

Majestic Isles News

February, 2010

Volume 13

Issue 5

MAJESTIC ISLES LITTLE THEATER

presents

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SATURDAY
MARCH 27
8 p.m.

SUNDAY
MARCH 28
8 p.m.

\$5 p.p.



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financially self-sustaining.
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**MANAGER'S CORNER**

2010 started off with a bang...if that's what you want to call the record-breaking series of cold days we saw in January. Personally, I look forward to the cooler weather, but I don't look forward to the colder weather staying around for as long as it did. That's not why I moved to South Florida. I moved down here so I could laugh at all of the northern folks who are digging themselves out of record snowfalls, dealing with extreme cold temperatures, and kicking those pesky blocks of ice from the rear

of their tires. Some things I'll NEVER miss.

January's lengthy drop in temperature will have long-lasting effects, some of which are only beginning to show now. Most of the landscape plants are showing at least a little burning, and many have lost quite a few leaves. Even though some of the plants look horrible right now, don't take them out yet. Losing leaves is a defense mechanism for plants when subjected to extreme cold or heat, lack of water, or chemicals. Wait a few weeks until it warms up before you think about replanting your landscaping. You might be pleasantly surprised when you see new growth coming out of the stems of plants you thought were long dead.

Some of our snowbirds are going to be leaving soon, and residents will also be taking vacations; so I want to remind everyone about a few tasks to complete before leaving the property.

In addition to shutting off the water for the entire house, turn off the breaker for your water heater. In the unfortunate event that your water heater ruptures, shutting off the electricity will keep the coils from heating up with no water in the tank and possibly starting a fire. If you don't know how to do this, call me, and I'll be happy to come by and mark your breaker panel and show you where to turn off the water. If you're leaving for more than a week or so, it's also a good idea to call Pam Beach Water Utilities at 740-

4600 to have them shut off the water at the meter. If a break in the piping occurs between the water meter and your house, you get the bill for all of the water. Breaks before the meter are the responsibility of Palm Beach County Water Utilities. Call the same number about a week before you return to have the water turned back on.

Walk around your house and pick up all of the landscape decorations, especially if you won't be visiting the home during hurricane season. If a storm hits, no one will have time to retrieve these ornaments and store them

safely. Everything that is not bolted down – and sometimes things that are – can become projectiles in a storm. Do your absolute best to secure your property inside and out before you leave for an extended period of time. It will only make your return a more pleasant experience.

Ken Miller, Association Manager

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Unofficial Highlights of M.I. Board of Directors Meeting, January 7, 2010

Minutes of the January 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, Joel Rosenthal

* Committee Appointments:

COBWRA – Barbara Goodman
 Finance – Sy Kugelmas
 Grounds – Mort Goldstein
 Security – Al Traum
 Clubhouse and Pool – Harvey Galan
 Insurance – Janice Davidson
 ARC - Harvey Galan
 Painting – Harvey Galan
 Documents – Doris Davidoff
 Contracts – Saul Siegel.

Treasurer's Report, Sy Kugelmas

- * Our books and records have been fully transitioned to Prime's bookkeeping system.
- * Prime's Bookkeeper, Martina Wilkenson, has been at our offices twice this week and, with a cautious note, everything seems to be working fine.
- * All excess bank accounts have been closed. The only accounts we now have are with First Southern Bank, TD Bank and Capital One.
- * Coupon books were mailed on Dec 15th and received by members.
- * We have received 80% of the quarterly maintenance.
- * Our attorneys will now put one unit into foreclosure.
- * Our actual expenses and income are within 99% of 2009 budget.

Current cash position as of Jan 7, 2010

Cash in Operating Accounts	\$386,807
Cash in Reserve Accounts	<u>140,904</u>
Total cash position	\$527,711

Current statement of operations for the year 2009:

Total revenues	\$1,777,742
Operating and owners expenses	- <u>1,642,654</u>
Net income before reserves	135,088
Transfers to reserves	- <u>116,656</u>
Net income over expenses	18,432

- * Our new Auditors, Gerstle, Rosen have been advised that our books & records are ready for 2009 Annual Audit.
- * We've requested audit be completed prior to 4/1/10
- * Amount owed vendors: \$3,674.25 to be paid this coming week.
- * Still forming a Finance Committee. No Meetings are scheduled right now.

Grounds Committee Report, Mort Goldstein

Motion to accept M&P's proposal for additional landscaping on Imperial Seas Island from guardhouse to 4-way stop at cost not to exceed \$8000 passed 6-1.

Clubhouse Committee, Harvey Galan

- * Locks have been changed on the pool equipment area.
- * Hartzell will repair several pool deck areas once it warms up.
- * Clubhouse Committee is working on adding to the upstairs renovation.

Documents Committee, Doris Davidoff

- * All members of the Documents committee are remaining and more residents have expressed interest in joining.
- * A report will be presented to the Board.

ARC Committee, Harvey Galan

- * Inspections of driveways and fences will start Friday, Jan. 15.
- * Painting will start soon. Hartzell is willing to make slight changes in colors of individual homes.

Insurance Committee, Janice Davidson

- * Plastridge has been notified of new Board positions. At the recommendation of Glenn Robinov of Prime, Plastridge is preparing loss history.
- * Any resident interested in joining the Insurance Committee should contact Janice Davidson.

Old Business

- Motion to allow each club to hold a maximum of 2 fundraisers in the clubhouse passed unanimously.
- Motion to rescind the previous vote by the Board to install video cameras failed 5-2.

New Business

- * Permission granted Janice Davidson to explore other insurance agents.
- * Motion to accept Maintenance Agreement Proposal from Symbiont for pool heaters and chillers passed unanimously.
- * Motion to hold Board workshops at 2 p.m. on first Monday of each month and Board Meetings at 7:30 p.m. the following Thursday, passed unanimously.
- * Advanced Mulch scheduled to start next application during last week in February.
- * All doors will remain locked and require clubhouse key.
- * Harvey Galan will be looking into new chairs for the lobby, and new chairs and lounges for the pool area.



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

By Joel Rosenthal



Congratulations to Harvey Galan, Sy Kugalmas and Doris Davidoff on their recent election to the Board of Directors (BOD). Doris will be the chairperson of the Documents Committee and should also be a big help with our office hardware and software. She will also be working on the new Wi-Fi for the clubhouse. Harvey Galan will be chairing the Clubhouse and Pool Committee, while Sy will once again chair the Finance Committee. Residents are encouraged to lend their expertise by joining the various committees. We thank Irene Weinstein for her service on the Board and Marge Chappell for her service to MI over many years. As residents, it is important that we all stay involved with the issues that come up.

The year 2010 will bring some changes to our community. Prime Management will be handling our bookkeeping. We have a new auditor and a new bank. We are looking into aesthetic and functional improvements to our entrance. A new security camera system will be installed at the front gate. Tree trimming, mulch application and tennis court improvements are underway.

