

# Majestic Isles News

December, 2013

Volume 17

Issue 3



*Winter*

*Wonderland*



Cover by Ray Kozlin

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**Manager's Corner**

It's December in South Florida (and everywhere else, too, for that matter) and people are putting up holiday lights and decorations. Let's review a few simple items to help make this a safe and happy Holiday Season.

Holiday decorations are specifically allowed for residents of Majestic Isles and ARC approval is not required. If you plan on stringing lights, everything including the power cords must be kept inside the landscaping beds or attached to the homes. Lights strung throughout landscaping beds, create a hazard when the bushes and shrubs are trimmed. For this reason, landscape plants that have lights strung through them will not be trimmed until the next regular trimming after they are removed. The landscapers and other crews working in the community do their best to avoid damaging any decorations, but accidents do happen. If any landscape lighting or decorations are inadvertently damaged, the ARC Guidelines clearly state "The owner assumes full responsibility ... and the Association or its agents will not be responsible for any damage that may occur during any landscaping work."

When you're putting up lights, decorations, or giant inflatable snowmen in your lawn (OK, just kidding about the snowmen) are you overloading your circuits with too many amps? If you put a live tree inside your house, do you make certain to keep water around the base to keep the tree from drying out? Most household fires are caused by overloaded circuits or dried-out Christmas trees and hot lights. If you're putting up a lot of lights and decorations, try using several nearby outlets rather than stringing all of the lights from the same outlet. Chanukah candles and electric menorahs can also be a fire hazard if placed too close to curtains.

Keep in mind that, according to the ARC Guidelines Section II Paragraph 8 "Holiday decorations may be displayed 30 days prior to the holiday but must be removed no later than 15 days following that holiday."

I wish everyone at Majestic Isles a Happy Holiday Season and safe travels whether you're going away or inviting everyone here to escape the snow.

Ken Miller, Association Manager



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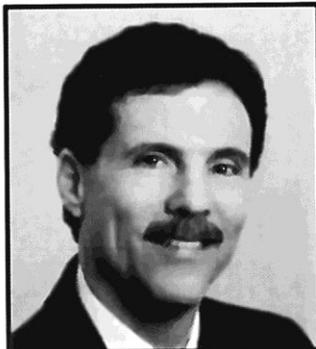
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## **Unofficial Highlights of M.I. Board of Directors Meeting, November 7, 2013**

*Minutes of the November 2013 meeting will not be available until the Board approves them at the next meeting. To inform residents in a timely manner, we present the unofficial and abbreviated notes below.*

### **President's Report, Harvey Galan**

- The Attorney has been contacted about the house under foreclosure. For an extra \$600 we can file a Motion for Status Conference that may force the bank to proceed with foreclosure.
- The Amendments Vote has been postponed because too much "legalese" made the amendments difficult to understand. After the wording is changed to make the amendments clearer, the mailing and vote will be rescheduled.

### **Treasurer's Report, Sy Kugelmas**

- *(Residents may request a report of the 11/7/13 cash positions and Statement of Operations at the office.)*
- Maintenance Receivable: The unit in foreclosure is still unpaid. The total outstanding is now \$13,522. There are 3 other units that are delinquent, but we have contacted the owners, who have said that they are sending the payments.
- The 2013 budget is within current year compliance requirements.
- The 2014 Budget was approved by the Board of Directors on Oct. 17, 2013. The maintenance schedule for 2014 is as follows: Patio Home \$1,045 per quarter and Single-Family Home \$1,095 per quarter. This works out to an average increase per unit of \$142 per year (\$11.83 per month).

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **COBWRA & Security, Steve Bayer**

- Crimemapping.com is a new tool to see crime incidents. Royal Lakes had a burglary on Nov. 6. Valencia Point has had 20 so far this year.

#### **Architectural Review Committee, Mark Jaffie**

- FPL has not responded about adding additional lights within the community.
- Approval was given to a resident to remove and replace a tree (not a street tree).
- Consideration of a lobby TV has been tabled.

#### **Unfinished Business**

- Motion to fine any resident who is sent three letters for the same violation of the Documents or Rules and Regulations passed by a 6-1 vote.
- Motion to add 4 more pots for the pool area at a cost not to exceed \$1000 passed by a 4-3 vote.

### **New Business**

- Motion to replace the plantings in front of the lobby overhang at a price of \$756.50, passed by unanimous vote.
- Motion to allocate five additional handicap parking spaces for clubhouse functions after 6:00 p.m., with the spaces to be identified by portable stands and signs and placement to be coordinated through the Management Office, passed by unanimous vote.
- Question of broadcasting the Board meetings on Channel 63 was tabled until the next Board meeting.



## **MAJESTIC ISLES' ANNUAL MEETING**

Majestic Isles will hold its Annual Meeting on Thursday, December 19, at 7:00 p.m. Be sure to attend this meeting, as we are required by law to have an Annual Meeting and must have a quorum. You may attend in person or by proxy. If you are not able to attend in person, please complete the proxy that you receive in the mail and send it in so that you can be counted in the quorum.

In previous years, we have held our election for new Directors at our Annual Meeting. However, a new amendment to the Florida Statute 720.306(9)(a) states: "All members of the association are eligible to serve on the board of directors, and a member may nominate himself or herself as a candidate for the board at a meeting where the election is to be held; provided, however, that if the election process allows candidates to be nominated in advance of the meeting, the association is not required to allow nominations at the meeting. An election is not required unless more candidates are nominated than vacancies exist." The deadline for nominations was October 24, at which time there were three nominees for three vacancies. Since there were not more nominees than open seats by the deadline, we will not hold an election this year.

Members of the 2014 Board of Directors will be Steve Bayer, Bill Broth, Harvey Galan, Mark Jaffie, Ken Keller, Sy Kugelmas and Saul Siegel.

If you have any questions about this, please see Ken Miller, who will be happy to explain it to you.



## Highlights of COBWRA Meeting at Villagio, November 20, 2013

### PRESIDENT'S COMMENT'S

President Myrna Rosoff thanked Chair Joan Brunswick and the members of the Health and Wellness Committee for all of their work in hosting the *Senior Living Options and Long Term Care* symposium. More than 200 were in attendance.

It was announced that an informal group of community newsletter editors that meets every three months welcomes newsletter editors from COBWRA member communities to participate. For information, contact Betty Wachtel at 561-739-6086.

President Rosoff announced that ISOLA BELLA ESTATES applied for membership in COBWRA. The delegates voted overwhelmingly to welcome the 105th community into the organization.

### OFFICIALS' REPORTS

**PBSO District 6 Captain Mark Murray** reported that crime is down in the West Boynton area. He encouraged the delegates to spread the word that individual homes and communities should keep lights on throughout the night in order to make it less inviting to criminals. The PBSO Community Services Division will come into a community and perform a Crime Prevention Assessment. Call 561-688-3000.

**District Chief Doug McGlynn and Battalion Chief Matt Gaffney from Palm Beach County Fire Rescue** announced that 2,300 calls, the majority being medical, have been responded to within the last 30 days. He spoke once again of the critical need of having carbon monoxide detectors in our homes and mentioned that he is happy and willing to visit COBWRA communities to discuss the issue.

**State Attorney Dave Aronberg** was pleased to report a four and a half percent decrease in crime and attributed the improvement to the hard work of his office, the PBC Sheriff's Office and the cooperation of the citizens of Palm Beach County.

**County Commissioner Shelley Vana** discussed the termination of the contract with the current Palm Tran Connection vendor and assured the Delegates that the transportation needs of seniors and the disabled is a top priority for her.

**Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Executive Director Nick Uhren** gave a brief overview of the responsibilities of the Palm Beach MPO, an independent government agency comprised of 19 elected officials and citizens. The MPO's job is

### SYMPOSIUM ON SENIOR LIVING OPTIONS AND LONG TERM CARE

Highlights NOVEMBER 14, 2013 - Coral Lakes The Area Agency on Aging (AAA) sponsors the Elder Helpline at 866-684-5885, which serves as the gateway to all programs and services for seniors, adults with a disability and their caregivers. A summary of program services available in Palm Beach County include:

Adult Day Care	Caregiver Training/Support
Case Management	Companionship
Congregate Meals	Emergency Alert Response
Escort	Home Delivered Meals
Homemaker Service	Personal Care
Respite (Facility Based)	Respite (In-Home)
Shopping Assistance	Transportation
Assisted Living Facility	

OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE THROUGH THE ELDER HELPLINE:

- \*SHINE – Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders
- \*EHEAP – Emergency Home Energy Assistance
- \*Prescription drug assistance
- \*Medicare Savings \*
- \*Referrals to a variety of programs and services to meet the individual's specific needs.

Also discussed were the various senior living options:

Independent Living	Assisted Living
Memory Care	Alzheimer's & Dementia
Care Skilled Nursing Facilities (Short Term vs. Long Term Care)	
CCRC - Continuing Care Retirement Community	

to provide a cooperative, comprehensive transportation planning and decision making process that forecasts the need for and proposes transportation system maintenance and improvements that are funded by Federal and State transportation dollars. He encouraged the Delegates to visit the PBCMPO website: [www.PalmBeachMPO.org](http://www.PalmBeachMPO.org).

**GUEST SPEAKERS: Sarah Alsofrom and Sara Counes from the Hanley Center Foundation** discussed the dangers of drug dependence in young people, the baby-boomers and seniors, focusing on the interactions of various drugs that are commonly prescribed by physicians.

**NEXT DELEGATES MEETING** is at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 18, at Valencia Shores. The Boynton Beach High School Chorus will perform. Don't forget to bring your Box Tops for Education and Soup Kitchen donations.

By Bruce Brodsky and Sharon Reuben

## APPRECIATION OVERDUE

By Barbara Lader

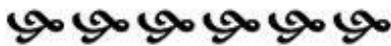
Majestic Isles residents are fortunate to have volunteers who in many ways make living here a pleasure. Steve Bayer is among those who contribute to our welfare by keeping us informed about the latest in security information.

Steve works with our alarm company and arranges town meetings so we know what Devcon now provides to assure our safety. He advises us about the latest in security technology and keeps us up-to-date as to criminal activity in our local area. During the town meeting held on November 19, residents had the opportunity to meet a representative of the Palm Beach Sheriff's Office as well as Bari and Janett, from Devcon. We also hear a presentation on the "Yellow Dot" program, which is similar to the Vial of Life, but intended to be kept in your car in case of accident.

Steve helped to provide a more efficient solution to the problem of non-residents using the old transformers and cards to enter our development. He introduced the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) system, approved by the Board of Directors, which is now in use in all of our cars and provides better control at the gates.

In addition, instead of having to take our no-longer-needed documents to another location, we have the convenience of driving to the clubhouse parking lot where a truck is made available for paper-shredding. Steve has also arranged to have the residents' fire extinguishers examined periodically to ensure they are working properly.

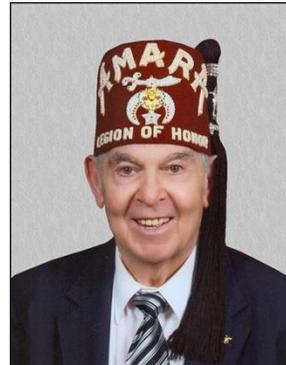
Majestic Isles residents thank you, Steve, for continuing to work on our behalf.



**WE NEED A QUORUM  
FOR  
THE ANNUAL MEETING  
DEC. 19 AT 7:00 P.M.**

*See page 4, "Majestic Isles' Annual Meeting" to find out how to make sure you are counted in the quorum for this legally mandated meeting.*

## MAJESTIC ISLES RESIDENT RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD



On Nov. 9 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Tampa Ziggy Friedman was awarded the highest honor bestowed on members of the Freemasons Fraternal Organization, the 33<sup>rd</sup> degree. The Freemasons is an international society dating back to the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The other degrees can be achieved by any Mason through time and service, but the 33<sup>rd</sup> degree is a special recognition awarded to less than 1.5% of all members. It is given in recognition of exceptional leadership and dedicated charitable service.

The award was presented at a meeting of all Florida Masonic Lodges, which only fellow Masons attend. The wives, including Ziggy's wife, Selma, attended a luncheon at the same time. Though the actual presentation was given in secret, the recipients of awards were honored that evening at a grand banquet. Selma proudly reported that when Ziggy's award was announced, there was thunderous applause, acknowledging the many years he has committed including serving as treasurer and working on the budget. Though Ziggy is very modest about his work, Selma reports that he spends many hours working on the Mason's business, not only with the accounting and budget activities but also on numerous charitable projects.

Ziggy has been a Mason for over 50 years. He was quite active in his home lodge in Bloomfield, Connecticut, and has become even more active here in Florida, where he participates in the Boynton Beach Lodge, the Master Mason's Club, the Scottish Rite Order, the Amara Shrine and the Square Club. (I am told that Square is a meaningful Masonic Symbol and that this club is not for "squares.") When Ziggy achieved the 32<sup>nd</sup> degree in Masonry, he was quite proud of rising to what he then believed was to be his pinnacle rank. Now, he is thrilled to have been awarded the 33<sup>rd</sup> degree, a particularly distinguished and rare international honor.

The Friedman's completed their weekend visiting with close friends who live in Venice, Florida. It was a glorious weekend!



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## Visiting:

### BOB AND NORMA WOLFF

By Claire Deveney



Bob and Norma Wolff, who have been married for 54 years, moved to Majestic Isles a year ago.

Bob was born in Brooklyn, New York and was

four when his family moved to Brookline, Mass. He recalls, "As a child, I loved sneaking in to see the Boston Braves at Braves Field." During the baseball season Bob could see the field lights from his bedroom. He also fondly remembers Fenway Park and seeing baseball great Ted Williams. "I was there the day he tipped his hat to the fans," exclaims Bob.

A freshman at Brookline High School when his family moved to Newton, Massachusetts, Bob transferred to Newton High School from which he was graduated. He went to Boston University for a year, then took a job in retail sales for the Samuel Bernstein Hair Company, a wholesale beauty supplier. One day he met Leonard Bernstein, the world-famous composer and conductor, who came by to visit his father, the company's owner.

Bob enlisted in the Army and did basic training at Fort Dix as a radio operator in the early to mid 50s. He became proficient in Morse code and was a specialist 3rd class. He served for six years, during two of which he was stationed at Schofield Barracks in Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii. Bob was assigned to the 25th Infantry Division Mortar Platoon and was a forward observer. On leaves he visited other Hawaiian islands and Japan. "I enjoyed the service," Bob relates with a smile. After returning home, he got a job with the New England Trading Company, which was opening Zayre, a new department store. He became its store manager.

Mutual friends introduced Bob and Norma. When he picked her up at her apartment, "It was love at first sight. She knocked my socks off," exclaimed Bob. When he went home he told his parents, "I met the woman of my dreams." Bob and Norma went together for two years, married and moved into their first home, a fourth floor walk-up apartment in the

Brighton section of Boston. A year later, his company asked him to open a Zayre store in the Westchester section of Miami. Bob flew to Miami, drove to Miami Beach and Collins Avenue with the famous Fontainebleau and Eden Roc hotels, and phoned Norma to say, "It looks like paradise."

The Wolffs moved to Miami, where their son, David, was born. Bob describes the event as "the most exciting day of our lives." A year later the company moved them to Jacksonville, Florida where they lived for two years and had their second child, Meredith.

Bob joined the Jefferson Superstore owned by four brothers, one of whom owned the Eden Roc. After deciding to leave retail, Bob worked in real estate sales and later became a commodity options broker. The Wolffs moved back to Miami and raised their children there. After the children were grown, Bob and Norma moved to Kendalltown, Miami where they stayed for 25 years before leaving the traffic of Miami to move here. Norma is a member of the M.I. Pap Corps and Bob belongs to the Men's Club and bowls with the Majestic Isles bowling league.

