

2021 Convention Issue

PRIME TIMES



The Official Newsletter for Prime Timers Worldwide vol. 34-5

Sep-Oct 2021 enriching the lives of gay and bisexual men



Highlights and Attractions for OCT 20-22 Conventioneers

<https://primetimersww.com/convention/>

Essential Travel, Cautions for the Business Meeting

We need to conduct PTWW business and promote our mission of socializing. Depending on health protocols in October, wearing masks may be required in the hotel hallways. PTWW participants **must be vaccinated**.

Onsite check in begins at 3 PM on MON 18 OCT

Early birds can register and show proof of vaccination before the Tuesday bus day trip to US Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville AL.

Walk-Ins will be accepted up to THU 21 OCT



Roaring 20s Speakeasy

From 8-11 PM on Tuesday-Thursday, Ballroom A is our hub for hospitality. We will have a private cash bar, with tables for socializing or playing cards or dominoes.

You can sign up onsite at the hotel. Bring cash, credit, or a check and fill out the registration/release forms.

Registration Fees \$195/235

To help reduce last-minute travel costs to attend the Convention, we are keeping the registration fees at:

\$195/man for local and I-Guys Chapter members

\$235/man for non-chapter members or guests

Pay Online below

ptww-chattanooga-convention-105096.square.site/

or Mail-in details on form

A Few Host Hotel Rooms are available at \$186.43/night (tax included)!!

Each two-room suite sleeps 1-4 persons, King or two Queen beds, cook-to-order Breakfast, & Manager's 5-7 PM reception for each person registered in that room.

Call the Embassy Suites at 423-602-5100

Mention you are with **Prime Timers Worldwide**. Our official room block is for **TUE-WED-THU-FRI** nights.

Our PTWW discount rate ends 19-SEP!

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PTWW Business Meeting Overview



General Business

For the first time in years, Chapter Presidents will vote on approving the two-year budget of PTWW. The financial reports and budget will be mailed to Chapter Presidents in September.

The \$2/member fee is automatically restored, after the one-year reduction to \$1/member during the 2020 pandemic which impacted Local Chapters' finances.

Bylaws Changes

The Board proposes two changes, with the first allowing a Local Chapter to design a logo without a handshake. The second proposal specifies that a video conference is a valid meeting for the Board.

Board Elections

The 5-person Nominating Committee received only eight (8) candidates and unanimously approved candidates for the nine (9) Board positions. There are no contested elections this term, so a vote of acclamation will be conducted for the eight unopposed **candidates listed on pages 4-5**. As there is no candidate for Treasurer, the new Board will appoint a qualified Prime Timer later this year to fill the vacancy.

PTWW thanks the Committee members:

Jim Schwartz (Chicago IL)

Patrick Karr (Houston TX)

Marc Goldman (Santa Barbara CA)

A.J. Ratliff (Cross Timbers TX)

Coley Coleman (RI/Boston MA)



Presidents Open Forum & Roundtables

Immediately after the Business Meeting, all registered convention attendees are invited to participate in these important sessions. Breakout Groups will discuss a wide range of topics, including ways for PTWW and Local Chapters to build stronger working relationships, and multi-chapter socializing to include nearby I-Guys and other Gay and Bisexual men's social groups.

Call for Volunteers for Work Committees

The Board proposes recruiting 2-4 men with appropriate backgrounds and experience to assist with developing these two areas of operations:

Financial Advisory Committee - plan for investments and internal audits.

Bylaws Committee - Review and propose updates to clarify wording and reduce duplicate clauses.

Chattanooga Souvenir T-Shirts Now Available Online For All

The shirt color is black with white/gray printing and is available in these sizes: S-M-L-XL-2X-3X.

Shirts **MUST** be picked up at the convention registration.

Pricing is \$20.70 for all sizes.

Order before 30-SEP!



Mail a check by 23-SEP:

Prime Timers Chattanooga
P.O. Box 5842
Chattanooga, TN 37406

OR

Please add attendee's name and quantity and size(s) of shirts in the check memo line.

ORDER ONLINE before 30-SEP by clicking the blue link below!

