

The SAGE

The Newsletter of SAGE of South Florida

October 2020

HALLOWEEN – LET THE GHOUL TIMES ROLL

It's that time of the year – Halloween stores opening everywhere in vacant storefronts. Sadly, this year's festivities will be more somber, sober, and private due to the circumstances created by the pandemic. There will be no Wicked Manors street parade. Gay Christmas has been cancelled.

How did Halloween become a LGBTQ+ "high holiday"? University of Florida anthropologist Jerry Kugelmaas, in his 1994 book, *Masked Culture*, explains that historically, in a society where people felt shunned and inhibited about expressing who they truly are, Halloween was the one night of the year where flamboyant self-expression was encouraged and lauded. People had permission to wear clothing not associated with a given sexuality. Transgressive behavior and critiques of social norms were tolerated. By wearing a mask, you can drop the mask of respectability and be seen and heard.

The orthodoxy concerning the emergence of the Halloween street party traces the origin to San Francisco's Castro District in 1948, when Cliff's Variety Store held an annual Halloween festival for children which featured a costume contest. As the Castro became the center of that city's LGBTQ+ community, the children's event transmogrified into a wildly popular "adult" celebration. Soon, a Greenwich Village Halloween Pride Parade was launched in New York, attracting more than 200,000 participants by 1979. Similar observations of the holiday became the norm in West Hollywood, Key West, and other gayborhoods across the nation.

As acceptance of the LGBTQ+ community has grown over the years, so has the participation of the heterosexual population in Halloween celebrations. Halloween has become a time of unbridled revelry enjoyed around the world. It is a time to tamper one's defenses and prejudices and revel in each other's individuality. Now, any man can feel free to eat, drink, and be Mary.

So, this year, we will celebrate Halloween safely social-distanced. But next year? See you on the Drive!



SAGE BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS MONTH

The SAGE Board would like to acknowledge the following members whose birthdays are this month as well as any other member whose birthday that we don't have.
If, when you renewed your membership or became a new member you did not give us your birthday, you may call the office and leave the information at 954.634.7219 or e-mail us @ sagesofl@gmail.com.

First Name	Last Name	Birthday	First Name	Last Name	Birthday
JOEL	ANASTASI	Oct-02	TOMMASO	LEPORE	Oct-15
CARLOS A	MORAN	Oct-02	JIM	GROSS	Oct-16
KAY	DOCKERY	Oct-06	DAVID	KISTLE	Oct-19
WAYNE	SCHREBE	Oct-07	ALLEN	CHURCHMAN	Oct-20
RICHARD P	SMITH	Oct-07	DON	MACOMBER	Oct-20
LINDA	ALKOVE	Oct-08	JACKSON	HAVERLY	Oct-22
ED	BROWN	Oct-08	CARL	BARTON	Oct-23
RICHARD	WHITE	Oct-09	RICHARD E	HERMAN	Oct-25
BARRY	FEINSTEIN	Oct-11	JAY	BRUNDAGE	Oct-28
JUDITH	BOWLING	Oct-12	DONALD	MITCHELL	Oct-29
GEORGE	CASTRATARO	Oct-12	DICK	ANGEL	Oct-30
JOHN	LEYDEN	Oct-12	TOM	WHITEMARSH	Oct-30
ALLAN	HENDRICKS	Oct-13			

New Members

TED FISHER, ED KANE

If you have had an anniversary with SAGE for either 5, 10, 15 or 20 years and you have not received your pin, please call the SAGE office (954.634.7219) to pick it up.

SAGE OF SOUTH FLORIDA

OFFICERS

President: Patrick S. Vida
Vice President: Carl Barton
Secretary: Ken Goodman
Assistant Secretary: Michael Vita
Treasurer: Allen Churchman

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

John Chandler
 Lee Lawson
 Sal Orlando
 Marilyn Lamkay
 Kathy Macchio

VOLUNTEERS

Jean Arthurton Jean Johnson
 Hank Brooks Gene Majka
 Frank Cavanaugh Sonny Miller
 Philip Collier Ken Moore
 Marc Flanagan Frank Piasecki
 Jefy Gaines Norma Wingo

Lifetime Members

**BOB ADAMS – ROBERT J BOZEK – GEORGE CASTRATARO – DONALD CURIALE - MATT FARBER - PAUL FASANA – JODI A FISCHER
 MARC FLANAGAN – MICHAEL GAGNE -JEFY GAINES - JOHN GAMBINO - RICHARD GILMER - KENNETH GOODMAN
 JUDITH HARTSHORN - JACKSON HAVERLY - RICHARD E HERMAN – MD HUSSAIN - JAMES W LAIRD - MARILYN LAMKAY
 TOMMASO LEPORE - PATTI LYNN - KATHY MACCHIO - PAUL MCNAMARA - DAVID MURPHY – JACK MYERS - SAL ORLANDO
 BRETT PEELER - HUGH RANCE - CLAYTON RANEY - GARY RESNICK - WAYNE SCHREBE – RICHARD SCHWARZ
 ANN SMITH - ALLEN SPIESS - ALAN R SUTHERLAND - STEVE THAYER - TONY TSAGRIS - RAQUEL C WHITE**