Norma was born and raised in Taunton, Mass., and in elementary school she walked home for lunch everyday. "My mother watched the soap opera 'The Romance of Helen Trent' on TV while she gave me lunch," Norma recalls. After graduating from Taunton High School, she entered Boston University School of Fine and Applied Arts where she studied for a year before transferring to Vespa George School of Art in Boston, which is now closed, to study commercial art. Because of family circumstances, she left school and became a self-taught medical secretary at Beth Israel Hospital. Norma said, "I loved it." Later she worked at Massachusetts Memorial Hospital Medical Associates.

In addition to being a wife and mother, Norma is an accomplished and successful businesswoman. She owned a designer consignment shop in Miami for 34 years, and she was an antiques and collectibles dealer. She currently sells authentic designer handbags and jewelry at the monthly antique shows at the West Palm Beach Fairgrounds.

The Wolff's son is in the construction field and lives here and their daughter, Meredith, an attorney, lives in Zionsville, Indiana. Bob and Norma have five granddaughters: Kimberly, 29, Marsha, 22, Madilyn, 18, Leah, 15, and Aubry, 10.



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## *Gardening in the Isles*

*By  
Stan Davidson*

Gardeners who don't want to get their hands dirty may enjoy taking photos of flowers and landscapes. During the holiday season you may have received the gift of a new camera. Let me provide you with some tips on how to take better pictures in your garden or gardens that you maybe touring.

You may believe that a bright sunny day makes a garden look great, but professional photographers say that is not the best time to take photos. The intensity of the sun creates deep shadows and your photo could end up with highlights washed out and with shadows highly accented. A bright overcast day with high cloud cover is a better time to take pictures in your garden. The soft light of the early morning hours is good for catching the accent of dewdrops on the petals and foliage. A steady camera with good stabilization is essential for sharp photos in low light. A flash can create shadows that you are trying to avoid, so natural lighting is the best.

With today's point-and-shoot digital cameras erasing unwanted pictures is a no brainer. Close up focusing on a subject to fill up a frame using the macro camera setting is a means of achieving an exceptional photo.

For a fresh take on your garden try different viewpoints, not only flower close ups. For example, get down low to shoot a group of low growing plants. Here in Majestic Isles the only second floor vantage

point is the clubhouse, but if you have a two-story home up north, or a friend or relative with a great garden and an upstairs window or balcony, you might try a shot looking down at a garden below. Try shooting from behind or even in a flowerbed. Add depth to a landscape photo by using lines in a scene such as a diagonal planting bed.

Plan for the future by taking numerous photos of your newly planted landscape now and during the growing seasons. This is very easy with our new point-and-shoot cameras, because you do not have to worry about the cost of film and developing. Use your photos as a record of what you like as the growing season progresses. Assess the areas that need improvement. Also, in case of loss due to storm damage you will have a record of your plantings for insurance purposes.

A panoramic view is useful for visualizing change. Many of our new digital cameras have this feature. If not, stand in one spot and take two or three different landscape photos making sure that each one overlaps the previous one slightly. Then, with digital photo editing on your computer you can merge your prints together for a complete overview of the landscape.

Remember, one thing nice about garden photography is that you will never be waiting for subject matter, since flowers are more than happy to pose for you!

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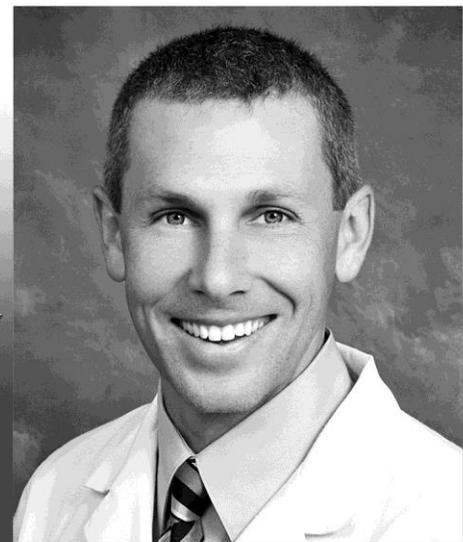
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## BETWEEN TWO RIVERS

By Bill Harris



*Homo erectus*  
fossil footprint

Last month I introduced you to the smallest of Florida's invasive species: viruses that can cause West Nile or Dengue fever. This month I want to talk about the largest of Florida's invasive species. It's time to talk about *us*!

When it comes to invasive species, humans are probably

the most exotic invasive of them all. Our history begins nearly two million years ago on the savannah plains between Lake Victoria and Mt. Kilimanjaro in what is now the East African nation of Tanzania. Here in the Olduvai Gorge area, the dawn-Man, *Homo erectus* lived side by side and constantly competed, fought with and eventually replaced the australopithecines (pre-Man) as depicted in the opening moments of Stanley Kubrick's classic 1968 sci-fi movie "2001: A Space Odyssey."

Prior to 1987, human evolutionary history was based on poorly dated fossil and archeological evidence. Paleoanthropologists held to the then popular "out of Africa" belief that about 1.6 million years ago *Homo erectus* began to migrate from his African homeland to Europe and Asia, evolving there in different places and at different times into us – *Homo sapiens*. But, confusion reigned! Some believed that Neanderthals and people like them in each region of the ancient world were the ancestors of modern humans in those same regions today, others recognized that Neanderthals had evolved their own special characteristics, and couldn't be an ancestor for Cro-Magnons or other anatomically modern humans.

In 1987, mitochondrial DNA evidence, showed that a tiny and peculiar part of our genome, inherited only through mothers and daughters, derived from an African ancestor about 200,000 years ago. Since then, massive improvements in recovery and analysis of ancient DNA have produced even more and sometimes surprising information. Most of us have about 2.9% Neanderthal DNA in our genetic makeup. The most likely explanation for this discovery is that the ancestors of today's Europeans and Asians interbred with Neanderthals (or at least with a population that had a component of Neanderthal

genes) in North Africa, Arabia or the Middle East as our ancestors exited Africa about 100,000 years ago. A glimpse into a 30,000-years-ago European world where both Neanderthals and Cro-Magnon Man lived not always separate, never equal lives is acutely described in Jean Auel's 1980 "Clan of the Cave Bear" the first in her historic epic novel six-book series, "Earth's Children."

Huge amounts of new DNA data from recent human populations and Neanderthal fossils, new archeological evidence and increased accuracy in the dating of fossils support a new "recent out of Africa" origin for modern man. *Homo erectus*' 1.6-million-years-ago ancient migration did take place. *H. erectus* survived in East Asia and Indonesia but evolved 700,000-years ago into *Homo heidelbergensis* in Europe and Africa. Then, about 200,000 years ago, *H. heidelbergensis* underwent an evolutionary split into bigger-brained hominids: north of the Mediterranean it developed into the Neanderthals, whereas to the south, in Africa, it became us. About 100,000 years ago we began to leave Africa and by 40,000 years ago had spread across Eurasia where we replaced the Neanderthals and all other outside-of-Africa archaic peoples.

By 23,000 years ago, *Homo sapiens*' migrations brought us to easternmost Siberia. Fortuitously, our arrival there coincided with the creation of the Bering land bridge connecting Siberia to Alaska as Late Ice Age glaciers advanced, soaking up large volumes of ocean water that dropped sea level by 300 feet. As the climate warmed and the Yukon River Valley became ice-free, a passage just east of the Rockies was opened to America's Great Plains and beyond. Asiatic humans were also able to travel from Alaska by boat down our west coast and by 18,000 years ago had reached what is now Los Angeles. Humans could also have first come to the Americas by crossing the frozen North Atlantic to Greenland and then down the east coast. About 14,000 years ago as ice sheets advanced and biting cold enveloped the north, we "came on down" to warm and sunny Vero Beach, Florida. By 11,000 years ago, our 100,000-year trek out of Africa complete, we arrived at Tierra del Fuego, the southernmost tip of South America.

More than 90% of our genetic ancestry is of recent African origin. Undoubtedly, "under our skins, we are all Africans."