The days and times of our meetings have also been changed. The Board of Directors will meet for a workshop at 2 p.m. the first Monday of each month and the regular meeting will take place on Thursday evening of that same week at 7:30 p.m. We hope that this new schedule will encourage better attendance.

Remember to watch channel 63 and our web site for up-to-date MI news. The BOD is here to serve you, the residents, but we must have your input if we are to know what you need.

I wish you all a healthy and happy 2010.



**CITIZEN OBSERVER PATROL
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By Ken Keller, Captain

Let’s hope the very cold weather has passed.

With warmer weather, many of you will start to keep your garage doors open during the day and early evening. At the same time, your cars are there – unlocked, they are an invitation for a “crime of opportunity,” a type of crime prevalent in Florida.



Please do not become a victim. Lock your car. Lock your doors. Use your alarm.

GOOD AND WELFARE

GET WELL

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Laura Buchwalter | Betty Kula |
| Marge Chappell | Judy Markowitz |
| Lew Friedland | Doris Robin |
| Jack Greene | Marvin Sorkin |
| Josh Katz | Bernice Sultan |

SYMPATHY

To Alice Schultz on the loss of her husband, Joseph.
To the family of Roslyn Wolf.

MESSAGES

Many thanks to all my friends and neighbors for your good wishes during my hospital stay.

Eileen Mehlman

My sincere thanks to my friends and neighbors who called, visited or sent cards after my recent surgery. Knowing people care certainly hastened my recovery.

Val Petroff

I want to thank the community for your outpouring of love, support, visits, cards and donations during my recent hospital stay. I’m on the mend.

Irwin Shaneson

Thanks to all my Majestic Isles friends and neighbors for the wonderful welcome upon my return home after my recent spinal surgery in New York. Recuperating here is the best.

Roslyn Talve

Please note: We reserve the right to edit for length (30 word maximum) and clarity. Submit items to Elaine Jay by email at ElainJay@aol.com with Good and Welfare as the subject.

Highlights of the January 20, 2010 COBWRA Meeting

The December meeting of the Coalition of Boynton West Residential Associations was held at Platina.

Gary Nikolits, PBC Property Appraiser

Mr. Nikolits described the Florida laws he must follow in doing his job. He stated he does not set the taxes. Taxes are set by the taxing agencies. He sets the taxable valuations used to calculate your property taxes.

* By Florida law, property values are estimated as of January 1 of each year and based upon trends seen in the previous year. Three values are tracked: Market Value, Assessed Value and Taxable Value.

* Market Value is the price at which a property could be sold, using comparable sales to set market value.

* Assessed Value is the Value as restricted by the Save Our Home 3% cap on increases for Homestead Property or the 10% cap on non-Homestead Property.

* Taxable Value is Assessed Value minus exemptions. This is the value upon which taxes are levied.

* The Property Appraiser estimates the Market Values as of Jan 1, applies benefits such as Save Our Homes, then applies any appropriate exemptions and reports the Taxable Values to taxing authorities on July 1.

* Taxing authorities make a budget to get the number of dollars needed from property taxes. The total dollars budgeted needed is divided by the total of all taxable values to get the Tax Rate, usually expressed as millage.

* Tax Rate X Taxable Value = Your Property Taxes.

* For 2010, Nikolits expects Taxable Values to keep going down so the taxing authorities will have to raise the Tax Rates to collect the same dollars as in 2009. With a smaller Tax Base, this means higher taxes.

Congressional Primary Candidates Forum

Two Democrats and three Republications are vying for nomination as their party's candidates to replace Congressman Wexler who recently retired. The winners will be determined in the Feb 2 Primary Election. Bonnie Cohen, Chair, Legislative Affairs, asked the candidates this question: "If elected, on which Congressional committees would you like to serve?"

Ted Deutch (D): "I would like to serve on the Ways and Means Committee because they deal with Social Security and Medicare. I want to preserve Medicare. I would like also to serve on the Foreign Affairs Committee. We should prevent all investments in Iran."

Ben Graber (D): "I would like to serve on the Commerce Committee. This is where Health Care and Insurance will be reformed. As a physician, these are my main interests. I would also like to serve on the Foreign Relations committee to protect us against terrorism."

Joe Budd (R): "My first choice is the Budgeting Committee. With my finance and accounting background,

I believe in a balanced budget amendment. I also would like the Ways and Means Committee. It is not right that people on Social Security got no COLA while Congress gave themselves a 5% raise."

Curt Price (R): "My first choice is Foreign Affairs because I believe Israel is an important issue. Israel should determine its fate and they should keep their settlements. Second choice is the Budgeting Committee because we need to get our finances under control."

Edward Lynch (R) was invited but unable to attend.

Officials' Reports

BCC Chair, Commissioner Burt Aaronson was pleased that the new traffic signal at Flavor Pict and Hagen Ranch Roads is finally operational. He said he drives back and forth each day just to look at it.

Capt. Marty Bechtel, PBSO Dist. 6, reported **579 residential burglaries** and **831 vehicle burglaries** for year 2009. There have been several recent thefts of flat screen TVs from patios and poolsides. Be warned!

David Horowitz, new Chief, Fire Rescue, Battalion Four, reported they are testing a system to change traffic lights as Fire Rescue vehicles approach an intersection.

COBWRA Reports

President Ken Lassiter reported the second COBWRA Evening Meeting will be Monday, March 1, 7:00 pm at the West Boynton Library. Evening meetings are for people whose schedules prevent them from attending morning COBWRA meetings. This program will include 3 speakers and a panel of four experts to address helping our young people deal with their problems.

Bethesda Memorial Hospital is still open to scheduling a presentation in your community about the new Bethesda West Hospital to be built on the NE corner of US441 and Boynton Beach Blvd. Call 736-9678 for your date.

Gerry Morrison, Growth Management Chair, described a proposed new community on Hypoluxo Road west of Military Trail, next to Albertson's grocery. Isola Bella Isles includes 253 zero lot family homes, 161 family condos and a 200-child day care center. The condos are Workforce Housing for families with incomes of \$40,000 and up for a family of four. The proposed development was approved by the delegates.

Joan Brunswick, Health & Flu Shots Chair. The committee completed the H1N1 Vaccine Clinics with 4,511 people from 47 communities receiving shots.

Future Meetings (Open to the public)

Feb 2, 6:30 pm: Growth Management at PBSO Dist. 6

Mar 1, 7:00 pm: COBWRA Evening Meeting at West Boynton Library, 9451 Jog Road. Panel of experts discussing, "Helping our young people deal with their problems." All Delegates and Alternates welcome.

—Ken Lassiter for COBWRA Communications
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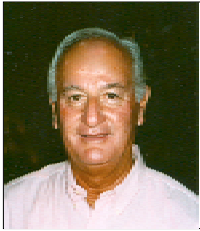
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MEET THE NEWSLETTER STAFF



Stan Davidson has written over 100 “Gardening in the Isles” articles for our newsletter. His interest in maintaining his lawn and the many shrubs, fruit trees and foundation plantings around his home. Stan’s first love in his garden was his roses, his hanging baskets and containers of vegetables.... (He loved it all.) His garden received a Garden of the Month award from the Pleasant Hills Gardening Club.