SAGE MISSION STATEMENT: SAGE of South Florida (Senior Action in a Gay Environment) is a non-profit organization which seeks to enrich the lives of the GLBT senior community through membership inclusive of age, gender, race, nationality, and religion. We believe this can be accomplished by sponsoring social alternatives, by providing personal interaction, by offering educational opportunities to deal with the special needs of aging, and by promoting contact with the isolated and home-bound persons of our community. SAGE was founded in 1994 as a Florida “not for profit” corporation (Federal Tax-Exempt Status of 501 (c) 3, allowing tax-deductible donations.

SAGE EDITORIAL POLICY SAGE welcomes contributors to the newsletter. An author may request their entry be “anonymous”. However, the submission, as received by SAGE, must be accompanied by the full name and address of the author. Items will be published at our discretion, and such publication does not constitute endorsement by SAGE of South Florida. If we feel that we cannot publish a submission anonymously, we will contact the author. We reserve the right to edit articles for length, clarity, or standards of decency. We do not accept paid ads in the newsletter.

Email to Editor: sagesofl@gmail.com
 Attn: Editor

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REGULARLY SCHEDULED SAGE-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

IMPORTANT MESSAGE REGARDING SAGE ACTIVITIES

Due to the COVID-19 virus restrictions, SAGE of South Florida has canceled special events and suspended most regularly scheduled activities for October. SAGE members will be notified when **when SAGE Women's Lunch; SAGE Men's Night Out; SAGE Computer Class; SAGE Lunch & Learn; See You at the Movies and Social Lites** monthly social activities resume. Until then, Be Safe and Stay Healthy!

THE ROUND TABLE

This CoEd group, sponsored jointly with The Fort Lauderdale Prime Gentlemen, is meeting remotely using the Zoom platform to discuss contemporary topics and ideas from **2:30-3:30pm** on the **second and fourth Monday of each month**. Sessions have a moderator who presents a brief background on the discussion topic chosen for the session. The topic scheduled for October 12th is **Sex Dysfunction in Senior Men**, presented by **Dr. David Cross**. The topic scheduled for October 26th is **Covid-19 – The Nature of the Coronavirus and the Status of Vaccines**, presented by **Ed Slough**. Please email Ed Slough at WILDHYBRID@aol.com if you would like to be on the mailing list to receive notice of upcoming topics and background material for the sessions.

SAGE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Philip Collier

Described by the *New York Times Book Review* as one of the four best novels of the year at the time of its publication – **Regeneration** by **Pat Barker**– explores the experience of British army officers being treated for shell shock during World War I at Craiglockhart War Hospital in Edinburgh. Inspired by her grandfather's experience of World War I, Barker draws extensively on first-person narratives from the period. Using these sources, she created characters based on historical individuals present at the hospital including poets Siegfried Sassoon and Wilfred Owen, and psychiatrist W.H.R. Rivers, who pioneered treatments of post-traumatic stress disorder during and after World War I. Barker also includes fictional characters, based on the larger cultural experience of the period, including an officer who grew up in the lower classes, Billy Prior, and his girlfriend and munitionette, Sarah Lumb. Thematically complex, the novel explores the effect of the War on identity, masculinity, and social structure. Via Zoom, the SAGE Book Group will meet for discussion on **Saturday, October 10, from 11am to Noon**.



SAGE ON THE BORDER/ ALTERNATIVES

Frank Piasecki & Jean Arthurton



This Co-Ed discussion group meets every Monday at 11:00am at the Volen Center in Boca Raton. Now, because of the COVID-19 virus, the group will be meeting remotely via Zoom video conferencing. If you don't have access to video-conferencing devices, you can participate by calling in to the meeting on your cell phone. **If you would like to be invited to the SAGE on the Border/ Alternatives Zoom meeting**, send your request to:

virtual_soba_group@aol.com. Everyone is welcome.



NOTES FROM THE MEN'S DROP-IN

Carl Barton

SAGE Men's Drop-In meets every **Wednesday at 1:00pm**, temporarily via Zoom online or by phone. We email each week before the meeting an eblast with the meeting ID and the Password. The Zoom meetings are doing quite well and our virtual sessions are quite successful. Tune in every Wednesday at 1pm to hear what's going on with our members and guests who share their activities and events. The meetings are always well-attended. The Pride Center is currently closed to group meetings but, hopefully, we will soon return to a new normal. Thanks to you all for your support, and thank you **Jefy Gaines** for a great job co-hosting. Please stay safe, remember to tune in Wednesday afternoon, and we hope to see you all again in person very soon!