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## PET PATCH

By Molly



“Safety in the Isles” - that's what “Uncle Steve” Bayer is always emphasizing. But what I did this week was not safe – he would be very upset with me, as was my Mom.

You see I have good friends across the street who love to give me a treat. I had gone into our garage behind my Mom, and when I saw their garage door open, I *ran* over to see them, with Mom running (slower than me) across the street, calling to Barbara. I did get my treat, but also got a good scolding – that was not a smart thing to do, and I sure won't do it again.

So please stay safe and have a very Happy Thanksgiving!

## HOO, HOO, WHO LET THE CATS OUT?

By Irene Freedman



Recently my cat escaped through a torn screen. I left the door open and she returned in two days. I was very worried about her, knowing what dangers there are outside. Are you aware that we have feral (wild unvaccinated) cats in our neighborhood?

If you love your animals please keep them indoors. Their personalities change when they are outside. The killer instinct comes out. They stalk birds, squirrels, mice and other cats. Please have your kitties vaccinated and micro chipped. It is a good idea to give Bonnie a picture just in case the little rascal bolts.



## The Reel Story 12 YEARS A SLAVE

by Judy Radin

Simon Northup (Chiwetel Ejiofor), a free man, resided in Saratoga, New York, with his family in the 1840's. He was lured to Washington DC by two con-artists who promised him work as a musician. He was subsequently drugged, restrained, beaten, stripped of his identity and shipped to New Orleans to be sold into slavery. During the next 12 years the two men who owned him treated him very differently. Though the first owner was comparatively refined, his plantation manager felt threatened by Northup's higher mentality and created a severely explosive situation. To protect his investment, Northup's owner re-sold him to a deranged neighbor who regarded his slaves as objects to be used for personal gratification and profit. As a result, the slaves lived in constant dread that his unpredictable temper would flare into vicious fury without warning.

The dramatization of Northup's unbelievably true story of his struggle for survival and liberty is both spellbinding and painful to watch. Viewers witness the wicked nature of society that allows such barbarism...all for the material gain of the Southern privileged class.

The absorbed audience demonstrated considerable discomfort as the camera focused at length on scenes of brutality as well as close-ups of Northup's face as he reacted to the merciless torture of his fellow slaves. I don't understand why film of over two hours had to be prolonged by filming the beautiful Louisiana landscape. The woman sitting next to me murmured, “This movie is good but it's a *schlepp!*”

Brad Pitt, billed as one of the film's stars, plays an abolitionist. Though Pitt's presence is brief, it is most significant to the ending of Northup's enslavement.

Based upon a true story, “12 Years a Slave” is a well-written, brilliantly acted depiction of a shameful period in our country's past.

After a most intense main course, some of our septuagenarians may enjoy “Last Vegas”...a silly dessert starring Michael Douglas, Robert DeNiro, Morgan Freeman, Kevin Kline and Mary Steenburgen. Though the film is a bit inane, the former Oscar winners appear to have a wonderful time on vacation from the serious roles that made them winners. Vive La Difference!

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## FLAVORS OF FLORIDA

By Donna Shaneson

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Afternoon Book Club  
 Monday Dec. 16, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.  
 "The List" by Martin Fletcher

Aprons Cooking School\*  
 Dec. 19, 2013  
 Winter Soups

**West Boynton Library**  
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Dec. 10 at 2:00 p.m. Nora Natke will talk about Hemingway's "The Sun Also Rises." This should be a lively discussion of this classic Hemingway book.

Jan. 14 at 2:00 p.m. Nora Natke will discuss "The Paris Wife" by Paula McLain.

**The Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens**  
**4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach**  
**www.morikami.org**

There is a new exhibit featuring 90 Kogei-style contemporary art. This includes ceramics, textiles, wood, bamboo, glass, and lacquer works created of organic natural materials such as stone, minerals, trees and plants. This is a wonderful place to take out-of-town visitors. They get to visit Japan and Florida in one stop. In December, it is cool enough to walk in these fantastic gardens!

*\*For details of this event and contact information missing in other items, call Donna (752-5516).*

## INVESTORS DISCUSSION GROUP

Al Silverman, Facilitator

Do you want to know what the market will do in the next one, two or five years? You are not alone. More than likely, the market will go where investors or traders think the market will go (unless it won't). Markets are priced today based on what people (or traders) think will happen in the future, except for the daily gyrations caused by the day traders.

Per Morgan Housel on "The Motley Fool," Nov. 2, 2013, "Reality is yesterday's news. That's why stocks surged in 2009 even though the economy was a complete wreck. The market reacts to news of the moment – then re-adjusts to changes such as job rates, political commentary, interest rates, taxes, short covering, etc." Hedge funds and momentum players also exert considerable influence.

Some analysts paint the following scenarios: The upside: the economy is *improving*, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is rising, corporate earnings are up and rising, the unemployment rate is at 7.3% and trending lower, \$1.48 trillion in cash just sitting in bank accounts, and pressure is increasing for continuing growth in the economy. The downside is the **lurking risk** of higher interest rates as the economy continues to improve.

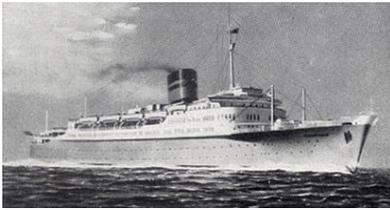
What does the above actually tell you? Not much, really. The best you can do is to examine your own investment objectives, time frame, risk tolerance, etc. Yes, risk tolerance, since everything you do has a degree of risk, including doing nothing! If you disagree, let's discuss it at our meetings.

One reference that may be helpful in sorting things out was mentioned at our last meeting, "STOCK SELECTION USING 3---6---9+ SUITABILITY AND TIME FRAME CRITERIA", and we can review that at our meeting.

*Disclaimer: Keep in mind that the Facilitator is a financial news reporter who may bring financial subjects to your attention to stimulate discussion at the meetings. If you find anything interesting, do your own research and due diligence with regard to suitability, investment objectives, etc. and consult your investment advisor. Above all, for any investment you make, you are buying into someone's business. Make sure you understand the nature of the business along with the potential pros and cons for its future.*

## A HISTORY OF CRUISING

By Doris Davidoff



Ocean Monarch

Prior to the early '60s, passenger ships were used for transportation. In the off-season, some ships were put to use for excursions, but

there was no real "cruise market." An important event occurred in 1958 to change this, when the Boeing 707 started flying and for the first time, more people traveled across the Atlantic Ocean via air than via ship. Steamship companies began to see the writing on the wall.

Bit by bit, these steamship companies started to refit their ships for a vacation market. Instead of the ship being just the transportation to get to and from the destination, with a hotel stay in between, the cruise lines began to offer a "Liv-Aboard" opportunity where the ship was the hotel.

My own first cruise was in 1961, when my late husband and I got married on December 21 and sailed on December 23 for our honeymoon on a 10-night "Liv-Aboard" Christmas/New Year's cruise from New York to Bermuda and Nassau on the *Ocean Monarch*. We had to move our wedding up from our original June plans to be able to take the cruise, which was only offered in the off-season.

The *Ocean Monarch*, built in 1951, is considered by many to be the first post-war ship designed specifically for the cruise market. She had only one class and "private facilities" in all cabins, which meant a cabin had a toilet, sink and shower or tub in the cabin. Older ships had shared facilities in the lower classes. The ship was 13,824 GRT (gross register tons) and was 561 ft. long, 72 ft. wide and 24 ft. high. It carried 430 passengers with a crew of approximately 200. GRT is not a measure of weight or water displacement as most people think. It is a measure of the number of cubic feet of enclosed space on the ship. One hundred cubic feet equals one gross ton.

In contrast, today's largest ship, Royal Caribbean's *Allure of the Seas*, launched in 2009, is 225,282 GRT, 1187 ft. long, 208 ft. wide, 213 feet high and can carry 5,400-6,296 passengers with a crew of

2,384. NCL's *Norway* (formerly the *SS France*) was the first cruise ship to carry more than 2000 passengers. The first ship to exceed 100,000 GRT was Carnival's *Destiny* in 1996.

