbow flag originated in Northern California’s San Francisco Bay Area, the flag is now used worldwide .

I restate: the colors in the PRIDE flag have never represented peoples. We are all of one race...The Human Race, which occurs in many hues. To add a brown stripe and/or black stripe and justify that as inclusion just further divides the One Human Race and nurtures the continuance of racism. If colors in a Gay Flag were to represent the various colors of The Human Race, why would there be blue or green or purple or orange stripe? Would a white stripe have to be added?

When we continue to draw lines through The One Human Race by colors, we repeat the failures of history by insisting on divisive markers which trash the words of Martin Luther King, Jr. The following quotation is taken from the closing from Martin Luther King, Jr’s “I Have a Dream” speech. “And when this happens, and when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God’s children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: *“Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!”*”



## 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.....?



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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 days 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.



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**HOLLAND AMERICA VEENDAM TO**  
**HAVANA, CIENFUEGOS, OCHO RIOS AND GEORGETOWN**  
**JANUARY 15 - 22, 2020**



**January 15 - 22, 2020**

<b>15 - Ft. Lauderdale</b>		<b>departs 4:00 PM</b>
<b>16 - Havana, Cuba</b>	<b>arrives 8:00 AM</b>	
<b>17 - Havana, Cuba</b>		<b>depart 2:00 AM</b>
<b>18 - Cienfuegos, Cuba</b>	<b>arrives 8:00 AM</b>	<b>depart 5:00 PM</b>
<b>19 - Ocho Rios, Jamaica</b>	<b>arrives 10:00 AM</b>	<b>depart 5:00 PM</b>
<b>20 - Georgetown, Cayman</b>	<b>arrives 8:00 AM</b>	<b>depart 5:00 PM</b>
<b>21 - At Sea</b>		
<b>22 - Arrive Ft. Lauderdale</b>	<b>arrives 7:00 AM</b>	

**OVERNIGHT VISA REQUIRED** (The cruise line will issue visas and add charge to your onboard statement, cost is approx. \$75 per person.)

Additional charges are Port tax \$170 and Government Tax \$210.

All rates are per person based on double occupancy. Rates are subject to changes and can be withdrawn at anytime

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Mon. Oct. 19 **Cadiz, Spain**  
Tues. Oct. 20 **Tangier, Morocco**  
Wed. Oct. 21 **Casablanca, Morocco**  
Thurs. Oct. 22 At Sea  
Fri Oct. 23 **Funchal, Madeira -**  
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**More information will follow on:**

an optional 3 night pre cruise stay in Barcelona with a half day tour.

Also an optional "skip the line" tour of La Famillia Segrada Cathedral.

We will also have an optional private tour in Casablanca.

## THE BACK PAGE

BY ADRIAN LIAU, NEWSLETTER EDITOR. PRIME TIMERS WORLDWIDE

### ANNIVERSARIES FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH



#### The Day the Music Died

60 years ago, The Day the Music Died commemorates the untimely death of singers Buddy Holly, Richie Valens and the Big Bopper. These three Rock singers died in an airplane crash on February 3, 1959. at the height of their popularity.

Every generation has their music idols. These three were among the top of the 1950's generation. Those who grew up in the fifties mourned the premature deaths of their music idols. Memorials and remembrances occurred for years. Today, there are many websites memorializing their deaths, and detailing the events before and after the tragedy.



#### Abraham Lincoln's Birthday

February 12th. is Abraham Lincoln's actual birth date. However, in modern times President Lincoln and all of the U.S. Presidents, are celebrated on President's Day.

Every American knows President Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States. "Honest Abe", as he was commonly known, was born in the wilderness country of Hardin County, Kentucky on February 12, 1809, 210 years ago.

Abraham Lincoln became president in 1861. Although he hated war, he was drawn into it as he believed it was the only way to save the nation, after the southern states declared their secession from the Union.

In addition to serving as president during the civil war and saving the Union, Lincoln wrote the Emancipation Proclamation that ended slavery in the U.S. forever. He also wrote and gave The Gettysburg Address, memorializing the bloodiest and most important battle of the Civil War. Gettysburg proved to be the turning point of the war.



#### March First Movement

March 1 is the centennial of the start of the March First Movement, the first Korean independence movement against Japanese colonial rule. The Korean peninsula was "annexed" to imperial Japan in 1910 and, despite much armed resistance, Koreans experienced a decade of minimal rights under a brutal colonial regime. In the aftermath of World War I, the international climate began to change, giving Korean leaders a glimmer of hope for national independence from Japanese rule. Inspired by Woodrow Wilson's idea for national self-determination for weak nations, Korean student and intellectual leaders in Tokyo published a statement in January of 1919 demanding national liberation from Japanese colonizers. Organizers hoped to spark resistance within the Korean community while at the same time appealing for help at an international level.



#### Three Mile Island

The Three Mile Island accident occurred 40 years ago on March 28, 1979, in reactor number 2 of Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station (TMI-2) in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, near Harrisburg. The partial meltdown resulted in the release of radioactive gases and radioactive iodine into the environment. It was the most significant accident in U.S. commercial nuclear power plant history.

The accident crystallized anti-nuclear safety concerns among activists and the general public, and resulted in new regulations for the nuclear industry. It has been cited to have been a catalyst to the decline of a new reactor construction program, a slowdown that was already underway in the 1970s. Cleanup started in August 1979, and officially ended in December 1993, with a total cleanup cost of about US\$1 billion.