[https://checkout.square.site/
merchant/97N2S65M85SD3/
checkout/
XA6G424VB6ABQ5BARYLNFG7](https://checkout.square.site/merchant/97N2S65M85SD3/checkout/XA6G424VB6ABQ5BARYLNFG7)

Designated 2022-23 Board of Directors

Directors-at-Large

four to be elected

Rafael DeJesus *Denver CO Chapter*

I joined the Colorado Prime Timers in 2012 and have advocated for our organization ever since. CPT voted me in as Vice President in 2015 and as President in 2020 about two weeks before the pandemic. During this period, I worked with an incredible board to provide for the continuity of our chapter and the welfare of our members. We succeeded as evidenced by the growth of our chapter during 2020 and into 2021. I am committed to providing support to local chapter leadership as leadership at the local level is where the rubber meets the road to make any Prime Timers Chapter successful.



Everett Rosner *Independent Chapter*

My experience with Prime Timers includes several terms as President of the Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter starting in 1995, 2000, and again in 2005.

I have also served PTWW as Vice President of Independents from 2011-2015.

Retiring in 2016, I moved to Ft. Lauderdale, FL and joined that chapter of Prime Timers before it dissolved. So in 2018, I joined the Independent Chapter.

My goal is to emphasize that our chapters have the full support of the Board and to assist them in continuing to be successful.



David Gunton *Hamilton ON Chapter*

I was one of the founding members for Prime Timers Hamilton and served as the first President. Now, I'm currently serving as our Chapter Treasurer.

My pre-retirement life included eleven years as a Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) pastor serving congregations both here in Canada as well as the US. When I retired from the ministry, I became a social worker and health educator for gay men primarily around issues related to HIV/AIDS in Southern AZ and here in Ontario.



John Rachau *Phoenix AZ Chapter*

I began my working life as a hairdresser (27 years), had a midlife career change and became a Registered Nurse (21 years.) I have always been in business of helping others, first to be better looking and then to be healthier.

I joined Prime Timers of Phoenix in 2005, becoming Vice President in 2012 and President in 2016. This is my final year as PTOP President, so I have time and energy to devote to PTWW to help other mature gay/bisexual men reap the same benefits I have over the years from being a member of PTWW.

I have always been in the business of helping others and see no reason to change now. My hope is to establish and continue positive communication between Chapters.



Chair, Independent Chapter

Sam Powell

Charlotte Chapter

In Prime Timers, I have been President of the Charlotte Chapter (CLTPT) for 2 two-year time periods and was Vice President in between those terms.

On December 31, 2017, I “retired” from President and served on the Board as a Director-at-Large. During the last six years our Charlotte Chapter doubled in membership and continues as a very active chapter with many events each month.

In January 2021, I was elected again as President of the Charlotte Chapter.

In PTWW, I have been Chairman of the Independent Chapter for two years and Vice President for two years (my VP term ending at the Chattanooga Convention).



Vice President

Jim O'Brien Central Virginia Chapter

Since being elected PTWW Treasurer in 2017 and 2019, I re-established consistent financial tracking.

I'm looking forward to leading our Chapter Care program with your four Directors-at-Large connecting with in-person chapter visits.

We will continue regional video calls to hear your chapter's concerns and answer questions. My goal is for PTWW to provide local, face-to-face support with all Local Chapters of Prime Timers Worldwide.



Secretary

Charles Koehler

St. Louis Chapter

In 2013, I was elected PTWW Director-at-Large and Chapter Liaison for 11 Chapters. And in June 2020, I was appointed to serve as your current PTWW Secretary.

Since then, I have also worked to update the new PTWW Logo, Non-discrimination Policy, and various Policies and Procedures.

I am committed to help current and future Chapters grow and thrive. For example, as the 2007 founding President of Prime Timers St. Louis for 9½ years, I worked to build a strong Board, develop a full schedule of engaging monthly activities, and grow our Chapter membership to over 200 men.



President

Mark Hatten

Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

I'm volunteering for another two years to help all Prime Timers Chapters prepare for new growth as gay and bisexual men seek out social opportunities after this pandemic.

FREE cooperative website hosting is one benefit that PTWW offers. With some 50+ participating chapters, we improve online visibility for info seekers and members.