On the *Ocean Monarch*, there was very little entertainment. On our first day, we were given a small booklet listing all the activities for the entire 10-day cruise. The most popular evening activity was dancing. There were just two shows, several recently released movies and some evening games, such as horse racing and bingo. There were no children's activities and few children on board. We were probably the only honeymooners onboard as cruises were not promoted to newlyweds. The beds were narrow berths attached to the walls.

In 1966, Norwegian Caribbean Lines (today's Norwegian Cruise Line – NCL) introduced the *Sunward*, to sail out of Miami. This was the start of what is, today, the biggest port for cruises. The line was represented in the United States by Ted Arison.

When Arison left NCL in 1971 to start his own cruise line, his first ship was the *Mardi Gras*, an old ship, which went aground on its maiden voyage on March 7, 1972, as she was leaving Miami. Thus, was born Carnival Cruise Line, today the largest and most successful cruise company. Royal Caribbean Cruise Line started with weekly sailings from Miami on the 724-passenger *Song of Norway* in 1970.

My second cruise was not until May 1970, by which time we had three children, ages almost 5, 2½ and 1½. This cruise was on Home Lines' *Homeric*. There were no children's activities and very few children onboard. In fact, many passengers wondered what kind of crazy parents would bring such young children on a cruise. Unlike today, you could purchase a deck chair and its position for the duration of the cruise. We purchased two deck chairs right by the pool. Our deck steward fell in love with our very active 2-year-old and carried him in his arms while putting out deck chairs for his passengers. He even bought a toy train for our son. It made life aboard very easy for us.

Over the years not only did the size and appearance of cruise ships change, but so did the life-style onboard.



Allure of the Seas

Some of the changes were a result of the greater size of ships, and others were due to the changes in the overall culture in America. The bigger sizes allowed for bigger, better and more lavish entertainment choices, and the cultural changes led to a more casual and active lifestyle onboard. Today's cruises offer far more choices in dining, shore excursions, entertainment and day and night activities than did the cruises of the early days.

For many years, cruises were promoted as fully inclusive vacations. Once you paid for the cruise, there was very little additional you needed to spend. The only food you paid extra for was alcoholic drinks, which were very inexpensive compared to prices at home. Imported beers were only 35¢. One of the few things that you had to pay extra for that is not true today was your deck chair, but I think we only paid \$5 per deck chair for the duration of the ship and we knew where our deck chair was.

Today there are many ways to spend money onboard. Cruises now depend on onboard revenue for about one-quarter of their total income. They even sell gourmet coffee at Starbuck prices when free, reasonably good coffee is available 24 hours a day.

Dining has changed greatly over the years. For many years, ships had few, if any, tables for two. Passengers had an assigned table for all meals, and the table usually had six to ten people. There was only one dining room and passengers were assigned to either the early or late seating for all meals. There was no breakfast, lunch or dinner buffet on the Lido deck or any 24-hour pizza.

Now, on most ships you can find food any time of day or night, including room service. Midnight buffets are a thing of the past or are held only on one or two nights. Most modern ships offer a choice of having a set dinner time with the same people each evening or eating at any time you want. There are many tables for just two people. Few ships have assigned tables for breakfast or lunch, and almost all ships offer a buffet for breakfast, lunch and/or dinner. Many ships have one or more specialty restaurants with a variety of prices (some at no additional cost).

The dress code has changed from quite formal to totally casual. On our early cruises, men had to wear tie and jacket every night and women would dress accordingly. Then there was a period when tie and jacket were only required for a few evenings each

week. Now there are few ships that require it at all, even if it is suggested for "formal" nights.

Very popular activities in the '60s and '70s were skeet shooting off the back of the ship and shuffleboard. There were no casinos on ships in those days. There were also no waterslides, skating rinks, rock-climbing walls or children's programs. Today, there are many varied activities all day every day.

In earlier days, cruises did not have big shows as they only had small lounges with a dance floor (frequently no stage) for entertainment. Today, ships offer Vegas-style revues, full Broadway shows, and massive fantastic shows that use major stages, and audio visual equipment. The venues are huge theaters, some with balconies on multiple decks.

Early cruises did not have casinos at all. Passengers could only gamble (except for bingo and horse races) if ports they visited had gambling available. Today, we see huge casinos, with some of them also taking more than one deck. As in Las Vegas, on some decks on many ships, you can't walk from one end of the ship to the other without going through a casino. Casinos are a major revenue factor for ships now.

Modern ships have features unheard of in earlier times, such as deluxe spas and fitness centers to rival the best land-based ones in both quality and size.

Two major events greatly increased the popularity of cruising. The first was the introduction in the early '80s of the "air/sea cruise packages" when Eastern Airlines teamed with Norwegian Cruise Lines to promote cruises in parts of the country that were far away from the ocean. Passengers no longer had to live near a port – the cruise line would help subsidize their cost of getting there.

The other was the popular TV series, "The Love Boat," which glamorized cruising for a very wide audience. This show ran from 1977-1986 and can still be seen in syndication to this day. It not only popularized Princess Cruises; the entire industry benefited.

Cruising has always been and still is the best value for the dollar and a wonderful choice for all ages.





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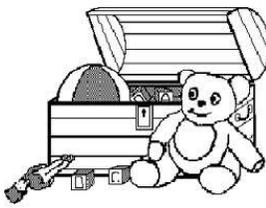
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## TOY STORY

By Phyllis M. Cohen



I'm standing in one of those mega toy stores in the weeks before the holidays looking for a toy for my great niece. These stores are sort of a cross between

a Las Vegas casino with all the lights and noise and a Chuck E Cheese birthday party with a lot of pushing and screaming – and that's just the adults. And toys! There are so many toys most of which are moving, tumbling, chirping, talking or flying around in the air. Thanks to modern technology, the stuffed animals and dolls don't just say "Mama" but they can have a whole conversation with you. If you buy one, you can have someone else in your house to talk back to you.

It's a far cry from my own experiences growing up in the 40's or 50's when getting a new Spalden ball, the old high bouncing "pinkie" that was considered a luxury, and could keep you occupied all day with a variety of games: box ball, hit the penny, handball and catch. A pair of roller skates (complete with a key to wear around your neck to tighten the skates' clamps) was a child's dream come true. (And if your skates were broken, some boy would always find a way to use them to create a homemade scooter from an orange crate.) Lucky was the boy with a football or a bat. He was assured of a place in any game, despite his lack of athletic prowess.

But the toy business exploded after the scarcity of World War II and the depression years gave way to the pent up consumer desires of the 1950's and 60's. A huge baby boom coupled with changing social and economic conditions, along with the giant impact of television advertising, meant that children also were a great market. Not only did every family want a new house out in Levittown with a washer and dryer and refrigerator, but every child demanded the latest toys and gadgets that television showed them 24 hours a day. Adding to the demand, toys were marketed as "educational" so that a toy was not just a luxury, but a necessity.

And because my parents had a toy business, I watched how the toy market grew and grew. Dolls could now be bathed and burped, wet their diapers, and even talk and walk. In the 40's and 50's, the famous Betsey Wetsey doll was a huge favorite, forecasting the manic crazes that would sweep the

country in later years like the Cabbage Patch doll, Tickle Me Elmo, and Beanie Babies. Parents flocked to stores to get the scarce items. Barbie dolls and GI Joes with their host of accessories filled the shelves. Etch-A-Sketch and Play Doh, hula hoops and Easy Bake ovens, Lego and Tonka trucks all crowded the post war shops. By the way, the hot item this year is Furby, a furry interactive blob that talks and moves.

Each new toy seemed to spawn a thousand new or add-ons to keep the child constantly wanting more. Barbie needed a boyfriend and then pets and accessories and finally a dwelling. She could have a house or castle, trailer or apartment, depending upon the mortgage (the one you needed to afford all these new toys) while GI Joe seemed to be outfitted by the DOD as he sported new vehicles and weapons. The new toys became so highly specialized that you no longer bought a new dress for Barbie when she assumed the role of model or teacher or astronaut. You bought another new doll already outfitted for that job. Even Lego no longer was just capable of being a general building toy but a thousand different sets were designed each for a specialized project.