SAGE CO-ED DROP-IN

Michael Gagne & Kathy Macchio



The Co-Ed Drop-In meets every **Thursday at 3:00pm** on the Zoom video-conferencing platform. If you don't have access to video-conferencing devices, you can participate by calling in to the meeting on your cell phone. Check your emails from SAGE for the weekly announcement and link to the meeting. Discover SAGE of South Florida's newest discussion group. Everyone is welcome!



SAGE Health Tips

Gene Majka, APRN

Welcome. If you have a topic, comment or questions, please send an email to sagesofl@gmail.com.

R U A DNR?

What is a vaccine?

Saturday, July 25, 2015, my husband got up from his living room lounge chair and said he was going to the bedroom and wrap my birthday gifts. He was suffering from a debilitating respiratory illness and we knew he only had at most two years to live. I went and did some washing and told him I am going into the pool and I will be taking my cellphone with me. He always said "OK". I heard nothing. I was concerned and decided to go into the bedroom where I found him not breathing with no pulse. My emergency nurse reaction kicked in and I started doing CPR and calling 911. I had a strong feeling he was not going to make it and I had a real consoling Oakland Park policeman talking to me. They took him to the hospital and I called our best friends who rushed over and took me to the hospital. Then reality hit me. "OMG! He is a DNR." They were still attempting to resuscitate him in the emergency department and I yelled, "Stop, Stop, he is a DNR."

I was a hospice nurse and I use to get aggravated by families calling 911 when their loved one expired. Then I did the same. I learned to not judge when it is your time in a crisis situation.

What exactly is a DNR?

A do-not-resuscitate order, or DNR order, is a medical order written by a doctor. It instructs health care providers not to do cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) if a patient's breathing stops or if the patient's heart stops beating. Ideally, a DNR order is created, or set up, before an emergency occurs. A DNR order allows you to choose whether or not you want CPR in an emergency. It is specific about CPR. It does not have instructions for other treatments, such as pain medicine, other medicines, or nutrition. The doctor writes the order only after talking about it with the patient (if possible) and the proxy.

What is Resuscitation?

CPR is the treatment used when your blood flow or breathing stops. It may involve: mouth-to-mask breathing, pressing on the chest, electric shock to restart the heart, and breathing tubes to open the airway. If you are involved in a bad auto accident and severely bleeding but still have a heartbeat and are breathing, they will treat you whether you have a DNR or not.

How to Obtain a DNR?

- Your doctor writes the DNR order in your medical record if you are in the hospital.

Florida DNR Form

This is the **only** form Florida medical personnel will ACCEPT and it must be on yellow paper if you wish to have a DNR status.

Go to the Florida Department of Health for instructions: <https://eforms.com/dnr/florida/>

SNOWBIRDS – Florida medical personnel will NOT accept a form from any other state. Florida does **not** recognize bracelets, tattoos or form printed on any color other than yellow.

Florida Administrative Code 64J-2.018 states specifically that the form shall be printed on **yellow** paper. The form is **not valid** unless it is printed on some shade of yellow paper. EMS providers and hospitals are not obligated to honor a form printed on white paper or any other color other than yellow. Florida DOES have the Patient Identification Device, which is a smaller version of the DH Form 1896 DNR form that patients can wear on a chain or attached to them in some fashion. First Responders will likely call their medical control immediately for guidance if they find a patient with a tattoo, bracelet or some other type of device but will probably begin resuscitation efforts until told to stop by their superiors.

Revocation

The patient can revoke the form in the same manner if they were the one to sign the form. Only those that **signed** the form (patient, healthcare surrogate or healthcare proxy) may revoke the form.

You must be specific what you, your health care surrogate and your primary care provider want (or don't want) done under an emergency cardiac situation. If you are scheduled for a hospital admission you should have a copy of these legal forms for the hospital on file and in your primary care provider's office medical records. It is never too early to have a health surrogate form completed in case you are incapacitated. Contact your primary care provider and attorney for assistance.

References and Resources:

- <https://www.medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000473.htm>
- Email communication with Marco R. Torres, MD, EMT-P, EMS Programs Coordinator, Carry University Fire & EMS, August 25, 2020
- <https://www.firehouse.com/home/news/10544288/dnr-protocols-what-the-ems-crew-must-know>
- <https://www.reliasmedia.com/articles/146736-ethical-guidance-needed-if-someone-wants-to-override-patients-wishes>
- <https://www.journalofethics.ama-assn.org/article/what-role-autonomy-patient-and-family-centered-care-when-patients-and-family-members-dont-agree/2016-01>

SAGE cares because YOU care about your health.
Please always seek advice from your physician/nurse practitioner (HP's).
Thank you to my editors Ann Smith GNP, and Martin Horowitz, MD.