My goal is to better connect Prime Timers in Canada, the US, and globally. We all can cooperate and share our chapter best practices. Let's just simply socialize better together!



Vancouver / Bowen Island Day Trip

We have an annual August ritual: a day trip to lovely Bowen Island. The trip this year was on Wednesday, August 11 and, as usual, a stunning, beautiful day. We have been so lucky each year, blessed with blue skies and sunshine, and perfect temperatures. This year, 15 Prime Timers boarded the 11:15 B.C. Ferry at Horseshoe Bay for the 20 minute crossing to the island. We arrived at Snug Cove just before 11:45 and gathered to plot our activities.

A few brought lunch for a picnic, some headed off right away to find a cafe lunch, and three of us did the traditional 60-minute hike through the forest, finishing at the Bowen Memorial Garden to visit the plaques of departed Prime Timers, Dick Snater and Gerry Strutt.

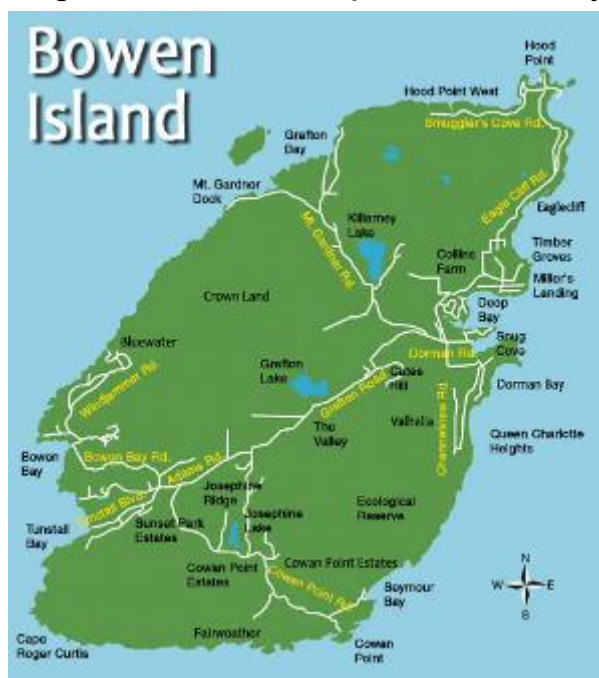
Ted B

*Vancouver
Prime Timers*

It turned out that our usual luncheon choice, Doc Martin's Restaurant, was not open on that day, but everyone seemed to have no trouble finding the Bowen Island Pub up the hill. For most, this eatery was a new discovery and a well-liked one. A good lunch menu was available with food at reasonable prices plus the opportunity to imbibe our favourite beverage.

When lunch was finished, it was an easy walk downhill back to the ferry wharf. Some stopped on the way for ice cream.

The ferry arrived at 2:30 and we were back at Horseshoe Bay after an all too short water crossing, just after 3:00. It appeared to be unanimous that all had a great day away from the city and we look forward to next year's trip.



(Article and pictures reprinted from the September 2021 issue of the Vancouver Prime Timers newsletter with permission granted by Peter McCarthy, Newsletter Editor. Photos courtesy of Bob C., Garth F., and Ron U.)

Bowen Island

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Update on Rhode Island Prime Timers

The Rhode Island Prime Timers are back to meeting in person. We ordinarily have limited activities like monthly dinners. The spot we meet is good but the gang periodically debate on trying other spots. Many of us were able to take advantage of Zoom over the long haul and some were able to visit weekly with the Connecticut and Boston Prime Timers. Both groups were gracious and helped us get by. Wish we could generate more pizzazz in-house activities and provide more outings or the like but as “settled” Prime Timers, we like sitting around. We have added a few new members and that is important to a small group of 30-something. We look forward to more summer weather in southern New England for the coming weeks.

Steve Kagan

President

Rhode Island Prime Timers



Photo courtesy of Rhode Island Prime Timers

10th Anniversary of the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” Repeal

The tenth anniversary of a very important event for LGBTQ Americans is coming up. On September 20, 2011, at 12:01 a.m., President Barack made a major

*announcement regarding the repeal of the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” (DADT) policy established during the Clinton Administration.