Stan served on the M.I. Board of Directors for six years, during four of which he was responsible for maintaining and enhancing our properties. He was instrumental in M.I. being the county’s first Home Owner’s Association to receive the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program Award for its landscaping.

Upon moving to Majestic Isles, Stan became interested in gardening in south Florida and volunteered as a docent at the Mounts Botanical Garden. He soon enrolled in the University of Florida’s Master Gardeners Program and graduated as a Master Gardener in June 1999. For the past 10 years, as a Master Gardener for the Palm Beach County Extension Service, he has volunteered over 2000 hours answering inquiries from gardeners throughout the county via a telephone hotline. Recently he contributed to the international scene by being quoted extensively in a New Zealand gardening magazine, *Alfresco*.

Over the past two years, he has written numerous articles on gardening that have been published in the Sun Sentinel Forums. He expects to publish a book entitled, “Gardening within the Gated Community,” which will include many of his articles. The preface will acknowledge the M.I. residents who have faithfully read his newsletter articles and enhanced their properties using information he provided. He will dedicate the book to his lovely wife, Janice.

Stan enjoys both gardening and writing about it. He plans to continue in this capacity to provide a Happy Gardening ending message to all the readers of our newsletter.

Do you have a special interest that would make a good column for the newsletter? We’re always looking for new features.

IN THE WORKS

By Harvey Galan



Because of the cold weather, the start of house painting and roof cleaning has been delayed until sometime in February. Check the bulletin board in the rear lobby of clubhouse to see if you are on this year’s list.


A new committee has been formed to finish decorating the second floor of the clubhouse. We plan to improve the appearance of the rooms with window treatment and artwork.

When Comcast finishes the necessary installation work, WiFi will be available at the library for everyone who wishes to use this new program.


Michael L. Levine
M.D., F.A.C.S.

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Gardening in the Isles

By
Stan Davidson



Last December, I was asked for information pertaining to the hedges that we grow in south Florida. To my surprise, the inquiry came from Ms. Debbie Lyttle, a roving reporter for a New Zealand gardening magazine entitled *Alfresco*. While on assignment in Florida, she was impressed and interested in the variety and the manicured shapes of hedges growing in here. Let me share with you the contributions of a West Palm Beach landscaper, Jorge Sanchez, and of myself that will be published in *Alfresco* magazine in New Zealand:

“Generally hedges have a number of purposes.” says Jorge Sanchez. “They clarify property boundaries, act as barriers to livestock and a buffer to visual pollution. They are used to reduce traffic noise, act as windbreaks and can be an effective form of security. In landscape design, they create distinctive lines and when kept below knee height were used to create formal borders and knot gardens, popular in Europe during the 16th and 17th centuries.

“But more than anything else, the hedges of Palm Beach are planted for privacy. Jorge is a local and renowned landscape architect of the firm Sanchez and Maddux whose creative work is the subject of a recently published book, “*The Civilized Jungle*.” It peeks into the estates behind the Palm Beach hedges; groves of banyan trees, latticework of jasmines, boxwood parterres filled with begonias, terraced pools with distressed coquina paving, the quiet splashing of wall fountains, the sultry scent of yang yang trees and the placement of urns, obelisks and jars, as well as unique statuary and Spanish tiles.

“As for the art of growing hedges, Master Gardener Stan Davidson, who resides in Majestic Isles, a gated community in Palm Beach County, described them as relatively easy to grow. They don’t take a lot of nurturing. They are fast growing, about one foot a

year. They don’t need nurturing like a rose or an orchid.

“Stan agrees that the most common hedge is the ficus which is extremely durable in the tropics. Thick and dense they grow fast and can be pruned to a formal look.

“However, he warns there are several disadvantages to ficus hedges. To control the white fly, contact and systemic sprays are required. Also, the ficus has an invasive root structure, especially if grown over six feet tall. It can then undermine concrete paving and wreak havoc on swimming pool plumbing.

“As for hedge possibilities, Stan suggests the ixora for its bright orange flowers and a Florida native, the silver buttonwood, which has long, leathery, frosted green leaves. Native hedges are promoted by Palm Beach County, since they require less water and are less prone to pests and diseases than the non-native hedges.

“The flowers of hibiscus hedges, he says, are very pretty, but if the formal look is desired, the blossoms may end up pruned off prematurely during the shaping. Other hedging plants he recommends are the Indian hawthorn, cocoplum, and the low growing gold mound duranta and the low growing green island ficus. Stan believes that the ideal height for a hedge is six feet especially with Florida’s hurricane season. Hurricanes can certainly cause some damage. When Wilma came through in 2005 some top-heavy hedges flopped over. Of those, some were able to be rescued by lifting them back into place.”

It was an honor for me to be quoted as this magazine is one of the leading gardening publications in New Zealand, featuring leading edge landscapes, design ideas, garden art and crafts from around the world.

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FLAVORS OF FLORIDA

By Donna Shaneson

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www.delraylibrary.org

As part of the Armchair Travel Series, Joyce Bruch will talk on "Driving the Baltic Countries" on Feb. 3 at 2 p.m.

Barry Gross will lead a discussion of Great Books on Friday from 10 to 11:30 a.m at the library. To order materials, call 1-800-222-5870. The Feb. 5 selection will be Hume's "Of Personal Identity." The book for Feb. 12 will be Nietzsche's "The Spoke Zarathustra."

Tickets for the Sunday Musical Matinee Series at 2 p.m. are \$15 per person, or \$40 for the series. They may be picked up at the circulation desk. On Sunday, Feb. 7 at 2 p.m., pianist Fedora Horowitz and Flutist Jeanne Turcant will entertain.

The Delray Beach Public Library has an evening book club for those who work or are too busy during the day. The club meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. On Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 6 p.m., the selection will be "The Girl Who Played Go" by Susan Sa.

Bell Hood will appraise items at an Antique Appraisal Show on Thursday, Feb. 11 at 2 p.m. There is no charge to find out whether your item is trash or treasure.

The library's documentary series will feature "Roger & Me" by director Michael Moore on Thursday, Feb. 11 at 1 p.m. The films are free and open to all.

Many of us have recently discovered we are deficient in vitamin D. The library will present a review of Vitamin D research at 2 p.m. on February 20.

The Kravis Center
701 Okeechobee Blvd
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General Information: 561-833-8300

During February, opera fans can enjoy the Kravis Center production of Mozart's "Don Giovanni."

The Society for Four Arts
2 Four Arts Plaza
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561-655-7226

The Metropolitan Opera is shown live in HD at many movie houses and other venues, including the Society for the Four Arts. The following operas will be shown in their entirety at the Ester B. O-Keefe Gallery. Tickets are \$22.