As an aside, in these politically correct days holsters and toy guns that were favorites in my parents' store have all but disappeared from today's shelves. Don't worry. You can hop over to the sporting goods part of the store and buy a rifle or shotgun for dad.

If our little ones learned from the toys, so did Mommy and Daddy. Do you remember the night before the big holiday struggling to put together the infamous "Big Wheel" that had more parts than a 52 Chevy or a Huffy two wheeler, made with parts from every country in Eastern Europe and requiring, my husband discovered, a full set of metric wrenches.

I decide to solve my gift-giving problem by going on line to Amazon.com to look for a little doll or doll carriage for my toddler niece. Lucky me. There are over 400 pages of dolls and accessories – everything from baby dolls that cry and talk or mimic the child's voice to sexy models and vampire types. I could even purchase an **anatomically** correct baby boy doll, thereby guaranteeing that my niece would be the star of nursery school show and tell. Overwhelmed, I settled on an old-fashioned Raggedy Ann doll that just sat there and let you love her. What else could any child want?





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By Dave Feinberg, President



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Dave Feinberg	161	Dave Feinberg	453
Al Lynn	160	Al Lynn	434

#### WEEK 8 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Estelle Snyder	162	Estelle Snyder	426
Joyce Stoudermire	127		
Angelica Castagnet	125	Angelica Castagnet	329

#### WEEK 9 – MEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Al Lynn	171	Al Lynn	426
Dave Feinberg	155	Dave Feinberg	448
Allan Rubinstein	153	Allan Rubinstein	414

#### WEEK 9 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Gladys Feldman	158	Gladys Feldman	349
Toni Kohn	139	Toni Kohn	348
Angelica Castagnet	124		

#### WEEK 10 – MEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Al Lynn	169	Al Lynn	456
Dave Feinberg	162	Dave Feinberg	430
Arnie Everitt	145		

#### WEEK 10 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Toni Kohn	148	Toni Kohn	404
Estelle Snyder	141	Estelle Snyder	405
Joyce Stoudermire	114	Joyce Stoudermire	322

#### WEEK 11 – MEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Al Lynn	161	Al Lynn	430
Dave Feinberg	153	Dave Feinberg	444
Allan Rubinstein	145	Allan Rubinstein	403

#### WEEK 11 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Sandy Gardner	124	Sandy Gardner	340
Toni Kohn	124	Toni Kohn	347
Joyce Stoudermire	114	Joyce Stoudermire	322

#### WEEK 12– MEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Ken Ramnarine	169	Ken Ramnarine	455
Dave Feinberg	167	Dave Feinberg	430
Bill Harris	156	Bill Harris	392

#### WEEK 12 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Estelle Snyder	179	Estelle Snyder	383
Angelica Castagnet	129	Angelica Castagnet	350
Gladys Feldman	128	Gladys Feldman	361

Looking pretty good so far – **but!** Be careful, position weeks are coming soon. Good luck to all.

\*\*\*\*\*

## WOMEN'S CLUB

By Ruth Oppler, President

I hope you all have had a Happy Thanksgiving!

Thanks again to Donna Shaneson guest speaker at our Oct. 14 meeting.

Our very successful card party was held on November 14 at the Delray Country Club. On November 4 our Outreach program collected items to benefit autistic families and abused women. Thanks to Marcia Vetstein and Judy Zeid for chairing and to all who donated.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

**Dec. 9:** Welcome Back Luncheon in our clubhouse at 12 noon with a menu of Chinese food. The subsidy by Women's club will keep the price to \$5. Entertainment will be a piano player, Sheila's Music. Because Women's Club is subsidizing this event, it is open to **members only**. A signup sheet is in the back lobby; put checks in our mailbox please.

**Jan. 13:** Installation Luncheon in the Clubhouse at 11:30 a.m. The price is \$15, and the luncheon is open to **members only**. Famous Deli will cater and the guest speaker will be the marvelous Carol Gross.

**Feb. 9:** Valentine Dinner Dance at Delray Country Club, subsidized by Women's and Men's Clubs.

**Dues are still \$15**, which includes the balance of this year and all of 2014. Drop your check in the Women's Club box in back lobby.

Check the back lobby for flyers and watch Channel 63 for upcoming events. Please join us.

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## HADASSAH

by Ellin Goldstein



We celebrated our wonderful donors with a luncheon at Benevento's and are now looking forward to an exciting Book and Author meeting on Monday, Nov. 25 with author Ellen Brazier.

In this season of giving, please bring donations of non-perishable food to our meeting to send to the Ruth Rales pantry for seniors.

Elaine Grossman is still very busy working with neighborhood restaurants. Remember if you go to Benny's, get a flyer from the back lobby because Benny's will give a donation to Hadassah whenever you eat there, *if* you have the flyer. If you don't have the flyer, just write Lee Katz (add 733-6702) on the check and the restaurant will also accept that. Save the date of Feb. 3 to go to the Cucina Fra Diavolo in Delray Beach (right past the Boys'). The owners will contribute 20% to Hadassah. The food is great and the prices are reasonable. Try it!

Dec. 16 we'll install our new officers, and enjoy a lovely lunch as well as entertainment by a wonderful choral group.

Jan. 29 will be our annual card party to be catered by Diamond Caterers. Watch for flyers.

On Sunday, March 2 we'll honor our "Woman of the Year." Watch for further details.

Doris Robin is still selling "City Books." The Winn Dixie Coupons expire December 2014, so it's a really good deal. The book costs \$7 each, with \$20 worth of coupons, which can also be used at Publix.

If you have not yet received your copy of the Calendar, for which you paid, please call me (740-9050).

To buy a brick on our sixth Brick Lane, call Lee Katz (733-6702) or Lucille Garelick (364-0533). Also, contact Lee to obtain your Book of Remembrance.

Starting in January, there will be a \$2 charge for a light lunch at our meetings. We are also looking for bakers so we can serve coffee and .... If interested, call Marcia Steiner.

## MAJESTIC ISLES LITTLE THEATER General Meeting November 10, 2013

By Gerry Herman

The Nov. 10 audience was treated to Francine Gitto's wonderful production of the Oldywed Game based on the Newlywed game. Certainly, you remember that great show from the 70's?

As Ira Schneider humorously introduced the cast of four couples, we learned something about each couple that surprised us.

For instance, Mark and Roberta Jaffie are married for 22 years and went on their honeymoon with 122 of their closest friends.

Jerry and Nadine Ehrlich have been married for 15 years. Jerry said that their secret for a happy marriage is learning to say "Yes dear."

Al and Doris Silverman have been married for 66 years. After they'd been married three months, Doris' mother told Al, "You will have a very exciting life."

Last but not least, were Duncan and Liz Hopwood who came from Colorado for the event. Duncan said he lets Liz be herself and he cooks. They have been married for 16 years.

The questions were written and organized by Francine Gitto. Her creative ideas and thoughtful questions brought honest answers and were completely unrehearsed. The responses from the contestants were spontaneous, hilarious and surprising. There was also audience participation. Al and Doris Silverman won the prize of \$25 to spend at Panera Bread Company. They have been married the longest and can finish each other's thoughts.

This show brought back memories of watching the original Newlywed Game. I think that the audience enjoyed reminiscing too! Well done, Francine Gitto!

Special thanks to our MC, Ira Schneider; Doris Davidoff for publicity; Jack Moss, for videographing the show; Buddy Koch for sound and our photographer, Stan Rothstein.

Text MILT presentation: Dec. 8, 2013 "Show Biz A Family Musical Journey" by Barbara Portnoff and Arlene Levin. It will be performed "script in hand."

### MAJESTIC ISLES ANNUAL MEETING – DEC. 19, 2013 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE CLUBHOUSE

To fulfill the requirements of the law, we must have a quorum. Please come, or mail your proxy. (See p. 4).