Earlier, President Obama had signed the repeal into law in December of 2010, and in July of 2011 the President, the Secretary of Defense, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff certified that the Department of Defense had taken all the steps needed to prepare the military for repeal. Sixty days after that, at 12:01 a.m. on September 20, 2011, the era of DADT was over.

“Patriotic Americans in uniform will no longer have to lie about who they are in order to serve the country they love,” the President said in a statement that day. “Our armed forces will no longer lose the extraordinary skills and combat experience of so many gay and lesbian service members.”

The President called the achievement “a tribute to all the patriots who fought and marched for change; to Members of

Congress, from both parties, who voted for repeal; to our civilian and military leaders who ensured a smooth transition; and to the professionalism of our men and

women in uniform who showed that they were ready to move forward together, as one team, to meet the missions we ask of them.”

Prior to the repeal of the DADT policy, our military employed what was a by-and-large homophobic policy. History tells us, through various research efforts by advocates for LGBT veterans, that roughly 114,000 U.S. service

members were “involuntarily separated” from the military due to their sexual orientation between the end of World War II and the repeal in 2011 of the DADT policy that barred LGBT people from serving openly in the military.

This history also shows that during WWII, when America needed every able bodied man and woman it could muster, homosexuality was largely overlooked when discovered within the ranks. But at the end of the war, when America needed to reduce its military ranks, the number of less-than-honorable discharges expanded exponentially. The largest number of these was handed to folks that were identified as



Repeal

continued from page 8

homosexuals, though the tactic was also used to remove many non-white from the rank and file. The idea that this same type of action against homosexuals also took place at the time of America's withdrawal from the Vietnamese conflict is also largely supported. During the DADT period of our military's history, some 1,200 officers were removed from the ranks for failing to hide their sexuality.

Having received a less-than-honorable discharge not only meant a forced dismissal for service, it meant that the veteran, even those that had received honors for valor or for being wounded, would not be eligible for Veteran's Services (medical, housing, education, etc.). For many, it meant being unable to find anything other than minimal employment.

This date, September 20, might best be marked and lifted in two separate but equal manners. First, for all LGBTQ Americans and their supporters, it is and will remain our day of liberation, at least

until the day that will come when Federal law includes sexual orientation as an integral part of the protections now provided in the 14th Constitutional Amendment.

Second, we should take the time to salute all LGBTQ military members, especially those (1) that served under the additional duress of potentially being exposed, (2) that were given a "less-than-honorable" discharge and therefore a disrupted life because of their sexuality, (3) who successfully hid the fact that they are or once were associated with the LGBTQ community, (4) that returned to stateside unscathed by their sexuality, only to lose their employment due to the Eisenhower Executive Order that banned homosexuals in Federal Government jobs (many states followed suit), and (5) that especially made the ultimate sacrifice for our greater good.