* February 6 at 1 p.m.: "Simon Boccanegra" by Verdi with Placido Domingo. The opera runs 3 hours, 45 minutes with 2 intermissions.

* February 27 at 1 p.m.: Verdi's "Aida.," which runs 4 hours with 2 intermissions..

The American Red Cross Designer Show House at 1125 North Flagler Drive
West Palm Beach
561- 833-7711
www.redcrossshowhouse.org

The Designer Show House, located in the historic section of West Palm Beach in the Providencia Park neighborhood, will be open to the public through February 14. The show features designs of both local artists and nationally known designers. Tickets are \$30 with special pricing available for groups of 10 or more. The show is open Monday-Saturday from noon to 4:00 p.m.

What's so funny?



To find out, see the box on page 25.



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HOLIDAY SEASON PART 2

By Phyllis M. Cohen



If you blinked the last week of December, you may have missed the transformation that occurred in the media and the stores as Christmas and Chanukah disappeared from sight and the February holidays were ushered in. Gone were the red and green of Christmas and the blue and white of Chanukah to be replaced by pink and white and red hearts and flowers and fat little cupids.

Ah, Valentine's Day, a day to celebrate true love, and to make up for any omissions or oversights that may have happened in December. If you gave your spouse a crockpot or flannel nightgown for Christmas, or your significant other a toilet bowl plunger or book on dieting, you have a chance to atone and regain their good wishes by plying them with chocolates and flowers, bustiers from Victoria's Secret and gold chains and bracelets. Like Halloween, long regarded as a children's holiday, Valentine's Day has grown into a commercialized, over-blown gift extravaganza. Once upon a time, it was strictly an event to celebrate affection and love between spouses, girl friends and boy friends, special friends or would be sweethearts. In school, your teacher decorated a Valentine mailbox made out of a shoebox or carton. Homemade cards and notes or an occasional purchased card would be slipped in to be delivered to classmates. Most teachers always made sure there were a few cards for the less popular kids so that everyone had a card or two to open. Someone's mother baked heart shaped cookies and smart husbands and boyfriends made sure to stop at the store for a bunch of flowers or a box of Whitman's candy to bring home.

But like Topsy, Valentine's Day has just "grewed." You can buy cards for every person in your life, as well as your dog or cat, your boss and mother-in-law. Somewhere, I'm sure, there are cards for your ex-husband, the boss who fired you, and the vicious neighbor next door. In short, the present standard of political correctness means that no one can be excluded or rejected in this modern day "love in." Kyra Sedgwick undoubtedly has a card for Julianna Margulies congratulating her on winning the Golden Globe award Kyra coveted, Jon Goselin must still send a card to Kate, Rush Limbaugh probably will send President Obama a card extolling his stiff upper

lip and Joe Lieberman must get a valentine from the Democratic party reminding him of their previous love affair.

But Valentine's Day is not the only holiday that has changed. Not too long ago, the birthdays of Presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln occupied their own place on the February calendar. Every school child knew that February 12 was Lincoln's birthday and spent his social studies period making log cabins or reciting the Gettysburg Address. On February 22, everyone would have George Washington's picture clipped from the Sunday newspaper magazine section to display in class and Parson Weem's tale of the famous cherry tree incident would be debunked while Washington's bravery at Valley Forge would be remembered. Then the two holidays were welded into a single Monday holiday observance good for a three-day weekend and selling cars and appliances. All the presidents, theoretically, would be honored, or so the thinking went. But like Valentine's Day, in honoring everyone, you seem to honor no one.

Fortunately, one holiday remains untainted by commercialism, gift giving, and the need for three-day weekends. Groundhog Day retains its pristine origins and traditions. The top-hatted officials still await the emergence of the groundhog on February 2, and to date, no one has suggested that Punxsutawney Phil be paired with a female groundhog, Punxsutawney Phyllis (no relation to me) for equal rights' sake. Of course, you can buy on the web a host of hats, stuffed animals and other junk to mark the celebration. The best way to celebrate may be to just rent that hilarious Bill Murray movie, "Groundhog Day," and sit back and relax.

And if the February holidays aren't enough to restore your spirits from the post Christmas blues, take heart, the Saint Patrick's Day shamrocks and leprechauns are already lurking in the stores with the Easter bunny and Easter baskets right behind them.



Look for Josh Katz' column, "More than the Big Band Era," in next month's issue of the newsletter.

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INVESTORS DISCUSSION GROUP

By Al Silverman, Facilitator



A review of the many stocks mentioned at our meetings over the past year, finds that most have risen in price from 25% to 50%. That sounds good until you notice that many growth issues have also grown by a similar amount. You may conclude that, during this period, you could have achieved similar results with many mutual funds or by throwing darts. Well, that may be so. However, the stocks we have talked about produced predictable income of 8% to 16% in addition to the above-mentioned growth.

Does that mean such yields are still available? As we have discussed in the last few meetings, as the market value rises, the calculated yield reduces even when the dividend remains the same. The current high yields of these or similar securities are now in the range of 6% to 12%---still not very shabby. However, we have climbed the ladder of risk to attain these levels because of their much higher prices. Are they now dangerous to hold? That may be a matter of opinion but they may require a greater degree of watchfulness due to their greater volatility.

In order to stay on a lower rung of the ladder of risk, our guest speaker, Walter Bieber, who has substantial experience in the investment arena, presented a review and analysis of Preferred Stocks, fixed income securities which may be suitable for retirees. Fred Stein then talked about some Mutual Funds that had a good long-term track record with attractive total return.

We try to evaluate the various types of securities available and protect ourselves financially in the light of the current struggles between the Bulls and the Bears as they are influenced by these questions:

- * How will the Government cope with the rising deficit?
- * Are we headed into inflation in the short term or the long term?
- * Does the price of gold indicate potential inflation or is it an indicator of a crisis in government or an economic and/or financial crisis?

* Will current high unemployment persist thru this year before recovering or will it continue thru next year and possibly beyond?

* That affects inflation-- that affects interest rates -- that may affect jobs---and round and round we go. Is this scenario correct?

* How can we protect ourselves financially? Obviously, we want to protect our principal-- produce income -and provide some growth at least equal to the inflation rate, now and in the longer term.

One class of securities that seems to approach these objectives are publicly traded Limited Partnerships (MLP). They include mid-stream energy assets -oil and gas pipelines, storage tanks, terminals, coal, ships, etc., that move energy from producer to user. Instead of paying income taxes, they pass approximately 85% to 90% of their cash flow thru to the investors. Most of that income is tax deferred due to depreciation but taxes will be payable based upon the reduced cost basis when the MLP is sold. Consult your tax advisor for more details. Examples of these securities were discussed for further evaluation and research as to suitability, etc.

We have often used the expression "**Do your own research**" at our meetings. At the next meeting on Monday Feb.8, 2010, at 4:00 p.m., the primary subject on the agenda will be "How to do elementary research with a computer, using Yahoo and other sites". It is relatively easy once you know how. While no system is perfect, this will give you a better understanding as well as help to evaluate the suitability of the investments you may be considering.