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## MAJESTIC ISLES PAP CORPS

By M. Chermak, C. Deveney, R. Stichel



The fabulous Coins for the Cure Brunch is Sunday, December 15 at 10:30 a.m. at the clubhouse. The brunch includes an omelet station, blintzes, French toast and

more and will be catered by Flakowitz of Boynton Beach. Singer and entertainer is Mark Desrosiers. Tickets are \$25. Place checks in envelopes, indicating tables, in the mail box in the back lobby. We'll also arrange tables for you. Many thanks to Suzanne Skinner and Marcia Steiner, vice presidents for fund raising, for planning this extraordinary event.

Latest fashions from our Jewelry Boutique of costume jewelry from New York City are available at every meeting, or call Marilyn Chermak, 735-0695.

As we went to press, we all enjoyed the light lunch meeting with guest speaker Caren Neille who spoke on "Storytelling" on November 21. Volunteers on set-up and clean-up led by Hospitality Committee Chair Lois Richman were Myrna Bader, Helen Benowich, Carole Burstein, Dottie Caroff, Beverly Jaffe and Fran Silling.

Have dinner on Thursday, Jan. 16 at Sweet Tomatoes, 1100 North Congress Ave., at Renaissance Commons, Boynton Beach from 5 to 8 p.m. and the M.I. Pap Corps will receive a percentage of the sales. For further fundraising, tickets will be available soon for the West Boca High School production this March of "Young Frankenstein." Information will be posted on flyers and on Channel 63.

Watch Channel 63 for weekly winners of Football Mania over the 17 week season. Many thanks to Ed Gerard, Paul Mendelsohn and Ed Strauber for their continuing work on this project.

To help support our meetings everyone is encouraged to donate to Host a Meeting. Contact Rita Goldman, at least one week before each meeting with your contribution, (as little as \$10) and with information on whom you are honoring.

The Pap Corps is offering on-line shopping. To participate, shoppers may go on the Pap Corps website ([www.papcorps.org](http://www.papcorps.org)) and then click on "shopping." A percentage of the sales will be donated to the Pap Corps and prices will not be increased.

### Save these dates for Pap Corps:

**Dec. 15, 10:30 a.m.** - Coins for the Cure Brunch with entertainment, \$25 pp

**Jan. 16, 5 to 8 p.m.** - Sweet Tomatoes, a percentage of sales will go to M.I. Pap Corps

**Jan. 23, 12 noon** - lunch meeting, guest speaker on The Canine Corps

**Feb. 27, 12 noon** - Member Appreciation lunch meeting

## GRANDKIDS' ACTIVITIES 2013

### Thursday, December 26

11:00 a.m. at the clubhouse

#### GARY MIDNIGHT

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12:30 at the clubhouse

#### PIZZA PARTY

Whole pies or slices

Whole pies \$12.00, slices \$1.50 each

Soda, juice supplied.

Please prepay with checks in social club box.

7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse

#### BINGO

Children of all ages

No charge

\*\*\*\*

### Friday, December 27

10:00 – 11:30 a.m. at the clubhouse

#### ARTS AND CRAFTS

With Ms. Gerry and Ms. Estelle

Children of all ages

No charge

1:00 p. m. around Lake One  
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#### FISHING

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## MAJESTIC ISLES TRAVEL CLUB

Doris Davidoff



We are almost sold-out on our upcoming trip to Key West in February. We have sold out a couple of our

most recent trips, but not until near the departure date, so being almost sold-out three months ahead is very exciting.

Key West was the destination for our first Travel Club trip in October 2010. We have added some additional features, including a sunset dinner cruise, a Ghost Tour and other attractions. Flyers with a reservation form are in the back lobby. If you want to join us, just complete one of the forms and put it in the Travel Club mailbox. We will maintain a waiting list to use if there are cancellations.

For March, we are planning an overnight trip to Daytona to tour the racetrack. Even if you have no interest in race cars, you might very well enjoy the tour of the track to see how it all works. This trip will include dinner and an evening activity. We are also planning overnight trips to Charleston, South Carolina and Mt. Dora for the holiday lights. Watch for flyers on these trips as we develop them.

Some of our other day trips in 2014 include visiting an ice-cream factory; touring the Bonnet House with dinner at a French restaurant; Coral Castle & Fruit and Spice Land in Homestead; Palm Beach Flagler Mansion and others.

Send an email to [dorisdav@aol.com](mailto:dorisdav@aol.com) if you want to be added to our email list. Your address will only be used for Travel Club information.

There is still room on our riverboat cruise from Prague to Budapest in early November. There are flyers and reservation forms in the back lobby and on our website at [www.majesticisles.com](http://www.majesticisles.com).

The Travel Club is open to all Majestic Isles residents and their friends and relatives, even if those who don't live here. We meet on the fourth Sunday of each month (check Channel 63 for any changes). Our trips have a mixture of couples and singles. There is no membership fee to belong to the Travel Club.



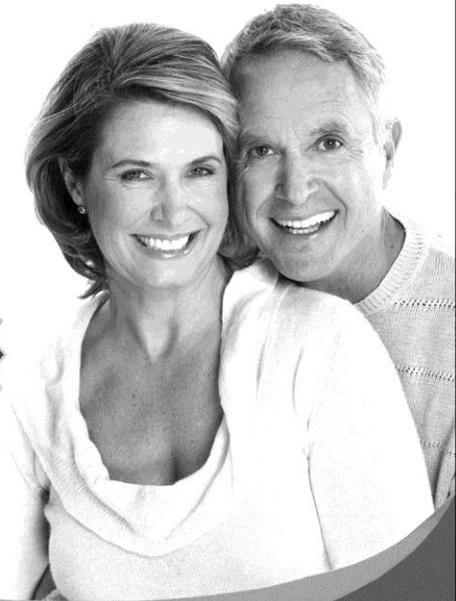
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### SOCIAL CLUB

By Joan Sorkin



On Nov. 10, we invited new residents to join the Social Club Board for a breakfast of bagels and coffee. We were so thrilled with the response, as were the invitees. We discussed the past work of the club as well as our coming calendar of events. It was a wonderful introduction to our great community. Welcome to: Patrick and Audrey Cosentino, Sidney and Mala Glanz , Jerry and Essie Meyer, Alan and Carol Stevens, Elio and Anna Tubito and Robert and Norma Wolff. Thanks to Joan Greenwald for the excellent idea and for her efforts in organizing this successful event.

Collection of unwrapped new toys is underway. All toys will be given to the Soup Kitchen of Boynton Beach. With the help of Val Petroff, a tremendous amount was collected last year. The children were so thrilled with their presents. Leave toys in Social Club box in rear lobby. Let's make this year even bigger and better. We welcome incoming President Sylvia Fefferman as well as the returning members of the Social Club Board for 2014.

Tickets are still available for our fabulous Winter Series 2014. \$70 per person gives you three shows. Details are on tri-fold in back lobby. Don't miss out seeing these great performers



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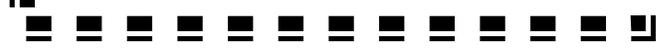
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**SAT., DEC. 7: THE INTERNSHIP** Two out-of-work salesmen, lacking the digital-savvy skills they need to find jobs, sign on as interns at a high-tech company. While their new assignment may give them the training they need, it also means staying one step ahead of their ignorance.

**SAT., DEC. 21: THE WAY** When his son dies while hiking the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage route in the Pyrenees, a grieving father flies to France to claim the remains. Looking for insights into his estranged child's life, he decides to complete the 500-mile trek to Spain.

**NOTE: We show our films with closed captioning.**

*The film descriptions are taken from the Netflix website.*



### FACTS ABOUT TODAY'S COLLEGE FRESHMAN

- As they started to crawl, so did the news across the bottom of the television screen.
- They have known only two presidents.
- With GPS, they have never needed directions to get someplace, just an address.
- Olympic fever has always erupted every two years.
- The U.S. has always imposed economic sanctions against Iran.
- Washington, D.C., tour buses have never been able to drive in front of the White House.
- They probably never had chicken pox

*Beloit College Annual List*



## ON THE SOCIAL CLUB - THE HEART OF THE MATTER

By Gerry Herman

Early on, the Social Club was the hub of the Majestic Isles Community. It began in the fall of 1996 with Lee and Josh Katz who came up with the idea to get the 23 families who were then living here to organize activities for themselves. Selma and Ziggy Friedman joined them to start a social club. Lee Katz invited all the families living here to a Break-the-Fast dinner in her home and that is how we all met.