Mark Hodges

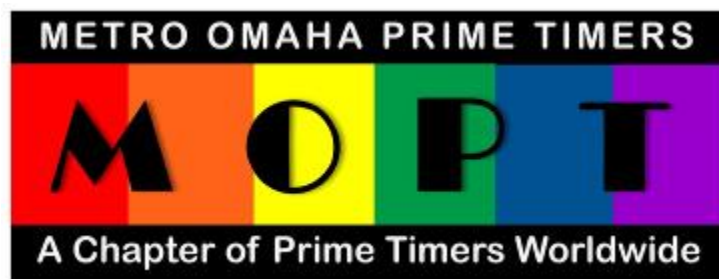
Central Virginia Prime Timers

New Logos from Two Chapters

Prime Timers Central Virginia



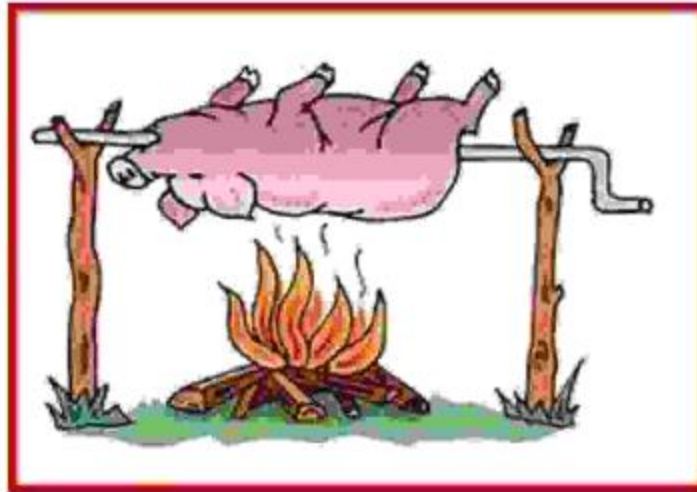
Metro Omaha Prime Timers



If your Chapter is about to launch a new logo, please let us know!

Regional Events and Announcements

Tri-State Prime Timers



Pig Roast

Tristate prime timers (Cincinnati area) wishes to invite you to their 24th anniversary celebration on October 10, 2021 this annual event is an outdoor pig roast. This Celebration has become our largest event with prime timers attending from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan West Virginia, Kentucky and various groups in Ohio. This event will be held at Winton Woods, a little north of Cincinnati.

TSPT follows the CDC guidelines and have been having all meeting outdoors. To keep our members safe we do ask that only vaccinated members attend our various functions at this time.

Social time will start at 1pm. There will be a split the pot drawing, cards will be available and we will have a corn hole game set up. Dinner will be 4:30. Meeting fee is \$20.

Winton Woods
10245 Winton Rd
Cincinnati, OH 45231
Shelter(Orchard Area)

Please RSVP by October 3rd:

Via email: tristateprimetimerp@gmail.com

Via website: <https://chapters.theprimetimerswww.com/tristate/>

Via voicemail: (513) 956-4398

2021 Prime Timers Worldwide Leadership Team and Board*

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ptww-info@primetimersww.com

Vice President

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ptww-vicepresident@primetimersww.com

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Prime Timers Worldwide Contact Info

Web: primetimersww.com

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PrimeTimersWW>

Email: ptww-info@primetimersww.com

New Requests for Possible Chapters across Australia, Canada, US

The need for more social opportunities for us mature men is beginning to grow as vaccinations increase and men are planning to get out and about next year.

- **Albuquerque NM**
- **Kamloops BC**
- **Killeen/Temple TX**
- **Metro Los Angeles CA**
- **Milwaukee WI**
- **Philadelphia PA**
- **Puerto Rico**
- **Sydney AU**

Publishing Guidelines for *Prime Times*

Our priorities focus newsletter content on:

1. **Official communication** from Prime Timers Worldwide Board on administration or topics of interest to all members and Local Chapter leadership teams.
2. **Public Service Announcements** may be published when regional/chapter gathering events are Board approved.
3. **Chapter highlights** on visits or events from local leaders and Directors-at-Large, edited as space allows, with the full content redirected to the website for continuation.

4. **Human interest or feature content** submitted by an individual from a Chapter (including Independent) in good standing may be published as space allows.

5. **Distribution and circulation** every other month is by sending an email to each Local Chapter President/Chair, Vice President/Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and Web Guy role currently on record in the Chapter Profile. All recipients are blind-copied to protect personal privacy of e-addresses of chapter leaders.

Cruise / Land / Travel Opportunities dates subject to change

The following items on this page are unpaid promotions not directly sponsored by a recognized Prime Timers chapter and are published as a public service announcement of social activities which may interest gay/bi men. Prime Timers Worldwide does not receive any compensation nor proceeds from these activities below and in no way assumes any liability for claims, errors, or omissions nor negligence arising from these promotions or activities. Activities may be listed up to 36 months in advance and subject to review and approval by the Board of Directors of Prime Timers Worldwide.

Year	Departs	Destination	Contact	Telephone
2022	20-FEB	<u>Southern Caribbean cruise</u>	Ron Camp	614.581.2700
2022	3-MAR	<u>Athens-to-Rome cruise</u>	Michael Stone	941.359.8212
2022	31-JUL	<u>Northern Europe cruise</u>	Ron Camp	614.581.2700
2022	5-NOV	<u>Western Caribbean/Tampa</u>	Michael Stone	941.359.8212