AH YES,
REMEMBER THAT THERE
IS A REASON FOR EVERYTHING
AND FOR EVERYTHING
THERE IS A REASON.
IF THERE ARE ERRORS
IN THIS PAPER,
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WILL HAVE SOMETHING WITH
WHICH TO FULFILL THEMSELVES!



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TAX CORNER

By Mel Burstein



To those of you who have always asked the question "When will I receive my information relating to the interest, dividends, and miscellaneous income that I have to report on my tax return?" Form 1099, which indicates the amount of income, earned in the prior year, used to be due no later than January 31 of each year. The law has been changed and the issuers of 1099's now have until February 15th.

Brokers beginning in 2011 will now have to report on Form 1099-B the tax basis of stock sold by its clients. The reporting period begins with the sale of stock purchased after 2010. Brokers will have to indicate on the 1099-B whether the sale resulted in a short term or long term gain or if the sale was a short sale. Transferring stock purchased after 2010 to a new broker will not change the reporting rule because the law also requires the transferring broker to report the basis to the new broker.

The Medicare premiums have increased for 25% of Medicare part B recipients. For singles with Adjusted Gross Income of more than \$85,000.00 and for married with Adjusted Gross Income of more than \$170,000.00 the premium has increased from \$96.40 to \$110.50 per month. There will be no change in the premiums for the other 75%.

Prior to 2010 when you inherited property, your basis in the property was determined based upon the **Fair Market** of the property at the time of death or the value of the property six months after death. The executor of the estate would be the one to make that decision. It is referred to as a stepped-up basis. The result of using the stepped-up basis was that all prior gains would escape taxes. In 2010 and only for 2010 there is **no estate tax and no step-up in basis**. Instead, the basis of inherited property will be determined by using the decedent's income basis (in most cases its cost) plus the executor is allowed to add \$1.3 million to that basis. If assets are left to a surviving spouse an additional \$3 million can be added to the basis. This tax law is scheduled to disappear in 2011 when the estate tax credit returns to being \$1 million. The step-up basis rules also return in 2011, meaning that fair market value or alternate value will be used in determining basis.

In a **Qualified Roth Distribution** the earnings portion of the distribution is tax-free. **A distribution is qualified** if made **after** a 5-year holding period, which begins on the first day of the first year for which contributions were made and **one of the exceptions** below apply. The exceptions are

- *Taxpayer is at least 59 1/2 years old
- *The distribution is made due to death or disability
- *The distribution is made to a qualified first-time homebuyer.

The five-year holding period for a beneficiary of a **Roth Ira** includes the time held by the decedent. A **distribution** that does not meet the qualified distribution requirements is deemed to be a non qualified distribution and all the distributions made are treated as made first from contributions and are nontaxable to that extent; distributions in excess of contributions (earnings) are taxable and may be subject to a 10% early withdrawal penalty.

Seniors who are employed, have earned income, and are subject to withholding tax are eligible for the "Making Work Pay" credit. The credit is a refundable credit up to \$ 400 for singles and \$800 for married taxpayers who file joint returns. Action taken by most employers relating to this credit was to reduce the withholding tax on their employees' paychecks. The actual tax rates did not change. The result of this was that when the seniors who are subject to this file their 2009 tax returns they will find that they owe more tax than they normally would or their refunds will be less. Those seniors that receive a private pension may be in the same position as those who have earned income. The above taxpayers **in order to receive the tax benefit for 2009 will have to file schedule m with their 2009 tax return.**

Remember the required minimum distribution from your IRA is back. In 2010 you will have until December 31, 2010 to take your required distribution. Failure to take the proper distribution can result in a penalty of 50% of the difference between what you should have taken and what your actual distribution was. You will also owe the income tax on the distribution taken.

Remember when...

Money issues were handled by whoever was the banker in "Monopoly?"

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FRIENDSHIP

By Thelma Mechanic

The television show "Friends" exhibited many kinds of friendship. These TV friends depended on each other under various circumstances. Friendships are vital to our existence, but what is a friend? Basically, as I see it, a friend is a person who cares about you. It is important to have another (or many) person in our lives who cares about what happens to us and to share joys and excitement, as well as offer companionships and understanding during bad times. Cole Porter said it best!



"If you're ever in a jam - here I am
If you're ever in a mess - SOS"

With a good friend you can be completely and honestly yourself while both of you are comfortable. You can talk about your deepest fears and know that your friend cares. When something good happens to you, your friend is happy too (not jealous). Sure, you can disagree with your friend - and that's okay, just as long as you respect each other's feelings in the process.



"If you're so happy, you land in jail - I'm your bail
If you're down a well, ring my bell"

Friendship, like everything worth attaining in life, requires effort and attention. In my high school autograph book, my friend Helen (yes, we're still friends) wrote: "To have a friend, you need to be a friend." We've accepted each other with caring and honesty since our teen years.



"It's friendship, friendship - just a perfect blendship
When other friendships are soon forgit, ours will still be it"

Are you there when the other person needs you? Sometimes you have to give up doing what you want to do to help a friend or neighbor. For example: driving him to a medical appointment, or doing some marketing if he/she is homebound.



"If you're ever down a well, ring my bell
If you're ever up a tree, just phone me"

It's okay to share your ups and downs with a friend. Everything isn't always fine. You might want to tell it like it is, "I'm really worried about my medical report." You needn't always agree with your friend's ideas or politics. If you see that you are wrong, be honest and admit it. You might want to attack your friend's views - but don't attack him/her. Mistakes show that you are human. Apologizing and accepting an apology proves that you care.



"If you ever lose your teeth when you're out to dine, borrow mine
If they ever block your eyes, put me wise"

Above all, one doesn't take too much advantage of a friend. It's okay to allow others to occasionally do things for you, but don't allow yourself to become dependent. In this regard it's best to stay in the middle of the road, if possible.



"If they ever cook your goose, turn me loose
And if they ever put a bullet through your brain, I'll complain
It's friendship, friendship, just a perfect friendship
When other friendships are up the crick; ours will still be slick."

On a more sober note by Anne Cummins:

Do not save your lovely speeches
For your friends till they are dead
Do not write them on their tombstones
Speak them rather, now instead.



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INTRODUCING

Gil and Barbara Portnoff

By Claire Deveney



Gil and Barbara Portnoff moved to Majestic Isles three months ago. They are charming, welcoming, soft spoken, and talented. They were both born and raised in Philadelphia.

Gil attended South Philadelphia High School for Boys and graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, with a Bachelor of Science degree in pharmacy. The college, now known as the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, is a private, coed university founded in 1821 as the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy – the first school of pharmacy in North America.

Shortly after graduation he was drafted and served two years in the U.S. Army and did basic training with the 101st Airborne in South Carolina and worked at the Regimental Headquarters of the 23rd Infantry in Alaska on all special orders.