The first official meeting of the Social Club was held at the Civic Center long before the clubhouse was completed. We all took it upon ourselves to come together to make things happen. Many of us became friends while working together for the community. In the beginning the Social Club served as the heart of the community and it gave rise to a variety of other clubs. We were the first Oriole Community to form our own clubs and develop partnerships with each other. Many of the clubs that we now enjoy were formed then. For instance, M.I.L.T. (Majestic Isles Little Theater) was born with seed money from the Social Club. The Majestic Isles News, the Book Club, The Ad Hoc Committee (the predecessor to the Homeowners Association's Board of Directors) and the Investment Discussion Group, were formed by residents with various other interests. Subsequently, other activities were started, such as art classes, ceramics, Tennis Club, Singing for Fun, Golf Club, Men's Club, Women's Club, Chess Club, Fishing Club, Bowling League and Bridge Club. As our community grew, the clubs became separate entities and existed independently of the Social Club.

The Social Club has always existed to serve the community with the idea of bringing all of us together. I believe we still wish to communicate with each other and to share ideas through learning and sharing good times as well as tough ones. Through the years, the Social Club has offered many programs to the community.

Our first Friendship Supper was attended by 52 residents in November 1997, and then we had our MISCMATCH (Majestic Isles Social Club - Meet At

The Club House) where we met many of our neighbors for the first time. Many holiday parties were planned that year and hopefully will continue for many years to come. The first New Year's Eve Gala event in our clubhouse was held on Dec. 31, 1997. We were all-younger then and had a lot more energy. However, we will be together again to bring in the New Year 2014.

This month we'll again have our model program for our grandkids. We will again be doing the arts and crafts with different age groups with prizes for everyone. So don't forget to write your grandkids' names and ages on the signup sheet on the bulletin board. Other activities include fishing, an ice cream party, a magician and pizza party.

Meetings, with entertainment, are held four times a year. Dues are \$10 per person.

One aspect of the Social Club is to give back to the community with the funds that they have raised. The club has generously donated the money to buy a commercial refrigerator for the kitchen, to refinish the kitchen cabinets, to buy a movie projector and contribute money toward the pool furniture.

Arlene Koch, Joan Sorkin, Rita Dick and Florence Cohen are very involved in the job of bringing in talent to entertain us every year. Arlene said, "We view many showcases to decide which would be the most enjoyable for MI residents. We deal with a variety of agents who refer us to all venues. Through the years we have had almost 140 different entertainers."

The Spectacular Winter Series will take place in January, February and March 2014. Please look for the pamphlet in the back lobby of the clubhouse which describes the shows that will be presented and buy your tickets now to get the best available seats. The Social Club needs your support to continue to bring in fine entertainment!

## SOURCE UNKNOWN

### THE LAWS OF NATURE

Forget Newton and Galileo – Here are the real laws.

**Law of Gravity** – Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.

**Law of Probability** – The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

**Supermarket Law** – As soon as you get in the smallest line, the cashier will have to call for help.

**Variation Law** – If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.

**Law of Mechanical Repair** – After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you'll have to pee.

**Law of Close Encounters** – The probability of meeting someone you know increases greatly when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

**Law of the Result** – When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will.

**Law of Biomechanics** – The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

**Law of the Theatre & Hockey Arena** – At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle always arrive last. They are the ones who will leave their seats several times to go for food, beer, or the toilet and who leave early before the end of the performance or the game is over. The folks in the aisle seats come early, never move once, have long gangly legs or big bellies and stay to the bitter end of the event. The aisle people also are very surly.

**The Coffee Law** – As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something that will last until the coffee is cold.

**Murphy's Law of Lockers** – If there are only two people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.

**Law of Physical Surfaces** – The chances of an open-faced jam sandwich landing face down on a floor, are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.

**Law of Logical Argument** – Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

**Brown's Law of Physical Appearance** – If the clothes fit, they're ugly.

**Oliver's Law of Public Speaking** – A closed mouth gathers no feet.

**Wilson's Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy** – As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it.

**Doctors' Law** – If you don't feel well and make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there you'll feel better. But don't make an appointment, and you'll stay sick. This has been proven over and over with taking children to the pediatrician.



### I'M ON A COMMITTEE

Oh, give me some pity, I'm on a committee  
Which means that from morning to night  
We attend and amend and contend and defend  
Without a conclusion in sight.

We confer and concur, we defer and demur  
And reiterate all of our thoughts  
We revise the agenda with frequent addenda  
And consider a load of reports.

We compose and propose, we suppose and oppose  
And the points of procedure are fun!  
But though various notions are brought up as motions  
Only terrible little gets done.

We resolve and absolve, but never dissolve  
Since it is out of the question for us.  
What a shattering pity to end our committee  
Where else could we make such a fuss?

## ACTIVITY CALENDAR

December 2013 - January 2014

**DECEMBER**

<b>1</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Men's Club</b>	<b>Breakfast (f,h)</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Thur</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Board of Director's</b>	<b>Meeting</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Social Club</b>	<b>Movie Time (p,h)</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>MILT</b>	<b>Workshop (f, h)</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Women's Club</b>	<b>Welcome Back Lunch (f, h)</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Men's Club</b>	<b>Gulfstream (p, a)</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Snowbirds</b>	<b>Meeting (f, h)</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Singles Trip</b>	<b>Harid's (p, a)</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Cancer</b>	<b>Brunch (p, h)</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Hadassah</b>	<b>Meeting (f, h)</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>9 - 4</b>	<b>Travel Club</b>	<b>Trip to Bonnet House</b>
		<b>2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Book Talks</b>	<b>Discussion (f, h)</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Social Club</b>	<b>Movie Time (p, h)</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Travel Club</b>	<b>Meeting (f, h)</b>
<b>26-27</b>	<b>Details in box on p. 27</b>		<b>Social Club</b>	<b>Grandkids Party</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>Tues</b>	<b>8:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Social Club</b>	<b>New Year's Eve Party</b>

**JANUARY**

<b>4</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Social Club</b>	<b>Movie Time (p, h)</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Men's Club</b>	<b>Breakfast (f, h)</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Thurs</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Board of Director's</b>	<b>Meeting</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Snowbirds'</b>	<b>Brunch (p, h)</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>MILT</b>	<b>Workshop</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Women's Club</b>	<b>Installation (f, h)</b>
		<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Investment Club</b>	<b>Discussion (f, h)</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Book Talks</b>	<b>Discussion (f, h)</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>ART SHOW</b>
		<b>4:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Singles'</b>	<b>Party (p, a)</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>Thurs</b>	<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Cancer</b>	<b>Meeting (f, h)</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Social Club</b>	<b>SHOWTIME (p, h)</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Hadassah</b>	<b>Meeting (f, h)</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Hadassah</b>	<b>Card Party (p, h)</b>

Watch channel 63 for additions, cancellations, or changes in date or time.

For additional information, please contact an officer of the appropriate club,  
not the Majestic Isles Office.

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 <b>Sold</b> 02/28/12 CONTRACT IN 19 DAYS	 <b>Sold</b> 11/12/12 CONTRACT IN 29 DAYS	 <b>Sold</b> 03/05/12 CONTRACT IN 30 DAYS
 <b>Sold</b> 10/29/12 CONTRACT IN 33 DAYS	 <b>Sold</b> 10/22/12 OVER ASKING PRICE	 <b>Sold</b> 09/28/12 FULL PRICE OFFER
 <b>Sold</b> 04/18/12 REALTOR FOR BUYER & SELLER	 <b>Sold</b> 09/05/12 CONTRACT IN 40 DAYS	 <b>Sold</b> 07/03/12 CONTRACT IN 43 DAYS

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