Gil and Barbara were introduced by Gil's aunt and Barbara's mother. This June they will celebrate their 47th wedding anniversary.

Gil worked for over five decades in local, retail pharmacies in the Philadelphia area. He began in mainline suburban Philadelphia, which he explains is the third wealthiest zip code of residences in the U.S. He owned and operated three pharmacies, one near Villanova University, one in Drexel Hill, and the Radnor Pharmacy that he ran for 24 years. After he retired, he continued to work part time as a pharmacist three days a week and enjoyed the professional work and talking to customers.

Barbara started dance at 11. She graduated from Germantown High. She travelled from home to the center of Philadelphia by taking a bus, subway and a trolley. The trip to dancing school took an hour each way. She recalls that her dance classes met after school everyday from 7 to 9 p.m. and she would get home at 10 o'clock. She took ballet, tap and modern jazz. "I learned quickly," explains Barbara.

"All my school work and studying was done on the subway or buses," relates Barbara. As she progressed she helped the dance teacher twice a week with classes for the younger children.

Her junior high and high school gym teachers were dance majors. One gym teacher told her, "You are a

dancer!" Students interested in dance could come to school at 7:50 a.m. and take ballet for gym credit. "This allowed us to leave school an hour earlier each day so we could do homework and attend dance classes at night, Barbara said.

"We had to keep our grades up. All of us loved dancing and what we were doing. The public school was so helpful in reinforcing our passion for taking dance lessons and learning dance," said Barbara.

As Barbara was completing her senior year, her dance teacher recommended to her that she try out for the world famous Radio City Rockettes.

"Another classmate and I tried out," she said. "I had a personal interview and then had to dance tap and ballet combinations. Then they taught us some routines and watched us go through our steps. We were there to have fun. We both got letters that we were accepted. That May, I was 18 years old and I said good-bye to my mother and became a Rockette!"

Barbara had a varied and fascinating career as a dancer. She performed several months with the Rockettes in New York City, then signed with an agent to do a theatrical road show that traveled the east coast and returned to New York. She also toured Canada from Montreal and Toronto through Edmonton to Calgary performing at major entertainment centers.

Back in New York where she continued her training, she met Gower Champion and Rex Harrison at the Central Plaza rehearsal studios. Gower Champion invited her to join the cast of "Bye Bye Birdie" and she performed in the show after it opened on Broadway. Barbara met many other famous show business performers, including Robert Duvall and Frank Sinatra. She also worked with Bing Crosby. The list is too long to be described in this article. After she married, Barbara owned a dancing school for children ages 3 to 18 for 46 years.

The Portnoff's have two grown daughters, Nina, who lives in the Philadelphia area and has four daughters, and Candace who lives with her husband, Zak, on 68 acres in Vermont.

Gil and Barbara are members of M.I.L.T. and Barbara worked backstage at the M.I.L.T. November production of "The Retrial of Harvey Bernstein." Gil has joined the Men's Club, and Barbara is a member of the Women's Club and Hadassah. They are enjoying their new life in Florida and look forward to exploring their professional interests in pharmacy and dance, respectively, making new friends and discovering new interests and places.

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MAJESTIC ISLES LITTLE THEATER General Meeting, January 10, 2010

By Selma Friedman



The great Russian author Anton Chekhov used themes of imagination, guilt, gossip and fear of gossip in his short stories. Seena Calder presented "Chuckles With Chekhov," readings based on 3 of his stories. The first tale was "Overspiced" followed by "That Fresh Kid" and the concluding tale was "The Scandal Monger."

Warmly participating as the readers were Ed Bloom, Seena Calder, Doris Davidoff, Ron Gurvitz, Isabel Lubchansky, Mike Ost, Al Silverman and Fred Stein.

It was interesting to learn that Chekhov was also a doctor. At the age of 26 he fell ill with tuberculosis and suffered of it for the rest of his life, dying at the age of 44. He was also known as a great humanitarian.

February 14 is our next meeting, titled "One More Time." This delightful musical that has been planned for your enjoyment.

Please sign the attendance sheet in the back lobby to help our Hospitality Committee plan for the evening. And remember MILT's big show for March, "Send Me No Flowers."

Be sure to catch the
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A hypochondriac who will
Keep you in stitches

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MAJESTIC ISLES HADASSAH

By Bobbe Greene



A lovely day is planned at Benvenuto's on **Wednesday February 3**, when we will hold our Annual luncheon and card/game party. A varied menu is being offered and there will be many vendors to catch your attention. Doris Robin and Roberta Rabinowitz are chairing the event that will be offered at \$33 per person.

The Florida Atlantic region of Hadassah is celebrating Tu B'Shevat on **February 1, 2010**, when a lovely day is planned at the American Orchid Society in Delray. Admission is \$18 and each participant will receive a sapling for his or her home or garden.

On **Monday, February 15** at 3 p.m. the Hadassah Study Group will observe Purim with the narration of the Purim story, a Purim beauty contest and refreshments. Call Judy Radin or Phyllis Cohen if you would like to participate.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, February 22**. Fran Ost is arranging a Women's Seder in celebration of the forthcoming Passover holiday.

It is not too late to honor Adele Freitag, our chapter's Woman of Valor, in the tribute journal that is being compiled. One line is \$18; ½ page is \$50 with a maximum of 3 names and a full page is \$100 with a maximum of 6 names. Marge Rosin is chairing this region event at the Broken Sound Country Club on **Sunday, March 14**.

Rosh Chodesh, the celebration of the new moon, will be on **Tuesday, February 16**, at 10 a.m. at the Morikami picnic area.

On **February 14** from 1 to 4 p.m., Young Judea is celebrating its 100th birthday with a party at the South County Civic Center on Jog Road in Delray. There will be activities for everyone who is "Young at Heart" and refreshments will be served.

SAVE THE DATE:

March 22, Donor Luncheon at the Boca Point Country Club

April 27, Fashion show by Coldwater Creek in our clubhouse.

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M.I. CANCER RESEARCH UNIT

By Bobbe Greene

Seena Calder and Selma Friedman deserve a big round of applause for the fabulous, sold-out Sunday Brunch they chaired in December. Thank you ladies for a job well done.

The next general meeting will be on Thursday, **February 25** at 12 noon in the clubhouse. A light lunch will be served followed by the very talented Olympic Heights High School Chorus.

Did you get your tickets for "Singing in The Rain" yet? The show at the Broward Stagedoor Theatre will be on Saturday **March 6** at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$32 each.

The 10th Annual Walk-A-Thon and Health Fair will be held on Saturday, **March 13, 2010** at the FAU-Boca Raton Campus. The program runs from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Registration is \$15.00 and includes a complimentary continental breakfast, a Tee-shirt, bottle of water, access to health fair with free health screenings, entertainment, and lectures by the Sylvester medical staff. For further info contact Enid (733-1187); Helen (733-4244); Sandy (742-5865) or Lois (742-8693).

Thursday, **March 25, 2010**, is Membership Appreciation Day. A hot Chinese Buffet luncheon will be served in our Clubhouse at 12 noon. The cost and entertainment will be announced shortly.

SAVE THE DATE: Meeting **April 29**.

TENNIS CLUB NEWS

By Bobby Blitman



It's a new year and we are looking forward to a new beginning. We will be voting for new board members at the January meeting.

The courts have been resurfaced. The new Har-Tru will be less strain on our joints - and maybe help our play? All residents are welcome to join the Tennis Club. Dues are \$10.

Remember the "Game's a Foot." Let's have fun and good sportsmanship.

WOMEN'S CLUB

By Barbara Roland

On January 12, we held our installation of officers. We want to thank Bonnie for doing the honors of installing our new board members. We had a delicious lunch from Famous Deli Market and were entertained by singer Mindy Mc Gee.

The joint Valentine's Day Party with the Men's Club has been cancelled.

Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2010 we will be going back to Murder On The Beach Bookstore. Price is \$25.00 including lunch, and a signed copy of the book by the author. Please put choice of lunch and dessert on your check. Flyers are in the back lobby.

Monday, March 8, 2010 we will have our Appreciation Luncheon at Boca Greens Country Club. On Monday April 12, 2010 we will have our Canasta Tournament. Please watch Channel 63 for further information on these events.

SNOWBIRDS

By Marilyn J. Levy

The Friday, Jan. 8, 2010 Snowbird general meeting was well attended. The club voted overwhelmingly not to disband. Not enough people signed up for the trip to Jonathan Dickerson State Park so the Feb. 26 trip has been cancelled. We want to thank Ellen Alexander for her work trying to organize the outing.

Everyone enjoyed the theater party to "42nd Street". After the show we had dinner at McDivot's Restaurant at the Carolina's Club that was near the theater. Bobbie and Jack Greene worked hard getting the tickets and handling the arrangements. We are grateful to them for their efforts.

The next business meeting is Friday, February 5, at 11 a.m. in the clubhouse. We will plan for the 2010-2011 year. Please attend. We need your input.

Our end of the year event will be on Wed., March 10 at the Pavilion Grille, formerly known as Tavern on the Greenery. The restaurant is located in Boca at 301 Yamato Road near Dixie Highway in the atrium of an office building. We will have a three-course dinner and live music for dancing.



AROUND AND AROUND THE INTERNET

Let's face it - English is a crazy language.

- * There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple.
 - * English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France.
 - * Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.
 - * We take English for granted.. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.
 - * And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese?
 - * Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?
 - * If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?
 - * In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell?
 - * How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.
 - * English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all.
 - * That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.*
- PS. - Why doesn't 'Buick' rhyme with 'quick'?

More quirks of the English language

- * There is a two-letter word that perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that is 'UP.'
 - * It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP? At a meeting, why does a topic come UP? Why do we speak UP and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report?*
 - * We call UP our friends. And we use it to brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver; we warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and some guys fix UP the old car. At other times the little word has real special meaning. People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses. To be dressed is one thing, but to be dressed UP is special.
 - * And this UP is confusing: A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP. We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night.
 - * We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP! To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4th of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions..
 - * If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more. When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP. When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP...*
- One could go on and on, but we'll wrap it UP.

STRIKES AND SPARES

By Dave Feinberg



The dinner dance will be on **Thursday, March 25, 2010**. The cocktail hour will start at 6 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

MEN**WOMEN****WEEK 15 – HIGH GAME**

Bert Stillman	168	Estelle Snyder	147
Fred Katz	159	Toni Kohn	135
Al Lynn	156	Elly Fox	125

WEEK 15 – HIGH SERIES

Bert Stillman	478	Estelle Snyder	402
Fred Katz	443	Toni Kohn	325
Al Lynn	427	Elly Fox	324

WEEK 16 – HIGH GAME

Bob Rosenhouch	175	Sandy Rosenhouch	140
Ted Shapiro	165	Sandy Gardner	138
Dave Feinberg	165	Estelle Snyder	133

WEEK 16 – HIGH SERIES

Bob Rosenhouch	476	Sandy Rosenhouch	380
Ted Shapiro	476	Sandy Gardner	381
Dave Feinberg	439	Estelle Snyder	360

WEEK 17 – HIGH GAME

Bob Rosenhouch	476	Sandy Rosenhouch	380
Ted Shapiro	476	Sandy Gardner	381
Dave Feinberg	439	Estelle Snyder	360

WEEK 17 – HIGH SERIES

Al Lynn	206	Toni Kohn	148
Bob Rosenhouch	195	Estelle Snyder	132
Dave Feinberg	181	Sandy Rosenhouch	133

WEEK 18 – HIGH GAME

Bob Rosenhouch	185	Eileen Mehlman	151
Bert Stillman	175	Estelle Snyder	363
Dave Feinberg	175	Ruth Rossi	134

WEEK 17 – HIGH SERIES

Bob Rosenhouch	185	Eileen Mehlman	151
Bert Stillman	175	Estelle Snyder	363
Dave Feinberg	175	Ruth Rossi	134

SINGLES SCENE

By Thelma Mechanic

Judging by the responses, a good time was had by all who attended the holiday party dinner. It was enjoyable and the surprise guest was a male stripper! The New Year's trip to Sarasota and Venice by bus included many exhibits, meals and a show. On January 9, a box lunch from Toojay's followed by one's game of choice involved many of the singles.

Coming Up:

February 7 (Sunday): 3:00 p.m. board meeting
4:00 p.m. Membership Meeting
Dinner following. Call Roberta for information: 736-6387

March 5 (Friday): 5:30 Board Meeting
6:30 Membership Meeting
28"Name that Tune". Prizes to the best team. Sponsored event.

April 10 (Saturday): Bruce Smirnoff, Rinker Playhouse, Sold Out

May 3 (Monday): Norton Museum with Docent; meet at clubhouse 1:15. Give your \$10 to Roberta if you've not already paid.

In the Works

Mystery Bus trip and possible trip to Branson.

THE MEN'S CLUB

By Joel Cohen



The Men's Club would like to plan a three or four day cruise sometime during the week of April 13 to the Bahamas. The costs will be determined shortly and will be on posted on channel 63 when we have final figures. We expect the cost to be between \$240 and \$300 per person, depending on the accommodations selected.

Before we can make final plans, we need to determine members' interest in such a trip. Please call Joel at 742-9695 if you would enjoy such a trip.

Our next BINGO game will be on Sunday, Feb. 21.

Our next Hard Rock Casino trip will be on Wednesday, March 24. Look for more details on channel 63 as we get closer to the date.

SOCIAL CLUB

By Arlene Koch and Joan Sorkin

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU AND THANK YOU AGAIN

Our functions and activities could not be possible without the help of our many volunteers. Our grandkids' activities held on Dec. 26 and 27 were very successful and the children had a wonderful time. There are pictures on our web site: www.majesticisles.com. Our helpers included: Estelle Snyder, Roberta Jaffie, Gerry Herman, Nancy and Teri Levitan, Betty Zeidler, Helen Benowich, Nancy Weiss, Fran Ost, Florence Cohen, Sylvia Fefferman, Joan Sorkin, Buddy Koch and Barbara Lader. The fishing buddies included: Marvin Sorkin, Sy Lubchansky, Sandy Dick and Morris Berman.

The New Year's Eve Party was a phenomenal success because of the hard work of Chairperson Doris Silverman and her competent assistants -- Rita Dick, Helen Genova, Arlene Koch, Barbara Lader, Mim Marder, Sheila Miller, Joan Sorkin, Bert Weinberg, and Irwin Zivitz. Equally important were Buddy Koch, Leo Miller, Alvin Silverman, Lee Katz and Michael Lippman. We hope to make all of our 2010 events just as great, but we cannot do it without your able assistance. If you would like to help, please call. We need you!

Our Social Club general meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 16 will begin at 7 p.m. and will feature "Dance Unlimited" a troop of forty students from nearby Lake Worth. This will be a very entertaining evening followed by coffee and... We hope you will attend and support the Social Club and our local youngsters.

MARCH GENERAL MEETINGS

Mar. 5	Fri.	11 a.m.	Snowbirds Newsletter staff
		4:30 p.m.	Singles
Mar. 7	Sun.	7:30 p.m.	Yiddish Club
Mar. 8	Mon.	4 p.m.	Investment Group
Mar. 17	Wed.	4 p.m.	Computer Club



MOVIES! MOVIES!

SATURDAY, FEB. 6 at 8 p.m.:

GRAN TURINO Walt Kowalski ([Clint Eastwood](#), who also directs), a curmudgeonly Korean War veteran, must confront his Hmong immigrant neighbors -- and his own long-held prejudices -- when the family's teenage son, Thao ([Bee Vang](#)), tries to steal Walt's beloved 1972 Gran Torino. Walt soon assumes the unlikely role of guardian angel to young Thao and his sister Sue ([Ahney Her](#)), both of whom are vulnerable to local gang influences.

SATURDAY, FEB. 20 at 8 p.m. MY LIFE IN

RUINS Love takes root amid the ruins of ancient Greece in this rom-com starring [Nia Vardalos](#) ([My Big Fat Greek Wedding](#)), [Richard Dreyfuss](#) and [Rachel Dratch](#). Greek-American travel guide Georgia (Vardalos) is so distracted by what's going wrong as she leads a motley crew of tourists through some of Greece's most historic sites that she almost misses out on a chance for romance with her hunky bus driver ([Alexis Georgoulis](#)).

BOOK TALKS & MORE

by Rita Leidner



On Wednesday, Feb. 17, at 2 p.m., we will have the pleasure of reviewing the novel "Sarah's Key" by Tatiana De Rosnay. Bonnie Golub will be our facilitator. This book is a profoundly moving novel.

The author's U.S. debut fictionalizes the 1942 Paris roundup and deportation of the Jewish community. An American journalist named Julia who is 45 years old is assigned to cover the 60th anniversary of this roundup. Just when you thought you might have read about every holocaust horror, a book will come along and shine a light upon yet another haunting wrong. "Sarah 's Key" is such a novel.

Don't miss this review. The book grabs your heart in the opening chapter and remains with you for a long time. All are invited to explore and enjoy this interesting review on Feb. 17 at 2 p.m.

ACTIVITY CALENDAR
January 1, 2010 – February 28, 2010



February

- Feb. 3, Wed.,** 11:30 a.m., Hadassah **Card Party at Benvenuto**
- Feb. 6, Sat.,** 8 p.m., Social Club, **Movie Night** (p, h)
- Feb. 7, Sun.,** 9:30 a.m., Men's Club **Breakfast** (p, h)
- Feb. 14, Sun.,** 7:30 p.m., M.I.L.T. (members free, others \$2, h)
- Feb. 15, Mon.,** 3 p.m., Hadassah, **Study Group** (f, h)
- Feb. 17, Wed.,** 2 p.m., Book Talks and More (f, h)
- Feb. 18, Thurs.,** 4 p.m., Tennis Meeting
- Feb. 20, Sat.** 8 p.m., Social Club, **Movie Night** (p, h)
- Feb. 21, Sun.,** 7 p.m., Men's Club, **Bingo** (p, h)
- Feb. 22, Mon.,** 11:30 a.m. Hadassah, **Women's Seder** (p, h)
- Feb. 24, Wed.,** 11:30, Women's Club, **Mystery Book Store** (p, a)
- Feb. 27, Sat.,** 8 p.m., Social Club, **Winter Show Series** (p, h)

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETINGS (see opposite page for March dates)

Feb. 5	Fri.	11 a.m.	Snowbirds Newsletter staff
Feb. 7	Sun.	4 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Singles Yiddish Club
Feb. 8	Mon.	4 p.m.	Investment Group
Feb. 16	Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Social Club
Feb. 17	Wed.	4 p.m.	Computer Club
Feb. 18	Thu.	4 p.m.	Tennis Club
Feb. 25	Thu.	12 noon	Cancer Unit

- Mar. 2, Tues.,** 11 a.m., Calendar meeting
- Mar. 6, Sat.,** 1 p.m. Cancer Unit, **"Singing in the Rain"** (p, a)
8 p.m. Social Club, **Movie Night** (p, h)
- Mar. 7, Sun.,** 9:30 a.m. Men's Club, **Breakfast** (p, h)
- Mar. 8, Mon.,** 12 noon, Women's Club, **Appreciation Luncheon** (p, a)
- Mar. 10, Wed.,** time TBA, Snowbirds, **Farewell Dinner Dance** (p, a)
- Mar. 13, Sat.** 9 a.m., Cancer Unit, **Walk-a-thon** (p, a)
- Mar. 14, Sun.,** 7:30 p.m., M.I.L.T., **Meeting and Elections**
- Mar. 15, Mon.,** 3 p.m., Hadassah, **Study Group** (f, h)
- Mar. 17, Wed.,** 2 p.m., Book Talks and More (f, h)
- Mar. 19, Fri.** 8 p.m. Social Club **Movie Night** (p, h)
- Mar. 21, Sun.** 8 p.m., Social Club, **Winter Show Series** (p, h)
- Mar. 22, Mon.** 11 a.m., Hadassah, **Donor Lucheon** (a)
- Mar. 24, Wed.** 10 a.m., Men's Club, **Casino trip** (p, a)
- Mar. 25, Thurs.** 12 noon, Cancer Unit, **Member Appreciation Luncheon** (p, h)
6 p.m., Bowling group, **Dinner** (p, a)
- Mar. 27 & 28, Sat. & Sun.,** M.I.L.T., **"Send Me No Flowers"** (p, h)

March

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

For additional information, please contact an officer of the appropriate club,
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f = free, p = paid, a = away, h = home

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